



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BULLETIN

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

COASTAL SERVICES CENTER

FALL 2007

This quarterly publication supplies up-to-date information on tools and services developed for the nation's state and local coastal programs by the NOAA Coastal Services Center. For more information, please contact Kitty.Fahy@noaa.gov.

New Products and Services

HumanDimensions.gov. This interagency Web portal, also known as *HD.gov*, serves as a peer-reviewed, central resource for social science information. It also guides users to resources addressing specific needs. To produce the portal, the Center partnered with federal and state agencies, tribal nations, nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, and private industry, as well as international agencies and organizations.

Web Address: www.HD.gov

Contact: Hansje.Gold-Krueck@noaa.gov

New Course in Strategic Conservation Planning. A new geographic information system (GIS) course for coastal managers and planners is now part of the Center's GIS training curriculum. Titled "GIS Tools for Strategic Conservation Planning" and co-developed with the Conservation Fund, the course teaches students how to apply GIS tools, methodologies, and analyses to strategic conservation planning using a green infrastructure approach.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/training/gis_tools.html

Contact: Nancy.Cofer-Shabica@noaa.gov

Land Cover Data for Conterminous U.S. Coast. The Center's Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) has released 1996 and 2001 land cover maps encompassing the coastal areas of the conterminous United States. C-CAP products are nationally standardized and will be updated every five years. In addition, land cover updates for 2006 are available in several other regions. These products supply critical information on regional development trends, habitat losses and gains, changes in sources of pollution or sedimentation, and other factors affecting coastal ecosystem health.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/landcover/

Contact: Nate.Herold@noaa.gov



Coastal Inundation Mapping Course. A new GIS training course for floodplain managers, county and state officials, and coastal managers helps participants learn about coastal inundation issues and gain an overall knowledge of spatial techniques for mapping inundation.

Contact: *Steve.Walker@noaa.gov*

Tsunami Awareness Website. The Tsunami Evacuation Zone Mapping Tool is an on-line product that allows users in Hawaii to gather awareness and preparedness information, search addresses or island areas, and use interactive maps displaying tsunami evacuation zones. It was developed by NOAA's Pacific Services Center in partnership with the State of Hawaii's Tsunami Technical Review Committee.

Web Address: *www.scd.state.hi.us*

Contact: *Jessie.Huart@noaa.gov*

Stakeholder Participation Guide. Stakeholder participation is a fundamental component in the operation of many state and local agencies, and federal legislation often mandates it. To meet the need for information, the Center has published "Introduction to Stakeholder Participation." The document addresses stakeholder analysis, procedural elements, evaluation, and common participatory techniques.

Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/human_dimensions/focus_socialsci.html*

Contact: *Zac.Hart@noaa.gov.*

Hurricane Evacuation Tool Template. This template makes it easy for emergency managers or other coastal officials to provide the public with hurricane evacuation zones. Coastal professionals can use the template with agency data to develop a simple mapping application that community residents can use to find specific evacuation zones.

Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/hez_tool/*

Contact: *nos.csc.hez@noaa.gov* and write "HEZ Tool" in subject line

IOOS Real-Time Data for Shellfish Growers. Real-time water quality data are now provided to shellfish growers in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska through the Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS), a partner in the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). Eight Pacific Ocean stations link to data networks that alert growers via e-mail whenever water-quality parameters indicate potential problems for shellfish. The project was funded by the Center and the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

Contact: *Stephanie.Fauver@noaa.gov*



Performance Report on Water Clarity Sensors. The Alliance for Coastal Technologies (ACT) has released verification statements on the performance of five *in-situ* sensors designed to measure water clarity. ACT, which is funded in part by the Center, serves as an unbiased evaluator of sensors and sensor platforms used in coastal environments. The sensors were tested in the laboratory and at field sites that included tropical coral reef, estuary, open ocean, and freshwater lake environments.

Web Address: www.act-us.info

Contact: James.Boyd@noaa.gov

Resilience Projects in Grand Bayou, Louisiana. Center staff members traveled to Grand Bayou, Louisiana, an area hit hard by Hurricane Katrina, to learn about the community's history and culture and engage residents in a participatory mapping exercise. The resulting brochure tells the community's story and documents its physical and societal challenges. In addition, the Center is working with the University of New Orleans Center for Hazards Assessment Response and Technology on a post-disaster resilience case study of Grand Bayou.

Contact: Sandy.Eslinger@noaa.gov or Dave.Stein@noaa.gov

IOOS Observation Registry. For years, users of observation data have sought to determine the location and type of U.S. ocean-observing assets in the water or on land and to identify the entities in charge of those assets. To satisfy this need, the Center led the development of the IOOS Observation Registry, which allows IOOS partners to post asset information on a publicly viewable Web server. Each day, an automatic harvester compiles the local record sets into a national record of assets that is geographically standardized for accuracy.

