

Actionable Climate Science

OCLWA - 2018



South Central Climate Science Center

Mike Langston – Acting Director
with help from Dr. Renee McPherson

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South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center

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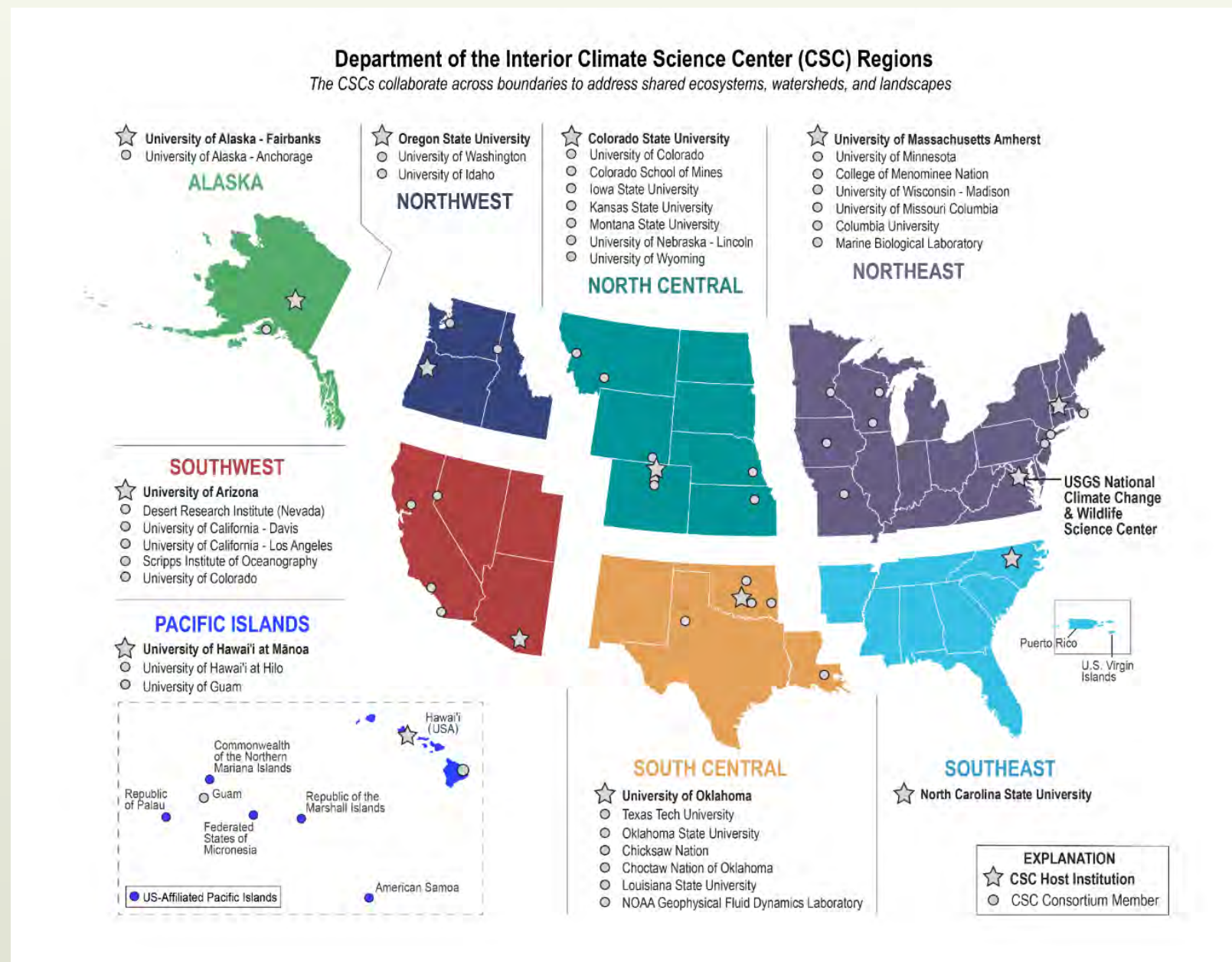
Presentation Outline

