

CRS for Community Resilience

CRS Green Guide

ASFPM Flood Science Center

Robyn Wiseman, robyn@floods.org





CRS for Community Resilience

Objectives

1. Increase number of communities participating in the CRS
2. Increase scores of participating communities

Focus

Specific categories of CRS activities as they relate to:

1. Coastal floodplain ecosystems
2. Future conditions

Approach

Create a road map to undertake activities that strengthen natural ecosystems and reduce growing vulnerability to floods – which increases community resilience



Partners

Project Advisory Committee

- Michelle Burnett - RI Floodplain Manager
- Grover Fugate - RI Coastal Program Manager
- Christopher Thoms - OH Floodplain Manager
- Scudder Mackey - OH Coastal Program Manager
- Jennifer Gilbert – NH Floodplain Manager
- Liz Hertz – ME Municipal Planning Program Manager
- Bill Lesser - FEMA CRS Program
- Allison Hardin - Myrtle Beach, SC Planner
- Russell Jackson - NOAA OCM / CRS Task Force
- Todd Davison - NOAA OCM
- Dave Carlton - dkcarlton & associates
- Lori Cary-Kothera - NOAA OCM
- Thomas Ruppert - FL Sea Grant Coastal Planner

Coastal States Organization

- Mary Munson – SME/Principal Investigator
- Bradley Watson – SME/Principal Investigator
- Kristin Raub – Researcher

ASFPM

- Chad Berginnis – SME/Principal Investigator
- Jeff Stone – Project Manager
- Bridget Faust – Project Researcher
- Robyn Wiseman – Project Researcher
- Jason Hochschild – Web & Technical Analyst
- Alan Lulloff – SME
- Michele Mihalovich – Technical Editor



About the NFIP





What is the CRS?



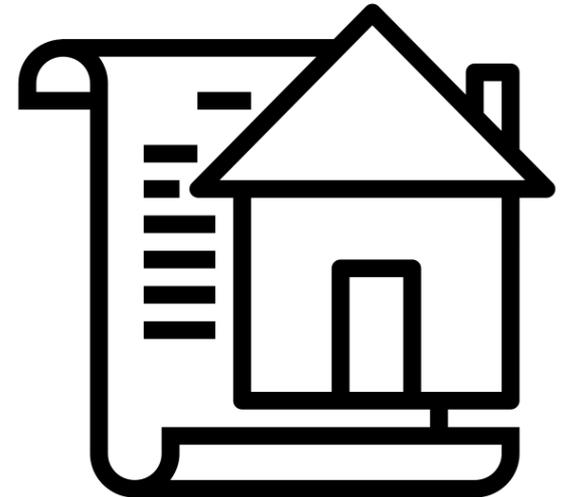
Community Rating System (CRS): “a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements” (FEMA, 2016).



Created by lastspark
from Noun Project



Created by Dan Hetteix
from Noun Project

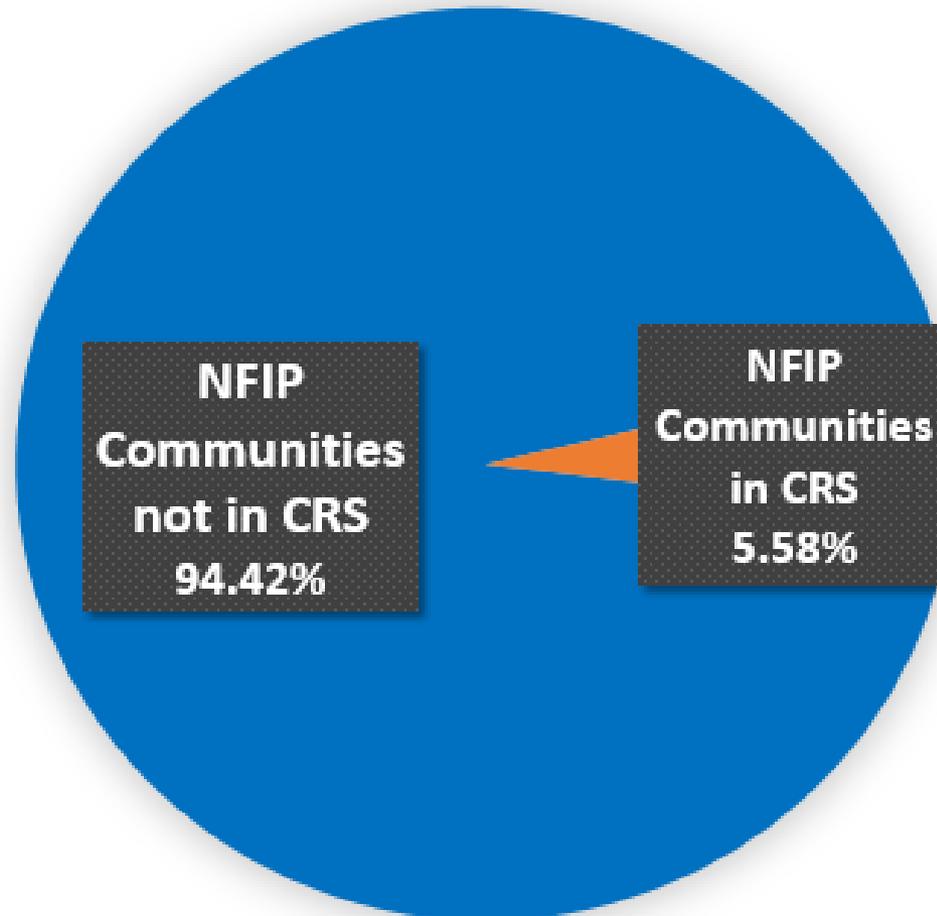


Created by Chameleon Design
from Noun Project



CRS Participants in Numbers

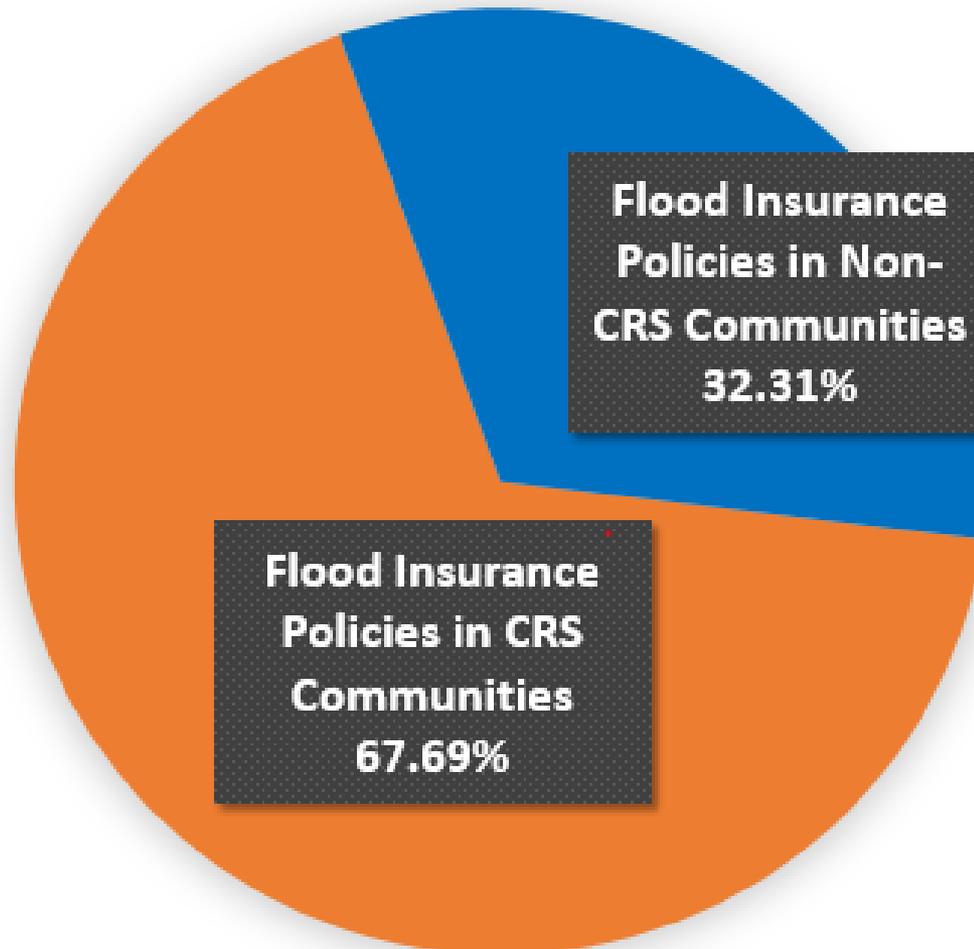
Percentage of NFIP Communities Participating in CRS





