

## How to Build Climate Change Resilience

By Chip Kline and Simone Maloz

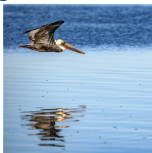
Louisiana's comprehensive fifty-year plan for mitigating the impact of extreme weather on its vulnerable coastal communities can provide guiding principles for every region.

The climate crisis has reached every corner of our country. As rivers run dry, fires consume neighborhoods, and cities struggle to cope, state and local leaders are grappling with how to address an emergency of seemingly impossible proportions. In many states, developing and investing in effective policy that matches the scale of the problem has become a daunting task. Just recently, new research projected that vast swaths of the country will be at risk of burn-over fires within the coming decades.

Fortunately, the Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act are offering 40-hour opportunities for state and local governments looking to bolster their resilience to climate change—but only if they have a clear plan of action.

Those looking for inspiration should turn to Louisiana, which is investing record amounts of funding in climate change resilience projects. You may know the Pelican State for its natural beauty, its petroleum and fishing industries, or for the spectacle of Mardi Gras, but you may also know it for the fact that its coastal wetlands are vanishing faster than almost any place on the planet. But what you may not know is that Louisiana is a global pioneer in taking action to mitigate the impacts of its communities from the climate crisis. Louisiana's \$50 billion, fifty-year comprehensive plan offers a critical blueprint for how state governments can plan for the future by harnessing the latest science and preparing to make the most of investments in climate resilience and adaptation.

For too long, scientific and measurable plans to bolster vulnerable coastal areas and protect communities from worsening climate impacts have been framed largely in terms of their short-term economic costs. Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan takes a different tack, putting coastal communities, along with engagement with and feedback from



the people who live in them, at the center of its approach. The unique circumstances of these coastal communities today and in the future are front and center, with strategies designed to prioritize investments to address the needs of vulnerable

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Tuesday, May 16, 12:00pm - 1:00pm CDT  
Online  
Main Sponsor: US Small Business Administration  
Contact: Jo Eckert, 313-362-4445, [j.eckert@sba.gov](mailto:j.eckert@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free, registration required  
Learn about SBA's new Veteran Small Business Certification program. Certification has been transferred from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to SBA as of January 1, 2023. Certification with SBA allows self-qualified veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) to compete for set-aside and set-aside federal contracts across the federal government. Certified veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) have additional opportunities to pursue set-aside and set-aside contracts in the Veteran Administration (VA) under the VA Set-Aside Program. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.evafetie.com/veteran-small-business-certification-vecert-program-14606-1925007397>

**SBA Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar**  
Wednesday, May 17, 12:00pm - 1:30pm CDT  
Online  
Main Sponsor: US Small Business Administration  
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [illinois@sbajournal.gov](mailto:illinois@sbajournal.gov)  
Fee: Free, registration required  
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Contact: George Tapp, 610-352-3000, [george.tapp@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapp@sba.gov)  
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