

# Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards- New Shoreham, RI

Town Hall  
October 22, 2015  
1:00pm-4:00pm

## Agenda

### Meeting Purpose: Increase awareness of:

- o RI Mapping tools & planning resources available, where to find them(particularly STORMTOOLS);
- o New state planning requirements for climate change and natural hazards, as well as the linkages between comprehensive plans and local hazard mitigation plans; and
- o Example municipal adaptation strategies and where to get more information.

1:00 **Welcome & Introductions**

- o *Please share one issues of concern of yours related to planning for natural hazards & climate change?*

1:15 **Overview of Issues and Ongoing Initiatives**-Teresa Crean, URI Graduate School of Oceanography Coastal Resources Center & RI Sea Grant (CRC/RISG)

- o RI Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan- Grover Fugate, *RI Coastal Resources Management Council*
- o Shoreline Change Mapping & Monitoring on Block Island- *Bryan Oakley, Eastern Connecticut State Univ.*
- o Natural Hazards & Climate Change in Local Comprehensive Plans- *Caitlin Greeley, RI Statewide Planning*
- o Hazard Mitigation Planning- *Jess Stimson, RI Emergency Management Agency*

1:45 **Discussion –**

- o *Where are you at currently with your Comp Plan and Haz Mit Plan?*
- o *Have you started to plan for or adapt to sea level rise, storms, or erosion?*
- o *Issues you are struggling with related to coastal hazards & adaptation?*

2:00 **Break**

2:20 **Overview of STORMTOOLS: A new RI tool developed to understand exposure to sea level rise & storm flooding –** Michelle Carnevale, CRC/RISG

2:30 **Review of Adaptation Strategies–** Teresa Crean, CRC/RISG

3:00 **Keypad Polling & Discussion-** Michelle Carnevale, CRC/RISG

3:30 **Roadway & Infrastructure Discussion–** Teresa Crean, CRC/RISG

3:50 **Wrap Up & Next Steps-** Dawn Kotowicz, CRC/RISG

- o What are your challenges/barriers?
- o What do you need help with?
- o What are some actions that you can start working on in the short term? No regret actions?

4:00 **Adjourn**

*This effort has been made possible through funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development & the Rhode Island Community Development Block Grant – Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery*

[www.beachsamp.org](http://www.beachsamp.org)





**Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards  
Town of New Shoreham - October 22, 2015**





Please share one issue or concern of yours related to planning for natural hazards & climate change?

An aerial photograph of a coastal town. In the foreground, there is a sandy beach with some people and umbrellas. To the right of the beach is a large building with a red roof, possibly a hotel or resort. Further right is a marina with several boats docked. In the background, there are more buildings, including a large multi-story building, and a parking lot filled with cars. The town is situated on a hillside overlooking the water.

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Increase awareness of:

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- New state planning requirements for climate change and natural hazards, as well as the linkages between comprehensive plans and local hazard mitigation plans; and
- Example municipal adaptation strategies and where to get more information.

# Drivers to Plan for Natural Hazards & Climate Change

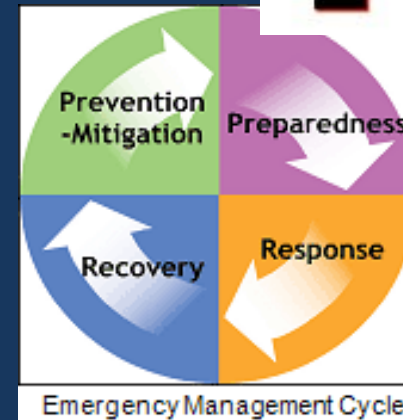
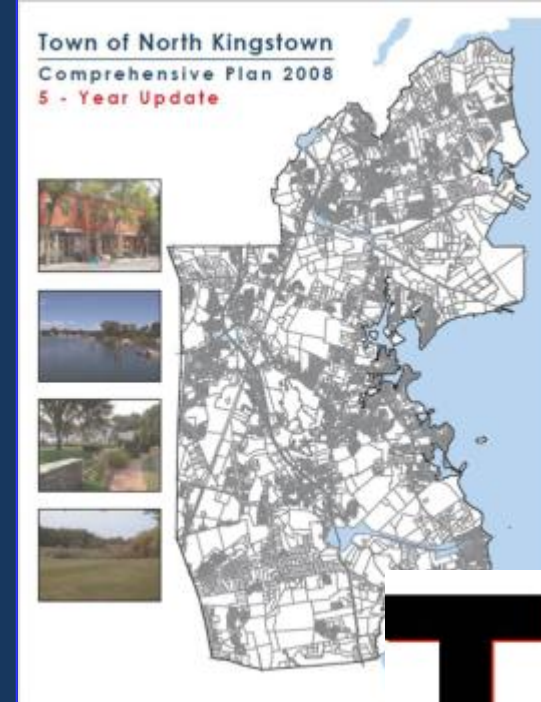
- Public Health, Safety & Welfare
- Investment of Public Funds for Infrastructure
- State Mandate
- Impacts Felt at Local Level from Multiple Hazards



Photo credit: Melissa Devine, Rhode Island Sea Grant

# Local Applications

- Comprehensive Plan / Regulatory
- Hazard Mitigation
- Municipal Capital Improvement Plan
- State of RI Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Building Code
- Open space acquisition
- Incorporate into town GIS and IMS
- Community Rating System (CRS)



# State Policies

## RI Sea Level Rise Policy

- RI CRMC Red Book Section 145
- 3-5' by 2100

## Comprehensive Plans

- Rhode Island 2012 Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act update
- Requirement for plans to address Natural Hazards

### Section 145 Climate Change and Sea Level Rise

#### A. Definitions

1. Climate is the long-term weather average observed within a geographic region, and climate change refers to fluctuations in the Earth's climate system as a result of both natural and anthropogenic causes. Currently the long term climate change trend is evidenced by rising global temperatures; increasing extremes within the hydrologic cycle resulting in more frequent floods and droughts; and rising sea level.
2. Sea level rise refers to the change in mean sea level over time in response to global climate and local tectonic changes. Sea level is the height of the sea with respect to a horizontal control point, or benchmark (e.g., The National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 or NGVD 29; The North American Vertical Datum of 1988 or NAVD 88).
3. Vertical datums are either fixed benchmarks such as NGDV 29 and NAVD 88 or site specific tidal datums such as mean high water, mean low water and mean sea level. NGVD 29 is based on the local mean sea level in 1929, which has changed over time. NAVD 88 is now the official civilian vertical datum for surveying and mapping activities in the United States. The conversion to NAVD 88 should be accomplished on a project-by-project basis. Tidal datums, such as mean sea level (MSL) or mean high water (MHW) vary according to the specific location, and represent the mean heights observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. Conversions between the datums can be made at [www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov) or calculated through the US Army Corps of Engineers CORPSCON, <http://crunch.tec.army.mil/software/corpscon/corpscon.html>.
4. Sea level rise includes *eustatic* contributions - global changes responsible for worldwide variations in sea level (e.g., thermal expansion of seawater, melting glacial ice sheets), and *isostatic* effects - regional changes in land surface elevations that are related to the tectonic response to ice or sediment loading, and land subsidence due to extraction of water or oil. The combination of eustatic and isostatic effects at a particular location is known as relative sea level rise.

#### B. Findings

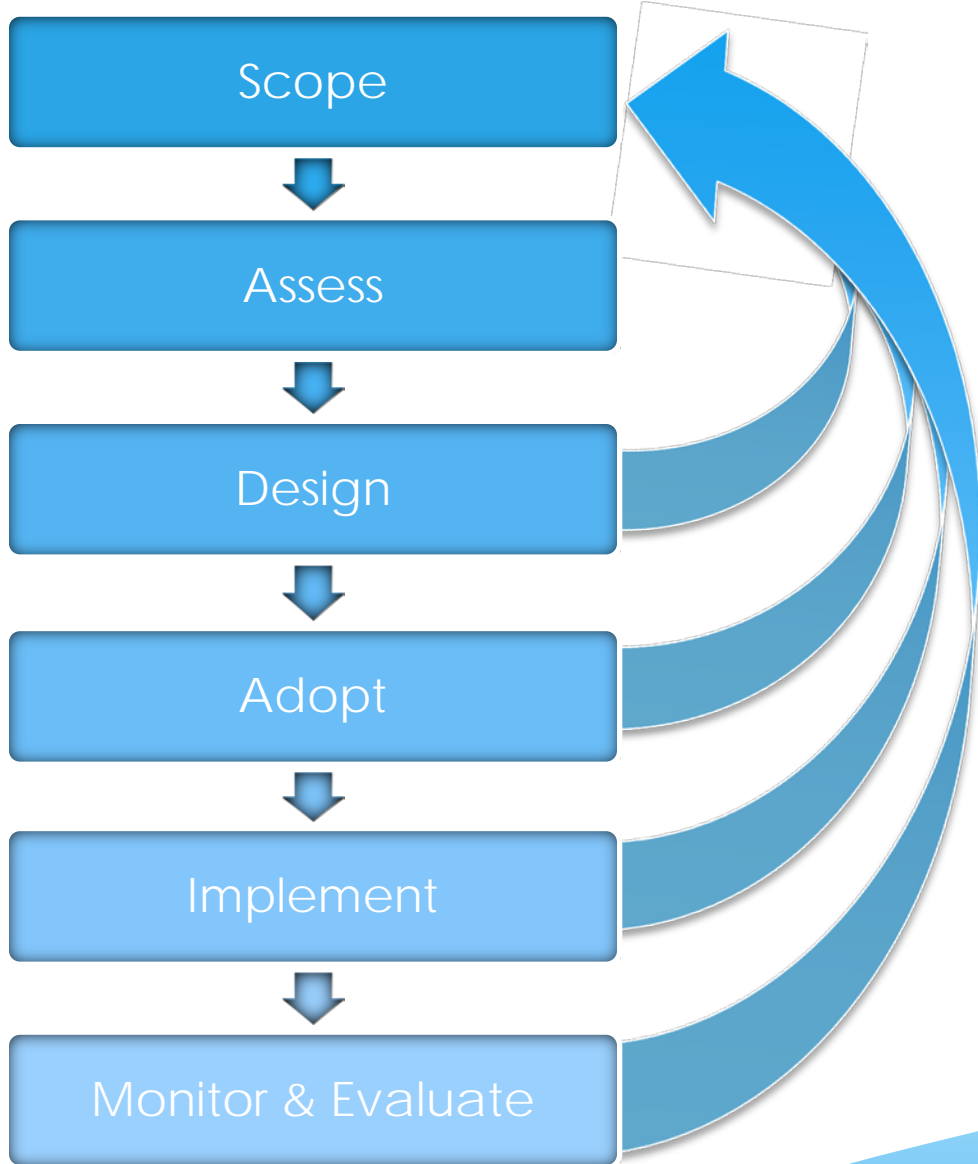
1. On very long (geologic) time scales, sea level naturally fluctuates in response to variations in astronomical configurations that cause changes in the Earth's climate system. Since the Last Glacial Maximum (approximately 20,000 years ago), global sea level has risen by over 390 feet (120 meters), as water that was previously trapped in continental ice sheets has made its way into the global ocean.
2. Sea level rise is a direct consequence of global climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere increase surface warming, which in turn increases the volume of ocean waters due to thermal expansion, and accelerates the melting of glacial ice. Atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations are already higher than levels at the last interglacial period, when sea levels were 13 to 19 feet (4 to 6 meters) higher than at present (Overpeck et al., 2006). Greenhouse gas concentrations are expected to continue to increase through 2100.

# New Federal Flood Risk Management Standard

Executive Order 11988 as amended by Executive Order 13690

- Requires federal projects be constructed to a higher vertical elevation to address current and future flood risk and ensure that projects funded with taxpayer dollars last as long as intended.
- Draft standard - out for public comment until May 2015
- Applies to federal projects, including projects using federal funding
- Projects will need to comply with one of the following:
  - Conducting a full vulnerability assessment (using best available science);
  - Adding 2 or 3 feet of elevation/freeboard, (depending on criticality), above the 100-year, or 1% annual chance, flood elevation; or
  - Designing to the 500-year, or 0.2% annual chance, flood elevation.





- ✓ Stakeholder engagement throughout
- ✓ Each step should be reviewed to see how it compares to initial scope & assessment

Process

## Differentiating between :

### Storm Flooding

*(Periodic/Infrequent)*

- Coastal & Storm Surge Driven
- Precipitation Driven

### Sea Level Rise Flooding

*(Daily; 2 times each day at high tide)*



# Sea-Level Change Curve Calculator

USACE Curves computed using criteria in USACE EC 1165-2-212

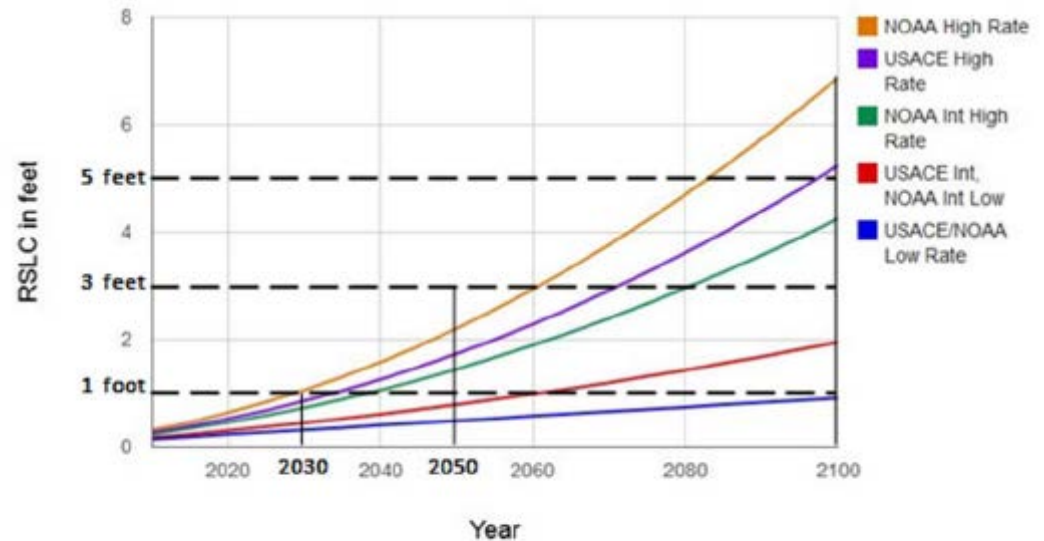
NOAA Curves computed using criteria in NOAA SLR Report 06-Dec-2012

Gauge: 8452660, RI, Newport: 77 yrs  
All values are in feet

Year	NOAA Low	USACE Low	NOAA Int Low	USACE Int	NOAA Int High	USACE High	NOAA High
2010	0.15	0.15	0.18	0.18	0.24	0.27	0.32
2015	0.19	0.19	0.24	0.24	0.35	0.39	0.46
2020	0.24	0.24	0.31	0.31	0.46	0.53	0.64
2025	0.28	0.28	0.38	0.38	0.59	0.68	0.84
2030	0.32	0.32	0.45	0.45	0.73	0.86	1.06
2035	0.36	0.36	0.53	0.53	0.89	1.05	1.31
2040	0.41	0.41	0.61	0.61	1.06	1.26	1.58
2045	0.45	0.45	0.70	0.70	1.25	1.49	1.88
2050	0.49	0.49	0.79	0.79	1.45	1.74	2.21
2055	0.53	0.53	0.89	0.89	1.67	2.00	2.56
2060	0.58	0.58	0.99	0.99	1.90	2.29	2.94
2065	0.62	0.62	1.09	1.09	2.14	2.59	3.34
2070	0.66	0.66	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.92	3.77
2075	0.70	0.70	1.32	1.32	2.67	3.26	4.22
2080	0.74	0.74	1.43	1.43	2.96	3.62	4.70
2085	0.79	0.79	1.56	1.56	3.26	3.99	5.21
2090	0.83	0.83	1.68	1.68	3.57	4.39	5.74
2095	0.87	0.87	1.82	1.82	3.90	4.80	6.29
2100	0.91	0.91	1.95	1.95	4.25	5.24	6.87

Ch. 3 Figure B. USACE Online Sea Level Change Curve Calculator ([www.corpsclimate.us/ccaceslcurves.cfm](http://www.corpsclimate.us/ccaceslcurves.cfm))

USACE and NOAA SLC Curves - Gauge: 8452660, RI, Newport: 77 yrs  
USACE Curves computed using criteria in EC 1165-2-212