- The South Central CASC
- Our approach to research
- Example projects



The SC CASC

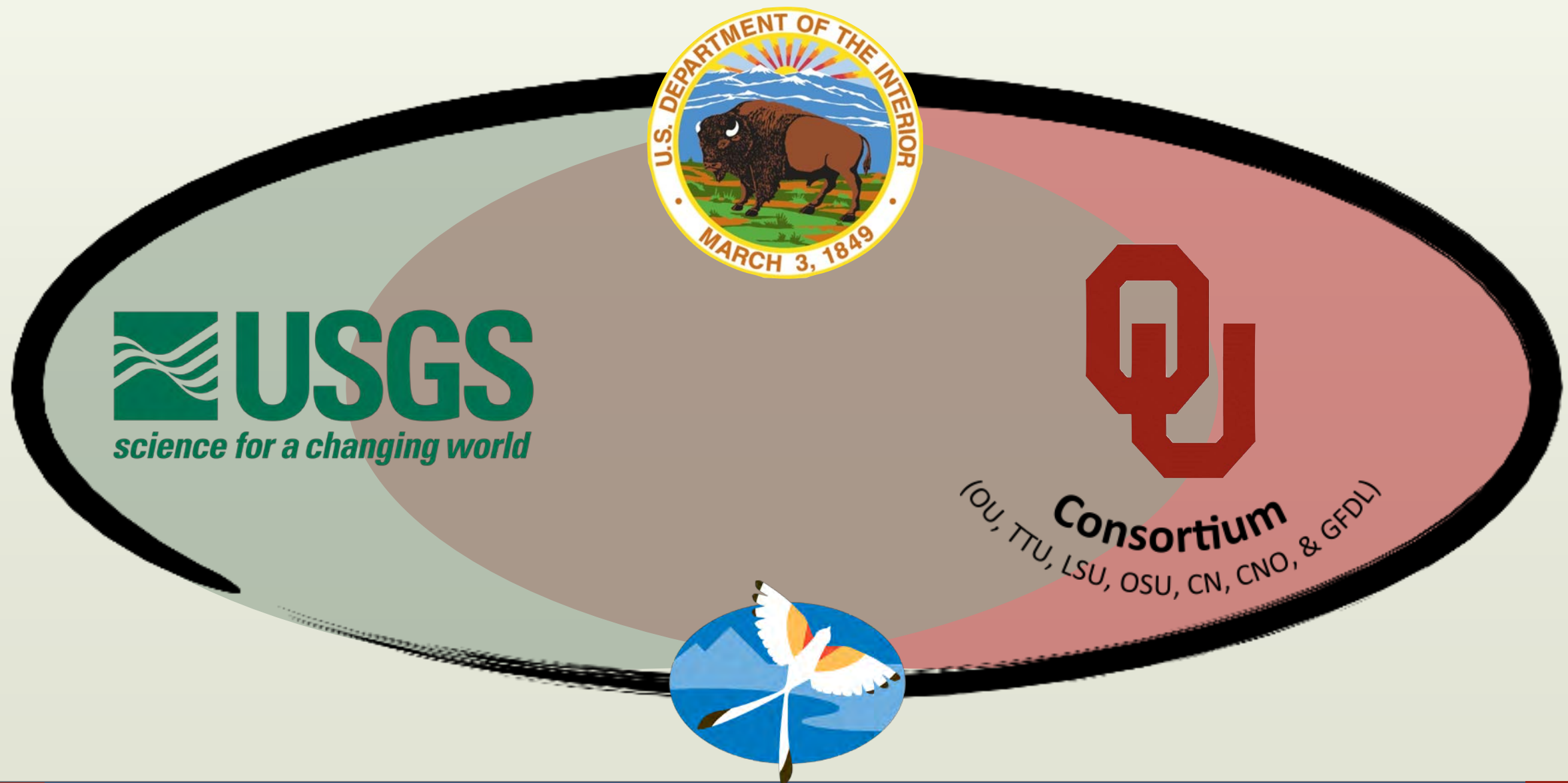
Mission: Delivering science to help fish, wildlife, water, land, and people adapt to a changing climate.



