TRANSCRIPT

NOAA 2022 Heat.gov Virtual Media Briefing to unveil and provide a tour of Heat.gov, a new website that brings together all the federal agencies and programs focused on extreme heat resilience.

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Media advisory about briefing

Media invited to a briefing on Heat.gov: New website designed to build national resilience to extreme heat

News release

Biden Administration launches Heat.gov with tools for communities facing extreme heat

0:08

Good morning, everybody, and thank you for joining us for this Media Availability today. My name is Lori ... and I am the Director of Communications here at NOAA. And we're delighted to host this briefing and to have a number of key folks helping us to demonstrate this whole of government approach to our new website tool. We'll be hearing from a number of people today, including Ali Zaidi, who you see on the screen and Secretary Rimando, representing the Commerce Department. You'll hear from NOAA officials and HHS officials as well. In just a moment, and I would like to remind you that you do have the ability to manipulate your screen. If you'd like to see faces a little bit more prominent than the slide, you're welcome to do that.

0:56

I'll be giving you some more specific instructions on how to ask questions after we get through our remarks, and let me just begin by turning it over to Deputy White House, National Climate Advisor, at least 80, Allie. Thank you.

1:14

Thanks, Lori, and thanks, everybody, for joining us over the past week.

1:19

You know, it's, it's been really hard to escape the, the reality of an urgent climate crisis all across our country, and one way that the American people have been facing this down is in the form of extreme heat that is gripping over 70 million Americans, families, coping with record breaking temperatures into the three digits, really, really scorching across the country.

1:49

And, you know, what we, as we, as we take this in, we know that that's not just an environmental phenomena, it's a public health, Brett.

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As the number one weather related cause of death in the United States, extreme heat has sent, on average, over 67 thousand people to emergency rooms per year, just because of heat related illnesses. We know each year's 9000 people are hospitalized because of extreme heat.

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And we know that heat like so many of these impacts of climate change is interactive with some of these other effects. So it is how it is intensifying the drought. The 41 states that are experiencing moderate or severe drought across the country.

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It's making it harder.

2:45

The task of farmers and ranchers around the country, the 225 million acres of crops that are experiencing drought conditions in the United States, and it's, and it's making the job harder for folks.

3:01

For example, the firefighters and mayor of Mariposa County in California, who are having to deal with wildfire, which has already burned five million acres across the country, in more extreme conditions. And so, that's why the President, really, from day one, and an increasingly faster and faster, increasingly with greater ambition, has made climate and tackling climate change, Such a central element of his administration.

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Last year, under the President's National Climate Task Force, we formed a working group on extreme heat, and our colleagues at NOAA and the Department of Commerce have really been critical partners and leaders in that effort.

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The launch of heat dot gov is, in a way, I think the combination of one of the key streams of work within that window, within that inter-agency group. And that is getting in the hands of local officials. And the American people decision ready data that is real-time, that meets people where they are and gives them the information that they need to adapt in real time.

4:18

But maybe what I wanted to underscore, because you'll hear a lot more about heat dot gov and the incredible service that the NOAA team is delivering here.

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I wanted to just take a step back and talk a little bit about the President's broader efforts to help communities deal with extreme heat and the intensifying heat waves last week.

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The President announced the largest investment in history through the Building Resilient Infrastructure, and Communities Program, the BRIC program through FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security, two point three billion dollars.

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Now, just how that works, communities are able to get that, that money in grant form, to help build things like cooling centers.

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So you've got vulnerable Americans who aren't able to stay cool at home, they will be able to go to a community center. And a brick program would help them fund something like that.

5:26

It also helps really, the These communities build their infrastructure in terms of human capital. So, I met, actually, earlier this year, with the city of Miami.

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They now have A chief resilience officer, who's focused on extreme heat day in and day out, helping co-ordinate response to those challenges. So, the two point three billion dollars that the president announced last week, will help fund those sorts of efforts.

5:59

The second thing that that the President did yesterday, for the longest time, the federal government has had a program called LIHEAP used primarily by folks in the north-east. I'm sure as Governor, GR Rimando was familiar with the LIHEAP program, and it's something that people used to keep warm during the winter months.

6:25

The president has secured the largest investment ever in LIHEAP. $8 billion across several bipartisan legislative efforts.

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And what he did last week was announce a new set of rules that allows LIHEAP to be used to help vulnerable Americans actually deal with the cooling challenge of the summertime. So deal with their cooling bills, but also allow states and local governments to buy and loan energy efficient air conditioners. So that's money that the states have right now that the President has unleashed to help get after the cooling challenge for the summertime.

7:06

So that's the brick funding for community level resilience. The LIHEAP funding for individuals getting support right now on cooling, and then on the worker front.

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For the first time ever, the president has directed the Department of Labor to develop heat standards to make sure that we're protecting our workers. There are 70 at risk industries, you think about, for example, folks in the building trades doing those construction jobs.

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We need to make sure that those employers are protecting those workers, and in addition to building a new heat standard that can apply to these industries.

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The Department of Labor is actually out there doing inspections on a regular basis now, under the President's direction to make sure that workers are being protected over 500 inspections since the beginning of this administration.

8:01

And, the last thing I'll point out, and this is I think, really such a hallmark of the way Biden Harris' Administration goes after the challenge of climate change, is to see clearly and recognize that it is something that disproportionately impacts communities of color. Low-income communities, communities often left out and left behind.

