

NOAA's Digital Coast has your coastal management resolutions covered to keep you on track.

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DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

Happy New Year! [NOAA's Digital Coast](#) is starting 2017 off with a renewed commitment to helping you stick to your coastal management resolutions. For example, if assessing flood risk is on your list, the [Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper](#) has you covered. Or if preparing your community for the threat of winter storms is a concern, [this GeoZone blog entry](#) will help.

If ever you feel your resolutions slipping, reach out and let us know. We want to help you stay on track.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hamilton Smillie".

Hamilton Smillie
Program Manager, Geospatial Solutions
NOAA Office for Coastal Management



Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

Assessing Gaps in Wetland Information to Strengthen Resilience

[NOAA's land cover](#) and [elevation data](#) are used to locate wetlands, predict wetland migration patterns and impacts from sea level rise, and see where the information gaps are located. See how partners in the Northern Gulf of Mexico [used these data](#) to directly influence project funding and monitoring plans.

Evaluating Restoration Effectiveness to Reduce Runoff and Protect Corals

Coral reefs are important ecosystems that are easily degraded by land-based runoff. While the source of the runoff is often easy to detect, evaluating the effectiveness of proposed mitigation techniques requires more work. [NOAA's OpenNSPECT](#) tool is useful for this

Data Updates

New and Updated Data Sets*

Birds

- Avian Abundance
- Avian Richness
- Individual Avian Species Abundance Models
- Individual Avian Species Occurrence Models

Elevation

- 2014 California Lidar
- 2015 Puerto Rico Lidar
- 2015 and 2016 Florida Lidar
- 2015 Rhode Island Lidar
- 2015 Maine and Massachusetts Lidar

Fish

- Individual Fish Species
- Individual Marine Mammals Species Models

Imagery

task. Managers in Puerto Rico [used this tool](#) to assess the effectiveness of hydroseeding within their coffee-growing region.

Additional Updates

High-Resolution Land Cover Data

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management is exploring the production of high-resolution land cover and is looking for state and local partners who would be interested in sharing the cost of producing these data. By working together, we can obtain the data at a discounted cost. Contact [NOAA](#) for details.

Be a Part of Improving the Digital Coast Website

The Digital Coast was just revamped, but we never stop trying to improve. Help us assess changes to the site. [Contact us](#) if you would like to participate in our usability testing.

Training Calendar

See what trainings are coming up in the [Training Calendar](#).

- 2014 Connecticut/Long Island Imagery
- 2014 Maine/New Hampshire Imagery
- 2014 Massachusetts/Rhode Island Imagery
- 2014 New York/New Jersey Imagery
- 2015 Washington Imagery
- 2015 and 2016 Michigan Imagery
- 2016 Minnesota Imagery

Marine Mammals and Turtles

- Individual Marine Mammal Species Models
- Marine Mammal Sound Sensitivity Abundance
- Marine Mammal Richness
- Marine Mammal Abundance
- North Atlantic Right Whale, June and December Abundance

See a [full list](#) of the new and updated data, or [subscribe to the data updates newsletter](#).

*Some data sets do not cover the entire state.

News from Our Coastal Colleagues

The Future of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation convened a [Water Summit](#) dedicated to “The Future of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.” Experts from New York to Minnesota gathered on Madeline Island in Lake Superior to examine past successes and challenges of the initiative and to have a frank conversation about the program’s future. The result is a [white paper](#) designed to provide the presidential transition teams

with context and analysis about the future of the initiative.



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