



August 2020

New Data, New Resources

Digital Coast

- **Case Study** – [Post-Disaster Coral Reef Assessment and Restoration Set Important Precedent for Coastal Communities](#)
- **Data Collection** – [Marine Economy Account](#)
- **Data** – See the list of [new and updated data sets](#).

Office for Coastal Management

- [Restoration Story Map](#) – Learn how the national estuarine research reserves use their data and expertise to test innovative restoration strategies.
- NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program has released its [Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement](#).
- **NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program** is celebrating its [20th anniversary](#)! Follow along and participate on social media all year using the hashtag [#NOAACoral20th](#).
- **Impact Story Database** – Explore the [list](#). Use the stories in your communication efforts. The most recent stories are at the top.

Tech Topics

To Create a Community Risk Assessment, Get Community Input

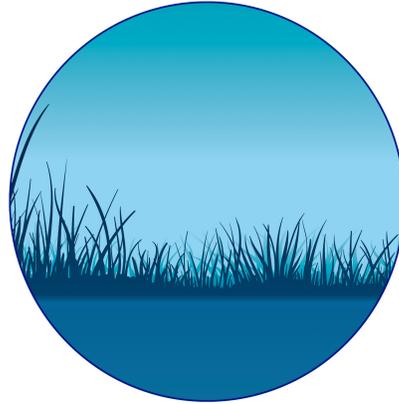
Starting with existing community vulnerability data is a logical first step for any risk assessment—but don't stop there. Your citizens are likely to have valuable input as well. Community input is extremely helpful for finding unrecognized hot spots or problem areas, as well as additional hazards (e.g., heavier rain or hotter days) you might not have considered. Including this information paints a fuller picture for your assessment.

A [quick reference guide](#) available from NOAA's Digital Coast provides a list of data and information considerations for risk assessments.

Stories from Your Peers

Student Marsh Plantings Save Shoreline from Devastating Hurricane

As staff walked the heavily damaged grounds of the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (Florida) after Hurricane Michael, they came upon a welcome sight—a thriving marsh grass shoreline that was virtually untouched by the storm. This particular area benefited from a fifth-grade student marsh planting project, which covered an area roughly three football fields long and 10 yards wide. The reserve’s environmental education program started this program, which since 2011 has guided students in planting this living shoreline to help lessen storm damage, balance the ecosystem, and support a local, multimillion-dollar ocean economy.



- Read the [full story](#).
- Watch [this video](#) about the marsh.

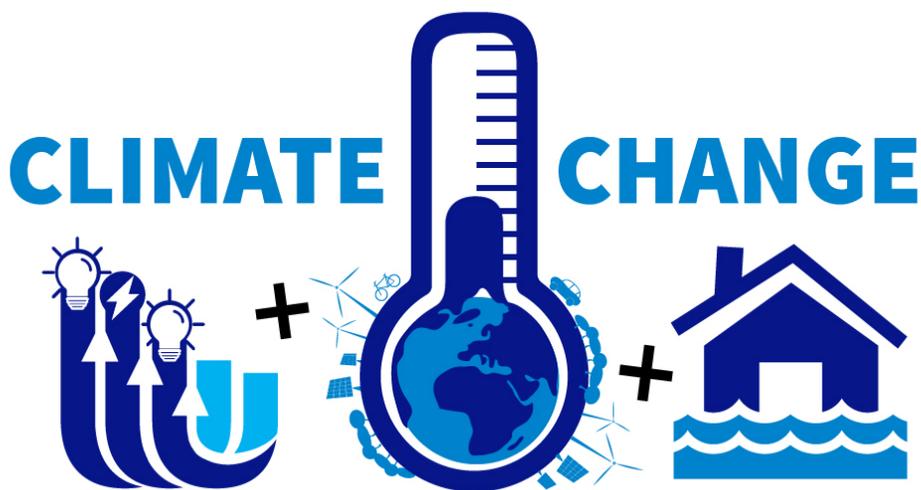
Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

Evaluate the Relationship between Community Goals and Policies

You want your community’s policies and regulations to facilitate development in a way that supports the area’s economic, environmental, and social goals. For most communities, some policies do a good job while others could use improvement. NOAA’s Digital Coast tool, the [Community Goals Scorecard](#), helps community leaders identify areas where changes could be made.

The scorecard evaluates planning regulations using 10 smart growth principles. Through a list of questions, such as whether daily shopping and service needs can be met in a central location without needing a car, the scorecard helps officials frame the situation. In the end, the actual score doesn’t matter. It’s all about finding the policy areas that need help.

Fast Facts



Temperatures Rise + Property Losses Increase +
Power Costs Rise + Crop Yields Decrease *



**If we continue on this path!*

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 there are others you'd like to see added.

Feedback, Please

We want to hear your ideas for how to improve the Digital Coast! Let us know by emailing coastal.info@noaa.gov.

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

NOAA's Digital Coast



NOAA Office for Coastal Management

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