



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BULLETIN

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

COASTAL SERVICES CENTER

SUMMER 2008

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, contact Kitty.Fahey@noaa.gov.

New Products and Services

Tool Combines Weather Forecasts with Hazards Planning Data. The Southern California Weather and Hazards Data Viewer combines weather data from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Digital Forecast Database with hazards planning data, allowing users to display and animate forecasts for weather conditions such as waves, winds, temperature, humidity, and rainfall. The NOAA Coastal Storms Program partnered with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services in California and the NWS weather forecast offices of Los Angeles/Oxnard and San Diego to develop the tool.

Web Address: http://maps.csc.noaa.gov/CSP_SoCal/

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Ecosystem and Hazards Resilience Review Now Out. A literature review for the Northeast coastal states helps to identify high-priority regional needs and outlines NOAA's potential role in addressing those needs. The review cites documents on the sound management of ecosystems and natural hazards and includes results of a needs assessment of coastal professionals involved in these issues. It was produced by the Center in partnership with the Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/bins/regions/Northeast_Literature_Review.pdf

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Guam Height Modernization Effort Enhances Geospatial Accuracy. NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and NOAA's Pacific Services Center are enhancing the accuracy of spatial information by increasing the density of Guam's vertical geodetic control network. The network is composed of benchmarks—such as small bronze plates anchored in the ground—that have known geographic coordinates. This project supports accurate monitoring of water levels in Guam's aquifers. It also meets the programmatic goals of NGS' Height Modernization Program. Local assistance on this project is provided by the Guam Department of Land Management and the Guam Coastal Management Program.

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“Roadmap” Highlights Resources for Seamless Elevation Models. Modeling of sea level rise, hurricane flooding, and tsunami inundation all require an elevation surface that combines land elevation with seafloor data. A new product created by the NOAA Coastal Services Center, *A Roadmap to a Seamless Topobathy Surface*, is an on-line series of documents and maps that streamlines the process of creating a highly accurate, seamless topobathy model of the coastal margin. The series provides an index to existing publicly available data, introduces options for data manipulation, and illustrates applications of a topobathy surface.

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

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Land Cover Data Product Line Derived from Satellite Imagery. Land cover data sets from 2005 of the island of Oahu in Hawaii—produced by the Center’s Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) and the NOAA Pacific Services Center—mark C-CAP’s first line of land cover products developed from high-resolution satellite imagery. Land cover information developed from satellite imagery can be especially useful in assessing human impacts on coral reef environments and identifying at-risk populations and resources during events such as tsunamis.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/ccap/pacific/

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Data Viewer for Marine Information Debuts. The Center is participating in the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre, an interagency effort to build a marine information system for the outer continental shelf and state waters. One result of that effort, the U.S. Marine Cadastre Data Viewer, is now complete. The data can be viewed through an ArcIMS application or downloaded. The site includes information on the spatial extent, usage, rights, restrictions, and responsibilities of U.S. marine areas. It also includes regionally specific data needed to support planning and management of submerged lands and marine spaces.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/htm/multipurpose.html

Contact: Dave.Stein@noaa.gov

NOAA Demonstrations Inspire Budding Scientists. The NOAA Pacific Services Center (PSC) is inspiring the next generation of scientists by bringing NOAA’s research to life. The PSC developed a series of 20 data visualizations for the Magic Planet, a digital video globe that promotes the study of the earth sciences. The presentations at Hawaii’s Bishop Museum and other venues were part of a large-scale effort by the NOAA Pacific region to illustrate the agency’s research and technology applications to students, teachers, and the public.

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Ocean Sensor Is Launched in Hawaii. NOAA's Pacific Services Center and Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program participated in the launching of an oceangoing sensor device that measures temperature and location for three to six months. The device was part of Project Niu and was launched at Waimea Bay on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. Project Niu is an educational curriculum created by Archinoetics, LLC, and sponsored by NOAA's B-WET Program in Hawaii. Middle-school students will track and monitor the sensor on-line using Global Positioning System and remote sensing technology.

Web Address: www.projectniu.org

Contact: Stephanie.Bennett@noaa.gov

PRiMO Partners Introduce Tsunami Inundation Modeling for Guam. For the first time, preliminary tsunami inundation modeling results were developed for the U.S. territory of Guam. The Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO) collaborated with NOAA's Pacific Services Center and seven other federal and local partners on this project. The modeling results will be used to guide evacuation planning and policy development and will advance Guam's capability for tsunami forecasting in the future.

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Updated Products and Services

Historical Hurricane Tracks Is Updated for 2008 Hurricane Season. Historical Hurricane Tracks is an interactive mapping application that allows users to search and display Atlantic Basin and eastern North Pacific Basin tropical cyclone data. New features include the following: posting of the official 2007 hurricane season tracks from the National Hurricane Center; an interactive search-and-display tool combining population data with data on hurricane strikes for coastal counties from Maine to Texas; National Hurricane Center storm reports for the Atlantic Basin and eastern North Pacific Basin; and a tool allowing users to expedite queries by linking directly to on-line mapping applications with storm tracks of specific geographic areas.

