Dear Colleague,

City officials and the media often use hurricane season as an opportunity to relay messages about hurricane preparedness. NOAA's Digital Coast provides several tools that help get the conversation started.

In the wake of storms such as Hurricane Matthew, many communities are putting "improve resilience" high on their to-do list. NOAA's Digital Coast makes finding helpful resources for this task easy within the Topics section of the website.

Digital Coast resources are clustered by topics such as climate adaptation, green infrastructure, and coastal storms. Here, readers will find training, tips, data, tools, case studies, and technical assistance.

If you have a new topic or resource to suggest, please let us know. And for resources specific to Hurricane Matthew, see the latest GeoZone Blog. The blog includes impact information, flooding information, storm surge data, and more.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Schmidt
Division Chief, Science and Geospatial Division
NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

Economic Data Used to Inform Restoration Priorities
While planning restoration projects, communities focus on areas in need of rehabilitation—but aren't always able to verbalize the larger suite of benefits provided by the natural resources. Economics data from NOAA's Digital Coast have been helpful for this task. See how the Great Lakes has put this information to use.

Using Participatory Mapping Methods to Maintain a Safe and Healthy Lagoon
Reef-fringed lagoons provide a focal point for recreational, commercial, and extractive uses by residents and tourists. These uses can often conflict with one another and threaten the lagoon ecosystem. NOAA Digital Coast's training, facilitation, and participatory GIS resources can be used to help communities gather ocean use information. Saipan used this assistance

Data Updates

New and Updated Data Sets*

Elevation

- 2015 and 2016 Georgia
- 2016 Puerto Rico
- 2012 South Carolina
- 2014 Washington

Imagery

- 2016 Alaska
- 2016 Florida
- 2016 Oregon
- 2016 Puerto Rico

Jurisdictions and Boundaries

- US State Submerged Lands
- Polar Geospatial Center
- Geographic Information Network of Alaska

Ocean Uses and Planning Areas

- Block Island Transmission Cables
- Block Island Wind Turbine Locations
- BOEM Wind Planning Areas
- Ocean Disposal Sites

to develop the most detailed use maps ever created for the island.

News from Our Coastal Colleagues

Virginia Sea Grant Creates a Coastal Storms Program Fellowship for Mid-Atlantic
Six finalists spanning four states will become the first-ever mid-Atlantic coastal storms program graduate research fellows. Through a rigorous review process, Sea Grant evaluated 18 applications and narrowed the field to six finalists from New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Virginia. The fellowship is funded through the Coastal Storms Program, a NOAA initiative to increase coastal storm resilience.

See a full list of the new and updated data, or subscribe to the data updates newsletter.

*Some data sets do not cover the full state.

Additional Updates

Ocean Economics: U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico
A new report provides ocean-dependency data for the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico using the NOAA Digital Coast's Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) classification scheme. While the ENOW data set does not include the U.S. territories, this report gives users a better understanding of the true ocean-dependency of these economies and assesses the applicability of the traditional ENOW framework for these locations.

Be a Part of Improving the Digital Coast Website
The Digital Coast was just revamped, but we never stop trying to improve. Help us assess usability on the new site. Contact us to get involved.

Training Calendar
See what trainings are coming up in the Training Calendar.

Facebook   Twitter   Website

Send your product, personnel, or event news to Caitlyn.McCrary@noaa.gov. We'll include it in *Digital Coast Connections*, space permitting. For answers to additional questions, contact coastal.info@noaa.gov.