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**Research poster: Climate change science for northern Nevada educators**

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Climate Change Science for Northern Nevada Educators
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Introduction
The EPSCoR Climate Change Education Component is a professional development program designed to facilitate Nevada middle school educators in implementing climate change science content and processes into their classrooms. A two-week summer institute provided the framework for the EPSCoR program. One institute was held in Las Vegas for Clark County School District teachers, and the second institute was held on the University of Nevada, Reno campus for Washoe County teachers. Institute focus comes directly from the original grant proposal. The essential question which directed the Summer 2009 Institute was: How will climate change affect water resources and linked ecosystem resources and human systems?

Summer Institute Experiences
During the institute, participants received direct instruction from local and regional scientists currently working on climate change and water resource research. Participants traveled to several area labs to observe and discuss the water and climate change research occurring at the University of Nevada, Reno and the Desert Research Institute.

The look ahead...
The second group of Nevada educators have already begun their Spring 2010 online course ENV 794 through the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, instructed by Dr. David Hassenzahl. This course will prepare participants for learning experiences this summer. Participants will complete the course in May, earning graduate credit from UNLV. UNLV and UNR Summer 2010 Institutes will be conducted July 26-30th and August 2-6th. Once these teachers have implemented Climate Change lessons in the Fall they will receive graduate credits from UNR. The use of researchers as climate change instructors made a large impact on 2009 participants. Soon, the Education Component will again be looking to fill this role with local and regional researchers of climate change.

The Essential Question to guide Summer Institute experiences is: How will climate change affect disturbance regimes and linked ecosystems?