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Dear Colleague:

Because of your interests and experience in natural resource science, management, planning and administration, you are invited to join an Agency Information and Listening Session to be held by the Executive Committee of the USA National Phenology Network (USA-NPN) in Washington, DC on May 4, 2011. The meeting will be held from 9:30-1:00 (including lunch) at the Headquarters of the National Geographic Society (1145 17th Street NW).

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Provide you with a brief summary of scope, accomplishments and potential of the Network
- Explore how your organization could interact with, and benefit from, the Network
- Solicit your guidance on the strategic growth and long-term sustainability of the Network

The meeting will dovetail with the Annual Meeting of the USA-NPN Executive Committee (EC), which includes the Board of Directors, the Executive Director, and the Assistant Director of the Network. Please refer to the USA-NPN website for more information about the Board, the staff, and the organizational priorities and accomplishments of the Network (<http://www.usanpn.org>).

The EC Annual Meeting will focus on sustainability of the Network and development of collaborative partnerships. Building on the practices that have led to our early successes and partnerships, we are now assessing the most effective manner to expand our service offerings to future partners. Potential strategies include increasing the capacity of the Network to provide data products, decision-support tools, and scientific information for the many organizations tasked with understanding and managing ecological systems under changing environments.

Thus, this short interactive meeting is designed to inform you of the progress and activities of the Network, and to hear from you how the Network can help your agency meet its goals and objectives related to science, management, planning, policy, education and communication. A draft agenda and list of invitees is appended below, and a formal copy of this letter is attached to this e-mail.

In the next few days, a member of our Board will contact you directly by phone to answer your questions and to encourage your participation. In the meantime, please feel free to respond to this invitation by e-mail, or contact me directly if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake F. Weltzin".

Jake F. Weltzin  
Executive Director, USA-NPN  
Ecologist, USGS  
e-mail: [jweltzin@usgs.gov](mailto:jweltzin@usgs.gov); phone: 520-626-3821

cc: Dr. Mark D. Schwartz, Chair, Board of Directors, USA-NPN  
Distinguished Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dr. Julio L. Betancourt, Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, USA-NPN  
Senior Scientist, USGS & Adjunct Professor, University of Arizona

**USA National Phenology Network**  
**Agency Information and Listening Session – Agenda and Invitees**  
*National Geographic Society Headquarters, Washington, DC*  
*4 May 2011*

**Agenda, 4 May 2011**

- 9:30 - 10:00 Open meeting and introductions  
 10:00 - 10:45 Status of the Network with Q & A  
 10:45 - 11:00 Break  
 11:00- 12:00 Facilitated discussion on the strategic direction of the Network  
 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch (provided or can be purchased separately)

**Invitees**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title / Position</b>
CDC	George Luber	Associate Director for Global Change, National Center for Environmental Health
DOD-SERDP	Jeff Marqusee	Strategic Environmental Research Defense Programs
DOI BIA	Bryan Rice	Assistant Director, Resource Protection
DOI BLM	Dan Lechefsky	National Climate Change Coordinator
DOI FWS	Mark Chase	Chief, Natural Resource Program Center
DOI FWS	Gabriela Chavarria	Science Advisor to Director, FWS
DOI FWS	Pete Jerome	Refuge Supervisor
DOI FWS	Kurt Johnson	Science Advisor, FWS
DOI NPS	Bert Frost	Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship & Science
DOI NPS	Julia Washburn	Associate Director, Partnerships, Interpretation and Education
DOI NPS	Gary Machlis	Science Advisor
DOI NPS	Leigh Welling	Climate Change Coordinator, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
DOI USGS	Doug Beard	National Climate Change & Wildlife Science Program
DOI USGS	Anne Kinsinger	Associate Director, Ecosystems
DOI USGS	Matt Larsen	Associate Director, Climate and Land-Use Change
EPA	Karen Metchis	Senior Climate Advisor
ESA	Cliff Duke	Director, Science, Ecological Society of America
NASA	Woody Turner	Program Scientist Biological Diversity
NASA	Diane Wickland	Terrestrial Ecology Program Scientist

NOAA	James Butler	Director, Global Monitoring Division, NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory
NOAA	Fiona Horsfall	NWS Climate Services Division Director
NOAA	Chad McNutt	OAR Drought Lead
NOAA	Danielle Swallow	Regional Climate Services Directors Lead
NSF	Peter McCartney	Program Manager, Advances in Biological Informatics
USDA	Ann Bartuska	Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics, and Chief Scientist
USDA	William G. Hohenstein	Director, Global Change Program Office
USDA FS	Dave Cleaves	Climate Change Advisor to the Chief
USDA FS	Rob Mangold	Director, Forest Health Protection Program
USDA NRCS	Terrell Erickson	National Biologist
USGCRP	Fred Lipshultz	Senior Scientist for the National Climate Assessment