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CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTER

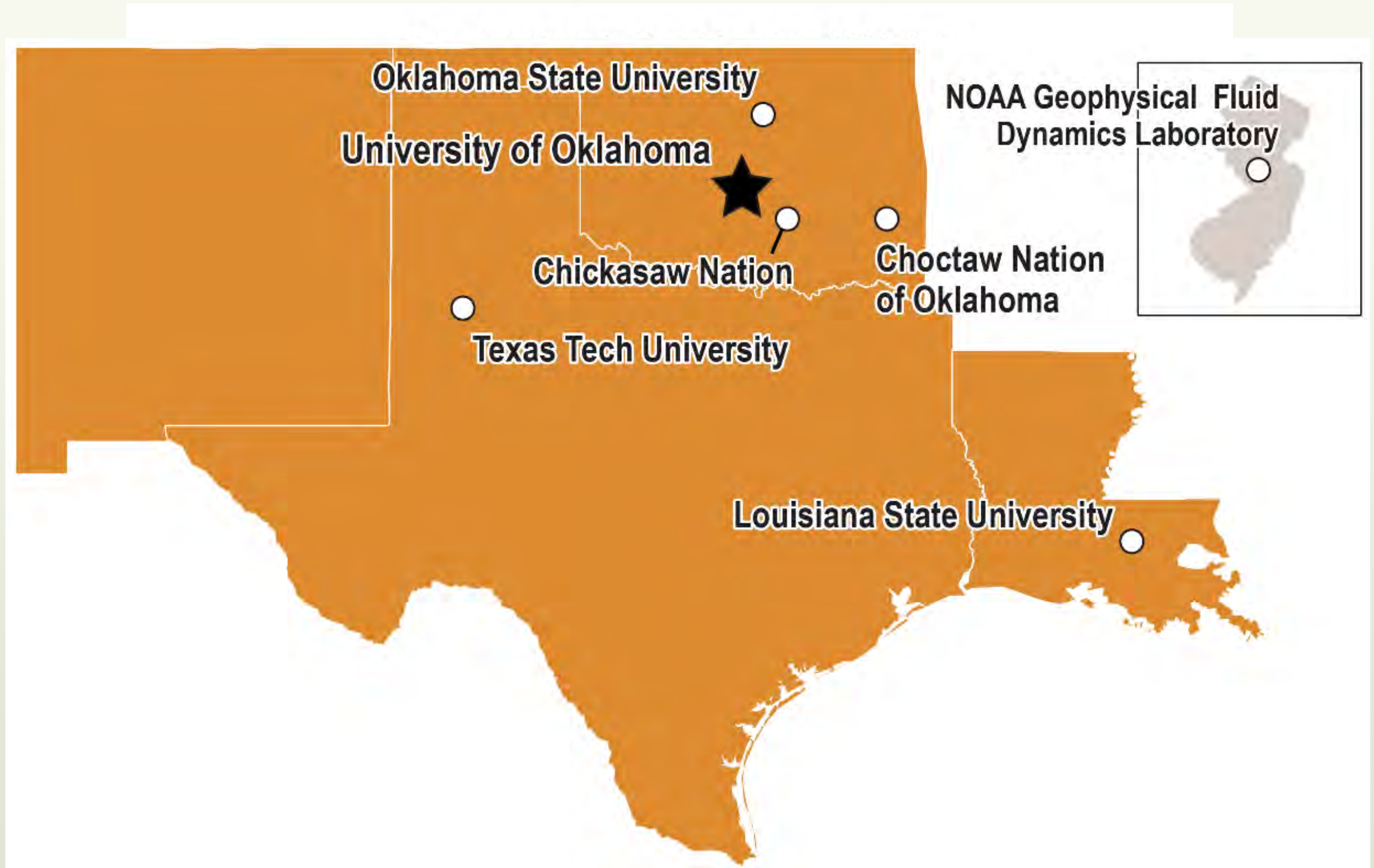
Structure of South Central CASC

- CSC co-governed by USGS director & university director



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Where Are We?



