

DIGITALCOAST CONNECTIONS



October 2024

Hurricane Helene

Aerial Imagery Now Available

[Aerial imagery for areas impacted by Hurricane Helene](#) is available through NOAA's National Geodetic Survey. Imagery includes flights from September 27 to October 2 covering the Gulf Coast and Tampa, Florida, as well as areas in Western North Carolina from October 5 and 6. The National Geodetic Survey is continuing to collect aerial damage assessments for the area. The new imagery will be shared as soon as it's available.

New Data, New Resources

Digital Coast – Your Coastal Information Resource

- **Training** – [Climate 101: Science, Impacts, and Society](#)
- **Tool** – [Economic Impacts of Sea Level Rise for the Northern Gulf of Mexico](#)
- **Tool** – [Federal Flood Standard Support Tool](#)
- **Data** – See the list of [new and updated data sets](#).

Office for Coastal Management

- Follow [NOAA's Office for Coastal Management on LinkedIn](#).
- Explore the complete [list of state impact stories](#) and use them in your communication efforts. The most recent stories are at the top.

Tech Topics

Delve into Water Quality Data

A healthy ecosystem starts with clean water. We've compiled the pertinent data, tools, and training in one place to help answer questions about your community's water quality and threats, and what actions you can take— like managing runoff using land cover data to calculate the impervious surface area in the watershed—to meet these challenges.

Explore the variety of water quality data sources available on [our website](#) to find what works best for your needs. Reach out to coastal.info@noaa.gov with any questions.

Stories from Your Peers



Government-Industry Collaboration Driving Kelp Aquaculture Innovation

In Southern California, industry and government partnerships are harnessing the power of seaweed to grow the nation's [new blue economy](#) and meet sustainability and climate goals. Data from the [Marine Cadastre](#) tool is being used to identify suitable sites for offshore kelp farms, including a pilot farm that provides a proving ground for new cultivation technologies. This effort could have wide-reaching benefits for sustainable food and energy systems, carbon capture, and marine habitat.

- To learn more, read the [full story here](#).

Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

Economic Approaches for Decision-Making

Comparing coastal project options often includes analyzing a variety of factors—acres

restored, public access, and habitat benefits, to name a few. Including an economic analysis can help. To choose the best approach for your program, take a look at our [economic decision-making resources](#)—including the benefit-cost analysis guide. This quick reference shows how to compare a project’s benefits and costs to assess whether the cost is justified. Hint: a benefit-cost analysis should not make the decision but inform it.

Reach out to coastal.info@noaa.gov with any questions.

Fast Facts



Natural Infrastructure



Wetlands and reefs
and mangroves...oh my!



Billions in savings (\$23 billion/year),
services (water quality and storm protection),
and value (37% higher property value).

This is just one of the many coastal management [fast facts and graphics](#) provided for your use. [Read the list](#) and let us know if there are others you'd like to see added.

