

Our hearts go out to the millions who are suffering as a result of the devastation inflicted by the recent hurricanes. A special edition of this newsletter will be available in the next few days to direct communities to data, tools, and training that will be helpful as they work to get on their feet again. Please [reach out to us](#) if you need help finding a particular resource.



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

[National estuarine research reserves](#) are living laboratories, ideal for research and long-term monitoring. Celebrate [National Estuaries Week](#) by exploring all the data and research the reserves have to offer.

The [System-Wide Monitoring Program](#) provides long-term data on water quality, weather, biological communities, habitat, and land-use and land-cover characteristics that anyone can access. [Research at the reserves](#) focuses on how environmental factors impact coastal ecosystems. One way this is accomplished is through the [Science Collaborative](#), which involves local people who need the science and allows them to design and carry out each project.

Celebrate [National Estuaries Week](#) at an event “NERR” you!

Sincerely,

Erica Seiden
Program Manager, Ecosystem and NERRS Program
NOAA Office for Coastal Management



Photo Credit: Paula Gillikin

Digital Coast Stories and Impacts

Data and Tools in Action

Assessing the Value of Nature's Benefits

While many people love to say that nature is priceless, creating an actual economic valuation helps managers assess the tradeoffs of growing a city and investing wisely. Starting with [NOAA's land cover data](#) allows managers to see what types of land cover exist and assign a value to each land cover class. This assessment quantifies the value of ecosystem services and aids in policy and planning discussions. Learn about the [process used](#) for the St. Louis River Watershed.

Using Coastal Inundation Scenarios to Advance Community Resilience

Adaption techniques are needed to

Additional Updates

Photo Contest: What Is Coastal Management?

In celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, NOAA is hosting a [photo contest](#). What picture do you see when you think "coastal management"? Whether the subject is protecting the coast, beautiful wetlands, public access to beaches, or visiting the national estuarine research reserves, we want to see your photos that answer the question, "What is Coastal Management?" Submit photos by September 30, 2017, to be eligible.

Submit a Proposal for the Coastal Management Fellowship Program

State coastal management programs can now [submit a proposal](#) for a fellowship project for the 2018-2020 cycle. The projects must address one

protect coastal communities from storms, sea level rise, and coastal flooding impacts. By combining data from [NOAA's Sea Level Rise Viewer](#) with local data on natural resources, public facilities, and infrastructure locations, users can integrate sea level rise and flooding scenarios into local planning. This assessment can help managers prioritize risk and vulnerability adaptation projects. [The technique](#) was used in coastal Massachusetts.

Data

New and Updated Data Sets

Elevation

- 2015 Hawaii
- 2015 Idaho
- 2014 Louisiana
- 2015 Oregon
- 2002 Virginia and Maryland
- 2014 Washington
- 2015 Washington

Imagery

- 2016 Connecticut
- 2017 East Coast
- 2016 Great Lakes
- 2017 Gulf Coast
- 2014 Hurricane Arthur
- 2010 Hurricane Earl
- 2011 Hurricane Irene
- 2012 Hurricane Isaac
- 2016 Hurricane Matthew
- 2012 Hurricane Sandy
- 2016 Louisiana Flooding

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

*Some data sets do not cover the entire state.

of three topic areas: healthy coastal ecosystems, resilient coastal communities, or vibrant and sustainable coastal economies. Proposals are due by October 13, 2017, and projects will be chosen by November 13, 2017.

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](#).

News from Our Coastal Colleagues

Social Coast Forum Abstract Submission Open

Discover the world of social science for coastal management at the Social Coast Forum, February 5 to 8, 2018, in Charleston, South Carolina. Explore lessons learned, find out about recent efforts, and network with amazing researchers and managers. [Submit your abstract](#) before September 29, 2017, to share your social science lessons learned.



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