



October 2022

New Data, New Resources



Digital Coast

- **Data** – See the [list of new and updated data sets](#). New elevation data is available for Alaska, Washington and Michigan. New imagery is available for Florida and Maine.



Office for Coastal Management

- **Deadline October 7, 2022** – Don't miss your chance to [submit your abstract](#) for Coastal GeoTools 2023.
- Search for inspiration in science writing. See examples and tips in the [September edition](#) of the *Coastal Communicators* newsletter.
- **Impact Story Database** – Explore the [list of stories](#) and use them in your communication efforts. The most recent stories are at the top.

Staff Picks

Great Lakes' Lake Level Viewer

About the Product: Water levels in the Great Lakes rise and fall, leading to erosion, flooding, and more. This tool allows users to “see” these increases and decreases.

Why Brandon Chose It: [This tool](#) gives users the same experience as NOAA's Sea Level Rise Viewer, but the focus is on the freshwater coasts. Pretty darn cool!

Secret Tip: The behind-the-scenes digital elevation models are also available. Fisheries biologists, for instance, used this package to identify nearshore structures fish may find appealing for spawning and habitat.

[Explore the data](#) behind the Lake Level Viewer, and [contact us](#) with any questions.



Tech Topics

Historical Hurricane Tracks Tool: 20 Years Later and Still Just as Relevant

Twenty years ago, the director of the National Hurricane Center called the NOAA Office for Coastal Management with a wish list. At the top of the list was a new tool that could show hurricane track data along with the corresponding details. A four-month timeline was also part of the request. Done! While that first version ([Historical Hurricane Tracks](#)) looks nothing like today's, the basic concept continues and demand continues to rise.

Meteorologists and the public are always interested in this tool, but there are other uses. Historical hurricane data, for instance, improves the reliability of the SLOSH model (Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes). Understanding which direction a majority of the storms came from helps scientists target their models accordingly.

See how they did it in this [story from the field](#). If you have questions, email the staff at this address: coastal.info@noaa.gov.

Stories from Your Peers

NOAA-Supported Series Brings First-Generation College Students into the Fold

One study shows that first-generation college students are four times more likely than second-generation students to drop out of college before the end of their freshman year. Students in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines can feel especially isolated.

To help address this issue, Claudia Mazur (a Margaret A. Davidson fellow, pictured here) worked with another student to create the “Step into STEM” workshop. The workshop featured several first-

generation students as presenters, and included a career panel and tips for applying to colleges, writing a resume, making a personal statement, and making the most of the college experience. (Note: This fellowship program is associated with the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.)

- Read the [full story](#).



Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

Creative Funding Sources

In Texas, community leaders wanted to transform a defunct golf course into a stormwater detention pond. Because the full plan included hiking and biking paths, open space, native landscaping, and more, planners were able to get creative with the funding, financing, and maintenance sources, tapping into additional sources that otherwise would have been unavailable. Community involvement early on also meant the public was excited to volunteer their time for this project.

Learn more about the successful Exploration Green project in this [case study](#). If you have questions, email us at coastal.info@noaa.gov.

Fast Facts

Wetland Benefits

\$625 million in damages prevented.



Information provided by The Nature Conservancy

This is just one of the many coastal management [fast facts and graphics](#) provided for your use. [Read the list](#) and let us know if there are others you'd like to see added.

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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