CRS Participants in Numbers

Percentage of Policies in Force in CRS vs. Non-CRS Communities



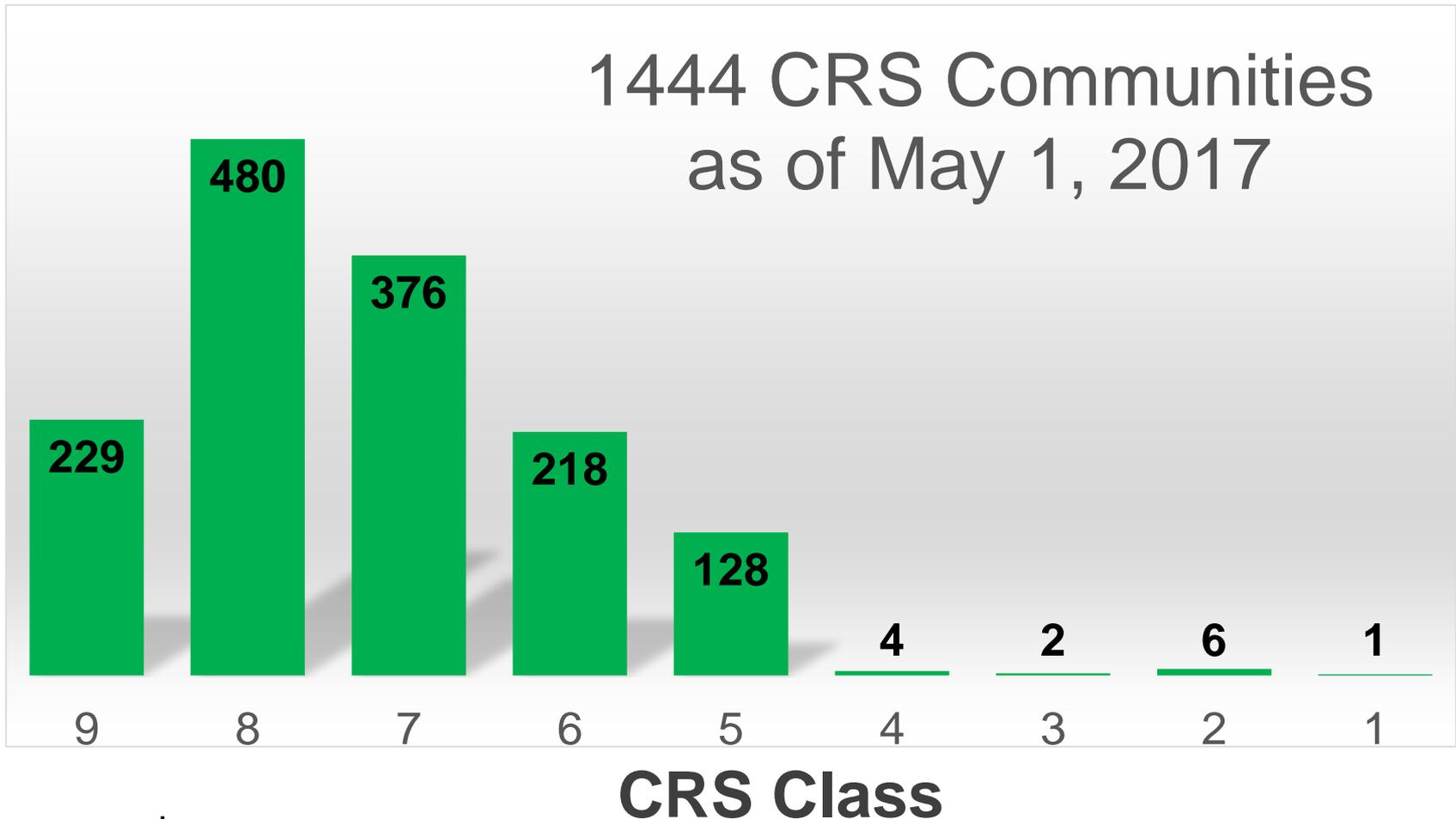


CRS Class Breakdown

CRS Class	Points Required	SFHA Discount	Non-SFHA Discount	PRP Discount
1	4,500	45%	10%	0%
2	4,000	40%	10%	0%
3	3,500	35%	10%	0%
4	3,000	30%	10%	0%
5	2,500	25%	10%	0%
6	2,000	20%	10%	0%
7	1,500	15%	5%	0%
8	1,000	10%	5%	0%
9	500	5%	5%	0%
10	< 500	0%	0%	0%



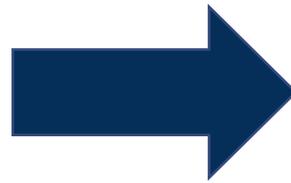
CRS Class Breakdown



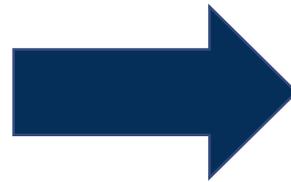


Natural and Beneficial Functions (NBF)

Class 4
Status



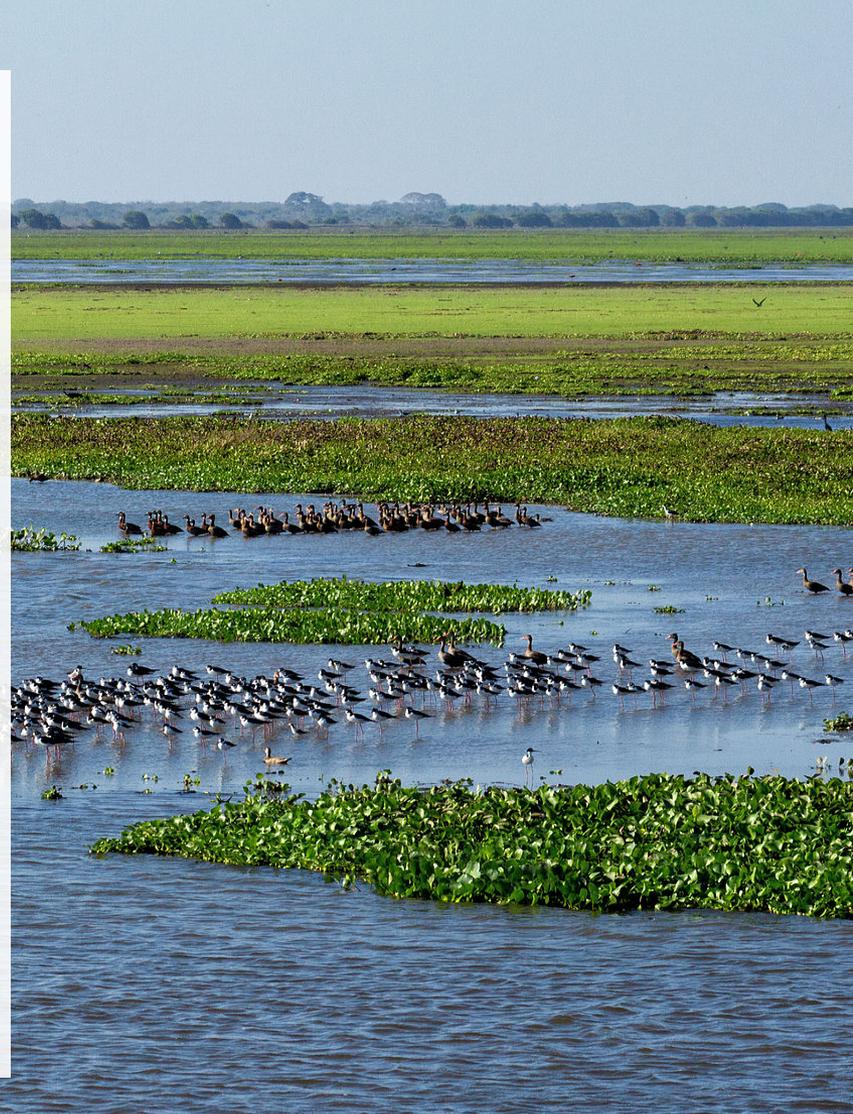
Class 1
Status





Natural and Beneficial Functions (NBF)

- Creation of habitat for fish, fowl and wildlife, including many endangered species
- Enhanced air and water quality
- Groundwater recharge
- Restoration of natural ecosystems and ecosystem services
- More sustainable environment in your community
- Creation or enhancement of recreation opportunities



300 Series	412.e: More-restrictive floodway standard	500 Series
Public Information Activities	412.f: Mapping of SFHA	Flood Damage Reduction Activities
312.a: Maintaining Elevation Certificates	422.a: Open space preservations	512.a: Floodplain management planning
312.b: Maintaining Elevation Certificates for post-FIRM buildings	422.b: Deed restrictions	512.b: Repetitive loss area analysis
312.c: Maintaining Elevation Certificates for pre-FIRM buildings	422.c: Natural functions open space	512.c: Natural floodplain functions plan
322.a: Basic FIRM information	422.d: SFHA open space	522.a: Buildings acquired or relocated
322.b: Additional FIRM information	422.e: Coastal erosion open space	522.b: Buildings on the repetitive loss list
322.c: Other flood problems not shown on the FIRM	422.f: Open space incentives	522.c: Severe Repetitive Loss properties
322.d: Flood depth data	422.g: Low density zoning	522.d: Critical facilities
322.e: Special flood-related hazards	422.h: Natural shoreline protection	522.e: Buildings located in the V or coastal A Zone
322.g: Natural floodplain functions	432.a: Development Limitations	532.a: Flood protection project technique used
332.a: Outreach Projects	432.b: Freeboard	532.b: Flood protection improvement
332.b: Flood response preparations	432.c: Foundation protection	532.c: Protected buildings
332.c: Program for Public Information	432.d: Cumulative substantial improvements	542.a: Channel debris removal
332.d: Stakeholder delivery	432.e: Lower substantial improvements	542.b: Problem site maintenance
342.a: Disclosure of flood hazard	432.f: Protection of critical facilities	542.c: Capital improvement program
342.b: Other disclosure requirements	432.g: Enclosure limits	542.d: Stream dumping regulations
342.c: Real estate agents' brochure	432.h: Building code	542.e: Storage basin maintenance
342.d: Disclosure of other hazards	432.i: Local drainage protection	600 Series
352.a: Flood protection library	432.j: Manufactured home parks	Warning and Response
352.b: Locally pertinent documents	432.k: Coastal A Zones	612.a: Flood threat recognition system
352.c: Flood protection website	432.l: SFHA regulations	612.b: Emergency warning dissemination
362.a: Property protection advice	432.m: Tsunami hazard regulations	612.c: Flood response operations
362.b: Protection advice provided after site visit	432.n: Coastal erosion hazard regulations	612.d: Critical facilities planning
362.c: Financial assistance advice	432.o: Other higher standard	612.e: StormReady community
362.d: Advisor training	432.p: State-mandated regulatory standards	612.f: TsunamiReady community
372.a: Flood insurance coverage assessment	432.q: Regulations administration	622.a: Levee maintenance
372.b: Coverage improvement plan	442.a: Additional map data	622.b: Levee failure threat recognition system
372.c: Coverage improvement plan implementation	442.b: FIRM maintenance	622.c: Levee failure warning
372.d: Technical assistance	442.c: Benchmark maintenance	622.d: Levee failure response operations
400 Series	442.d: Erosion data maintenance	622.e: Levee failure critical facilities planning
Mapping and Regulations	452.a: Storm water management regulations	632.a: State dam safety program
412.a: New study	452.b: Watershed master plan	632.b: Dam failure threat recognition system
412.b: Leverage	452.c: Erosion and sedimentation control regulations	632.c: Dam failure warning
412.c: State review	452.d: Water quality regulations	632.d: Dam failure response operations
412.d: Higher study standards		632.e: Dam failure critical facilities planning

