



# National Weather Service Overview

### And

# Climate Information and Communication

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Climate Section Credit:

Barb Mayes Boustead, Ph.D.

NWS/OCLO/Warning Decision Training Division







### Erik Heden NWS Morehead City

Warning Coordination Meteorologist
Liaison between the community and the local
National Weather Service office. Conduct
community outreach and preparedness
activities.









# Morehead City Sarah Spiegler N.C. Sentinel Site Coop. Coordinator & Marine Education Specialist

#### Focus Areas:

Leverages resources and provides information related to the impacts of sea level rise on coastal habitats and communities in North Carolina; Hosts trainings, workshops and partner meetings.





## Our Mission



#### The National Weather Service (NWS)

Weather.gov > About the NWS

About the NWS

National Program

About

#### Serving you in every community in the U.S. Check out who we are and what we do!

#### **NWS Mission**

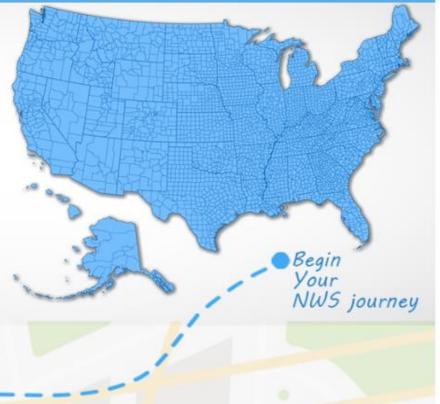
Provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property and enhancement of the national economy.

#### **NWS Vision**

A Weather-Ready Nation: Society is prepared for and responds to weather, water, and climatedependent events.

#### Weather-Ready Nation Story

Accurate weather forecasts do not always result in a good outcome. The National Weather Service (NWS) learned this difficult...Read more

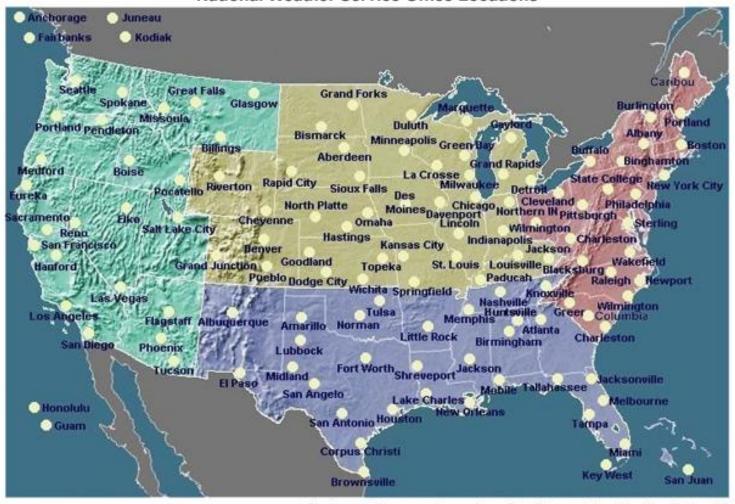




### Office Locations



#### **National Weather Service Office Locations**



Background topography courtesy Ray Stemer, Johns Hopkins University



## Our Local Office



Eastern part of North Carolina

Includes: Land areas, inland rivers, sounds, and adjacent ocean

Other parts of the state covered by other local offices (Raleigh, Wilmington, etc)



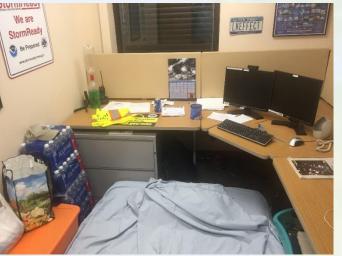


## Open 24/7/365











# Hurricane Florence

Staff here for 3 to 7 days

Our building is designed to withstand storms

We stay when the weather is bad



### Our Website



#### weather.gov/newport

Weather information from past events, current weather, and forecast

Explore the website and bookmark or save what you like

Go in depth as much as you need





## 7- Day Forecast



#### weather.gov/newport



Sky cover



High/low temperatures





Chance of precipitation

Detailed Forecast	
Today	Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54. Light northwest wind.
Tonight	Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. West wind 5 to 7 mph.
Wednesday	Sunny, with a high near 60. Northwest wind 7 to 9 mph.
Wednesday Night	Mostly clear, with a low around 38. Light north wind.
Thursday	Sunny, with a high near 60. Light and variable wind becoming northwest around 5 mph.
Thursday Night	Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.
Friday	Mostly sunny, with a high near 67.
Friday Night	Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.
Saturday	A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. Chance of precipitation is 50%.
Saturday Night	A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 44. Chance of precipitation is 50%.
Sunday	Partly sunny, with a high near 58.
Sunday Night	Mostly clear, with a low around 39.
Monday	Sunny, with a high near 60.

