

CZMA CLIMATE CHANGE AND COASTAL HAZARDS E-NEWS UPDATE #25

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>.

In this Issue:**NOAA UPDATES**

- Extreme Weather in 2011 Sets U.S. Record—UPDATED
- Journal Article Demonstrates Methodology for Assessing Impact of Sea Level Rise on Storm Surge
- CSC Updates Coastal County Snapshots Tool
- CSC Adds New Coastal Lidar Data to the Digital Coast
- NCDC Updates Climate Data Online Service
- NOAA Climate Services Portal Features Climate Change Video Series
- Climate Ready Great Lakes Training Modules Available for Download

OTHER FEDERAL UPDATES

- EPA's Climate Ready Estuaries Publishes Annual Progress Report
- Survey Examines Resilience of Coastal Communities to Tsunamis
- FEMA Independent Study Course Supports Local and Tribal Mitigation Planning
- FEMA Publication Guides Retrofitting of Flood-Prone Homes
- Report Highlights Lessons of FEMA-Led Long-Term Community Recovery Efforts
- FEMA Fact Sheet Highlights Role of Mitigation Post-Disaster
- Report Examines "State of FEMA"
- Report Updates Summary of Federal Climate Change Adaptation Activities

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- Rhode Island Coastal Construction Project Featured on "This Old House"
- Web Portal Supports Permitting in American Samoa
- New Tool Kit Aims to Facilitate Sea Level Rise Adaptation in Hawaii
- Regional Partners Approve Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for San Diego Bay
- Virginia County Endorses Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan
- Report Evaluates Building Codes in Hurricane-Prone States
- Guidebook Provides Methodology for Adaptation Planning

CONFERENCES, TRAININGS, EVENTS

- Gulf of Mexico Alliance StormSmart Training Webinars
- Flood Safety Awareness Week
- Hurricanes: Science and Society Webinar: Hurricane Observation and Forecasting
- Webinar: Community Rating System Manual Changes
- Tsunami Preparedness Week
- Disasters Roundtable: Integrating Disaster Recovery—What Should Long-Term Disaster Recovery Look Like

- 2012 National Hurricane Conference
- Association of State Floodplain Managers 2012 Conference: Mission Mitigation
- American Shore & Beach Preservation Association 2012 National Coastal Conference
- In Case You Missed It: Recorded Webinars

NOAA UPDATES

Extreme Weather in 2011 Sets U.S. Record—UPDATED

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2012/20120119_global_stats.html - NEW

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2011/20111207_novusstats.html

<http://www.noaa.gov/extreme2011/index.html>

NOAA has revised the number of weather/climate disasters in 2011 that surpassed the \$1 billion damage threshold, increasing the billion-dollar disaster count from 12 to 14 events, including Tropical Storm Lee. This record-setting year saw an aggregate damage total of approximately \$55 billion and an estimated 669 lives lost.

Journal Article Demonstrates Methodology for Assessing Impact of Sea Level Rise on Storm Surge

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/p85t032723506176/>

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/inundation/longisland.htm>

In “Assessing Future Risk: Quantifying the Effects of Sea Level Rise on Storm Surge Risk for the Southern Shores of Long Island, New York” (“Natural Hazards” 60 (2), 19 pp.) researchers applied a GIS-based approach to quantify potential changes in storm surge risk due to sea level rise on Long Island, New York. The article demonstrates a method for combining hazard exposure and community vulnerability to spatially characterize risk for present and future sea level conditions using commonly available national data sets. It was authored by the Nature Conservancy, the NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC), and the Association of State Floodplain Managers. A case study of the project upon which this article is based is available from CSC’s Digital Coast website.

CSC Updates Coastal County Snapshots Tool

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

Coastal County Snapshots from the NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) provide a quick look at a county’s flood exposure, ocean economy, and benefits from wetlands using easy-to-understand charts and graphs. The snapshots have been recently updated and now incorporate data from the 2010 Census and 2009 “Economics: National Ocean Watch” as well as 2009 nonemployer statistics and best available national floodplain data.

