

THE PACIFIC ISLANDS COASTAL MANAGER'S VIRTUAL LIBRARY AND FORUM

*Carrie Hall, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Sarah van der Schalie, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Marjorie Ernst, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Mary Lou Cumberpatch, NOAA Library
Stephanie Fauver, NOAA Coastal Services Center
Steve Frano, NOAA Coastal Services Center
Stephanie Beard, NOAA Coastal Services Center
Sarah Jones, NOAA National Weather Service*

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Climate change-related resources relevant to the decision-making needs of coastal resource managers currently exist but are scattered in many different locations, making access difficult and time-consuming. The need for climate change information is particularly acute in the Pacific Islands.

The virtual library has been designed to enable Pacific Island coastal managers to quickly find relevant and accessible climate information and tools so that they can incorporate climate change information into their decision-making processes. The forum, or community of practice, is a place where coastal managers can pose questions and share information about their climate interests and projects. The tools will assist communities in their efforts to become more resilient to climate variability and the impacts of climate change.

The initial virtual library and forum development focused on Samoa and American Samoa and the information needs identified by the islands' coastal managers. However, it is anticipated that most of the information will be of interest to coastal managers throughout the Pacific and other regions as well. The portal has been designed as a prototype that can be easily expanded and transported to additional geographies.

Carrie Hall
NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1305 East-West Highway SSMC4 N/ORM7
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Carrie.Hall@noaa.gov
(301) 563-1135