Our Approach to Research

- Assisting resource managers with **integrating climate data** into resource models and planning efforts
- **Embedding communications professionals** in research projects to facilitate the flow of information
- Focusing on funding research that is **developed in conjunction** with resource managers



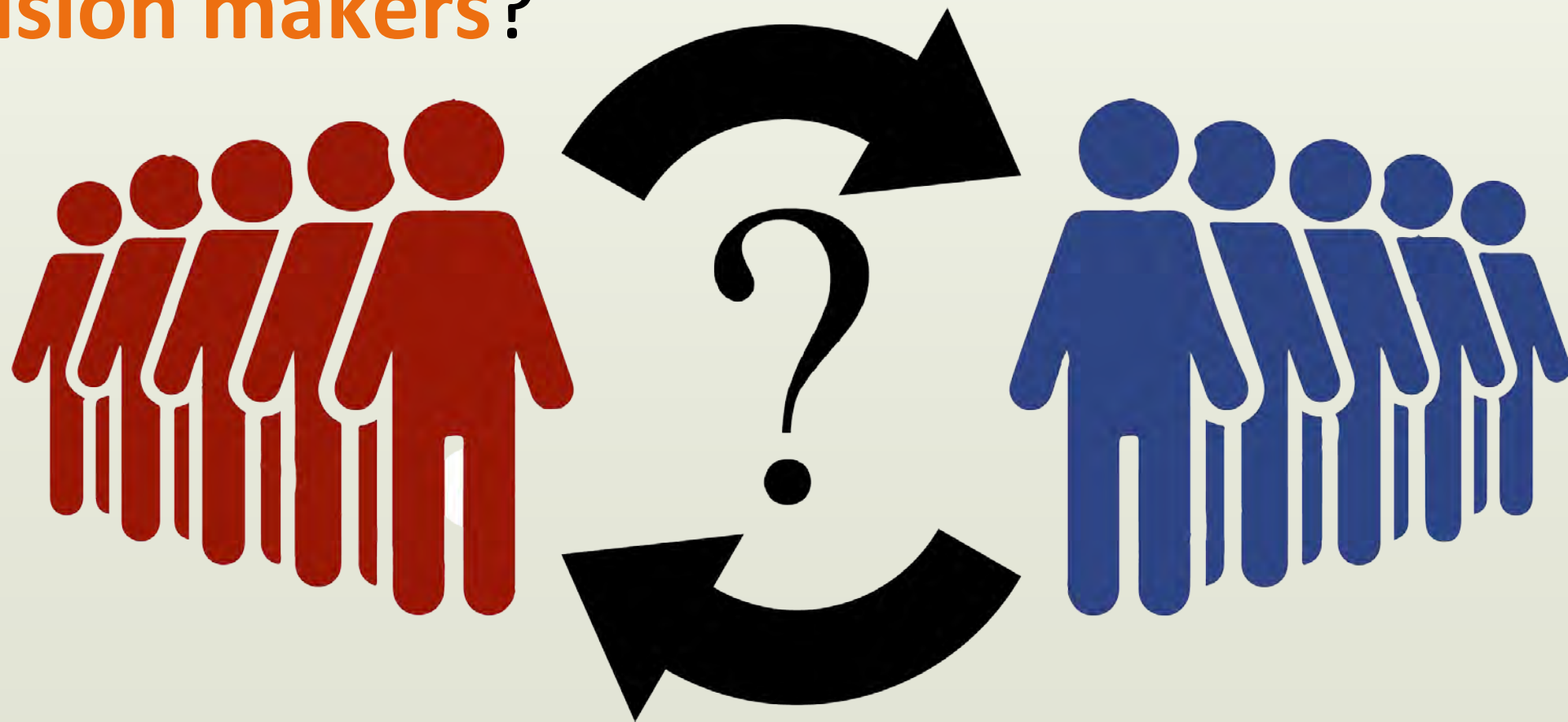
Benefits of Co-production

- Usually **produces actionable research**
- **Builds leadership skills**, especially in early-career professionals
- Develops **better networking** & communication
- **Enhances translation** of results & products to other decision makers
- **Develops relationships** that focus on partnerships rather than projects



