

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

**SOCAN**

Confronting Climate Change

<http://socan.info>

***Our Critical Climate: Trends, Impacts & Solutions  
A Rogue Basin Summit***

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Everyone loves where they live. We are no exception! The answer to why this area is so beautiful, is revealed in a trip to Grants Pass: "It's the Climate." The forests, woodlands, agriculture, wineries, and rivers we enjoy are maintained by our climate.

But the Rogue Basin has been experiencing four decades of troubling climate trends. Data from Medford reveal the city has warmed nearly 2 degrees Fahrenheit over the last century, with 2014 4 degrees F above the rising trend. We are also experiencing decreasing snowfall, advancing snowmelt, reduction in late summer stream flow and water availability for domestic and agricultural use.

To explore trends and seek remedies, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now is organizing a two day fall conference: "Our Critical Climate: Trends, Impacts & Solutions – A Rogue Basin Summit" for October 13 and 14. It will explore current trends and projections, their consequences, and what we can do to address these issues.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> Dr. Phil Mote, Director of the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute at OSU will discuss Pacific Northwest trends and projections and what the consequences might be. This will be followed with exploration of local trends and consequences. That evening, Mary Wood from the University Of Oregon School Of Law will discuss "Our Children's Trust," where youth hold governments accountable for protecting natural resources for future generations.

The keynote speaker for October 14<sup>th</sup>, Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy will discuss what Eugene is doing. Then comes discussion of successful current regional efforts. The conference peaks on the second afternoon when attendees will join small Break-out interest groups focusing on one of: Water; Forest Health and Fire; Agriculture; Sustainable Energy; Transportation; Building construction; Recreation and tourism; Human health; Individual action. These groups will identify and develop ideas, and during the coming months, develop plans further. Our goal is to inspire actions that help communities prepare for inevitable regional climate change consequences and reduce our contribution to the problem.

Attendees will comprise elected officials, government department staff, professionals, decision-makers, media, students, and the general public. Early bird registration (\$45) covering morning coffee/tea and lunches for the two days ends July 15<sup>th</sup> after which it rises to \$55; final deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup>. For updated information for the conference, to be held at Medford's Inn at the Commons visit:

<http://socanclimatesummit.info>.