



Coastal Community Resilience

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Background

Six communities:

- Garibaldi
- Depoe Bay
- Newport
- Florence
- Port Orford
- Gold Beach



Research Focus

What are the main ways in which coastal communities in Oregon and elsewhere exhibit resilience to external stressors such as policy or environmental change?

Methods

Embedded case study
research design

Community Profiles

Literature Review

Key Informants and
Interviews

Coding

Case Study Narratives

Cross Case Analysis

A large, multi-arched concrete bridge spans across a body of water. The bridge features a decorative balustrade with arched openings along its top edge. Below the bridge, the water is calm, reflecting the sky. In the background, a marina is visible with several boats docked. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking through the arches of the bridge.

Preliminary Results

Stressors:

Natural resource decline

Increasing regulation

Changing demographics

Public infrastructure disrepair

Lack of access to social services





Responses:

Economic diversification

Seeking grants

Lobbying for policy changes

Shed services/ Privatization

Hopelessness/ Apathy

Flight

Barriers

- Lack of economic diversity
- Lack of community cohesion
- Leadership/ Volunteer burnout
- Lack of family wage jobs
- Geographic isolation
- Size/ population of community



Capacity

Leadership

Draw of natural amenities

Leveraging of resources

Sense of place

Community cohesion





Discussion

Salience of Stressors

I think for me it is, cause I care about the environmental stuff, and those things are really big deals, but...when people come in and 'I need a meal,' that is where your head goes first, like feeding and clothing and jobs.”

Gold beach decision to place hospital in the tsunami zone

Discussion points

1. Salience of Stressors
2. Tension between Capacity and Barriers
3. The “Two” Coasts

Tension between capacity and barriers

1. Volunteers - “And in some ways [volunteerism] is so great ...but again, that takes down the number of paid positions for the rest of us. It does, so it works both ways.”
1. Sense of place, holding on to identity as resource extractive communities

The “Two” Coasts

“... everything that makes this place great to live in if you have means makes it horrible to live in if you don't.”



Who's defining Resilience?

Coastal Community

“We’re surviving and we’re surviving...”

Academic Community

a process linking a set of adaptive capacities to a positive trajectory of functioning and adaptation after a disturbance

-Norris 130

The ability of individuals and communities to deal with a state

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Thank You

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Photo Credit: Stanley Chen

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