



NEWS RELEASE

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Experts to speak in Santa Cruz on climate change and impacts to local water resources

Internationally recognized climate change experts Dr. Peter Gleick, Dr. Lisa Sloan and others will speak on global climate change and local water resources in a May 14 forum in Santa Cruz sponsored by local public water districts and environmental agencies.

The forum titled “Tools for Addressing Climate Change and Local Water Resources,” is designed to inform water resource managers and the public about the probable impacts of climate change on local water resources, how to plan for these impacts, and how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It will be held from 1-4 p.m. at the University Inn, 611 Ocean Street, followed by a reception.

Dr. Gleick, President of the Pacific Institute in Oakland, will address his research in hydrologic modeling at the watershed scale and its use as a planning tool for water managers. Gleick is an internationally recognized expert on water who has written extensively on climate change issues.

Dr. Sloan, Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences and Director of the Climate Change and Impacts Laboratory at UCSC, will discuss her research in refining global climate models to assess impacts to water resources at the regional scale. Sloan has published more than 60 peer-reviewed articles in her field.

Jim Crowley, P.E. is an engineering unit manager at the Santa Clara Valley Water District where he leads a technically diverse team responsible for water supply planning and sustainability. He will inform the audience about reducing the water agency carbon footprint.

John Ricker, Division Director of Water Resources, Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services will close by summarizing ongoing local water agency efforts to address climate change.

A question and answer period will follow.

Local agencies sponsoring the forum include San Lorenzo Valley Water District, Scotts Valley Water District, Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services, City of Santa Cruz Water Department, Soquel Creek Water District, Central Water District, and the Lompico County Water District.

The forum is open to the public. Admission is free.

About the speakers. . .

Dr. Peter Gleick is the President and co-founder of the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security. His research and writing address the critical connections between water and human health, the hydrologic impacts of climate change, sustainable water use, privatization and globalization, and international conflicts over water resources.

Gleick created the first regional hydrologic model to assess the effects of a range of climate scenarios on water resources in northern California. This research identified the potential for dramatic changes in snowfall and snowmelt patterns, along with changes in the timing of runoff in major rivers.

Gleick is an internationally recognized water expert and was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2003. In 2006, he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

Gleick received a B.S. from Yale University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. He has authored dozens of scientific papers and six books, including the biennial water report, The World's Water published by Island Press.

Dr. Lisa Sloan is a Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences and the Director of the Climate Change and Impacts Laboratory the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC). She is also the Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies at UCSC. Sloan joined the faculty at UCSC in 1995.

Sloan received her B.S. from Allegheny College and her Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. Sloan has been the National Secretary of the American Geophysical Union's Ocean Sciences Section, a scientific Fellow of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Editor-in-Chief of the international journal *Global and Planetary Change*, editor of the international journal *Paleoceanography*, and has co-chaired the National Center for Atmospheric Research's Paleoclimate Working Group.

Sloan's research is concentrated in two broad areas: (1) understanding the mechanisms of climate changes in the geologic past and (2) studying and modeling future climate change at regional scales and investigating the possible impacts of future climate change on human and natural systems. She has authored or coauthored more than 60 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and is a frequent public speaker in California on issues of climate change.

Jim Crowley, P.E. is an engineering unit manager at the Santa Clara Valley Water District where he leads a technically diverse team of engineering, planning, and environmental staff responsible for Water Supply Planning and Sustainability. He has spearheaded voluntary GHG reporting at SCVWD and is an advisor on energy management and climate change issues.

Crowley received his Bachelors of Civil Engineering Degree from University College Cork in Ireland. He is registered as a professional engineer in California and has over 20 years of regulatory, consulting, and local government experience in the US. Crowley has focused on water supply sustainability and climate change issues over the past 5 years. His past work included addressing the threat posed to water quality by fuel spills, MTBE, solvent stabilizers, PCE, perchlorate, and a host of other econtaminants.

Crowley has actively worked with the California legislature promoting the protection of water resources. He currently serves as currently Vice-Chair of the Board for Sustainable Silicon Valley.

John Ricker is the Water Resources Division Director Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services, a Director with the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, and a Board Member on the Regional Water Management Foundation. Ricker has worked for the County in watershed planning, water quality protection, and water resources management since 1974. He serves on various state and regional advisory groups dealing with beach water quality, groundwater management, stormwater management, onsite sewage disposal systems, and watershed protection. He has a B.A. from UCSC in Environmental Studies and Biology and is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control.