Introduction to Scenario Planning
Applying Scenario Planning to the New York Dairy Industry

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Why scenario planning?
Thinking about change
Preparing for the future
Coping with uncertainty
Stimulating creativity

The archived presentation is available at:
http://articles.extension.org/pages/74061/planning-for-climate-resiliency
**What is scenario planning?**

Scenario planning is a process designed for managing into futures characterized by rapid directional change and complex uncertainties.

-- National Park Service Jan. 2013 “Using Climate Scenarios to explore management options at Isle Royal National Park”

### Scenario Planning Overview

- **Forecast Planning:** One Future
- **Scenario Planning:** Multiple Futures

- -10% to +10%
- What we know today

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### Scenario Planning

- **Gather available data**
- **Focus group 1:** Determine scenarios
- **Model scenarios**
- **Focus group 2:** Determine management options
- **Develop Extension Program Plan**

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**What is scenario planning?**

- is a collaborative process that involves the participation of many stakeholders and experts
- is guided by the needs and concerns of the organization/industry
- synthesizes information from climate change projections and explores potential implications
- helps participants to understand different levels of uncertainty

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Scenario planning examples from the National Park Service integrate quantitative, model-driven data with qualitative narratives to explore plausible futures that incorporate climate change, ecological responses, cultural resource impacts, and varying socio-political conditions (Weeks et al., 2011).

What is scenario planning?

- Resulting scenarios represent divergent factors (i.e., political, ecological, physical, economic, etc.)
- The process is intended to equally consider low-probability (but high consequence) and high probability (either low or high consequence) scenarios.

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Human Demographics and Lake Ontario’s future

Example of completed scenarios

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Scenario Planning Process

Phase I: Orientation – establish the project
- Purpose statement
- Strategic challenge(s)
- Group participants

Phase II: Exploration – critical forces and potential impacts
- Outside-In view
- Forces: social, political, economic and environmental

Phase III: Synthesis – creating the scenarios
- Gather participants
- Choose drivers
- Create Scenarios

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Scenario Planning Process

Phase 1: Orientation – establish the project
Phase 2: Exploration – critical forces and potential impacts
Phase 3: Synthesis – creating the scenarios
Phase 4: Application – using the scenarios to inform actions and strategies
Phase 5: Monitoring – watching for changes in the environment

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