8:25

No, you look at the, you look at the data, Communities that were red lined historically, in housing policy, are literally hotter today because there's more pavement and fewer trees.

8:38

And that's why the President secured funding and the bipartisan infrastructure law to actually help get money to communities to, to improve. this specific, make improvements on the specific issue. fighting against what we call the urban heat island effect by helping get pavement out and trees in and improving the heat resilience of communities around the country.

9:06

And we're grateful to be doing that through efforts by the Department of Agriculture and HUD so just to give you that sense of breath, whether it's funding for communities, Support directly to consumers.

9:21

Standards for the workplace and inspections to make sure employers are living up to their promise, attacking urban heat island effect and the disparities that we see across the country, in terms of the impacts of heat.

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And then, of course, making sure we're getting data and information in a reliable form.

9:41

And for that.

9:42

And with that, let me hand it over to just one of the most incredible champions for climate action and really climate action done the right way in a way that boosts our economy and addresses and advances the challenges of equity.

10:00

Secretary, Raimonda, over to you.

10:03

Thank you, Ally. Thank you. It's great to see you, and thanks for joining us today. I think you did a beautiful job and said at all, I'll just offer a few comments.

10:14

And because we here at the Commerce Department are really very serious about fighting climate with every tool in our toolbox, we're lucky that NOAA reports into the Commerce Department and has some of the best climate scientists and activists in the world. And as you just said, Allie, you don't have to look far.

10:33

You don't have to look far at all to see that extreme weather is having a massive negative effect on our communities.

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Extreme weather events are more frequent and more expensive and more lethal than they ever have been.

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And it's getting worse and worse, and worse, more people die every year, from heat and heat related illnesses than any other type of weather event.

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And, by the way, that's on full display right now in our country and in Europe.

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So, obviously, it's why we're working so hard to prepare Americans and to prevent these tragedies.

11:12

We don't have to accept this, right? This doesn't have to be this way.

11:17

And so that's why, you know, we're working as hard as we are here at NOAA and at the Commerce Department. And I should say, I'm just so proud of NOAA. I'm proud. I had I was with the whole team last weekend.

11:29

They're doing incredible work, and they have a lead role in this effort. right alongside of the White House, right alongside the CDC and Secretary Bazaars team.

11:40

And through the National Integrated Heat Health Information System, we in HHS are going to work across the government with the EPA with FEMA, with the VA, with the National Parks Service to share our best tools and information with decision makers at all levels. And that's important at all levels. So, You know, you could be a mom trying to decide this summer, Is it safe for your kids to play outside to go to camp?

12:11

You could be a park manager or a public works manager determining when road repairs can and should be undertaken.

12:18

Or, as Sally said, a farmer, figuring out when it's OK to be out in the fields.

12:23

The information on heat dot gov is designed to help you, you know, concrete, actionable information, and heat dot gov to help you to help you navigate the risks associated with extreme weather events, and, as I said before, they, they knew the trend is disturbing, right? Extreme heat is deadly, it's also incredibly expensive. Now, here at Commerce Department, we think a lot about the economy.

12:56

If we estimate that we lose $100 billion every year as a result of outdoor workers, not being able to do their jobs because of extreme heat conditions.

13:08

And by the way, that's to say, nothing of the wildfires and other damage, done to our economy, and the cost of our economy of these events.

13:18

So the reality is, given the scientific predictions, this summer, with its oppressive and widespread heat waves, is likely to be one of the coolest summers of the rest of our lives.

13:32

That's pretty scary thing to think that this is the coolest, because it doesn't feel very cool. And it's why the president is so committed to taking meaningful action to mitigate climate change. And it's why I am the whole team at the Commerce Department, has, addressing climate change as a top priority and building a climate ready nation, is our top priority.

13:56

We need to build a climate ready nation that's prosperous in the face of these changes.

14:01

And heat dot gov is just, you know, one example. It's an essential part of meeting that goal. So, with that, I'll turn it back over to you. But I appreciate the opportunity to be here. And just thank each and every one of you for your passion and commitment to this work.

14:21

Thank you so much, Madam Secretary. We greatly appreciate your time and your interest in this issue. We know you have to head off to other obligations, so we'll say, thank you. And let me now turn it to doctor Patrick ..., who is the director at the Center for Disease, Control's, National Center for Environmental Health, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Doctor Bracey. Thank you for giving us a little bit of perspective from the health side of the equation.

14:51

Yes, thank you very much. I'm happy to be here with you today for the launch of heat dot gov.

14:56

This is an important and timely tool that brings together data and resources on heat from across the federal government, Making this information more accessible for the general public decision makers, and public health professionals.

15:09

CDC is glad to be co leads of the National Integrated Heat and Health Information System. I'll refer to that, it's not.

15:14

Yes and a key partner in the launch of heat dot gov.

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As the CDC Director, doctor Lewinsky said in her opening remarks at the recent inaugural and ... meeting.

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The partnership between the National Center for Environmental Health and NOAA, harnesses are very powerful datasets, to better predict health outcomes.

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We provide local heat response plans with a threshold for activation that protects our communities.

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As you've heard, Extreme heat is a significant source of health burden, the United States.

15:45

Extreme heat events resulted in many hundreds of deaths, and tens of thousands of ED visits each year.

15:51

Extreme heat is only going to get worse due to a changing climate.

15:56

Since 2009, CDC's Climate and Health program has provided resources.

