



# PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BULLETIN

## NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

### COASTAL SERVICES CENTER

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WINTER 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](mailto:Kitty.Fahy@noaa.gov).*

## New Products and Services

**Legislative Atlas.** Digital Coast: Legislative Atlas is a Web-based mapping and search tool that helps coastal resource managers visualize and analyze the nation's regulatory framework on a regional basis. It highlights federal regulations and agency jurisdictions for the coasts of the continental U.S. and state regulatory boundaries for the Gulf of Mexico. Coming soon: information on state laws in California, Hawaii, and the Northeast region and federal laws relevant to coastlines of the entire continental U.S. The Center collaborated with several national and local partners to develop this tool. Visit the site at [www.csc.noaa.gov/legislativeatlas/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/legislativeatlas/) or contact [Hamilton.Smillie@noaa.gov](mailto:Hamilton.Smillie@noaa.gov) for more information.

**Restoration Monitoring Planner.** The NOAA Restoration Monitoring Planner is an on-line tool that guides coastal habitat restoration practitioners in the basic steps of developing a science-based monitoring plan. The planner, developed by the Center in partnership with NOAA Fisheries' Community-based Restoration Program, creates a monitoring plan that includes hypothesis testing and assessment of a restored habitat's structure and function. For more information, see <http://habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/rmp/> or contact [Bethney.Ward@noaa.gov](mailto:Bethney.Ward@noaa.gov).

**Coastal Planning and Development Training.** The Center collaborated with several agencies to develop a two-day course on coastal community planning and development. Other partners included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program and Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. This course educates coastal resource managers, elected officials, and others on methods for managing coastal growth while sustaining resources, quality of life, and economic vitality. Training locations planned for 2007 include Puerto Rico, Ohio, Alaska, and Texas. For more information, contact [Kelly.Dickson@noaa.gov](mailto:Kelly.Dickson@noaa.gov).

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**Center and Maine Mapping Collaboration.** The State of Maine recently released a high-resolution land cover map of the state, produced through a partnership with NOAA's Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP), the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Sanborn Map Company. C-CAP is part of the Center's Coastal Remote Sensing Program. By leveraging the nationally standardized products produced by NOAA and other federal agencies, Maine was able to produce this statewide land cover data set for a fraction of the usual cost. The Maine Land Cover Dataset can be accessed at <http://apollo.ogis.state.me.us/catalog/>. For more information on C-CAP land cover products, please visit [www.csc.noaa.gov/landcover/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/landcover/) or contact [Nate.Herold@noaa.gov](mailto:Nate.Herold@noaa.gov).

**Handbook on Mitigating Coastal Hazards.** The Association of State Floodplain Managers, with funding and assistance by the Center, has completed an on-line handbook, *No Adverse Impact in the Coastal Zone*. The No Adverse Impact principle holds that the actions of a community or property owner should not adversely impact other people or the coastal resource. A final version of the handbook with photographs, case studies, and updated and new content will soon be available. You can view the handbook at [www.floods.org/NoAdverseImpact/coastal.asp](http://www.floods.org/NoAdverseImpact/coastal.asp). For more information, contact [Keelin.Kuipers@noaa.gov](mailto:Keelin.Kuipers@noaa.gov).

**New Coastal Networking Web Site.** The Center, in partnership with the Land Trust Alliance and the Nature Conservancy, recently established a Web site that helps land trusts link their efforts with those in the coastal, watershed, and hazards management communities. You can view the site at [www.lta.org/resources/coastal](http://www.lta.org/resources/coastal). For more information, contact [Melissa.Ladd@noaa.gov](mailto:Melissa.Ladd@noaa.gov).

**Survey Document for Natural Resource Managers.** The Center has produced a document to assist coastal resource managers in the various technical issues surrounding survey development and administration. The document can help them consider how to present survey questions, obtain adequate sample sizes, and choose from a variety of different approaches. To obtain a copy of the report, contact [Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov](mailto:Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov).

**Socioeconomic Maps for Florida Report.** The Center produced a series of maps for a recent report, "Florida Oceans and Coastal Economies," illustrating demographic and economic trends in the state since 1990. Maps can be viewed by selecting "Florida Economic Maps" under the "Quick Links" heading at [www.floridaoceanscouncil.org](http://www.floridaoceanscouncil.org). For more information, contact [Jeffery.Adkins@noaa.gov](mailto:Jeffery.Adkins@noaa.gov).

**Marine Data Devices for Pacific Region.** The State of Hawaii Department of Education currently prohibits high school students from entering water above their knees during school-sponsored events because of liability concerns. Devices funded by

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the Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Hawaii Program are intended to overcome this obstacle. Two products—a “boogie board”-sized boat for collecting marine data and an underwater, remotely operated vehicle constructed by students—monitor coastal and marine environments. B-WET Hawaii is administered by the Pacific Services Center. For more information, contact [Divina.Corpuz@noaa.gov](mailto:Divina.Corpuz@noaa.gov).

