AT A GLANCE

WHAT IS IT?
Climate Security represents the significant impacts associated with climate change that substantially alter political stability, human security, and national security infrastructure. Climate Security is directly related to the goals of Climate Action 2030: Build Climate Resilience and Reduce Climate Threat.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?
Climate change is and will continue to be a threat to national security as extreme weather inhibits the fleet in meeting its mission. Conducting research and educating the force on climate security ensures an understanding of climate change and decision-making in the face of it.

WHAT IS NPS’ ROLE?
NPS has a leading role in conducting research and educating officers to ensure a climate ready force. The Network advances research and curricula through Meteorology, Oceanography, National Security Affairs, Operations Research, Defense Management, Engineering and Energy.

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NPS addresses climate and security through the following priority areas.

Climate System Science: NPS is researching how constantly evolving environmental conditions affect security and DoD operations. This includes advanced climate system analysis, modeling, and prediction, the development of decision support tools for improving operational planning and outcomes, and transitioning research products to operational use.

Energy Security: NPS is researching the intersection of energy and climate security through a variety of lenses: pathways to net zero emissions, innovations in operational energy, advancing energy resilience and the energy transition and political stability.

Climate Security: NPS is conducting research and education to address complex climate challenges including installation resilience assessments, preparing for climate-exacerbated events including humanitarian aid and disaster response, and working with partners to address climate and environmental security issues across the federal government.

Supply and Logistics: NPS research is empowering the force to ensure climate impacts don’t interrupt access to supplies, materials, services and to reduce demand for key logistics drivers such as energy and water. Researchers are also focused on last mile supply chains to analyze the climate impact on ship to shore and shore to ship operations.

Infrastructure Resilience: NPS conducts resilience assessments for installations, addressing how to deal with climate impacts such as flooding, drought and wildfires. NPS supports those who manage climate-driven surprises and maintain mission assurance and contributes to the development of surprise theory in the context of critical infrastructure.

Climate Change Impacts on Operations: Understanding the impacts of climate change on operations is a critical component of mission readiness. NPS is helping to integrate climate impacts into planning to meet the mission in a changing environment. NPS is partnered with ONR and others on a related NATO effort to build capacity with U.S. allies.

Climate and Security Education and Curriculum: As the Navy’s postgraduate education and research institution, NPS has a lead role in meeting the climate literacy goals under the DoN climate strategy, Climate Action 2030. NPS curriculum includes climate security across disciplines to improve climate-informed decisions throughout the enterprise.

Future Climate Contributions: NPS expertise can contribute to a more holistic approach to solving climate security challenges including through the application of artificial intelligence and unmanned systems, budget and acquisition research and curriculum, consideration of public health impacts on servicemen and women and communities, and the science of behavior change.