



The News On UTAH'S NEW CLIMATE

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

SEPTEMBER 10, 2021



Utah's New Climate – Drought (or Aridification?)

*In a First, U.S. Declares Shortage on
Colorado River, Forcing Water Cuts*

**Another reservoir goes dry as Utah's
drought emergency continues**

**Drought puts farmers and ranchers in
survival mode**

Scofield runs out of drinking water

**Long-term forecasts show Utah's drought
possibly getting worse**

*A Drought So Dire That a
Utah Town Pulled the Plug
on Growth*



Utah's New Climate - Heat

Doctors worried about heat health impacts as Salt Lake hits record

Historic heat wave puts stranglehold on Utah's weather

Officials Warn of Deadly Temperatures: 11 children have died this summer after being left alone in a vehicle

Recapping Summer 2021: Another one for the record book



Utah's New Climate - Wildfire

Rain will help clear out smoke Tuesday — but fire danger will be high across most of Utah

New Oak Grove Fire burns near I-15 in southern Utah

Wildfire threatening some structures near Lindon

Utah wildfire forces thousands of homes to evacuate as the nation's largest fire in California rages



Utah's New Climate - Smoke

Colorado and Utah's Worst-In-The-World Air Quality Precedes Grim Climate Report

SLC again ranks among world's worst air quality thanks to more wildfire smoke

Study: Wildfire smoke exposure increases risk of preterm birth

Cough, sore throat, and trouble breathing: COVID-19 or exposure to wildfire smoke?

How is it rainy and smoky in Utah?



Booming Utah's Weak Link: Surging Air Pollution

A red-hot economy, wildfire smoke from California and the shriveling of the Great Salt Lake are making Utah's alarming pollution even worse.



Utah's New Climate - Flood

Severe weather hits Salt Lake area, flash flood warnings issued across Utah

THE LATEST: Rains pound Utah: Flooding closes I-215 at 3300 South

Heavy rains cause flooding and road closures throughout Salt Lake Valley

Iron County under another flash flood watch, residents concerned

Flooded Utah towns going without federal relief

'I'm devastated': Dozens of homes flooded in Holladay



Policy Spaces for Adaptation

1. Disaster Mitigation
2. Equity
3. Climate Migration
4. Electrical Infrastructure
5. Critical Land Preservation



1. Disaster Mitigation Planning

Media Alert: New Flood Warning Gage in Pack Creek near Moab Utah

Mapleton residents evacuated again during Wednesday flooding

Flash flooding came within 75 feet of I-80 at Parleys Canyon Fire burn scar



1. Disaster Mitigation Planning

Utah's drought and low reservoirs add up to more intense algal blooms

Smoke hangs around in Utah thanks to heat dome

Great Salt Lake is shrinking fast. Scientists demand action before it becomes a toxic dustbin

Experts: Great Salt Lake drying out could result in \$2 billion loss per year



2. Equity

A woman died in the heat on Salt Lake City streets during a mental health crisis. Why her family says the system failed her

Amid record heat, Utah expert suggests new proposal to pay for AC

Extreme drought, urban heat and the Utah killer targeting the vulnerable

There's a shady (and leafy) divide between Denver's whiter, wealthier neighborhoods and everyone else

Why an East Harlem Street Is 31 Degrees Hotter Than Central Park West



3. Climate Migration

The great climate migration is happening and you might be the next to move

Cat 4 and 5 hurricanes, tornados where they haven't been, and rising temps ahead bode more of the same



clayyy
@yourdreamygaze



An elderly woman reacts as wildfires are reaching her house in Evia (Greece). The northern part of the island has been burning for days now, forcing its inhabitants who have spent their entire lives there to abandon their homes. I've never seen so much pain in just 1 pic....



3:51 PM · Aug 8, 2021



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4. Electrical Infrastructure

A Glimpse of America's Future: Climate Change Means Trouble for Power Grids

Heat Wave Generates Concerns Over Viability of Utah Power Grid

The Texas freeze: Why the power grid failed

Severe weather, blackouts show the grid's biggest problem is infrastructure, not renewables



5. Critical Land Preservation

Three old streams bring one sparkling new attraction to Salt Lake City's west side

Three Creeks Confluence Park showcases Red Butte, Emigration and Parleys waterways near the Jordan River Parkway Trail.

