



Coastal Flood Resilience News

July 8, 2025

This newsletter provides a summary of news and research journal articles related to coastal storms and rising sea levels. It is a product of the [Coastal Flood Resilience Project](#), a coalition of nonprofit organizations working for stronger programs to prepare for coastal storm flooding and rising sea levels along the coast of the United States.

Science

1. **National Climate Assessment Disappears From Internet:** This [AP story](#) explains how the Trump Administration has removed the most recent *National Climate Assessment* from the internet, including information on coastal resilience. This [NPR story](#) explains where you can still find copies, including [here](#).
2. **New NOAA Sea Level Rise Calculator:** NOAA has released a new "[Sea Level Calculator](#)" providing easy access to the sea level rise projections for the interagency *Sea Level Rise Scenarios Technical Report*, including more planning options. NOAA's Doug Marcy explains it all in this [helpful video](#).
3. **Antarctic Sea Ice Loss Tracked to Increased Salinity:** [New research](#) points to increases in salinity of ocean waters around Antarctic are driving "a dramatic decline in Antarctic sea ice coverage." This *New York Times* [article](#) summarizes the new research and provides background information and quoting a study author:

"The impact of Antarctic ice is massive in terms of sea-level rise, in terms of global warming, and therefore, in terms of extremes," said Alessandro Silvano, a senior scientist at the University of Southampton studying the Southern Ocean and lead author of the study. The findings mean "we are entering a new system, a new world," he said.

The article also notes that the Department of Defense plans to stop providing some satellite imagery for sea ice starting at the end of July.

National Policy

- 4. NOAA Budget Proposal Eliminates Many Coastal Programs:** The President's budget proposal for NOAA eliminates important coastal programs (including both CZMA and Sea Grant programs) and reduces funding for many others. NOAA also faces staff reductions and related policy changes.

Here is the [Toolkit on the NOAA budget](#) prepared by Ocean Defense Initiative.

Here is a community [sign on letter](#) in support of NOAA.

Here is the Coastal States Organization [sign-on letter](#).

- 5. National Institute of Building Sciences Report Calls For Climate Resilient Buildings:** The National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) has released a [report](#) "Moving Forward 2025" that "outlines the urgent need for proactive investment in disaster mitigation strategies" and cites research finding that every \$1 spent on resilience can yield up to \$13 in savings from avoided losses. The NIBS [press release](#) notes:

"The report urges policymakers, industry leaders, and communities to take immediate action to support the retrofitting of buildings and infrastructure for enhanced resilience in the face of increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters."

- 6. Senators Schiff and Sheehy Introduce Bill for Tax Credits for Disaster Mitigation:** Senators Adam Schiff (D-Ca.) and Tim Sheehy (R-Mt.) introduced a [bill \(S. 1323\)](#) providing for federal tax credits for Americans protecting their homes from natural disasters by upgrading fire resistance, floodwater management, and other mitigation measures. The Schiff [press release](#) notes:

"The tax credit will cover 50% of the eligible upgrades up to \$25,000 for families who make less than \$200,000 a year, with the credit phasing out for families making below \$300,000. Eligible upgrades include fire resistant building materials and roofing, stormwater barriers, air filtration, and the removal of vegetation posing a risk to a home, to list a few."

- 7. Hurricane Data Goes Offline:** This [article](#) in the *New York Times* describes the recent decision by NOAA and the Department of Defense to stop providing access to data from satellites that support hurricane forecasting starting June 30, noting:

“This is an incredibly big hit for hurricane forecasts, and for the tens of millions of Americans who live in hurricane-prone areas,” said Michael Lowry, a hurricane specialist in South Florida who has worked at the National Hurricane Center and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.”

This [article](#) in *The Atlantic* and this [substack post](#) by Michael Lowery provide more information.

- 8. OMB Director Claims Disaster Fund “Flush”; Others Skeptical:** This [article](#) in *Politico* reviews the widely different views of the OMB Director, who claims that FEMA disaster funds are adequate to carry through the fiscal year, and other experts who claim that disaster assistance is at risk due to inadequate funds in the Disaster Relief Fund.

“He’s “clueless,” said one former senior FEMA official.”

- 9. EPA Inspector General Cites Sea Level Rise Risk to Superfund Sites:** A [new report](#) by the EPA Inspector General describes how rising sea levels pose multiple risks to some 49 of the 157 federal Superfund sites. This [Politico article](#) on the report notes:

“Ocean waters spilling into some of the nation's most polluted sites not only put millions of people at risk of exposure to dangerous contaminants, but it also means “the federal funds expended to implement those remedies would have been wasted,” the report says.”

- 10. List of Coastal Regional Collaborations:** The American Society of Adaptation Professionals and Sea Grant have developed a [useful spreadsheet](#) describing regional collaboration networks for coastal protection and resilience.

- 11. Flooding Poses Risks to Healthy Schools:** This [article](#) in the newsletter of the Healthy Schools Network by CFRP Co-facilitator Jeff Peterson describes the risks that flood pose for schools and the resources schools can draw on to evaluate and address flood risks.

State and Local

- 12. Wetlands Watch on CNN to Describe Loss of Resilience Grant to Minority Community:** A CNN [report](#) on the Trump Administration termination of a \$20 million grant to support climate resilience and flood planning for the minority community of Aberdeen Gardens in the Hampton Roads area features Wetland Watch Director Mary Carson Stiff.

13. New Orleans Sea Wall Sinking Faster than Seas Rising: This [article](#) in the *Times Picayune* reports on a new study concluding that parts of the seawall around New Orleans, originally build following Hurricane Katrina, are now sinking at a rate of one inch per year, about ten times faster than sea level is rising. The airport is especially at risk and nearby wetlands that offer storm protection are also sinking.

14. Maine Passes Bill for Climate Adaptation Policy and Funding: Responding to the costly damages from a winter storm in 2023, the State of Maine just passed [a bill](#) providing financial support for homeowners to make property more disaster ready, to support a new revolving fund for local resilience projects, and create a new State Resilience Office, and update flood mapping. This [story](#) from Maine Public Radio provides background information.