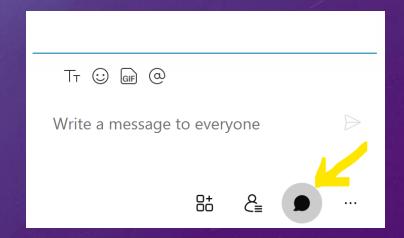
Deploying the "MyCoast" Tool to Improve Community Awareness and Planning for Coastal Flood Events

A Webinar for Stonington, Groton, and New London Project Implementation









TIME	AGENDA
1:00 - 1:10	Welcome & Introductions Katie Lund (CT NERR)
1:10 - 1:20	CT MyCoast Project Overview Sarah Schechter (CT Sea Grant), Larissa Graham (CT NERR), and Yaprak Onat (CIRCA)
1:20 - 1:35	Featured Speakers: MyCoast App and Web Platform Overview Wes Shaw and Chris Rae (Blue Urchin and MyCoast App developers)
1:35 – 2:00	Featured Speaker: MA MyCoast - a state tool for coastal flood planning Julia Knisel (Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management)
2:00 - 2:10	Community Discussion Megan Granato (Town of Groton Sustainability and Resilience Manager)
2:10 - 2:25	Participant mapping and Q&A
2:25 – 2:30	Next Steps

Project Team



Sarah Schechter, Project Lead Asst. Extension Educator – Sustainable & Resilient Communities



Yaprak Onat
Associate Director of Research



Katie Lund
Training Coordinator



Larissa Graham

Education Coordinator

MyCoast CT

App to take photos - report storms, floods, & high tides Pilot focus in New London, Stonington, and Groton

The purpose of this project is to:

- Gather evidence of flood events through a community lens
- Provide municipal, COG, and state agency staff with targeted flood information for better planning
- Better focus limited resilience resources





MyCoast CT Pilot Timeline

March 2025 - February 2027

Winter 2025 Spring 2025 **Summer 2025 - Winter 2026** Winter 2026 **Initial Engagement** Results **Preparation MyCoast Implementation** Grant Webinar - April Photo Collection • Workshop 2 Announcement Community Marketing Campaign Reporting

- Team Meetings
- Engagement Strategy Planning
- Meetings
- Workshop 1 June

Ground-truthing

 Planning for the future of MyCoast in Connecticut



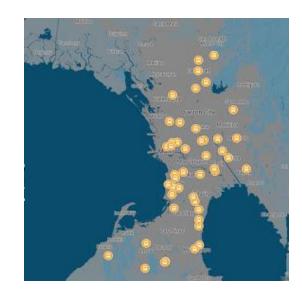
's Role in the MyCoast Pilot Project



Ground-Truth Flood Events to compare local & NOAA data



Integrate Tide Data



Deliver Actionable Insights



Community members





Municipal and Nonprofit staff

Goal: use MyCoast as tool for engagement and planning.

Approaches:

Promote MyCoast tool at existing events

Goal: use MyCoast to document flooding

and storm impacts through their photos.

- Regular communication
 - Emails about storm events and high tides
 - Social media

Approaches:

- Introductory Webinar
- June 25, 2025 Workshop
- 2026 Workshop & Webinar Discuss benefits/challenges and present results

