



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

You know what storm surge is and understand its potential to cause devastating losses. But what a lot of people don't realize is that storm surge can develop with any coastal storm, not just a hurricane.

The Digital Coast provides resources, such as the [Inundation Toolkit](#) and brand new "fast draw" [video](#), to help local officials prepare their constituencies for this fact of coastal life. Also helpful is the [Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper](#) and [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#), tools used to help people "see" their community's flooding potential. And for people wanting to be proactive, the green infrastructure [training](#) and related [video](#) provide a great place to start.

Unfortunately, flooding from storm surge is a real threat to all coastal residents. Most people are unaware of just how far inland this threat exists. We hope these tools will help you introduce a little more storm surge reality into your community planning efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Fauver". The signature is written in black ink on a light gray rectangular background.

Stephanie Fauver
Meteorologist
NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Storm Surge: It's Not Just from Hurricanes



Data Updates

New and Updated Data Sets

Elevation

- 2011 USGS/FEMA Lidar: King William County (VA)
- 2011 USGS/FEMA Lidar: Virginia Southern Cities
- 2011 USGS/FEMA Lidar: Virginia Southern Counties
- 2014 PSLC Lidar: City of Redmond (WA)

Land Cover

- 2005-2011 Hawaii Lanai High Res Land Cover Change
- 2011 Hawaii Lanai High Res Land Cover

Marine Habitat

- Regional Ecological Assessments (REA)

News from our Coastal Colleagues

Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

[Identifying Energy Infrastructure at Risk from Sea Level Rise](#)

The energy infrastructure of many major U.S. cities near the coast is threatened by sea level rise. To identify these threats, information from [the Digital Coast's Sea Level Rise Viewer](#) and the National Climate Assessment forecast was used to study four metropolitan cities. The resulting [report](#) predicts impacts for 2050 and 2100.

[Ensuring Safe Anchoring with Vessel Traffic Data in Florida](#)

Ship captains were concerned about the safety of anchorage areas near Jacksonville, Florida. A specific concern had to do with the possible presence of mines dating back to World War II. The captains worked with the U.S. Coast Guard and NOAA to ascertain the risk and find new anchorage data. Integral to this effort was the use of accurate information, including ship tracking data ([AIS data](#) from MarineCadastre.gov—also available through the Digital Coast), along with information about current anchorage areas, danger data, and

Register for the Coastal GeoTools Conference

Registration is [now open](#) for [Coastal GeoTools 2015](#). Join coastal professionals and geospatial specialists from a variety of sectors, and from around the country, to discuss geospatial data, tools, technology, and information for coastal resource management. Registration closes on March 27, 2015, for the conference held in North Charleston, South Carolina, March 30 to April 2, 2015. This year, GeoTools will feature its first Tweetup—where you'll be able to get together with fellow attendees to discuss the sessions and social media. View the [preliminary program](#) for more information.



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Send your product, personnel, or event news to Caitlyn.McCrary@noaa.gov. We'll include it in *Digital Coast Connections*, space permitting. For answers to additional questions, contact coastal.info@noaa.gov.

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Additional Updates

Calling all Visual Learners

The [Digital Coast Video Gallery](#) has helpful information for you and your staff and your community. Topics include

- Ocean and coastal economics
- Explaining storm surge
- Resilience tools
- Creating map mashups
- Ocean data – why 3d matters

If there is a topic you'd like to see covered here, please [let us know](#).

Training Calendar See the trainings that are coming up on the [trainings calendar](#).