DIGITAL COAST CONNECTIONS
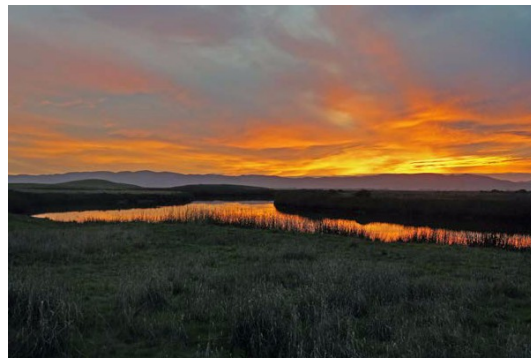
February 2018

New Data, New Resources

Digital Coast

- **"How To" Guidance** – [Considering Climate Change in Coastal Conservation](#)
- **Data** – 50 new data sets added to the data registry. See the [full list](#).
- **Quick Reference** – [Collaborating Your Way to Coastal Resilience](#)
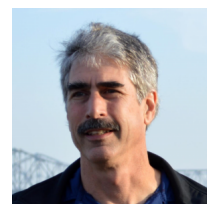
Office for Coastal Management

- **Video** – [Coral Reefs and the Economy](#)
- **Photos** – [Estuary Week Photo Contest Winners](#)
- **Photos** – [Coastal Management Photo Contest Winners](#)

Tech Topics

Drone Considerations
Digital Coast GeoZone Blog by Kirk Waters.

Many organizations are looking at unmanned aerial systems (UAS), or drones, to help get geospatial work accomplished. For the past year, I have used drones to evaluate a marsh mapping effort. While this exercise by no means makes me an expert, I do have some lessons to share. I'll mostly focus on where you can

get into trouble—if that tells you anything. Overall, the project was a success, but we did have some hiccups…

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[Read More](#)

</div>

Stories from Your Peers

Pre-Hurricane Work Can Make Post-Hurricane Life Better

When Hurricane Irma hit Georgia, Tybee Island residents and infrastructure were more prepared than in previous years, as the community had begun implementing a sea level rise adaptation plan. Recommendations for minimizing flooding and storm surge impacts included building living shorelines and installing tide gates at stormwater discharge points. FEMA recognized the benefits of the actions taken thus far, and rewarded the efforts with a $3 million, community-wide reduction in federal flood insurance premiums.

Georgia community saves $3 million on flood insurance

- See the full story [here](#).
- NOAA Digital Coast products and services used include the [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#) and various [training courses](#) focused on flood mapping and adaptation.

Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

Use a Tree Trench for Flooding Relief

A stormwater tree trench is a row of trees connected by an underground trench with gravel and soil. This natural infrastructure approach stores and filters stormwater, and works well in streets and parking lots that have limited space for stormwater runoff management.

Check out this publication, [Green Infrastructure Options to Reduce Flooding](#), to learn more about a stormwater tree trench and other flood-reducing techniques.

Contact [Lauren Long](#) for information about this and other natural infrastructure information materials and services.

Fast Facts

Aquaculture is Growing!

1.3 million jobs supporting a **$1.4 billion** industry feeding Americans **627 million** pounds of seafood - and more every year!

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.

News from our Partners

New Esri Products Help Communities Increase Resilience and Reduce Insurance Costs

In partnership with the Nature Conservancy, Esri has developed a suite of new products to help communities reduce their flood risk and make flood insurance more affordable through FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS). "Assess Open Space to Lower Flood Insurance Cost," a new lesson from Learn ArcGIS, shows how a South Carolina community used a CRS activity to provide homeowners with the biggest potential discount. The lesson provides a method for any community to use the newly released data set, "Open Space Preservation Activity 420 for FEMA's CRS," to identify land across the country that is likely eligible for open space credit. These products are accompanied by a story map that explains the economic and risk reduction benefits of open space preservation and an overview of the comprehensive suite of CRS resources developed by the Digital Coast Partnership. To learn more about other Digital Coast partner CRS products, visit the Nature Conservancy's Open Space page.

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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NOAA's Digital Coast

NOAA Office for Coastal Management

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