#### Extended Forecast for New Bern NC

Today



Mostly Cloudy

Tonight



Mostly Cloudy

Wednesday



Sunny

Wednesday



Night

Mostly Clear

Thursday



Sunny

#### Thursday Night



Partly Cloudy

Friday



Mostly Sunny



Friday

Night

Mostly Cloudy



Saturday

Chance Showers

High: 54 °F

Low: 38 °F

High: 60 °F

Low: 38 °F

High: 60 °F

Low: 44 °F

High: 67 °F

Low: 48 °F

High: 64 °F



# Weather Briefings



weather.gov/newport

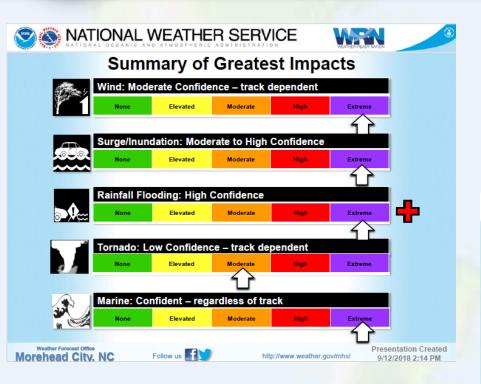




## Weather Briefings



weather.gov/newport



# Hurricane Florence Impacts

# January 2018 Winter Storm







### Social Media

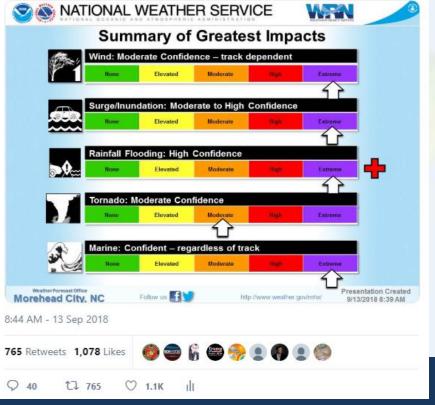


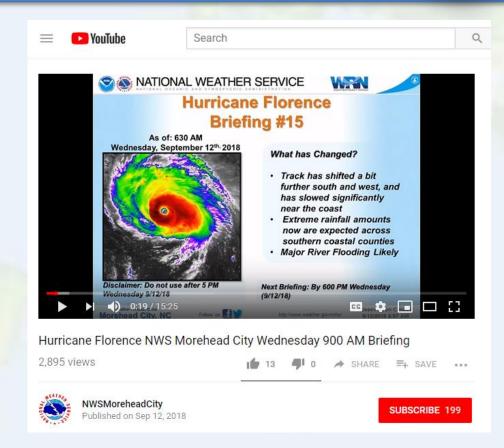


#### Search NWS Morehead City



it does not tell you about all of the impacts with a #hurricane like #florence. Our impacts have not changed with storm surge and catastrophic flooding. Do not let your guard down. weather.gov/media/mhx/Late...





Hurricane Florence Lead Up



### Mobile Forecasts



#### mobile.weather.gov

Quickly access hourly forecasts, radar, and more from your local office, ANYWHERE in the country

Can work like a weather "APP" by adding it to home screen

Also works on PCs











What Is Climate?

### Weather vs. Climate

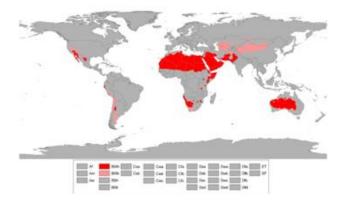
- Weather: temperature, wind, clouds, precipitation; what's happening outside right now
- Climate: average of weather conditions over a long time period



https://www.worldatla s.com/articles/what-isa-desert-climate.html



https://speechfoodie.com/weather-definition-for-kids/



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert climate

## Weather vs. Climate

Weather happens at a particular time and place.

Climate is regional and long-term.



Is it news (Weather) or history (climate)?







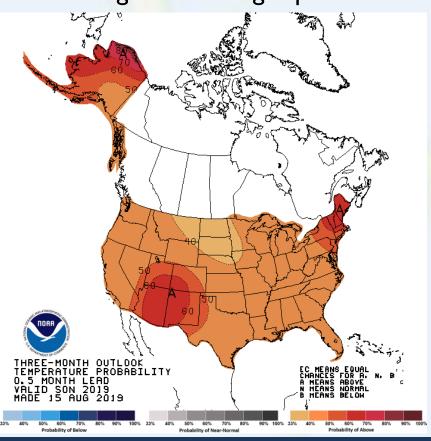
Climate Outlooks

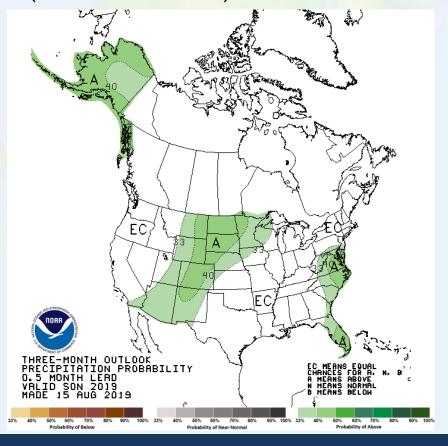


### Climate Prediction



- Not quite like weather prediction
  - In terms of odds (probabilities)
  - Averaged over longer periods of time (weeks to months)



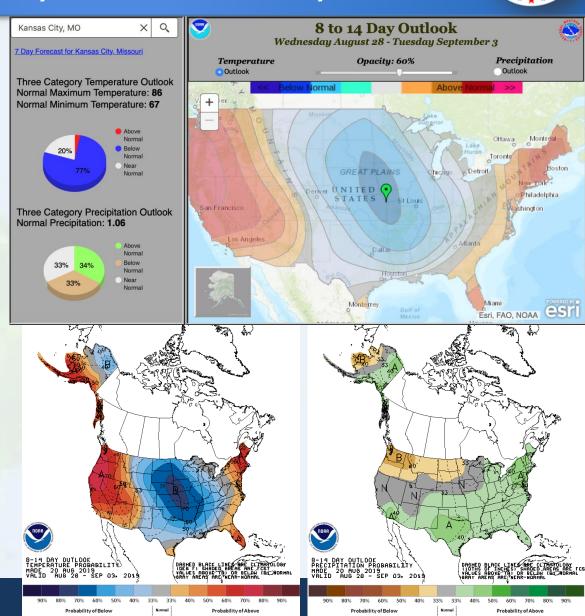




# CPC Outlooks: 6- to 10-Day and 8- to 14-Day



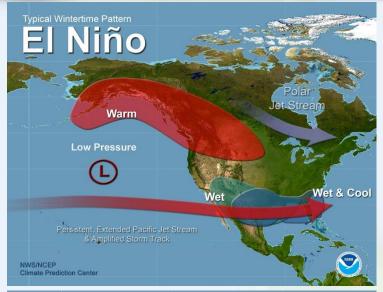
- Predicting chances for temperatures and precipitation to fall in the upper, middle, and lowest thirds.
  - "40%" = 40-50% chance of that category (instead of the usual 33%)
- Issued every afternoon
  - Automated on weekends
- Mainly based on weather and climate models
- Interactive and static displays

