

# DIGITALCOAST CONNECTIONS



June 2025

## New Data, New Resources

### Digital Coast – Your Coastal Information Resource

- **Case Study** – [A Thoughtful Community Engagement Strategy for Watershed Management](#)
- **Story from the Field** – [Identifying Flood Risks to Transportation Infrastructure in Texas](#)
- **Story from the Field** – All [stories for Puerto Rico](#) are now available in Spanish.
- **Data** – See the list of [new and updated data sets](#).

### Office for Coastal Management

- Explore the complete [list of state impact stories](#) and use them in your communication efforts. The most recent stories are at the top.

## Updates to Digital Coast Tool

### User Feedback Drives Data Server Improvements

With content from more than 800 sources, [NOAA's Digital Coast](#) is the go-to website for coastal communities and businesses. Ten thousand to 15,000 data processing requests are received each month. To improve accessibility, website developers recently instituted improvements to the site's [data access viewer](#) (affectionately known as “DAV”) and asked users to help test the beta system. Over 2,700 people volunteered. This level of user engagement ensured the final product was ready to meet the evolving needs of the customer base.

## Tech Topics

### Alaska Added to the Sea Level Rise Viewer (and More!)

NOAA's [Sea Level Rise Viewer](#) received a series of updates recently, one of which includes adding 26 Alaskan communities to the tool for the first time. The update included minimizing the file size of the data to allow for downloading over low bandwidth, which is common in these areas. While there, don't forget to check out the Local Scenarios tab. [Our tutorial](#) teaches users how to get the most functionality out of this feature, such as comparing time and climate scenarios for your location.

Additional updates include:

- Remapped with new elevation data for Washington, California, American Samoa, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island
- Added half-foot increments of sea level rise
- Added U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico visualizations—Puerto Rico for the first time!

Check out the full list of [data updates](#) and reach out to the tool team at [coastal.info@noaa.gov](mailto:coastal.info@noaa.gov) with any questions.

## Stories from Your Peers



### Summer Internship Program Fosters Homegrown Environmental Stewards in the Northern Mariana Islands

A summer internship program in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is preparing the next generation of environmental stewards through mentorship and hands-on experience. The program pairs local post-secondary students with mentors from natural resource agencies to complete conservation projects that build capacity in the islands. Since 2002, the program has supported over 200 interns—like Dianne (pictured above), who

returned to the islands to start a full-time career with the CNMI coastal program.

- To learn more, read the [full story here](#).

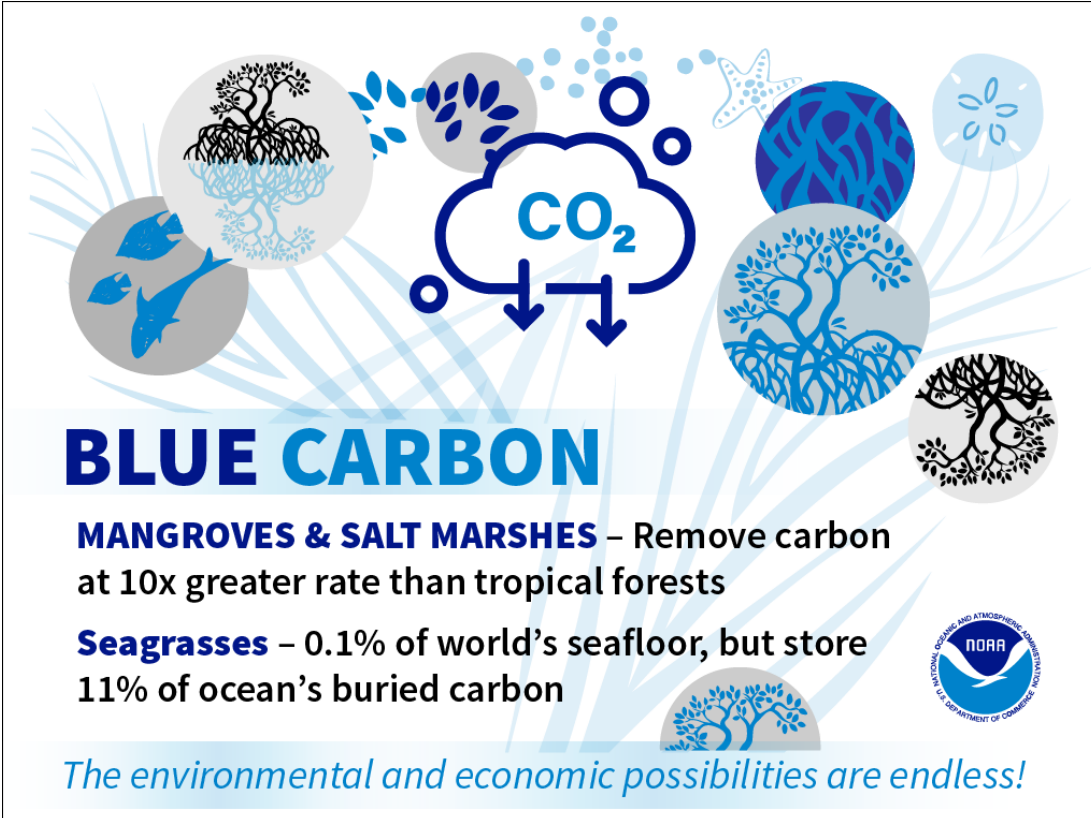
## Tips from the Digital Coast Academy

### A Thoughtful Community Engagement Strategy for Watershed Management

North Carolina coastal professionals from different organizations came together to engage residents and local leaders in a watershed management study. By taking a thoughtful approach to engagement planning, the team has fostered stronger relationships among watershed residents, local governments, and regional agencies.

They gathered lessons learned along the way, like including technical experts in community events. This approach established the experts as relatable individuals rather than an anonymous group, helping build trust between the study team and community members. [Learn more about their process.](#)

## Fast Facts




**BLUE CARBON**

**MANGROVES & SALT MARSHES** – Remove carbon at 10x greater rate than tropical forests

**Seagrasses** – 0.1% of world's seafloor, but store 11% of ocean's buried carbon

*The environmental and economic possibilities are endless!*



This is just one of the many coastal management [fast facts and graphics](#) provided for your use. [Read the list](#) and let us know if there are others you'd like to see added.