16:00

It has capacity of health departments to plan for and addressed climate through its flagship program, the Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative.

16:09

The Climate Health Program focuses on climate health adaptation, and he has been identified as a concern for all our grant recipients across the country.

16:19

The Client, States, and Cities Initiative helps grant recipients to identify climate impacts in their communities, potential health effects associated with these impacts.

16:28

The initiative also has tools, well, health departments, to focus their efforts on the most at risk populations locations.

16:36

Just one example might take a minute.

16:39

There's the work accomplished by state health departments in Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire, Vermont, where they partnered with the National Weather Service, the former north-east Regional Heat Collaborative, this multi agency partnership, pooled data, to increase our understanding of the relationship between heat and hospitalizations and deaths.

16:58

This helped change the National Weather Service Heat Advisory Policies across New England, to be more sensitive to end heat effects are to be expected.

17:07

For the past decade, the CDC Climate Health program has worked to develop resources for communities to plan, and to adapt to changing climate.

17:16

Working with our grantees, we have developed adapted adaptation strategies that have been shown to reduce the impacts of extreme heat.

17:23

These resources include guidance documents on extreme heat events.

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Use of cooling centers can develop heat response plans.

17:31

We also provide communication and training materials on extreme heat with specific series for youth sports coaches.

17:37

And social media tool kits are extreme heat for state and local health departments.

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These resources are all available through heat dot gov webpage.

17:46

The CDC Climate Health Program and the Environmental Public Health Tracking Program work together with nowhere to develop CDC's health tracker.

17:54

This is a free, open access tool provides real-time, local, level heat and health information.

18:00

Better prepare for respond to heat events.

18:03

This is an example of having decision to ready data that you heard earlier.

18:07

The tracker is an example of the power of cross agency collaboration.

18:11

This was a collaboration between CDC and NOAA and more information on the tracker is available on ... dot gov.

18:18

Heat dot gov is an important resource for responding to public health effects of extreme heat.

18:22

CDC is glad to have been able to collaborate on this initiative, and to make human health information more available and accessible to inform decision makers and health responders to reduce the impacts of extreme heat unhealth.

18:35

Thank you for being, allow me to be here, with you this morning, and I'd like to now turn it over, two.

18:45

So, Rick Deduct has been read the note administrator.

18:49

Thank you, doctor Bracey, but let me just put today's rollout of ... dot gov in a context, and I'm delighted that we were able to hear from the health perspective, from the department perspective, from the White House perspective. My job is to be the weather climate guy.

19:05

And I want to give you a number of bits of information, data points, if you will, to really put an emphasis on why this is such a critical activity and why it's so important. We roll it out now. So, obviously, more than 100 million people across the nation. A third of our nation have been under a heat advisory or warning, just over the last couple of weeks.

19:26

Dozens of cities have broken daily temperature records and several have tied or broken monthly or all-time records.

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For example, Abilene Texas reached 110 degrees 3 days in a row, from July 18th through July 20th, breaking the Daily Record for each of those days, including one, which went back to 19 36. Salt Lake City to an all-time record of 107 degrees, and has reached that temperature four times now. three of those times falling in the last 20 years.

19:55

Meanwhile, while we may be cooling down temporarily here on the East Coast, Extreme heat is continuing across other parts of the US. Later this week, daily records, in places like Spokane, Washington and Boise, Idaho could break as temperatures are expected to soar into the low to mid one hundreds. It wasn't only prominent across North America.

20:17

Many of you know that just last week, our friends across the pond, in the UK reached 40 degrees Celsius or 104 degrees Fahrenheit for the first time and recorded history.

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July 2021 was the hottest month, ever recorded on works. And summers are getting hotter and deadlier.

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The annual average temperature of the contiguous US has already warmed over the past few decades and is projected to rise by 5 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of this century.

20:47

The good news is that heat related illnesses and death are largely preventable with proper planning, monitoring, and education, as we've heard.

20:56

City officials, the growing number of heat resilience officers, as well as doctors, Nurses, first responders.

21:03

I'd even add researchers and the general public are increasingly requesting federal support to underscore the complex and dangerous nature of extreme heat.

21:13

Heat.gov helps to meet this growing need for authoritative heat, and health tools and information, It will help us become, as you heard from Secretary Raimondo, a climate ready nation.

21:26

We also know that extreme heat is not experienced the same among populations.

21:31

It disproportionately affects older adults, pregnant women and children, people experiencing homelessness, outdoor and indoor workers, and many, many, more. To serve. The American people hit dot gov offers up a variety of products, such as maps, data, information from across disciplines. So, you'll hear more about that in a moment.

21:52

From inside and outside of government, that will enable informed decisions by communities on a daily basis, and allow planning weeks and months ahead.

22:03

The site features heat information from across federal agencies. It truly is an all of government approach, including heat court forecasts from our own weather service, NOAA, and information about our urban heat island campaign, which focuses on those vulnerable populations I just alluded to.

22:20

It dot gov was created in collaboration with our great partners, and SRE, which is a Geographic Information System Company.

22:28

The website is hosted on History's Cloud based Geospatial Platform, which allows easy access to a range of features such as localized heat information and links to heat tools across the federal government. Let me turn now to Hunter Jones, Program Manager for ... dot gov to take us through some of the highlights of this incredible web based tool. hunter.

22:51

Thank you doctor FINRA.