Speakers



Julia Knisel

MA Office of Coastal Zone Management

Coastal Shoreline and Floodplain Manager





Wes Shaw
Blue Urchin &
co-creator of MyCoast





Chris Rae
Blue Urchin &
co-creator of MyCoast

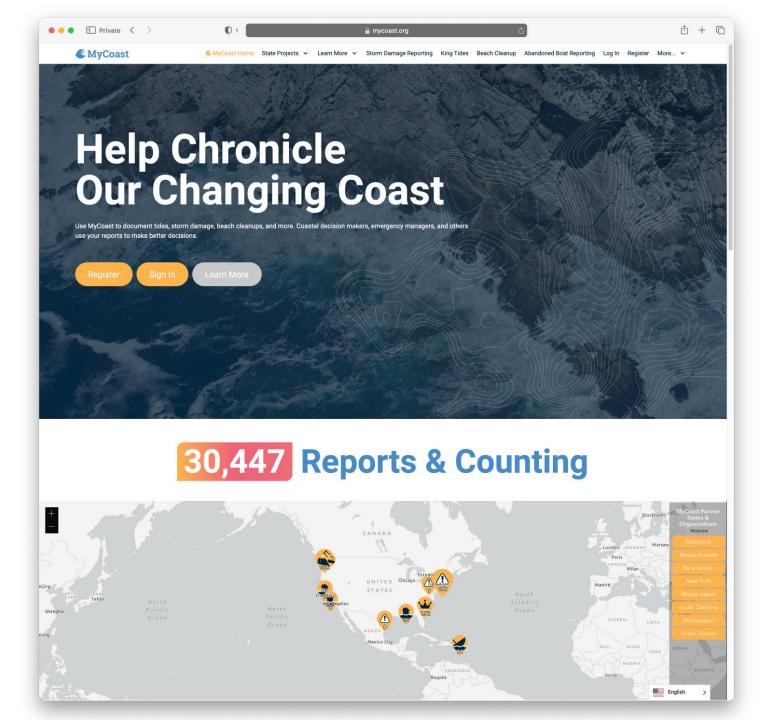
A Website & App Overview of MyCoast

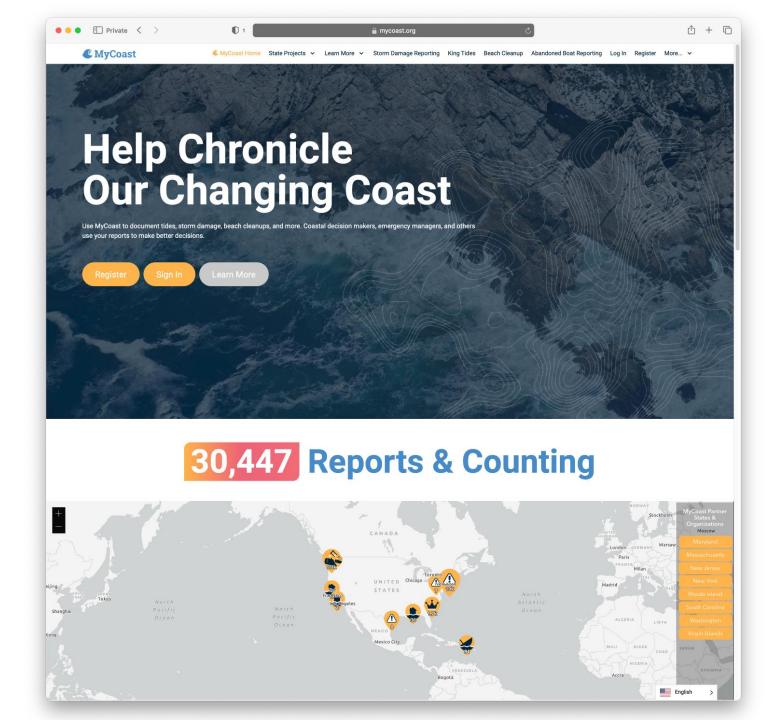
Chris Rae & Wes Shaw 10 April 2025

What is





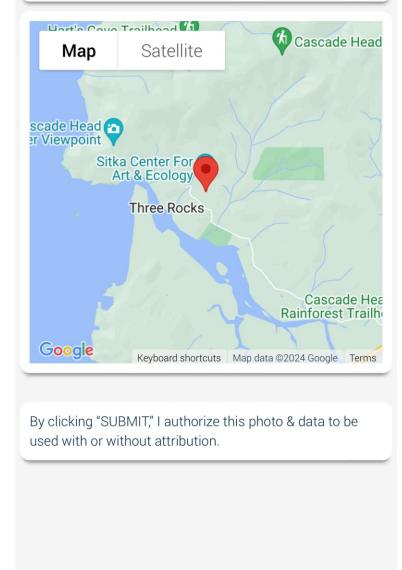






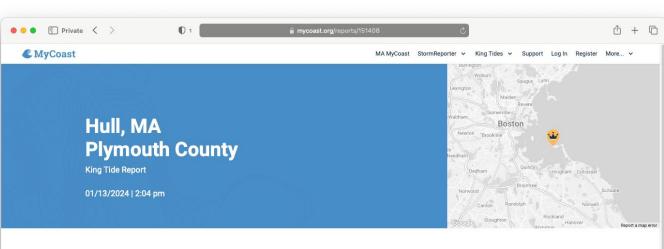


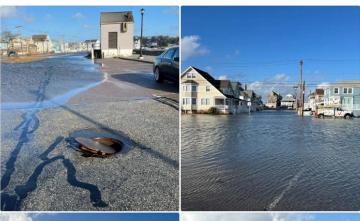
















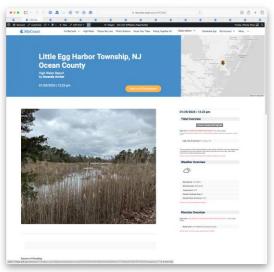
+CONTEXT



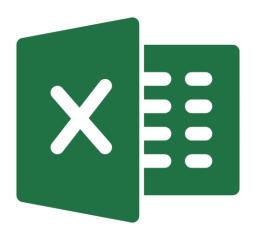






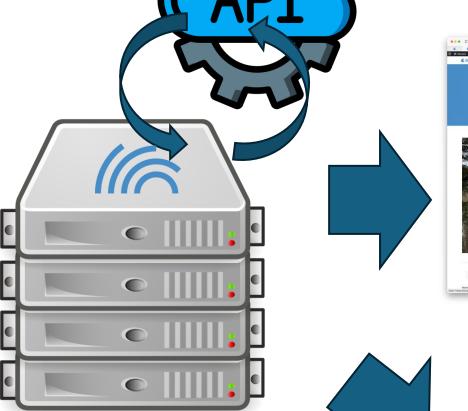


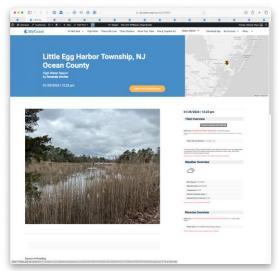


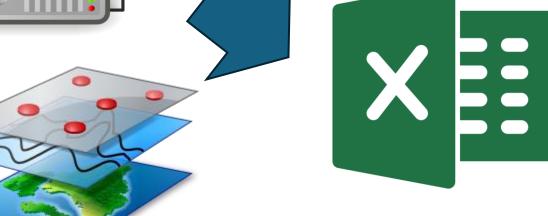












39,528 Reports



17,522

Members Registered



59,144

Photos Submitted



748,463

Trash Items
Collected

39,000+ REPORTS OF... WHAT?