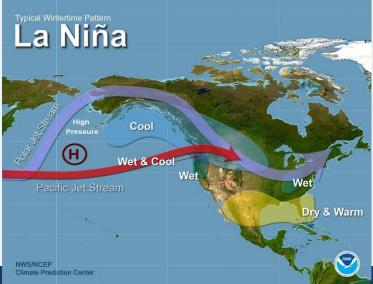


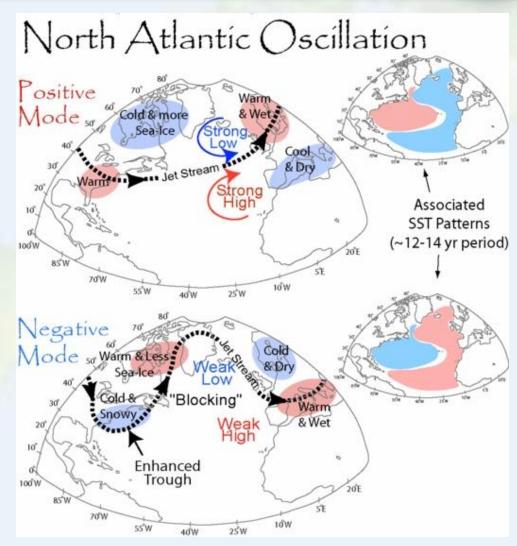


# Climate Variability: Influencing Seasons















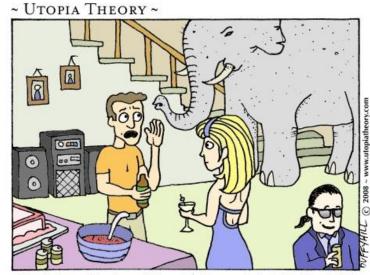
Climate Change



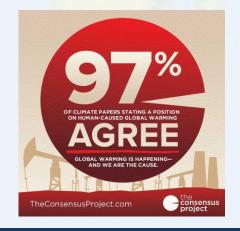
## Climate Change



- Get comfortable with terminology
  - The terms "climate change" and "global warming" are often used interchangeably
  - Scientists prefer "climate change" because it describes the changes to the whole system, not just temperatures
  - Many people still say "global warming"
- Be careful about your information sources!
  - Blogs, news commentators, politicians often (usually) not trained in climate
  - Would you go to a dentist to get heart surgery?



"Yeah, I see him too...But nobody wants to talk about it!"







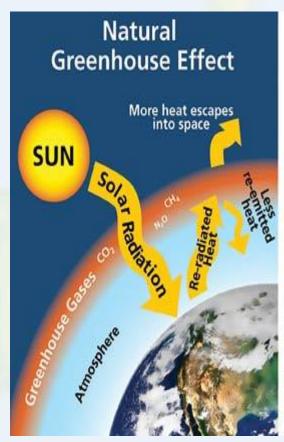
# Climate and the Greenhouse Gases

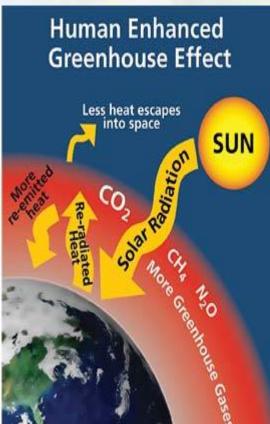


## Greenhouse Effect



- Greenhouse gases absorb heat (solar radiation)
  - Radiate heat back to Earth's surface
  - Major greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O)
  - Trace gases include methane, ozone, nitrous oxide, and CFCs
- Natural greenhouse effect is necessary for life on Earth
- Concern: Human activities are enhancing the greenhouse effect.

