

CZMA CLIMATE CHANGE AND COASTAL HAZARDS E-NEWS UPDATE #14

The Coastal Programs Division of NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management distributes the CZMA Climate Change and Coastal Hazards E-News Update to keep state and territory coastal program managers and climate change/coastal hazards staff informed about climate change (as it pertains to coastal hazards) and coastal hazards activities. If you would like to receive the Climate Change and Coastal Hazards E-News Update, please e-mail christa.rabenold@noaa.gov. For previous issues, see the E-News Update archive at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/news/climatenewsletter.html>.

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NOAA UPDATES

NOAA Releases Hurricane and Oil Spill Fact Sheet

http://response.restoration.noaa.gov/book_shelf/2076_hurricanes_oil.pdf

NOAA has released “Hurricanes and the Oil Spill” (2 pp.) to answer questions about the impact a hurricane could have on the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and vice-versa. Questions include: What will happen to a hurricane that runs through this oil slick? What will the hurricane do to the oil slick in the Gulf? Will the oil slick help or hurt a storm from developing in the Gulf? and, Will the hurricane pull up the oil that is below the surface of the Gulf?

Podcast Highlights Role of NOS in Hurricane Planning and Response

http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/podcast/supp_jun10.html

The National Ocean Services’ (NOS) “Making Waves” is a weekly audio podcast on the latest NOS news and information. The June 10th episode is the annual hurricane season episode and discusses some of the ways that NOS contributes to hurricane planning and response.

CO-OPS Releases Report on U.S. Sea Level Variations

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/publications/Tech_rpt_53.pdf

“Sea Level Variations of the United States 1854-2006” (194 pp.) analyzes monthly mean sea level data for 128 long-term National Water Level Observation Network stations of NOAA’s Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS). All available data through 2006 were used to determine linear trends, average seasonal cycles, and interannual variability, including estimated errors. The linear trends are relative mean sea level trends, which are a combination of the absolute global rate of sea level rise (1.7 +/- 0.5 mm/yr in the 20th century) and the rate of any local vertical land motion.

CSC Updates Digital Coast Website

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>

The NOAA Coastal Services Center recently upgraded its Digital Coast website to include improved graphics, search functionality, and updated filters for narrowing down content within pages. Additions and improvements include a video tour of Digital Coast, coastal socioeconomic data from the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis, and an archive of recent updates.

Strategic Plan Guides Tsunami Preparedness and Mitigation

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/>

The National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, led by NOAA’s National Weather Service, is a federal-state partnership designed to reduce the impact of tsunamis on U.S. coastal communities. The program’s 2009-2013 strategic plan (35 pp.) describes how the program will help coastal communities improve their preparedness and mitigation efforts. Anticipated outcomes include reduction of loss of life and property damage; successful execution of tsunami mapping, modeling, mitigation, planning, and education efforts; tsunami inundation maps that support informed decision making; tsunami evacuation maps that support effective preparedness and response; and establishment of more tsunami resilient communities.

CSC Relaunches Coastal Climate Adaptation Website

<http://collaborate.csc.noaa.gov/climateadaptation/> (note new address)

The NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) has relaunched its Coastal Climate Adaptation website to include new functionalities for uploading and locating resources and additional opportunities to engage in discussions

about climate-related solutions. Resource categories include Adaptation and Action Plans, Case Studies and Strategies, Climate Change Science and Impacts, Guidance and Guidebooks, Risk and Vulnerability Assessments, and Stakeholder Engagement. Designed as a community of practice, CSC asks you to contribute to the website by uploading your resources, sharing your thoughts and asking questions in the forum, and posting upcoming events to the calendar.

OTHER FEDERAL UPDATES

FEMA and APA Release Book on Integrating Hazard Mitigation into Planning

http://www.fema.gov/library/file?type=publishedFile&file=pas_560_final.pdf&fileid=5b3d7510-8a08-11df-af73-001cc4568fb6

“Hazard Mitigation: Integrating Best Practices into Planning” (156 pp.), prepared by the American Planning Association (APA) and supported by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), seeks to close the gap between hazard mitigation planning and other local planning and regulatory land use processes. It introduces hazard mitigation as a vital area of practice for planners; provides guidance on how to integrate hazard mitigation strategies into comprehensive, area, and functional plans; and shows where hazard mitigation can fit into zoning and subdivision codes. Best practices and practical applications are provided. Hard copies are available for purchase from the APA at <http://www.planning.org/apastore/Search/Default.aspx?p=4068>.

