

# Coordination and collaboration for effective climate risk management in Minnesota



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University of Minnesota

# Climate Adaptation Partnership

Supporting thriving communities and landscapes through collaboration, capacity-building and advancing climate-informed decision-making.

# Our Advisory Board



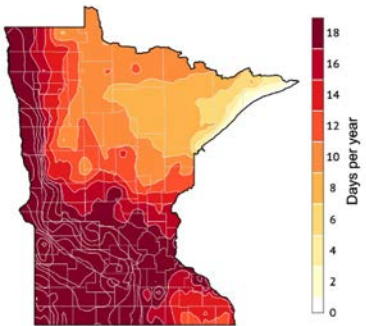
**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**



**Science  
Museum  
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# Our Work - Partnering across sectors & scales



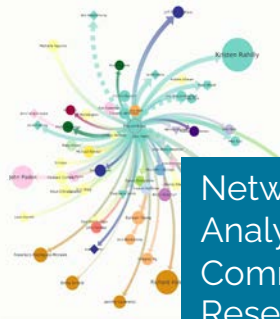
Minnesota's  
Climate Action  
Framework

Adaptation indicators, metrics & monitoring



Public engagement & training

High-resolution climate projections



Network Analysis & Communication Research



New climate records



Dedicated Extension programs including adaptation & scenario planning



State & Federal Engagement

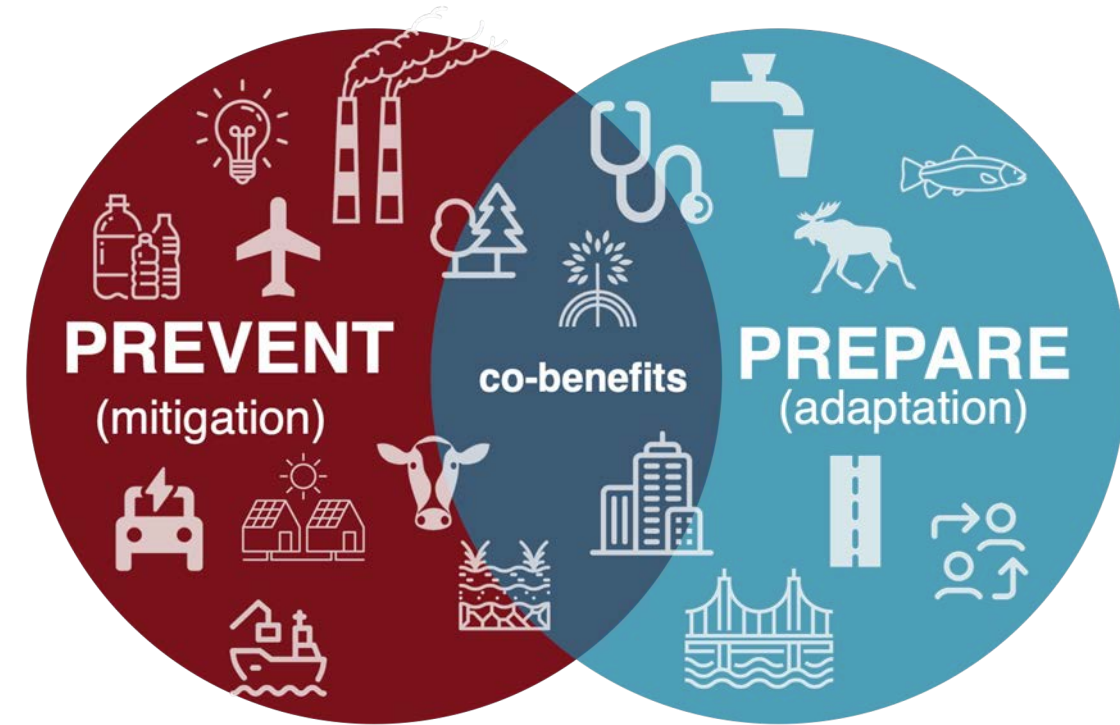
**Crew Capacity**

When asked what they need to respond to changing rainstorms, 70% of survey respondents indicated a need for increasing staff numbers. Interviews revealed a need to **retain** crew, not just hire more.

Adaptation leading practices across business lines & sectors



# A Focus on Adaptation & Climate Risk Management



Adaptation comes in many forms and is needed across human & natural systems. We are **responding to the imperative to adapt** while we **also seek to mitigate climate change.**

# Minnesotans are concerned & want to see action

60%

of all  
Minnesotans

would like to see an increase in the use of wind, solar, and other renewable energy to power homes and businesses.

64%

of all  
Minnesotans

think we should prepare for climate change by preserving & conserving our state's grasslands, forests, and wetlands.

83%

of all  
Minnesotans

think local, state and municipal governments are responsible for addressing climate change in the state.

Source: UMN MCAP, CFANS, Caravan Climate Opinion Poll, Sept. 2022



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# Climate Change - State of the Science

It's us.

It's here.

We've committed to change.

The more we emit, the worse it gets.

We must reduce risks through adaptation.

We still choose, but there's no time to waste.



**It's us.**



**It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land...**

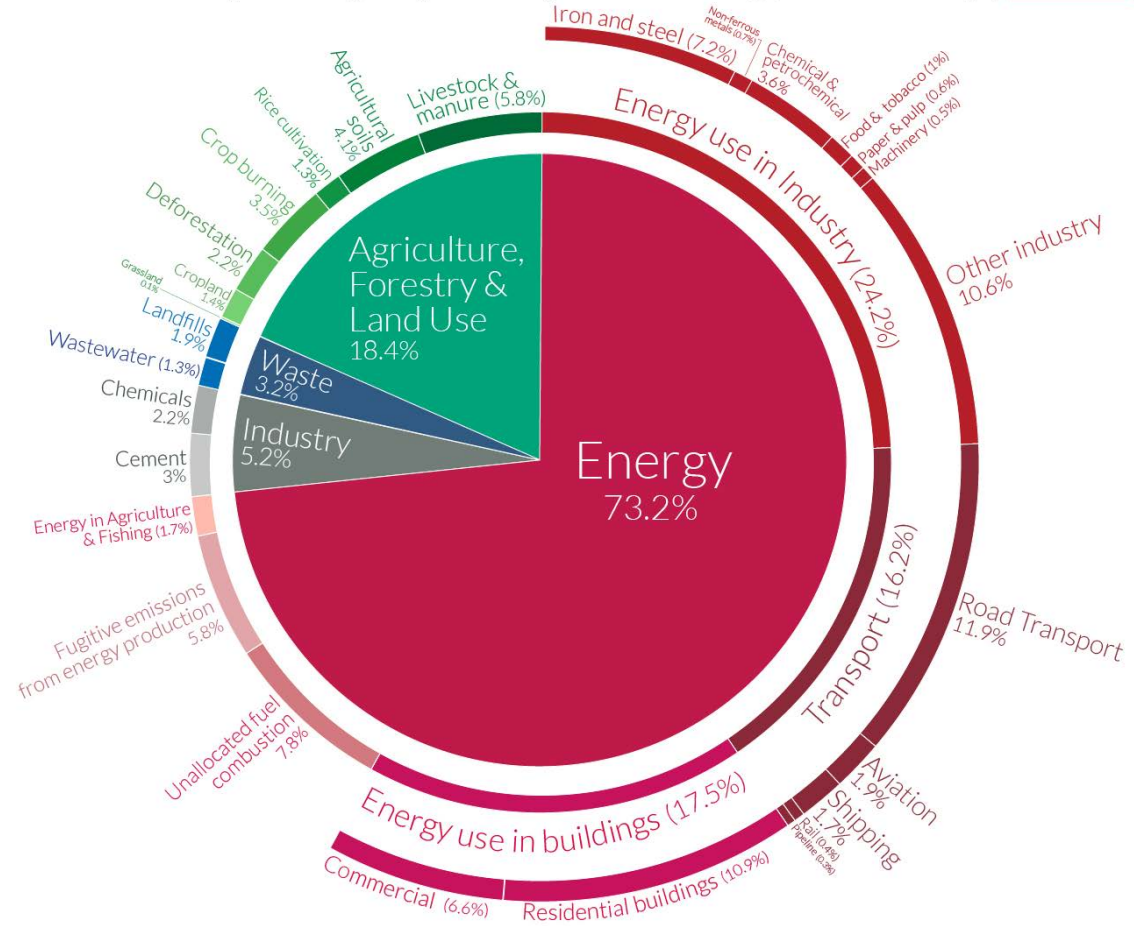
**...and the rate of this warming is unprecedented in at least the last 2,000 years.**

