



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BULLETIN

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

COASTAL SERVICES CENTER

SUMMER 2009

This quarterly publication supplies up-to-date information on tools and services developed for the nation's state and local coastal programs by the NOAA Coastal Services Center. For more information, contact Kitty.Fahey@noaa.gov.

New Products and Services

Climate Change Adaptation Website Will Help Communities to Prepare.

Communities considering how to prepare for climate change now can consult the Center's Coastal Climate Adaptation website, which focuses on adaptation-related local and state plans, new policies, case studies, risk and vulnerability assessments, and decision-support tools. The site also features an interactive community-of-practice forum.

Web Address: <http://community.csc.noaa.gov/climateadaptation/>

Contact: Stephanie.Fauver@noaa.gov

New Course Teaches Meaningful Evaluation Skills. Accountability. Efficiency. Effectiveness. The Center's Planning for Meaningful Evaluation course was developed to meet a growing need among coastal professionals for evaluation results that clearly demonstrate accountability and spur improvements in program effectiveness and efficiency. Course participants learn to make informed choices that create fundamentally sound evaluation plans. Training locations planned for 2009 include New York, New Hampshire, Hawaii, and Alabama.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/cls/evaluation.html

Contact: Sacheen.Tavares@noaa.gov

Guam Now Has Growth-Planning Tool. In 2010 the U.S. Navy plans to station an additional 8,000 troops and their families in Guam. To help address the potential impacts of this growth, the NOAA Pacific Services Center has developed the Guam Resource and Environmental Assessment Tool (GREAT). This Web-mapping application provides detailed environmental and hazards information, enabling Guam's coastal managers and planners to monitor development plans through a single system.

Contact: Christine.Feinholz@noaa.gov



The Center Supports The Nature Conservancy with Tools, Data, and Trainings. The Center helped The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in a South Carolina study to develop science-based standards for denoting compatible levels of development and sensitive coastal habitats. In the TNC study location, large timberland tracts currently considered for development could increase the area's population by two to three times. The Center supported TNC with Coastal-Change Analysis Program land cover data, the Nonpoint-Source Pollution and Erosion Comparison Tool, and trainings conducted both on-line and in person. Contact: Shan.Burkhalter@noaa.gov or Dave.Eslinger@noaa.gov

Updated Products and Services

Legislative Atlas Features Expanded Search and Mapping Capabilities.

The Digital Coast: Legislative Atlas website has undergone updates that increase its usefulness to coastal resource managers. The original interactive feature summarizing laws can now be coupled with mapping capabilities that enable users to illustrate and analyze “georegulations” (i.e., the jurisdictional boundaries of federal and state laws). These new capabilities are a boon to coastal professionals who want to simplify the permit-review process or determine how new legislation would fit existing laws.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/legatlas/

Contact: Adam.Bode@noaa.gov

Hawaii Gets Updated and Historical C-CAP Land Cover Data. Through its Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP), the NOAA Coastal Services Center and Pacific Services Center have made available a number of important Hawaii data sets:

- Through cooperation with the Hawaii State Office of Planning, C-CAP has released 2005 high-resolution impervious surface data for the eight main Hawaiian islands—Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, Niihau, Kauai, and Hawaii. In addition, 2005 high-resolution land cover data have been completed for Oahu and all islands of Maui County (Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Kahoolawe).
- C-CAP has completed 1992 backdated, moderate-resolution land cover data for Oahu, Kauai, and Niihau. (In addition, the 1992 backdated land cover data for all islands of Maui County will be complete in autumn 2009.)

These C-CAP projects are part of a larger initiative to provide a time series (1992, 2001, and 2005) of moderate-resolution and high-resolution land cover data for the entire state of Hawaii.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/landcover.html

Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov or Nate.Herold@noaa.gov



Elevation Data Inventory Is On-Line for Southeast Atlantic and Lake Ontario Coasts. The newest component of the Center's Topographic and Bathymetric Data Inventory, the Topobathy Inventory Interactive Viewer, enables users to "zoom" to areas of interest in the Southeast Atlantic and Lake Ontario coastal regions, where pop-up boxes appear that list the best available high-resolution data sets. Also on-line are the Gulf of Mexico Inventory Maps, which list data sets in a pdf format searchable by location and collection date. Up to 20 attributes are posted to give users a better sense of data set quality. Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/topobathy/
Contact: Lindy.Betzhold@noaa.gov

