NOAA Office for Coastal Management
2018 FMA Updates

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Digital Coast

• **Approach:** Bring the geospatial and coastal management communities together

• **Outcome:** A constituent-driven, integrated platform that supports coastal resource management to help turn data into useful information
Digital Coast Partnership

NOAA Office for Coastal Management | American Planning Association | Association of State Floodplain Managers
Coastal States Organization | National Association of Counties | National Estuarine Research Reserve Association
National States Geographic Information Council | The Nature Conservancy | Urban Land Institute

Office for Coastal Management
How to Map Open Space for Community Rating System Credit

Overview
When communities reduce flood risk, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) can offer discounts on flood insurance premiums for policyholders. Participating communities in FEMA’s Community Rating System receive credits to determine the amount. One way to earn credits is by preserving floodplains. Conserving this open space and implementing land use policies that encourage development away from wetlands, dunes, and other naturally protective features allows a floodplain to serve its natural function and absorb excess water during a flood event.

This “how-to” provides a step-by-step approach for earning this credit (CRS Activity 420) in areas that are already protected, and identifying places where additional credit could be earned through future preservation efforts. It also provides templates and worksheets to compile verification information. The steps draw from FEMA’s Community Rating System Coordinator’s Manual (2017), and reference related elements in other Community Rating System activities, such as floodplain mapping (Activity 410).

Seven-Step Process:
1. Calculate the community’s special flood hazard area
2. Identify lands that may qualify for open space preservation credit
3. Exclude areas that do not qualify for open space credit

coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/crs.html

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NOAA’s How To Map Open Space: Two Companion Products

1. Step-by-step instructional “How-to” guide (for planners)

2. GIS workflow (for GIS analysts)

• Supplementary documents
  – Before you get started
  – Worksheet for calculating credits
  – Parcel documentation checklist

Office for Coastal Management
Step 1: Calculate the impact adjusted flood hazard area

$$r_{OSP} = \frac{a_{OSP}}{a_{SFHA}} \times 1,450 \text{ points}$$

Step 2: Identify lands that may qualify for OSP credit
Step 3: Exclude areas that do not qualify

Step 4: Calculate potential OSP credit

$r_{OSP} = \frac{a_{OSP}}{a_{SFHA}} \times 1,450 \text{ points}$

Impervious surfaces
Step 5: Determine if parcels qualify for "extra credit"

- Deed Restrictions (DR)
- Natural Function Open Space (NFOS)
  (e.g. natural areas, critical habitats)

Step 6: Gather documentation for each parcel

- The "impact adjustment map"
- List of areas that qualify for credit
Step 7: Identify opportunities to earn more OSP credit
Sea Level Rise Viewer

- Available for all coastal areas
- View water levels up to 6ft (10ft coming soon!)

Features:
- Global scenarios tailored to local tide gauges
- Mapping confidence
- Marsh migration
- Socioeconomic vulnerability
- High tide flooding
Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper

- Visualize coastal flood hazards
- Share maps to communicate with and engage stakeholders
- Coming soon to the West Coast in 2019

Features:
- Short- and long-term flood hazards
- Societal exposure
- Infrastructure exposure
- Ecosystem exposure
• High-resolution land cover (C-CAP)
  – Production starting this fall for coastal California

• NOAA Water Initiative
  – Stormwater decision support tool

• NEW! Local Hazard Mitigation Planning
  “Compass”

• Coastal GeoTools in Myrtle Beach, SC
  – February 11-14, 2019
  – Abstracts due September 28
Thank you!

Questions?
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NOAA Digital Coast
https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/