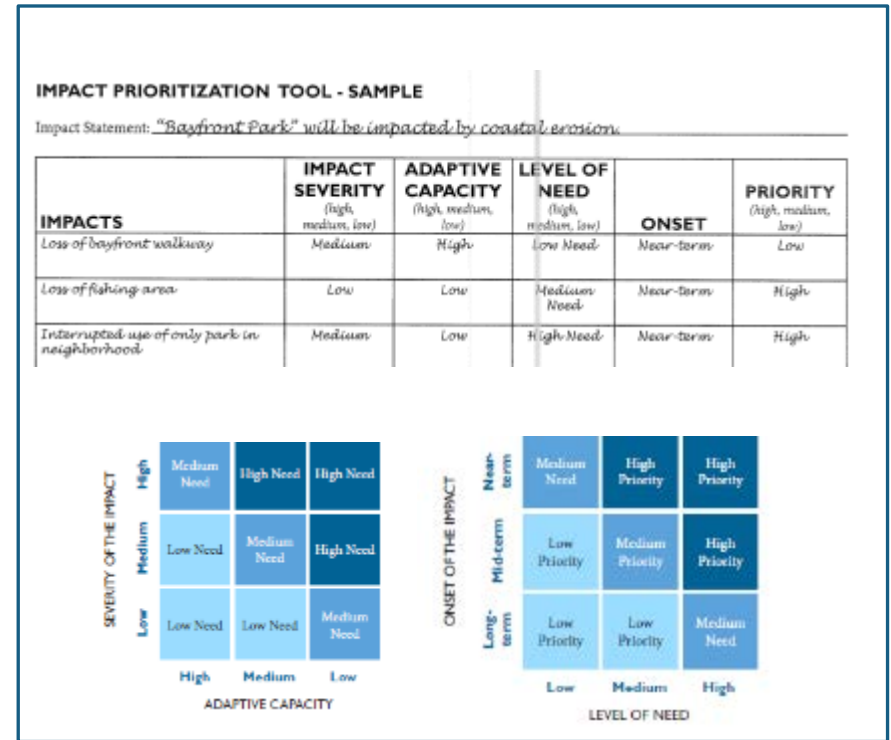
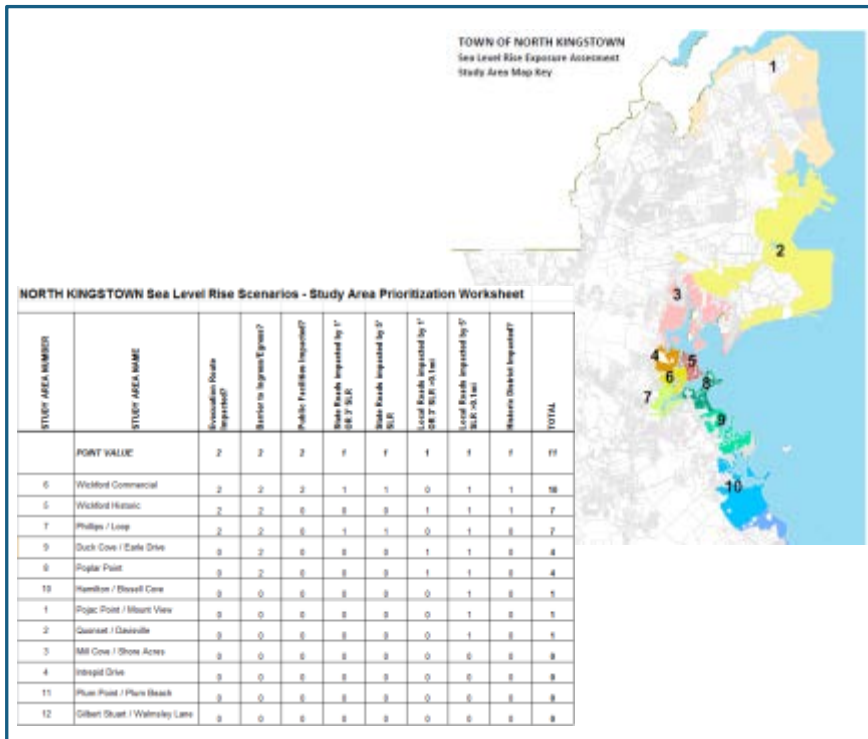


Ch. 3 Figure C. USACE Online Sea Level Change Curve Calculator ([www.corpsclimate.us/ccaceslcurves.cfm](http://www.corpsclimate.us/ccaceslcurves.cfm))

[www.corpsclimate.us](http://www.corpsclimate.us)

SECTOR	Example of Quantitative or Qualitative Description of Impacts from Coastal Storm Flooding or Sea Level Rise Scenarios
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of properties impacted and % residential, commercial, vacant land, etc.</li> </ul>
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X linear feet (Y miles) of roadway</li> <li>• Evacuation Routes vulnerable include...</li> </ul>
Publically Owned Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of properties impacted (federal; state; municipal)</li> </ul>
Emergency Management Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of how emergency shelters, evacuation routes, police and fire stations are impacted</li> </ul>
Wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of how sewers, onsite wastewater systems, wastewater outfalls are impacted</li> </ul>
Stormwater Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of how catch basins, culverts or stormwater basins will be impacted</li> </ul>
Drinking Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts to municipal &amp; residential wells, distribution systems. contamination of water table</li> </ul>
Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acreage of wetlands lost, gain or shifted with sea level rise</li> </ul>
Historic and Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # and type of sites impacted</li> </ul>
Contaminated Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # and type of sites impacted</li> </ul>
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the # and type of critical utilities located in at risk areas</li> </ul>

## Prioritization Methodology

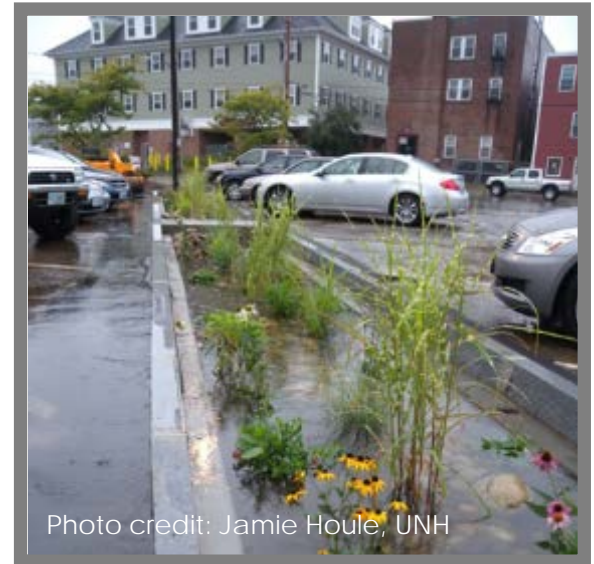


- Study areas/ neighborhoods to address

- Impacts to address

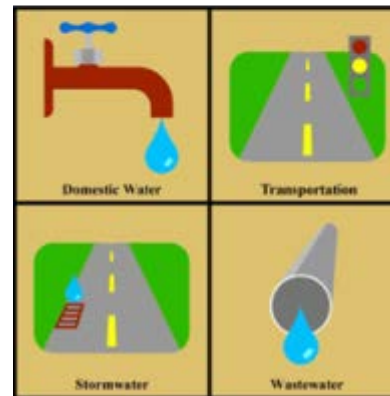
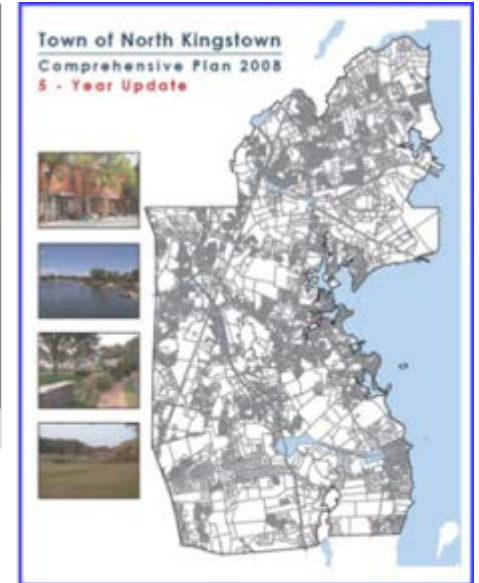
## Local Adoption :

- Formal Adoption
- Guidance
- Incorporation into Standard Operating Procedures



## Implementing Adaptation Measures:

- Adaptation Funding
- Governance
- Leadership
- Local Capacity Building
- Modify Municipal Operations, Departmental Duties & Processes



# MONITOR & EVALUATE

- **Mainstream Into Annual/Regular Updates**
  - Annual CIP or Biannual TIP, Hazard mitigation priorities
  - 5 year Comprehensive Plan Implementation Report
  - Hazard Mitigation Review
  - NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Audit
- **Capture Lessons Learned**
- **Compare to State Policy**
- **Create database of impacts & losses**





## Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP)

Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards  
Town of Narragansett - October 1, 2015



# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

## PROJECT GOAL:

- Through a public process help develop innovative and practical policies and tools for managing development along shorelines vulnerable to erosion and flooding



# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

## Long-term Outcomes

- Strong erosion and inundation polices that are publically supported and implemented at state and local levels
- Best available information is supporting sound decision making
- Improved understanding of potential impacts of erosion, flooding and sea level rise will spill over to other planning initiatives (state and local).

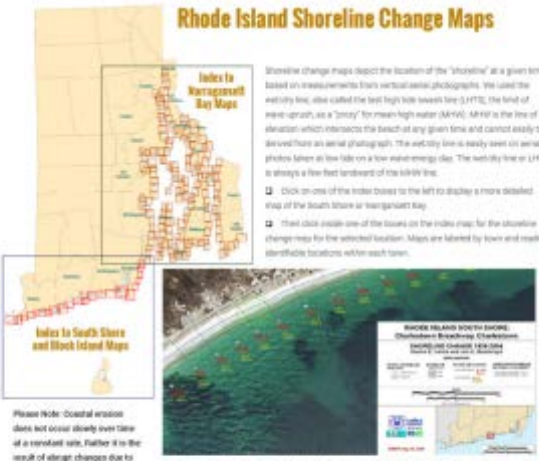


# Process



# Shoreline Change Mapping

## Rhode Island Shoreline Change Maps



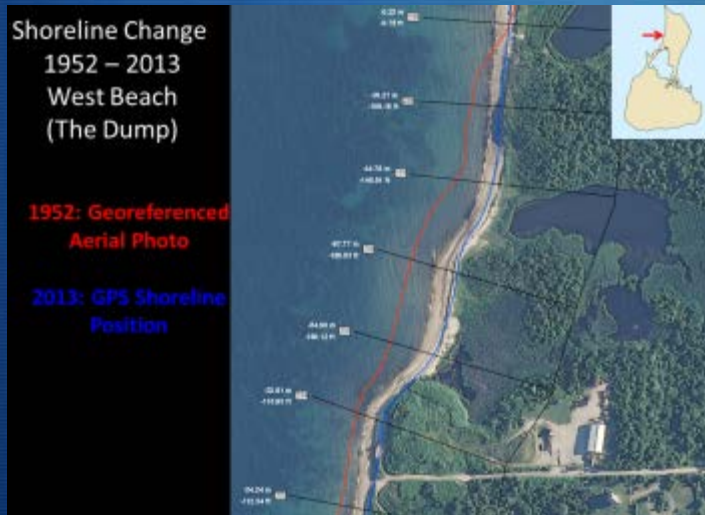
Shoreline change maps depict the location of the "shoreline" at a given time based on measurements from vertical aerial photographs. We used the wet-dry line, also called the best high tide beach line (BHTL), the limit of mean-spruit, or a "groyn" for mean-high water (MHW). MHW is the line of elevation which intersects the beach at any given time and cannot easily be observed from an aerial photograph. The wet-dry line is easily seen in aerial photos taken at low tide on a low wind-energy day. The wet-dry line or BHTL is always a few feet landward of the MHW line.

- Click on one of the index boxes to the left to display a more detailed map of the South Shore or Block Island.
- Then click inside one of the boxes on the index map for the shoreline change map for the selected location. Maps are labeled by town and identify identifiable locations within each town.

**Please Note:** Coastal erosion does not occur slowly over time at a constant rate. Rather it is the result of change changes due to storms. For that reason, the rates provided within the shoreline change maps should be used with caution.

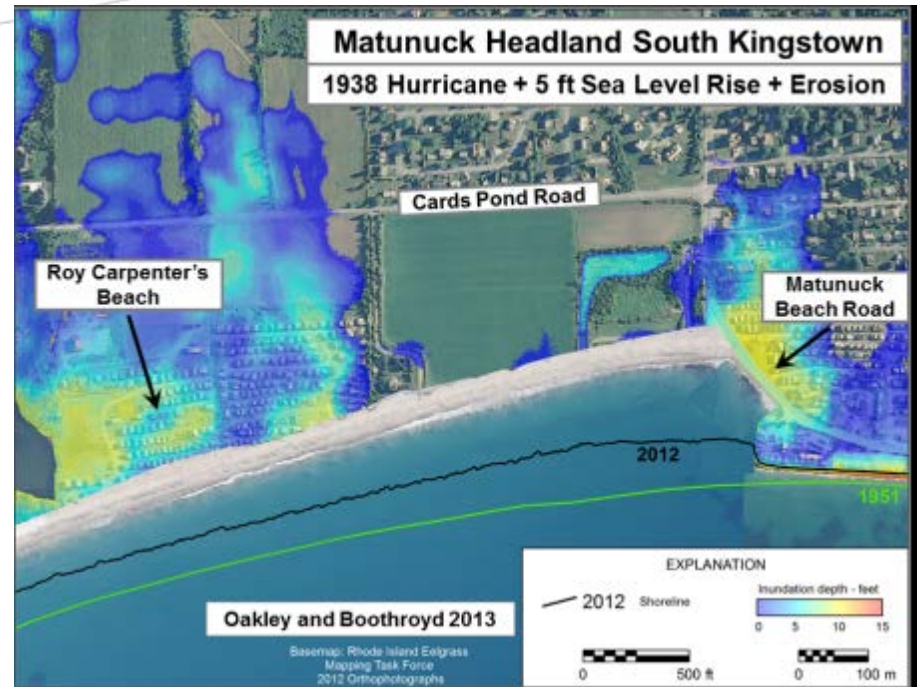
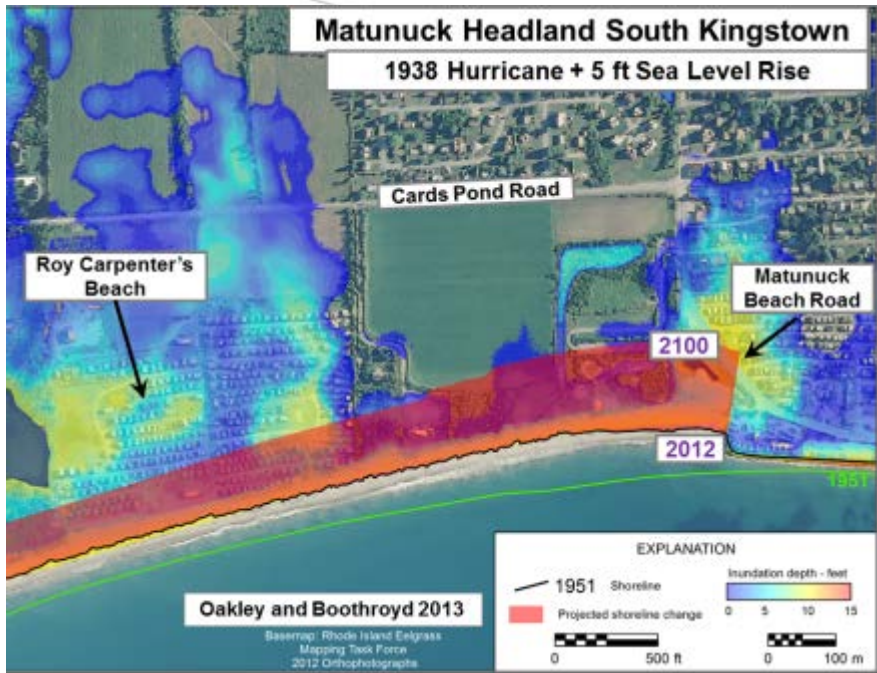
The images, taken in 2003 or 2004, serve as background for the data explained below:

- Black line -- An arbitrary baseline on which to place transects perpendicular to the shoreline.
- Red line -- Position of the shoreline in 1952.
- Blue line -- Position of the shoreline in 2003/2004.
- Transects -- Black lines extending from the baseline perpendicular to the shoreline to below Mean Lower Low Water.
- Black numbers (in white boxes) -- Transect identifier; sequential number from baseline.
- Red numbers -- Shoreline change (in feet and meters) as measured along any given transect. Negative numbers are **distance eroded**; positive numbers indicate accretion.
- Yellow numbers -- indicate **rate of erosion** (or accretion) for the time between 1952 and 2003/2004 (54-55 years).