Future Products and Initiatives

NOAA Kicks Off Land Cover Mapping Effort in the Western Pacific. The Center's C-CAP program has begun high-resolution land-characterization efforts that mark the first time the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. territories of American Samoa and Guam have been included in a national land-cover mapping effort. Project planners have conducted extensive field surveys and reached out to a variety of stakeholders. When the entire project is complete in early 2010, the data will be used for purposes that include assessing erosion and supporting coastal management decisions. Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov

Science Camp Piloted in Hawaii. The NOAA Pacific Services Center, in partnership with Digital Science Solutions, piloted the first Pacific Science Camp, a multi-day overnight camp during which middle-school students explored science-based activities related to climate change. Activities included ground-truthing land cover data, demonstrating impacts of sea level rise, producing science stories in a digital format for the public, and marking the location of native species through Global Positioning System (GPS) software. Web Address: http://web.me.com/alannakagawa/PSC/Pacific_Science_Camp.html
Contact: Kristina.Kekuewa@noaa.gov



Land Elevation and Seafloor Data Inventory Is Planned for Pacific Islands

Region. The NOAA Pacific Services Center organized a meeting of the region's bathymetric [seafloor] data community in order to begin the process of collecting information for a future land elevation and seafloor data inventory for the Pacific Islands region. When complete in fall 2009, this inventory will join others developed by the NOAA Coastal Services Center for the Southeast Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Lake Ontario coastal regions. In attendance were representatives from multiple NOAA line offices, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Pacific Disaster Center, the University of Hawaii, and Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov

Center News

Events

Managers in Western Oregon Learn Land-Use Modeling Skills. The Center and the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) held a technical workshop for coastal managers that focused on applying the Center's Nonpoint-Source Pollution and Erosion Comparison Tool (N-SPECT) to land management issues in the Oregon coastal zone. This was the first hands-on N-SPECT workshop delivered on the West Coast and the fourth coordinated with a NERR. N-SPECT is a geographic information system (GIS) tool used for assessing changes in runoff quantity and quality. Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/nspect/
Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov

Five Fellows Are Selected for Coastal Management Fellowship. The NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship program held its annual matching workshop, during which five fellows were matched with state coastal programs in California, Maryland, New Jersey, and Oregon. These new fellowship recipients will work on two-year projects that address issues such as adapting to climate change, planning for sea level rise, and building coastal resilience. Two former fellowship recipients now employed by coastal management agencies represented states in the 2009 program and assisted in the selection process. Contact: Margaret.VanderWilt@noaa.gov



Habitat Planning Tool Strengthens Mobile Bay Conservation Efforts. The Mobile Bay Coastal Habitats Coordinating Team, consisting of representatives from the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program and organizations in coastal Alabama, met to establish updated conservation, protection, and restoration priorities for the Mobile Bay area. The team used the Center's Habitat Priority Planner (HPP) tool to illustrate and discuss conservation options, as well as to generate prioritized habitat maps. This partnership effort, facilitated by the Center, The Nature Conservancy, and the National Marine Fisheries Services's Office of Habitat Conservation, will help the team refine its analysis and update conservation plans.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/hpp/

Contact: Nancy.Cofer-Shabica@noaa.gov or Kara.Meckley@noaa.gov

Meeting Furthers Pacific Islands Coordination on Hazards and Climate Concerns.

More than 80 representatives from nine island jurisdictions attended the first special session in the western Pacific of the Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO), and the meeting focused on coastal inundation and associated risks from tsunamis, storm surge, and sea level rise. The meeting furthers the PRiMO mission of enhancing coordination and collaboration among risk management organizations in the region.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/primo/

Contact: Adam.Stein@noaa.gov

West Coast Atlas Developers Convene Workshop. West Coast developers of Web-based coastal atlases met in Seattle, Washington, for the first West Coast Coastal Atlas Workshop, a planned annual gathering. Participants from California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Canada's province of British Columbia, and the International Coastal Atlas Network discussed their applications, considered the potential for creating transboundary maps, and made recommendations for future regional data collection and dissemination. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Center and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Contact: Megan.Wood@noaa.gov

Center Supports Resilience-Building Effort in the Philippines. At a 10-day training for local government officials in the Philippines, participants learned how marine-protected areas can be made more resilient through climate change adaptation planning and vulnerability and risk assessments. The training course was co-sponsored by NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries Program and Coastal Services Center, Conservation International, the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

