



**What we think you want to know
(but may not tell you)**

- ▶ What tools, processes, or approaches are best for helping me move forward?
 - Who to engage
 - How to engage them
 - What information/data I need and where to get it
- ▶ What are the best practices?
- ▶ What are the pitfalls to avoid?

**Two key principles for choosing
data and tools**

1. Your goals and objectives should drive the selection of tools and data, not vice versa
2. The sophistication of the VA should not exceed the sophistication of possible uses of VA results.

Choosing tools and data comes back to the basic questions:

- ▶ *What is the goal of your VA?*
 - *"Assessment questions": what do you need to know to answer them?*
 - *What are the specific targets and endpoints?*
- ▶ *Who will use the output and how?*
 - *Types of Decisions (targeting vs. prediction)?*
- ▶ *What resources do you have?*

If you don't ask the right question, every answer feels wrong
Ani DiFranco

Goal/question?

- Educate/engage
- Rethink conservation management goals/objectives
- Initiate/develop adaptation plans
- Integrate climate change into existing guidelines, processes, etc.

Who and how?

- What do they do?
- What are their existing decision-making processes?
- How do they take in information?
- What's the level of scientific/technical comfort?
- Where are they relative to climate change?

Resources?



Answering these questions helps you determine appropriate tool types...

- *Quantitative to qualitative*
- *Visual or not*
- *Complex models to transparent processes*
- *Descriptive or prescriptive*

...and data sets

- *Key drivers of vulnerability for your target*
 - *Specific climate variables*
 - *Critical species, community, and ecosystem characteristics*
 - *Important interacting stressors*
- *Necessary spatial and temporal resolution*
- *Necessary level of precision*

You don't have to pick just one!

Can use different tools and data at different points in the engagement or adaptation planning process

NatureServe Refuge VA Framework



A brief aside: The adaptation planning process working group

- Several formal/semi-formal process
 - Adapting Conservation Targets
 - TNC Climate Clinics
 - Geos ClimateWise
 - EcoAdapt Awareness to Action
 - EPA Expert Elicitation
 - NEAFWA Expert Elicitation
 - GBN Scenario Planning

A quick overview of tools and portals

- ▶ Portals
 - Tools portals, e.g. Digital Coast, EBM Tools, CAKE, WeAdapt
 - Data portals, e.g. PNW Climate Sensitivity Database, NE Climate Data, DataBasin, Climate Wizard, GAP Species Viewer

Tool types

- Data access
- Visualization
 - Complex (e.g. Climate Wizard)
 - Simple (e.g. CanViz)

Tool types

- Data access
- Visualization
- Analytical
 - NatureServe Vista, CC Vulnerability Index
 - SLAMM

Tool types

- Data access
- Visualization
- Analytical
- Socioeconomic
 - COAST
 - Spatial Trends in Socioeconomics

Tool types

- Data access
- Visualization
- Analytical
- Socioeconomic
- Indices

The spreadsheet