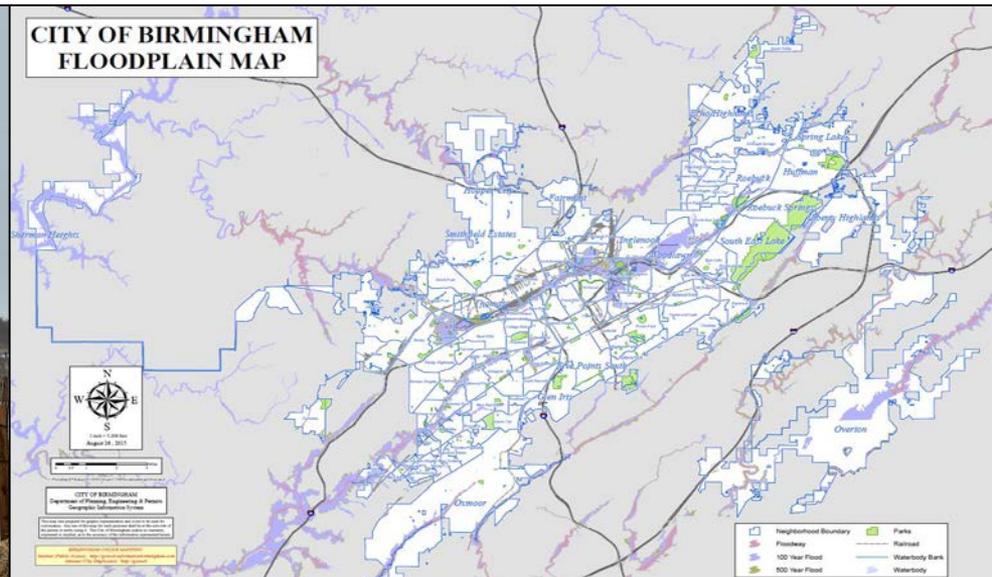
300 Series	412.e: More-restrictive floodway standard	500 Series
Public Information Activities	412.f: Mapping of SFHA	Flood Damage Reduction Activities
312.a: Maintaining Elevation Certificates	422.a: Open space preservations	512.a: Floodplain management planning
312.b: Maintaining Elevation Certificates for post-FIRM buildings	422.b: Deed restrictions	512.b: Repetitive loss area analysis
312.c: Maintaining Elevation Certificates for pre-FIRM buildings	422.c: Natural functions open space	512.c: Natural floodplain functions plan
322.a: Basic FIRM information	422.d: SFHA open space	522.a: Buildings acquired or relocated
322.b: Additional FIRM information	422.e: Coastal erosion open space	522.b: Buildings on the repetitive loss list
322.c: Other flood problems not shown on the FIRM	422.f: Open space incentives	522.c: Severe Repetitive Loss properties
322.d: Flood depth data	422.g: Low density zoning	522.d: Critical facilities
322.e: Special flood-related hazards	422.h: Natural shoreline protection	522.e: Buildings located in the V or coastal A Zone
322.g: Natural floodplain functions	432.a: Development Limitations	532.a: Flood protection project technique used
332.a: Outreach Projects	432.b: Freeboard	532.b: Flood protection improvement
332.b: Flood response preparations	432.c: Foundation protection	532.c: Protected buildings
332.c: Program for Public Information	432.d: Cumulative substantial improvements	542.a: Channel debris removal
332.d: Stakeholder delivery	432.e: Lower substantial improvements	542.b: Problem site maintenance
342.a: Disclosure of flood hazard	432.f: Protection of critical facilities	542.c: Capital improvement program
342.b: Other disclosure requirements	432.g: Enclosure limits	542.d: Stream dumping regulations
342.c: Real estate agents' brochure	432.h: Building code	542.e: Storage basin maintenance
342.d: Disclosure of other hazards	432.i: Local drainage protection	600 Series
352.a: Flood protection library	432.j: Manufactured home parks	Warning and Response
352.b: Locally pertinent documents	432.k: Coastal A Zones	612.a: Flood threat recognition system
352.c: Flood protection website	432.l: SFHA regulations	612.b: Emergency warning dissemination
362.a: Property protection advice	432.m: Tsunami hazard regulations	612.c: Flood response operations
362.b: Protection advice provided after site visit	432.n: Coastal erosion hazard regulations	612.d: Critical facilities planning
362.c: Financial assistance advice	432.o: Other higher standard	612.e: StormReady community
362.d: Advisor training	432.p: State-mandated regulatory standards	612.f: TsunamiReady community
372.a: Flood insurance coverage assessment	432.q: Regulations administration	622.a: Levee maintenance
372.b: Coverage improvement plan	442.a: Additional map data	622.b: Levee failure threat recognition system
372.c: Coverage improvement plan implementation	442.b: FIRM maintenance	622.c: Levee failure warning
372.d: Technical assistance	442.c: Benchmark maintenance	622.d: Levee failure response operations
400 Series	442.d: Erosion data maintenance	622.e: Levee failure critical facilities planning
Mapping and Regulations	452.a: Storm water management regulations	632.a: State dam safety program
412.a: New study	452.b: Watershed master plan	632.b: Dam failure threat recognition system
412.b: Leverage	452.c: Erosion and sedimentation control regulations	632.c: Dam failure warning
412.c: State review	452.d: Water quality regulations	632.d: Dam failure response operations
412.d: Higher study standards		632.e: Dam failure critical facilities planning

Element Name	Possible Points	Element Name	Possible Points
322.g. Natural Floodplain Functions	20	432.a. Development Limitations	1,330
332.a. Outreach Projects	200	432.i. SFRH Regulations, Inland	100
332.d. Stakeholder Delivery	50	432.m. SFHR Regulations, Coastal	370
412.e. More Restrictive Floodway Standard	140	442.d. Erosion Data Maintenance	20
422.a. Open Space Preservation	1,450	452.a. Stormwater Management Regulations	380
422.b. Deed Restrictions	50	452.b. Watershed Master Plan	315
422.c. Natural Functions Open Space	350	452.c. Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations	40
422.d. SFRH Open Space	150	452.d. Water Quality Regulations	20
422.e. Coastal Erosion Open Space	750	512.c. Natural Floodplain Functions Plan	100
422.f. Open Space Incentives	250	Activity 520	2,250
422.g. Low Density Zoning	600	542.c. Capital Improvement Program	70
422.h. Natural Shoreline Protection	120		



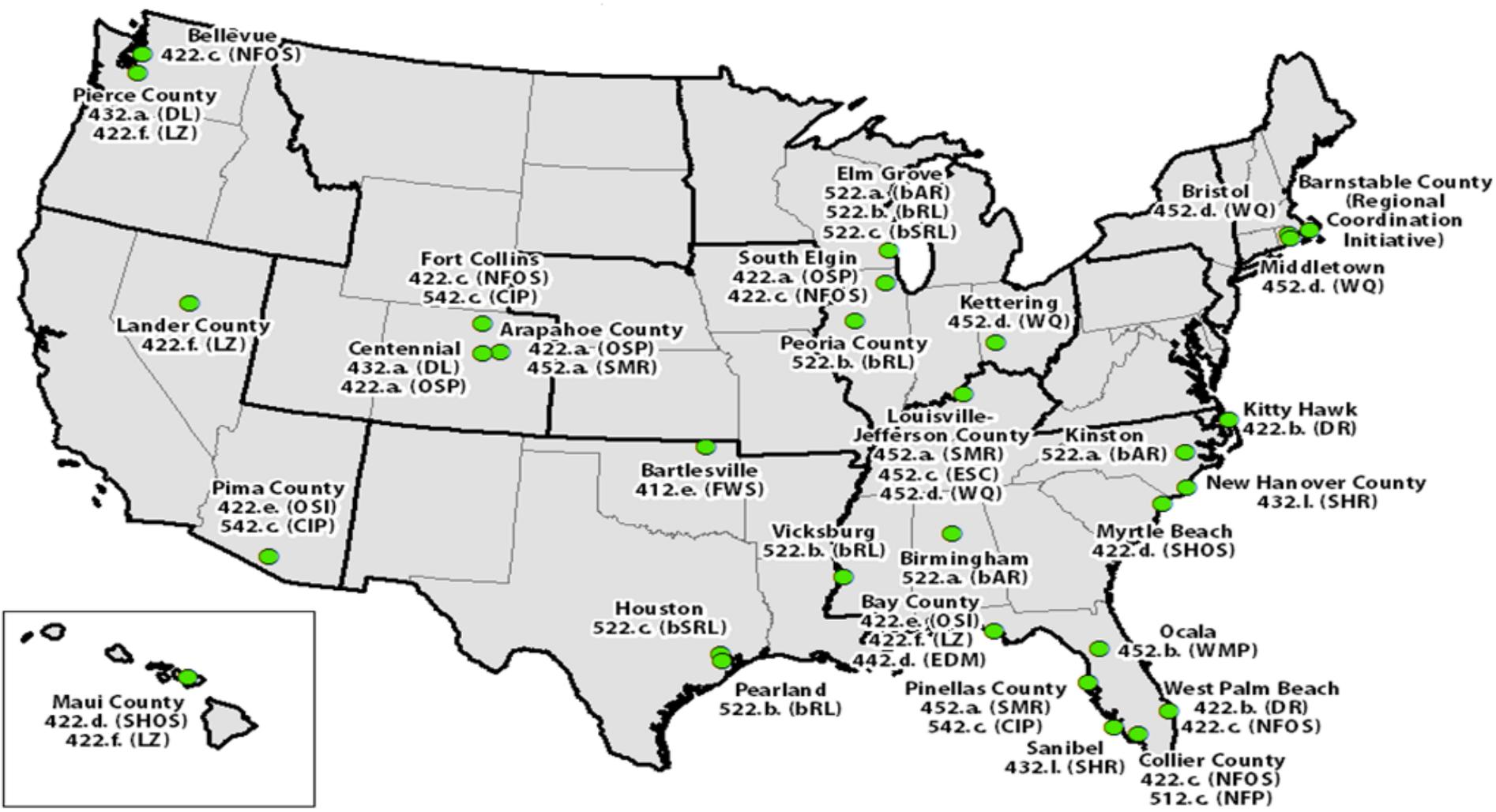
Why use the Green Guide?