Data: IPCC, 2021; Photo: Mark Stone, 2019



# Global greenhouse gas emissions by sector

This is shown for the year 2016 – global greenhouse gas emissions were 49.4 billion tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq.



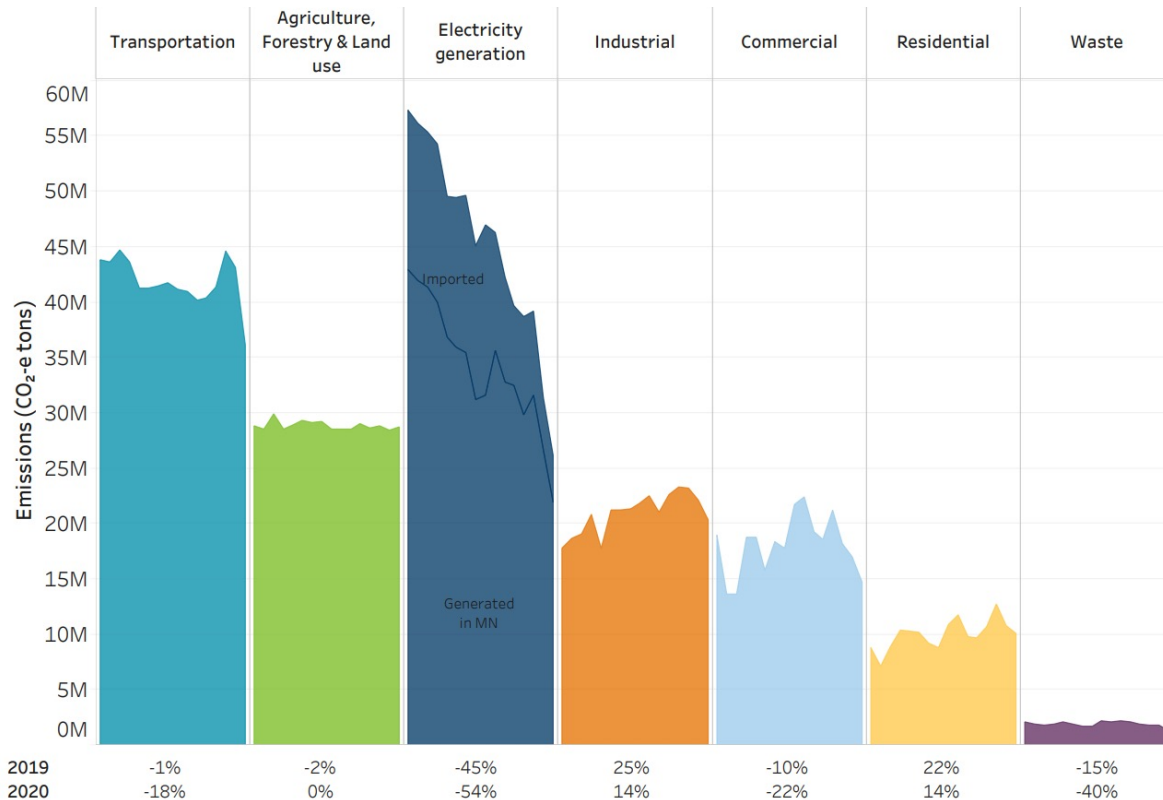
We know the source of the problem.

# Change in Minnesota's Emissions by Sector from 2005-2020

## Minnesota's Emissions Reductions Story: Progress & Opportunity

Decline in GHGs across all industry sectors 2005-2020

23%



Greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota 2005-2020; Report to the legislature 2023

**It's here.**

**Average global temperature  
has increased over 2.0°F since  
the late 1800's**



Images: NASA; Data: NASA, 2021

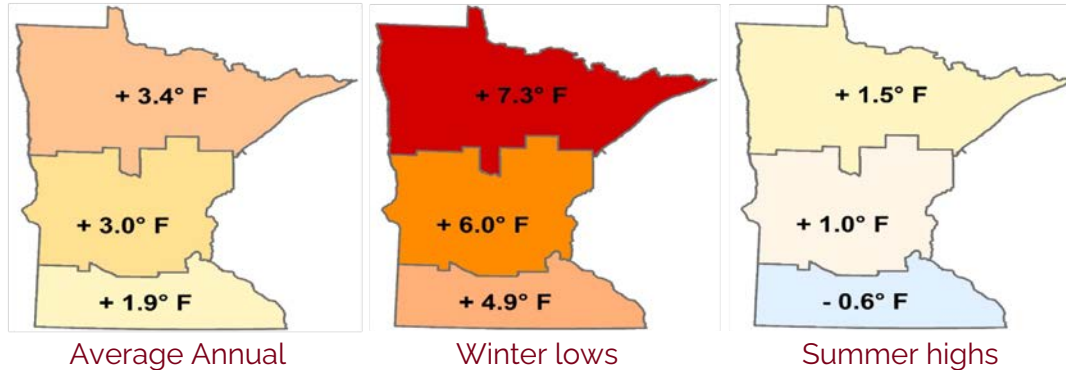


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# Here means Minnesota.

Total Observed Temperature Change (1895-2021)

