



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

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.

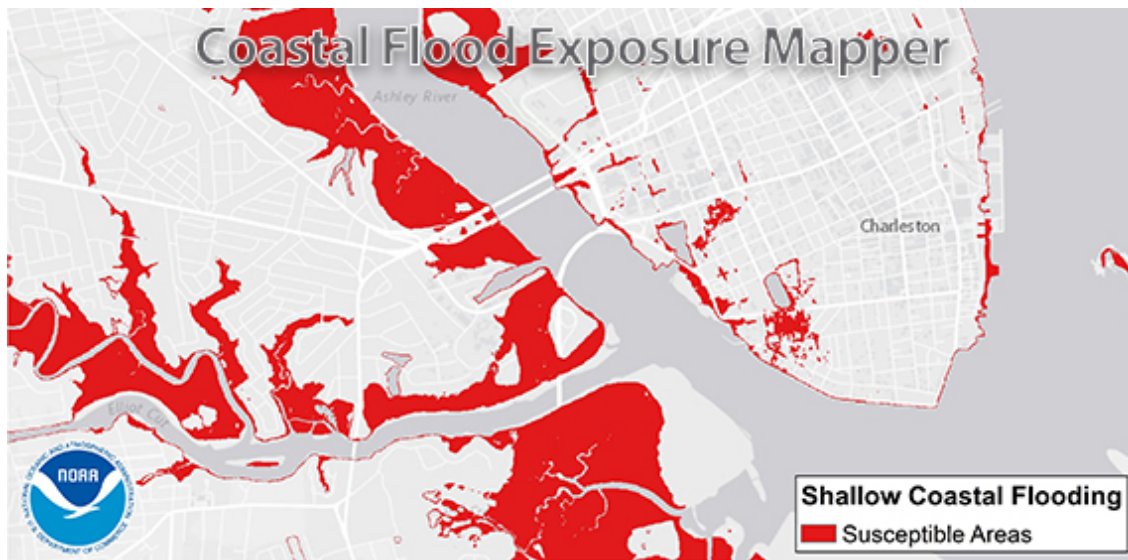
The Digital Coast's [Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper](#) provides a good example. With this easy-to-use tool, community members can see which areas are most likely to flood from sea level rise, storm surge, or shallow coastal flooding. The maps are overlaid with information about population density and the location of infrastructure, hospitals, and development, and have given many the "aha" moment needed to get serious about hurricane preparedness. This tool is currently available for the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico.

Find this resource and more on the Digital Coast's [coastal storms topic page](#). Call us if you need help figuring out the best tools and information for your situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russell Jackson", is written over a light blue circular watermark that contains the NOAA logo.

Russell Jackson
Senior Coastal Hazards Specialist
NOAA Office for Coastal Management



Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

Using the Land Cover Atlas to Protect Watershed Health from Development Effects

Stormwater runoff and coastal development are major threats to coastal resources such as coral reefs, native habitat, and water quality. The Digital Coast's [Land Cover Atlas](#) provides non-GIS planners with a user-friendly interface to access land cover data for a particular watershed. Having information about the percentage of the surrounding land covered by impervious surfaces helps officials analyze and mitigate impacts from proposed new development. See [a great example](#) from Guam.

Examining Sea Level Rise Exposure for Future Populations

In low-lying coastal areas, populations are rapidly growing and flooding incidents are increasing. Many predictive models do not take the increasing population numbers into

Data Updates

New and Updated Data Sets

New and Updated Data Sets Elevation*

- 2005 New York
- 2010 Michigan
- 2014 Florida
- 2014 North Carolina
- 2014 Washington
- 2015 Massachusetts
- 2015 Rhode Island
- 2016 Georgia

Imagery*

- 2016 Alaska
- 2016 Florida
- 2016 Puerto Rico
- 2016 Washington

See a [full list](#) of the new and updated data, or [subscribe to the data updates newsletter](#).

*Data sets do not cover the full state.

Additional Updates

Zillow Uses NOAA Data to Make Housing Market Predictions

consideration, meaning projected risk could be higher. Using [data](#) from the [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#), a tool available on NOAA's Digital Coast, the University of Georgia and Stetson University [modeled coastal inundation](#) using three and six feet of sea level rise. Their analysis predicted an additional 4.2 million people affected by a three foot rise and 13.1 million people affected by a six foot rise.

News from Our Coastal Colleagues

Submit Your Proposal for the National Adaptation Forum

Join the climate change adaptation community to exchange ideas, innovations, and mutual support for a better tomorrow at the [National Adaptation Forum](#). Be a part of the excitement by submitting a session proposal using the “action today for a better tomorrow” theme. Save the dates, May 9 to 11, 2017, for the gathering in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Zillow is a widely used online source for real estate information. The company's economic team recently used data from a [NOAA Digital Coast](#) tool, the [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#), to calculate a few [sobering predictions](#) for homeowners. According to its calculations, a six-foot sea level rise by the year 2100 will impact almost 1.9 million homes (or roughly 2 percent of all U.S. homes)—worth a combined \$882 billion. The Sea Level Rise Viewer's photo simulations and web maps show how future flooding or sea level rise might impact communities, and it also provides data about flood frequency, socioeconomic vulnerability, and wetland loss and migration.

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](#).



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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.

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