Contact: Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov



Media Matters

CanVis Is Covered in the News. CanVis, a free visualization software program, has been spotlighted in two influential media forums. CanVis was developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agroforestry Center and expanded by the NOAA Coastal Services Center to include coastal objects. CanVis articles were featured on the National Ocean Service website and in the April 20, 2009, on-line and print editions of *County News*, a publication produced by the National Association of Counties (NACo) with a readership of nearly 40,000 county officials across the country. CanVis helps users illustrate visual-impact scenarios connected with sea level rise, invasive species infestation, water level decline in the Great Lakes, offshore wind turbine placement, and various types of coastal development.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/canvis/

Contact: Hansje.Gold-Krueck@noaa.gov

NOAA Climate Change Data Are Featured on PBS. The Public Broadcasting System's television program *News Hour with Jim Lehrer* recently featured the Center's data and graphics depicting potential sea level rise in Savannah, Georgia. The visualization of Center data was originally featured on the website of Climate Central, a nongovernmental organization. Such televised stories highlight the development of Center products and services designed to address potential climate change impacts.

Web Address: <http://climatecentral.org/video/georgia/savannah-sea-level.php>

Contact: William.Brooks@noaa.gov

Publication Synthesizes 24 Needs Assessments of the Coastal

Management Community. A published synthesis of 24 needs assessments and related documents focuses on management needs as they relate to coastal conservation, coastal and ocean planning, and hazards resilience. The synthesis, conducted by MRAG Americas under contract to the Center, aims to prevent unnecessary data requests and undue burdens on NOAA partners and stakeholders.

Web Addresses: www.csc.noaa.gov/needsassessments/

Contact: Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov



Report on U.S. Climate Change Adaptation Highlights Actions and Unmet Needs.

A published report, *Good Morning, America! The Explosive U.S. Awakening to the Need for Adaptation* by Susanne Moser of Susanne Moser Research and Consulting, identifies the national need for a comprehensive approach to managing climate-change-related risks. The author also identifies barriers to adaptation planning and policy development and suggests plans that will help the nation avoid the dangers of insufficient preparation. The report was co-sponsored by the Center and the California Energy Commission.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/publications.html

Contact: Stephanie.Fauver@noaa.gov

Plaudits

NOAA Training Programs Garner Excellent Reviews. The final report of a joint external review team affirmed the excellence of coastal resource management training programs run by the Center and NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). The reviewers recognized both programs for providing science-based information and for building the skills and organizational capacities of coastal managers and decision makers. The Center's national-level training program and the NERRS' locally oriented coastal training program form a partnership that is complementary and mutually supportive.

Web Address: www.nerrs.noaa.gov/pdf/CSC_CTP_ExternalRevReport.pdf

Contact: Ginger.Hincliff@noaa.gov or Laurie.Mcgilvray@noaa.gov

Center Magazine Wins State and National Awards. The Center's national trade journal, *Coastal Services*, has won several state and national publication awards. The journal received two Silver Wing Awards of Merit from the South Carolina Public Relations Society of America in the categories of "Magazines for Internal Audiences" and "Internal Communications." Furthermore, an article in the September/October 2008 edition of the magazine ("Finding Nemo ... in Rhode Island?") received a Second Place Blue Pencil Award from the National Association of Government Communicators.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/publications.html

Contact: Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov



Training Schedule

Training for your organization can take place at the Center in Charleston, South Carolina, or can be brought to your facility.* For more information, visit www.csc.noaa.gov/training/.

CanVis Workshop

July 19
Boston, Massachusetts

August 19
Via WebEx

September 16
Via WebEx

Coastal Applications

Using ArcGIS
July 30 to 31
Charleston, South Carolina

October 1 to 2
Portland, Oregon

Coastal Community Planning and Development

August 24 to 25
Apalachicola, Florida

Coastal Inundation Mapping

July 21 to 22
Corpus Christi, Texas

August 13 to 14
Dover, Delaware

Introduction to ArcGIS

July 23 to 24
Corpus, Christi, Texas

July 28 to 29
August 3 to 4
Charleston, South Carolina

August 11 to 12
Dover, Delaware

September 29 to 30
Portland, Oregon

Negotiating for Coastal Resources
August 4 to 5
St. Petersburg, Florida

Planning for Meaningful Evaluation
July 9 to 10
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

August 11 to 12
Fairhope, Alabama

September 1 to 2
Honolulu, Hawaii

Project Design and Evaluation

July 15 to 16
Fairhope, Alabama

September 29 to 30
Annapolis, Maryland

Public Issues and Conflict Management

July 16
Charleston, South Carolina

July 28 to 30
Oakland, California

September 15 to 17
St. Augustine, Florida

Remote Sensing for Spatial Analysts

July 28 to 29
Gautier, Mississippi

*Off-site trainings are generally arranged through local coastal management hosts.