



# PACIFIC ISLANDS AND THE DIGITAL COAST

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Visit the Digital Coast at [www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/).

At its very basic level, the Digital Coast is a website. Now don't be misled—it's a really helpful website, a website targeted to coastal officials who manage natural resources. In addition to data, the Digital Coast provides the related tools, training, and information people need if they are going to actually use the data.

What makes the Digital Coast even more significant is the Digital Coast Partnership. The partnership organizations represent user groups, and they come together not only to recommend Digital Coast content, but also to find ways to work together to address coastal issues.

A recent Digital Coast event on the Pacific Islands focused on strengthening island-related content and partnerships.

## Next Steps

Participants in the Pacific Islands Digital Coast partnership workshop are asked to visit the Digital Coast website and

- Submit any relevant data and tools they may have;
- Request new content when they see a gap;
- Provide "In Action" stories to show how they are using Digital Coast resources; and
- Continue to talk with Digital Coast partners to see how the Digital Coast can become an even bigger resource for the islands.



# POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

## Digital Coast Pacific Islands Workshop

Participants included national and local representatives from the Digital Coast Partnership as well as key federal agencies in the region. The following represent some of the comments gathered from this meeting.

- It was amazing how powerful a simple aerial photo can be and how all the partners shared this view.
- Thrilled that you pulled us together to start to share data and ideas to help us locally. Also helps open the doors to new funding ideas.
- Liked the interaction with colleagues and other professionals from the region.
- Enjoyed the demonstration of the Digital Coast tools and data. Liked discussion of upcoming events to determine how we can keep working together.
- Liked the perspective of all the different coastal managers who participated in the workshop.
- Great forum for federal agencies to identify similar needs across jurisdictions in this region so we get more bang for our decreasing bucks!
- Liked being able to discuss issues/challenges and opportunities with peers from other counties and territories.
- Like the NOAA staff time and support.
- Liked learning about the key issues and challenges in the region with regard to coastal management and planning.
- Beneficial to gain an understanding of the unique attributes and heritage at places in the region.
- Was helpful to learn about data discrepancy challenges on some Hawaii islands and how they interfere with public access and digitization.
- Appreciated learning about the value of gathering oral or memory data from communities in order to document historical environmental conditions.
- Digital Coast is potentially a powerful decision-making tool for all levels of individuals.
- Would like to set up an informal regional users group to discuss current issues on the use of Digital Coast that filters up to NOAA Coastal Services Center and Pacific Services Center.
- Helpful to have the Digital Coast mission and activities [and think] how we can use Digital Coast going forward.
- Liked meeting the regional partners in the small groups as well as meeting the overall members of the organizations.
- Like the opportunity to discuss gaps, needs, and successes.
- Liked finding the nexus of interest and needs between state and the territories.
- Sharing issues was really helpful.
- Liked the representation from all the partnership groups and hearing their views.

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*The Digital Coast Partnership includes the American Planning Association, the Coastal States Organization, the National Association of Counties, the National States Geographic Information Council, the Association of State Floodplain Managers, and the Nature Conservancy.*