- New Shoreline Change Map Online Interface
- Block Island Shoreline Change Map
- Updating Washington County Maps currently
- Monitoring along South Shore including Misquamicut Beach Nourishment, & on Block Island
- **UPCOMING- FUTURE SHORELINE PROJECTIONS**

# Future Shoreline Projections



# StormTools:

## Maps of Storms+Sea Level Rise

### Visualizations

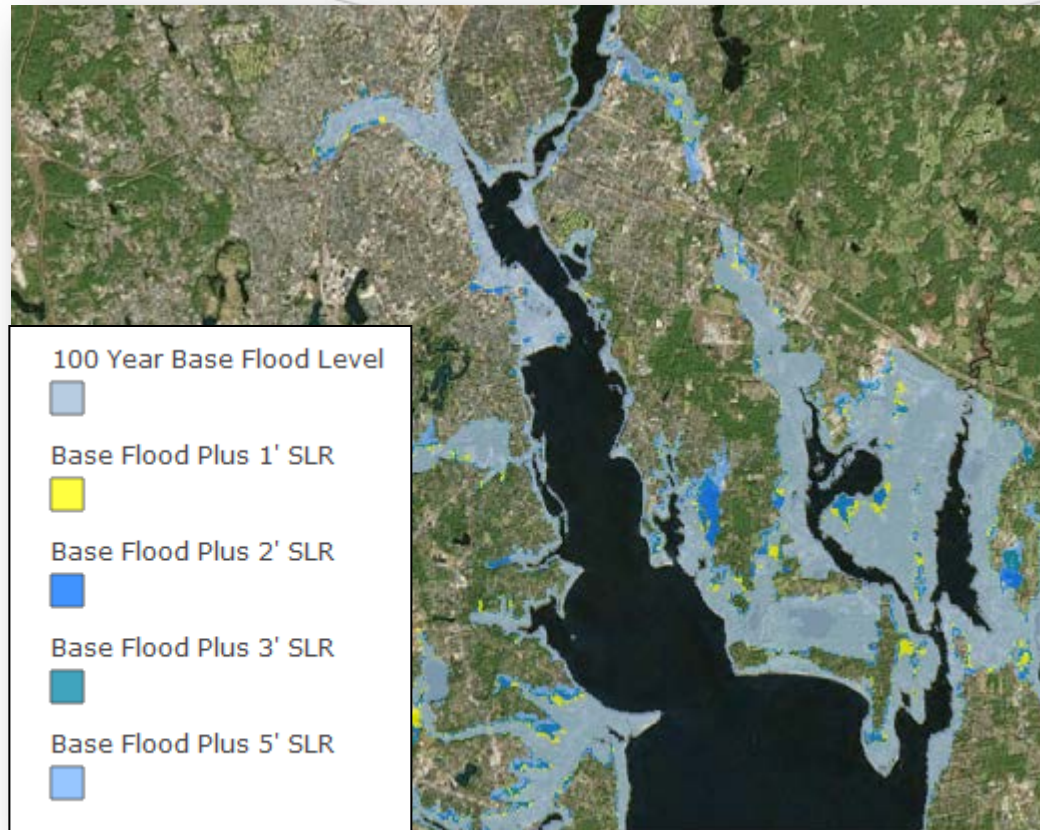
**Maps flooding from a 25, 50, 100-year storm PLUS Sea Level Rise**

***\*\*More accurate depiction of future flooding risk***

### Applications

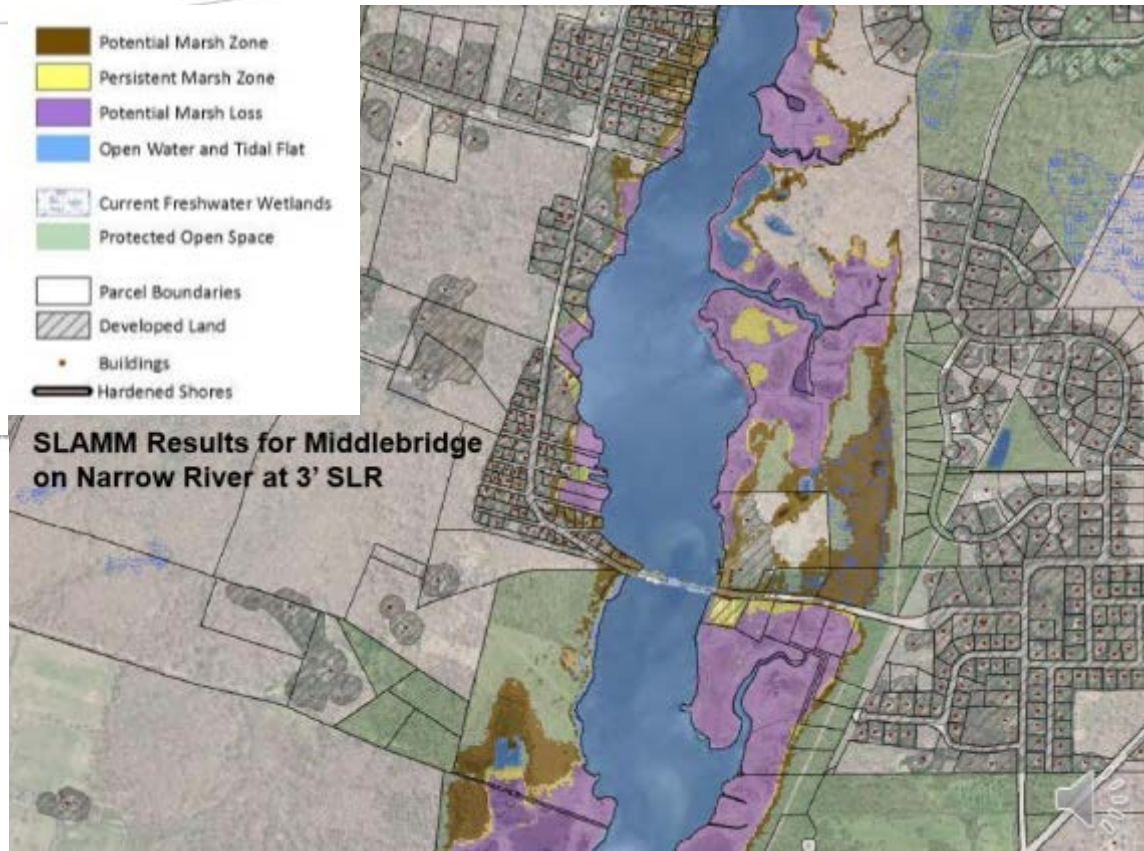
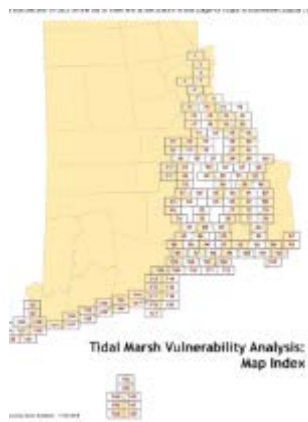
**Day-to-Day operations**

**Long term planning/financing**



# Salt Marsh Migration

Maps  
**ADOPTED** by  
CRMC





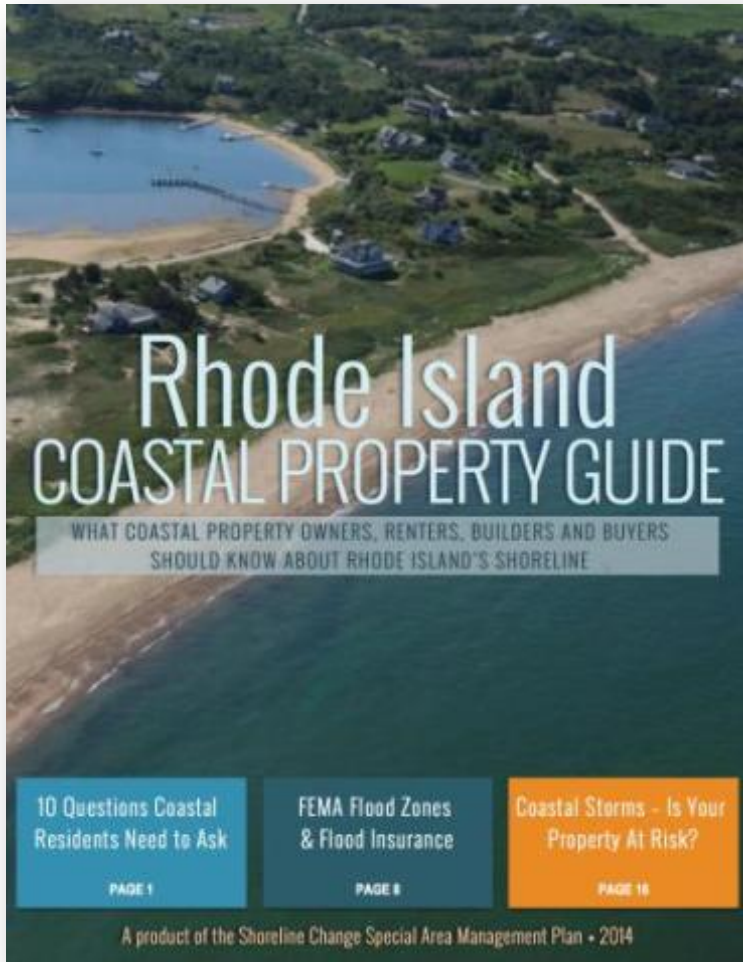
# Salt Marsh Restoration



- ◆ Narrow River Estuary Restoration
  - ◆ Post-Sandy Dept. of Interior funding to US Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge System
  - ◆ Beneficial Re-use / Thin Layer Deposition
  - ◆ Micro-creek / runnel excavation
  - ◆ Marsh edge enhancement via living shoreline techniques



# Coastal Property Guide Informs Landowners and Buyers



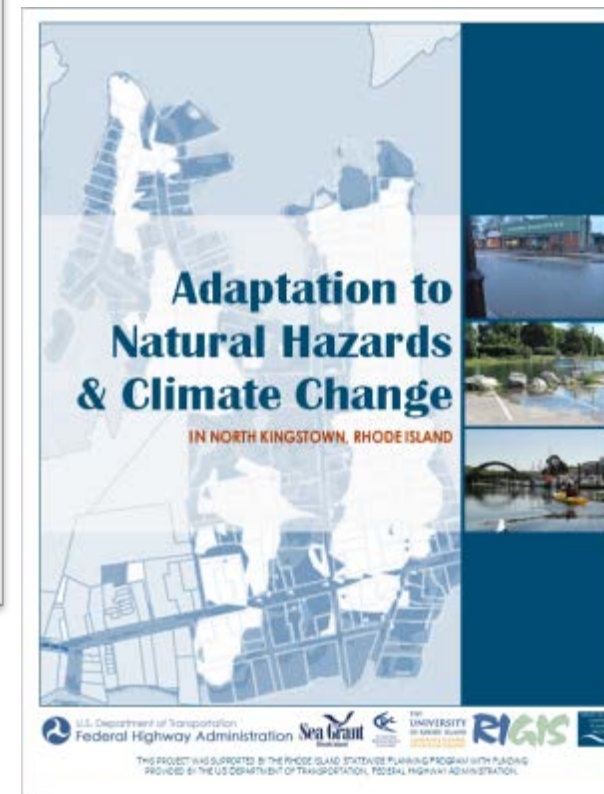
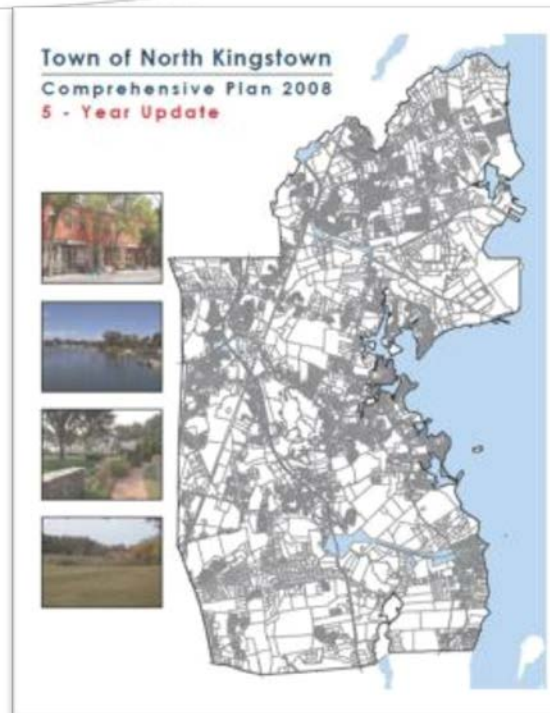
- Coastal features
- CRMC water type classifications
- FEMA flood zones
- Flood insurance, program/premiums
- Coastal hazards: sea-level rise and erosion
- Shoreline protection structures
- Coastal hazards: storms & floods
- Existing buildings
- Septic system requirements
- Structural resilience

[http://www.beachsamp.org/  
coastalpropertyguide/](http://www.beachsamp.org/coastalpropertyguide/)

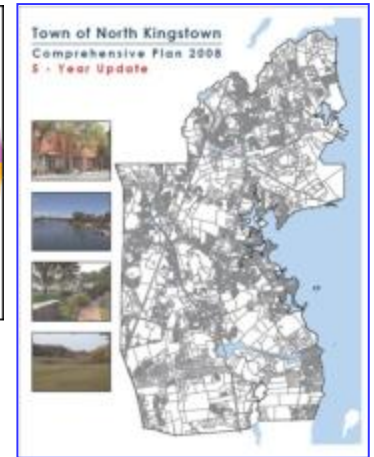
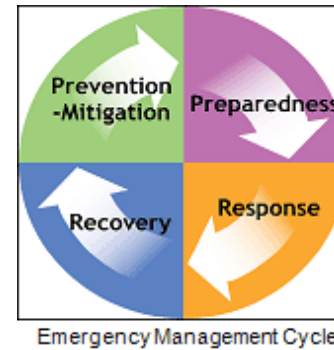
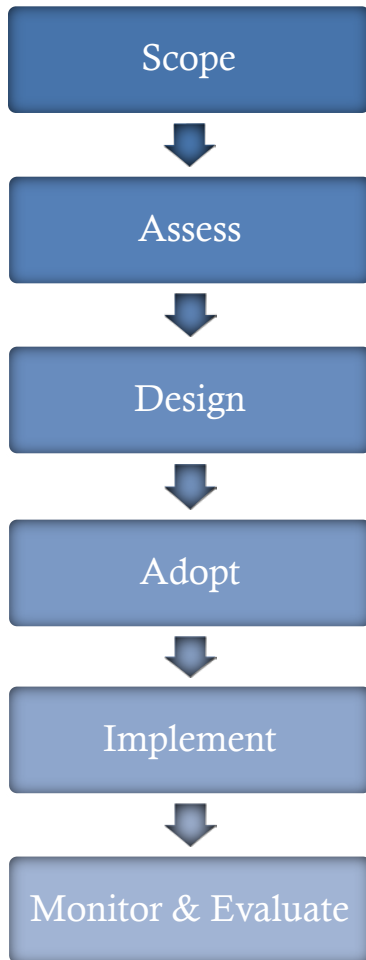
# Municipal Pilot Demonstrates: Local Process and Actions

## Town of North Kingstown

- ◆ Vulnerability Assessment
  - ◆ Sea Level Rise
  - ◆ Salt Marsh Migration
  - ◆ Infrastructure/  
Roadways at risk
- ◆ Local Policy  
Recommendations
- ◆ Model for all other RI  
Coastal Communities



# Adapting Municipal Decision Making



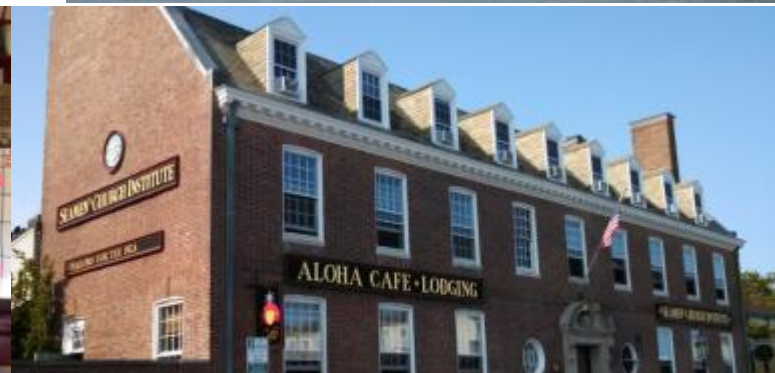
# Business Resilience

## Vulnerability

- ✓ Wind
- ✓ Storms, Flooding
- ✓ Tides, SLR

## Best Management Practices

- ✓ Structural
- ✓ Non-Structural



# FORTIFIED™ –

## Retrofit/Build to Reduce Potential Damage

### Focus on Key Components

- Roof, walls, windows, doors, equipment
  - The right products and installation
    - Proper elevation



#### BRONZE: STRENGTHEN THE ROOF SYSTEM

Minimizes the risk of water getting into the home and of the roof detaching from the walls.



#### SILVER: STRENGTHEN THE WINDOWS & DOORS

Minimizes the risk of wind entering the home and causing a roof failure. Also effective at reducing the risk of water getting into the home.



#### GOLD: STRENGTHEN THE STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Ties all of the elements of the home together and to the ground. The most effective way to minimize risks from high winds.