Web Address: <http://oceanobs.org/wc/>

Contact: James.Boyd@noaa.gov

Hazards Products for Washington State and Oregon. The cross-NOAA Coastal Storms Program recently unveiled new products developed through a pilot program and available to users in the Pacific Northwest. The pilot, which encompassed the lower Columbia River and adjacent coastal regions in Oregon and Washington, addressed hazards-related issues such as winter storms, coastal erosion and inundation, and the effects of stormwater runoff on salmon.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/csp/pacific_nw/pacific_nw.html

Contact: Keelin.Kuipers@noaa.gov



Florida Topo/Bathy Data. Lidar-derived topography and bathymetry data covering a large section of Florida's western coast are now available for download from the Center. This data set, collected in May and June 2006, spans Pasco County to Collier County and covers the immediate coastal and offshore area to a depth of approximately 30 feet. The data were collected by the Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise, which is a joint program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Naval Oceanographic Office, and NOAA.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/ldart/

Contact: Keil.Schmid@noaa.gov

Remote Sensing Product for Maunalua Bay, Hawaii. Remotely sensed impervious surface data developed by NOAA's C-CAP team are helping a watershed organization on the Hawaiian island of Oahu understand the linkages between land cover and water quality. The organization, Malama Maunalua, viewed high-resolution impervious surface data that provided a visual and quantifiable tool to understand water quality impacts in Maunalua Bay. C-CAP data are produced at the NOAA Coastal Services Center and Pacific Services Center.

Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov

Future Products and Initiatives

Collaborative Approaches to Managing Hazards. This new workshop will bring together state- and local-level floodplain managers, coastal resource managers, emergency managers, and planners to discuss mechanisms for collaboration and to learn more about leveraging resources to increase coastal community resilience. This workshop will attend to the need expressed by many Center partners to enhance planning networks that address natural and human-made hazards impacting our coastal communities.

Contact: Tashya.Allen@noaa.gov or Pam.Kylstra@noaa.gov

Land Cover Product for Oahu, Hawaii. With the support of the NOAA Pacific Services Center, the NOAA Coastal Services Center will use advanced automated techniques from experts on the island of Oahu in Hawaii to extract land cover information from high-resolution satellite imagery. These products will provide detailed information that supports the management and research needs of Hawaii's local, state, and federal government entities, nongovernmental organizations, and academic institutions.

Contact: Jamie.Carter@noaa.gov



Planning Initiative for Dauphin Island, Alabama. The coastal town of Dauphin Island, Alabama, is working to develop a strategic approach for sustaining economic and natural systems. At a recent charrette, Center personnel supported residents in identifying policy needs, mapping desired land uses, and creating drawings of potential mixed-use developments. Other entities contributing to the charrette process include the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and other state and local entities.

Contact: *Todd.Davison@noaa.gov* or *Heidi.Recksiek@noaa.gov*

Center News

Events

Capacity Crowd at Coastal Zone 07. Nearly 1,000 coastal resource management professionals attended Coastal Zone 2007 last July in Portland, Oregon. This year's theme, "Brewing Local Solutions to Your Coastal Issues," incorporated a wide variety of related sessions, trainings, and field trips. Proceedings are available on the website.

Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/*

Resilience Workshops in Indonesia, Thailand, and Bali. During two weeklong courses in Indonesia and Thailand, NOAA Pacific Services Center personnel and other trainers instructed participants from the Indian Ocean region on the use of the Coastal Community Resilience (CCR) Guide and Assessment Tool. Later, in Bali, workshop participants from national and regional entities provided feedback on the CCR guide, which will be finalized and distributed in late 2007. The U.S. provides CCR training as part of its contribution to the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System Program.

Contact: *Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov*

Climate Workshop for San Francisco Media. Several NOAA offices collaborated to deliver a workshop for media representatives in California's greater San Francisco Bay area. Presenters, highlighting NOAA research, underscored the impacts of warming on the California climate, fisheries, and other marine life. They also outlined the potential inundation issues associated with sea-level rise in San Francisco Bay. NOAA's National Weather Service, National Ocean Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service collaborated on this workshop. The Center will coordinate follow-up activities.

Contact: *David.Reynolds@noaa.gov* or *Rebecca.Smyth@noaa.gov*



Northeast Region Resilience Salon. In the wake of extensive flooding caused by nor'easters, a community salon was held to determine hazard resilience strategies for the Northeast region. It was attended by representatives from local government, coastal zone and emergency management, planning commissions, Sea Grant, insurance commissions, and neighborhood associations. Participants identified ways to improve collaboration among organizations, increase community-based risk education and outreach, and implement local resilience initiatives. The Center facilitated the salon.