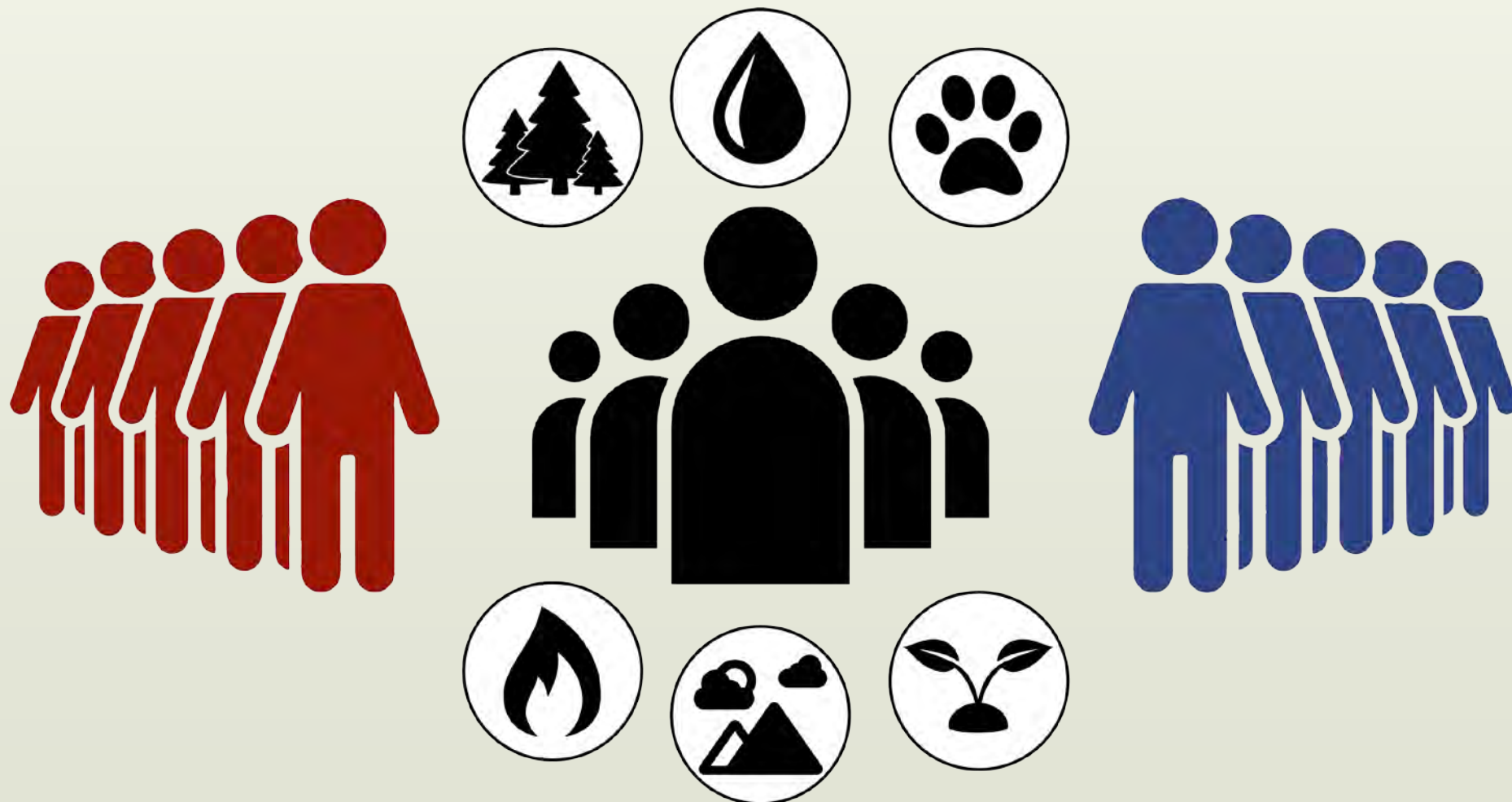
Research & Translation Philosophy

- How do you make **research readily available & useable?**
- How do you **inform researchers about needs of decision makers?**