FEMA Revises Community Rating System Credits for Coastal A Zone

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/CRS/> (not currently posted)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has revised how the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) credits communities that enforce regulations in Coastal A Zones that exceed those required by the NFIP. Specifically, the CRS encourages local governments to adopt regulations that require construction in the Coastal A Zone to comply with the more stringent requirements applied in V Zones. Up to 250 points are now available where all V-Zone standards are enforced in the Coastal A Zone. Additional points are available where V-Zone construction standards are extended landward of the Coastal A Zone. To get a copy of “CRS Credit for Areas with Moderate Wave Action and Coastal A Zones” (6 pp.), which explains the revised credits, e-mail christa.rabenold@noaa.gov.

Supreme Court Rules for State in Takings Case

<http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/09pdf/08-1151.pdf>

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the State of Florida in a case that challenged the state law establishing nourished beaches as public property. In “Stop the Beach Renourishment, Inc. v. Florida Department of Environmental Protection,” the court concluded that the Florida Supreme Court did not take the plaintiffs’ property without just compensation.

FEMA Releases Guidance for 2011 Mitigation Grant Programs

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=4225>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) “Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program Guidance” (176 pp.) represents the unification of all five of the agency’s hazard mitigation grant programs into one guidance document. These programs, which provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages, are the Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Severe Repetitive Loss, Flood Mitigation Assistance, Repetitive Flood Claims programs (nondisaster programs), and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Applications for the nondisaster programs

are due to FEMA by December 3, 2010. (Check with your state's emergency management agency for details on state deadlines and procedures).

FEMA Clarifies Position: NFIP Covers Oil in Floodwater

<http://www.nfipiservice.com/stakeholder/pdf/bulletin/w-10065a.pdf>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued a program bulletin to clarify its position on oil mixed with floodwater as it pertains to National Flood Insurance Program coverage. According to the bulletin, damage caused by oil in floodwater is covered subject to the provisions of individual policies. Parameters of the coverage, which include policy limits for residential policies, are further outlined in the bulletin.

EPA Releases Report from Southeast Climate Change Adaptation Planning Workshop

http://epa.gov/region4/clean_energy/Task.5.Report.05.10.2010.pdf

In May, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a report (36 pp.) summarizing the discussions from February's Southeast Climate Change Adaptation Planning Workshop. The goals of the workshop were to foster adaptation planning in the Southeast and to serve as a potential model for other regions. Emphasis was placed on exploring, understanding, and overcoming barriers to adaptation planning and action.

EPA Funds Available for Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Planning

http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of up to \$550,000 to facilitate, communicate, and put in motion tribal climate change adaptation planning. The agency expects to award approximately one to three cooperative agreements ranging from approximately \$50,000 to \$150,000 per year for up to five years. EPA is requesting proposals to provide direct training, technical assistance, and outreach aimed at increasing and enhancing tribal expertise in adaptation planning and climate change risk communication. Federally recognized Indian tribal governments and intertribal consortia, among others, are eligible. The application deadline is July 30, 2010.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Maryland Launches New CoastSmart Communities Online Resource Center

<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/CoastSmart>

The Maryland Chesapeake and Coastal Program has launched a new CoastSmart Communities Online Resource Center to support its CoastSmart initiative and to help communities and businesses address risks associated with coastal hazards and the potential increased impacts of those hazards due to climate change. The site brings information, planning tools, and financial resources together into a single location making them more accessible to local partners and other users. Highlights of the new site include web-based planning tools, storm surge inundation and sea level rise maps, training programs, outreach materials, and grant information.

Rhode Island Adds Hazards Chapter to Metro Bay SAMP

http://www.crmc.ri.gov/regulations_adopted/090809_MBSAMP_Hazards.pdf

Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Management Program has completed a hazards chapter for its Metro Bay Special Area Management Plan (SAMP). The intent of "Natural Hazards: Hurricanes, Floods, and Sea Level Rise in the Metro Bay Region Special Area Management Plan" (62 pp.) is to advise state agencies, local governments, and the public on the relevant coastal hazard issues in the Metro Bay region and propose

recommendations, including policy and regulation changes as well as other actions, to effectively address and mitigate those hazards.