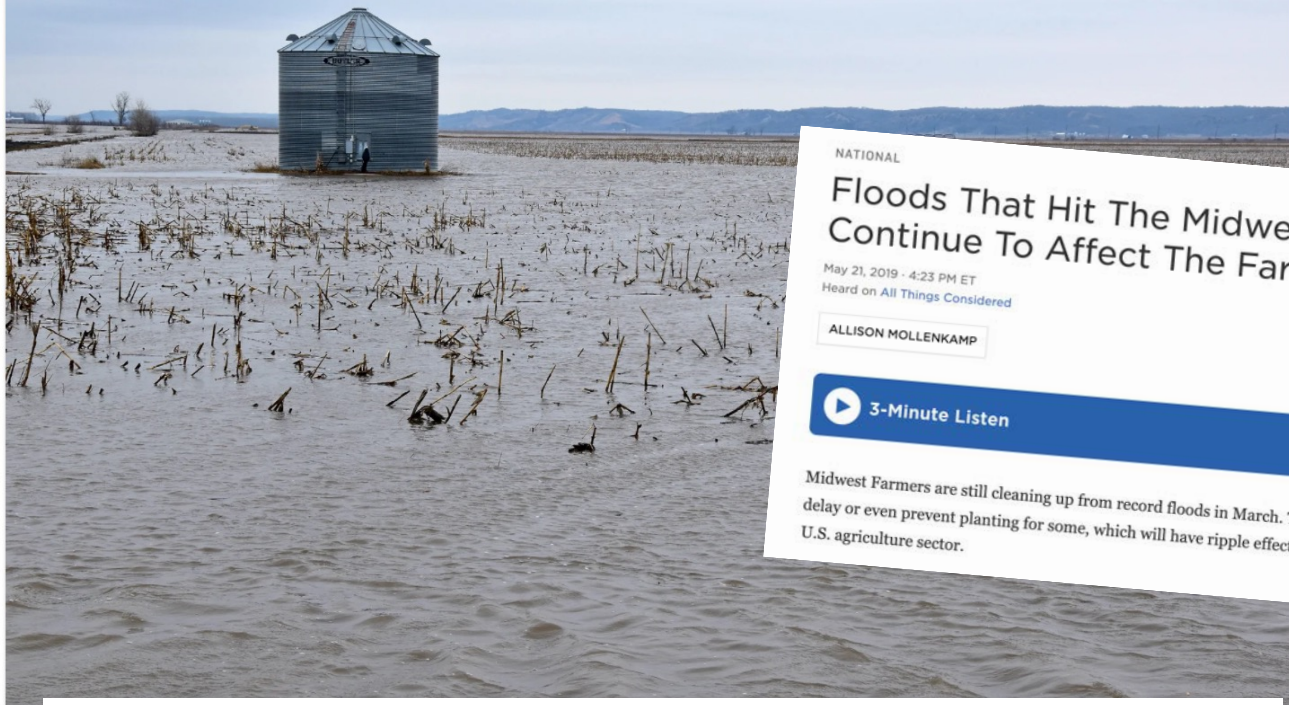


**Minnesota's average annual temperature has increased by nearly 3°F since 1895**

Images: NASA; Data: NASA, 2021 & MN DNR, 2022

# 2019

Last year's historic floods ruined 20 million acres of farmland



NATIONAL

## Floods That Hit The Midwest In March Continue To Affect The Farm Economy

May 21, 2019 · 4:23 PM ET  
Heard on *All Things Considered*

ALLISON MOLLENKAMP

FROM Nebraska Public Media

3-Minute Listen

Midwest Farmers are still cleaning up from record floods in March. The work may delay or even prevent planting for some, which will have ripple effects throughout the U.S. agriculture sector.

Flooded field in Percival, Iowa, 10 days after the Missouri River flooded in March 2019. *Jason Johnson Iowa NRCS*



## 2020 Derecho

**“We not only lost millions of acres of corn and soybeans, but we also lost storage facilities for the farms, which is going to impact their storage capabilities in the following years.”**



2021

# Parts of Minnesota in 'exceptional' drought for 1st time as warm, dry weather continues

## North American fertilizer shortage sparks fears of higher food prices

Warning to 'get your fertilizer now' as farmers postpone nitrogen purchases, raising threat of rush on supplies before planting season

Saving a Tip

This past year I have received quite the reaction f

TRENDING: Supply Chain Struggles Harvest Policy Updates from AgriTalk Carbon Markets Unspoken Truths About Pests



News Markets Weather Opinion Topics Events Video Magazines



CROP PRODUCTION

## Midwestern Drought Conditions Peak as Corn Belt Deals with Moisture Extremes



ST. PAUL MN

Mostly Cloudy 38°F

Feels Like 33°F

### DROUGHT EXPANDS IN UPPER MIDWEST

FUTURES PRICES FOR SOYBEANS FOR DELIVERY IN JULY FELL BY NEARLY \$1.19 A BUSHEL, ONE OF THE LARGEST ONE-DAY DROPS IN DECADES. AND...

40¢ A BUSHEL...

ES FELL BY



## Harvest 2021: Drought across Upper Midwest, but late rains and delayed frost produce bushels

Posted on October 22, 2021

# 2022

In the summer months and early fall, we were especially below average. September of 2022 was the driest September ever in the Twin Cities. From Interstate 94 on south, the story was the same.



Minnesota

## Slow-moving storms cause flash flooding in parts of Minnesota

Andrew Krueger August 18, 2022 6:25 AM

[CBS News, 2023](#)



# Minnesota is getting warmer & wetter



**10 wettest & warmest years on record all occurred after 1997**



**Observed 13% increase in the heaviest rainfall of the year**



**Growing season has lengthened by ~2 weeks since 1950**

Data: MN DNR, NCA4 Midwest Chapter



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**In the Midwest, wet extremes have increased in magnitude over the past 70 years, while dry extremes have largely remained the same.**



For more information about NIDIS, visit the U.S. Drought Portal at [www.drought.gov](http://www.drought.gov)



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Transitions from **wet to dry extremes** are happening **more quickly** and **more frequently**.




Photo: UMN Extension; for more information visit [www.drought.gov](http://www.drought.gov)



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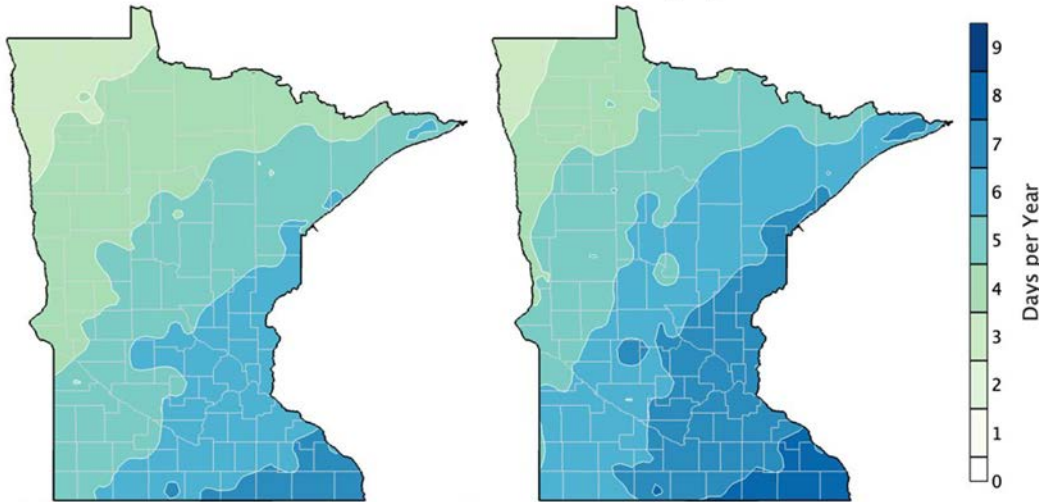


A photograph of a flooded field. The water is a pale, milky grey color, reflecting the sky. Scattered throughout the field are numerous clumps of dry, brown grass, some standing upright and others partially submerged. The overall scene depicts a flooded agricultural or natural area.