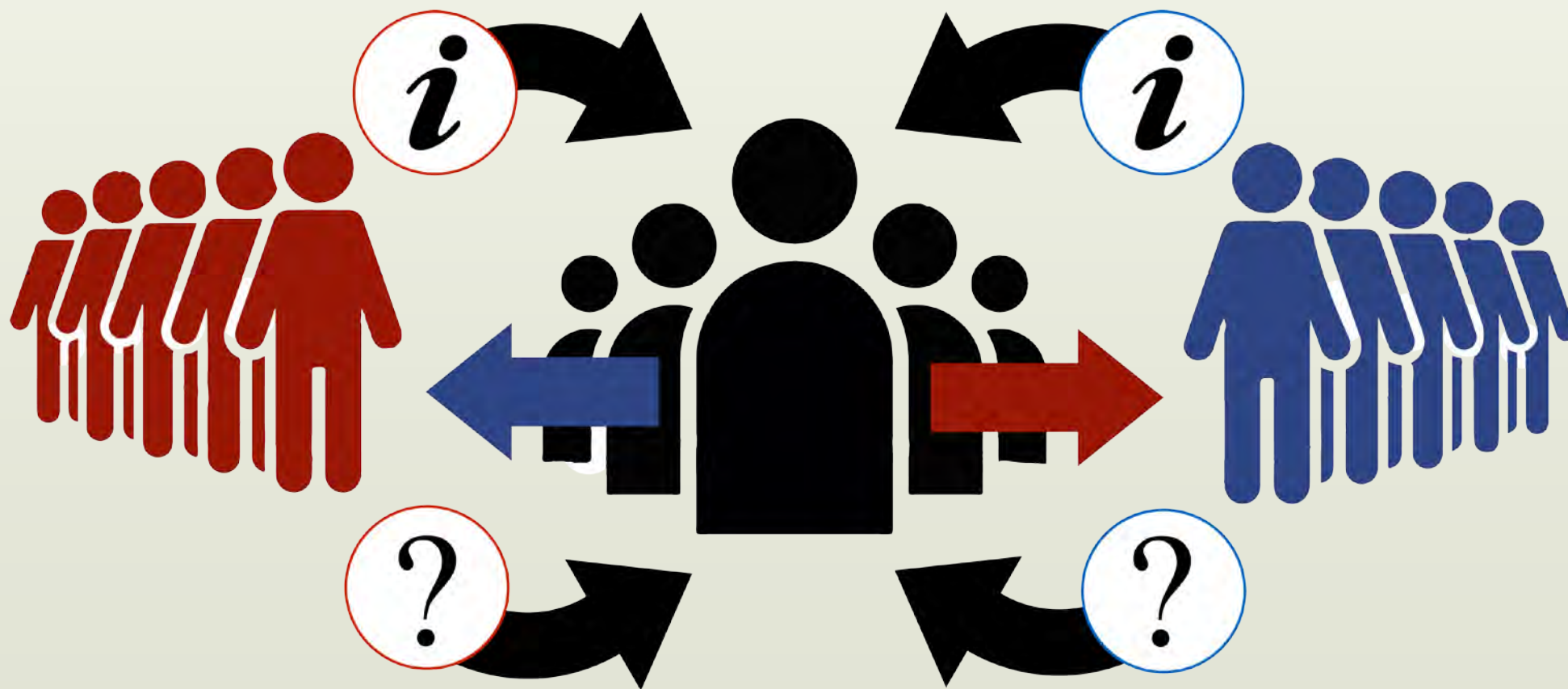
Research & Translation Philosophy

- We serve as a **“boundary organization”** to help translate between research communities & decision-maker communities