#### FORTIFIED FOR SAFER LIVING®

A multi-hazard program specifying construction, design and landscaping standards to increase a home's resilience and deliver superior performance during ALL natural hazards.



Sealed roof deck  
damage estimate

**\$5,408<sup>.59</sup>**

Unsealed roof deck  
damage estimate

**\$16,935<sup>.23</sup>**

# Green Infrastructure + Experiential Learning

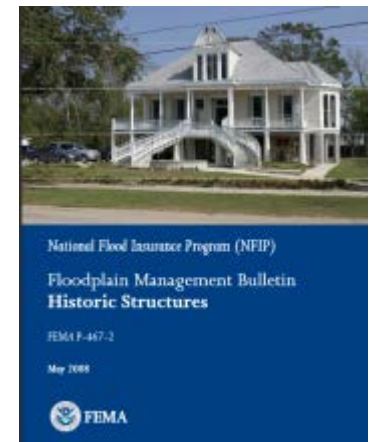


- Green Infrastructure Design
  - Newport
  - Warwick
  - North Kingstown



# Adapting Historic Structures

- Guidance on how to adapt historic structures or districts to SLR
- Tailored to Rhode Island





# Landscape Architecture Studios

- ◆ Newport
- ◆ Wickford
- ◆ Focused on Adaptation Design



VIEW FROM BOARDWALK IN 25 YEARS



Design by Amanda Gaal, URI LAR graduate, to depict what the park might look like in 25 years with her design of a boardwalk through a reconstructed marsh.



Design by Dennis Staton, URI LAR graduate, to illustrate his vision of Storer Park in 25 years.

# Engineering Senior Design Class

Assessment of Marinas to storms and sea level rise

Template for others to use



**25 Year Return Period Water Level with SLR**

Greenwich Bay South Yard Marina

Projected Date	Sea Level Rise	25 Year Return Period
--	• None	8.26 ft (2.52 m)
2034	• 1 ft (0.30 m)	9.55 ft (2.91 m)
2071	• 3 ft (0.91 m)	12.12 ft (3.69 m)

➤ Referenced to NAVD88

- At 1 ft (0.30 m) SLR and a 25 year return period, half of the marina would be inundated



# Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council

- Local Guidance
- Promoting Decision Making Tools & Best Practices
- Recommendations at State and Local Level on adaptation/decision making



RIEC<sup>4</sup>

# Current Beach SAMP Tools & Resources



**TO:** Municipal Planners; Planning Boards; Municipal Administrators; Public Works Officials; Emergency Managers; and Floodplain Coordinators  
**FROM:** CRMC Rhode Island Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Team  
**DATE:** June 3, 2015  
**RE:** Tools and Resources to Assist in Natural Hazard and Climate Change Planning

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memo to coastal municipalities is to share resources and tools that may assist coastal cities and towns in planning for the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. Some of these tools are new or recently adopted by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), and others are existing planning maps that have been made easier to locate and use.

These tools and resources will aid in planning for natural hazards and climate change in municipal comprehensive plans as required by the *Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act (RIGL 45-22.2)*. In particular, these resources will help to assess the impacts of:

- Storm surge and sea level rise;
- Salt marsh migration in response to sea level rise; and
- Shoreline change and erosion.

## TOOLS & RESOURCES

### RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: Natural Hazards and Climate Change

**Adaptation:** *A how-to guide on incorporating natural hazards planning and climate change adaptation into local comprehensive plans.*

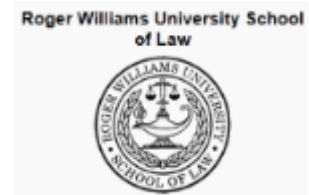
[www.beachsamp.org](http://www.beachsamp.org)

By 2016, Rhode Island cities and towns will need to plan for natural hazards and the impacts of climate change within their community's local comprehensive plan. This how-to guide and presentation was created as a resource for coastal municipalities on how to conduct a preliminary vulnerability assessment and adopt climate change adaptation strategies into the local comprehensive plan. While every community is different and will follow a unique planning process, this

- Memo to municipalities
  - Planners
  - Council Presidents
  - Emergency Managers
  - Boards/Commissions
- Series of memos to share Beach SAMP tools/resources, findings and recommendations

# Legal Workshop

- ◆ **DECEMBER 1, 2015** - day long workshop focused on RI
- ◆ Co-hosted with Roger Williams Law School & RI Sea Grant Legal Program
- ◆ Focused on legal issues & challenges related to shoreline change, sea level rise & storms
  - ◆ Liability associated with allowing development in at risk areas
  - ◆ Developing sea level rise overlay zones/ordinances
  - ◆ Etc.
- ◆ Audience- municipal staff; solicitors; emergency managers, etc.



# Beach SAMP Document

- 🔹 Components of SAMP
  - 🔹 Volume 1- Overview/Summary
  - 🔹 Volume 2- Research & Technical Reports
  - 🔹 Proposed policy & regulatory changes to RICRMP “Red Book”

## Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Draft Document Outline

### VOLUME 1

#### Chapter 1- Introduction

- 1.1. Statement of the Problem
- 1.2. Goal of the Shoreline Change SAMP
- 1.3. Shoreline Change SAMP Scope and Study Area
- 1.4. Collaborative Effort
- 1.5. Contents of Shoreline Change SAMP Document
- 1.6. Principles Guiding the Design and Development of the Shoreline Change SAMP

#### Chapter 2- Trends and Status- Current and Future Impacts of Storm Surge, Sea Level Rise and Coastal Erosion

- 2.1 Storm Surge & Flooding
- 2.2 Erosion/Shoreline Change
- 2.3 Sea Level Rise
- 2.4 Wetland Loss and Migration
- 2.5 Compounding Impacts of Sea Level Rise, Storm Surge & Erosion/Shoreline Change
- 2.6 Tools Developed to Assess Exposure

#### Chapter 3- Assessing Coastal Risk

- 3.1 Definitions of Coastal Risk and Resilience
- 3.2 Coastal Risk Management
- 3.3 Implications to Not Considering Coastal Risk and Resilience

#### Chapter 4- Planning & Adaptation

##### 4.1 Land Use Decision Making

- 4.1.1 RI Statewide Planning Program requirement for local comprehensive plans to include natural hazards and climate change
- 4.1.2 New federal executive order 11988 on flood standards related to projects federally funded

##### 4.2 Adaptation Strategies and Techniques

- 4.2.1 Municipal Adaptation Strategies for Comp Plan/Municipal Operations
- 4.2.2 Storm Planning & Recovery
- 4.2.3 Physical Adaptation & Retrofit Techniques for Structures (brief summary will be provided & reference to a more comprehensive technical report in Volume II)
- 4.2.4 Green Infrastructure Techniques & Systems Approach to Geomorphic Engineering (SAGE)
- 4.2.5 Restoration of Wetlands
- 4.2.6 Waterfront & Coastal Businesses
- 4.2.7 Marina Resilience & Checklist

#### Chapter 5- Conclusion

- 5.1 Implications for CRMC
- 5.2 Recommendations for Municipalities
- 5.3 Recommendations for Other State Agencies

#### References

1

# Building Tools in Partnership



TETRA TECH



Lead, Transform, Inspire



## Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards Town of New Shoreham- October 22, 2015





# Drivers to Plan for Natural Hazards & Climate Change

- Public Health, Safety & Welfare
- Investment of Public Funds for Infrastructure
- State Mandate
- Impacts Felt at Local Level from Multiple Hazards



Photo credit: Melissa Devine, Rhode Island Sea Grant



J. Gray 10/30/12 Block Island, RI

**Corn Neck Road, Post-Sandy, 2012**

Photo: J.Gray

# New Shoreham, RI

Corn Neck Rd | Washington County

## King Tide Report by [Kevin Hoyt](#)



"Corn Neck Road revetment"

 **09/30/2015 | 10:03 am**

**NEAR HIGH TIDE** (0 hours 51 minutes before high tide)



### WEATHER OVERVIEW



**Wind Speed:** 18 MPH

**Wind Direction:** 160°

**Temperature:** 71°F

## Differentiating between :

### Storm Flooding

*(Periodic/Infrequent)*

- Coastal & Storm Surge Driven
- Precipitation Driven

### Sea Level Rise Flooding

*(Daily; 2 times each day at high tide)*



# Sea-Level Change Curve Calculator

## Estimated Relative Sea Level Change from 2015 To 2100

8452660, Newport, RI

NOAA's Published Rate: 0.00846 feet/yr

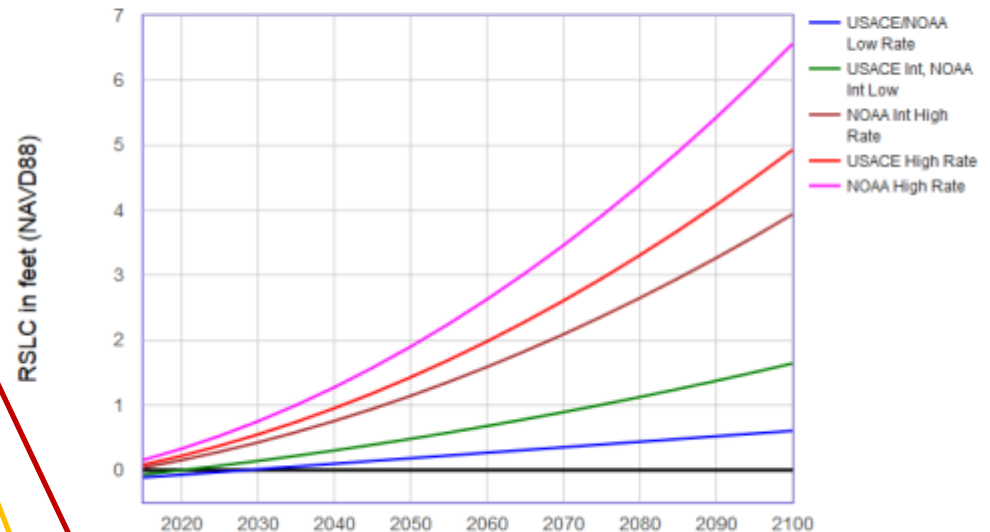
All values are expressed in feet

Year	NOAA Low	USACE Low	NOAA Int Low	USACE Int	NOAA Int High	USACE High	NOAA High
2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2020	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.07	0.12	0.14	0.17
2025	0.09	0.09	0.13	0.13	0.25	0.29	0.37
2030	0.13	0.13	0.21	0.21	0.39	0.47	0.59
2035	0.17	0.17	0.29	0.29	0.55	0.66	0.84
2040	0.21	0.21	0.37	0.37	0.72	0.87	1.12
2045	0.25	0.25	0.46	0.46	0.91	1.10	1.42
2050	0.30	0.30	0.55	0.55	1.11	1.35	1.74
2055	0.34	0.34	0.64	0.64	1.32	1.61	2.10
2060	0.38	0.38	0.75	0.75	1.55	1.90	2.47
2065	0.42	0.42	0.85	0.85	1.80	2.20	2.88
2070	0.47	0.47	0.96	0.96	2.05	2.53	3.30
2075	0.51	0.51	1.07	1.07	2.33	2.87	3.76
2080	0.55	0.55	1.19	1.19	2.61	3.23	4.24
2085	0.59	0.59	1.31	1.31	2.91	3.60	4.74
2090	0.64	0.64	1.44	1.44	3.23	4.00	5.27
2095	0.68	0.68	1.57	1.57	3.56	4.41	5.83
2100	0.72	0.72	1.71	1.71	3.90	4.85	6.41

Print Table

8452660, Newport, RI  
NOAA's Published Rate: 0.00846 feet/yr

Relative Sea Level Change Projections - Gauge: 8452660, Newport, RI (05/01/2014)



20-year Comp Plan

30-year Mortgage

# 1) MUNICIPAL PILOT PROJECT – NORTH KINGSTOWN

**Legend**

**Will future SEA LEVEL RISE affect my property?**

Sea Level Rise Scenarios

- MHHW Plus 1' SLR
- MHHW Plus 2' SLR
- MHHW Plus 3' SLR
- MHHW Plus 5' SLR

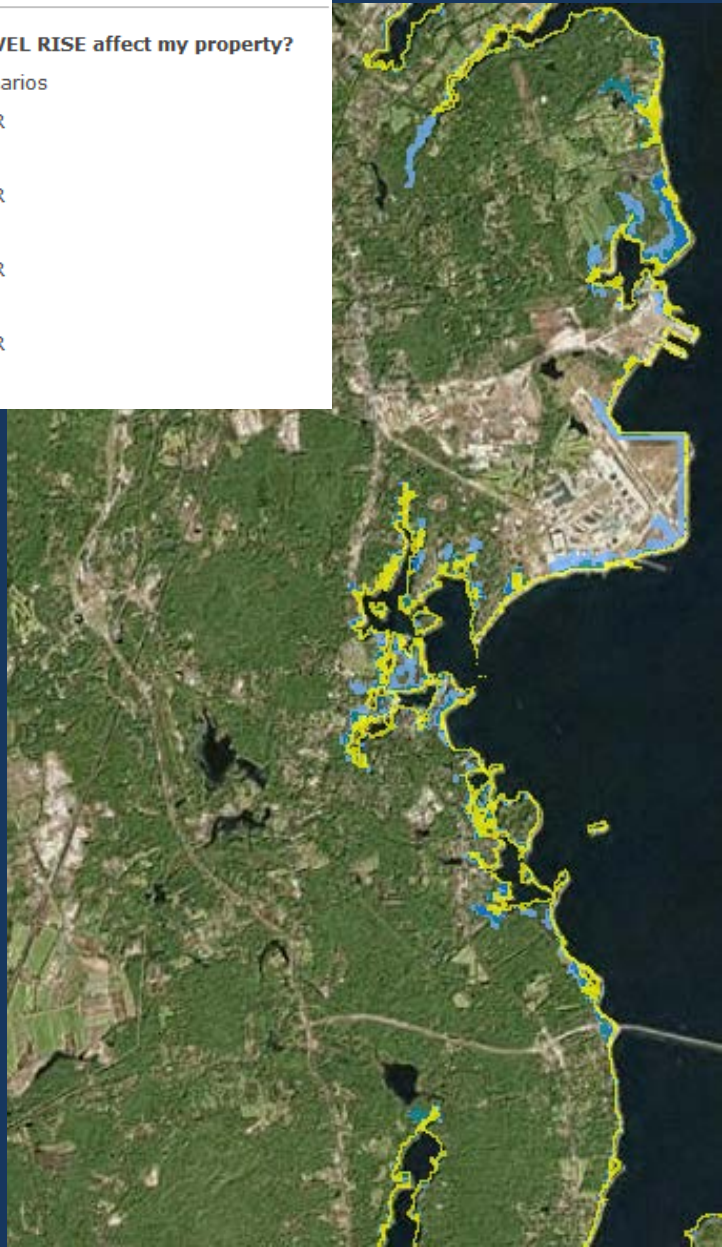
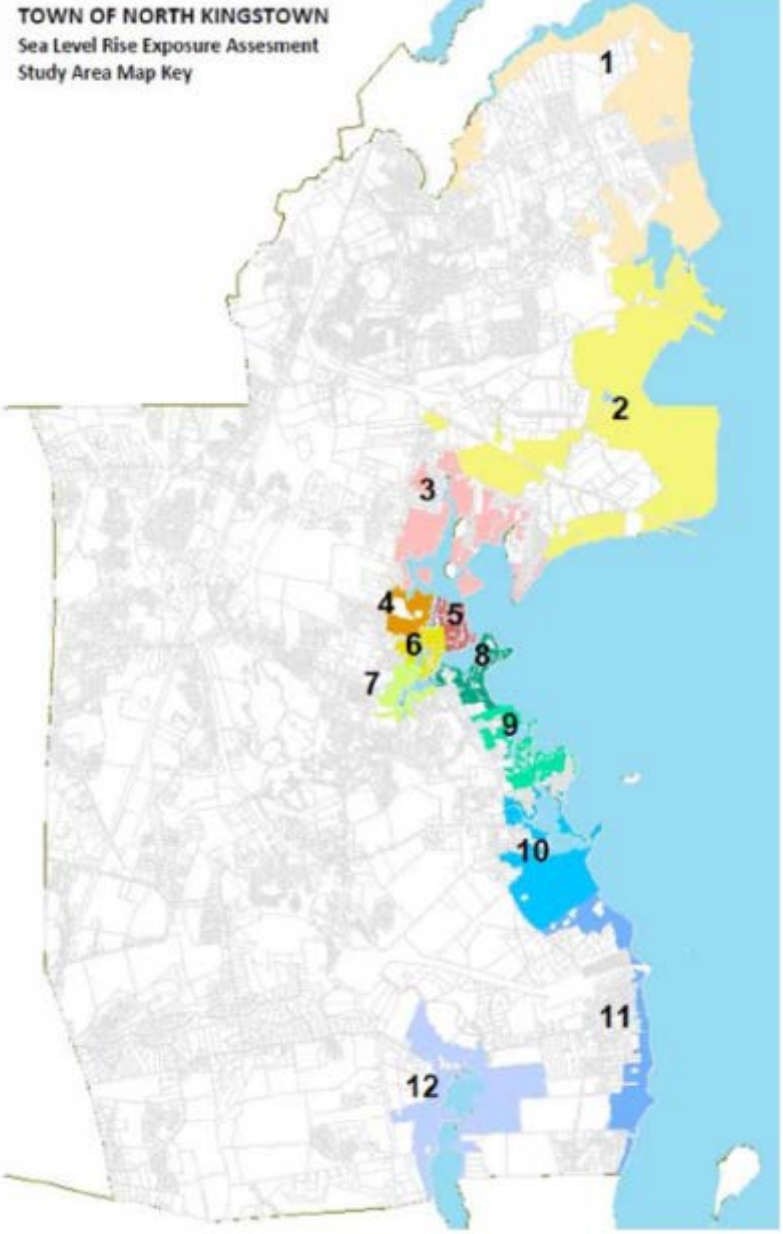


Figure 4. North Kingstown study areas.