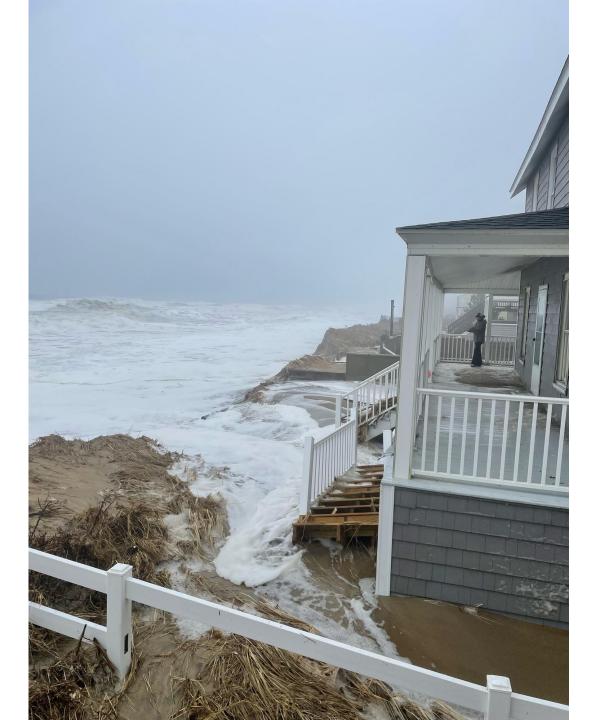






Storm Damage









APP DEMO {fingers crossed}

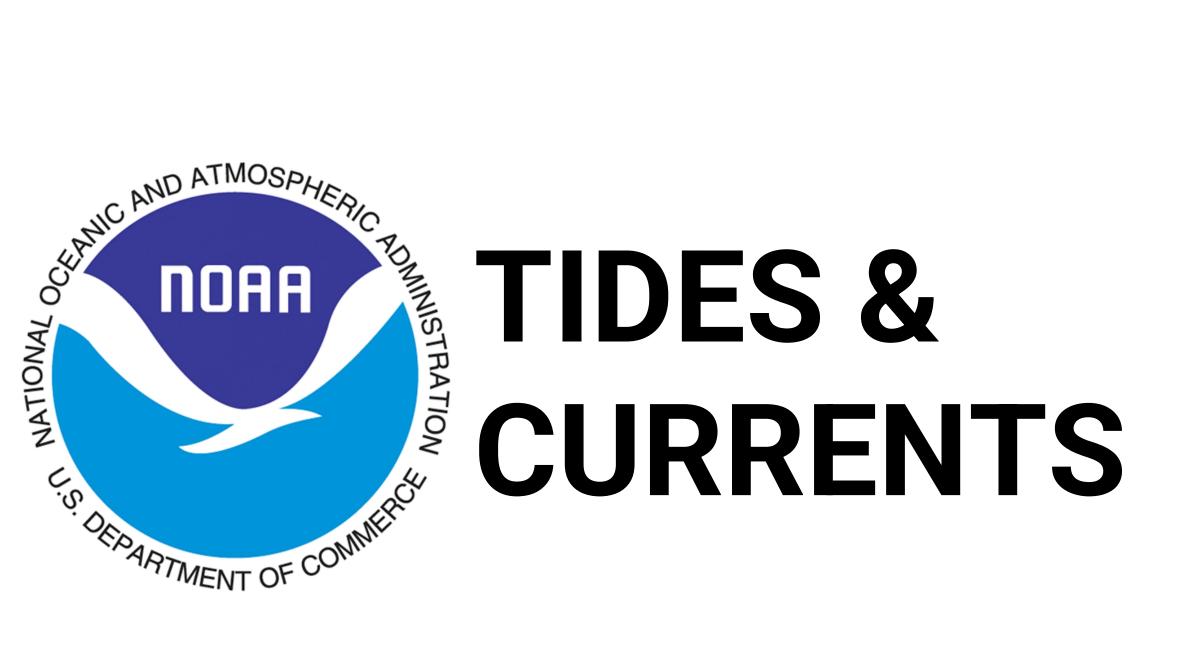


JUL

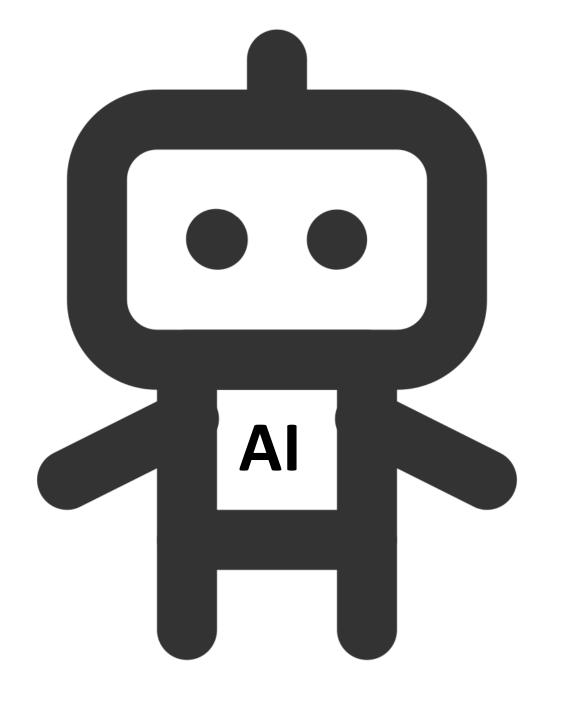










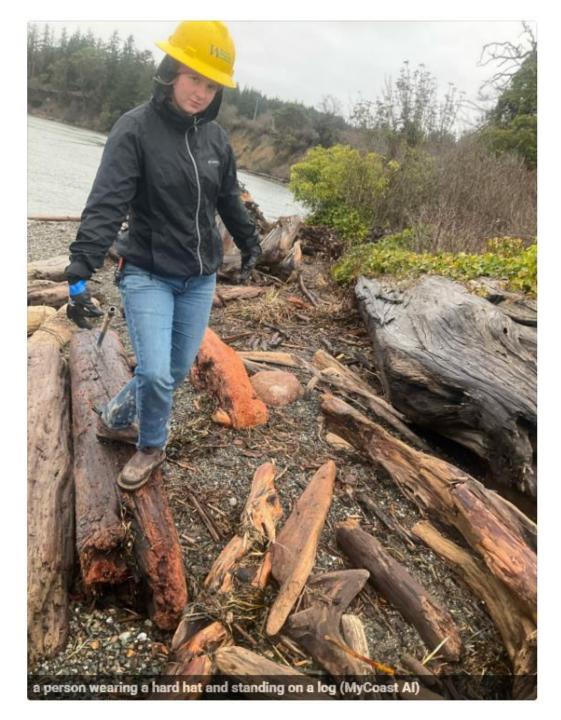




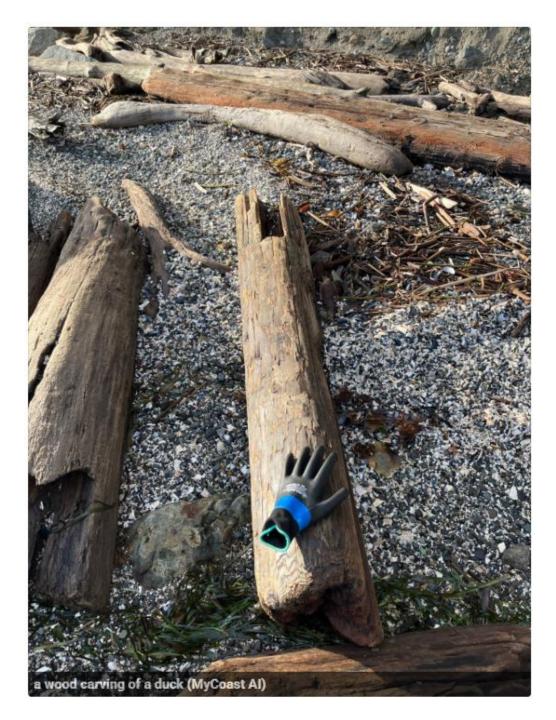
"A group of logs."



"A tire on a rocky ground."



"A person wearing a hard hat and standing on a log."



"A wood carving of a duck."



"A crocodile on a beach."



King Tide Report

01/13/2024 | 2:04 pm















King Tide Report







King Tide Report

01/13/2024 | 2:04 pm













01/13/2024 | 2:04 pm

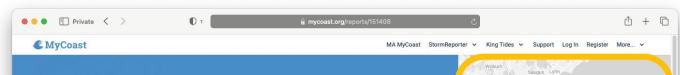












King Tide Report

01/13/2024 | 2:04 pm











O1/13/2024 | 2:04 pm Tidal Overview 1 hours 47 minutes after high tide Data from BOSTON LIGHT (2.1 miles away) High Tide (Predicted): 12:17 pm, 11.1' * Predicted water level Report time 10 ft 8 ft 4 ft 2 ft 0 ft 2 ft Weather Overview Weather Overview Weather Overview Wind Speed: 18 MPH Wind Direction: SSW (201') Temperature: 59/F Rainfall (Calender Day): 0' Rainfall (Calender Day):



King Tide Report

01/12/2024 | 2:04 pm





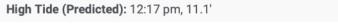


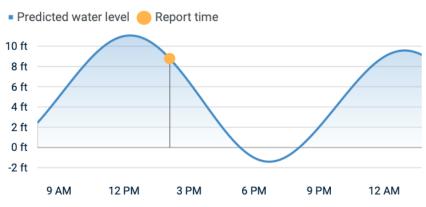


Tidal Overview

1 hours 47 minutes after high tide

Data from BOSTON LIGHT (2.1 miles away)





(Click here for full tide details from NOAA Tides & Currents)





01/13/2024 | 2·04 pm







Weather Overview



Wind Speed: 18 MPH

Wind Direction: SSW (201°)

Temperature: 59°F

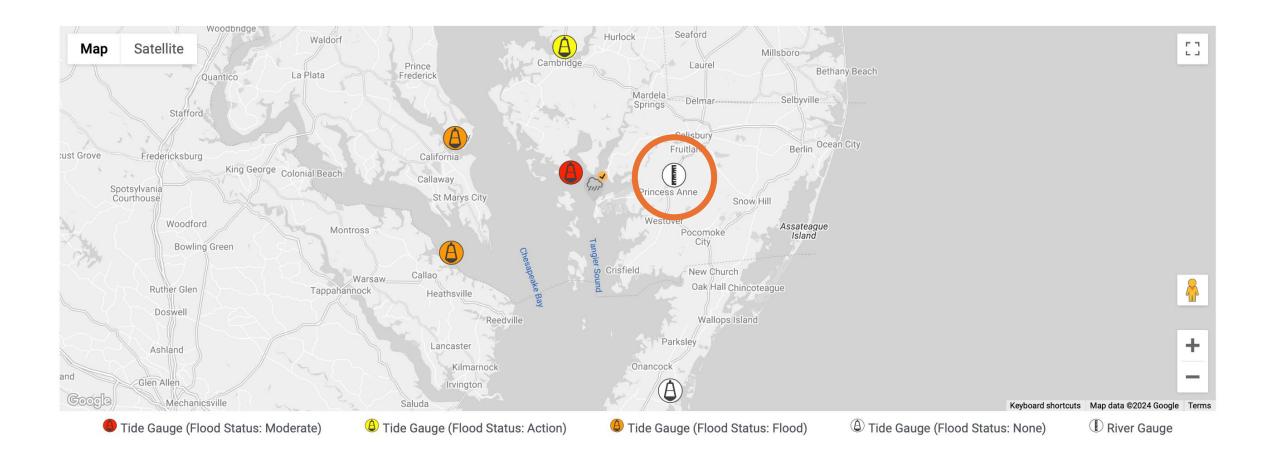
Rainfall (Calendar Day): 0"

Rainfall (Past 24 Hours): 1.42"