- Receive stackable credits
- How to earn credit for state requirements
- Tips on documenting and calculating credits
- Best practices and success stories from *actual* communities





Best Practices and Success Stories





Existing Activities Eligible for Credit

- **State Requirements**
 - Mandatory freeboard
 - Zero-rise floodplain standards
 - Coastal management
- **Local regulations, plans and permits!**
 - Erosion and sediment control
 - Water quality
- **Low density zoning**



Image from Louisville MSD.



Receive Stackable Credits

Many of the credits earned for implementing measures that support natural and beneficial floodplain functions earn credit under several categories!



Image: Flood waters of the Illinois River at Cooper Park, East Peoria, IL

Stackable Credit:

Earning credit for multiple elements by completing and documenting one task (or several related tasks)



Activities and Elements

- Explain technical information in plain language
- Overview of relevant impact adjustments
- Detailed Element profiles for each of the 25 Green Elements with natural and beneficial functions!

Impact Adjustment:

Ratio used to adjust the amount of credit your community receives for implementing an element

Usually calculated by taking area of regulatory floodplain affected by element divided by overall regulatory floodplain



Tips on Documenting and Calculating Credits

- Each element profile outlines the difficulty level for implementation AND documentation.
- Difficulty levels verified by experts in the field.

Low



Medium



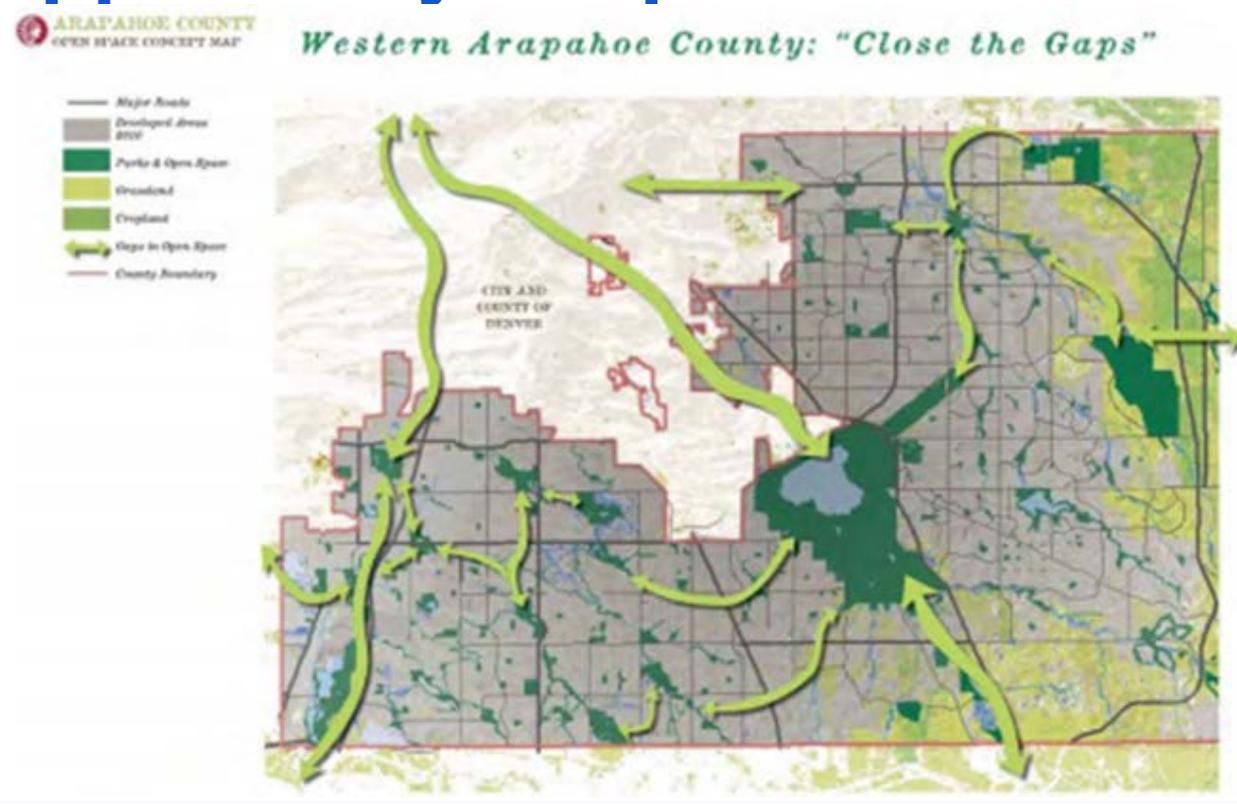
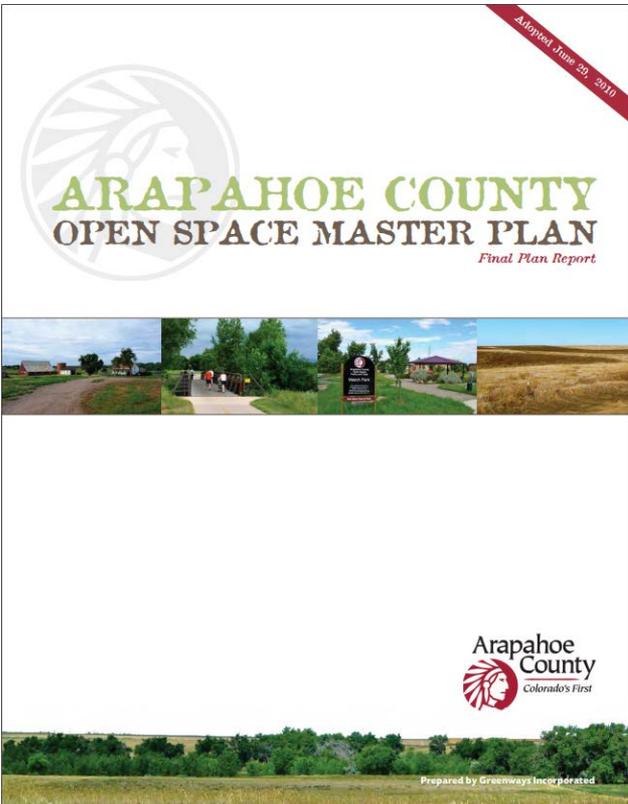
High





Be Ready!

Use existing plans to set a course for action and have funds on hand to take action when the opportunity is ripe.





Quick Demo of the Green Guide

Walk-through of our site



Our Site

- You can access it through the Flood Science Center website:

FloodScienceCenter.org

- Find out more info about resources, webinars and workshops – we will be adding more content soon!
- Green Guide is meant to be a web-enabled resource (there is a printable PDF that will not be updated due to funding constraints)



CRS for Community Resilience

The goal of CRS for Community Resilience is to increase the number of communities making voluntary, effective measures to increase flood resilience. This project promotes CRS participation, provides guidance on actions that increase a community's rating, and works directly with communities to increase their resiliency through the CRS process.

This project aims to:

1. Get more communities to participate in the CRS, and
2. Increase resiliency by having a road map to undertake activities that strengthen the natural ecosystems and reduce growing vulnerability to floods

Have a question, recommendation or CRS success story of your own? [Share it with us!](#)



NFWF





Element Profiles

The CRS Green Guide addresses 25 of the 90+ CRS Elements included in the 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual. The following section provides detailed summaries of each of the 25 CRS Elements.

These summaries or "element profiles" include critical information that communities can use to determine if:

1. Their current practices are creditable under the CRS, or
2. They can feasibly implement the element (assuming their current practices are not creditable).

Specifically, each profile includes a summary of the element, the *degree of difficulty* associated with documenting and implementing it, the maximum number of points a community could earn, an overview any relevant *impact adjustment* and how it might impact a community's credit-earning potential, co-benefits associated with the element, as well as a few "tips for success." Most CRS elements discussed in the Green Guide are also associated with a success story that features a community's experience with the element.





ASFPM FLOOD SCIENCE CENTER

CRS for
Community
Resilience[Green Guide](#)[Element Profiles](#)[Success Stories](#)[Resources](#)[Workshops](#)[Webinars](#)[About](#)[Home](#) > [Products](#) > [CRS for Community Resilience](#) > [Success Stories](#)

Success Stories

Success Stories were developed through an extensive interview process with CRS communities from across the Nation. Communities were interviewed about CRS Elements that they scored well on. Questions helped understand a community's efforts and resources used to implement an element; costs associated with implementation and maintenance of that element; benefits (measured or perceived) reaped by the community; and the challenges encountered, and best practices that they would like to pass along to other communities.

We want to hear from you! [Share your community's CRS success story with us](#) and we will feature it on the Green Guide.



Links to Success Stories



CRS for Community Resilience Resources

 Search CRS Resources

GO

SHOW ALL RESULTS

CRS Manuals



2017

NFIP CRS Coordinator's
Manual 2017

Online access



2013

NFIP CRS Coordinator's
Manual 2013

Online access



2007

NFIP CRS Coordinator's
Manual 2007

Online access



How to Map Open Space for Community Rating System Credit

John Rozum & Melissa Rosa

NOAA Office for Coastal Management

R iilfh#ru#Fr d\vdcdP dqdjhp hqw



How We're Participating in CRS

Tools



Partnerships



Efforts Underway &
Looking Ahead



R ilfh#ru#Fr d v d c P d q d j h p h q w



Why Open Space Preservation?

