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**Announcement: For Immediate Release October 7, 2013**

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

 Today we announce the release of Coastal Resilience 2.0; a suite of tools that enables decision-makers to assess risk and identify nature-based solutions to reduce socio-economic vulnerability to coastal hazards. These tools, available at [www.maps.coastalresilience.org](http://www.maps.coastalresilience.org), allow you to interactively examine storm surge; sea level rise; natural resources; vulnerable communities and assets and to develop risk reduction and restoration solutions. These tools are just one part of a wider array of resources available at [www.coastalresilience.org](http://www.coastalresilience.org).

Since the first release of Coastal Resilience tools in 2008, they have been used to reduce risk to people and the environment across the USA and globally. For example;

* Coastal Resilience maps were used in 10 communities in Connecticut (CT) by hazard managers before Irene and Sandy for pre-disaster planning (because of the easy accessibility to risk maps);
* In Grenada these tools have been used to identify areas for mangrove and reef restoration and with the Red Cross in developing better assessments of community vulnerability;
* They have been critical in the development of statutes in CT that define sea level rise and enable natural erosion control; and in Bridgeport they help identify effective risk reduction strategies;
* They have been used to identify oyster reef restoration sites in the Gulf of Mexico where restoration and risk reduction goals could be jointly met;
* In the Florida Keys, they are being used to inform sea-level rise planning;
* Post Hurricane Sandy, these tools have been used in New York to identify where marshes may offer the most potential for risk reduction.

Coastal Resilience 2.0 will further support these efforts with major enhancements in tool performance and functionality. Coastal Resilience 2.0 runs faster; operates on tablets; works nationally and globally; is more interactive with innovative “apps”; and it’s easier to share results. Coastal Resilience 2.0 was developed in partnership with NOAA, the Natural Capital Project, University of Southern Mississippi, the Association of State Floodplain Managers and many other national and local partners. One critical app is the Risk Explorer that combines information on coastal habitats and exposure (*Nature Climate Change 2013,* [*http://bit.ly/151mQYi*](http://bit.ly/151mQYi)*)* with socio-economic data to identify solutions where habitat management may most reduce risks along US coasts. Across the Gulf of Mexico, the Risk Explorer identifies where coastal habitat restoration can reduce the most risks to communities. This and other Coastal Resilience 2.0 apps compare risk, restoration and resilience scenarios in an easy-to-use, web-based map interface.

We look forward to hearing your feedback as you use Coastal Resilience 2.0. We will be conducting a webinar on October 24 at 9am Pacific, noon Eastern. For more information and to register, please contact us at coastalresilience@tnc.org.