22:54

I'm Audrey Jones, the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Program Manager.

22:59

And just one moment, I'll be sharing my screen here.

23:11

Excellent, OK. So, that should be coming up for everybody. While it does, I just want to get oriented, showing you the main page here of heat dot gov.

23:22

First of all, you can see at the top that we have a navigation bar, and I'll be walking through a number of these features, as well as in the main page here, where you can see some additional information. Welcome to hit dot gov. It's the premier source of heat and health information for the nation to reduce the health, economic, and infrastructural impacts of extreme heat. As we've heard, it is a major inter-agency effort. This page is meant to be starting point for the public, and for decision makers to find information from the government on extreme heat. And you can easily launch into other agencies pages. And they're detailed resources from here. Just to get a little bit more oriented. On the left side, I want to point out that there is a Translate feature. So in addition to having an English here, you can pop this open and translate into a number of different languages.

24:14

That's functionality available through the SRE Hub.

24:17

I also wanted to point out that there is the opportunity to share this page and any page that you're on as a unique link. So you can share this on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

24:28

On the right side here, you can see a news box. These are the top three news items that we're featuring now, but there are other places where news bubbles up on the site and we can show you those later. And then we also have some feature boxes below the news in the welcome to EPA dot gov box that we can change seasonally, or asking you to, to

make sure that the most important information is bubbling up at the top, and at the fingertips of people who need to use it.

24:53

At this point, I'll now scroll down a little bit further and show you some of the interactive content for heat dot gov. First of all, this tool, we anticipate will be very popular.

25:03

It is showing the currents alerts from the Weather Service. So, watches warnings and advisories in terms of how they cover the population of United States. And, so, you can see, for example, if you, if you mouse over these bars, on the 20th of July, it was a very serious day for heat, when 46% of the population was under one of those active products.

25:26

And, of course, today, where you can see that, that number is 30 million or so.

25:32

That information in this box corresponds to the interactive map below. You can see right now, where those active warnings watches and advisories are.

25:42

If you scroll down a little bit further, you can actually pull in the maximum temperature map for today.

25:49

If I take this legend, and I just hide it for now. I can also show you that in anytime you see that this stack of cards here basically to layer list, and this isn't available in a lot of our tools that are on the site, You can open that up, and you can actually get additional layers that you can make visible, or invisible as you want to conduct your analysis.

26:09

I do want to show you that if you click on one of these, you get additional information on that Warning Watcher Advisory, and if you scroll down even further you can click the more Info link. And this is just one example of where we link off to Agency pages so you can go to the Weather Service to find more information on that more.

26:30

I'll show you in just a few more tabs in this interactive map. You can also see the current temperature.

26:35

So before it was the maximum temperature for the day, this is the current temperatures that are station based across the country, and you can click on any one of these stations and get more information in Fahrenheit and Celsius.

26:47

We also have Climate outlooks on another tab coming from the center of the Climate Prediction Center from NOAA.

26:52

And so, this right now is showing you the days 6 to 10 outlook, but we have 8 to 14 monthly and seasonal.

27:01

And if you click on any one of these polygons, you can get information on that.

27:04

So you can see that the Climate Prediction center production predicts this area has a 90% chance of being above normal temperatures in this date range.

27:14

We also have extreme heat days in 20 50, and we show this in two ways.

27:19

one is showing extreme heat days that are in the top 1%.

27:26

I can click, actually, it was like this. I anywhere I haven't shown you this. You can click this. I get a description. So you can see a little bit of information on what we're looking at.

27:34

And if I scroll down and click on one of these polygons, we can get that information on The number of days expected to be in the top 1% historically in 20 50.

27:43

And the last tab here is similar information only. It's set on a threshold above 90 Fahrenheit.

27:49

So as we walk through these different layers, you can see that we're sort of building out the timeline and building out the predictions and projections going out to various timescales.

27:59

Below this, I just want to show you that we have featured tools right now. The two that are featured on the Heat Health Tracker from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the Climate Explorer, which is available from climate dot gov.

28:13

Down a little bit further, and we have heat news, and this is also available on our news and events page that I'll show you in a moment. Just the top key items that are bubbling up, one, that I would like to focus on, that I'd like to call out, is that we do have a webinar coming up, a webinar series, the first of which will be on august 24th. And it's looking at overlooked and overgrown populations that are at increased risk from extreme heat. And so the first population that will cover is the LGBTQ plus community, including sexual orientation, sexual identity, and gender expression.

28:42

At the bottom of this main page, I want to show you that this gray bar will be on every page, And it indicates the agencies that are part of the National Integrated Health Information System are part of making this site, as well as contact information on the right where you can send feedback, contact the webmaster and join the mailing list called the ....

29:02

So, at this point, I will go back up to the top and walk through a few more features.

29:06

I won't spend a lot of time on using events, But, as you might guess, this is where we have all of our news and events cards.

29:11

And you can click into any one of these and get more information on that, that item.

29:15

I didn't mention the webinars, I'll show you that we have the overlooked in our burning webinar series here. And there's more information available at this page.

29:23

And, the NIST national meeting, which was referenced earlier, is archived here, as well.

29:28

So you can go into this page and get additional information, watch the recordings NCB agenda.

29:35

The next page over is the Learn Tab.

29:39

I'll just show you quickly that this tab has information on what extreme heat is, and, and just some basic background information for people.