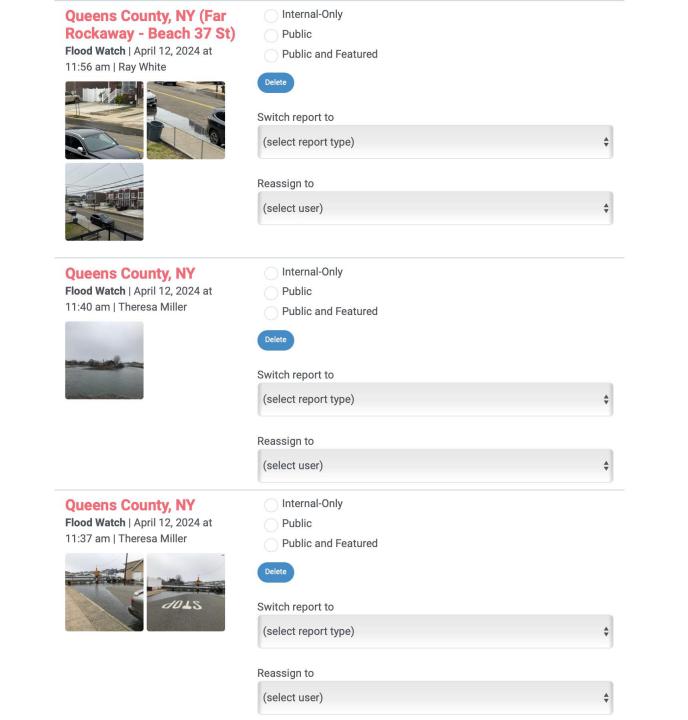
(Click here for full weather details)



science for a changing world

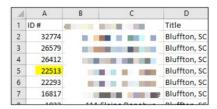






Bulk Download MyCoast Photos & Data

MyCoast data is split into two separate files: a ZIP file containing images, and a CSV file containing the report data. Each report has a unique ID number – to tally up images with reports, you need the files whose names begin with the "ID" number in the data (bearing in mind that a single report may have multiple images).



22293-22294.jpg	JPG File
22293-22295.jpg	JPG File
22293-22296.jpg	JPG File
22513-22514.jpg	JPG File
22513-22515.jpg	JPG File
22513-22516.jpg	JPG File
22513-22517.jpg	JPG File
22513-22518.jpg	JPG File
26412-26413.jpg	JPG File
26579-26580.jpg	JPG File

Because the downloaded files can be extremely sizeable, large downloads are split into multiple parts. See below for download links.

Your current search contains 2 items. Please use your browser's back button to change the set of reports to be exported.

Medium Images

These images will be ideal for full-screen display on a computer monitor, or printing in smaller sizes. Typical image file size will be around 200kb.

□ Download all Medium Image:

Full-Sized Images

These images are the highest quality ones available and will be suitable for printing in large formats. Typical image file size will vary from around 2-15mb.

Download all Full-Sized Images

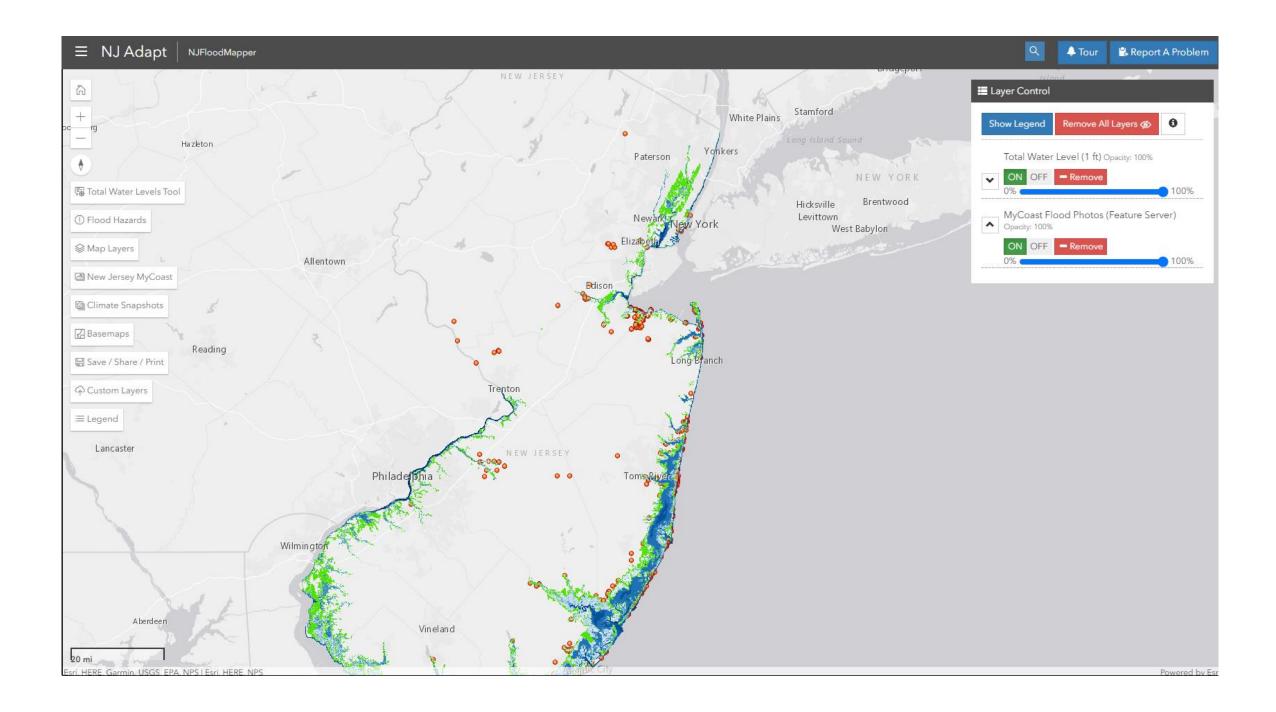
Report Data

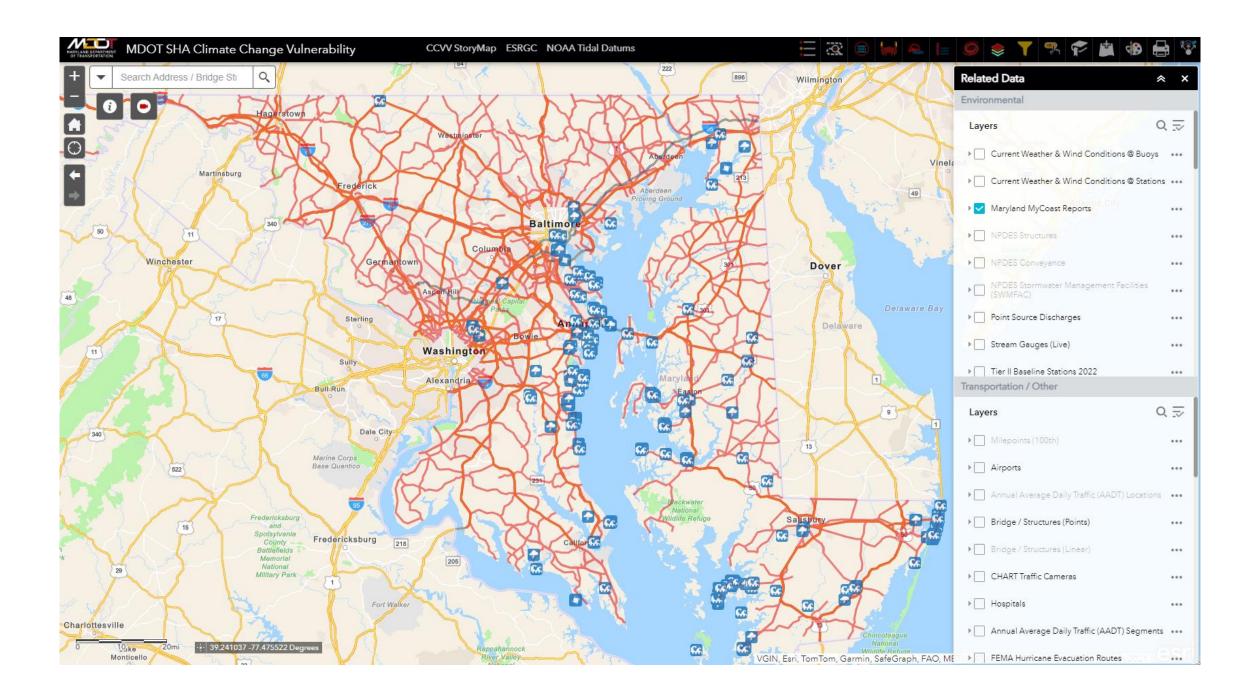
This contains all report information and metadata (weather, street address, tide station information, etc) in CSV format, suitable for import to Excel, ArcGIS and other systems.