Web Address: <http://hurricane.csc.noaa.gov>

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Data Enhances Information on Two South Carolina Counties. Lidar data for the South Carolina counties of Charleston and Colleton are now available from the Center's website. The data have been collected in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for use in updating flood insurance maps and were verified by personnel from the Center and NOAA's National Geodetic Survey. Coverage includes the Port of Charleston, the Fort Sumter National Monument, and the Ashepoo-Combahee-Edisto Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve.

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

Contact: Rebecca.Mataosky@noaa.gov

Inundation Maps Now Available for Portions of Southeast Texas. The National Weather Service (NWS) and the Center have added new inundation maps to the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Web portal for five locations in the Houston and Galveston area of Southeast Texas. Inundation maps provide information on the spatial extent and depth of floodwaters in the vicinity of NWS river forecast locations. These maps, when combined with river observations and NWS forecasts, enhance communications, mitigate the impacts of flooding, and build more resilient communities.

Web Address: www.nws.noaa.gov/ahps/inundation.php

Contact: Doug.Marcy@noaa.gov

Florida Data Accessible via Retrieval Tool. Expanded information on Florida can be obtained via the Lidar Data Retrieval Tool, a product of the Center. Data were collected from 2004 to 2007 in the following counties: Charlotte, Citrus, De Soto, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk, Manatee, Sarasota, and Sumter. These data sets were provided by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. A separate 2006 lidar data set of Volusia County includes the famed Daytona Beach coastline and Daytona International Speedway. This was provided by the Volusia County Public Works Department.

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

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Three Northeastern States Gain New Land Cover Data. Through its Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP), the Center has released a 2006 update to its existing 1996 and 2001 land cover data for the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. With the addition of this latest information, C-CAP now has 1996, 2001, and 2006 land cover data for the entire Northeast region. State and local planners and land regulation agencies use C-CAP data to assess current landscape conditions, evaluate past management policies, and guide future decisions.

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

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Future Products and Initiatives

Legislative Atlas to Feature Georegulations for Five States. In the coming months, legislative summaries and associated georegulations will be made available on the Digital Coast: Legislative Atlas website for the states of California, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. The new information can be used by coastal resource managers within these regions to assess gaps and overlaps in the regulatory framework and support marine spatial planning decisions. The Center, in partnership with PhotoScience, Inc., has worked closely with state representatives to collect this information.

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

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Center News

Events

Center Director Testifies on Climate Change and Community Planning. In June, Margaret Davidson, director of the Center, testified as the sole government witness before the U.S. House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans. She outlined NOAA's role in state and federal efforts to help coastal communities prepare for a changing climate and its impacts on sea life, other ocean resources, and coastal economies. Congress's continued interest in this topic will influence NOAA's future mission activities.

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Social Science Tool Adapted by Government Agency in Australia. A popular tool originally produced by the Center, "Understanding the 'Human Dimension' of Coastal Management," has been adapted for use by the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Water in Australia. This colorful, handheld wheel, similar to the "dial-o-matics" of the past, highlights important social science issues facing coastal resource managers and the tools that can be used to address them.

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“One-NOAA” Effort Advances Resilience Planning in Gulf of Mexico. At a workshop in Biloxi, Mississippi, the Center led a session soliciting feedback on potential revisions to the community resilience portion of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) Governors’ Action Plan. Eight other NOAA program offices and line offices also took part in this event, which involved the resilience priority issue team of GOMA. Other attendees included local leaders, planners, engineers, real estate professionals, and community groups. The workshop is part of an ongoing effort to engage stakeholders in a unified fashion as recommended by the NOAA Science Advisory Board.

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Southeast Region Workshop Addresses Climate Change Adaptation. A recent workshop in Charleston, South Carolina, “Adapting to a Changing Climate,” brought together members of the Southeast Natural Resources Leadership Group (SENRLG). This organization is a collaborative group of federal executives working in regional offices who lead agencies with natural resource conservation as part of their missions. At the workshop, representatives from NOAA and 11 other federal agencies discussed knowledge acquisition, mitigation, and adaptation for a changing climate in the southeastern U.S. The Center and NOAA’s Southeast and Caribbean Regional Team assisted with workshop agenda development, preparations, and logistics.

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Coastal Management Fellows Matched with States. Six coastal management fellows were matched with state coastal zone management organizations around the U.S. The fellows—who were matched with organizations in California, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, and Washington State—will be working on two-year projects ranging from developing a sea level rise adaptation plan to applying an ecosystem-based management framework. The Coastal Management Fellowship Program is sponsored by the Center.

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

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Visualization Tool Highlighted in Washington State. The Center provided a hands-on workshop highlighting CanVis, an easy-to-use software program that can aid coastal professionals in the management of shorelines and coastal zones. The meeting was attended by local planners, personnel from the Washington Department of Ecology, and faculty members from Central Washington University. In a separate presentation attended by more than 50 local shoreline planners and environmental consultants, the Center addressed the use of CanVis to illustrate the cumulative impacts of future development. The response from attendees was enthusiastic, and many indicated that they would use CanVis in their coastal zone management work.