Oregon Releases Supplementary Geologic Report Guidelines

<http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/OCMP/Publications.shtml>

The Oregon Coastal Management Program and the state's interagency Coastal Processes and Hazards Working Group have released two new sets of guidelines for geological reports. The new guidelines list geologic factors, analyses, and recommendations that should be included in geologic reports for new development on oceanfront property, as well as property close enough to the ocean to be influenced by coastal geomorphology and ocean-caused erosion (4 pp.) and considerations to be included in geologic reports for oceanfront shoreline protective structures (2 pp.).

Massachusetts Provides New Resource for Coastal Landscaping

http://www.mass.gov/czm/coastal_landscaping/

A new Coastal Landscaping website from the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management provides information about the benefits of coastal landscaping, including erosion and storm damage reduction; instructions for landscaping coastal banks, beaches, and dunes; tips for planting, installation, and maintenance; plant lists; sample landscape plans; permitting information; and more.

Western Governors Adopt Scoping Report on Climate Change Priorities

http://www.westgov.org/index.php?option=com_wga&view=reports&Itemid=54

“Western Governors’ Association Climate Adaptation Priorities for the Western States: Scoping Report” (20 pp.) is a product of the Western Governors Association’s (WGA) Climate Adaptation Work Group. The report emphasizes the need for coordination between state and federal efforts to identify key science that is Western specific and to begin sharing and implementing smart practices. More specifically, it identifies ways that Western states can begin to incorporate “smart” climate adaptation into resource management and decision making, provides a broad overview of the science currently available to help states make necessary decisions for adaptation planning and includes recommendations for improvements, and identifies basic principles of importance to Western states that should be considered in any federal legislation that addresses climate adaptation.

New York City Releases Climate Change Adaptation Report

<http://www.nyas.org/Publications/Annals/Detail.aspx?cid=ab9d0f9f-1cb1-4f21-b0c8-7607daa5dfcc>

The New York City Panel on Climate Change has released a major new report, “Climate Change Adaptation in New York City: Building a Risk Management Response” (354 pp.), that outlines the need for early and ongoing adaptation actions in New York City and identifies best practices in climate change adaptation planning. The report, which is published in the “Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences” includes New York City-specific climate change projections, tools to help entities identify climate vulnerabilities and develop adaptation strategies, and recommendations on how to foster an effective climate resilience program.

Case Study Illustrates Adaptation Planning Efforts in Homer, Alaska

http://www.icleiusa.org/blog/action-center/learn-from-others/ICLEI_case%20study_Homer_adaptation.pdf

ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability has released a brief case study as part of an effort to help local governments learn from early pioneers on climate adaptation planning. “Homer, Alaska’s Climate Adaptation Progress Despite Uncertainties” (4 pp.) discusses how Homer identified climate impacts, set adaptation actions and priorities, and took advantage of initiatives that addressed both climate mitigation and adaptation.

Island Press and EcoAdapt Launch New Online Source for Adaptation Information

<http://www.cakex.org/>

The Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE) is a joint project of Island Press and EcoAdapt. It is designed as a shared knowledge base for managing natural systems in the face of rapid climate change and aims to help users by vetting and clearly organizing the best information available, building a community via an interactive online platform, creating a directory of practitioners to share knowledge and strategies, and identifying and explaining data tools and information available from other sites.

ASFPM Releases Climate Change Policy Statement

http://www.floods.org/ace-files/documentlibrary/National_Policy/ASFPM_Climate_Change_Policy_Statement_2010.pdf

In May, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) released “Priorities for Climate Change Adaptation: ASFPM Policy Statement,” formally extending their support for efforts to reduce the risk of loss of life and property due to floods to those events attributable to or exacerbated by climate change. ASFPM’s focus is on promoting adaptation and is developing an organizational whitepaper on climate change adaptation, anticipated in late 2010.

New Tool Guides Adaptation Planning for Arctic and Northern Communities

<http://ccrm.cier.ca/>

“Managing the Risks of Climate Change: A Guide for Arctic and Northern Communities” is a new tool from the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. The guide, which is available as an interactive website and as a downloadable document (109 pp.), was specifically written to address the unique conditions in Canada’s North. It is intended to encourage communities to be more proactive in finding ways to adapt to a changing and more variable climate.

CONFERENCES, TRAININGS, EVENTS

Deltas in Times of Climate Change

Rotterdam, the Netherlands

September 29–October 1, 2010

<http://www.climatedeltaconference.org/nl/25222734-Home.html>

Share Your Thoughts

If you have news that you would like to include in future updates or suggestions about the type of information you would like to see here, please e-mail christa.rabenold@noaa.gov.

About the CZMA Climate Change and Coastal Hazards E-News Update

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