- Earn FEMA CRS credit under Activity 420
- Mitigate flood risk and climate change impacts
- Multiple benefits: water quality, habitat, recreation
- Complement existing CRS tools and resources



FEMA National Flood Insurance Program

CRS Activity 420: Open Space Preservation (OSP)

- Communities earn credits for permanently preserved open space
- First five elements provide credit for parcels that qualify for:

OSP Credit

- Open Space Preservation (OSP) – 1450 points

OSP Extra Credit

- Deed Restrictions (DR) – 50 points
- Natural functions open space (NFOS) – 350 points
- Special flood-related hazard open space (SHOS) – 150 points
- Coastal erosion open space (CEOS) – 750 points



NOAA How To Map Open Space: Two Companion Products

1. Step-by-step instructional “How To” guide (for planners)

1. GIS workflow (for GIS analysts)

- Supplementary documents
 - Before you get started
 - Worksheet for calculating credits
 - Parcel documentation checklist

How to Map Open Space Preservation for Community Rating System Credit

GIS Workflow

NOAA Office for Coastal Management
coast.noaa.gov

Overview

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System (CRS) is a program that credits communities' efforts to reduce their flood risk with discounts on flood insurance premiums for its policyholders. The CRS uses credit to determine the amount of a community's insurance discount. A key way communities and implementat other naturally pr

This GIS workflow Community Rating credit for open sp protected, and to efforts. The steps Emergency Mana

This document is local planners wit 420. The GIS worl

- GSP cred
- ownershi
- additiona
- p
- h

TRAINING TYPE Self-Guided Resource

DURATION Self-paced

Overview

These credits—D floodplain to the guidance outline: possible credit. A

NOTE: This docum

This "how-to" provides a step-by-step approach for earning this credit (CRS Activity 420) in areas that are already protected, and identifying places where additional credit could be earned through future preservation efforts. It also provides templates and worksheets to complete verification information. The steps draw from FEMA's Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual (2017), and reference related elements in other Community Rating System activities, such as floodplain mapping (Activity 410).

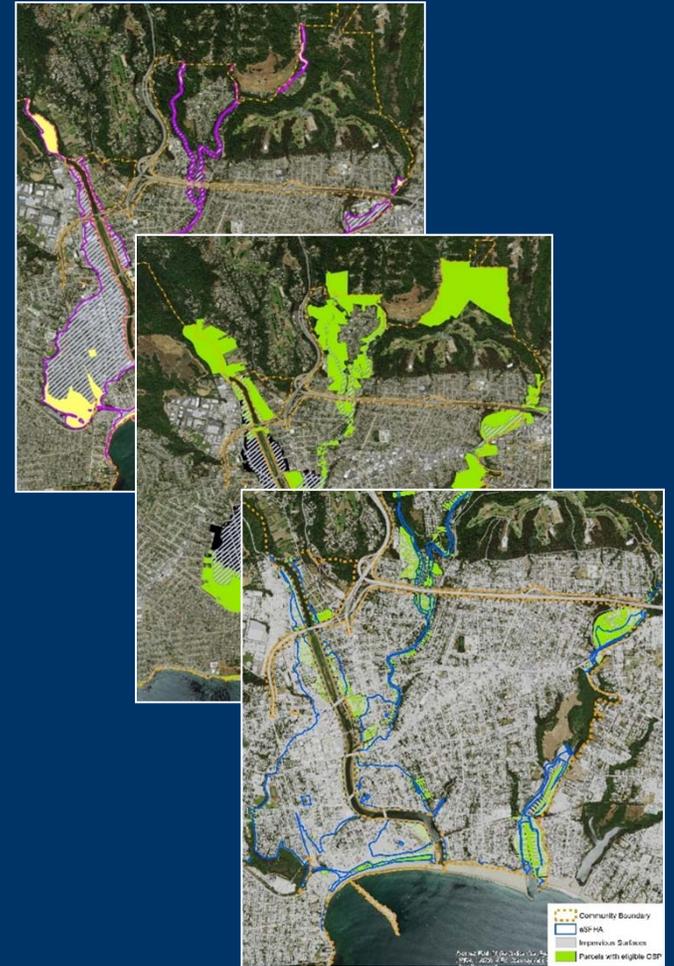
Seven-Step Process:

1. Calculate the community's special flood hazard area
2. Identify lands that may qualify for open space preservation credit
3. Exclude areas that do not qualify for open space credit

How To & GIS Workflow Steps

1. Calculate impact adjusted Special Flood Hazard Area (aSFHA)
2. Identify lands that may qualify as open space
3. Exclude areas that do not qualify
4. Calculate the number of possible OSP credits

$$rOSP = aOSP/aSFHA \text{ (x 1,450 points)}$$



GIS Workflow and Mapping Guide

GIS Data Checklist: Below is a list of geospatial information you may need and suggestions on where you may find the relevant information, clipped to the community boundary and projected to state plane coordinate system.

GIS Data Set	Open Space Preservation (OSP) Element
Special flood hazard area (SFHA)	FEMA Map Services Center
Community boundary	State, county/city planning department Tax assessor's office
Parcels	County/city planning department
Land use	USGS Protected Areas Database
Federal lands	National Hydrography Dataset
Hydrology/open water	High-resolution land cover data (e.g., National Wetland Inventory (NWI) or local or state data)
Impervious surfaces (choose one)	Percent Imperviousness
Protected areas	USGS Protected Areas Database Trust for Public Land Local land cover
Conservation easements	National Wetland Inventory (NWI) USDA
Public open space	County/City Planning Department
Development regulations	County/City Planning Department
Natural land cover	National Wetland Inventory (NWI)

GIS Analysis:

1. Open the *Community Boundary* and *SFHA* layer
2. In the attribute table of *SFHA*, **Select by Attribute** "SFHA_TF" = "T".
3. With the "SFHA_TF" = "T" features selected the special flood hazard area inside the community boundary.
4. **Open Federal Lands and Select by Attribute:**
 - a. If using *PADUS_4MPA* shapefile, select *Area*.
 - b. Add a new Double field to the attribute table.
 - c. Select *Area* as the Property.
 - d. Use the coordinate system of the layer.
 - e. Select acres, and click **OK**.
5. **Open Hydrology and Select by Attribute:**
 - a. If using the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD24Kor (area).
 - b. If area is not included, add a new field to the attribute table.
 - c. Use the measure tool to calculate the area.
6. **Merge selected federal land and hydrology.**
7. Go to **ArcToolbox -> Analysis Tools -> Intersect** (from the *Community Boundary*, or *aSFHA*).
8. **Dissolve the aSFHA layer** "SFHA_TF" values show.
9. Add a new Double field to the attribute table (right-click, **Calculate Field**).

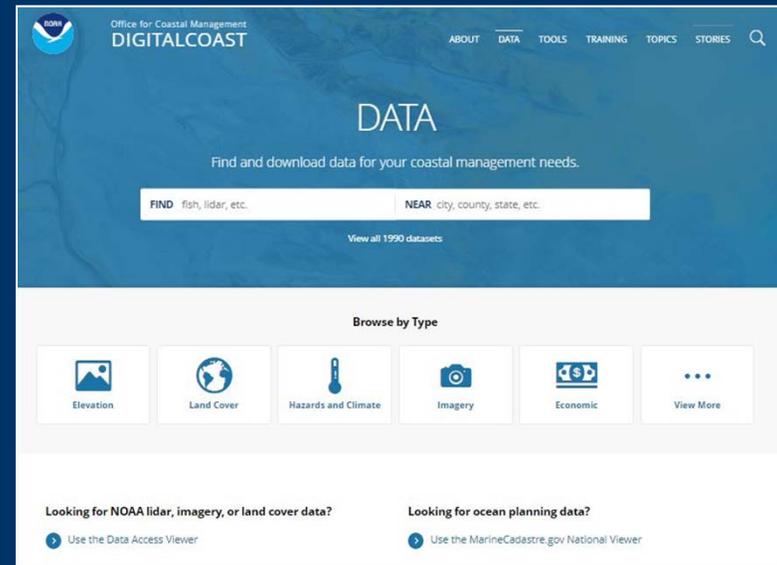
- Map eligible open space and calculate CRS credit using GIS
- GIS dataset checklist and workflow diagrams for spatial analysis
- Create GIS output layers (OSP parcels and aSFHA shapefile)

R ilfh#ru#Frdvdc# dgdjhp hqw



GIS Dataset Checklist and Sources

- **Community layers**
 - SFHA
 - Parcels, Land Use, Zoning
- **Excluded areas**
 - Federal Lands
 - Open water
 - Impervious surfaces
- **Open spaces areas**
 - Protected areas, conservation easements, land trusts
 - Critical habitat and water/biological resources
 - Land cover



Step 3: Exclude areas that do not qualify for credit

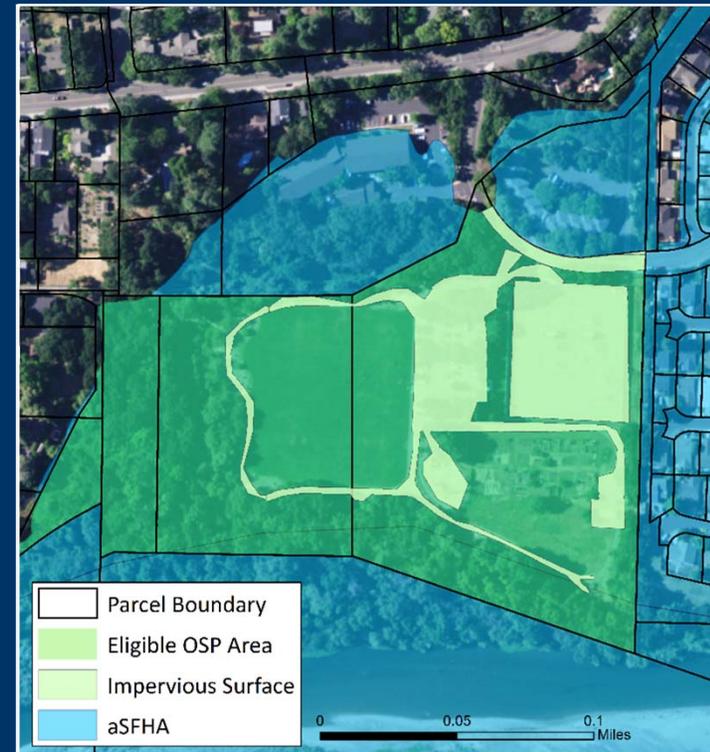
- Calculate area of parcels covered by impervious surfaces

Option 1: Reclass high-resolution land cover
Option 2: Calculate percent impervious
Option 3: Perform image classification
Option 4: Hand digitize impervious surfaces