29:47

We anticipate that this tab will, will be updated more and more over time. We also have a set of terminology here to help people familiarize themselves with extreme heat terms.

30:00

On the Urban Heat Island tab, I would like to spend a little bit more time on this one. First of all, we have a very brief primer on what urban heat islands are.

30:09

And if you click on the mapping campaigns link which is just below or you don't have here, it opens up a really feature rich set of information from our site started me on a map and campaigns. First of all, you can see the map where we've conducted campaigns and also in the lavender color where we are conducting campaigns right now, some of them went this past weekend and this is a very active, very active process. And I know that a lot of people interested in these mapping campaigns. So you can see the full spread here.

30:40

And then there's additional information on the background of the campaigns.

30:44

This tab for the 2022 campaign application right now is for HIPAA for information. But the 2023 application will likely to open up in the October timeframe, so when that does, this tab will be updated with application information. I do want to go into the Campaign Cities really quickly and show you that.

31:02

There's an interactive map of all of the locations where we're conducting, where we have conducted or are conducting these mapping campaigns.

31:09

If you scroll into any one of these campaigns, let's look at awesome, for example.

31:14

You can actually see the layer up once you get in, and you can get additional information on that campaign by clicking, So in this case, I'm getting information directly from that layer on what the temperature is where I clicked, You can also click on the dot, and get linked to the full report.

31:31

So if you'd like to read more about that particular campaign, also want to show you this tab that we're really excited about. The night his burden Healing Mapping Campaigns are part of the Administration's Justice 40 Initiative, and as a result of that, we aim to have the benefits of those mapping campaigns reach at least 40% disadvantaged communities.

31:52

And we know how well we're doing based on the White House funding and economic justice Screening tool, which is newly available. And if we scroll down, you can see this really great, interactive feature where you can compare the Urban Yellow Mapping campaign information with the equity analysis from that, that environmental justice tool that I just mentioned. So I'm going to pick a different community. Let's go to Houston, Texas.

32:20

And I'll just scroll down here really quickly, just explaining what we're looking at.

32:24

In the middle is the map of you sit in Harris County, where the mapping campaigns conducted you can see the relative temperature differences in the red and blue.

32:33

If you click on any one of these polygons, you can get more information. So this census tract, you can get the average temperature at this period.

32:41

This was an evening from that campaign, as well as some additional information on that census tract.

32:49

On the left, there's information on all of the statistics for this particular surface. So for the Houston Harris County campaign, you can see the minimum maximum range of temperatures, that sort of thing.

33:01

If I click on a specific Polygon, let me zoom in here, such as this one, this box in the lower left pops up, and you can see additional information on that polygon from the map and campaign in the evening as compared to other parts of the map. So you can see what percentile it's in, for example, in the morning, afternoon, and evening. It's a little bit hidden right here, because I have my, my screen pretty compress just so I can make sure everyone can read all the fonts.

33:28

Also, on the right, I really want to show something very exciting, which is zoom out here.

33:36

That, that equity analysis and I was mentioning, so you can see that this campaign that was conducted reached. The proportion of EJ Communities with proportion of disadvantaged census tracks that were mapped is 71%. So we're doing pretty well on that target.

33:50

You can click on the ring here and you can see which communities were considered.

33:55

disadvantage based on that ... tool and which ones were not.

33:59

And it's down here and there's a little bar chart or a column graph that shows you the difference in temperature between the EJ and not EJ Communities in this map. And I would just note here that this is sensitive to the area that was mapped. And so, in the future, we'd like to have it so that you can actually select a portion of the map to get a little bit more control over the sample when you're looking at the difference in temperature between PJ analogy.

34:23

At this point, I'll jump to the next tab, the tools and information. There's a lot of information here that is really exciting.

34:29

These are tools from across the federal government, from HHS CDC, from OSHA, that we're sharing here, that make it easy to find and easy to use. So I won't go into all the tools here, But I would encourage everyone to explore what's available down a little bit further.

34:46

We also have tools from the National Weather Service, some of which are integrated and pulled into this site, in an interactive way.

34:54

And just really quickly, I'll show you the example of one of the primary health outlook from the Office of Climate Change are given health equity from HHS, which takes you right to the page. And then you can immediately open up the PDF. And you can see this is a product that we're excited about, because we were part of producing this as well. You can see an analysis of upcoming weather and climate hazards that you should be aware of, such as heat waves or such as hurricanes, and help interpretation for what to what to do about that.

35:23

Once you have information backing up here, I'll just jump over to the atmospheric Groups page.

35:29

Excuse me, We have an initial set of that risk groups that we have information on that you can jump to and we anticipate that as we run that webinar series, I mentioned that this set of information will grow.

35:41

So if I click on older adults who will jump down to the older adults tab where you can get information on what makes them at risk of complications from extreme heat. And then you can also click this box which is available on any one of these panes and get additional resources for this particular group, and as it pertains to extreme heat.

36:02

If I jump over to planning and preparing, I also want to show you the rich content we have there. On the left, we have information rolled up by different groups of people that might be visiting the site. So for example, for decision makers, if I pop this open, you can see essential information from federal agencies. You can see a really great representation from EPA, FEMA, et cetera. Examples of emergency response plans and additional information for decision makers.

36:27

There's also information for other groups, including grants and programs for addressing extreme heat in the home. So we heard about some of these earlier. We have LIHEAP here, the weatherization assistance program and the brick program from FEMA, and then the lower set of boxes is just showing you tips for staying safe and extreme heat.