CSC Adds New Coastal Lidar Data to the Digital Coast

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

The NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) has added new coastal lidar data to the Digital Coast that cover portions of Florida, California, Louisiana, Georgia, North Carolina, and Oregon. Data sources include the U.S. Geological Survey, National Geodetic Survey, California Coastal Conservancy, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

NCDC Updates Climate Data Online Service

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/search>

NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) has released an updated version of its Climate Data Online service. Climate Data Online provides access to climate data products through a searchable web mapping service. A variety of NCDC products are available, including the Global Historical Climatology Network—

Daily, a composite of climate records from numerous sources, and the new 1981-2010 Normals (annual, monthly, daily, and hourly).

NOAA Climate Services Portal Features Climate Change Video Series

<http://www.climate.gov/#climateWatch/videos>

“Climate Change: Impacts, Solutions, and Perceptions” is an eight-session video series available through the NOAA Climate Services Portal. The series, sponsored by the NOAA Climate Program Office and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, provides a detailed introduction to climate science. Experts present information about climate change communication, the state of the climate, mitigation and adaptation, the difference between weather and climate, and more.

Climate Ready Great Lakes Training Modules Available for Download

http://www.regions.noaa.gov/great_lakes/climate_ready.html

NOAA’s Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Team and the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network sponsored the development of three Climate Ready Great Lakes training modules. Modules address impacts of climate change, planning processes and strategies for adapting to these impacts, and tools and information to help communities prepare for climate change. Each module consists of a presentation with notes and can be tailored to specific communities.

OTHER FEDERAL UPDATES

EPA’s Climate Ready Estuaries Publishes Annual Progress Report

<http://epa.gov/cre/downloads/2011-CRE-Progress-Report.pdf>

EPA has released “Climate Ready Estuaries: 2011 Progress Report” (24 pp.), which describes program accomplishments as well as the new National Estuary Program projects launched during 2011. It also uses examples of recent (2008–2010) Climate Ready Estuaries projects to show how the risk management paradigm can be used for climate change adaptation.

Survey Examines Resilience of Coastal Communities to Tsunamis

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/documents/NTHMPSurveyReportFinal5-04-11.pdf>

“Results for the Tsunami Planning and Hazard Mitigation Survey” (157 pp.) presents the results of an assessment of the progress toward the goal of adequately prepared and tsunami resilient coastal communities in the United States. The survey, conducted under the auspices of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, focused on local governments that have coastal exposure and a documented risk of tsunami inundation. Information was collected on organizational demographics, public education, response planning, exercises and training, mitigation, signaling devices, hazard and evacuation signage, and TsunamiReady status.

FEMA Independent Study Course Supports Local and Tribal Mitigation Planning

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is318.asp>

FEMA has updated its independent study course “Mitigation Planning for Local and Tribal Communities.” The goals of the course are to help participants understand the hazard mitigation planning process to meet community needs and fulfill federal requirements for local and tribal hazard mitigation plans and to help federal and state plan reviewers interpret the regulations to inform the review of such plans. Course length is estimated at 12 hours.

FEMA Publication Guides Retrofitting of Flood-Prone Homes

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1645>

FEMA has updated its “Engineering Principles and Practices of Retrofitting Flood-Prone Residential Structures” (510 pp.) to help local governments, engineers, architects, and property owners involved in planning and implementing residential flood retrofitting projects. The publication provides engineering design and economic guidance on what constitutes feasible and cost-effective retrofitting measures for flood-prone residential structures. It discusses elevation, relocation, dry floodproofing, wet floodproofing, and levees and floodwalls. Appendices include sources of FEMA funding and a summary of National Flood Insurance Program requirements and best practices.