**Increasing precipitation has elevated overall flood risk, causing disruption to transportation and damage to property and infrastructure.**

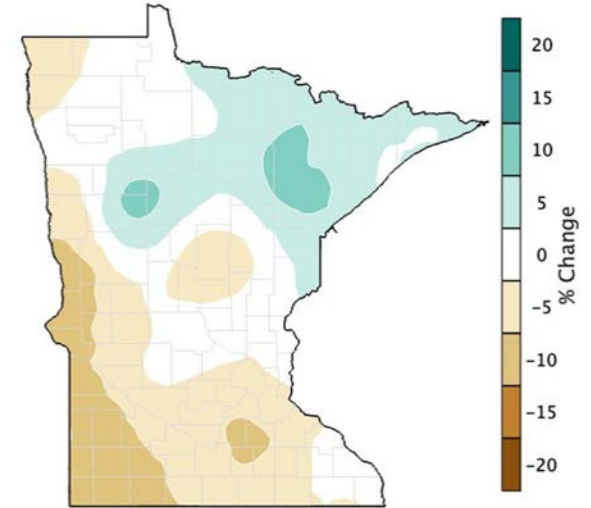
# Minnesota's changing precipitation – more management of extremes

Days per Year With More than 1 in. Precipitation  
Historical (1981–2010)      Mid Century(2041–2060)  
RCP 8.5/High Emissions



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[climate.umn.edu/climate-data](http://climate.umn.edu/climate-data)

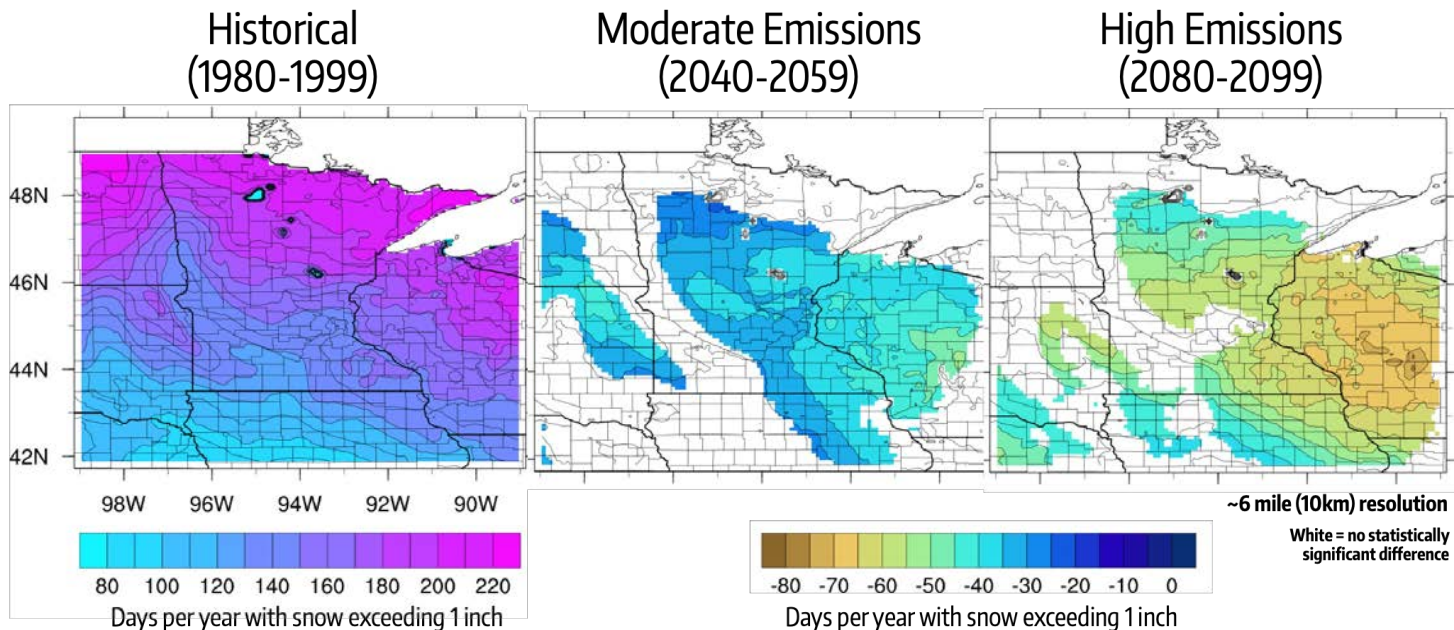
Projected Change in Summer Precipitation by End of Century  
RCP 8.5 (High) Emissions Scenario



University of Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership  
[climate.umn.edu/climate-data](http://climate.umn.edu/climate-data)



# More snow, more thaws



**Light green represents ~60 days per winter with basically no snow cover.**

From: Leiss et al., in review; Emissions pathways: moderate = RCP4.5, high= RCP 8.5



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**The Midwest is among the regions with the largest expected damages to infrastructure, including the highest estimated damages to roads.**

Data: Angel, 2018; EPA, 2017; Photo: Flooding in Rushford, MN 8/07; courtesy of MN DNR Floodplain Program



