



COSTAL FLOOD

NOAA
EXPOSURE MAPPER

NEW ORLEANS
USA

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The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has just released an online tool for mapping coastal flood risk. Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper allows users to examine, in great detail, the vulnerability to flooding of any location along the Atlantic or Gulf Coast.

It allows the view, for a region, a composite of coastal flood hazards, or individual components: shallow coastal flooding (impacts from exceptional high tides without storm effects), FEMA flood zones (both 1% or 100-year flood zones and .2% or 500-year flood zones), storm surge, and sea level rise. With all of these map options, is possible vary the opacity of the layers to make it easier to see the underlying detail, show or not show the legend, zoom in or zoom out to show more or less detail, even down to individual streets.

The website includes a section on Tips that explains how this resource can be used effectively in public meetings. And the Resources section includes a selection of useful sites to delve into greater

details. Within the platform is possible to find some downloadable case studies and a FAQ link.

Societal, infrastructure, and ecosystem impacts To see how these coastal flood hazards might affect people, is possible to choose the Societal Exposure option in the main selector page. There also are dedicated layers for Population Density, Poverty, Elderly, Employees, and Projected Population Growth, each of which you can explore to understand how coastal flooding will affect people living and working in that area, or the expected population growth.

To learn about impacts to infrastructure, you can click on Infrastructure Exposure and explore maps showing Development, Critical Facilities, and Development Patterns.

Finally, to look at impacts coastal flooding will have on ecosystems, is possible to click on Ecosystem Exposure from the main selector page and take a look at Natural Areas and Open Space, Potential