Report Highlights Lessons of FEMA-Led Long-Term Community Recovery Efforts

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/rebuild/ltrc/2011_report.pdf

Since it officially became an emergency support function (ESF) in late 2004, ESF #14 Long-Term Community Recovery has worked with more than 180 communities across 23 states, two Indian tribal governments, and Puerto Rico. FEMA’s “Lessons in Community Recovery: Seven Years of Emergency Support Function #14 Long-Term Community Recovery from 2004 to 2011” (76 pp.) draws on the experiences of ESF #14 to give examples and practical lessons for all audiences seeking to better prepare for disasters. It also documents the progression of ESF #14 support to communities over the past seven years, noting the elements of successful recovery, challenges encountered, and lessons learned.

FEMA Fact Sheet Highlights Role of Mitigation Post-Disaster

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3030>

“The Role of Mitigation Post-Disaster” (2 pp.) describes how FEMA’s mitigation programs are engaged in post-disaster operations and activities.

Report Examines “State of FEMA”

http://www.fema.gov/about/state_of_fema/

“2012 State of FEMA” (44 pp.) highlights the agency’s accomplishments for the year, including responding to a record 98 major disaster declarations. It also includes discussions on FEMA’s strategic priorities, programs and missions, and how the “whole community” approach has strengthened collaboration with partners to better prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate hazards.

Report Updates Summary of Federal Climate Change Adaptation Activities

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/federal-agencies-adaptation.pdf>

“Climate Change Adaptation: What Federal Agencies Are Doing” (71 pp.) from the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (formerly the Pew Center on Global Climate Change) is an updated report that summarizes how federal agencies are considering climate change adaptation in their initiatives and strategies, programs and institutional mechanisms, and tools and resources. It includes several examples of federal projects that incorporate impacts of climate change and adaptation into the planning, design, and implementation process.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Rhode Island Coastal Construction Project Featured on “This Old House”

<http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/tv/video>

The current season of the PBS program “This Old House” features the remodeling of a coastal home in Barrington, Rhode Island. In episode 18, the executive director of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources

Management Council discusses the importance of siting decisions in protecting coastal construction from flooding and erosion. Episode 19 highlights construction methods that can protect structures from the elements and includes a visit to the University of Florida's Hurricane Research Lab. Both episodes are available online.

Web Portal Supports Permitting in American Samoa

<http://202.70.115.216/LandUse/>

The American Samoa Land Use Permitting Portal is a compilation of data related to land use from the territory's Department of Commerce, Environmental Protection Agency, and Power Authority. As part of the permitting process, users are encouraged to use this data to visually verify existing setbacks and hazard zones when looking into possible development locations. The portal was developed by the American Samoa Department of Commerce in partnership with the NOAA Coastal Services Center.

New Tool Kit Aims to Facilitate Sea Level Rise Adaptation in Hawaii

<http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/sea-level-rise-and-coastal-land-use-hawaii-policy-tool-kit-state-and-local-governments>

The University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program's Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy has released "Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Land Use in Hawaii: A Policy Tool Kit for State and Local Governments" (84 pp.) to facilitate sea level rise adaptation in Hawaii. The kit includes land use policy tools that the state and local governments should consider in efforts to address sea level rise. It also proposes three major actions that would expand scientific research, establish a lead agency for statewide adaptation planning, and incorporate sea level rise (one foot by 2050, three feet by 2100) into decision-making processes. An action matrix identifies lead agencies, proposes time frames, and ranks tools based on impact and feasibility.

Regional Partners Approve Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for San Diego Bay

http://www.icleiusa.org/climate_and_energy/Climate_Adaptation_Guidance/san-diego-bay-sea-level-rise-adaptation-strategy-1/san-diego-bay-sea-level-rise-adaptation-strategy

The "Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for San Diego Bay" (133 pp.) resulted from a broad collaboration of stakeholders that included the local governments around San Diego Bay, the Port of San Diego, and the San Diego Airport Authority. Project partners included ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, the San Diego Foundation, and the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve Coastal Training Program. The document, which will serve as the foundation for coordinated adaptation planning among participating local jurisdictions, consists of two main components: a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and broad recommendations for building resilience.

