

NOAA'S COASTAL STORMS PROGRAM

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WEATHER & HAZARDS DATA VIEWER

Weather Forecasts and GIS Hazards Data for Southern California

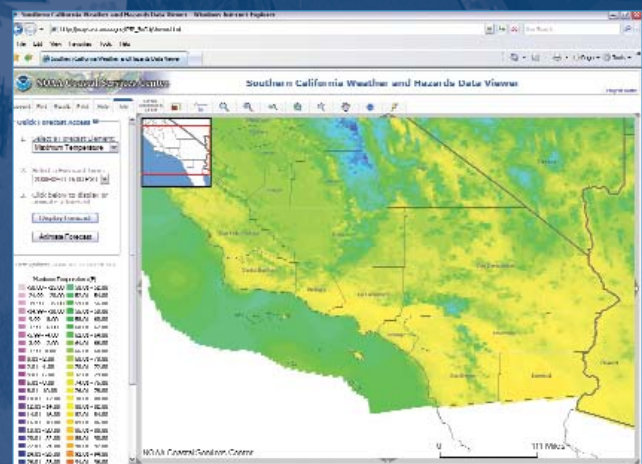
The Southern California Weather and Hazards Data Viewer gives users access to weather forecasts and geographic information system (GIS) hazards planning data in an Internet mapping tool for the purpose of monitoring coastal storms and their associated hazards.



Tool Features

- Overlay and animate National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) weather forecasts with GIS hazards planning data
- Query hazards planning data
- Print custom maps
- Access NDFD forecasts via desktop GIS

The tool has been developed as a GIS Internet map server application—to ensure data and analyses sharing capabilities with other decision makers. The forecast weather information is provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) and is updated twice daily, 4:00 am and pm. The NDFD provides forecast information from NOAA weather forecast offices for any location through a series of forecast grids detailing sensible weather elements (e.g., wind speed, temperature, etc.). A unique component of this tool is the sharing of NDFD data layers through an existing external Internet map service, which is provided by NOAA's nowCOAST (nowcoast.noaa.gov). The hazards planning data and base data were provided by the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) Southern Region and Southern California counties.



maps.csc.noaa.gov/CSP_SoCal

Background Information

The Southern California Weather and Hazards Data Viewer is an on-line mapping tool for the hazards community to monitor coastal storms and their associated hazards. The tool brings weather forecast information and hazards planning data into the same location—helping managers monitor coastal storms and visualize potential impacts. Having this information in one location helps users better and more efficiently understand the impacts of each coastal storm. The tool was developed through a partnership between the California Office of Emergency Services Southern Region, local offices of emergency services and planning in Southern California, and NOAA under the NOAA Coastal Storms Program (www.csc.noaa.gov/csp).

The following NOAA offices participated in this project: the Coastal Services Center; the Los Angeles/Oxnard Weather Forecast Office; the San Diego Weather Forecast Office; and the Coast Survey Development Lab, which enhanced nowCOAST to provide NDFD forecast data for the tool. Enhancement of nowCOAST was aided by funding from the Coastal Storms Program.

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