Coastal and Urban Communities

Climate Information For Managing Risks Symposium
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The Changing World Means Changing Conditions

- Changing climate is affecting our risks
- Changing demographics, economic and social trends, development patterns, and natural resources
- Changing science and technology
- Changing coastal landscape and increased urbanization
Barriers to Success

Risk should be driving decision-making regarding development and redevelopment, but it is not. Why?

• Development revenues infused to local communities; losses are spread nationally

• Impediments associated with takings law: “… nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation"

• Federal policies that subsidize development in risky areas

• Need for improved communication of risk and urgency

• Lack of incentives or mandates for the range of state and local managers (i.e., emergency, floodplain, resource, land use, and transportation) to work together toward an effective solution
The Partnership Dimension – Internalize Risk

- Creating partnerships to integrate climate information and planning tools
  - Public housing
  - Insurance industry
- Understanding cultural perceptions and what people value to promote risk-wise behavior
- Using tools and training to incentivize policy and behavior changes to encourage sustainability
- Rubbing our nickels together
NOAA Decision Support for Resilience

- External partnerships in communities
- Chambers of commerce (Mobile Bay)
- Non-governmental organizations (ICLEI)
- Academia
- Federal agencies
- Federal interagency activities
- Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force
- CCSP SAP 4.7: Impacts of Climate Variability and Change on Transportation Systems and Infrastructure – Gulf Coast Study
- Working waterfronts
Coastal Vulnerability Assessment of the Northern Gulf of Mexico to Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Change

More than just data...

The Digital Coast also provides the tools, training, and information needed to turn these data into the information most needed by coastal resource management professionals. Read more...

Welcome to the new Digital Coast. If you have questions or comments, please contact us.

Data
Learn more about the kinds of data available and download data.

Tools
Use these tools to turn data into the useful information your organization needs.

Training
Update your skills by participating in one of these training programs.

In Action
See how data and tools are used to address coastal management issues.

Approaches
In this section, Digital Coast resources are packaged in a way that best assists coastal communities working to address a specific issue.

Coastal Inundation Toolkit
Understand the basics and get the tools that will help make your community more resilient.

Offshore Renewable Energy Planning
Get the data and tools needed to make smart decisions.

Featured Resources

Building Resilient Coastal Communities
See how coastal counties can use Digital Coast to build resilient communities.

Mississippi Geospatial Clearinghouse
A comprehensive spatial information warehouse of geographic information system (GIS) resources for Mississippi for use by government, academic, and the private sector.

Recent Updates

Testimonials

“Digital Coast has a real role in standards, guidelines, specifications for elevation data, datums, and inundation mapping.”

Staff member, NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries
The orange line marks the edge of the Sea Level Rise map. Move the slider to change the visible area.

Hold Shift and drag to zoom into a particular area.

The map illustrates the scale of potential flooding, not the exact location, and does not account for erosion, subsidence, or future construction. Water levels are shown as they would appear during an average high tide. Rising sea levels will cause daily high tides to reach farther inland.
Coastal County Snapshots: St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

People + Floodplains = Not Good
High-Risk Populations + Floodplains = Even Worse

Population
Total: 191,268
- In FEMA Floodplain: 91,477 (48%)
- Outside FEMA Floodplain: 99,791 (52%)

Population over 65
Total: 19,074
- In FEMA Floodplain: 9,333 (49%)
- Outside FEMA Floodplain: 9,741 (51%)

Population in Poverty
Total: 18,336
- In FEMA Floodplain: 9,949 (54%)
- Outside FEMA Floodplain: 8,387 (46%)

The more homes and people located in a floodplain, the greater the potential for harm from flooding. Impacts are likely to be even greater when additional risk factors (age, income, capabilities) are involved, since people at greatest flood risk may have difficulty evacuating or taking action to reduce potential damage.

Based on 2000 U.S. Census records
Key Points For Making Tough Decisions

• Research needs

• Risk communication is the key to changing attitudes and actions

• There’s a lot of opportunity for dialogue right now
Questions?

www.csc.noaa.gov/