Step 4: Calculate possible credit

- Subtract excluded areas
- Sum total qualifying area, **aOSP**
- Calculate impact adjustment ratio

$$rOSP = aOSP / aSFHA \text{ (x 1,450 points)}$$



Step 5: Determine if parcels qualify for “extra credit”

- Select OSP parcels that qualify for Deed Restrictions (DR) and Natural Function Open Space (NFOS)
 - NFOS 1 – Preserved areas in natural state
 - NFOS 3 – Critical fish/wildlife habitat
- Calculate ratio and add to total OSP credit



R ilfh#ru#Frdvdc#P dqdjhp hqw



Step 6: Gather documentation for each parcel

- Produce the “impact adjustment map”
- Provide list of parcels that may qualify for credit

Step 7: Identify opportunities to earn more OSP credit

- Identify non-OSP parcels with natural land cover and private ownership



Table

eligible_parcel_FINAL_landuse

APN	PARCEL_AC	SFHA_AC	IS_AC	aOSP	OSP_pts
009-291-44	33.9857	14.343255	4.2989	10.04	23
007-321-04	13.1752	5.402065	0.627963	4.77	11
002-041-25	15.6485	3.087818	0	3.09	7
008-441-41	6.79058	2.629209	0.095926	2.53	6
008-311-36	5.0353	5.035304	3.37859	1.66	4
008-101-16	18.3495	1.208326	0.003098	1.21	3
008-491-16	1.63257	1.110902	0	1.11	2
005-281-32	1.97216	1.972165	0.906298	1.07	2
008-321-07	5.6152	3.571353	2.50895	1.06	2
008-401-40	1.21586	1.026166	0.0025	1.02	2
008-611-01	4.81594	1.018534	0	1.02	2
007-321-01	1.11036	1.039565	0.097837	0.94	2
008-031-29	1.12354	1.017483	0.081035	0.94	2
005-781-66	2.18124	2.181243	1.32292	0.86	2
008-601-03	5.58651	5.376742	4.58605	0.79	2
011-181-02	13.7553	1.37951	0.693212	0.69	2
008-301-21	0.721737	0.708148	0.035825	0.67	2
010-262-70	10.4932	1.13247	0.55156	0.58	1
008-311-38	0.701391	0.701391	0.172416	0.53	1
002-301-01	49.5063	0.467732	0	0.47	1
008-232-38	1.99734	1.090025	0.624626	0.47	1
008-101-25	0.733263	0.467666	0.007012	0.46	1
008-491-18	0.597284	0.456594	0	0.46	1
002-041-19	1.9207	0.427443	0	0.43	1
002-041-08	1.98977	0.428571	0.014964	0.41	1
008-341-62	12.347	0.41252	0.013506	0.4	1
008-601-07	1.16173	1.161729	0.789671	0.37	1

(0 out of 360 Selected)

eligible_parcel_FINAL_landuse

Where You'll find it

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the NOAA logo and 'Office for Coastal Management DIGITALCOAST'. The main heading is 'TRAINING' with a subtext: 'Digital Coast Academy offers a wide range of learning resources.' Below this is a 'VIEW ALL TRAINING' button. The page is divided into two columns: 'Scheduled Training' and 'On-Demand Products'. Under 'Scheduled Training', there are three options: 'Classroom, Instructor-Led', 'Online, Instructor-Led', and 'Mixed Delivery'. Under 'On-Demand Products', there are four options: 'Self-Guided Resources', 'Case Studies', 'Publications', and 'Quick Reference'. At the bottom of the 'Scheduled Training' section, there is an 'Additional Resources' section with a button labeled 'Additional training resources'.

The screenshot shows a detailed view of a training resource. The title is 'How to Map Open Space for Community Rating System Credit'. There is a red 'LAUNCH' button. Below the title, it lists 'Related Resources' with a table:

Quick References	1
Contributing Partners	4

Below the table, there is a list of contributing partners: Association of State Floodplain Managers, Federal Emergency Management Agency, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, and The Nature Conservancy. The page also includes a 'TRAINING TYPE' section (Self-Guided Resources) and a 'DURATION' section (Self-paced). An 'Overview' section describes the credit and provides a 'Seven-Step Process' for earning it.

<https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/crs.html>

R iilfh#ru#Fr d\vdcd# d qdjh p hqw



Digital Coast Partnership & CRS

Community Rating System (CRS) Strategy

Purpose:

The purpose of this Community Rating System (CRS) strategy is to coordinate, promote and encourage community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) through decision support tool development and stakeholder engagement.

Objective:

The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) objective is to provide stakeholder-driven decision support support comprehensive floodplain management through the Community Rating System with engagement between planners and communities about the benefits of nature-based solutions, space planning, and hazard mitigation.

Background:

CRS is a voluntary program, established in 1990, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). It provides a higher level and minimum NFIP requirements for communities that exceed the minimum standards for flood insurance in CRS program points. Activities that reduce flood risk, such as levees, but are not limited to, include activities about flood risk, floodplain mapping, and conserving open space. The program encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the NFIP's minimum standards through a point system. As communities get more points, they can receive larger reductions on flood insurance.

While the program incentives are clear, many communities still face a variety of barriers to participation. Many coastal community planners do not have the technical capacity that supports the credit application process. The volume of information, data, and maps required to calculate potential program points and submit an application to FEMA can be overwhelming for communities with no capacity to dedicate to CRS. Organizations including NOAA's Office of Coastal Management, Nature Conservancy (TNC), Climate Central, The Associated States of Floodplain Management, and Coastal States Organization (CSO) are therefore investing in the development of tools and

CRS Strategy



ASFPM and CSO
Green Guide

TNC CRS Explorer

NOAA How To Guide
& GIS Workflow

Climate Central's Surging
Seas CRS Guide



Efforts Underway & Looking Ahead

- How To trainings and webinars
- Risk communication aids
- Community pilots and knowledge sharing



Thank you!

R ilfh#ru#Frdvdc#P dqdjhp hqw



Questions & Feedback?



John.Rozum@noaa.gov



How To Guide: Elaine.Vaudreuil@noaa.gov



GIS Workflow: Melissa.Rosa@noaa.gov

Discussion Questions

- Does your city/county planning office have GIS capacity?
- Is it safe to assume communities have access to an ESRI license?
- Would an open source workflow be preferred?
- Are the steps intuitive or confusing?
- How can this be improved?



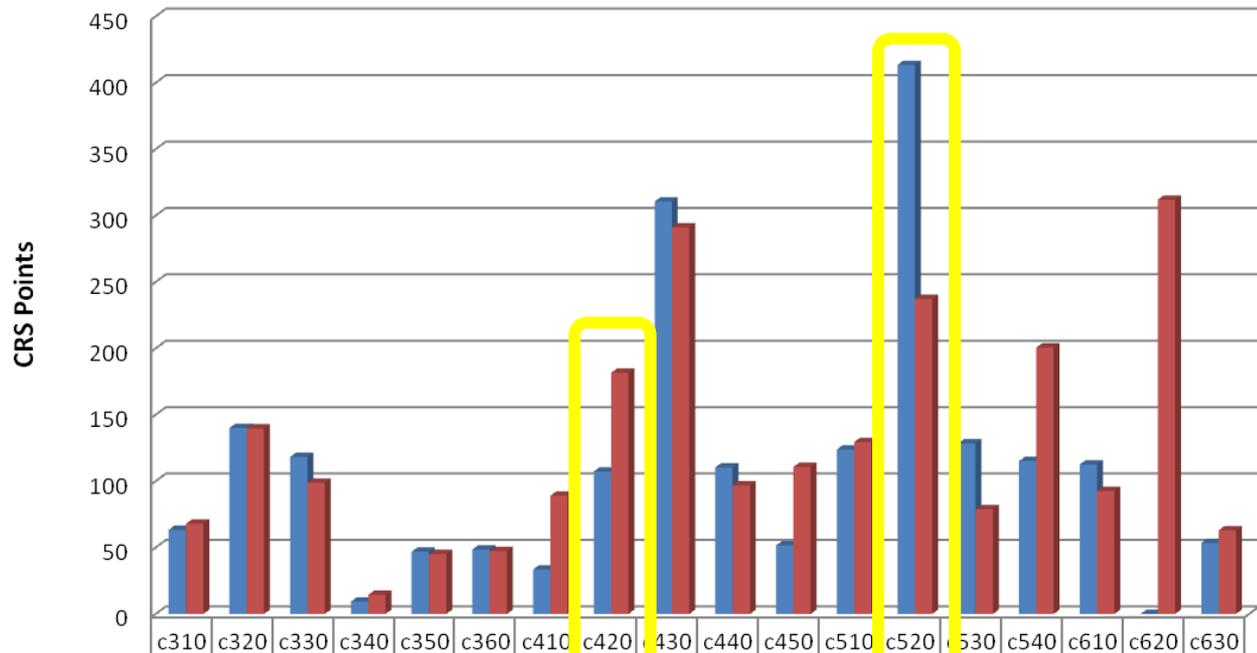
Improving Community Resilience in North Carolina through the CRS Program