**Integrated Ocean Observing System Needs Assessment.** The Center has completed a needs assessment of the Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Associations (RAs). The information gleaned from this needs assessment will help RAs emerge as leaders in the national ocean observing community. The report is available on-line at [www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/human\\_dimensions/IOOS\\_RA\\_Needs\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/human_dimensions/IOOS_RA_Needs_Assessment.pdf). For more information, contact [Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov](mailto:Chris.Ellis@noaa.gov).

**Texas Forecasts of Harmful Algal Blooms.** NOAA and partners from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are now providing twice-weekly forecasts on harmful algal blooms (HABs) along the coast of Texas. The HAB Forecasting System relies on satellite imagery, real-time and forecast winds, and field samples of the dinoflagellate *Karenia brevis* to provide information on the location, extent, and movement of HABs. To learn more, view the Web site at [www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/) or contact [Rebecca.Love@noaa.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Love@noaa.gov).

**Metadata Server in American Samoa.** The Center, aided by a Federal Geographic Data Committee grant, provided training and technical support allowing government workers and the public to query metadata records for geospatial data sets pertaining to the Territory of American Samoa. To access the American Samoa data sets, visit [http://meta-amsam.doc.asg.as/cgi-bin/mini\\_z/geo\\_z.cgi/](http://meta-amsam.doc.asg.as/cgi-bin/mini_z/geo_z.cgi/). Contact [Darcee.Killpack@noaa.gov](mailto:Darcee.Killpack@noaa.gov) for more information.

**Spotlight on Geospatial Education.** *GIS Monitor*, an on-line trade magazine on geographic information system topics, recently highlighted an environmental education initiative funded by the Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Hawaii Program. B-WET Hawaii is administered by the Pacific Services Center. The article detailed the use of Global Positioning System software by students to document and study beach conditions. For more information, contact [Divina.Corpuz@noaa.gov](mailto:Divina.Corpuz@noaa.gov).

## Updated Products and Services

**Land Cover Data for Gulf of Mexico Region.** Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) land cover data for 2005 and 2006 (pre- and post-Hurricane Katrina) will soon be available for portions of Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas. These data sets will complement existing 1996 and 2001 C-CAP land cover data sets

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for the Gulf of Mexico region. All data sets are available on the Center's Web site at [www.csc.noaa.gov/landcover/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/landcover/). For more information, contact [Susan.Fox@noaa.gov](mailto:Susan.Fox@noaa.gov).

**Team Teaching of Technology.** Center personnel recently joined staff members from the National Marine Fisheries Service's Office of Science and Technology to teach a geographic information system course at NOAA staff headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. This class, the first one taught in partnership with another NOAA line office, is an outgrowth of the Center's "One-NOAA" commitment. For more information, contact [Steve.Walker@noaa.gov](mailto:Steve.Walker@noaa.gov).

**Geospatial Training for Hawaii Agencies.** Participants in Hawaii representing more than a dozen local, state, and federal organizations recently completed an advanced four-day course on geographic information system analysis. The Pacific Services Center developed this course, which helps coastal zone managers and emergency managers apply "real-world" scenarios to Pacific Island environments. For more information on upcoming trainings in the Pacific Islands region, contact [Darcee.Killpack@noaa.gov](mailto:Darcee.Killpack@noaa.gov).

## Future Products and Initiatives

**Data Integration Report.** A high-quality digital elevation model (DEM) can aid coastal resource management professionals in modeling coastal inundation, establishing setbacks, and integrating data sets. An on-line report slated for spring 2007, "Topography and Bathymetry Integration: Datums, Datum Conversion Techniques, and Data Integration," highlights important considerations for any organization seeking to construct a seamless DEM. For more information, contact [Lynne.Dingerson@noaa.gov](mailto:Lynne.Dingerson@noaa.gov).

**Community Resilience Guidebook.** Staff members from the Pacific Services Center helped create the first draft of the Coastal Community Resilience Guidebook for the Indian Ocean region. They are part of the Coastal Community Resilience team, which consists of individuals from the U.S. government, academia, a nongovernmental organization, and the private sector. The team is presenting the draft guidebook to Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia, and the Maldives, with pilot implementations to follow. For more information, contact [Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov](mailto:Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov).

**Public-Private Product for Geospatial Data.** The Center and Northrop Grumman Corporation (with the assistance of Applied Science Associates, Inc.) created an

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experimental program that will make Integrated Ocean Observing System data accessible to a larger audience of NOAA professionals. Data in the network common data form (NetCDF) will be made available, via desktop and the Internet, to users of the geographic information system product ArcGIS. For more details, please visit “New Desktop Interoperability Tool” on the Web site at [www.csc.noaa.gov/cir/archives.html#aug06](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cir/archives.html#aug06) or contact [Daniel.Martin@noaa.gov](mailto:Daniel.Martin@noaa.gov).