# 1) MUNICIPAL PILOT PROJECT – NORTH KINGSTOWN

**Table 5. Land Use and Parcel Data: exposed assets considering storm and sea level rise simulations created using a GIS-based bathtub model.**

Land Use	Coastal Storm Scenario (single event)	Future Sea Level Rise Scenarios (Daily tides)		
Scenario	<i>1938 Hurricane Flood Levels: Mean Higher High Water (MHHW) + 9.5ft</i>	<i>Sea level rise (SLR) at 1 foot above MHHW</i>	<i>SLR at 3 feet above MHHW</i>	<i>SLR at 5 feet above MHHW</i>
<b>Exposed Assets (Properties)*</b>	<b>1564</b> properties are within or adjacent to the boundary of the storm surge	<b>500</b> properties are within or adjacent to the boundary of MHHW +1 foot	<b>772</b> properties are within or adjacent to the boundary of MHHW +3 feet	<b>1041</b> properties are within or adjacent to the boundary of MHHW +5 feet
<b>Property Categories By Parcel Tax Code*</b>	<b>72%</b> Residential <b>6%</b> Business <b>9%</b> Civic <b>12%</b> Undeveloped <b>2%</b> Other	<b>63%</b> Residential <b>7%</b> Business <b>14%</b> Civic <b>14%</b> Undeveloped <b>2%</b> Other	<b>69%</b> Residential <b>6%</b> Business <b>10%</b> Civic <b>13%</b> Undeveloped <b>2%</b> Other	<b>70%</b> Residential <b>6%</b> Business <b>10%</b> Civic <b>12%</b> Undeveloped <b>2%</b> Other
<b>Owned by</b>	<b>Publicly Owned Properties*</b>			
<b>Federal</b>	9	6	8	9
<b>State</b>	65	25	28	37
<b>Municipality</b>	27	17	19	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>67</b>
	<b>Historic District Properties Among Exposed Assets*</b>			
<b>Historic District Properties</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>86</b>
<i>*Refer to Appendix E for property and parcel data for North Kingstown.</i>				

# 1) MUNICIPAL PILOT PROJECT – NORTH KINGSTOWN

The three maps on the right illustrate **sea level rise scenarios** for the Wickford Historic area of North Kingstown, RI using a digital elevation model and an aerial photograph with a “bathtub model” approach to show the projected boundaries of two high tides per day on the municipal landscape.

The accompanying illustrated maps (underneath each SLR scenario map) show the individual parcels and properties that intersect each sea level rise scenario, as well as specific segments of roads and bridges that are projected to be at risk from projected sea level rise scenarios in North Kingstown.

The green map below shows the FEMA flood zones for the Wickford Historic area.

Wickford Sea Level Rise Scenarios: 1 foot, 3 feet, and 5 feet



These draft maps are intended for illustrative purposes only.



# 2) MUNICIPAL MODEL PROCESS

## RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

Home News Events Resources & Tools Coastal Property Guide Management Plan Get Involved

### Municipal Webinar: Resilient Communities Model Process

July 24, 2015 Alena Normann Meeting Information, Regional Events, update

Search ...

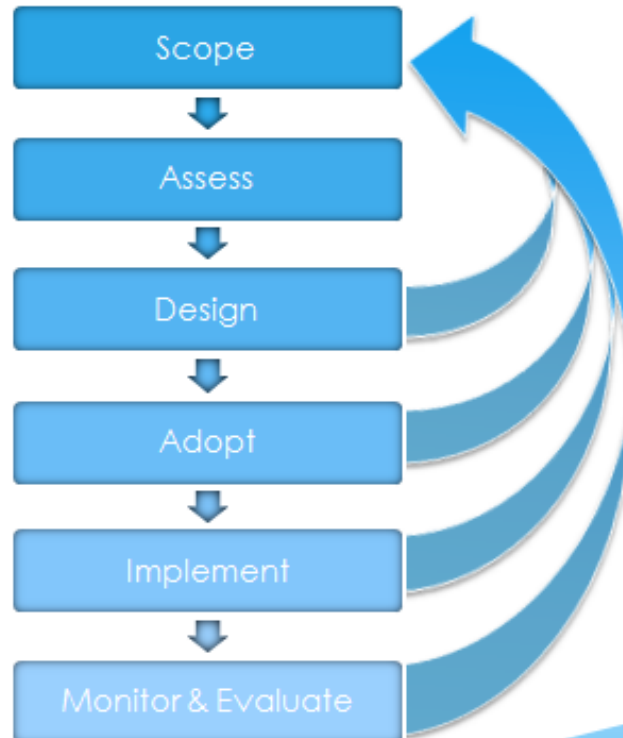


Watch our Municipal Model Process video for coastal municipalities.

The University of Rhode Island Coastal Resource Center Municipal Webinar for coastal municipalities.

Change into local comprehensive plans. Presenters from the University of Rhode Island Sea Grant at the Graduate School of Oceanography provide assessments, links to key state data sets and example adaptation pilot project.

[Click here](#) to see the recording of the webinar.



✓ Stakeholder engagement throughout

✓ Each step should be reviewed to see how it compares to initial scope & assessment

Process

# 2) MUNICIPAL MODEL PROCESS

## SCOPE

- Identify Purpose
- Clarify Assessment Outcome
- Define Scale
- Data Needs and Sources
- Select a Planning Team

Example- Synthesis of Exposed Assets:

## ASSESS

SECTOR	Example of Quantitative or Qualitative Description of Impacts from Coastal Storm Flooding or Sea Level Rise Scenarios
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of properties impacted and % residential, commercial, vacant land, etc.</li> <li>X linear feet (Y miles) of road impacted</li> </ul>
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evacuation Routes vulnerable</li> <li># of properties impacted</li> </ul>
Publicly Owned Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of how emergency stations are impacted</li> </ul>
Emergency Management Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of how sewers are impacted</li> </ul>
Wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of how catch basins are impacted</li> </ul>
Stormwater Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts to municipal &amp; n/a of water table</li> </ul>
Drinking Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acreage of wetlands lost</li> </ul>
Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># and type of sites impacted</li> </ul>
Historic and Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># and type of sites impacted</li> </ul>
Contaminated Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of the # and type of sites impacted</li> </ul>
Energy	

## DESIGN

### Prioritization Methodology



- Study areas/neighborhoods to address

## ADOPT

### Local Adoption :

- Formal Adoption
- Guidance
- Incorporation into Standard Operating Procedures



## IMPLEMENT

### Implementing Adaptation Measures:

- Adaptation Funding
- Governance
- Leadership
- Local Capacity Building
- Modify Municipal Operations, Departmental Duties & Processes



## MONITOR & EVALUATE

- Mainstream Into Annual/Regular Updates
    - Annual CIP or Biannual TIP, Hazard mitigation priorities
    - 5 year Comprehensive Plan Implementation Report
    - Hazard Mitigation Review
    - NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Audit
  - Capture Lessons Learned
  - Compare to State Policy
  - Create database of impacts & losses

# 3) COASTAL MUNICIPAL WORKSESSIONS – WASHINGTON COUNTY



**TO:** Municipal Planners; Planning Boards; Municipal Administrators; Public Works Officials; Emergency Managers; and Floodplain Coordinators  
**FROM:** CRMC Rhode Island Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Team  
**DATE:** June 3, 2015  
**RE:** Tools and Resources to Assist in Natural Hazard and Climate Change Planning

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memo to coastal municipalities is to share resources and tools that may assist coastal cities and towns in planning for the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. Some of these tools are new or recently adopted by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), and others are existing planning maps that have been made easier to locate and use.

These tools and resources will aid in planning for natural hazards and climate change in municipal comprehensive plans as required by the *Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act* (RIGL 45-22.2). In particular, these resources will help to assess the impacts of:

- Storm surge and sea level rise;
- Salt marsh migration in response to sea level rise; and
- Shoreline change and erosion.

## TOOLS & RESOURCES

### RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: Natural Hazards and Climate Change

**Adaptation:** *A how-to guide on incorporating natural hazards planning and climate change adaptation into local comprehensive plans.*

[www.beachsamp.org](http://www.beachsamp.org)

By 2016, Rhode Island cities and towns will need to plan for natural hazards and the impacts of climate change within their community's local comprehensive plan. This how-to guide and presentation was created as a resource for coastal municipalities on how to conduct a preliminary vulnerability assessment and adopt climate change adaptation strategies into the local comprehensive plan. While every community is different and will follow a unique planning process, this

## 💧 Memo to municipalities

💧 Planners

💧 Council Presidents

💧 Emergency Managers

💧 Boards/Commissions

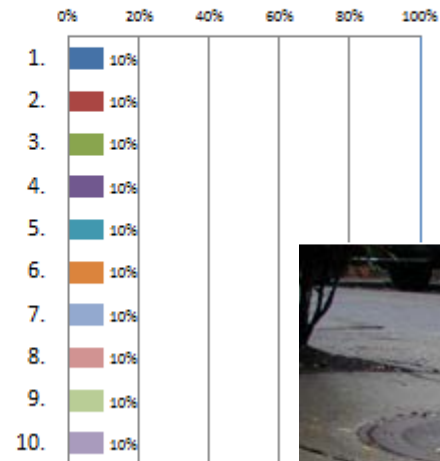
## 💧 Series of memos to share Beach SAMP tools/resources, findings and recommendations

# 3) COASTAL MUNICIPAL WORKSESSIONS – WASHINGTON COUNTY

## Review of Adaptation Strategies

What are the top 3 strategies that you would like more information about?

1. Identify Areas at Risk
2. Develop a database of at risk property/infrastructure
3. Integrate into municipal permitting
4. Zoning changes for height variances
5. Require CIP & TIP evaluate for SLR impacts
6. Develop incentives for voluntary adaptation
7. Emergency Permitting Process
8. Planning process for impacts to transportation infrastructure
9. Apply & advance in CRS
10. Increase open space/reduce density in at risk areas



## Wrap Up & Next Steps

- What are your challenges/barriers?
- What do you need help with?
- What are some actions that you can start working on in the short term? No regret actions?

# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

Home

News

Events

Resources & Tools

Coastal Property Guide

Management Plan

Get Involved

## Plan and Act

Understand Risk

[Plan and Act](#)

Meeting Videos

## Resources to Inform Adaptation Planning & Actions

### Municipalities

Resilient Communities: Natural Hazards & Climate Change Adaptation

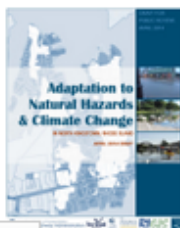


A how-to guide on incorporating natural hazards planning and climate change adaptation into local comprehensive plans.

[View guide.](#)

[Download Powerpoint presentation file](#)

Adaptation to Natural Hazards & Climate Change in North Kingstown, RI



A pilot project of how natural hazards & climate change planning and adaptation can be incorporated into local comprehensive plans.

[View chapters](#)

# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

- Home
- News
- Events
- Resources & Tools
- Coastal Property Guide
- Management Plan
- Get Involved

## Waterfront & Coastal Businesses

### Staying Afloat: Adapting Waterfront Business to Rising Seas and Extreme Storms

Proceedings from the 2014 Ronald C. Baird Sea Grant Science Symposium.

[View Proceedings](#)



### Catalog of Adaptation Techniques for Coastal and Waterfront Businesses

A catalog of actions businesses can take to be more resilient to

[View Catalog](#)



### Newport Resilience Assessment Tour: Newport Waterfront Overview Summary

Overview of the risks and vulnerabilities of the Newport waterfront management practices & actions to increase resiliency.

[Download the report](#)



## Residents & Coastal Property Owners

### Rhode Island Coastal Property Guide

What coastal property owners, renters, builders and buyers should know about the Rhode Island shoreline.

[Read on-line or download the guide.](#)



### Protecting Rhode Island's shorelines from Flooding and Erosion

A factsheet about construction of new sea walls in Rhode Island.

[Download factsheet](#)



### About The Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

A document which explains what the RI Shoreline Change project is.

[Download document.](#)





## Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP)

Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards  
Town of New Shoreham- October 22, 2015



# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

## PROJECT GOAL:

- Through a public process help develop innovative and practical policies and tools for managing development along shorelines vulnerable to erosion and flooding





# RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

## Long-term Outcomes

- Strong erosion and inundation polices that are publically supported and implemented at state and local levels
- Best available information is supporting sound decision making
- Improved understanding of potential impacts of erosion, flooding and sea level rise will spill over to other planning initiatives (state and local).



# Process



# Shoreline Change Mapping

## Rhode Island Shoreline Change Maps

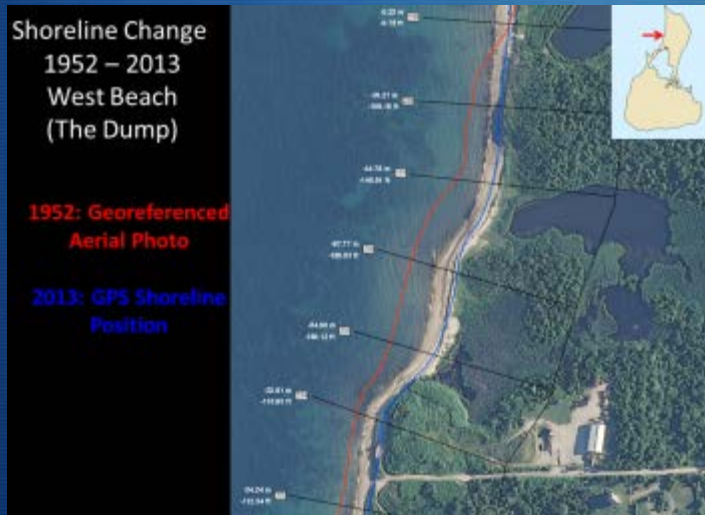
Shoreline change maps depict the location of the "shoreline" at a given time based on measurements from vertical aerial photographs. We used the wet-dry line, also called the best high tide beach line (BHTL), the limit of mean-spruit, or a "groyn" for mean-high water (MHW). MHW is the line of elevation which intersects the beach at any given time and cannot easily be observed from an aerial photograph. The wet-dry line is easily seen in aerial photos taken at low tide on a low wind-energy day. The wet-dry line or BHTL is always a few feet landward of the MHW line.

- Click on one of the index boxes to the left to display a more detailed map of the South Shore or Block Island.
- Then click inside one of the boxes on the index map for the shoreline change map for the selected location. Maps are labeled by town and identify identifiable locations within each town.

**Please Note:** Coastal erosion does not occur slowly over time at a constant rate. Rather it is the result of change changes due to storms. For that reason, the rates provided within the shoreline change maps should be used with caution.