Download all Penort Data

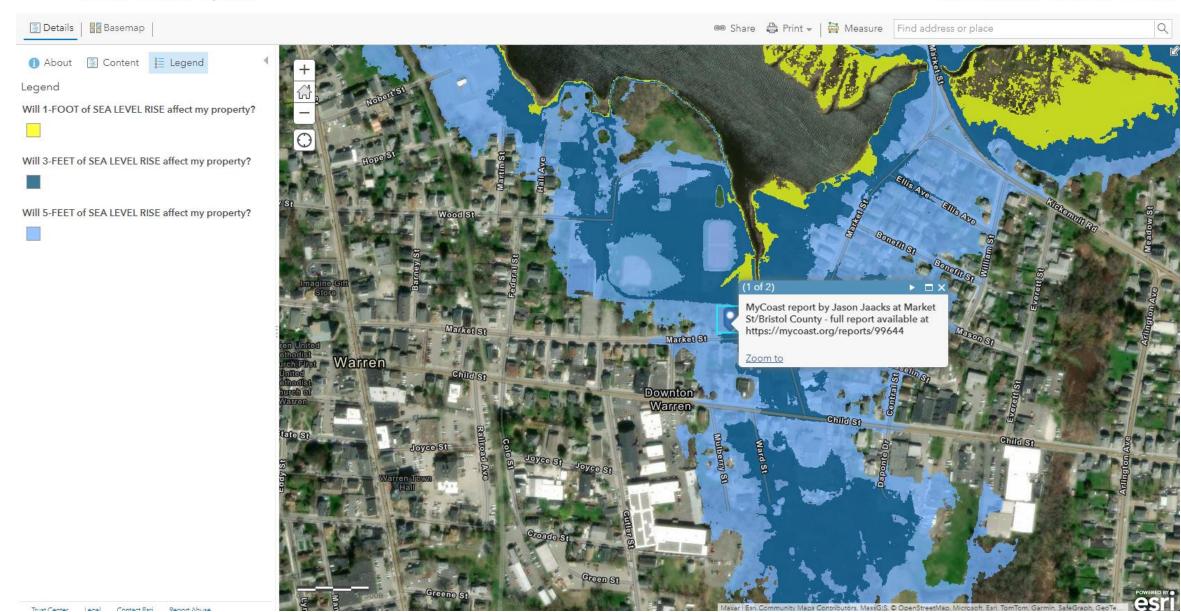


ArcGIS Online





ArcGIS ♥ STORMTOOLS for MyCoast





AND COASTAL SCIENCES

























Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee









MA MD NJ NY

RI SC WA VI

MA MD NJ NY

RI SC WA VI

Thank you.

chris@mycoast.org | wes@mycoast.org





































Julia Knisel

Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management

Massachusetts MyCoast









Coastal Impacts

Coastal Storm Damage - Splashover of Seawall & Road Flooding



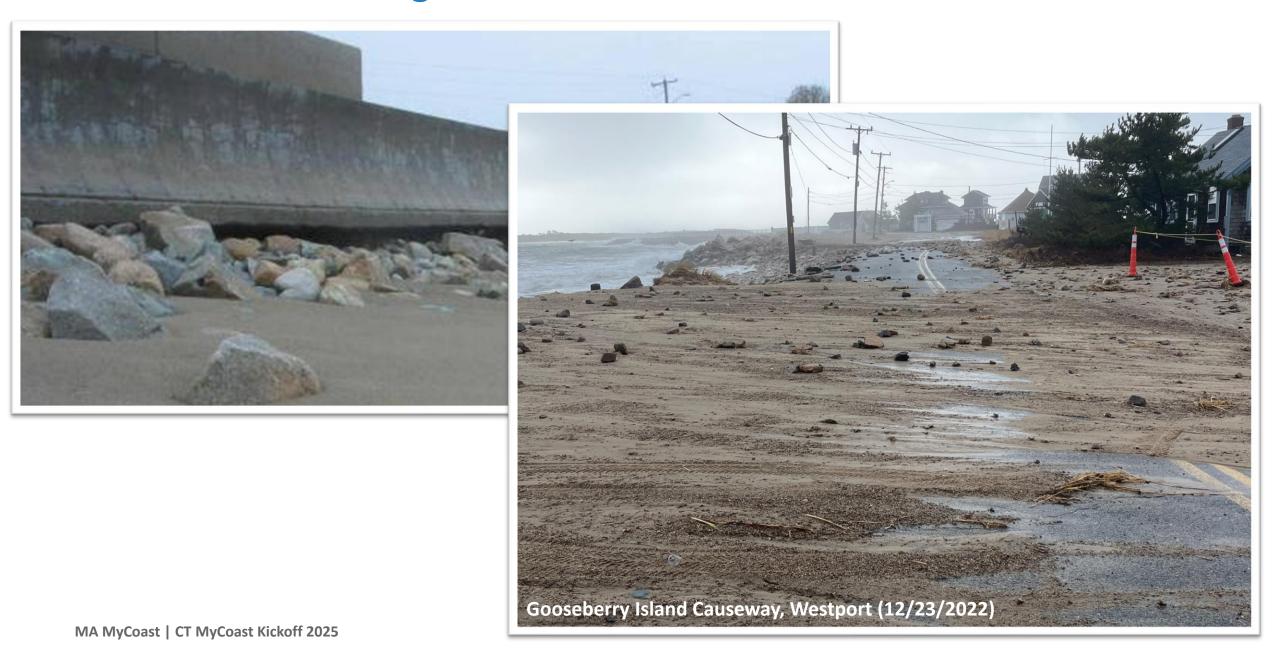
Easy Street, Nantucket (4/4/2024)

Coastal Storm Damage - Dock Damage & Water Flow Around Buildings





Coastal Storm Damage - Underminded Seawall & Road Overwashed

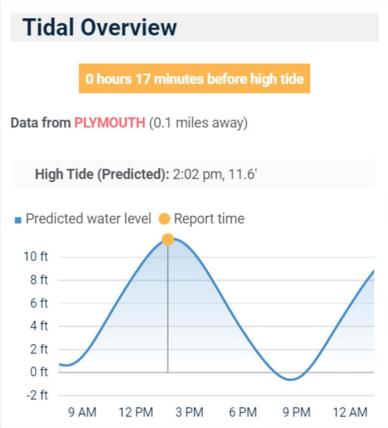


Coastal Storm Damage - Eroded Beach/Dune & Building Destroyed

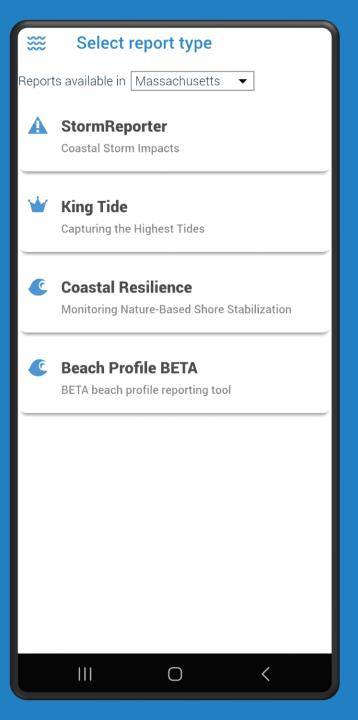


King Tide - Landmark Flooded



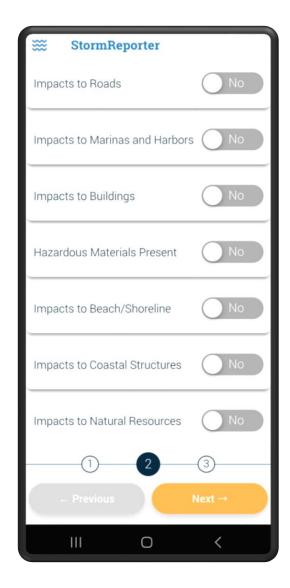


MA MyCoast Tools



StormReporter Tool (c. 2009-2013)