**Tsunami Evacuation Tool for Hawaii.** The Pacific Services Center is working with the State of Hawaii to develop an Internet-based mapping tool that will help residents in Hawaii determine whether they live in a tsunami evacuation zone. The mapping tool is part of a larger tsunami preparation effort that will feature up-to-date information on warning sirens, designated shelters, and other factors to aid the public. This information will be accessible from several Center Web sites, as well as many state and federal Web sites. For more information, contact [Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov](mailto:Russell.Jackson@noaa.gov).

## Center News

**Support of Regional Association in California.** The Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) provided the City of Los Angeles Environmental Monitoring Division with real-time data and analysis for a planned discharge event from the Hyperion sewage facility to an area off the coast of Santa Monica Bay. The Center manages a congressionally directed SCCOOS award and has provided the SCCOOS Regional Association with funds to engage stakeholders. Several other organizations also helped coordinate data support for this event. To find out about other Center initiatives in support of the Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Associations, contact [Geno.Olmi@noaa.gov](mailto:Geno.Olmi@noaa.gov).

**Northern Gulf Institute.** A recent ceremony was held at Stennis Space Center in Mississippi to announce the creation of NOAA’s Northern Gulf Institute (NGI). NGI, to be located at Stennis, will conduct research on watershed integration, ocean and marine science, wetlands and ecosystem restoration, and atmospheric research. Gulf Coast Services Center staff members located at Stennis will help coordinate NGI research and activities in partnership with NOAA’s Office of Atmospheric Research, Dr. David Shaw, director of the institute, and Mississippi State University’s GeoResources Institute. For more information, contact [Becky.Allee@noaa.gov](mailto:Becky.Allee@noaa.gov).

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**Speech at Coastal Inundation Workshop.** Center Director Margaret Davidson delivered the keynote address at a recent workshop on coastal inundation in Baltimore, Maryland. The workshop was one in a series designed to help coastal managers learn more about the Integrated Ocean Observing System. It was hosted by the Coastal States Organization, the IOOS National Federation of Regional Associations, and the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association. For more information, contact *Dave.Eslinger@noaa.gov*.

**Coastal Management Fellows for 2007.** The Center has selected five coastal zone management agencies in California, Connecticut, North Carolina, Oregon, and South Carolina for the 2007 Coastal Management Fellowship program. Each agency selected is eligible to receive the services of a two-year fellow to address a critical issue identified in the state. For more information, visit the Web site at *www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows.html* or contact *Margaret.VanderWilt@noaa.gov*.

**GeoTools Conference in March.** The Coastal GeoTools 2007 conference will take place March 5 to 8 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the “sun fun” capital of the Southeast. The conference focuses on existing and emerging technologies needed by coastal resource managers to address hurricanes, coastal development pressures, and environmental changes. To learn more, check out the Coastal GeoTools Web site at *www.csc.noaa.gov/geotools/*.

**Coastal Zone Conference in Oregon.** Nearly 1,000 coastal resource management professionals are expected to attend Coastal Zone 2007 in Portland, Oregon, July 22 to 26. This year’s theme, “Brewing Local Solutions to Your Coastal Issues,” will incorporate a wide variety of related sessions, workshops, and field trips. For more information, visit *www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/*.

**Milestone for Popular Mapping Tool.** Staff members of the American Samoa Coastal Management Program (ASCMP) processed their 1,000<sup>th</sup> permit application on the Island of Tutuila using the Tutuila Hazard Assessment Tool, or T-HAT. The tool is an Internet mapping application developed in 2004 through a partnership of ASCMP, the Pacific Services Center, and the Coastal Services Center. For more information, contact *Adam.Stein@noaa.gov*.

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**Meeting of Coral Fellows.** Recipients of the Coral Reef Management Fellowship recently held their annual meeting on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Fellows traveled from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to discuss the status of their projects and share ideas. Two new fellows also began their fellowships in Hawaii and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information, contact [Margaret.VanderWilt@noaa.gov](mailto:Margaret.VanderWilt@noaa.gov).

## Training Schedule

Training for your organization can take place at the NOAA Coastal Services Center in Charleston, South Carolina, or can be brought to your facility.\* For more information, visit [www.csc.noaa.gov/training/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/training/).

### Project Design and Evaluation

- + January 29–30 St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
- + February 1–2 St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands
- + February 7–9 Homer, Alaska
- + February 21–23 Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- + March 7–8 Boulder, Colorado
- + March 21–22 Sandusky, Ohio

### Public Issues and Conflict Management

- + January 8–10 Edisto, South Carolina
- + February 21–22 Silver Spring, Maryland
- + March 12–14 Middletown, Pennsylvania

### Introduction to ArcGIS

- + March 26–27 NOAA Coastal Services Center  
Charleston, South Carolina

### Coastal Applications of ArcGIS

- + March 28–30 NOAA Coastal Services Center  
Charleston, South Carolina

\*Trainings are generally arranged through local coastal management hosts.



**NOAA Coastal Services Center**  
LINKING PEOPLE, INFORMATION, AND TECHNOLOGY