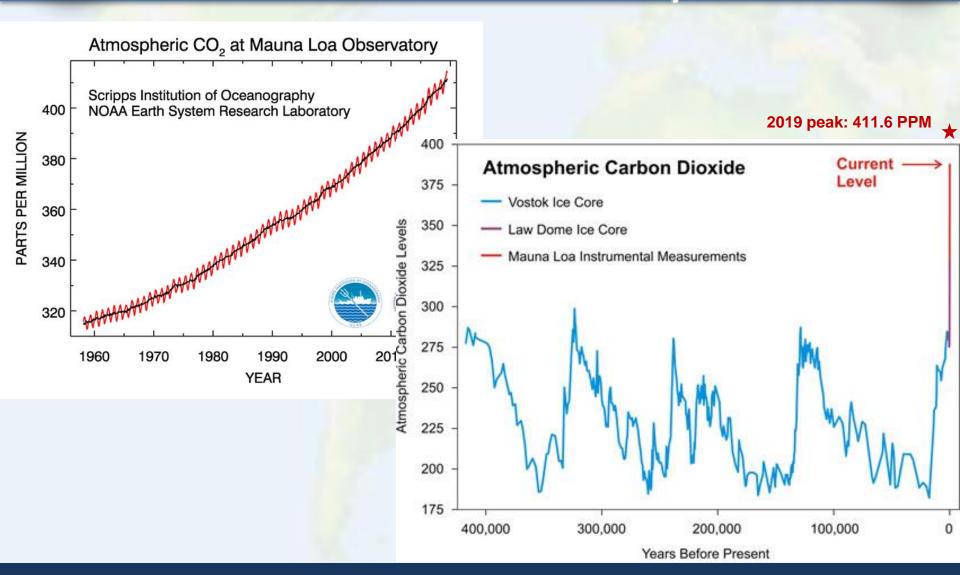






# Carbon Dioxide Increasing Due to Human Activity

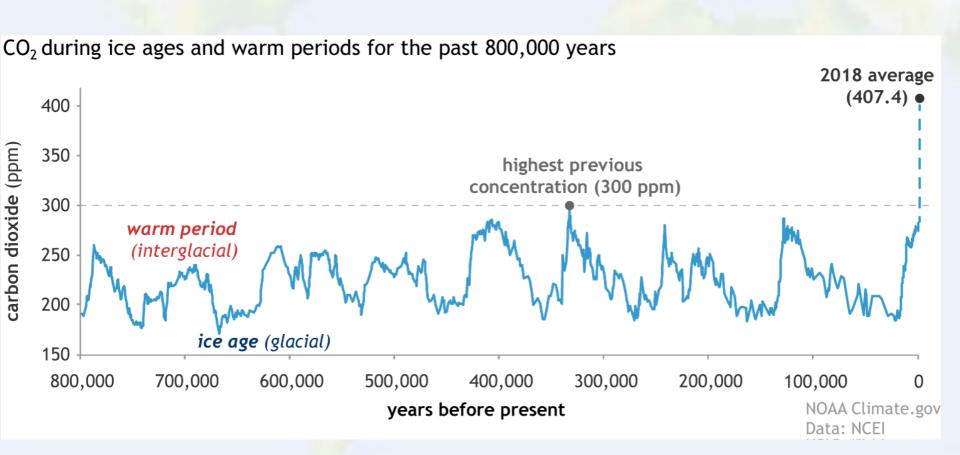






### Carbon Dioxide Increasing

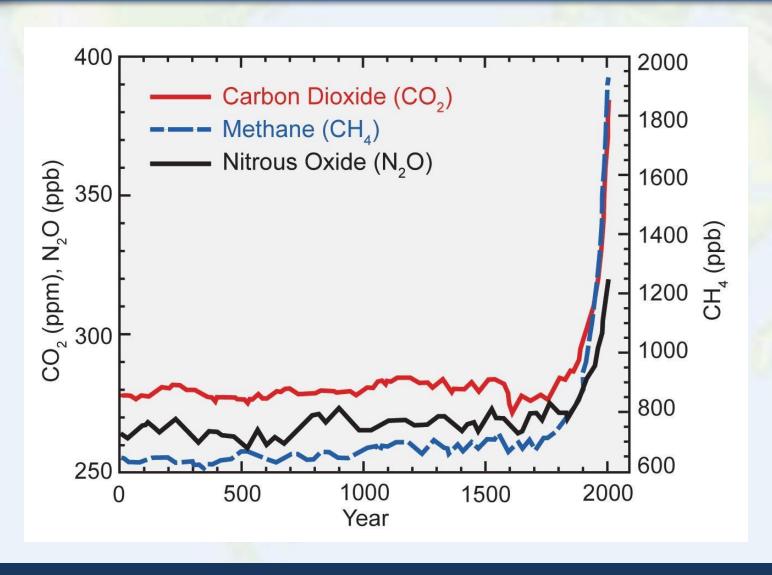






# ...And So Are Other Greenhouse Gases

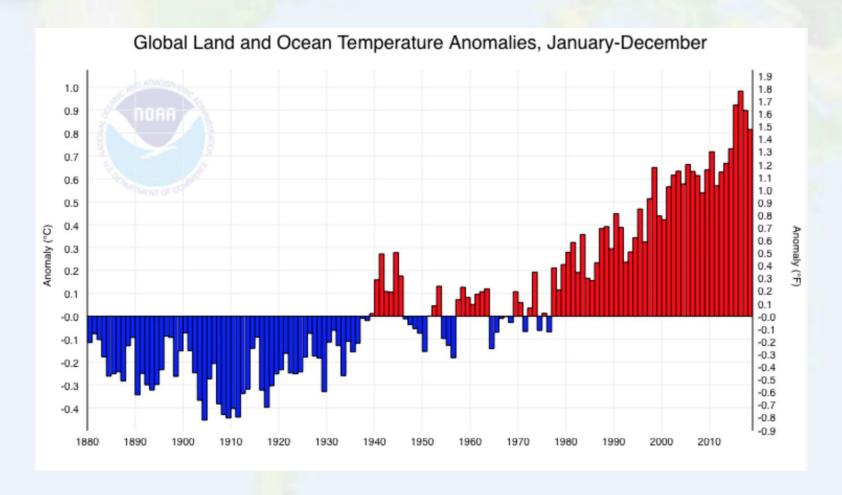






## Global Temperatures Are Increasing



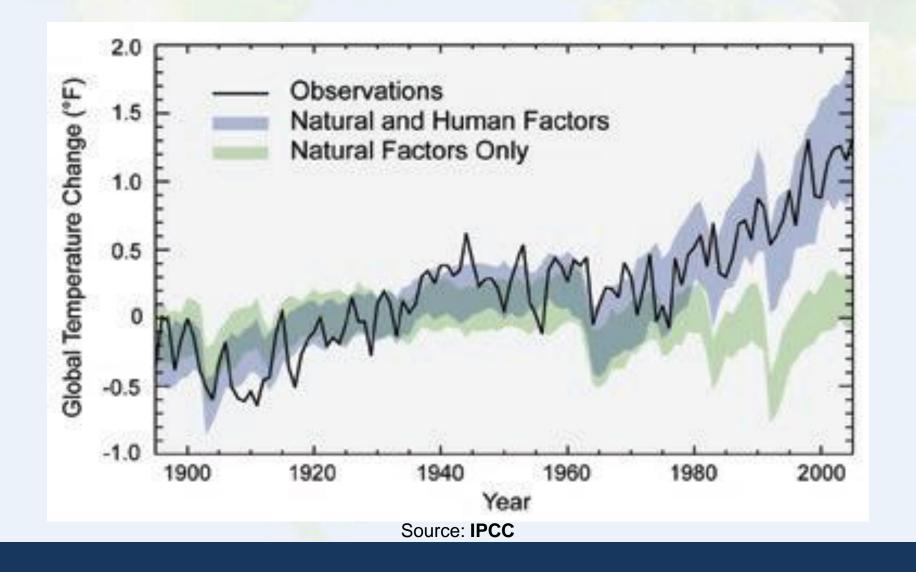


Most obvious and most discussed impact of climate change



# ...And Are Explained Only When Including Increased Greenhouse Gases

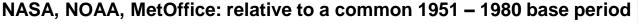


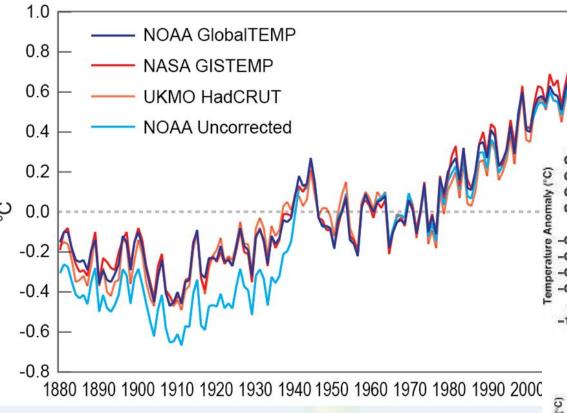




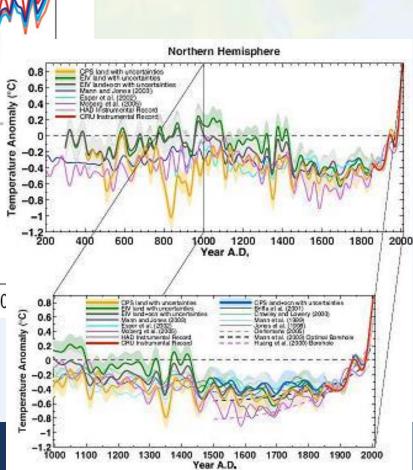
## Global Temperature Analyses Agree







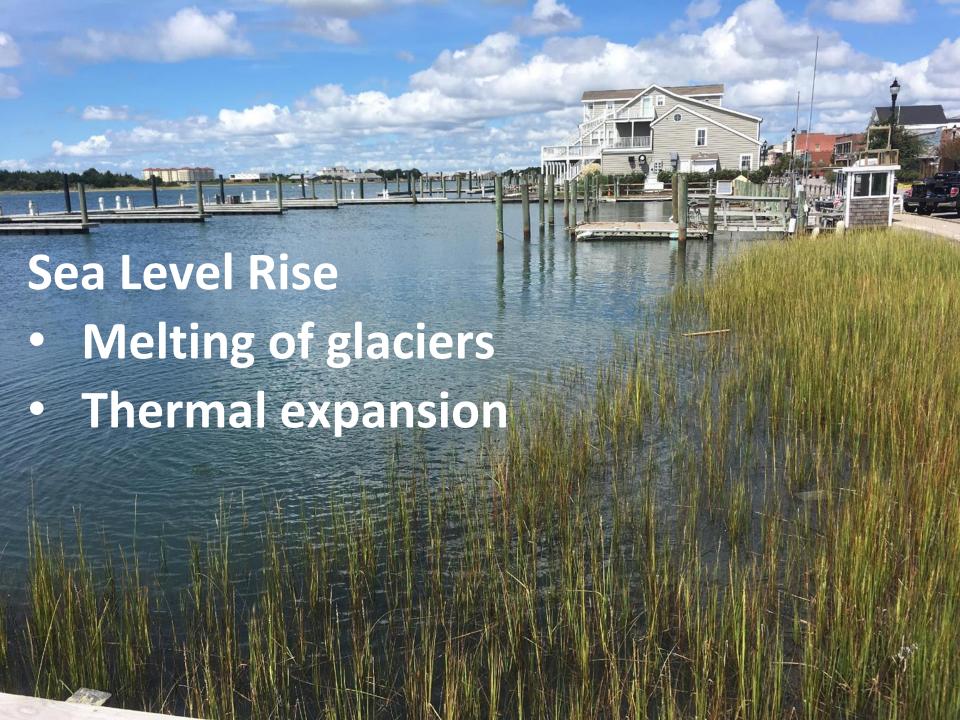