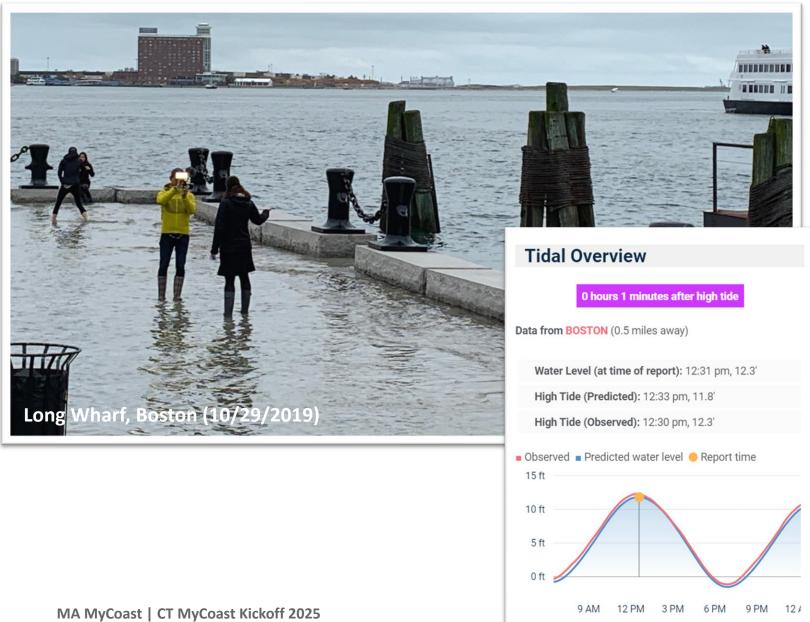




- Purpose: real-time awareness of impacts to infrastructure, buildings & natural resources
- Quality Control: user training & review/approve reports
- Reporting Tip: if you can't access an area due to flooding or debris, report it & go back later



King Tide Tool (c. 2014)





Purpose: community awareness of higher-thannormal tides

Photo Tips:

- Take photos at or near peak high tide (within an hour)
- Include buildings, roads, sidewalks, signs, parking lots & other landmarks to identify the place
- People are good for scale (backs or with permission)

Coastal Resilience Tool (c. 2018)





- Purpose: monitor shoreline restoration projects supported by CZM's Coastal Resilience Grant Program
 - Identify maintenance needs
 - Communicate success
 - Inform future designs

CoastSnap Tool (c. 2020)



- Purpose: document shoreline position & beach width as it evolves through time
- Phone cradles currently at 4 locations & more to come
- Researchers from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sea Grant & Cape Cod
 Cooperative Extension review photos
- Photos are compiled into time-lapse videos







Applications of Data

Applications of Data - Emergency Response & Recovery

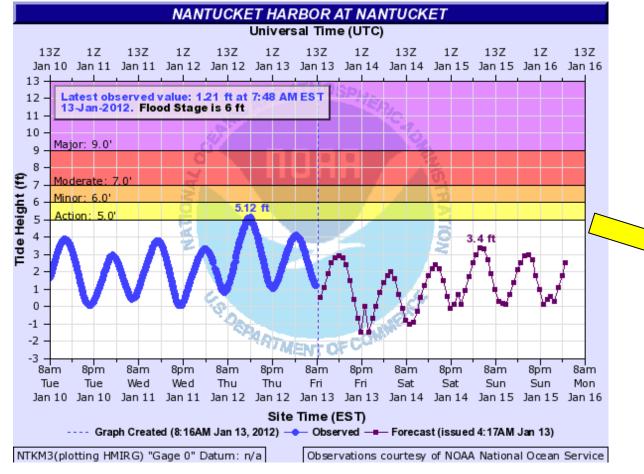


- Identify type & extent of impact
- Direct public resources
- Baseline for formal preliminary damage assessments with FEMA

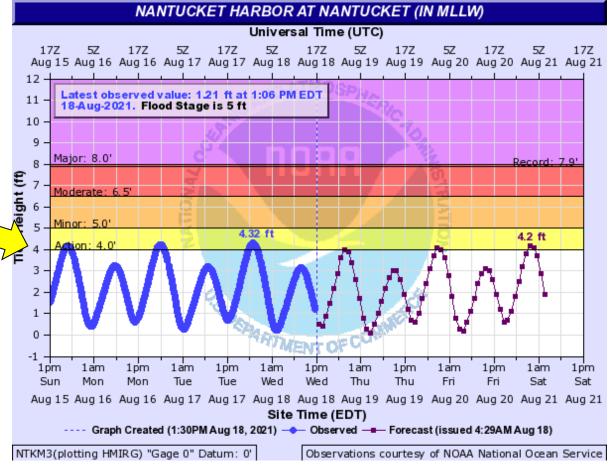


Applications of Data - Weather Warnings & Forecasts

- Verify impacts & refine forecast
- Adjust minor/moderate/major thresholds

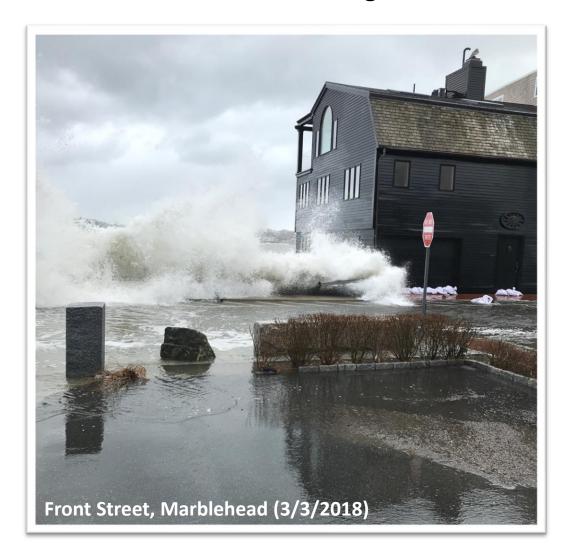


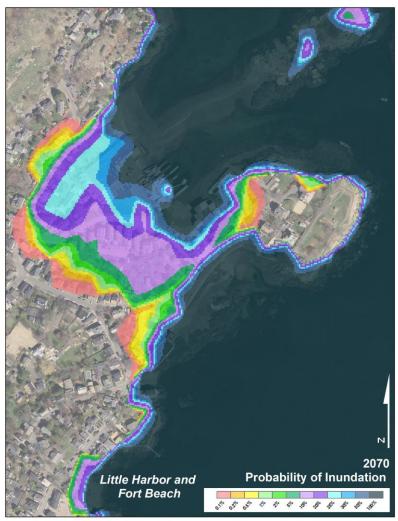




Applications of Data - Scientific Studies & Modeling

Ground-truth coastal flooding & erosion models









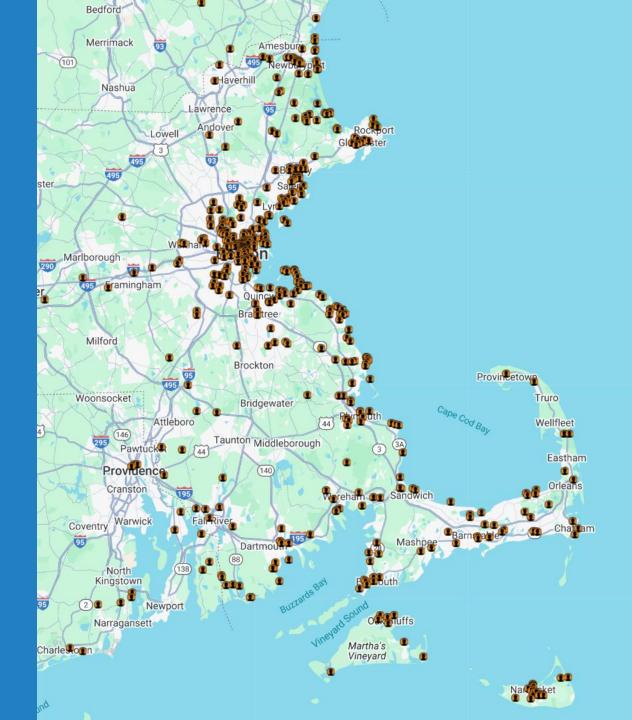
Applications of Data - Resilience Planning & Projects



 Support local decisions regarding the extent, magnitude & frequency of flooding & other impacts



Volunteer Recruitment



Network - State & Local Staff























Outreach - Nonprofit Organizations

OCTOBER 21, 2019

CALLING ALL CITIZEN SCIENTISTS! THE KING TIDE RETURNETH!

