PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BULLETIN

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Coastal Services Center

Winter 2008

This quarterly publication supplies up-to-date information on tools and services developed for the nation's state and local coastal programs by the NOAA Coastal Services Center. For more information, please contact Kitty.Fahey@noaa.gov.

New Products and Services

Habitat Priority Planner Now Available. The Habitat Priority Planner (HPP) is a geographic information system tool that helps users prioritize areas for conservation, restoration, and planning actions. The ArcGIS toolbar rapidly displays different habitat scenarios and provides conservation visualizations. More than 230 existing spatial decision-support tools informed the design and development of HPP.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/hpp/*
Contact: *Danielle.Bamford@noaa.gov*

Lidar Data Addresses Great Lakes and California. New lidar shoreline coverage is now available for areas of the Great Lakes and multiple dates in Southern California. The Great Lakes data set was provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise and extends the Center's coverage of topography and bathymetry along Great Lakes shorelines from Pennsylvania to Indiana. Coastal topographic change data in Southern California, collected twice yearly from 2002 to 2005, were provided by Scripps Institution of Oceanography.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/ldart/*
Contact: *Brian.Hadley@noaa.gov*

North Carolina Maps Enhance Disaster Resilience Efforts. Flood severity inundation maps containing visual and interactive information are available via the website of NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service. Current maps cover 17 NWS river forecast points in North Carolina, while future mapping plans are in place for river forecast points in the Gulf Coast region. Two NOAA line offices, the Center and NWS, are working together to make these maps available.
Web Address: *www.weather.gov/ahps/*
Contact: *Jodie.Sprayberry@noaa.gov*

Pilot Study Tracks Salmon Health. A new website highlights a pilot study on salmon health as it relates to stormwater runoff in restored urban streams. This site provides the latest research to assist in restoration planning in the Pacific Northwest. The website was developed by the Coastal Storms Program in partnership with NOAA's Coastal Services Center, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Office of Response and Restoration, and Center for Coastal Environmental Health and Biomolecular Research.
Web Address: *http://coastalstorms.noaa.gov/stormwater/*
Contact: *Krista.McCraken@noaa.gov*

South Carolina Data Useful in Hydrologic Mapping. Lidar-derived topography is now available for areas of Jasper, Colleton, and Charleston counties in South Carolina. The data have vertical accuracy measurements of 12 centimeters in open terrain. This means that inaccuracies measure 12 centimeters or less 95 percent of the time, making the data useful for detailed hydrologic applications such as floodplain mapping. Data verification was provided by the Center and the National Geodetic Survey. The Center and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources partnered to collect the data.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/ldart/*
Contact: *Rebecca.Mataosky@noaa.gov*

Texas Maps Assess Marine Health. Analyses of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) provide clues to the overall health of marine habitats. As part of Texas' Seagrass Monitoring Program, SAV and other shallow-water benthic habitats were recently mapped for portions of the Coastal Bend area. The Center worked with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas A&M University Center for Coastal Studies, and private-sector vendors to conduct mapping and to serve the data via the Center's website.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/benthic/data/gulf/bend.htm*
Contact: *Mark.Finkbeiner@noaa.gov*

Updated Products and Services

HURREVAC Storm-Surge Guidance Aids Evacuation Plans. A software module enables emergency managers and other officials to view storm-surge guidance up to 24 hours before projected landfall of a tropical cyclone. An added option helps viewers consider hypothetical storm-surge scenarios. The Center and the National Weather Service collaborated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on this module. It is available on HURREVAC, a decision-support tool used by more than 6,000 government officials.
Web Address: *www.hurrevac.com*
Contact: *Doug.Marcy@noaa.gov*

TOMIS Enables Partnerships among Agencies and Private Industries. The Task Order Management and Information System (TOMIS), which was originally developed by the Center to manage its coastal geospatial services contract, has been updated to accommodate other agencies' geospatial contracts. NOAA's National Geodetic Survey is now using TOMIS to manage three geospatial contracts. This Web-based tool, which assists the management of task orders and deliverables, now allows participating agencies to share task order and contractor performance information.
Contact: *Dennis.Hall@noaa*.gov or *Jeffrey.Hale@noaa.gov*