**Right:** Temperature over the past 1000-2000 years. Uncertainty increases farther back in time, when temperature reconstructions are based on "proxy" data (ice cores, tree rings, corals, lake sediments, glaciers, boreholes, stalagmites, etc.). Agreement improves with the instrumental records, beginning around 1850 A.D.



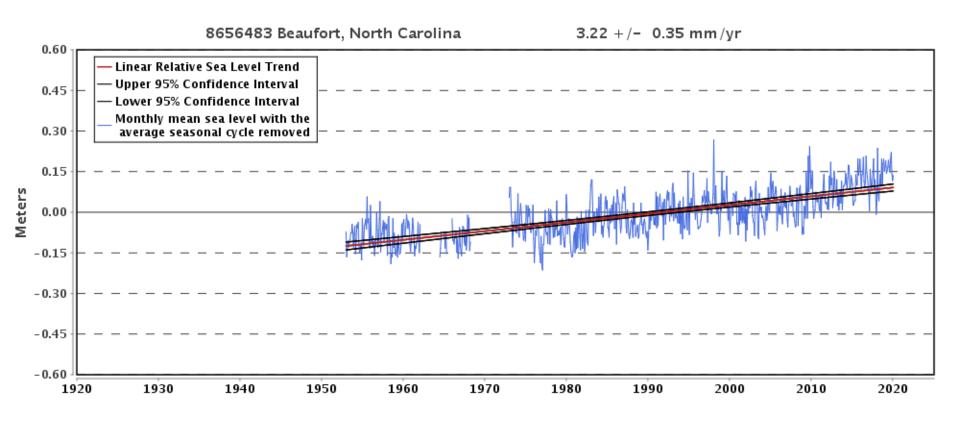




# Symptoms of Climate Change



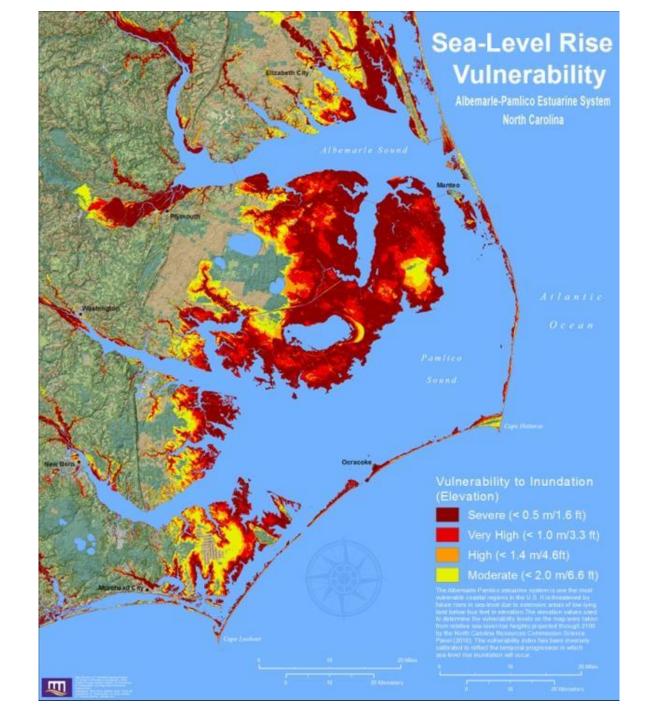
## Sea Levels are Rising



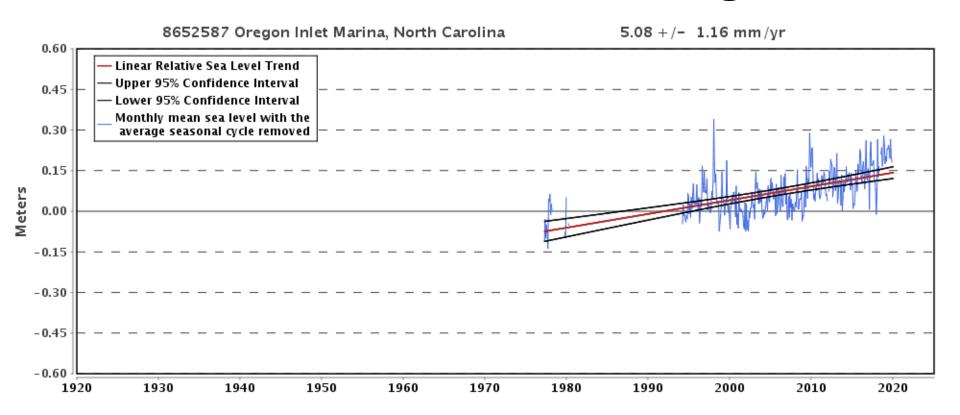
### Relative Sea Level Trend: Beaufort, North Carolina

The relative sea level trend is **3.22 millimeters/year** with a 95% confidence interval of +/- 0.35 mm/yr based on monthly mean sea level data from **1953 to 2019** which is equivalent to a change of 1.06 feet in 100 years.





