



DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

## WORKSHOP INVITATION

The Carolinas Integrated Sciences and Assessments (CISA) will host a Workshop on Drought Impacts and Stresses on Coastal Ecosystems at the Baruch Institute, Georgetown, SC, on March 23, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participating partners include the Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC), the South Carolina State Climatology Office, the State Climate Office of North Carolina, the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), and the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS).

**Purpose:** The intent of this workshop is to examine drought impacts and issues of concern in coastal ecosystems, identify research and management needs of regional and local decision-makers, and provide a forum for networking and information-exchange. Information collected from workshop discussions will be presented at subsequent workshops, professional meetings, and scholarly publications. The Workshop Report will be submitted to National Integrated Drought Information System to inform the development of drought preparedness tools for the Southeast. Copies will also be available to all participants.

**Format:** The workshop will consist of presentations about national- and state-level efforts to improve drought-related research and management and work pertinent to the coastal Carolinas' natural resources and ecosystems. Participants will be asked to address:

- Drought impacts and stresses of greatest concern for coastal Carolina ecosystems,
- Specific uses of drought-related data, information, and monitoring tools,
- Key gaps in monitoring and management tools and techniques, and
- Priorities for developing drought-research and management support systems.

**Who Should Attend:** Individuals and organizations with experience and/or expertise with “on-the-ground” drought impacts and related resource management issues are invited to attend. We expect this workshop will interest a wide range of stakeholders, including local resource managers, researchers, conservation groups, as well as state- and federal agencies with environmental management and permitting responsibilities.

**Costs and Registration:** There is no cost for workshop participants and lunch will be provided. We request that you register online at [Survey Monkey](#). We will also ask you to complete a brief questionnaire to help us focus presentations and discussions as well as inform workshop reporting.

Please contact Kirsten Lackstrom (Lackstro@mailbox.sc.edu, 803-777-8977) or Kirstin Dow (kdow@sc.edu, 803-777-2482) if you have questions or need additional information.

CISA is an interdisciplinary research group based at the University of South Carolina. We work with groups across North and South Carolina to improve climate science for decision-making. Most of our research focuses on water resources, drought, and coastal management. The program is funded through NOAA's Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Program ([http://www.climate.noaa.gov/cpo\\_pa/risa/](http://www.climate.noaa.gov/cpo_pa/risa/)).