Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water Task Force

Training Workshop

March 18, 2024

Speaker Bios

Dr. Alex Hall is a professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at UCLA, Director of the Center for Climate Science at the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, and interim Director of the UCLA Sustainable LA Grand Challenge. His research is aimed at predicting and understanding climate change impacts at scales relevant to decision-makers, especially in the State of California. Alex and his team are currently studying the future of wildfire in California and are working with water management agencies in the Los Angeles region to ensure sustainability of water resources under climate change.

Alex co-founded the Climate & Wildfire Institute, a non-profit org, to tackle the rapidly-emerging threat of megafire in the Western U.S. He is a contributing author on the Fifth U.S. National Climate Assessment and was also a Lead Author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 5th Assessment Report's chapter on regional climate change, a Contributing Author to its chapter on climate model evaluation and Coordinating Lead Author of the Los Angeles Region Report, part of California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment. In 2022, Alex received the UCLA Public Impact Research Award, and in 2019, he was awarded the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Future Horizons in Climate Science Turco Lectureship.

Dr. Robert Lempert is a principal researcher at the RAND Corporation and Director of the Frederick S. Pardee Center for Longer Range Global Policy and the Future Human Condition. His research focuses on climate risk management and decision-making under uncertainty. Dr. Lempert was a coordinating lead author for Working Group II of the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report and the inaugural president of the Society for Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty (http://www.deepuncertainty.org). A Professor of Policy Analysis in the Pardee RAND Graduate School, Dr. Lempert is an author of the book Shaping the Next One Hundred Years: New Methods for Quantitative, Longer-Term Policy Analysis.

Dr. Juliette Finzi Hart is the Director of Science Policy and Engagement, at Pathways Climate Institute, a SF-based consulting firm that focuses on climate adaptation science and planning. Pathways works with entities, such as Caltrans, to the Port and Public Utilities Commission of San Francisco to communities of all sizes throughout California, to develop cutting edge climate science and climate adaptation plans. Prior to joining Pathways, Dr. Finzi Hart worked at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and lead the Climate Services Program for the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, the state's only dedicated climate adaptation program. There she helped write the 2021 CA Climate Adaptation Strategy. She was an Oceanographer at USGS, working with the team that developed the Coastal Storm Modeling Systems. She got her start at the University of Southern California, where she received her Ph.D. in Ocean Sciences in 2007 and served as research faculty and Marine and Climate Science Specialist for the USC Sea Grant Program for a decade. She is an author on both the Fourth and Fifth National Climate Assessments, as well as leading studies