## Sea Levels are Rising

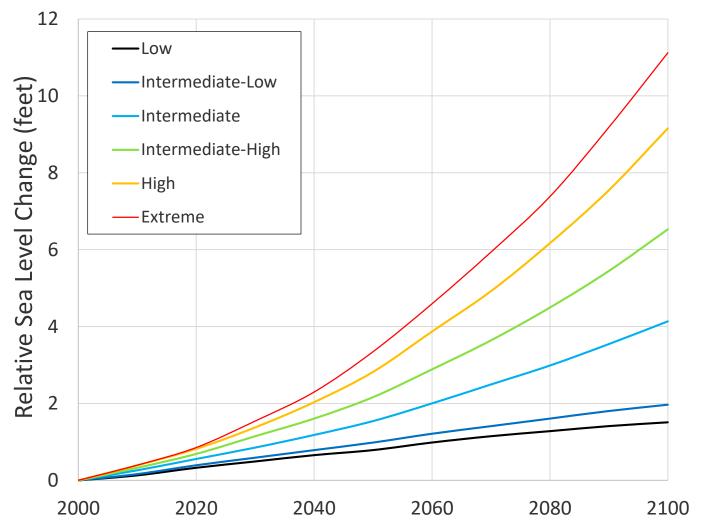


### Relative Sea Level Trend: Oregon Inlet, NC

The relative sea level trend is **5.08 millimeters/year** with a 95% confidence interval of +/- 0.35 mm/yr based on monthly mean sea level data from **1977 to 2019** which is equivalent to a change of 1.67 feet in 100 years.

https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/sltrends\_station.shtml?id=8652587

#### Projected Increase in Mean Sea Level

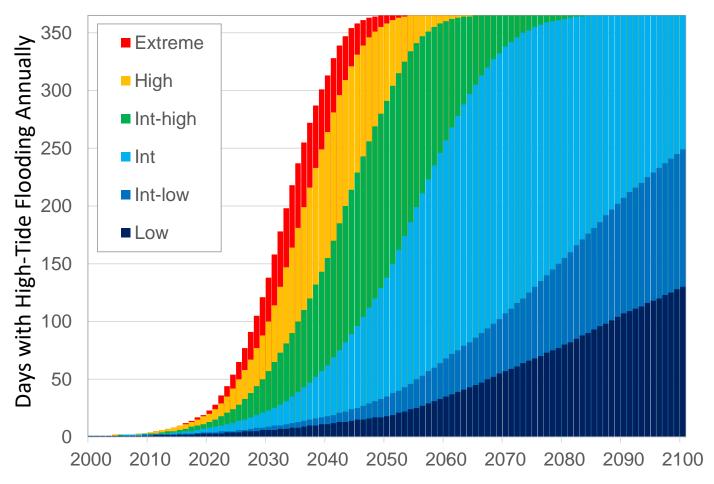


Relative sea level change scenarios for **Beaufort, NC** associated with 6 different sea level rise scenarios. The low and extreme scenarios represent the minimum and maximum of plausible future sea level rise.

Data source: NOAA Technical Report NOS CO-OPS 083; Site: 2295.



# Projected Days of Future Flooding with Sea Level Rise in Beaufort, NC



Projected future days of **minor flooding** based on derived levels at Beaufort, NC under different sea level-rise scenarios.

Data source: NOAA Technical Report NOS CO-OPS 086.







#### 10 Indicators of a Warming World



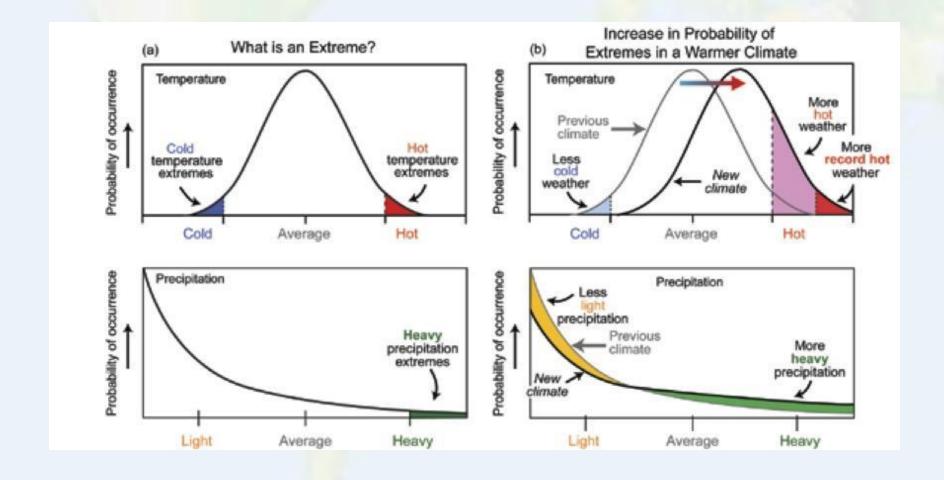


Seven of these indicators would be expected to increase in a warming world and observations show that they are, in fact, increasing. Three would be expected to decrease and they are, in fact, decreasing.



# How the Averages Affect the Extremes



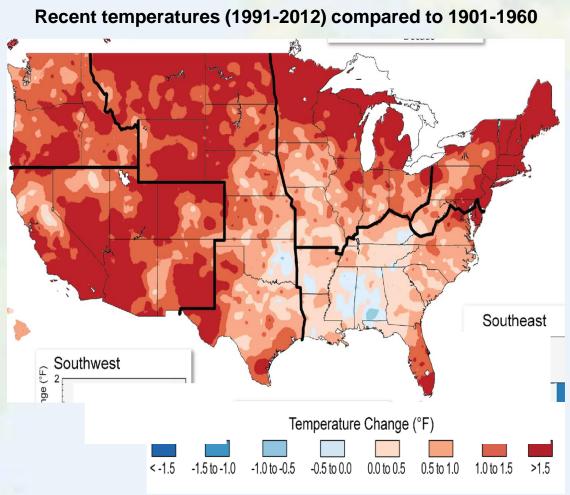




### Recent Temperature Trends



- Temperatures have warmed over the last century across the region.
- The warming is strongest during winter and for northern tier states.