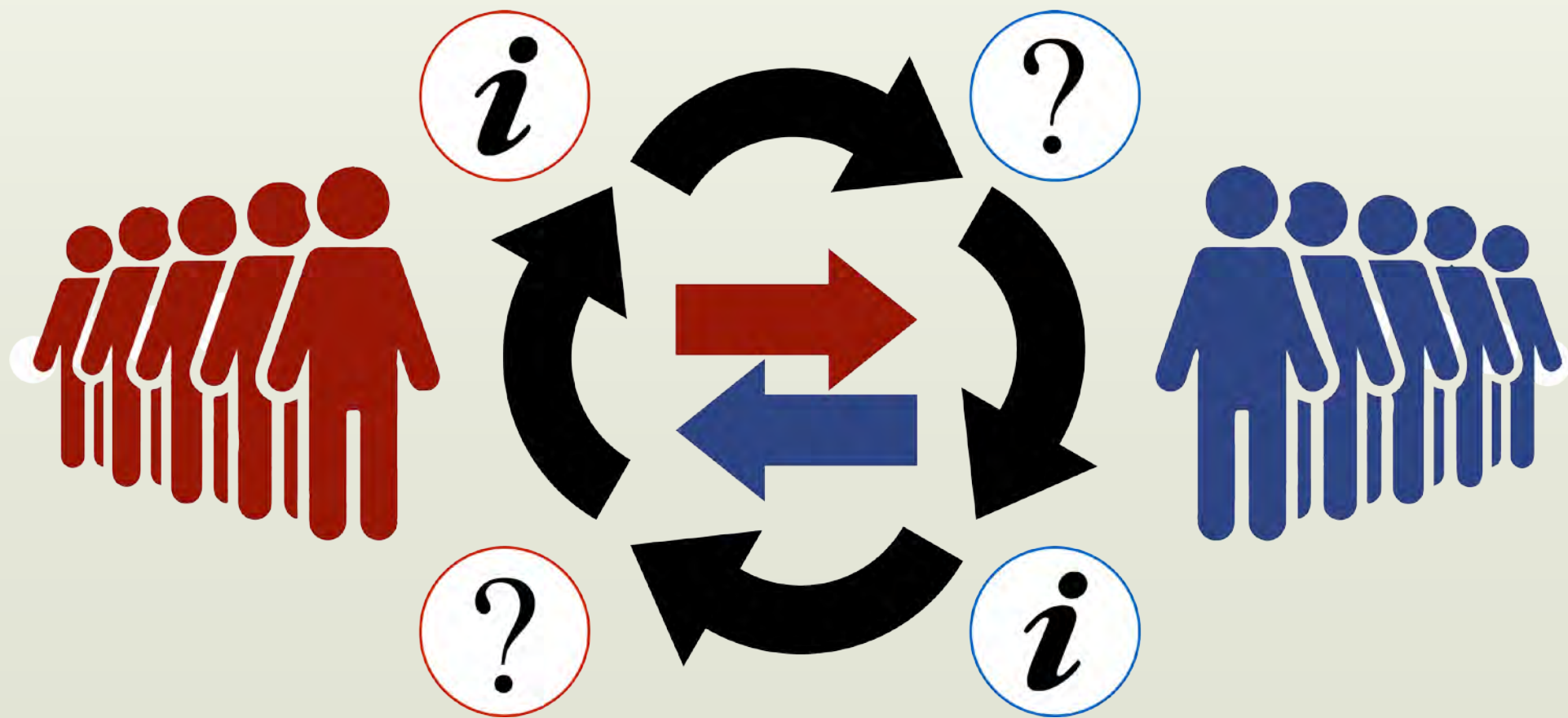
Research & Translation Philosophy

- Translation necessary until **relationship between researchers & decision makers mature** enough for co-production to occur