Center News

Events

Workshop Furthers Southeast Regional Collaboration. A workshop hosted by the Center included members of the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and NOAA's own Southeast and Caribbean Regional Team (SECART). Participants discussed the South Atlantic Alliance, an emerging state-led, federally supported, regional ocean and coastal governance initiative coordinated by SERPPAS. Members of SERPPAS were introduced to southeastern NOAA programs, capabilities, data resources, and personnel. In addition, participants addressed ways that NOAA and SERPPAS can be mutually supportive.
Contact: *Jeff.Payne@noaa.gov* or *Virginia.Fay@noaa.gov*

Land Trust Conference Reprises Technology Clinic. The Center collaborated with the Land Trust Alliance, ESRI, GreenInfo Network, and NatureServe to organize a land trust technology clinic that offered one-on-one consultations on geospatial technology to participants at the annual Land Trust Alliance conference. The Center co-sponsored this conference for the fifth successive year and organized other presentations on technology use and the role of conservation to enhance community resilience.
Contact: *Dorn.Moore@noaa.gov*

Estuarine Research Community Learns About IOOS. The Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) was the focus of several sessions at the Estuarine Research Federation Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. Members of the estuarine and coastal research community learned about the value, and challenges, of using coastal and ocean observing-system information in their work. These activities were organized by NOAA and representatives of regional ocean observing systems.
Contact: *Geno.Olmi@noaa.gov*

Interagency Group Addresses Mapping Inventory. At a Center workshop, the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG–OCM) began to develop requirements for an inventory of completed and planned ocean and coastal mapping activities and a clearinghouse for data and interpretive information. The inventory is a direct response to spatial data management goals specified by the U.S. Ocean Action Plan, Energy Policy Act of 2005, and Office of Management and Budget.
Contact: *Dave.Stein@noaa.gov*

Alabama Stakeholders Plan for Resilience. Public-sector stakeholders in Alabama met to discuss the future resilience of the environment, economy, transportation, and other factors. Participants included representatives of municipal and county government, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission, the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, and the Alabama Department of Transportation. The Mobile Chamber of Commerce hosted the meeting in partnership with NOAA's Coastal Services Center and Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, Sanborn Consulting, and Michael Gallis & Associates.
Contact: *Todd.Davison@noaa.gov*

Center Trainings Take Place Nationwide. During the past two months, the following Center trainings were delivered off-site: Public Issues and Conflict Management, in Delaware; Managing Visitor Use in Coastal and Marine Protected Areas, in Minnesota; Project Design and Evaluation, in New York and New Hampshire; and Coastal Community Planning and Development, in Ohio and Florida.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/training/*

Plaudits

NOS Salutes Employee of the Year

Tony LaVoi, the branch chief of the Center's Coastal Information and Application Services, was named Employee of the Year by the National Ocean Service (NOS) "for his exemplary service to NOS, NOAA, and the Department of Commerce in pursuit of interagency geospatial and NOAA-wide information technology activities during FY 2007."
Contact: *Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov*

Center Employee Recognized for Service. The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) presented Center employee Nicholas Schmidt with an Outstanding Service Award. Schmidt and the Center have worked with NSGIC to bring geographic information system training, tools, and data to coastal members of NSGIC and foster partnerships with the broad coastal resource management community.
Contact: *Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov*

Published Reports

Coastal Inundation Journal is Free for Download. The *Marine Technology Society Journal* has granted permission through October 30, 2008, for the Center to offer free downloads of its two most recent issues. The special double issue of the journal, "Stemming the Tide of Coastal Disasters," presents scientific and policy insights into the causes and impacts of coastal inundation. The double issue was co-edited by Margaret Davidson, the director of the Center, and Thomas C. Malone, deputy director of research for Ocean.US.
Web Address: *www.csc.noaa.gov/mtsjournal/*

Training Schedule

Training for your organization can take place at the Center in Charleston, South Carolina, or can be brought to your facility.* For more information, visit *www.csc.noaa.gov/training/*.

Coastal Community Planning and Development

• January 29 to 30	Wells, Maine

Negotiating for Coastal Resources

• January 24 to 25	Cape Cod, Massachusetts

*Trainings are generally arranged through local coastal management hosts.