Big Plans For Big Bend: Restoring A Blighted Stretch Of The Jordan River

Beavers Are Firefighters Who Work for Free Is it time to rethink beaver relocation bans?

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN SALT LAKE CITY HAS ISSUED A FLOOD WARNING FOR BIG COTTONWOOD CREEK FROM THE HEADWATERS TO THE CONFLUENCE WITH THE JORDAN RIVER IN EAST CENTRAL SALT LAKE COUNTY IN UTAH UNTIL 100 PM MDT FRIDAY



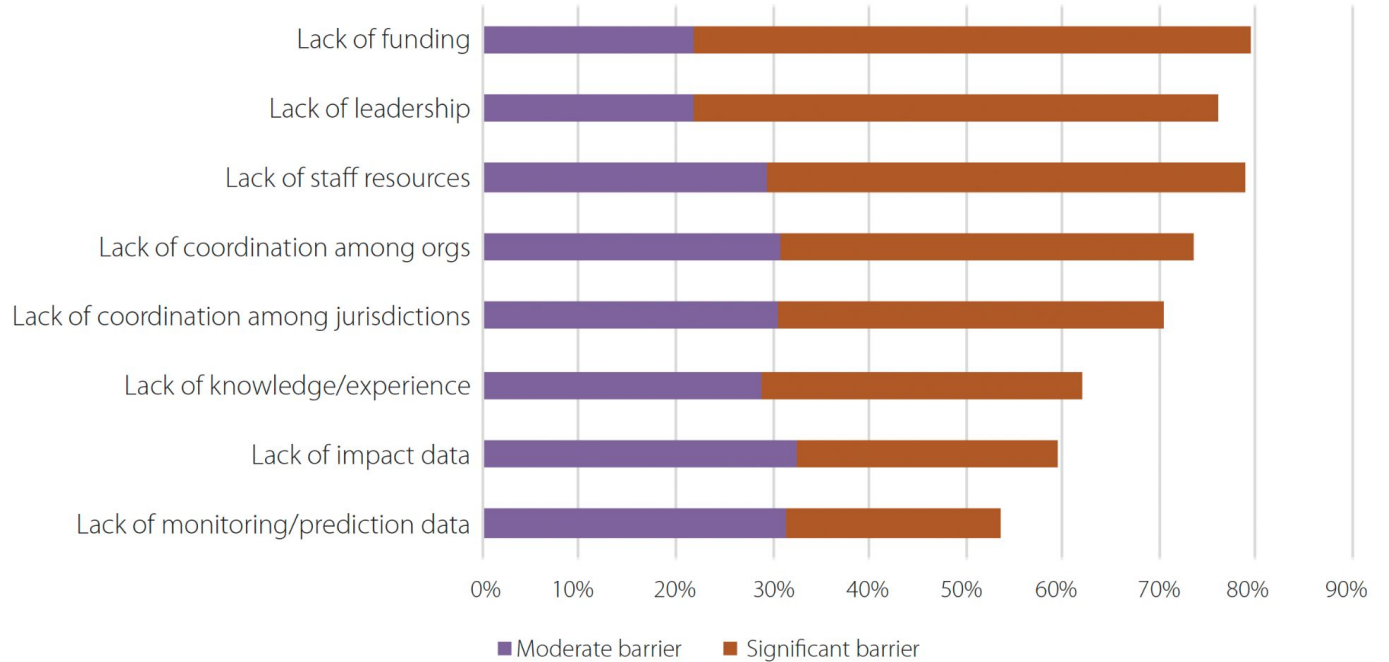
Barriers to Addressing Climate Change Through Planning



In a 2018 survey, APA members identified the biggest perceived barriers to addressing drought through planning.