**Changing soil moisture and warming have increased the risk of disease and pest infestations.**



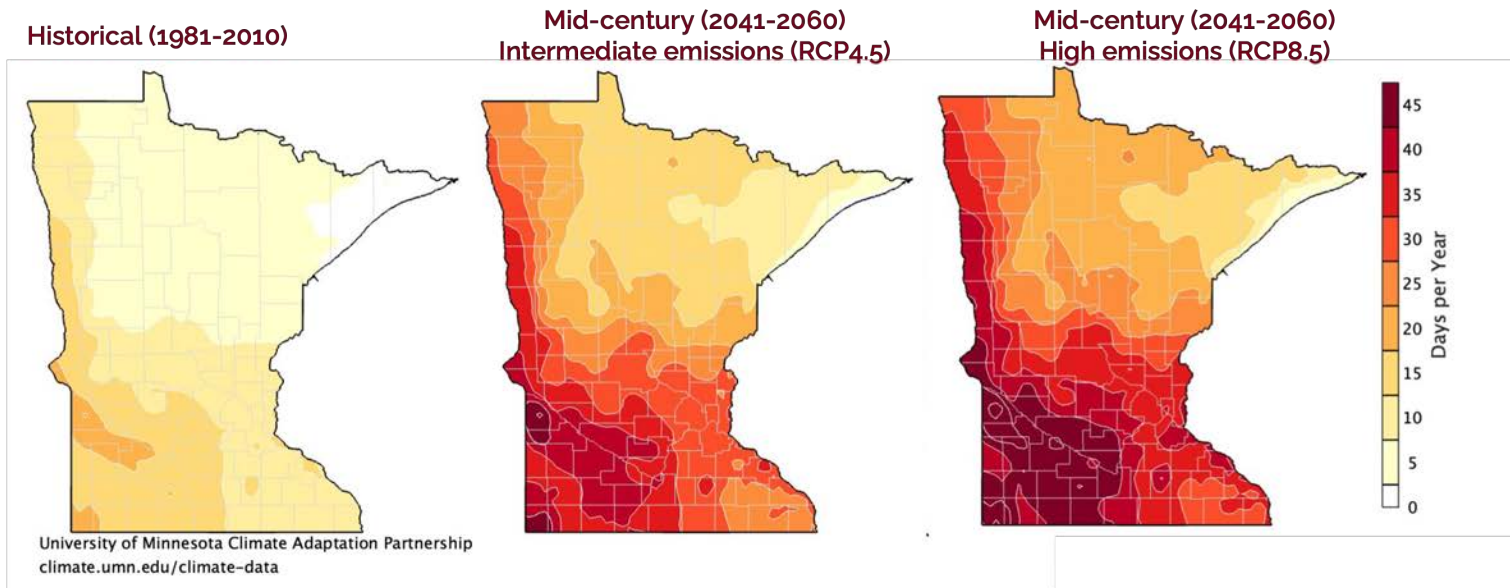


**Average winter temperature in Minnesota is projected to be more than 10°F warmer by 2100.**



# Minnesota is projected to experience 5 to 25 more days per summer with maximum temperatures above 90°F by mid-century

Days per year warmer than 90°F

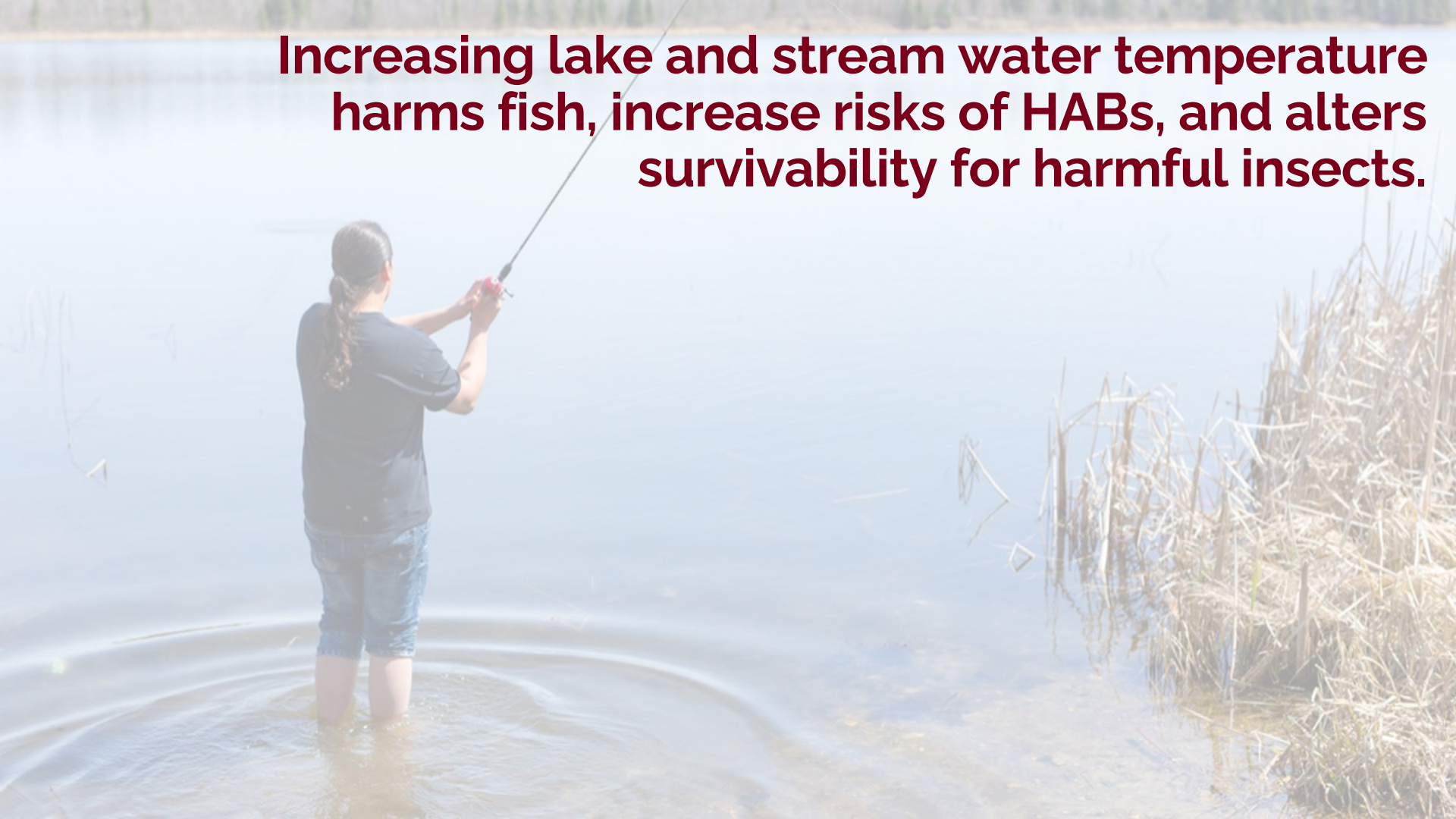




**Extreme heat impacts human health, the economy, and creates material stress on roads and buildings, water systems, and other critical infrastructure.**



**Increasing lake and stream water temperature harms fish, increase risks of HABs, and alters survivability for harmful insects.**





# Climate Change Needs No Passport




Weather and climate extremes are causing **economic and societal impacts** across national [and state] boundaries through supply-chains, markets, and natural resource flows...**across the water, energy and food sectors.**

“Nearly all of the Mississippi River basin has seen below-normal rainfall since late August...The timing is bad because barges are busy carrying recently harvested corn and soybeans up and down the river.” -

Associated Press, October 6th, 2022

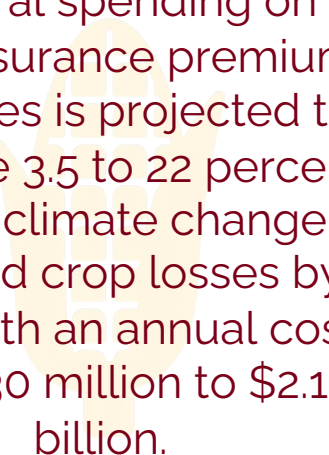
IPCC, 2022, Photo: AP, Thomas Berner

# Climate Change is Costly. Even more so with inaction.



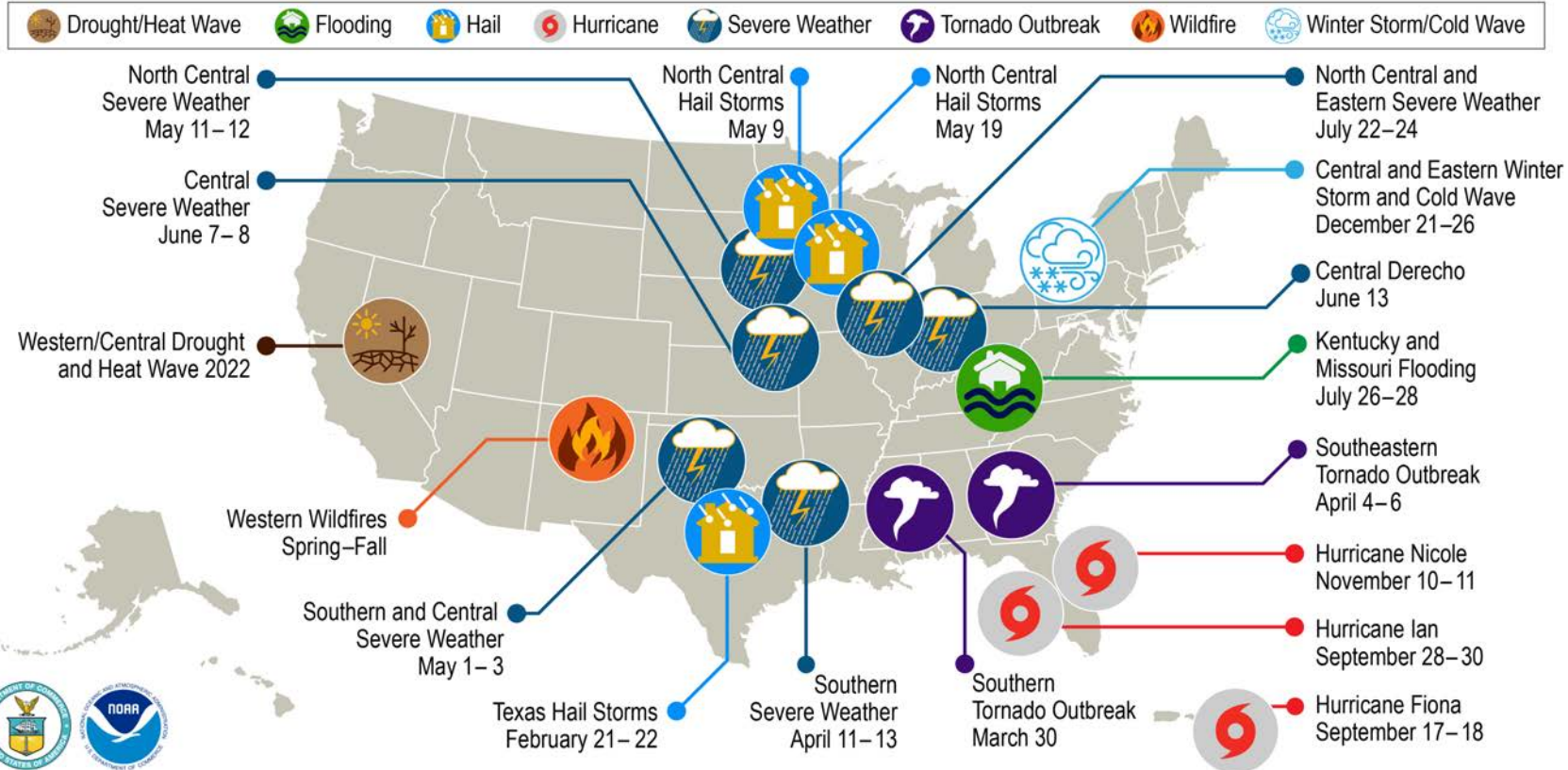
Under current policy pathways, climate change could reduce **U.S. GDP by 3 to 10%** by the end of this century