36:47

So in this case, if you have to be outside as a set of tips for Sam, say, if you're doing that, almost done here.

36:54

On the right side, I'll just show you that we have content on, this create an infographic that was created by the 19th Century Agency communications group, and some information on how to stay safe, compete on the right.

37:05

And the last time I'll show you is the About tab, which just gives you information on background on the National Grid Heat Health Information System, as well as a way to contact us.

37:15

So, thank you very much for your attention. And at this point, I'll pass it back to Laurie or ... to begin our question and answer session.

37:26

Thank you so much, Hunter. That was a fantastic run through of website. Really appreciate it, and I'd like to invite all of our remaining speakers to turn their camera back on. To be ready. Folks, if you have questions, please use the questions tool in your go to webinar window, Type a question. If you could please be sure to type your full name, your title, and the name of your media outlet along with your questions. That will be very helpful to us, my colleague, Monica Allen, is going to help me manage those questions, and again, just as I'm giving folks a second to get their questions into the box.

38:03

I want to offer, thanks again, to doctor Spin Read to doctor Bracey, to you, Hunter. This is an extraordinary tool, and I'm sure folks are gonna be really excited to use it and to share it, and I also wanted to make sure to introduce Dan ... from, as re Dan was not speaking, but he is available to answer any questions. I know there are some tech focused folks on the phone as well. We do have about 20 minutes remaining in this hour for questions. So, Monica, let me turn to you and see if we have any questions that have come in thus far.

38:40

Yes, we've just got a question from Aerial Wittenburg, from any news, and he and REL says, Thanks for the webinar.

38:49

Just wanted to clarify if any of the data or tools on heat dot gov are new, or if it is more a place to collect existing heat related data from across the federal government.

39:01

So, Hunter. That seems maybe a good question for you to start tackling, so, why don't you address that, and others can add in if they're additional thoughts?

39:10

Absolutely, It's a little bit of both. one of the great things about using this platform is that we can pull in the rich datasets that are already available from a number of federal agencies, but we have created some new things as well.

39:20

So one that I would highlight, is, just going back to the PWD Mapper, We've been building we've been building this over the past several months. And this is a brand new tool that we've just released right now on the call, but it's pulling in data from the Urban Hand and Mapping Campaigns That we're that we've been conducting over several years through. The National is Ready to Eat, Health Information System, is as well as with a number of our programs. So, that's a great example.

39:45

But a little bit of both, some new and some existing.

39:51

and Hunter. just to maybe amplify a little bit further, I heard you say earlier that this is intended to be evolving and growing. And so as new needs or issues arise, this is going to be a very dynamic website. So I just wanted to make that point as well. Doctor Spinner, is there anything else that you would like to add at this point, OK? Let's see. Monica, do we have other questions that may have come in?

40:17

Not as yet. So, folks, please feel free to put your questions in the question area. We're happy to handle them.

40:25

And, Hunter, that may be a reflection of the beautiful job that you did, walking us through this incredible website. Dan, let me just invite you to share for a moment about as ... role in this, because we really, truly appreciate this partnership.

40:39

Yeah, you know, we're really excited about this partnership as well.

40:43

From our perspective, we're know, we appreciate that the federal agencies are building this gibs graphic infrastructure that everybody can leverage.

40:52

You know, and he dot gov is one example of it, but, you know, we're seeing that across the different agencies and then the inter-agency groups as well.

41:00

And one of the great things is that, this isn't just a site, it's an open data portal.

41:04

So that you have access to all of those data layers, all of those web maps, through open Services, through this, on this hub, technology.

41:14

And so, it's really helping to expose, you know, the great content that's coming from all of our partners, and then make it easier for people to incorporate that into their geospatial mapping, their analysis, and their communication.

41:28

So, we're excited that our technology, the arc GIS platform, is enabling this, this whole government approach to tackling climate change.

41:38

And we do have another question, now.

41:43

Zach Coleman, who is a climate corresponding from political, how do you expect necessarily resourced health departments and local governments will be able to use these resources? What technical assistance or funding will you provide?

41:57

And are you able to use these? Sorry.

42:02

And are you My shoes can do anything.

42:08

The joys of technology? Yeah.

42:12

Are you competing more people or funding to proactively reach out to governments and health departments? So that's quite a few questions there.

42:21

Hunter, you may be closest to this. And I know that you did a great job a moment ago of highlighting some of the grant tools and resources.

42:29

And I'm sure the context of making this website broadly available is designed to keep folks of all varieties and resource levels included. So, perhaps you'd like to start with that.

42:46

Responsive?

42:47

Sure, I can start. So, I have just open that box, I'm going to show you some of those grant programs that do provide funding to communities to help combat the risks of extreme heat.

42:57

I would also say that in FY 21, the nice program also offer the grant that was a grant program, that funded five different projects, that we're looking at local heat risk and using some of the information from these campaigns to help people be a little bit more resilient to heat.

43:15

So, those are some of the, some of the places where you need assistance. I would also note, and I pointed this out earlier, but, at the bottom, there is a mailing list. And so as federal agencies, have more breadth grant opportunities that are available. Anyone who sign up for the mailing list, you know, if they're heat related, we do push them out to that mailing list, and you try to make them. Very accessible to everyone, as well as the news and events part of this page, you'll see those bubbling up here as well.

43:45

Thank you, Hunter.