Thank you to everyone who documented the King Tide. We will use this data to help our coastal communities plan and prepare for increasing coastal storms due to climate change through the Resilient Mystic Collaborative (RMC). Sign up to learn about future citizen science opportunities using the form at the end of this article.

Mystic River

WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Outreach - Neighborhood Associations

Monday, October 17, 2016

Help Document King Tide



Boston Harbor Now, Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management, the New England Aquarium and the Museum of Science are joining forces to crowdsource photos documenting portions of Boston Harbor's waterfront expected to flood during the King Tide.

Known as a "King Tide" (or locally, a "WICKED wicked high tide"), three high tides will be over two feet higher than average and give us a glimpse of Boston's average high tide sometime around or after mid-century.

Outreach - Local News



Help Document the King Tides Around Boston

Researchers want your photos of the watery phenomenon in the online MyCoast archive.

by SPENCER BUELL . 10/18/2016, 4:16 p.m.

Get a compelling long read and must-have lifestyle tips in your inbox every Sunday morning — great with coffee!

EMAIL ADDRESS

SUBSCRIBE

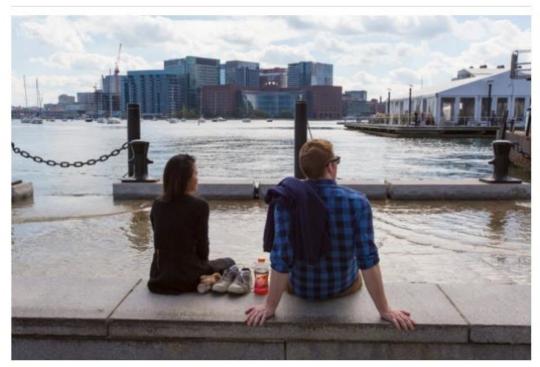


Photo courtesy of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management's MyCoast tool and taken by Charlie Nutting.

Outreach - Local Radio

With MyCoast, your photo of flooding could help avert disaster

CAI | By Patrick Flanary

Published June 17, 2024 at 10:03 AM EDT

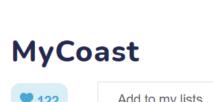








Outreach - Museums







Off-site Project ?



Visit ☑

☐ Save to Review Later

Share

Add to my lists

GOAL: Help chronicle our changing coast for coastal decision makers

TASK: Document tides, storm damage, beach cleanups, etc.

WHERE: View map...

> Use the free MyCoast app to document tides, storm damage, beach cleanups, and more. Coastal decision makers, emergency managers, and others use your reports to make better decisions.

> > Good news! This is a SciStarter Affiliate project. You can earn credit in your SciStarter Dashboard for your participation.

Sign up or Log in to SciStarter. Your free account, while not required, enables your participation to be credited on your SciStarter Dashboard.

Click the "Visit" button on this page. You will be directed to the project's website or app and invited to create a project account there. Use the same email address (case sensitive!) you used to create your SciStarter account to join this project.

In the future, you can go directly to MyCoast to participate and get credit for your contributions to MyCoast in your SciStarter dashboard.

TOTAL EXPENSE:

DESCRIPTION:

HOW TO GET STARTED:

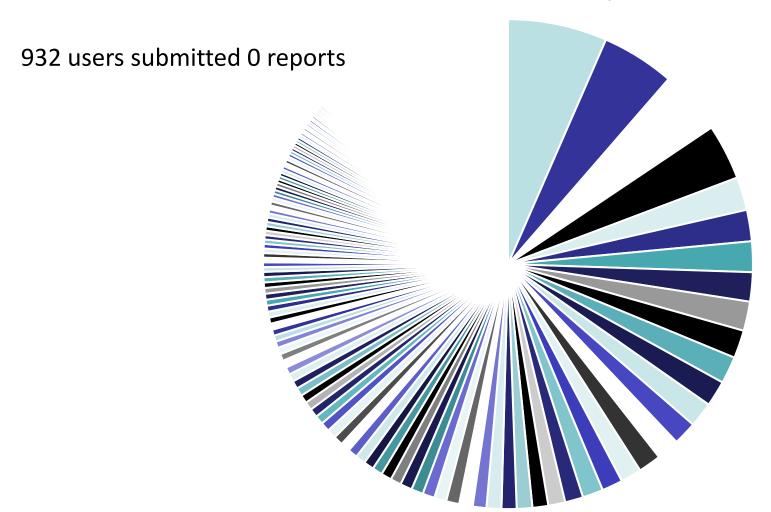


0.00

Museum of Science.

User Activity

1,486 Users & 8,658 Reports



20 users submitted 4,004 reports (46%)

