# Local Resilience to Environmental Change

Matt Flaherty, Resilience Implementation Manager IU Environmental Resilience Institute

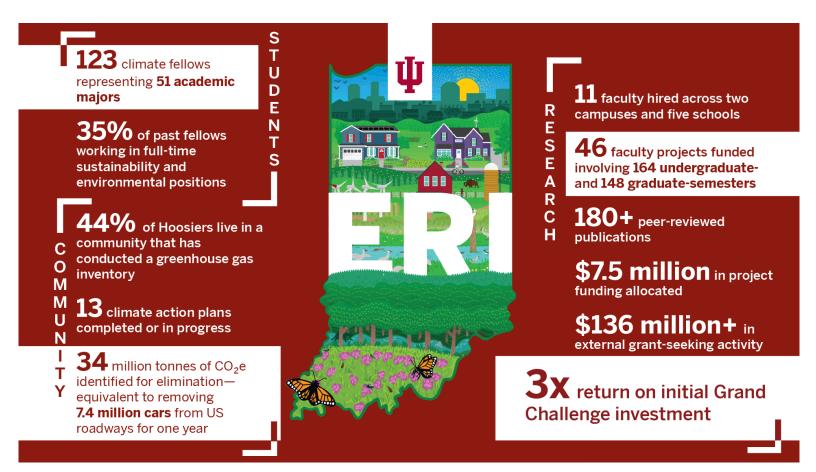
flahertm@iu.edu 812-856-1730

Town Hall Roundtable – Nashville, IN October 6, 2022





### Overview of the Environmental Resilience Institute



**IU Prepared for Environmental Change Grand Challenge** 



**Hoosier Resilience Index** 



**ERI Toolkit** 

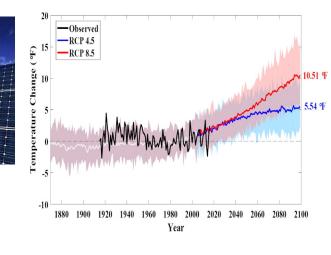




Climate change poses a threat to Hoosier communities. A resilient Indiana is one that takes **proactive steps** to reduce the threats and vulnerabilities associated with climate change.







Step 1: Reduce the threat

Step 2: Avoid the impacts

**Step 3: Prepare for the unavoidable** 













Climate

Agriculture

Water















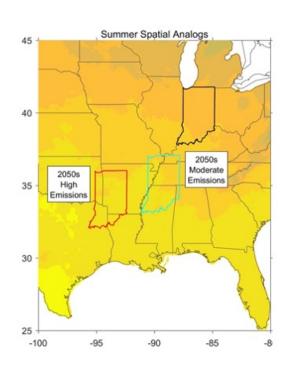


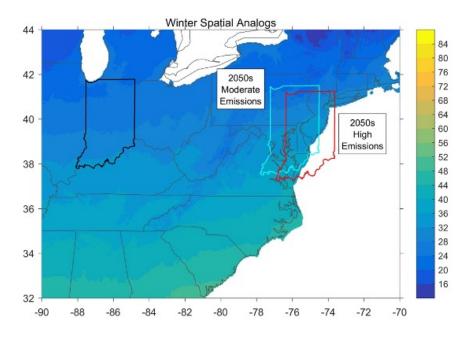
Summary

### **Seasonal Analogs**

Based on seasonal average temperature and precipitation



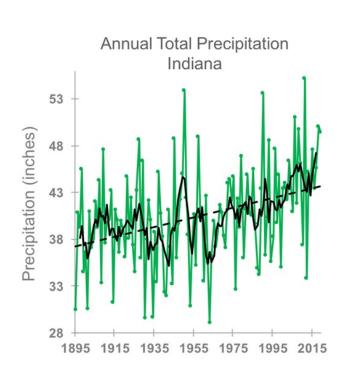


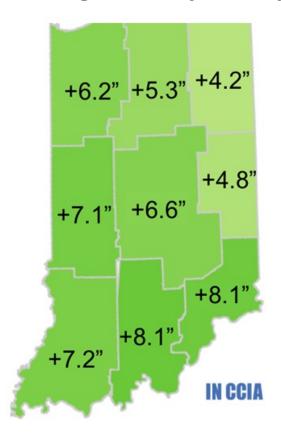






#### 42% increase in amount of rain falling in heavy downpours





#### **Some <u>seasons</u> will get wetter**



WINTER: 16 to 20% increase

SPRING: 13 to 16% increase

- ➤ More falling as rain, not snow
- > Expecting more runoff & higher streamflow

Some <u>seasons</u> will get drier



Summer & fall show slight declines, with less certainty in the projections

- > Increased water demand from added heat
- Decreased streamflow





#### **Hotter weather means:**

- More air pollution
- More allergies
- More heat-related illnesses and deaths
- Greater need (and total cost) for air conditioning
- Risks to power grid

