

Ready

Fall 2008 Newsletter, Issue 2



A partnership program between EPA's Climate Change Division, Oceans and Coastal Protection Division, and the National Estuary Program

Fall has been busy for the growing CRE program and pilot estuaries. Read on for the latest news and climate need-to-knows.

We are excited to announce the new CRE website at www.epa.gov/cre. It's designed to provide users with information about the importance of coastal adaptation to climate change and provide tools for adaptation in its toolkit. More specifically, the online toolkit features resources related to coastal vulnerability, adaptation planning, smart

growth, data and monitoring, and sustainable financing, serving a range of needs - from community members to coastal managers.

Across this issue you'll get a sense of the big ideas and big efforts pilots and other coastal communities are taking to get Ready for a changing climate. Just flip the page.

CRE Vulnerability Assessment Kickoff Meetings were held this October for San Francisco Estuary and Massachusetts Bays Program Pilots

Kickoff meetings were held with EPA's Office of Research and Development's Global Change Research Program to move forward on assessing key vulnerabilities to the estuaries, leading to the development of a climate change adaptation plan. The meetings included a diverse group of local and regional coastal managers, scientists, and stakeholders, presenting on a wide range of topics, including landscape ecology, bay hydrodynamics, sediment trends and the impacts on local flora and fauna in the San Francisco Bay. At Massachusetts Bays, presentations were made on Storm Smart Coasts, GIS mapping and data, and monitoring and modeling climate change. The outcomes from these meetings will inform further discussions on CRE and assessing vulnerability to climate change at the Spring NEP meeting in February 2009.

Read about Storm Smart Coasts at: www.mass.gov/czm/stormsmart

for more information on the program, visit www.epa.gov/cre

A photograph of a seagull perched on a wooden signpost. The signpost is in a field of tall grasses, and the sign reads "PLEASE KEEP OFF THE DUNES". The background shows a sunset or sunrise over a body of water.

In October, University of Delaware's Coast Day in Lewes introduced thousands of people to the wonders of the sea and the importance of Delaware's marine and coastal resources. CRE was able to reach out, educating this community on the program, its efforts, and the importance of coastal adaptation to climate change.



CRE Presents at Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) Conference

The *Planning for Climate Change Along the Coast: the National Estuary Program* session provided an overview of adaptation options for coastal managers, a discussion of the new CRE partnership program and a local perspective on the needs and challenges of adapting coastal management. Danielle Kreeger of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary presented case studies and described information needs in their multi-state stakeholder network.

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary Environmental Summit 2009

This biennial summit is to provide a venue for exchange at which 200 or more scientists, resource managers, and environmentalists can share their work in the context of the event's theme: "Planning for Tomorrow's Delaware Estuary."

CRE is becoming a widely recognized name for innovation and leadership for effective adaptation to climate change in our



Being held on January 11-14 in Cape May, "This summit is for more than just scientists." For additional information, please contact Elizabeth Horsey at (800) 445-4935, extension 114, or EHorsey@DelawareEstuary.org.

Survey Says

the single greatest recommendation to policy makers is that there should be more comprehensive outreach and education of the public on the topic of rising sea levels and their likely impact on the region.

From a survey administered by UNC-Chapel Hill undergraduates on "Perceptions of Sea Level Rise Among Adult Residents of North Carolina's Outer Banks Region" Learn more about UNC's Center for Regional and Urban Studies at <http://curs.unc.edu>

CRE in 2009

Nation's coasts - and 2009 is only our 2nd programmatic year. Moving forward, we plan to reflect on the pilots' experience in completing a vulnerability study, building an adaptation plan, and establishing elements that would make a vulnerable coastal community "Climate Ready." We

will continue to add to the toolkit using readily available tools and case studies from EPA and other agencies as a platform for other coastal communities that want to proceed, while developing modeling approaches, and improving inter-agency coordination. Stay tuned, 2009 looks promising.

What are your channels? CRE is growing and so are our stakeholders. We want to reach as many people as possible with the message of coastal adaptation. Know anyone who would be interested?

Pass this on.

If you have any questions about this issue or would like to submit any items for our next issue, contact goodrich.kristen@epa.gov