View Reports @ mycoast.org/ma



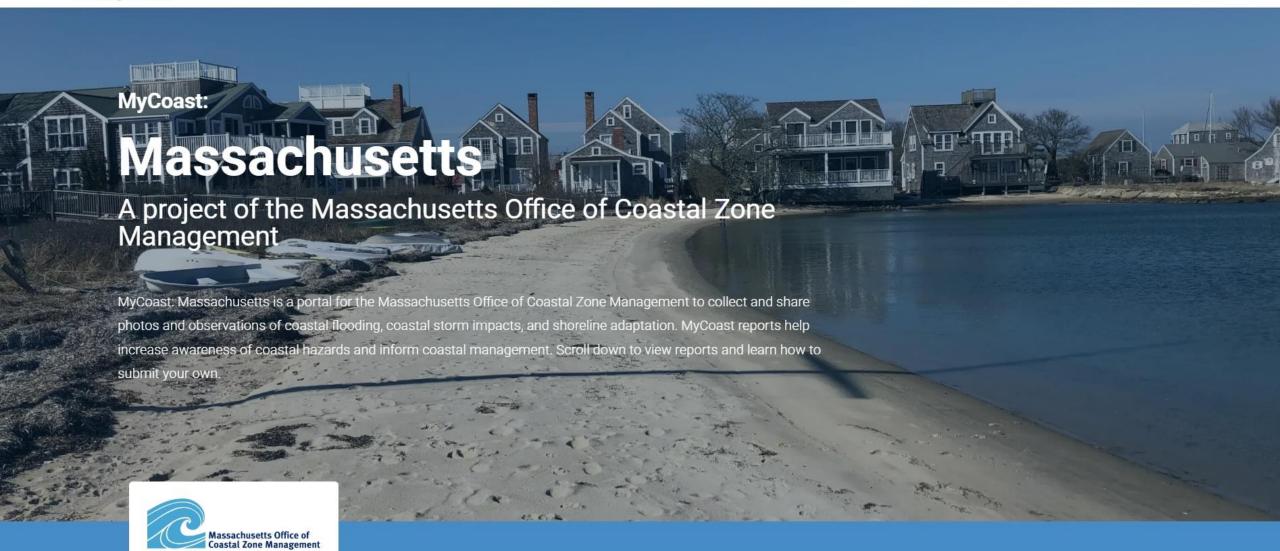
Search Reports StormReporter >

King Tides V

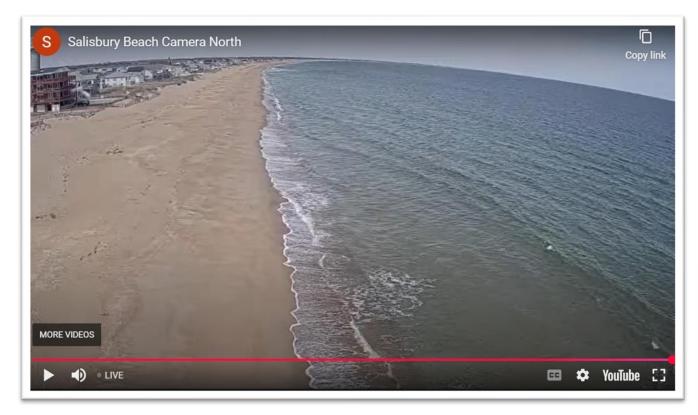
CoastSnap v

State Admin 🗸

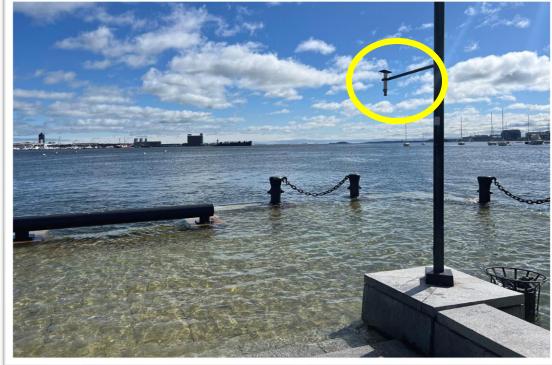
Support My Account >

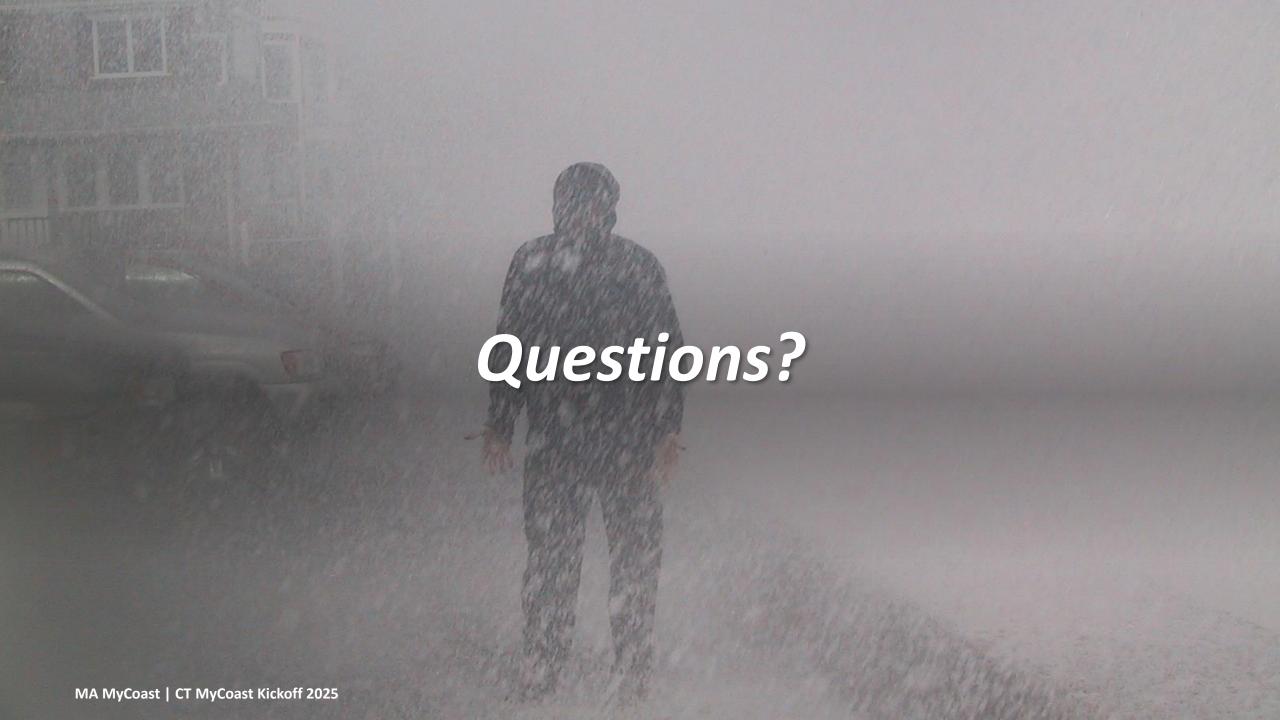


Other Useful Tools - Webcams & Overland Flood Sensors



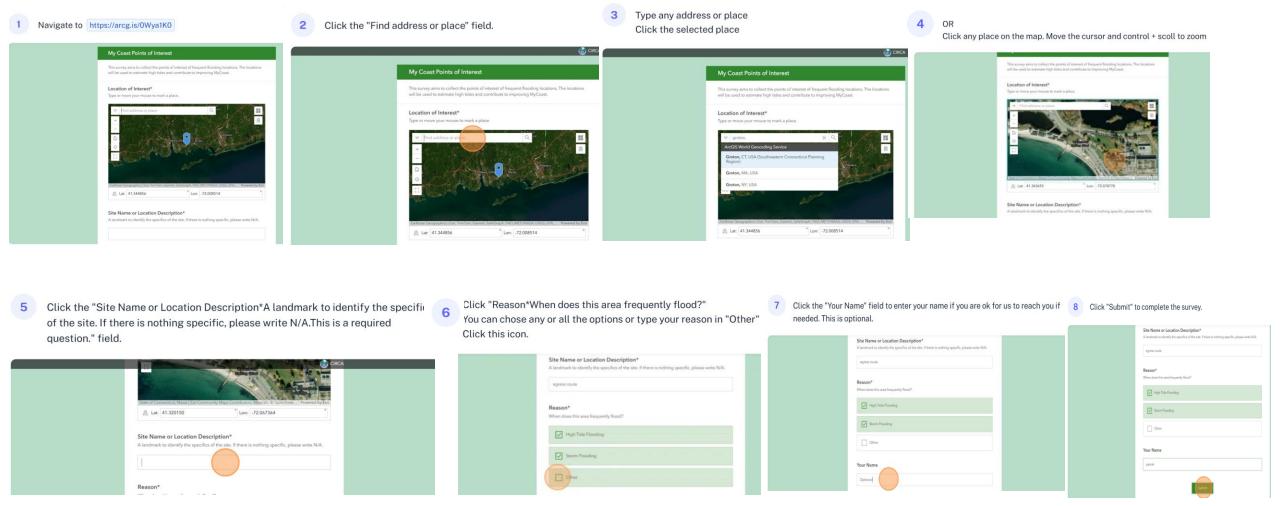






https://arcg.is/0Wya1K0

Participatory map application



This participatory map will inform our workshop design by identifying key areas of interest and enabling site-specific tidal analysis to support MyCoast.

Next Steps

June 25th Workshop Activities - Engage Community Partners to:

- 1) Gather input about places you want photos to be captured in 3 communities
- 2) Help design the MyCoast CT platform & engagement strategy
- 3) Provide training on how to use the MyCoast App
- 4) Learn how RI is using this tool state-wide



Thank you for joining us!

Questions?

Contact me:

Sarah Schechter, Connecticut Sea Grant

sarah.schechter@uconn.edu