Source: APA

Perceived Barriers to Addressing Drought Through Planning





Overcoming Barriers

1. Repurpose Existing Plans
2. Think Across Topics and Entities
3. Tap into Existing Resources



Repurpose Existing Plans and Regs

1. **Land Use** - Lot sizes, centers, landscaping requirements, TOD, infill
2. **Transportation** - Active transportation, public transit, complete streets, bioswales and stormwater management
3. **Housing** - Access to transit, disaster resilience
4. **Parks and Open Space** - Equitable access, flood retention,
5. **Environment** - Tree canopy, sensitive land protections, UWI
6. **Public Facilities** - Cooling centers
7. **Economic Development** - Water consumption needs, location

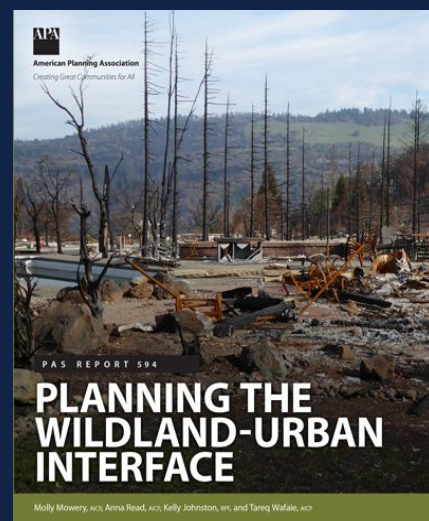
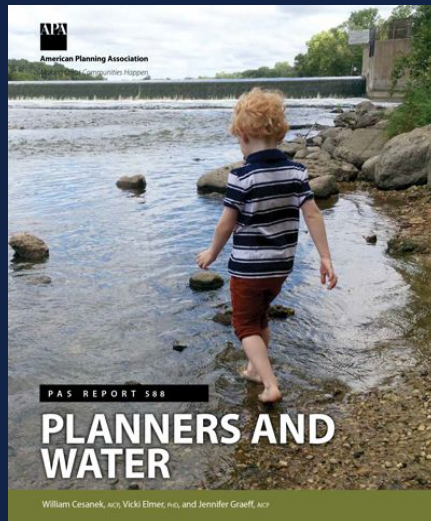
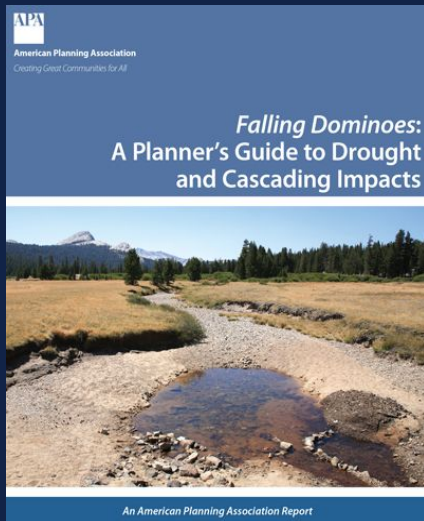
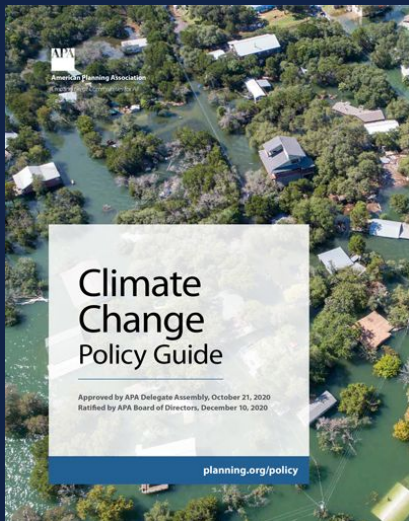


Think Across Topics and Entities

1. Consider cascading disasters and regional context
2. Employ robust public engagement to reach underrepresented populations
3. Collaborate with neighboring cities and counties on cross jurisdictional issues - e.g. transportation, waterways
4. Coordinate with state agencies
5. Build relationships with development community, utility providers, and community organizations



Tap into Existing Resources





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STATE OF UTAH