“The fiscal risk of climate change is immense.”



Federal spending on crop insurance premium subsidies is projected to increase 3.5 to 22 percent due to climate change-induced crop losses by 2100 with an annual cost of \$330 million to \$2.1 billion.

# U.S. 2022 Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters



This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 18 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States in 2022.

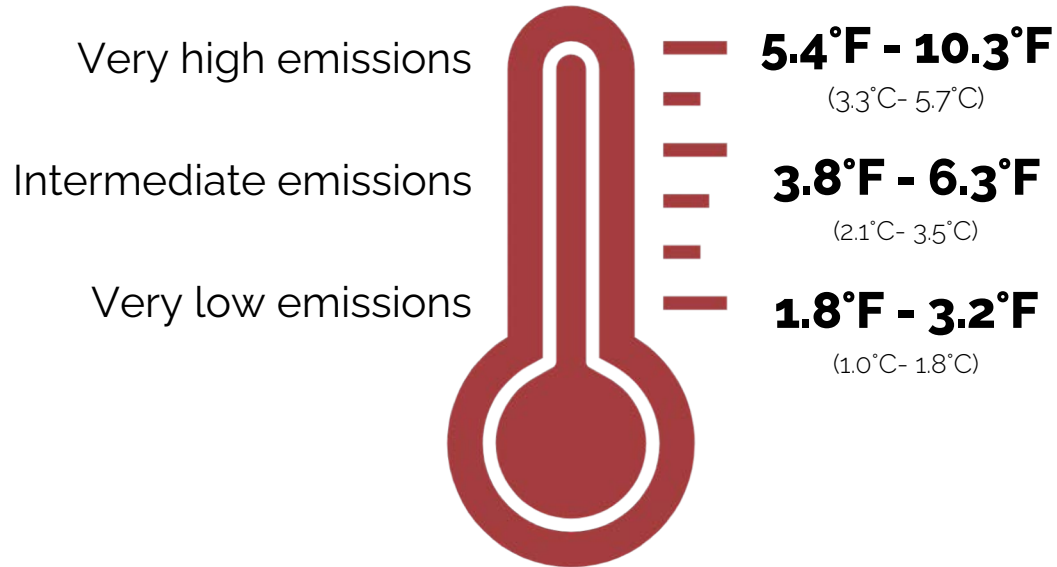
# Climate impacts are not experienced equally.





# The more we emit, the worse it gets.

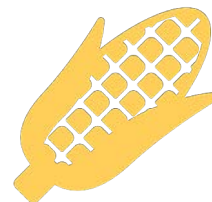
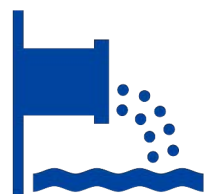
Compared to 1850–1900, global surface temperature averaged over 2081–2100 is very likely to be higher by:



Data: IPCC, 2022

# We must reduce risks through adaptation.

Adaptation can bring multiple benefits: improved agricultural productivity, innovation, health, food security, livelihood, biodiversity conservation, and reduction of risks & damages.



Long-term planning and accelerated implementation, particularly in the next decade, is important to close adaptation gaps.



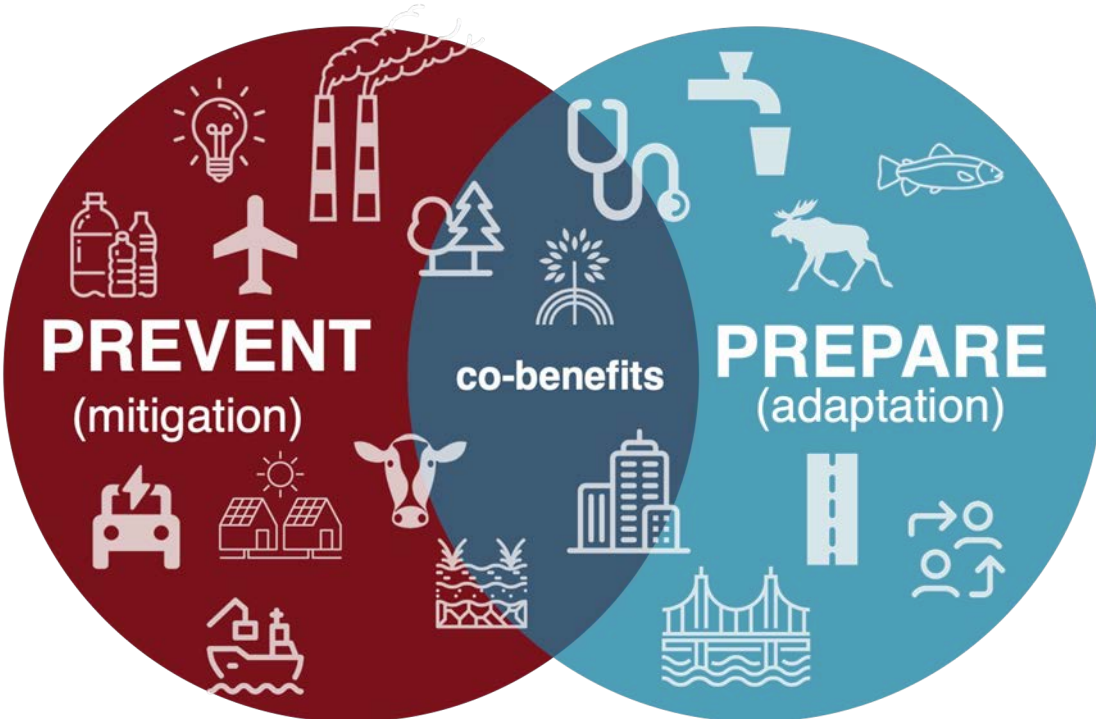
# We've committed to change.



Our exposure to climate impacts is dependent upon how well we understand, prevent and manage them.