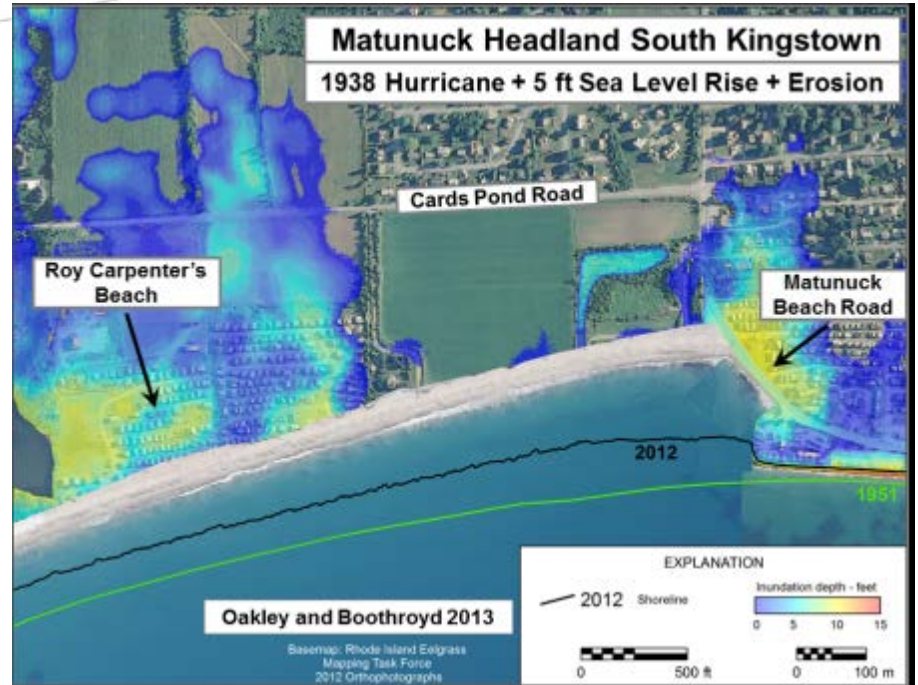
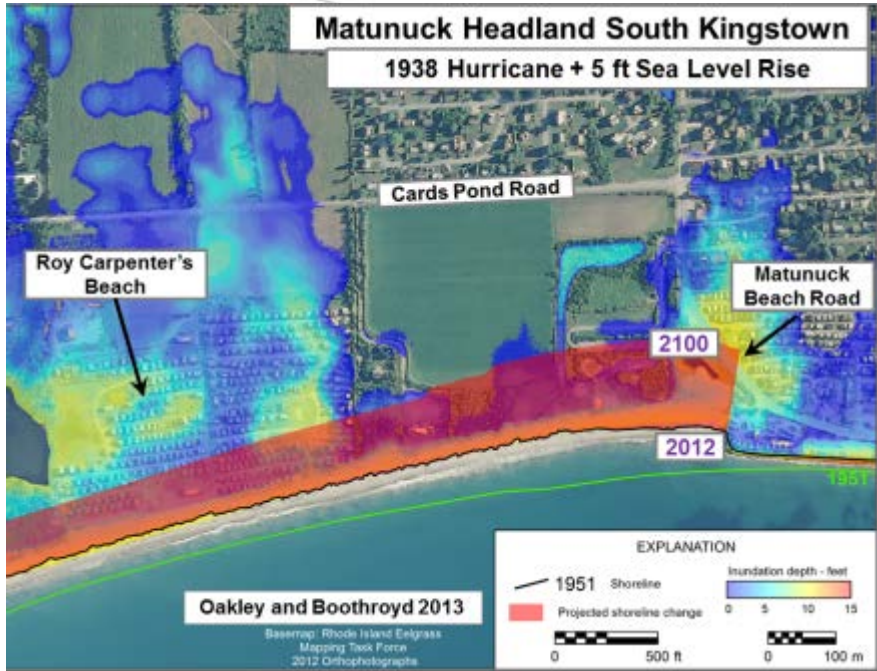
The images, taken in 2003 or 2004, serve as background for the data explained below:

- Black line** -- An arbitrary baseline on which to place transects perpendicular to the shoreline.
- Red line** -- Position of the shoreline in 1938.
- Blue line** -- Position of the shoreline in 2003/2004.
- Transects** -- Black lines extending from the baseline perpendicular to the shoreline to below Mean Lower Low Water.
- Black numbers (in white boxes)** -- Transect identifiers; sequential number from Napeague.
- Red numbers** -- Shoreline change (in feet and meters) as measured along any given transect. Negative numbers are **distance eroded**; positive numbers indicate accretion.
- Yellow numbers** -- Indicate **rate of erosion** (or accretion) for the time between 1938 and 2003/2004 (64-65 years).



- New Shoreline Change Map Online Interface
- Block Island Shoreline Change Map
- Updating Washington County Maps currently
- Monitoring along South Shore including Misquamicut Beach Nourishment, & on Block Island
- **UPCOMING- FUTURE SHORELINE PROJECTIONS**

# Future Shoreline Projections



# StormTools: Maps of Storms+Sea Level Rise

## Visualizations

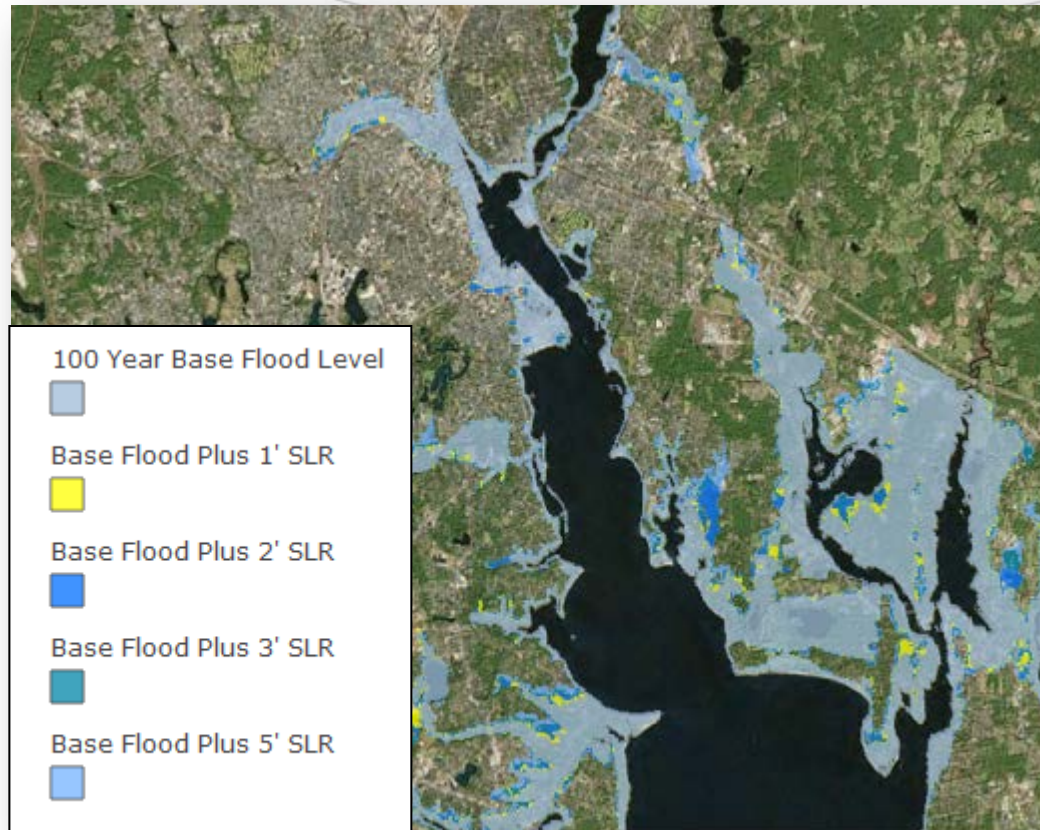
**Maps flooding from a 25, 50, 100-year storm PLUS Sea Level Rise**

***\*\*More accurate depiction of future flooding risk***

## Applications

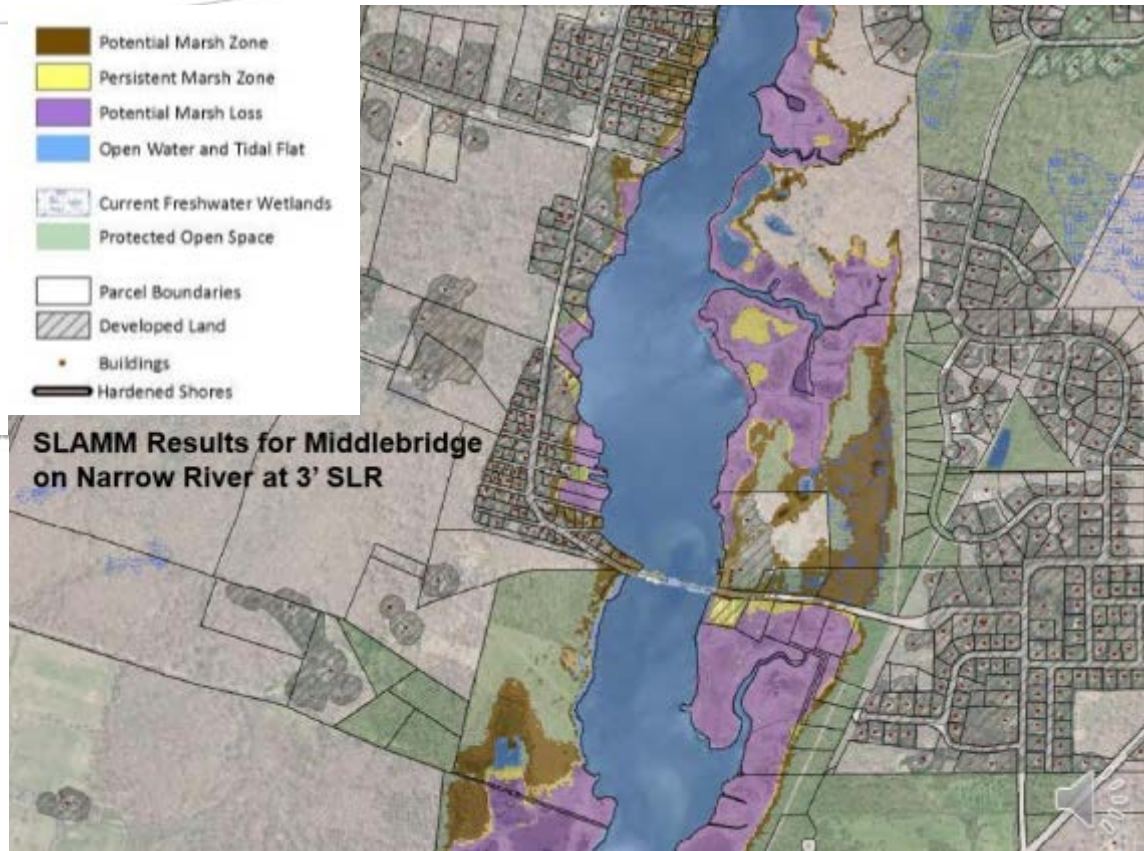
**Day-to-Day operations**

**Long term planning/financing**



# Salt Marsh Migration

Maps  
**ADOPTED** by  
CRMC



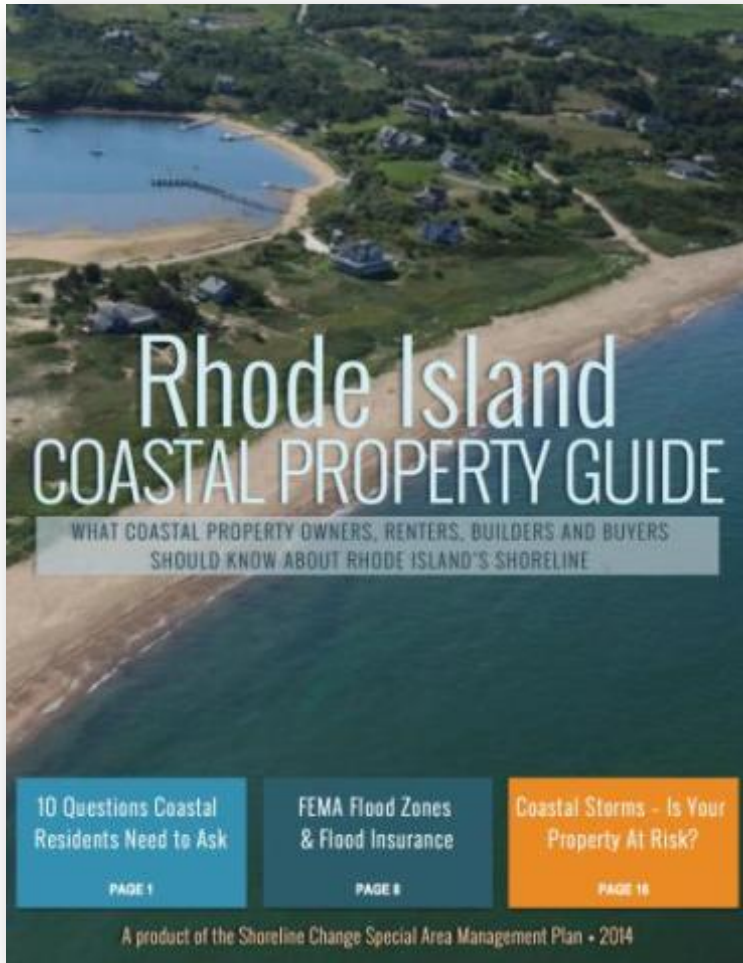
# Salt Marsh Restoration



- ◆ Narrow River Estuary Restoration
  - ◆ Post-Sandy Dept. of Interior funding to US Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge System
  - ◆ Beneficial Re-use / Thin Layer Deposition
  - ◆ Micro-creek / runnel excavation
  - ◆ Marsh edge enhancement via living shoreline techniques



# Coastal Property Guide Informs Landowners and Buyers



- Coastal features
- CRMC water type classifications
- FEMA flood zones
- Flood insurance, program/premiums
- Coastal hazards: sea-level rise and erosion
- Shoreline protection structures
- Coastal hazards: storms & floods
- Existing buildings
- Septic system requirements
- Structural resilience

[http://www.beachsamp.org/  
coastalpropertyguide/](http://www.beachsamp.org/coastalpropertyguide/)



# FORTIFIED™ –

## Retrofit/Build to Reduce Potential Damage

### Focus on Key Components

- Roof, walls, windows, doors, equipment
  - The right products and installation
    - Proper elevation



#### BRONZE: STRENGTHEN THE ROOF SYSTEM

Minimizes the risk of water getting into the home and of the roof detaching from the walls.



#### SILVER: STRENGTHEN THE WINDOWS & DOORS

Minimizes the risk of wind entering the home and causing a roof failure. Also effective at reducing the risk of water getting into the home.



#### GOLD: STRENGTHEN THE STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Ties all of the elements of the home together and to the ground. The most effective way to minimize risks from high winds.



#### FORTIFIED FOR SAFER LIVING®

A multi-hazard program specifying construction, design and landscaping standards to increase a home's resilience and deliver superior performance during ALL natural hazards.



Sealed roof deck  
damage estimate

**\$5,408<sup>.59</sup>**

Unsealed roof deck  
damage estimate

**\$16,935<sup>.23</sup>**

# Green Infrastructure + Experiential Learning



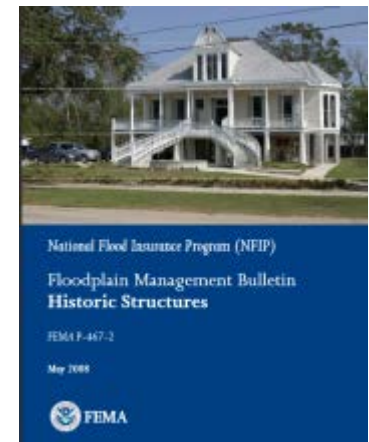
## Green Infrastructure Design

- Newport
- Warwick
- North Kingstown



# Adapting Historic Structures

- Guidance on how to adapt historic structures or districts to SLR
- Tailored to Rhode Island



# Landscape Architecture Studios

- ◆ Newport
- ◆ Wickford
- ◆ Focused on Adaptation Design



VIEW FROM BOARDWALK IN 25 YEARS



Design by Amanda Gaal, URI LAR graduate, to depict what the park might look like in 25 years with her design of a boardwalk through a reconstructed marsh.



Design by Dennis Staton, URI LAR graduate, to illustrate his vision of Storer Park in 25 years.

# Engineering Senior Design Class

Assessment of Marinas to storms and sea level rise

Template for others to use



**25 Year Return Period Water Level with SLR**

Greenwich Bay South Yard Marina

Projected Date	Sea Level Rise	25 Year Return Period
--	• None	8.26 ft (2.52 m)
2034	• 1 ft (0.30 m)	9.55 ft (2.91 m)
2071	• 3 ft (0.91 m)	12.12 ft (3.69 m)

➤ Referenced to NAVD88

- At 1 ft (0.30 m) SLR and a 25 year return period, half of the marina would be inundated



# Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council

- Local Guidance
- Promoting Decision Making Tools & Best Practices
- Recommendations at State and Local Level on adaptation/decision making



RIEC<sup>4</sup>

# Current Beach SAMP Tools & Resources



**TO:** Municipal Planners; Planning Boards; Municipal Administrators; Public Works Officials; Emergency Managers; and Floodplain Coordinators  
**FROM:** CRMC Rhode Island Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Team  
**DATE:** June 3, 2015  
**RE:** Tools and Resources to Assist in Natural Hazard and Climate Change Planning

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By 2016, Rhode Island cities and towns will need to plan for natural hazards and the impacts of climate change within their community's local comprehensive plan. This how-to guide and presentation was created as a resource for coastal municipalities on how to conduct a preliminary vulnerability assessment and adopt climate change adaptation strategies into the local comprehensive plan. While every community is different and will follow a unique planning process, this

- Memo to municipalities
  - Planners
  - Council Presidents
  - Emergency Managers
  - Boards/Commissions
- Series of memos to share Beach SAMP tools/resources, findings and recommendations

# Legal Workshop

- ◆ **DECEMBER 1, 2015** - day long workshop focused on RI
- ◆ Co-hosted with Roger Williams Law School & RI Sea Grant Legal Program
- ◆ Focused on legal issues & challenges related to shoreline change, sea level rise & storms
  - ◆ Liability associated with allowing development in at risk areas
  - ◆ Developing sea level rise overlay zones/ordinances
  - ◆ Etc.
- ◆ Audience- municipal staff; solicitors; emergency managers, etc.