43:48

Can I add to that, please?

43:51

Doctor Conrad, Please go ahead and then, doctor, very briefly.

43:55

Yeah, So, part of the answer is that in the bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as championed by President Biden, there are resources identified for climate data and services and our ability to get them out there. So, NOAA prides ourselves on our ability to our weather Forecast offices, our Sea Grant Extension Agents, or resize the Regional Integrated Science and Assessment capabilities out in the field, if you will, to get this kind of information into the hands of people and to help train them up. So, I really call to mind hunters, identification of the training opportunities, and better on the website. And also you heard extensive reference to the Justice 40 Initiative of the administration, where we are specifically focused on trying to get this into the hands of the underserved communities who may not have had this kind of information available in the past. Thanks.

44:45

Thank you, doctor Spin Read, doctor Bracey, did you want to add something? Yeah, with respect to resources and support for local and state health departments?

44:53

The CDC Climate Ready States Cities Initiative provides resources to state local health departments to build these climate adaptation plans going forward.

45:01

We're looking to grow that problem and expand that sport.

45:05

We also have a Climate Ready Tribes initiative with trying to get resources to tribes, which is an important group to focus on, as well.

45:12

And we have lots of outreach efforts with local and state health departments.

45:17

Don't build the expertise and provide resources to support them, to take these issues on when there's particularly no bad events that we send staff to local state health departments support them.

45:29

We recently had some staff in New Mexico, in the past, we've had staff in the north-west.

45:35

So we're ready to serve local state health departments directly and through our co-operative agreement program.

45:42

Thank you all, Monica, do we have other questions? Yes. We have a few more coming in. Thank you for this great presentation. Says Karen Wreaths of the S&P Global newsroom and asks, can you speak a little bit more about how the business community?

46:00

May be able to use this site?

46:02

I'm especially curious about the electricity sector. Is this a site you think power utilities will find useful, too?

46:13

Doctor ..., would you like to maybe start with that, and then Hunter, you may have some additional information that you can provide?

46:21

Yeah, it's a good question.

46:22

Because clearly, the environmental information that's embedded in here about projections of heat are relevant to decisions associated with the grid, the power community, also, transportation community, the commerce community.

46:35

Many communities depend on having those kinds of products.

46:38

The emphasis here, of course, is the integration of climate, or I should say, of the heat information with the health impact.

46:45

So the data we collect, the products we develop in the climate arena, in many cases, have multiple applications. And what this question about business applications alludes to, of course, begs the question of how much versatility, the rest of the data that we collect.

47:01

I would add that some of those industries that I just mentioned do have heat health concerns.

47:07

Obviously, the construction industry is one that wants to make sure it's got the best information possible to keep its workers safe. So there are some intersections, obviously, with a number of industries.

47:17

But these data are also being used independently as the heat impacts, oh, sorry, of the health impacts for a number of business decisions. Thanks.

47:27

Hunters are anything that you would want to add to that.

47:30

All I went out of this point is that it sounds like you may have identified another little box that we should, we should add here over time. So, the great opportunity to point out that we are looking to grow this. And so, that's excellent feedback

for us. I know we'd be interested in doing that, and as doctor Spinnerets that said there, there's a lot of information available right now. And I would just point to the Tools and Information tab where some of that can be found.

47:50

And we are always interested in finding additional ways to help out various business groups, you know, serve better, serve their constituencies, better serve their customers with find information.

48:05

Sorry, I can't, I can't resist the opportunity that Hunter sort of indicated there, and that is, there is a parallel platform called climate dot gov where a lot of these user communities can go to get the very specific information about, what are we going to see, what's the seasonal outlook for temperature for my area of interests? So this is part of a family of platforms associated with our climate products and services.

48:27

And I'd point out that climate dot gov is integrated into this one as well, and for whoever asked that question, thank you for a great question. An example of your dynamic government in service to you working in the moment. So, let's move on to the next question, Monica.

48:43

OK, this question is from Andy Revkin, who has his own publication, The Revkin Bulletin, for heat, flood, and so much more of our vital issue is capacity at the user end and lack thereof.

48:59

What funds or projects are planned to boost heat smart responsiveness of people in key regions?

49:11

So, doctor ..., I'm not sure if you want to or, doctor Bracey, if you'd like to share, you know, kind of from particular perspectives, maybe doctor Bracey, from the CDC's perspective.

49:21

Sure.

49:22

This is this, this is the big challenge, we know across the board. Public health support, local state levels, is not what we need it to be.

49:31

And that that applies to climate related heat related issues equally, as well.

49:35

But we interviewed local health departments, 87% of them, tell us almost 90%, and tell us, they don't have the staff to deal with these issues going forward, which is why support programs, and grant opportunities, like we've talked about here, are really crucial.

49:48

Why building the public health workforce at CDC? The resources for that are also being used to help build some of the climate ready workforce that needed to address these things, also. So, it's something we're aware of, is something we're trying to address, and it's something we're buying resources to deal with.

50:06

And I would add, from the NOAA perspective, Andy, that if you look at our FY 23 budget submission, you saw over $200 million more associated with climate investments of a variety of types, a lot of which will go towards the risks, if you will, the parallels that you identified here: fire, flood, dead coastal resilience.

50:28

And there as well, drought, obviously. So that is a major area of investment for us above and beyond what we currently have.

50:37

Thank you, Monica. I think we have time for maybe two more questions.

