

DIGITAL COAST CONNECTIONS



August 2018

New Data, New Resources



Digital Coast

- **Story from the Field** – [Informing Future Flood Hazard Planning in Puerto Rico](#)
- **Data** – No new data sets added because of database maintenance



Office for Coastal Management

- Read the latest edition of [Fellow News](#).

Tech Topics

Reduced Flooding AND Cheaper Insurance Premiums

Now that we have your attention, we want to tell you about a big idea.

When communities reduce flood risk, FEMA often can offer policyholders discounts on flood insurance premiums. Participant communities in FEMA's Community Rating System receive credit to determine the amount. One way to earn credit is by preserving floodplains as open space and implementing land use policies that prevent development and maintain naturally protective features.

Yes, NOAA has a "how-to" for this, a step-by-step approach for earning credit in areas that are already protected, and identifying places where additional credit could be earned. Come [here](#) to learn more.

Stories from Your Peers

Digital Coast Site Provides Over \$125 Million in Lidar Data

Lidar represents some of the data most often used by coastal communities. NOAA's Digital Coast provides these data at no cost, saving users time and supporting innovation, particularly by small businesses who likely couldn't otherwise afford this information resource.

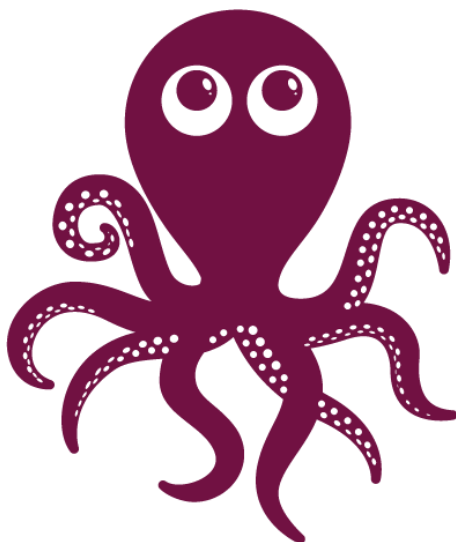
The 720-plus lidar data sets on Digital Coast cover 630,000 square miles and represent the efforts of many organizations and agencies, such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Geological Survey, and NOAA's National Geodetic Survey. Over 30,000 individuals have downloaded the customized data, with many users working in private-sector engineering firms. Please visit the Digital Coast's data holdings for your data needs.



720+ lidar data sets
630,000 square miles covered

- See the [full story](#).
- Access the [data and more](#).

Tips from the Digital Coast Academy



Deal with Disruptive Behaviors

The mix of personalities in a room can make or break a meeting, but you can learn how to handle the situation with confidence. Dealing with a dominating shark? Be firm but not threatening, actively listen to what they are saying, and then ping-pong to another person to carry on the group discussion.

Have an indecisive octopus? Ask questions to draw out their opinion and paraphrase what they're saying so they can hear it in new words.

Do you have a diverting dolphin that wants to interject? Read [Dealing with Disruptive Behaviors](#) for tips and helpful hints for working with all these characters and more. Contact our facilitation guru, [Ann Weaver](#), for more techniques and to inquire about our facilitation training.

Fast Facts



Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information

Weather Disasters (1980-2016)

Drought	24
Flooding	26
Freeze	7
Severe Storm	83
Tropical Cyclone	35
Wildfire	14
Winter Storm	14

Average Cost (billions)

Drought	\$9.3
Flooding	\$4.3
Freeze	\$3.6
Severe Storm	\$2.2
Tropical Cyclone	\$16
Wildfire	\$2.4
Winter Storm	\$3

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

Feedback? Please!

This newsletter is created for coastal professionals dedicated to keeping coastal communities safe and productive. Please provide any feedback you may have to coastal.info@noaa.gov



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