**Tools training and subsequent peer presentations**

NOAA's digital coast (<http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>) offers a wide selection of comprehensive tools for assessing coastal risks and looking at resilience measures. 61 tools are listed here: http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools. Many of these tools have tutorials and resources for understanding how to use them. Rather than duplicating efforts, this activity allows students to utilize existing and available resources to learn various assigned tools. Each student is assigned his/her own individual tool, but as they present their findings to the rest of the class, everyone gets a taste of what is out there.

This activity is flexible in terms of time, depending on how much is available and the level of understanding of the students. You may want to present a brief introduction on how the presentation should look to the students. This gives them an idea of what to be looking for as they explore the tool. You can allow the students to explore their tool for homework, or you can give them up to two hours of class time. You can use the questions below to guide their exploration. Once the students have completed their research, each one may take anywhere from 5 to 15 minutes to give a brief tutorial of the tool, making sure to answer the following questions, which of course can be adapted or edited:

* Who would use this tool?
* Can the tool be customized?
* How easy did you find it to use your tool? Challenges and opportunities?
* What applications can you think of to use this tool in?
* What’s your opinion of the possible efficacy of the tool?

The tools, with links, requirements, and descriptions are listed below

**Nature Conservancy Coastal Resilience Mapping Portal**

<http://maps.coastalresilience.org/network/>

Coastal Resilience supports a community of practitioners around the world who are applying spatial planning innovations to coastal hazard risk, resilience and adaptation issues. This is a global network providing access to peer practitioners, tools, information and training focused on nature-based solutions

**NOAA Coastal County snapshots**

<http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/snapshots/>

Coastal County Snapshots turn complex data into easy-to-understand stories, complete with charts and graphs. Users select a coastal county of interest and the website does the rest, providing information that can help communities become more resilient to coastal hazards.

**Habitat Priority Planner**

[**http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/hpp**](http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/hpp)

This tool aids in making decisions about conservation, restoration, and planning. The Habitat Priority Planner takes away much of the subjective nature of the process by providing a means of obtaining critical habitat analyses that are consistent, repeatable, and transparent. The program allows users to easily test various ideas and "what if" scenarios on the fly, making it the perfect tool to use in a group setting.

**ENOW Explorer**

[**http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/enow**](http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/enow)

View and interact with Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) data for your state or county without having to download the data set. Use the ENOW Explorer to describe and compare the six sectors of the ocean and Great Lakes economy:

* living resources
* marine construction
* marine transportation
* offshore mineral resources
* ship and boat building
* tourism and recreation

**Needs Assessment Guide**

[**http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/needs-assessment-guide**](http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/needs-assessment-guide)

This step-by-step online guide serves as a helpful reminder for those who have an understanding of and some experience with needs assessment. It offers simplified just-in-time guidance to support you on the job. Also included are case studies addressing coastal issues, dozens of coastal needs assessment reports, and access to technical assistance.

**SLR viewer**

[**http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/slr/**](http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/slr/)

Select a geography and use the slider bar to simulate various sea level rise scenarios (from one to six feet above the average highest tides) and the corresponding areas that would be impacted by flooding. Click the camera icons for pictures that depict how local landmarks could be affected. Additional tabs provide information about marsh impacts, nuisance flood frequency, and social and economic data.

**Coastal Planning Advisor**

[**http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/coastalplanningadvisor**](http://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/coastalplanningadvisor)

Decision making, particularly in a team environment, benefits from a process. This tool provides an easy-to-use process for 12 coastal management issues, from climate change to land use planning. People are using the Coastal Planning Advisor to get teams on the same page, facilitate a collaborative process, assign tasks, and write grant proposals. The list is endless.