Roger Williams University School  
of Law





# Beach SAMP Document

- 🔹 Components of SAMP
  - 🔹 Volume 1- Overview/Summary
  - 🔹 Volume 2- Research & Technical Reports
  - 🔹 Proposed policy & regulatory changes to RICRMP “Red Book”

## Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Draft Document Outline

### VOLUME 1

#### Chapter 1- Introduction

- 1.1. Statement of the Problem
- 1.2. Goal of the Shoreline Change SAMP
- 1.3. Shoreline Change SAMP Scope and Study Area
- 1.4. Collaborative Effort
- 1.5. Contents of Shoreline Change SAMP Document
- 1.6. Principles Guiding the Design and Development of the Shoreline Change SAMP

#### Chapter 2- Trends and Status- Current and Future Impacts of Storm Surge, Sea Level Rise and Coastal Erosion

- 2.1 Storm Surge & Flooding
- 2.2 Erosion/Shoreline Change
- 2.3 Sea Level Rise
- 2.4 Wetland Loss and Migration
- 2.5 Compounding Impacts of Sea Level Rise, Storm Surge & Erosion/Shoreline Change
- 2.6 Tools Developed to Assess Exposure

#### Chapter 3- Assessing Coastal Risk

- 3.1 Definitions of Coastal Risk and Resilience
- 3.2 Coastal Risk Management
- 3.3 Implications to Not Considering Coastal Risk and Resilience

#### Chapter 4- Planning & Adaptation

##### 4.1 Land Use Decision Making

- 4.1.1 RI Statewide Planning Program requirement for local comprehensive plans to include natural hazards and climate change
- 4.1.2 New federal executive order 11988 on flood standards related to projects federally funded

##### 4.2 Adaptation Strategies and Techniques

- 4.2.1 Municipal Adaptation Strategies for Comp Plan/Municipal Operations
- 4.2.2 Storm Planning & Recovery
- 4.2.3 Physical Adaptation & Retrofit Techniques for Structures (brief summary will be provided & reference to a more comprehensive technical report in Volume II)
- 4.2.4 Green Infrastructure Techniques & Systems Approach to Geomorphic Engineering (SAGE)
- 4.2.5 Restoration of Wetlands
- 4.2.6 Waterfront & Coastal Businesses
- 4.2.7 Marina Resilience & Checklist

#### Chapter 5- Conclusion

- 5.1 Implications for CRMC
- 5.2 Recommendations for Municipalities
- 5.3 Recommendations for Other State Agencies

#### References

1

# Building Tools in Partnership



TETRA TECH





**Municipal Work Session on Adaptation Planning for Coastal Hazards**  
**Town of New Shoreham - October 22, 2015**





**TO:** Municipal Planners; Planning Boards; Municipal Administrators; Public Works Officials; Emergency Managers; and Floodplain Coordinators  
**FROM:** CRMC Rhode Island Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (Beach SAMP) Team  
**DATE:** June 3, 2015  
**RE:** Tools and Resources to Assist in Natural Hazard and Climate Change Planning

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memo to coastal municipalities is to share resources and tools that may assist coastal cities and towns in planning for the impacts of natural hazards and climate change. Some of these tools are new or recently adopted by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), and others are existing planning maps that have been made easier to locate and use.

These tools and resources will aid in planning for natural hazards and climate change in municipal comprehensive plans as required by the *Rhode Island Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act* (RIGL 45-22.2). In particular, these resources will help to assess the impacts of:

- Storm surge and sea level rise;
- Salt marsh migration in response to sea level rise; and
- Shoreline change and erosion.

## TOOLS & RESOURCES

### RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: Natural Hazards and Climate Change

**Adaptation:** *A how-to guide on incorporating natural hazards planning and climate change adaptation into local comprehensive plans.*

[www.beachsamp.org](http://www.beachsamp.org)

By 2016, Rhode Island cities and towns will need to plan for natural hazards and the impacts of climate change within their community's local comprehensive plan. This how-to guide and presentation was created as a resource for coastal municipalities on how to conduct a preliminary vulnerability assessment and adopt climate change adaptation strategies into the local comprehensive plan. While every community is different and will follow a unique planning process, this

# Current Beach SAMP Tools & Resources

- Memo to municipalities
  - Planners
  - Council Presidents
  - Emergency Managers
  - Boards/Commissions
- Series of memos to share Beach SAMP tools/resources, findings and recommendations

# StormTools:

## Maps of Storms+Sea Level Rise

### Visualizations

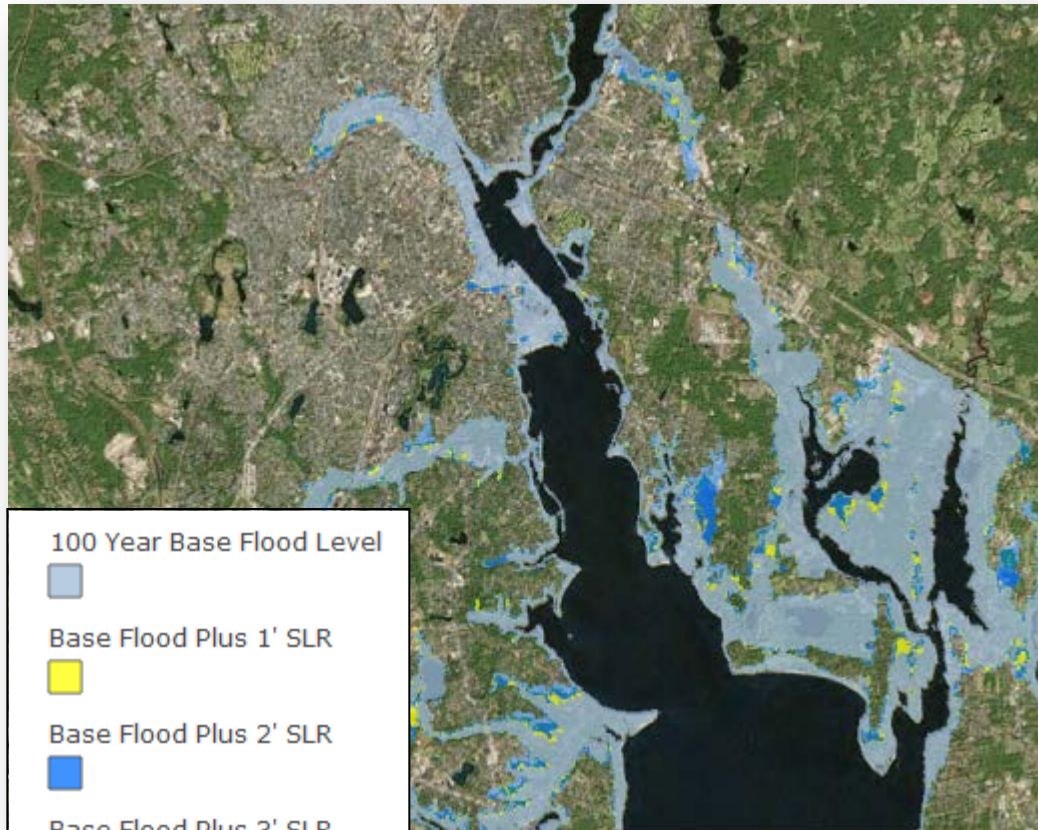
Maps flooding from a 25,  
50, 100-year storm PLUS  
Sea Level Rise

***\*\*More accurate depiction  
of future flooding risk***

### Applications

Day-to-Day operations

Long term  
planning/financing



100 Year Base Flood Level



Base Flood Plus 1' SLR



Base Flood Plus 2' SLR



Base Flood Plus 3' SLR



Base Flood Plus 5' SLR



# www.beachsamp.org

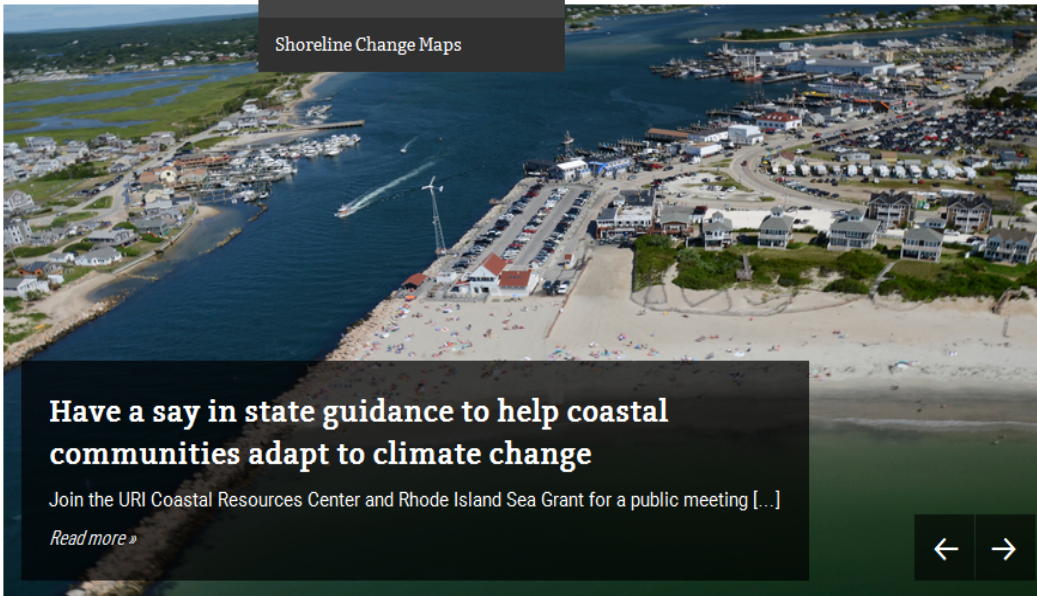
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## RI CRMC Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan

[Home](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Resources & Tools](#) [Coastal Property Guide](#) [Management Plan](#) [Get Involved](#)

STORMTOOLS

Shoreline Change Maps



### Have a say in state guidance to help coastal communities adapt to climate change

Join the URI Coastal Resources Center and Rhode Island Sea Grant for a public meeting [...]

[Read more »](#)



Search ...



#### Recent Posts

- New tools give coastal communities a leg up on adaptation planning
- Start thinking now: Public comment period for Beach SAMP document opens
- Have a say in state guidance to help coastal communities adapt to climate change
- 2015 Lecture Series!
- DEM SEEK NOMINATIONS
- Adaptation Report Online: Newport Resilience Assessment Tour (NRAT)
- Adaptation Information: Guidance for Municipalities Powerpoint
- Visual Summary of Adaptation Practices
- Rescheduled Coastal State Discussion Series for April 28th, 2015
- New Pilot Projects in Rhode Island

#### News & Updates



#### Adaptation Information: Guidance for Municipalities

Powerpoint

April 30, 2015

# www.beachsamp.org

## STORMTOOLS for Beginners



[Open](#) ▼ [Details](#)

STORMTOOLS for Beginners is a one-map stop for all residents of Rhode Island to better understand their risk from coastal inundation. This map allows you to enter an address in Rhode Island, and get answers to 3 questions about your property:

1. Is my property vulnerable to STORM SURGE?;
2. How DEEP will the water be on my property during a 100-year (1% chance) coastal storm?; and
3. Will projected SEA LEVEL RISE affect my property?

# “STORMTOOLS FOR BEGINNERS”

**Step 1: Enter an address**

**Step 2: Click on the question you want to answer**

***“Is my property vulnerable to STORM SURGE during a 100-year coastal storm (e.g. 1938 Hurricane)?”***

**(flood extent map)**

ArcGIS **STORMTOOLS for Beginners** Modify Map Sign In

Details | Basemap | Share | Print | Measure | 586 Beach Ave, New Shoreham, Town of, Rhode Island, L X

About | Content | Legend

**Legend**

**Is my property vulnerable to STORM SURGE during a 100-year coastal storm (e.g. 1938 Hurricane)?**

100 Year Event

- 100 Year Base Flood Level
- Base Flood Plus 1' SLR
- Base Flood Plus 2' SLR
- Base Flood Plus 3' SLR
- Base Flood Plus 5' SLR

**Search result**

586 Beach Ave, New Shoreham, Town of, Rhode Island, 02807

Show more results

Add to Map Notes



# STORMTOOLS

## 100-year Storm Event

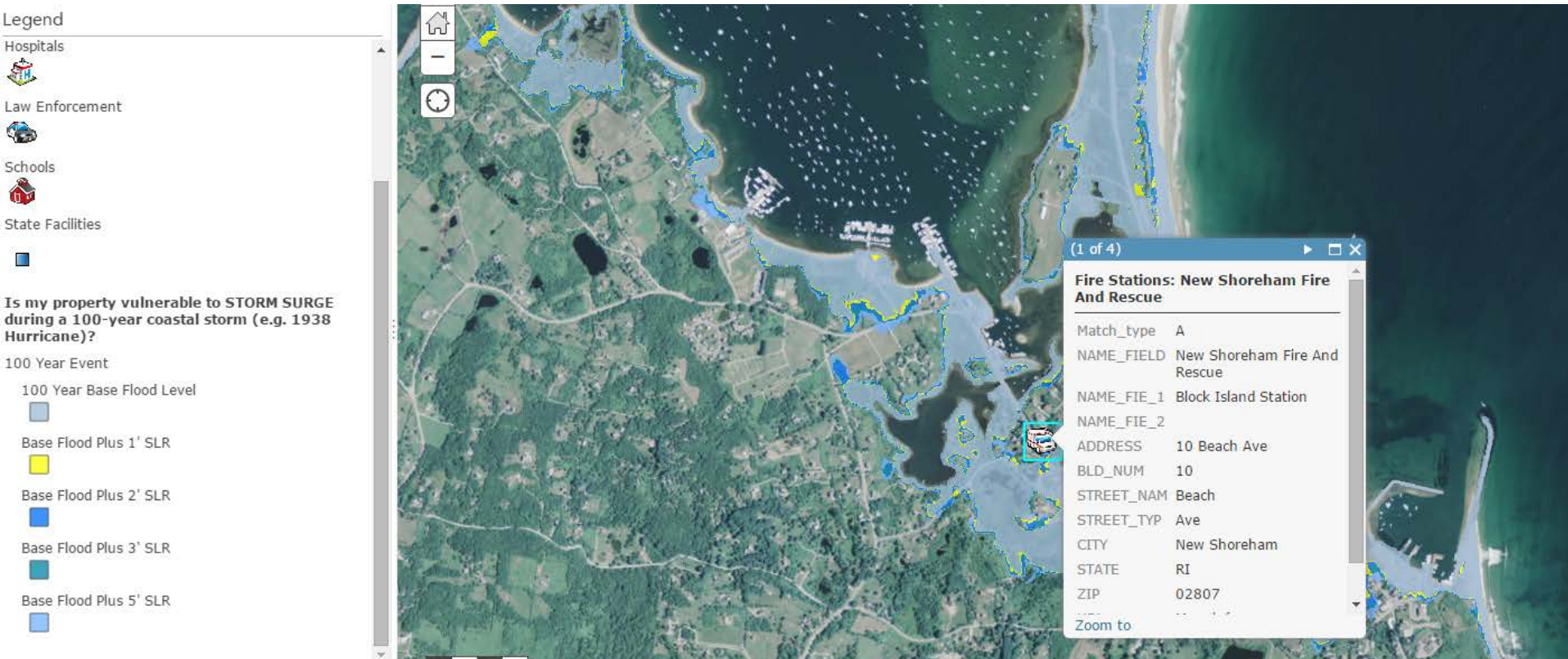
### +SLR

#### Police / Fire / EMA

- Service areas cutoff or limited by flooding?
- Facilities at risk of being offline from flooding?