Virginia County Endorses Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/pdrp/pdrp-plan.pdf>

With funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Fairfax County, Virginia, has developed a pre-disaster recovery plan (352 pp.) to better prepare for and manage disaster recovery. The plan provides high-level objectives, strategies, and coordination for the pre- and post-disaster environments to expedite successful recovery and redevelopment. It addresses long-term community recovery planning, housing restoration and reconstruction, economic recovery, infrastructure restoration and reconstruction, continued provision of public safety, continued provision of community services, and protection of natural and cultural resources.

Report Evaluates Building Codes in Hurricane-Prone States

<http://www.disastersafety.org/research/article?articleId=6923>

The Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety has released a report that provides an analysis of residential building codes in 18 hurricane-prone states along the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Coasts. "Rating

the States: An Assessment of Residential Building Codes and Enforcement Systems for Life Safety and Property Protection in Hurricane Prone Regions” (20 pp.) includes information about the value of codes, an overview of the building code process, information about the vulnerability of hurricane-prone states, a state-by-state analysis, and the codes currently in effect in each state.

Guidebook Provides Methodology for Adaptation Planning

<http://www.climatestrategies.us/articles/articles/view/40/>

The Center for Climate Strategies has released “Comprehensive Climate Action: An Adaptation Guidebook” (124 pp.) to complement and translate its mitigation policy development methodology to the adaptation policy arena. Drawing from subnational and national efforts to develop climate adaptation plans, the guidebook details a methodology for developing and implementing an adaptation strategy at the multi-state, state, regional, or local levels. It provides a stepwise process for developing, implementing, and measuring areas, sectors, and services anticipated to be most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

CONFERENCES, TRAININGS, EVENTS

Gulf of Mexico Alliance StormSmart Training Webinars

<http://stormsmart.org/webinars/> (Gulf-centric, but all welcome)

Before the Storm (Part 2): March 8, 2012

Before the Storm (Part 3): March 22, 2012

During and After the Storm: April 5, 2012

Flood Safety Awareness Week

<http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/>

March 12-16, 2012

Hurricanes: Science and Society Webinar: Hurricane Observation and Forecasting

<http://www.hurricanesociety.org/resources/webinar2012/>

March 13, 2012

Webinars: Community Rating System Manual Changes

<http://www.crs2012.org/outreach-and-feedback/webinar-schedule>

Ongoing

Disasters Roundtable: Integrating Disaster Recovery—What Should Long-Term Disaster Recovery Look Like

<http://dels.nas.edu/Upcoming-Event/Disasters-Roundtable-Workshop-Integrating-Disaster/AUTO-5-01-38-N>

March 21, 2012

Washington, DC (webcast available)

Tsunami Preparedness Week

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/taw/tsunami-awareness-week.html>

March 25-31, 2012

2012 National Hurricane Conference

<http://hurricanemeeting.com/>

March 26-29, 2012

Orlando, Florida

Association of State Floodplain Managers 2012 Conference: Mission Mitigation

<http://asfpmconference.org/>

May 20-25, 2012

San Antonio, Texas

American Shore & Beach Preservation Association 2012 National Coastal Conference

<http://www.asbpa.org/conferences/conferences.htm>

October 9-12, 2012

San Diego, California

Abstracts are due May 4, 2012

In Case You Missed It: Recorded Webinars

Digital Coast Webinars

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/webinar/archive.html>

- Community Resilience Part I: Assessing Vulnerabilities Using the Roadmap for Adapting to Coastal Risk
- Community Resilience Part II: Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Case Studies
- Mapping and Visualizing Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts

Building Disaster Resilient Economies Webinar

<http://www.nado.org/building-disaster-resilient-economies-webinar/>

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 <mailto:christa.rabenold@noaa.gov>.

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