Laura Flessner
GIS Manager



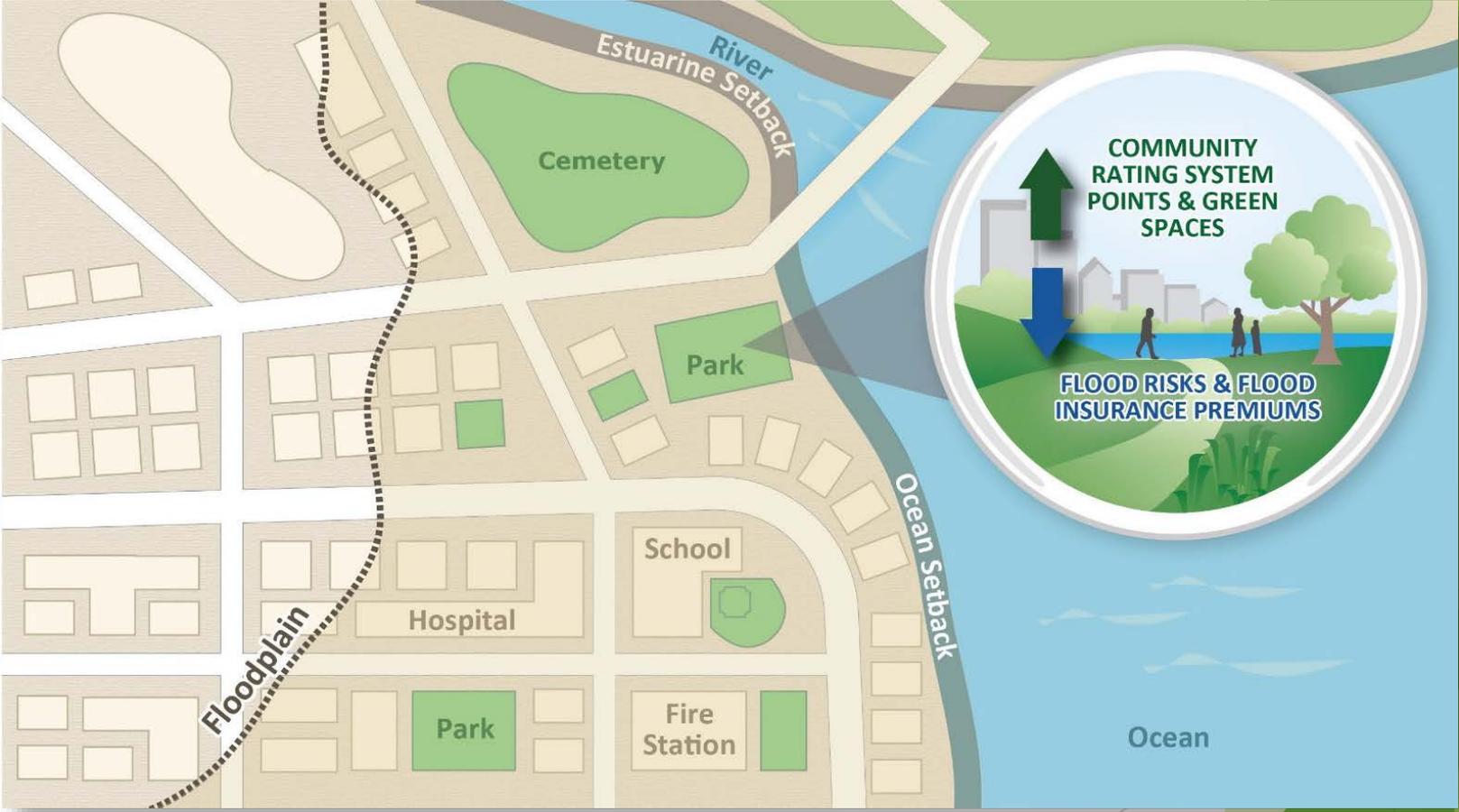
North Carolina - State CRS Profile (2014)

Figure 1. State and National Average Points per Activity



■ North Carolina Average Credit	63	140	118	9	47	49	33	107	311	110	52	124	413	129	115	113	0	53
■ National Average Credit	68	140	99	14	45	47	89	182	291	97	111	129	237	79	201	93	312	63

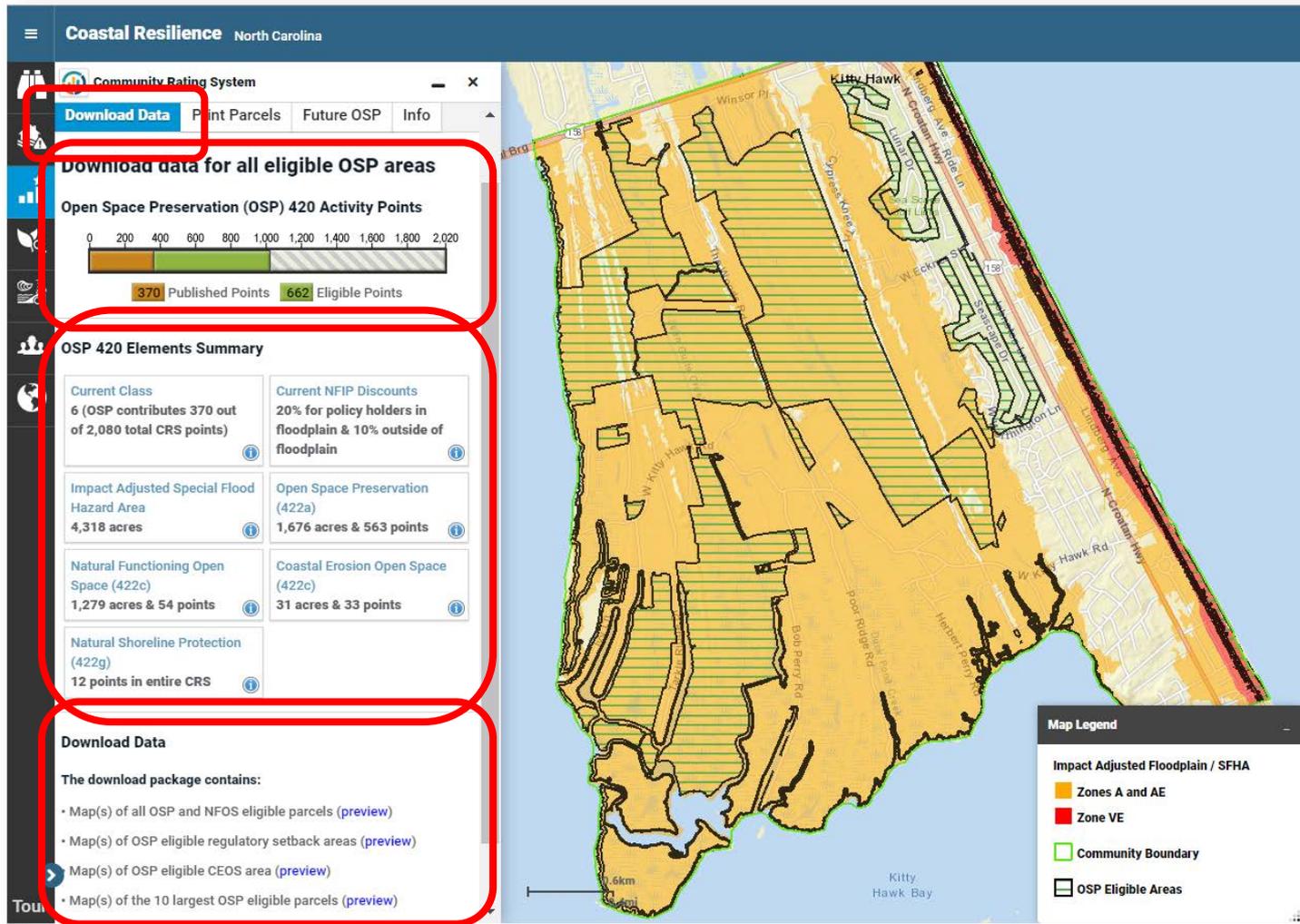
CRS Explorer



CRS Explorer



CRS Explorer - View Current OSP



CRS Explorer - Download Maps & Parcel Table



- Name
-  KittyHawkNC_Setbacks.pdf
 -  KittyHawkNC_Parcels_Large.pdf
 -  KittyHawkNC_OSP_Eligible_Parcels.xls
 -  KittyHawkNC_CEOS.pdf
 -  KittyHawkNC_AllParcels.pdf

CRS Explorer - Search Individual Parcels

Coastal Resilience North Carolina

Community Rating System

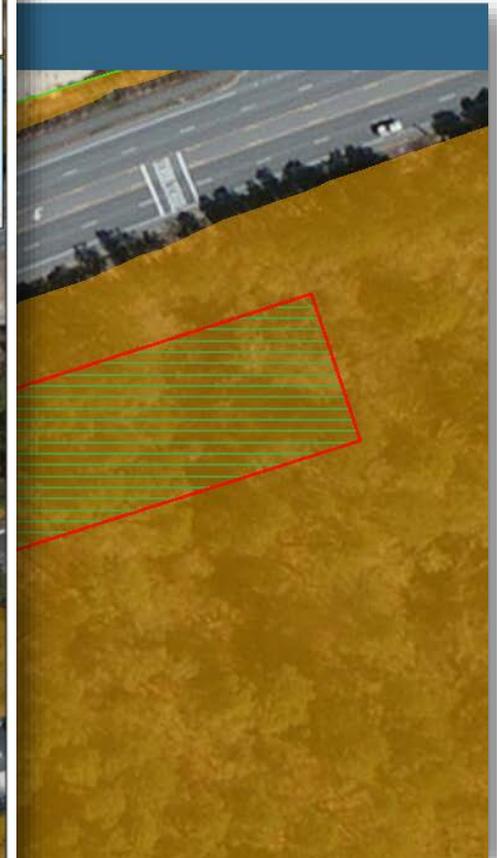
Choose a Community **Kitty Hawk NC**

Download Data **Print Parcels** Future OSP

Get Maps of OSP Eligible Parcels

Select More Parcels

986606492155: [View Map](#) | [Zoom](#)