#### - Transportation

- Evacuation routes
- Functionality and service areas
- Alternate routes / road relocations
- Design life of infrastructure/assets



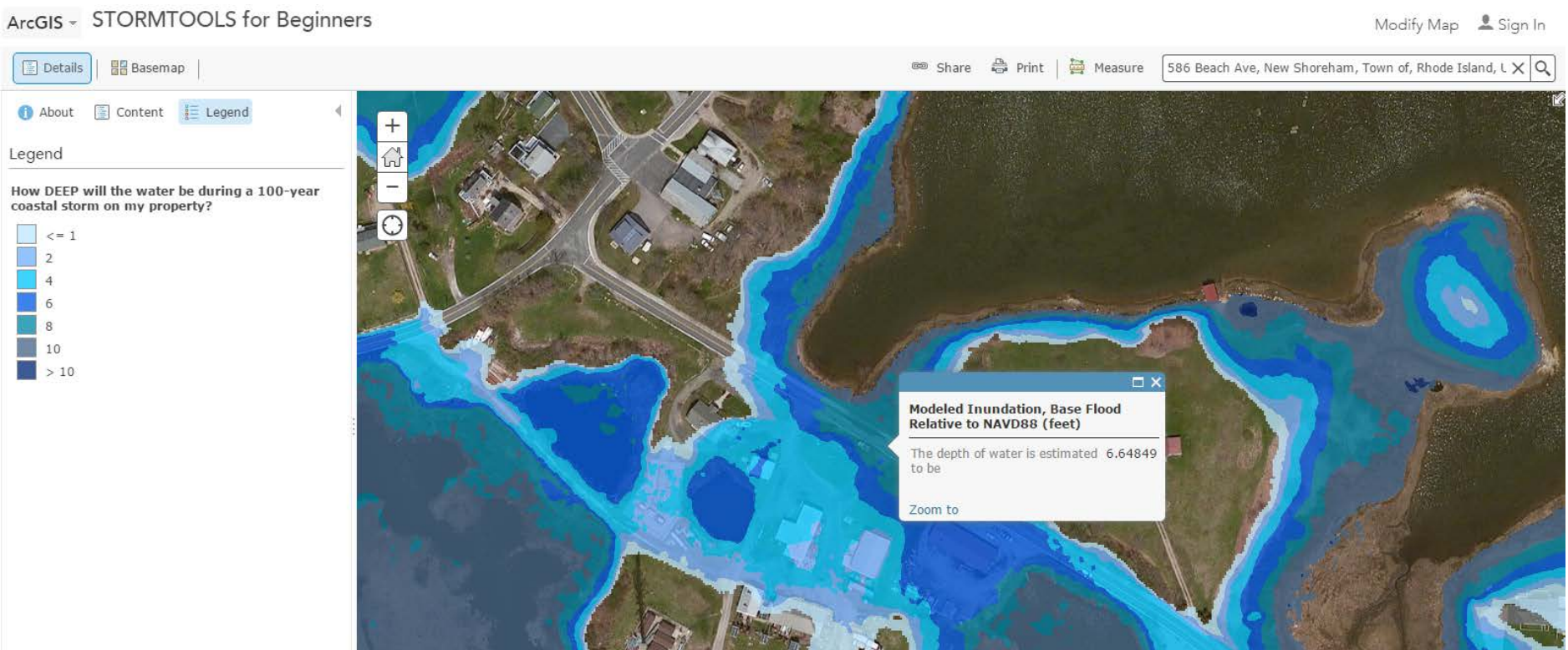
# “STORMTOOLS FOR BEGINNERS”

Step 1: Enter an address

Step 2: Click on the question you want to answer

***“How DEEP will the water be during a 100-year coastal storm on my property?”***

**(water depth map)**



# “STORMTOOLS FOR BEGINNERS”

Step 1: Enter an address

Step 2: Click on the question you want to answer

***“Will future SEA LEVEL RISE affect my property  
(with 2 tides per day, every day)?”***

**(sea level rise scenario map)**

The screenshot displays the StormTools web application interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Details' and 'Basemap'. On the right, there are icons for 'Share', 'Print', and 'Measure', along with the address '586 Beach Ave, New Shoreham, Town'. The main map area shows a satellite view of a coastal area with various colored overlays representing sea level rise scenarios. A legend on the left side of the map lists 'Rhode Island Addressed Structures' and 'Sea Level Rise Scenarios'. The 'Rhode Island Addressed Structures' legend includes categories like Miscellaneous, Airport, Campground, Commercial, Development Site, Public Telephone, Industrial, Public Service, Residential, and Utility. The 'Sea Level Rise Scenarios' legend includes 'MHHW Plus 1' SLR', 'MHHW Plus 2' SLR', 'MHHW Plus 3' SLR', and 'MHHW Plus 5' SLR'. A pop-up window on the right side of the map displays details for a specific site: 'Rhode Island E911 Sites: CORN NECK RD'. The pop-up window includes fields for 'UpdateDate', 'Comments', 'SiteType', 'LR', 'Zip', 'ZN', 'HouseNumber', and 'PrimaryAddress'.

Details Basemap Share Print Measure 586 Beach Ave, New Shoreham, Town

About Content Legend

Legend

**Rhode Island Addressed Structures**

Rhode Island E911 Sites

- Miscellaneous
- Airport
- Campground
- Commercial
- Development Site
- Public Telephone
- Industrial
- Public Service
- Residential
- Utility

**Will future SEA LEVEL RISE affect my property?**

Sea Level Rise Scenarios

- MHHW Plus 1' SLR
- MHHW Plus 2' SLR
- MHHW Plus 3' SLR
- MHHW Plus 5' SLR

**Rhode Island E911 Sites: CORN NECK RD**

UpdateDate	March 26, 2008
Comments	Beach Head Tavern 2 stry gry, steps on right w/trm
SiteType	C1
LR	L
Zip	02807
ZN	BLOCK ISLAND
HouseNumber	598
PrimaryAddress	598 CORN NECK RD

# Sea Level Rise Impacts to Municipal Facilities

## Legend

### Emergency Service Locations

Emergency Medical Service



Fire Stations



Hospitals



Law Enforcement



Schools



State Facilities



### Rhode Island Addressed Structures

Rhode Island E911 Sites

Miscellaneous



Airport



Campground



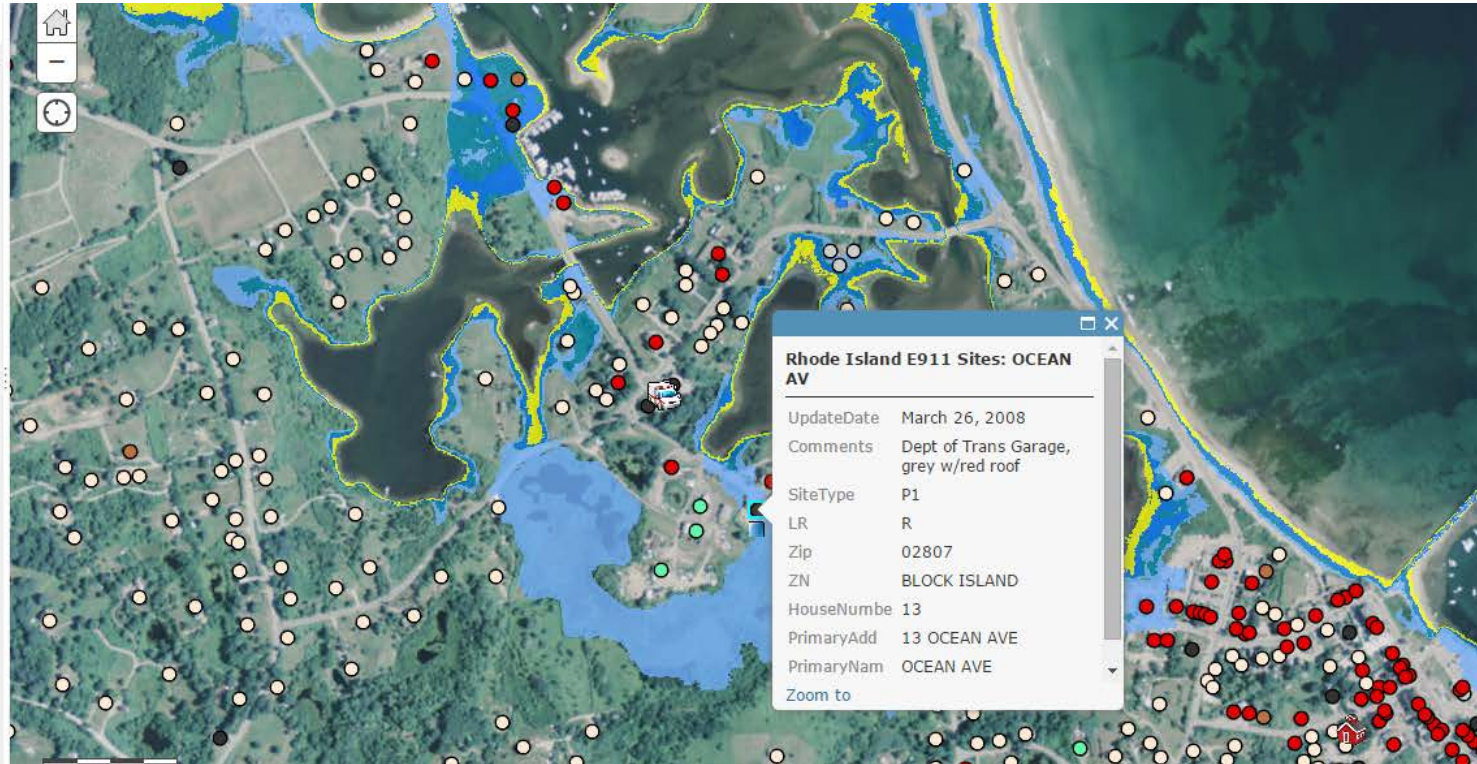
Commercial



Development Site



Public Telephone



# Sea Level Rise Impacts in Pt Judith

## Legend

Will future SEA LEVEL RISE affect my property?

Sea Level Rise Scenarios

MHHW Plus 1' SLR



MHHW Plus 2' SLR



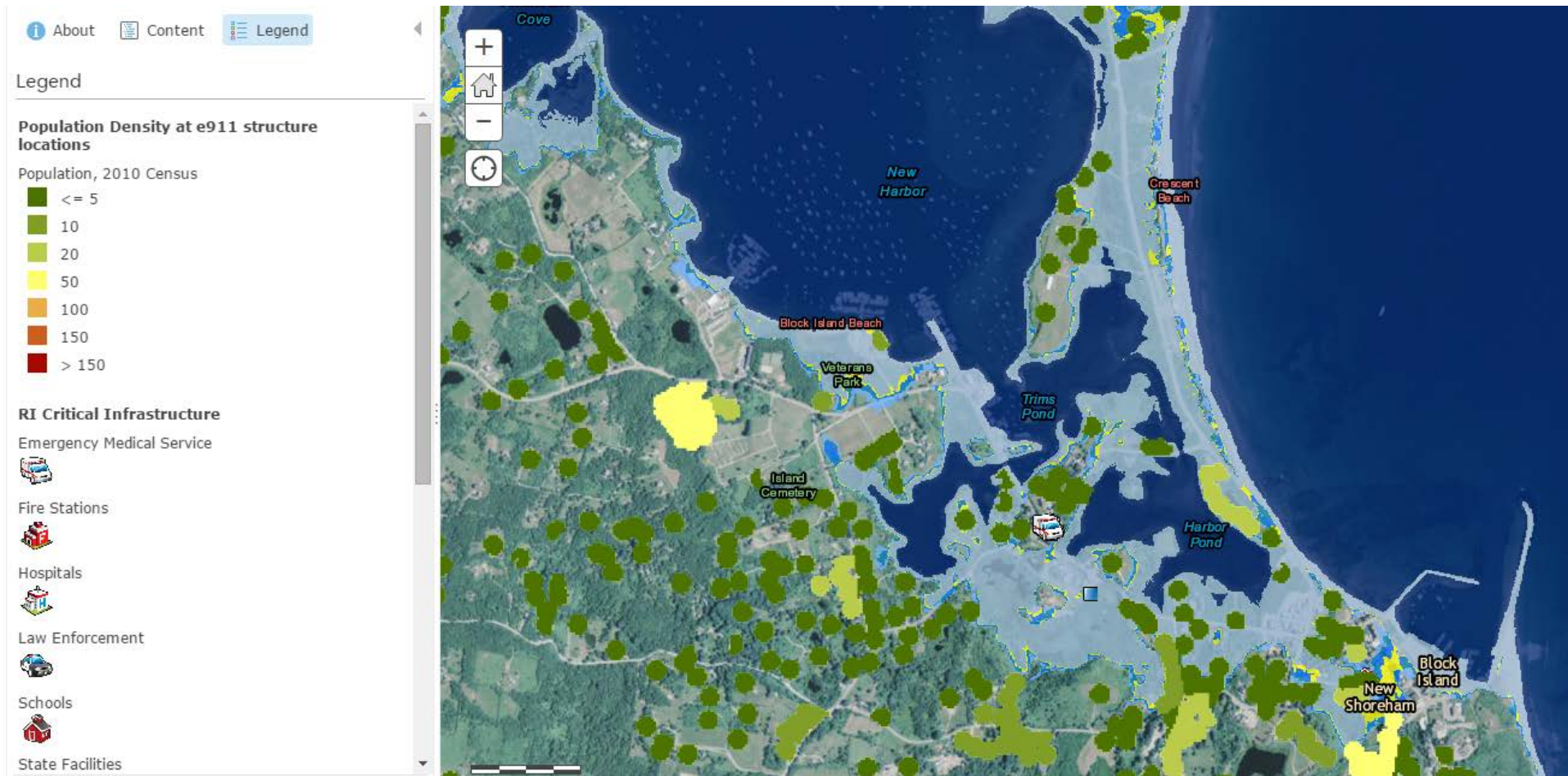
MHHW Plus 3' SLR



MHHW Plus 5' SLR



# Provides Maps of Flood Extent with Population Density Data



# Additional Storm Events

## 25-year or 4% Annual Chance Storm Event (comparable to a Nor'easter) +SLR

### 25 Year Event

25 Year Base Flood Level



Base Flood Plus 1' SLR



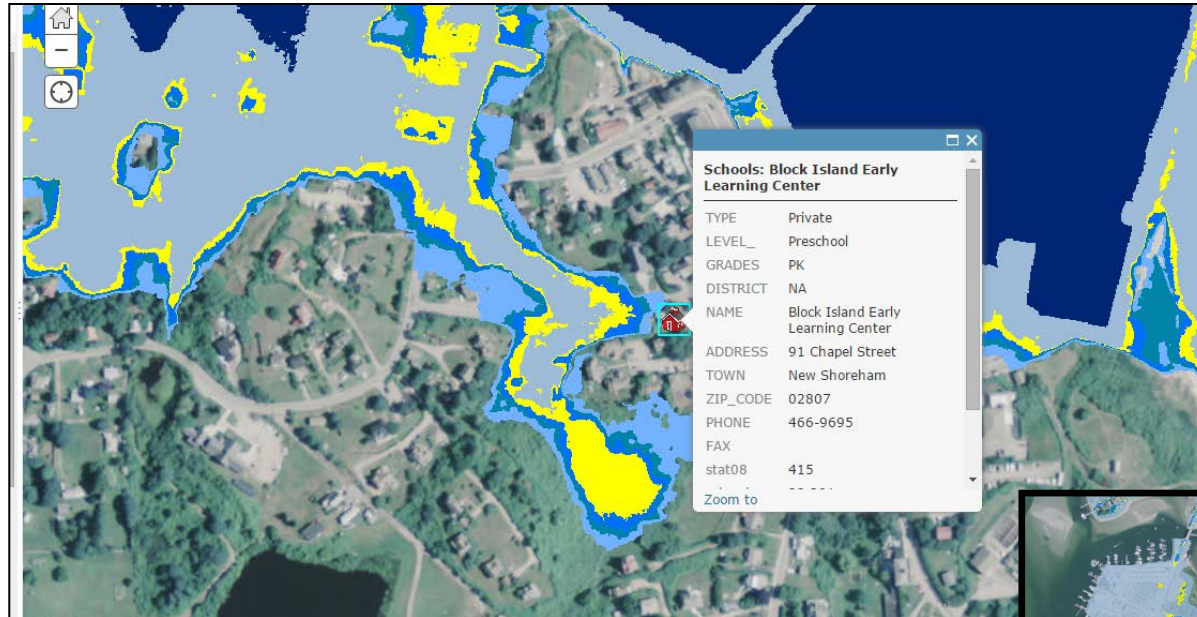
Base Flood Plus 2' SLR



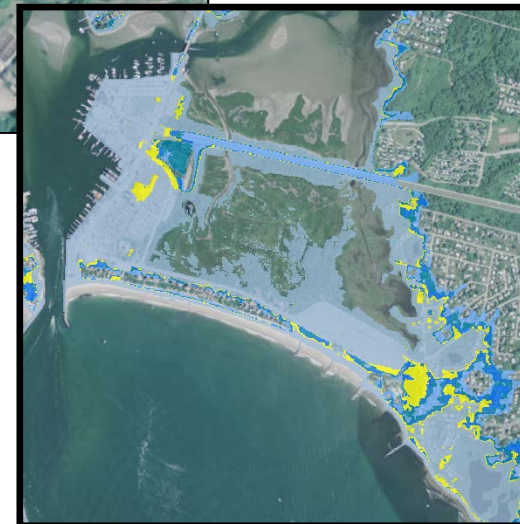
Base Flood Plus 3' SLR



Base Flood Plus 5' SLR



Pt Judith



**STORMTOOLS** also has maps for:

-10 year or 10% Annual Change Storm  
Event- Nuisance Flooding

-Wave height data for different storm events



Questions?