#### More severe storms mean:

- Increased risks to public safety
- Increased property damage from flooding
- More mold
- Challenges for farmers
- Risks to power grid

#### News



Thousands Lose Power In Bloomington; Flash Flood Drenches Kirkwood Avenue

LOCAL

Downtown businesses still recovering from Bloomington flooding last weekend

Carol Kugler The Herald-Times





### **Hoosier Resilience Index**



- Provides city and county-specific climate change projections
- Identifies developed land in floodplain
- Identifies social and infrastructure vulnerabilities
- Readiness Assessment → in-depth selfassessment tool for local governments to identify vulnerabilities and prioritize actions



100-Year Floodplain Nashville, IN





## **Brown County Severe Weather Projections**

#### **Extreme Heat**

### **Average Number of Extreme Heat Events per Year Brown County**

Timeframe	High Heat Days	High Heat Nights	High Heat Days and Nights	Total Days with Extreme Heat Events*
Current	13	9	11	33
2050s - Medium Emissions Scenario	31	11	39	80
2050s - High Emissions Scenario	32	11	51	94

#### **Extreme Precipitation**

#### Average Number of Extreme Precipitation Events per Decade Brown County

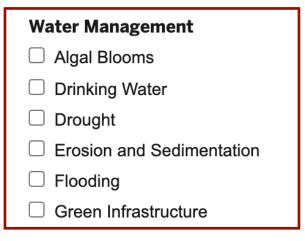
Timeframe		Extreme Precipitation Events	0
Current	0	17	
2050s - Medium Emissions Scenario	0	21	
2050s - High Emissions Scenario	0	22	

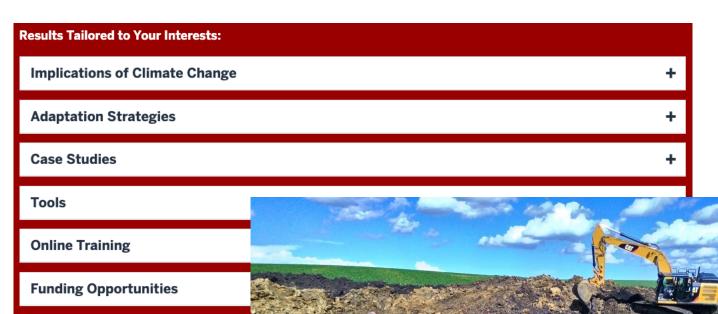


### **Environmental Resilience Institute Toolkit**

**Additional Support Centers** 

- Toolkit focused on understanding climate change impacts and adaptation planning/strategies
- Provides tailored information for your region and areas of interest





Cedar Rapids Implements Best Management Practices to Improve Water Quality, Soil Heath, and Flood Mitigation

The City of Cedar Rapids partnered with local farmers, landowners, and organizations to implement management practices to reduce nutrient runoff, improve soil health, and mitigate flood risk.











Fishers, IN

### **Resilience Cohort**

- Advances local government climate preparedness
- Assess → Plan → Implement w/ peer network
- Technical assistance, equity coaching
- 2019-2022: more than 40 local governments

## McKinney Climate Fellows

- Builds host organization capacity
- Governmental, private, non-profit hosts
- Sustainability workforce development
- 2017-2022: more than 160 fellowships

## **Opportunities and Next Steps**

- IDEM Clean Communities
- ERI Programs
  - Hoosier Resilience Index
  - Resilience Cohort
  - McKinney Climate Fellows
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act
  - Conservation and land preservation
  - Green infrastructure
  - Nature-based solutions to sequester carbon
  - Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Regional Collaboration
  - Monroe, Brown, and Bartholomew Counties