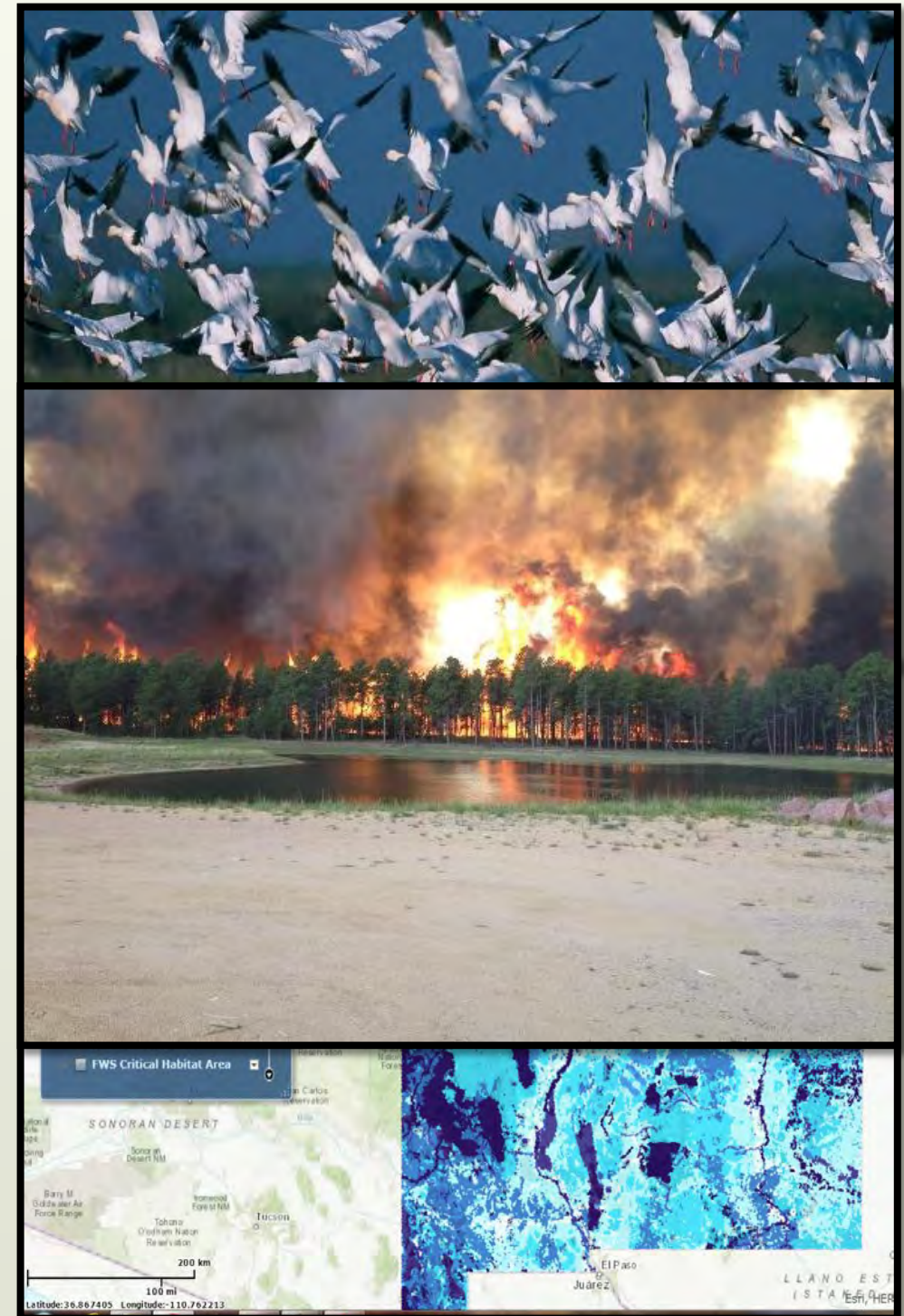
Research & Translation Philosophy

- Ultimately, we **seek to build relationships** between researchers and decision makers that promote co-production of knowledge



Wildlife & Climate Change: SC CSC Projects

- Assessing the Potential Impacts of Sea-Level Rise on Submersed Aquatic Vegetation and Waterfowl in the Northern Gulf of Mexico (Dr. Megan La Peyre- LA Fish & Wildlife Coop Unit)
- Understanding Future Fire Frequency and Impacts on Species Distribution in the South Central U.S. (Dr. Esther Stroh - USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center)
- Modeling the Effects of Climate and Land Use Change on Crucial Wildlife Habitat (Drs. Colleen Caldwell, Ken Boykin and Keith Dixon)



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