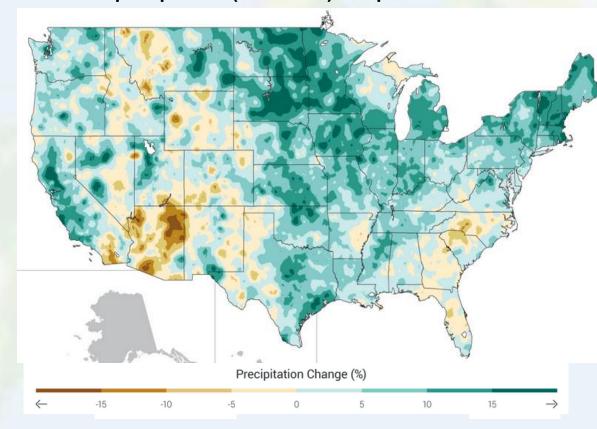


### Recent Precipitation Trends



- Wetting in the north.
- Drying in the west and south.

Recent precipitation (1991-2012) compared to 1901-1960

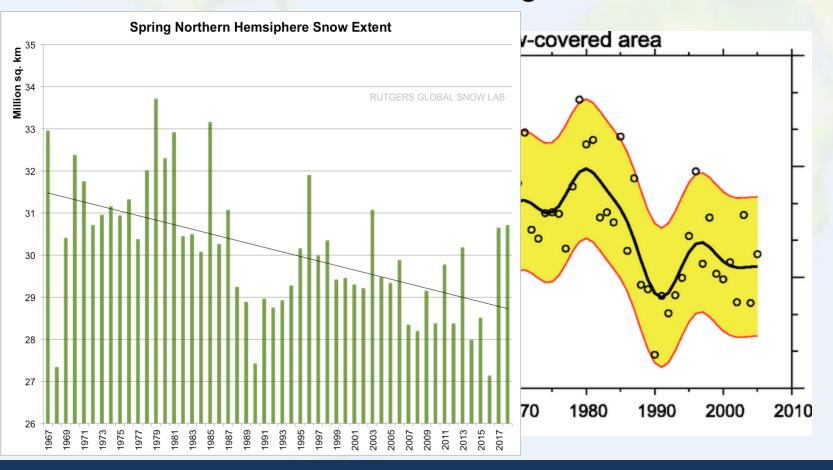




## Snow Is Melting Early



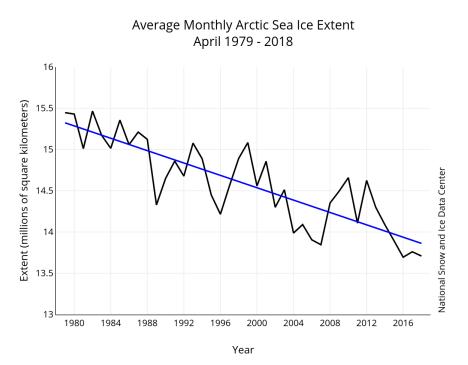
• In 2014, snow melt occurred 20–30 days earlier over North America than the 1998–2010 average.

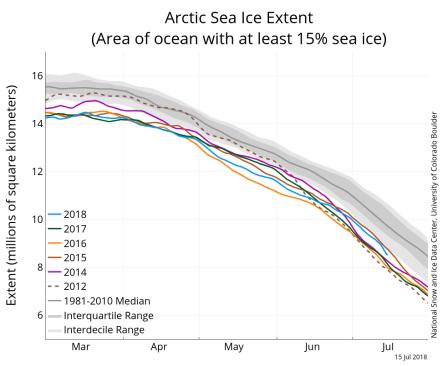




#### Arctic Sea Ice Is Melting





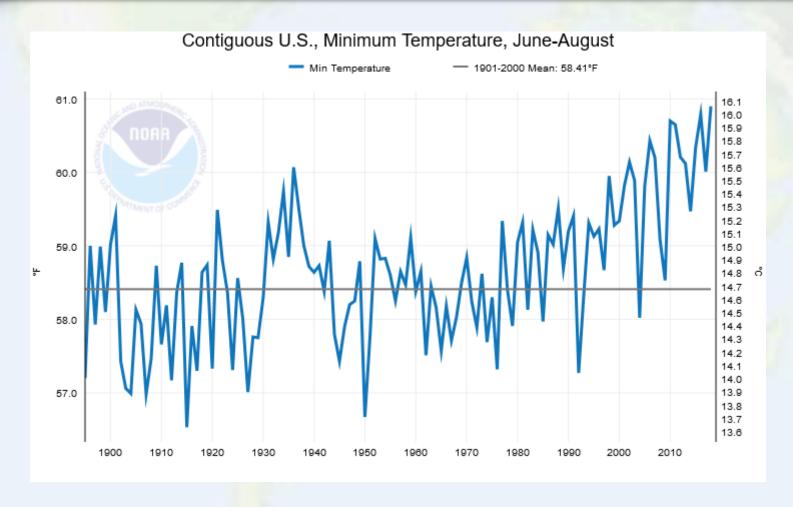


- 10 lowest minimum sea ice extents are the last 10 years.
- Multi-year ice is decreasing (ice is thinning).
- September Arctic sea ice extent is declining at a rate of -13.3% per decade.



#### Big Heat Is Increasing





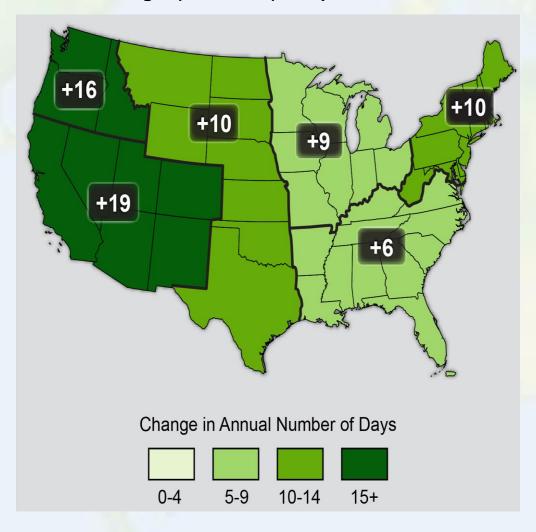
(Big Cold is generally decreasing)