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NOAA Represents U.S. at Meeting in Malaysia. NOAA represented the U.S. delegation at the Seventh Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's Western Pacific International Scientific Symposium in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia. This conference focused on natural hazards and the marine environment in the Western Pacific. The U.S. delegation, which included staff members from NOAA's Pacific Services Center and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, was called upon to serve as a guiding and stabilizing force as the effort matures. The NOAA delegation also was able to identify linkages among the group's priorities and NOAA's expertise, products, and services.

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Published Reports

EBM Survey Results Featured in Ecosystem Management Publication. An article in the March-May 2008 edition of *Marine Ecosystems and Management (MEAM)* cited important findings from an ecosystem-based management survey of 250 coastal resource managers conducted by the Center. The article, "Creating the Necessary Management Capacity for Marine Ecosystem-Based Management," noted that a clear majority of survey respondents (88 percent) expressed a need for professional EBM development training. The Center's survey, and a Center EBM course now under development, will foster EBM capacity building across the nation.

Web Address: *<http://depts.washington.edu/meam/>*

Contact: *Steve.Gilbert@noaa.gov*



Worldwide Reading Audience Learns About HEAT. More than 5,200 global representatives of government, community organizations, academia, and the private sector were given the opportunity to learn about the NOAA Pacific Services Center's Hazard Education and Awareness Tool (HEAT). Information on HEAT was featured in the April 2008 edition of *Coastal Update*, a Web newsletter of the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee. HEAT merges Google Maps technology with spatial-hazards data to display detailed maps of hazard risks and provide local information on hazard awareness.

Web Address: www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/HEAT/

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"The Living Reef" Commemorates the International Year of the Reef. NOAA's Pacific Services Center partnered with The Nature Conservancy, Newspapers in Education, and the *Honolulu Advertiser* to print "The Living Reef," a special-edition newspaper insert on April 16, 2008. The publication commemorated Hawaii's celebration of the International Year of the Reef. It was distributed to 200 schools statewide for use as a teaching resource.

Web Address: www.iyor-hawaii.org/outreach-materials/

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Plaudits

Center Director Receives Highest ASFPM Honor. Margaret Davidson, the director of the Center, was presented with the Goddard-White Award at the annual conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in Reno, Nevada. The Goddard-White Award, the highest honor bestowed by the ASFPM, is presented to individuals who are highly instrumental in carrying forward the goals and objectives of floodplain management throughout the nation. The 10,000-member ASFPM is recognized as the nation's premier organization dealing with flooding issues.

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Tsunami Warning System Partners Complimented on Job Well Done. NOAA Pacific Services Center (PSC) personnel and other U.S. participants were praised by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for their work in establishing the U.S. Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (IOTWS) program. The successful program is now officially concluded following a three-year effort. The PSC joined with five national and international partners to produce the IOTWS publication, *How Resilient Is Your Coastal Community? A Guide for Evaluating Coastal Community Resilience to Tsunamis and Other Hazards*.

Web Address: <http://apps.develebridge.net/usiotws/pagebbprogramdocs.html>

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Center Publications Win Seven National and International Awards. This has been an award-winning season for publications produced by the Center. The winning publications are the bimonthly newsletter *Coastal Connections*, the quarterly newsletter *Fellow News*, and the bimonthly trade journal *Coastal Services*. Awards have been received from the South Carolina chapter of the Public Relations Society of America, the National Association of Government Communicators, the Communicator Awards International Print Competition, and the Society for Technical Communication. The international recognition included an award of distinction for *Coastal Services* in the copy/writing category from the Communicator Awards International Print Competition, and an award of excellence for *Coastal Services* in the magazines category from the Society for Technical Communication's International Technical Publications Competition.

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

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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 Applications Using ArcGIS

July 24 to 25	Naples, Florida
July 17 to 18	Silver Spring, Maryland
July 31 to August 1	Charleston, South Carolina
August 19 to 20	Kingston, Rhode Island
August 21 to 22	Groton, Connecticut

♦ Coastal Community Planning and Development

July 30 to 31	Bradenton, Florida
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♦ Coastal Inundation Mapping

July 22 to 23	Naples, Florida
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♦ Introduction to ArcGIS I

July 15 to 16	Silver Spring, Maryland
July 29 to 30	Charleston, South Carolina

♦ Project Design and Evaluation

July 29 to 30	Gulf Breeze, Florida
August 4 to 5	Colchester, Vermont

♦ Public Issues and Conflict Management

August 4 to 5	Staatsburg, New York
August 26 to 28	San Juan, Puerto Rico
September 3 to 5	St. Petersburg, Florida

♦ Remote Sensing for Spatial Analysts

July 15 to 16	Kingston, Rhode Island
July 17 to 18	Haddam, Connecticut

* Off-site trainings are generally arranged through local coastal management hosts.