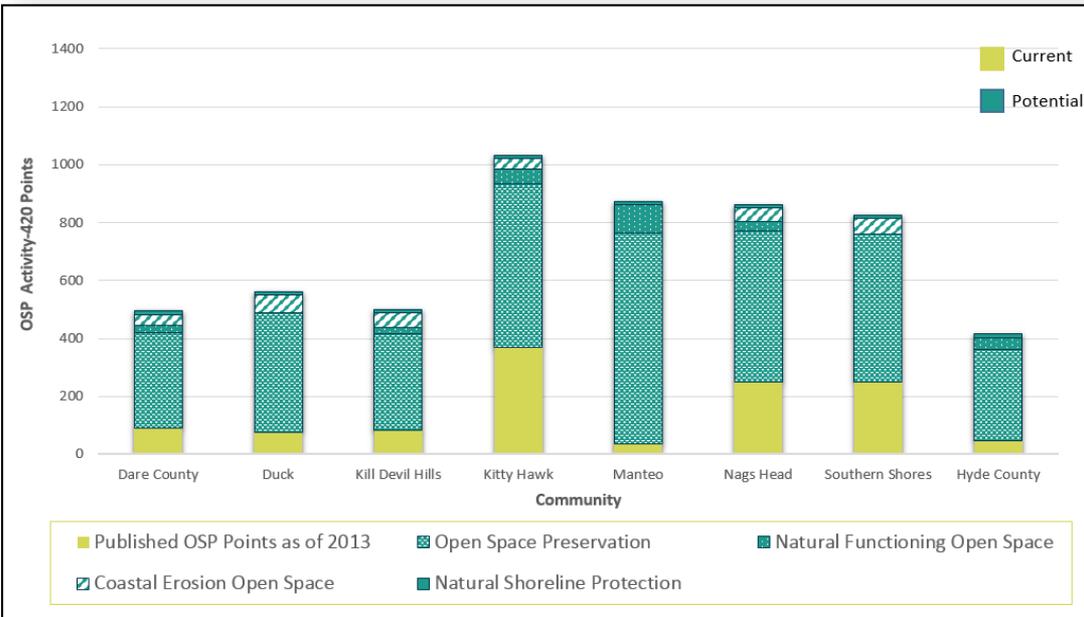
CRS Explorer - Explore Future OSP

The screenshot displays the Coastal Resilience North Carolina CRS Explorer interface. The main map shows a coastal area with various land parcels outlined in different colors (green, blue, red). The interface includes a sidebar with navigation options and a main content area with several sections:

- Community Rating System**: Includes buttons for "Download Data", "Print Parcels", "Future OSP", and "Info".
- Explore future OSP parcels**: Features a "Open Space Preservation (OSP) 120 Activity Points" scale from 0 to 2,020. Below the scale, it shows "370 Published Points", "662 Eligible Points", and "51 Future Points".
- Future OSP Parcels**: Includes a "Show Parcels by Query" section with filters for "Eligible Acres would be:" (set to 50) and "Tax Value is:" (set to \$50,000). It also has "And", "Or", "Find", and "Clear" buttons.
- 17 Future OSP Points in 3 Parcels**: A summary section showing "153 acres | \$29,800" and a "Parcel Table" button.
- 51 Future OSP Points in Selected Parcel**: A detailed view of a specific parcel with the following information:

PIN 986500503580	Future OSP Eligible Acreage 153
Tax Value \$29,800	Owner Type Private
Owner EARTH RESOURCES INC	Current Land Use VACANT LAND (PRIVATE)
Deed Book Page 846/0189	Deed Date 10/19/2010

Tracking Success



Kill Devil Hills

- ✓ Went from Class 6 to Class 5
- ✓ 25% discount = **\$632,227 savings/yr**
- ✓ **\$141 per policy/yr**

- Identified ave of 546 eligible OSP credits across eight communities.
- So far, 3 communities have been validated and raised at least one class.
- Improved ISO workflow
- Identified additional open space opportunities through the app's "Future" Open Space function.

How is This Info Being Used?



Comprehensive
Planning



Smart Growth



Repetitive Loss
Buyouts



Funding Opportunities



 Land Trust Alliance
Together, conserving the places you love

Traditional Easements & Land Acquisition:

- State Parks,
- DOT Mitigation Sites,
- Land trusts
- Wetlands Reserves

Innovative

- Community taxes and bonds
- Stormwater Utilities

Grants:

- NOAA OCM
- FEMA's Flood Hazard Mitigation Assistance
- Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Nat'l Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

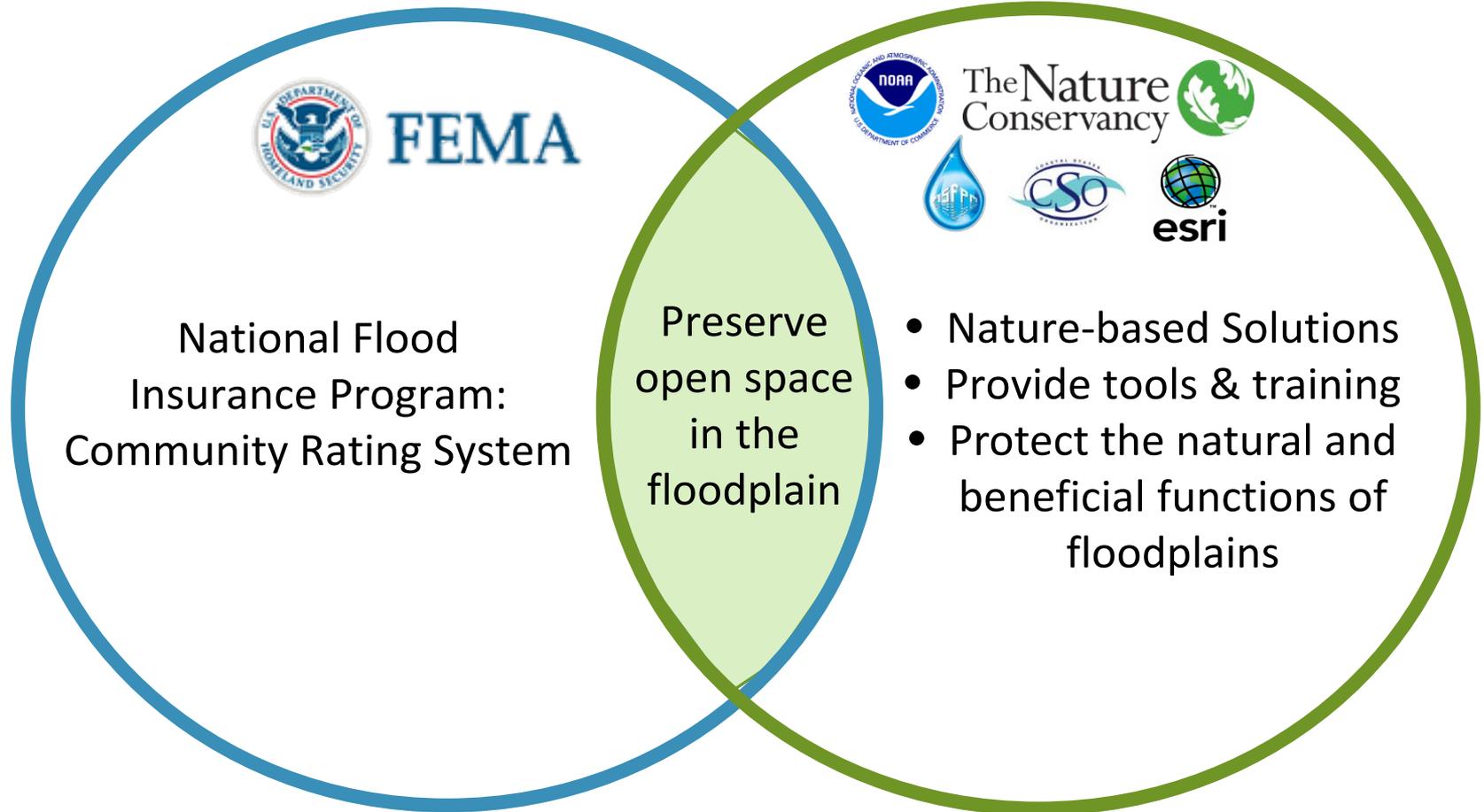


FEMA



nrcsolutions.org/funding/

CRS Strategy



Suite of CRS Resources

My Community is:	CRS Tool
New to CRS and/or needs best practices for success	Association of State Floodplain Manager's Green Guide
Ready to ID land that qualifies for Activity 420 Open Space Preservation (OSP)	NOAA's How to Guide & GIS Workflow ArcGIS Learn Lesson & Living Atlas (screening-level)
Looking to explore current or plan for future OSP or communicate OSP benefits	The Nature Conservancy's CRS Explorer
Is maxed out for OSP but looking for other areas to increase CRS scores	Climate Central's Surging Seas CRS Guide

Find the Right One

A story map

Get Some Credit! Digital Coast Partner Tools for the Community Rating System

effectively participate in the OSP activity of CRS.

Answer the following questions to find the product that is right for you

Question 1

Are you currently a registered CRS community with room to improve in OSP Activity 420?

YES: scroll to continue to next question.

NO: There are prerequisites to becoming a CRS community in order to submit for OSP points. See the [CRS Manual section](#) or the [ASFPM and CSO Green Guide](#). There are also many other activities beyond 420. View [Climate Central's Surging Seas Guide](#).

```
graph TD; Q1[Are you currently a registered CRS community?] -- YES --> Q2[Do you have room to improve in OSP 420?]; Q1 -- NO --> C1[Caveat: Must meet prerequisites, then continue]; Q2 -- YES --> Q3[Do you have up to date parcel and land use data?]; Q2 -- NO --> R1[Resources for other activities: Climate Central Surging Seas Guide and ASFPM and CSO CRS Green Guide]; Q3 -- YES --> Q4[Do you have GIS skills or the ability to contract out the parcel analysis?]; Q3 -- NO --> C2[Caveat: Parcel data are required for OSP 422a]; Q4 -- YES --> Q5[Do you have access to high resolution impervious surface data?]; Q4 -- NO --> Q6[Do you have access to high resolution impervious surface data?]; Q5 -- YES --> P1[NOAA How To]; Q5 -- NO --> P2[Esri Living Atlas and NOAA How To]; Q6 -- YES --> P3[TNC's CRS Explorer and model]; Q6 -- NO --> P4[Esri Living Atlas and TNC's CRS Explorer and model];
```

coastalresilience.org/project/open-space/

Thank You

Decision Support Tool

maps.coastalresilience.org/northcarolina

Project

<http://coastalresilience.org/project/north-carolina/>
coastalresilience.org/project/community-rating-system-explorer
coastalresilience.org/project/open-space/

Training

http://media.coastalresilience.org/NC/CRS_Explorer_TryMe/index.html

Funding

nrcsolutions.org/funding/

Q & A

Robyn Wiseman, CFM, Research Scientist, ASFPM

robyn@floods.org

John Rozum, Senior Coastal Management Specialist, NOAA

john.rozum@noaa.gov

Melissa Rosa, Geospatial Specialist, NOAA

melissa.rosa@noaa.gov

Laura Flessner, GIS Manager, TNC

Laura.Flessner@tnc.org