50:42

OK, I've got a good question here from Sean Sublet of the Times Dispatch in Richmond, Virginia.

50:48

Can you give a top level example of how this tool might be used a couple of days ahead of a forecast sheet forecasted heatwave across 2 to 3 states For health professionals, local state governments. Of course, every location. location is different, But could you make a comment on how this might be optimally used?

51:07

Thank you.

51:09

So, maybe, doctor Bracey, would you like to start with that one? And then, doctor ..., perhaps you can follow up and Hunter, if you had anything specific to add to that.

51:18

Sure. So, there's, there's lots of examples, I think we can point to.

51:23

And so, the simplest thing in advance of knowing that an extreme heat event is underway, there's a wide range of public communication actions taken to identify, target to people who are at risk. To make sure that people know what their risks, know, the steps they can take, to minimize that risk going forward.

51:41

There are resources we can replace, in terms of making sure there's access to water. Making sure the cooling centers are up, making sure people know where the cooling centers are, are all things we can do in advance.

51:53

The heat event clinicians can alert their patients, if they know that our risk.

51:57

To also do steps, they can take to avoid the medical consequences, be alert to the symptoms they need to be aware of.

52:05

And so there's a host of things that we can do with this advance warning from the data that NOAA provides, particularly from a health standpoint.

52:14

Just FINRA.

52:16

Yeah, I agree. with everything path race.

52:18

And I would add that one of the things we're trying to do at NOAA is expand our horizons a bit in terms of who the potential user communities are, and as one example, I would say we've begun an active dialog with them, faith based community.

52:29

It turns out houses of worship can be excellent cooling centers and the faith based community is very interested, then having the best information that they can use to make the similar kinds of decisions that you heard paddle to with respect to clinicians. So, we're learning how big the audience is. And, at NOAA, we're trying to reach out to a much, much broader set of potential users.

52:53

Elaborate a little through the Heat Health Tracker, for example.

52:57

You can identify where there's concentrations of elderly people who live alone.

53:02

And these are, these are places that you're going to need to target your resources going forward.

53:06

They're the people who don't have the social support necessarily there, and so, there's, there's lots of resources that we can bring to bear when we're forecast that these things are about.

53:18

Hunter is the man on the ground who's been putting all these datasets together. Is there anything else that you'd like to point out, as the, probably, the, the most well informed user of all of heat dot gov?

53:31

Think we've just heard a really great case study, so to bring it all together, of course, you can, you can see me coming from this main page, for the site. Setup. Sorry, This interactive map. And then, as you, as you do see it coming, there's a lot of information, both the Tools and information tab, as well as the planning tab, to help people think about, think through what they could be doing at any stage, whether it's planning or preparedness and response. So that was a really nice example that was just given.

54:01

Fantastic. And Monica, I think let's, let's see how quickly we get the next question answered and maybe we'll have time for one more. I think this is a pretty easy question. And it comes from Anglais Marketo. I'm not sure the outlet, the person did not provide the outlet, but they're wondering if the website as information in other languages.

54:24

Hunter, do you want to tackle that? I know you think you mentioned that in the briefing, but it's worth, it's worth saying again. And then maybe Dan, given that the website architecture is, is really as a risk. Perhaps you could elaborate a bit on that.

54:38

Sure, I can I can make two comments. The first is that I didn't show this earlier. The site itself is translatable into a variety of other languages.

54:46

Um, if you click this little pop up, it'll bring up the list of a variety of languages and it doesn't really good job translating that play a little bit.

54:56

And then, I don't know specifically which resources in here, and maybe this is another good opportunity for us to kind of pull those out, But I know that as I've explored some of the resources in these tabs, some of them, I think, for example, of the other resources from OSHA on Water are available in multiple languages.

55:12

So, um, here we go, let's see, I know if I jumped in here, I'd be able to find an example. So it's also available in Spanish, so we can make that a little bit clearer, which resources are available in a variety of different ways.

55:27

Dan, would you like to just expand on that a little bit, given that, talk a little bit more about that translation tool, and how it does it apply to the whole site?

55:35

Right, so it would apply to the site, the content that is written into the site, like the stuff that we're seeing around what are the signs of heat related illness. This is using just industry standard auto translators, so it's not like, this is a Canadian government tool in which they're manually going through and saying, Here's English and French. This is no automated translation, so it, it may not be perfect, but there's dozens of languages that it does translate into.

56:03

Great, thank you. And, Monica, if we have one more, I think we can probably squeeze it in.

56:08

This is, I think, a technical question, I'm not sure. I think our technical experts might know about this is, is this API is API available for this, and this is from US Harbors editor and owner, Anastasia Fisher.

56:25

Is that something that rings a bell, Dan?

56:26

Yeah. I can take that one.

56:28

So, there is an API for all of the data, maps, and services, that are part of the open data hub, and so I think Contour Eclipse on the hamburger button at the top, and from there is. If you click into want any of those resources, there is the rest API, which is an Open Protocol, to access any of the underlying data.

56:51

And for those who may not be in the know, what does API stand for.

56:57

That's automated programming interface, so it's a way in which you can access the data through a programming interface.

57:06

All right. Very good. Well, thank you all so much for your participation. On the Reporter side, if you have additional questions, please contact Monica Allen. Monica, thank you for doing such a great job of curating the questions and sharing those, and I think with that we are concluded. Thank you, all for joining us today.

# # #