### Frost-Free Season Is Lengthening



#### Recent length (1991-2012) compared to 1901-1960



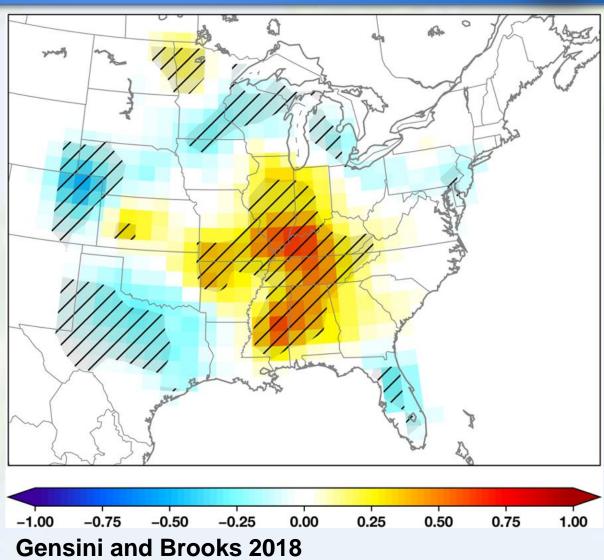


#### Tornado Trends



1979-2017

• Shifts in where tornadoes occur





#### Projected Temperature Change

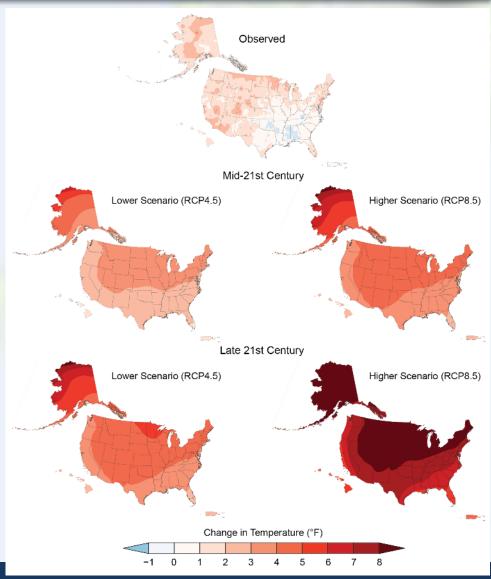


- Average temperatures will warm across the region, annually and for all seasons
- Warm temperature extremes will continue to occur more frequently than cold extremes
- Uncertainty lies in greenhouse gas emissions scenarios

Top: 1986-2016 temperatures, compared to 1901-1960 Middle: Projected annual average temperature change in 2036-2065, compared to 1986-2015

Bottom: Projected annual average temperature change in

2070-2099, compared to 1986.2015





#### Projected Precipitation Change



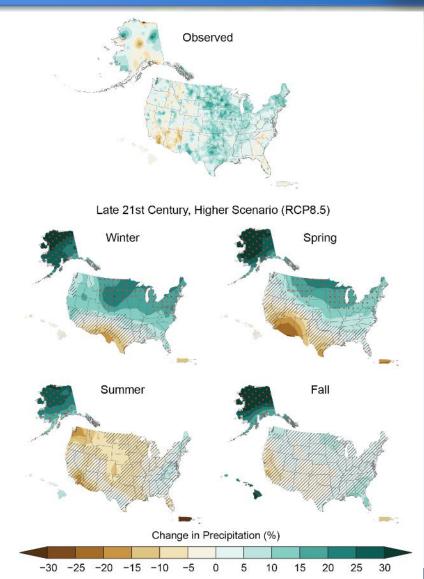
- Wetting trend north, especially winter and spring.
- Drying trend south, especially winter and spring.
- Drying trend in the central US in the summer.

Top: 1986-2016 precipitation, compared to 1901-1960 Middle: Projected annual precipitation change in 2036-2065, compared to 1901-1960

Bottom: Projected annual precipitation change in 2070-

2099, compared to 1901-1960

Red dots: changes large compared to natural variability Hatched: changes are small and relatively insignificant





#### Takeaway Messages



- It's real.
- It's us.
- Experts agree.
- It's mostly bad.
- It's not too late to fix it.





## **Climate Tools**



# Climate.gov Global Climate Dashboard







#### Climate Resilience Toolkit



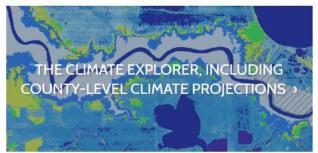


Steps to Resilience Case Studies Tools Expertise Regions

Search

#### **FEATURED**





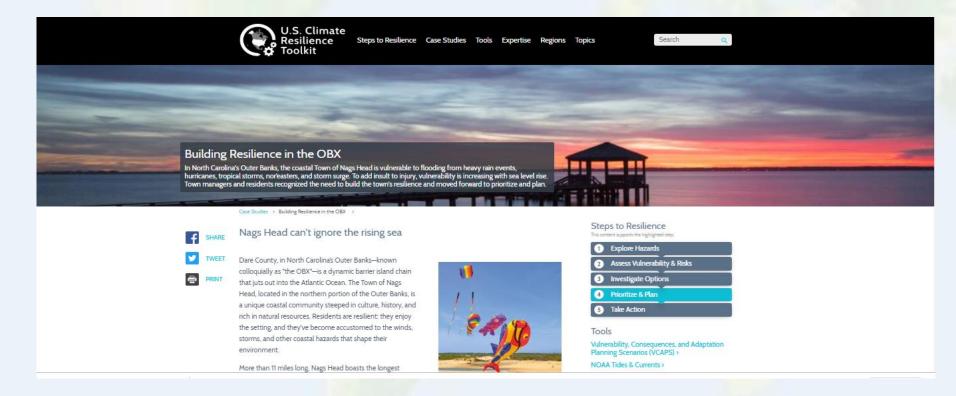
FIND STATE AND FEDERAL EXPERTS THAT CAN HELP YOU BUILD RESILIENCE >

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES—POTENTIAL RESOURCES FOR ADAPTATION EFFORTS >



#### Nags Head Case Study





#### Nags Head can't ignore the rising sea

Adaptation to coastal hazards, including sea level rise, is an important step to becoming resilient



### NC King Tides Project





Snap the shore See the future



#### CoCoRaHS!



- Volunteer precipitation observation network
- Use standard, low-cost tools
- Report observations online
- Data used by weather, water, and climate experts
- Provides access to educational webinars, materials









#### Thanks for Your Interest!





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www.weather.gov/moreheadcity