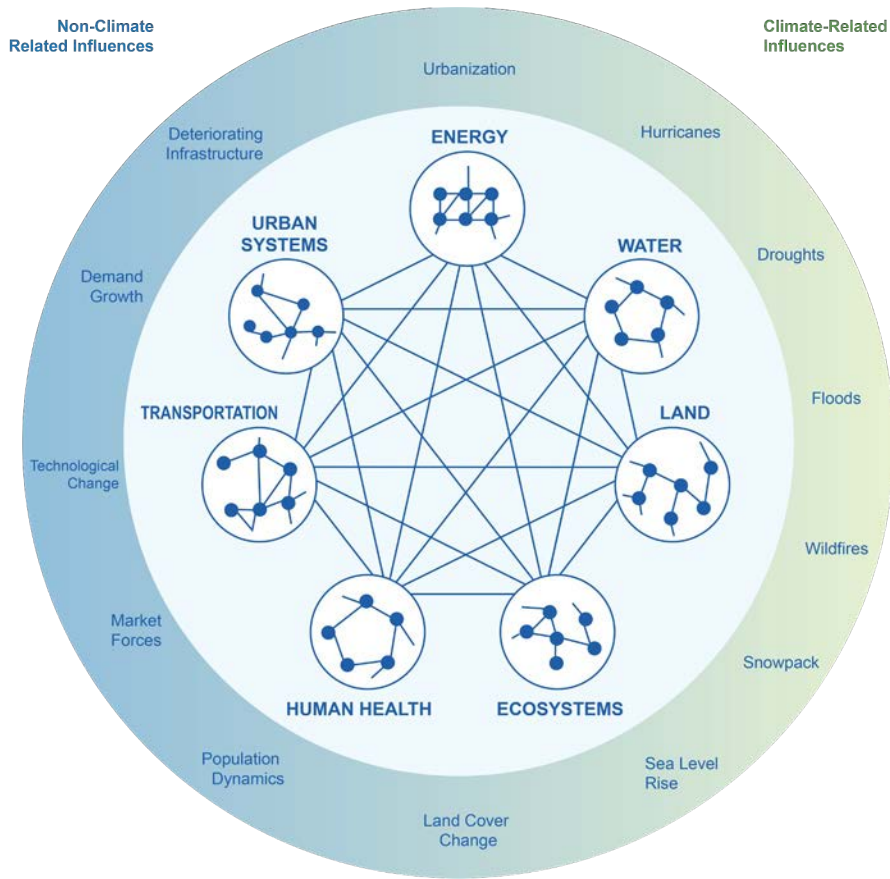
Photos: UMN Extension, H. Roop, M. Stone

# Climate Risk Management - Prevention + Preparation



Effective climate risk reduction and management **requires investments & actions** that address **both mitigation and adaptation.**





**Assumptions about climate are embedded in many of our decisions.**

These decisions often fail to consider our new climate context.

**Where they do...these efforts tend to be fragmented and small in scale.**



# Climate Concerns & Action



**83%** of local MN government staff & other water professionals **are moderately or extremely concerned** about the effects of climate change on water issues in the communities they serve.

**Fewer than half** report that their organization has water plans or planning efforts underway that address climate change.



[2020 State Water Plan: Water and Climate](#)



**How can we effectively partner to support investments and actions that reduce our exposure to climate risks?**





# “Adapting to Change: The Climate Smart Way”

The IPCC identified key investment areas with significant potential to reduce climate-related risks and enhance climate resilience.



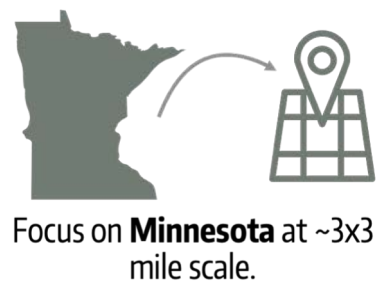


**Locally-specific scientific information** about projected climate-related risks and potential consequences can empower public and private entities to **characterize and manage** the risks of climate change.

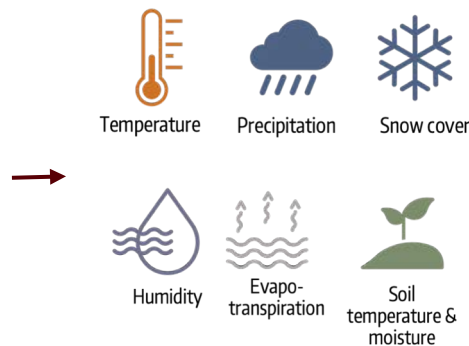


# Agriculture Weather Study

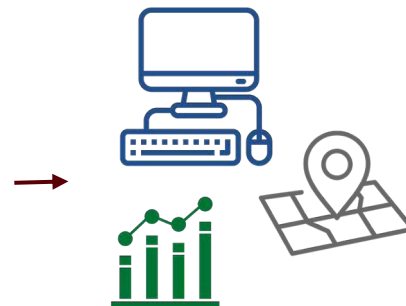
Develop & deliver **projected climate data, tools** and **training** to better manage Minnesota's changing climate risks.



**High-resolution**



**Multiple variables**



**Data & tools**





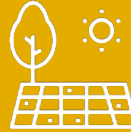


# Climate Change and Groundwater in MN

How will climate change impact groundwater reserves in Minnesota? Are there locations that are expected to see large increases in groundwater recharge from increased precipitation? Will other locations see decreases?



New climate projections for MN + updated USGS Soil-Water-Balance Model



Groundwater recharge (net infiltration), runoff, crop water demand, and actual evapotranspiration (actual ET) for 20-year periods from 1980 through 2099



Scenarios and tool for MN groundwater futures to help communities prepare for, and respond to, potential changes in groundwater reserves.



Project leads: Jared Trost, Tracy Twine, Heidi Roop



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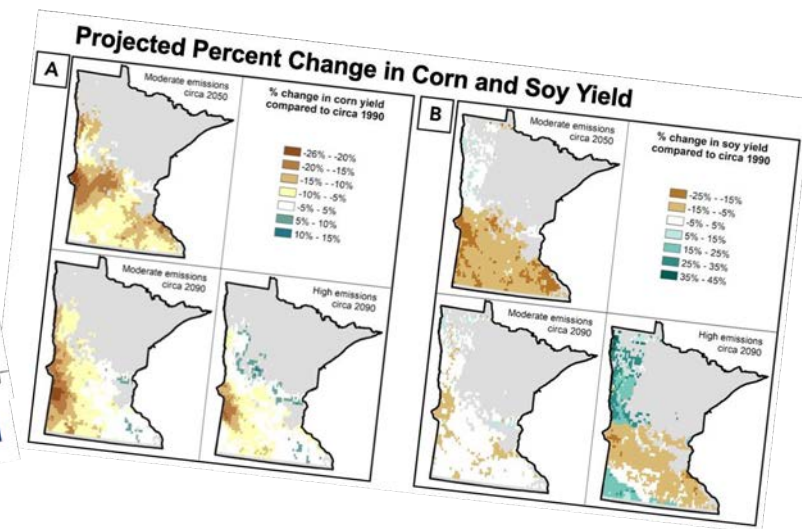
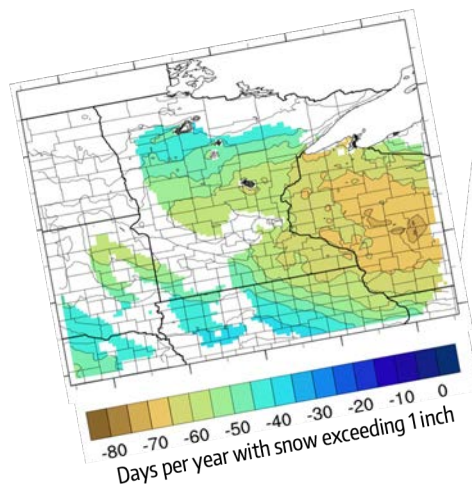
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**Education and capacity-building** efforts about future climate risks and how they can be factored into today's decisions are key for building climate resilience.