Contact: *Sandy.Eslinger@noaa.gov*

Social Science Plan in Coastal Texas. A workshop hosted by the Mission–Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) engaged approximately 35 stakeholders and regional partners in developing a social science plan of action for the Texas “Coastal Bend” region. Center staff members facilitated discussion during the workshop, which was made possible by a contract between Mission–Aransas NERR and the Center.

Contact: *Zac.Hart@noaa.gov*

New Coastal Fellows. Five 2007–2009 coastal fellows were matched with state coastal zone management organizations in California, Connecticut, North Carolina, Oregon, and South Carolina. In three of these states, former fellowship recipients now employed by coastal management agencies assisted in the selection process. Fellowship recipients will work on two-year projects ranging from developing a coastal hazard plan to promoting effective ecosystem-based management.

Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows.html*

Contact: *Margaret.VanderWilt@noaa.gov*

Published Reports

Award-Winning Article on Gulf Region Economy. Two economists associated with NOAA, Charles Colgan and Jeffery Adkins, co-authored “Hurricane Damage to the Ocean Economy in the U.S. Gulf Region in 2005,” which received the Lawrence Klein Award recognizing the best articles in the *Monthly Labor Review* (MLR), published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Colgan is the National Ocean Economics Program’s chief market economist and Adkins is an economist with the Center.

Web Address: *www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2006/08/contents.htm*

Contact: *Jeffery.Adkins@noaa.gov*



Report on Mitigating Erosion along Sheltered Coasts. A new report, *Mitigating Shore Erosion along Sheltered Coasts*, recommends coastal planning efforts and permitting policies that will motivate landowners to use erosion control measures to retain natural features of the coastal shoreline. The Center, Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Army Corps of Engineers helped fund this report.

Web Address: http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11764

Contact: Jeffery.Adkins@noaa.gov

Journal Article on Texas Mapping Project. A benthic habitat mapping project along the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast was the cover story in the August 2007 issue of the *Photogrammetric Engineering & Remote Sensing* journal. The article describes how the Texas Seagrass Monitoring Program will be used to help locate and protect seagrass beds. To support this program, the Center collaborated with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas A&M University Center for Coastal Studies.

Web Address: www.asprs.org/publications/pers/

Contact: Bill.Stevenson@noaa.gov

Plaudits

Kudos for Center Publications. In recent months, Center publications have received a total of nine awards from four national and international print competitions. *Coastal Connections*, a bimonthly newsletter for coastal resource managers, received an award of merit from the South Carolina Public Relations Society of America (SCPRSA) and an award of excellence from the APEX competition. *Coastal Services*, a bimonthly trade journal for coastal resource managers, received an award of merit from SCPRSA, an award of excellence from the Communicator Awards, two awards of excellence from APEX, and three Magnum Opus honors—a special recognition award, a gold award, and an honorable mention.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/bins/pubs.html

Contact: Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov

Award for Digital Coast: Legislative Atlas. A website developed by the Center was named a winner of the 2007 Government Computer News Gala Award. Digital Coast: Legislative Atlas contains a searchable database of coastal and ocean legislation at many federal and state levels, as well as on-line mapping and other features. By late 2007, the site will expand to include federal information for the entire U.S., as well as state information for California, Hawaii, Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. More state-level data will be added in 2009.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/legislativeatlas/

Contact: Hamilton.Smillie@noaa.gov



Fellowship for Coastal Services Editor. Hanna Goss, writer and editor of *Coastal Services*, received a fellowship for the 2007 Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment's five-day educational program for journalists. *Coastal Services* is a national trade journal for coastal resource managers published by the Center. Goss is the first representative of a federal publication ever to receive a fellowship, which followed an ambitious agenda of study and exploration of coastal environmental issues in South Florida.

Contact: *Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov*

Training Schedule

Training for your organization can take place at the Center in Charleston, South Carolina, or can be brought to your facility.* For more information, visit www.csc.noaa.gov/training/.

Coastal Community Planning and Development

- + December 4 to 5 Punta Gorda, Florida

Project Design and Evaluation

- + October 10 to 11 Los Angeles, California
- + October 30 to November 1 Hudson River Valley, New York
- + November 14 to 16 Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Public Issues and Conflict Management

- + December 17 to 19 Dover, Delaware

Managing Visitor Use in Coastal and Marine Protected Areas

- + October 15 to 16 Tuckerton, New Jersey
- + December 5 to 6 Two Harbors, Minnesota

GIS Tools for Strategic Conservation Planning

- + November 6 to 9 Charleston, South Carolina

*Trainings are generally arranged through local coastal management hosts.