



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

The calendar year is coming to an end, but the Digital Coast continues to gain steam with regular additions of new tools and new information.

The [Lake Level Viewer](#) provides a good example. This new visualization tool lets users enter anticipated changes in water levels of the U.S. Great Lakes—plus or minus six feet—to see how shorelines may be impacted. Communities use this information to determine what preparations make the most sense for their situation.

Coastal land cover data just got even better with the addition of the new [C-CAP Coastal Comparison Tool](#). This interactive tool lets people compare land cover and land use practices between different coastal geographies.

The land cover data updates don't stop there! Regional reports are coming online, the newest one covering the [Southeast U.S.](#) These reports turn data into visualizations that make it easier to understand the land cover data, trends, and changes from one reporting period to the next. New [accuracy assessments](#) are also available to explain questions about data accuracy.

As the Digital Coast continues to grow, please don't hesitate to [give us a shout](#) if you need help understanding what is available to meet your needs. We are here to help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas Schmidt". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light gray rectangular box.

Nicholas Schmidt
Chief, Science and Geospatial Division
NOAA Office for Coastal Management



Data Updates

Update:

- Please note that our REST services URL has changed. Please update your bookmarks: <http://coast.noaa.gov/arcgis/rest/services> (REST map services allow the use of data through a URL instead of through download)

Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

[Mapping Ecosystem Habitats along the Lower Columbia River](#)

Despite the many ecosystem classification systems, few are able to integrate freshwater to estuarine gradients. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management and Sanborn got together to help the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership capitalize on the [C-CAP](#) approach to developing land cover maps that combine high-resolution land cover and elevation data sets. The result was a land cover classification map tailored to the Lower Columbia River and estuary.

[Assessing Climate Change and Coastal Hazards in Kaua'i](#)

The island of Kaua'i in Hawaii is vulnerable to a variety of coastal

News from our Coastal Colleagues

Hot Off the Press: Workbook for Climate Change Preparation

Guidance on how to conduct risk-based climate change vulnerability assessments and develop adaptation plans is available in a new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [workbook](#). *Being Prepared for Climate Change: A [Workbook](#) for Developing Risk-Based Adaptation Plans* helps users identify, analyze, and prioritize climate change risks. By consulting this publication to address climate change in their plans, users will be ready to protect environmental resources, public safety, and infrastructure.

Additional Updates

Insights into Coastal Management Needs

Every three years, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management takes an in-depth look at user needs, interests, and trends. In April, the most recent [report](#) was published. Take a look to see what the nation's coastal management community is thinking about and acting

hazards, yet the current Kaua'i General Plan did not identify climate change and sea level rise as threats. The County of Kaua'i Planning Department partnered with the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to conduct a climate change and coastal hazard assessment. Using data from NOAA's [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#), the group illustrated impacts on planning efforts and analyzed gaps in scientific data and planning information. All of this information was compiled and used to inform the Kaua'i General Plan update.

on in terms of coastal planning and development, conservation, and hazards.

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



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