# Climate Smart Agriculture Program

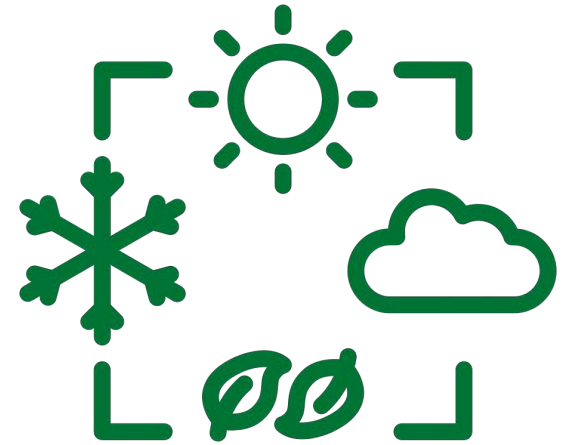
The Climate Smart program leverages these new data & state funding and is creating a dedicated climate resilience agriculture program.





# Potential Options for the USDA to Help Enhance Producers' Climate Resilience

- Collect data on **practices** that enhance climate resilience
- Expand **technical assistance** to prioritize and promote climate resilience
- Prioritize climate resilience in whole-farm conservation **planning**
- Develop an **agricultural climate resilience plan** that addresses regional needs
- Expand conservation **program eligibility criteria** to include & prioritize climate resilience.
- **Research feasibility** of incorporating climate resilience into crop insurance rates & offer crop insurance premium subsidies for climate-resilient operations.



(GAO, 2023)



- Associated Press, October 6th, 2022

**Improved coordination & collaboration** can enable integration of adaptation efforts across **sectors, jurisdictions** and **geographic and geopolitical boundaries.**



# Climate Adaptation in Action:



Updating and expanding Tribal climate adaptation tools & resources across the 1854 Ceded Territory

A collaborative project led by the 1854 Treaty Authority & the University of Minnesota





**Nature-based adaptation approaches** can enhance climate resilience for both ecosystems and the built environment (e.g., transportation, water, wastewater and energy systems).





**“Sustainable water management must go beyond a purely technical approach and consider human beliefs and behaviors, including social norms, emotional connections to people and places, and beliefs about one’s ability to make change.”**

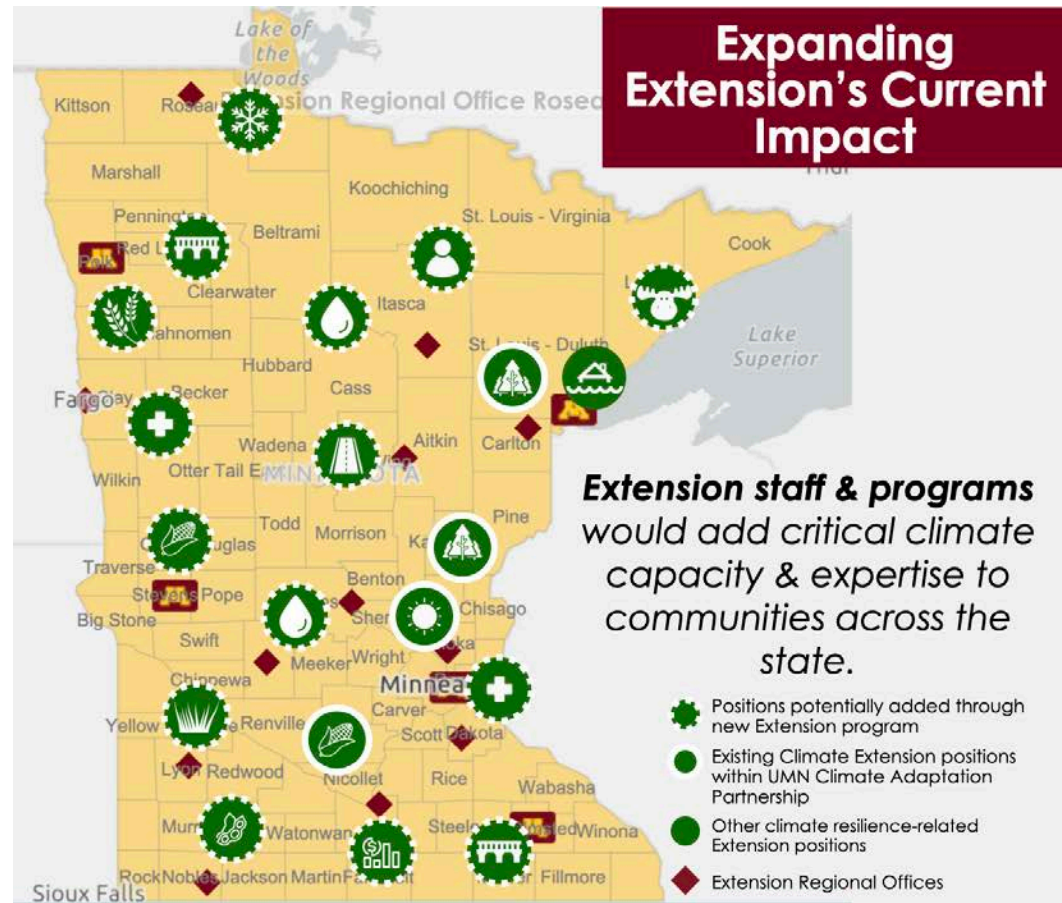
– EQB State Water Plan, 2020



**Climate change is an all-hands-on-deck situation, and what we shape and create together needs to include a rich diversity of perspectives and approaches. Critically, we don't want to stay siloed or stagnant in our work.**

# Where is the Climate Adaptation Partnership headed?

We need to enhance the capacity of the State's land & resource managers, businesses & communities to understand and secure the needed resources to manage their unique climate risks & reduce vulnerabilities.





# The climate vision for our state

The vision for our state embodied in this framework is:



## Carbon-neutral

By 2050, Minnesota substantially reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and balances any GHG emissions with carbon storage, especially in our landscapes.



## Resilient

Minnesota communities, businesses, and the natural environment can prepare, respond to, and recover from the impacts of climate change so all Minnesotans can thrive in the face of these challenges.



## Equitable

Minnesotans acknowledge and address inequitable and inaccessible systems that contribute to some communities experiencing disproportionate climate change impacts; ensure fair distribution of the costs and benefits of action now and to future generations; and ensure meaningful participation in planning.

Source: [climate.state.mn.us/minnesotas-climate-action-framework](https://climate.state.mn.us/minnesotas-climate-action-framework)





# Opportunity Abounds for Climate-related Collaboration...



**Clean  
transportation**



**Climate-smart  
natural and  
working lands**



**Resilient  
communities**



**Clean energy  
and efficient  
buildings**



**Healthy  
lives and  
communities**



**Clean  
economy**

## What role will you play?



# There's no time to waste.



“Any further delay in concerted anticipatory global action **on adaptation *and* mitigation** will miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all.”

Source: IPCC, 2022; Photo: UMN Extension



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# Interested in partnering or accessing relevant climate resources?



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