To better understand the impacts of land use and other management decisions, reviewing maps that document land cover (forests, development, wetlands and so forth) and how it has changed is essential.

Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) land cover data and maps cover intertidal areas, wetlands, and adjacent uplands. These maps, updated every five years, represent the coastal portion of the National Land Cover Database. Comparing one year to another documents land cover changes over time.

These data are used in many applications and tools, enabling communities to incorporate land cover data into conservation, green infrastructure, and hazards planning initiatives. Visit the website to access land cover data, maps, tools, and more.

Products include

- Data
- Maps
- Tools
- Technical assistance
- Case studies

coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/topics/coastal-land-cover
LAND COVER RESOURCES

Data

- **Regional Land Cover** – Produced at a 30-meter resolution for the coastal areas of the contiguous U.S. Data are updated every five years from multiple dates of remotely sensed Landsat imagery and ancillary information.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/ccapregional

- **High-Resolution Land Cover** – Produced at a 1- to 4-meter resolution for select project areas within the contiguous U.S., Hawaii, and U.S. territories in the Pacific and Caribbean. Multiple dates of data are available in some locations.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/ccaphighres

- **Wetland Potential Product** – Represents the likelihood of an area to have a wetland. Produced using a combination of data and modeling methods at a 30-meter resolution for the coastal areas of the contiguous U.S.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/wetland-potential

Tools

- **C-CAP Land Cover Atlas** – Provides user-friendly access to land cover and land cover change data over time for a specified county, island, or watershed.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/lca

- **Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper** – Highlights land cover related information, along with other data, to support the assessment of coastal flood hazard risks and vulnerabilities.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/flood-exposure.html

- **OpenNSPECT** – Compares land cover scenarios to identify sources of high volumes of surface water runoff and sediment loads.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/opennspect.html

Information

- **Regional Land Cover Change Summary Reports** – Summarize regional land cover changes from 1996 to 2011.
  coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/regional-land-cover-change