

Climate Change Impacts to the Los Angeles Shoreline

Patrick Barnard, Li Erikson, Amy Foxgrover, Liv Herdman, Patrick Limber, Andy O'Neill and Sean Vitousek

USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program
Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center, Santa Cruz, CA

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey



What is the problem?

- Climate change, including sea level rise, changing wave climates, and storms will place additional stresses on coastal systems worldwide
- Coastal flooding from SLR alone could displace
 ~200 million people by 2100
- Nationally, \$1.4 trillion of coastal property could be at risk at high tide by the end of the century
- 500,000 people, one million jobs, and \$100 billion in property are threatened by climate change along the California coast over the next century
- In Los Angeles County: 4,000 people and \$4 billion in property at risk per Pacific Institute Report (not inclu. river discharge, waves, coastal change, changes in storms, etc.)
- 1982-83 El Niño storms caused ~\$2.2 billion in storm damage to California, \$1.1 billion in 1997-98







Projections for Southern California

SLR for Los Angeles (NRC, 2012)

- -28 cm of sea level rise by 2050 (range 13-61 cm)
- -93 cm of sea level rise by 2100 (range 44-167 cm)
- -includes global and regional effects (e.g., wind and circulation patterns, sea level fingerprint, glacial isostatic adjustment, tectonics)



Storms for Southern California (Bromirski et al., 2012; USGS)

- -No significant changes in wave height
- -Extreme events approach from ~10-15 degrees further south

El Niño for 21st Century (Cai et al., 2015, Barnard et al., 2015)

- -More frequent extreme events
- -Doubling of winter erosion
- -Wave energy increase by 30%





Coastal Vulnerability Considerations

•Global factors:

Eustatic sea level

•Regional factors:

- Ocean circulation patterns
- Glacial fingerprinting
- Tectonics (large-scale)
- Isostasy

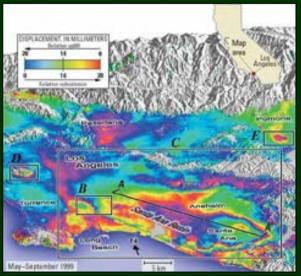
•Local factors:

- Subsidence
- Local tectonic deformation
- Fluvial discharge AND sediment supply changes
- Development and restoration

•Seasonal and storm impacts:

- Steric effects
- Waves and storm surge
- River discharge







Coastal Vulnerability Approaches

•STATIC: NOAA SLR Viewer

- -Passive model, hydrological connectivity
- -Tides only (MHHW)
- -Excellent elevation data, datum control
- -Wetland migration model, socioeconomic impacts
- -'1st order screening tool'



http://www.coast.noaa.gov/slr/

•DYNAMIC: CoSMoS

- -GCM ensemble forcing
- Includes wind, waves, sediment transport, fluvial discharge, and vertical land movement rates
- -Range of SLR and storm scenarios
- -Flooding extent explicitly modeled, hydrological connectivity

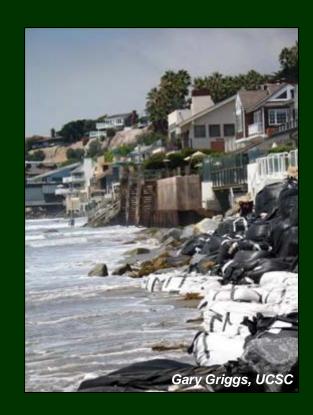


Our Coast Our Future: www.prbo.org/ocof



CoSMoS: A Tool for Coastal Resilience

- Physics-based numerical modeling system for assessing coastal hazards due to climate change
- Predicts coastal hazards for the full range of sea level rise (0-2, 5 m) and storm possibilities (up to 100 yr storm) using sophisticated global climate and ocean modeling tools
- Developing coastal vulnerability tools in collaboration with federal, state, and city governments to meet their planning and adaptation needs







CoSMoS Version Summary

CoSMoS 1.0

- So Cal, 470 km coastline (Pt. Conception -> Mexico border)
- Historical storms, 2
 SLRs
- Global & regional parts continue to run operationally

CoSMoS 2.0

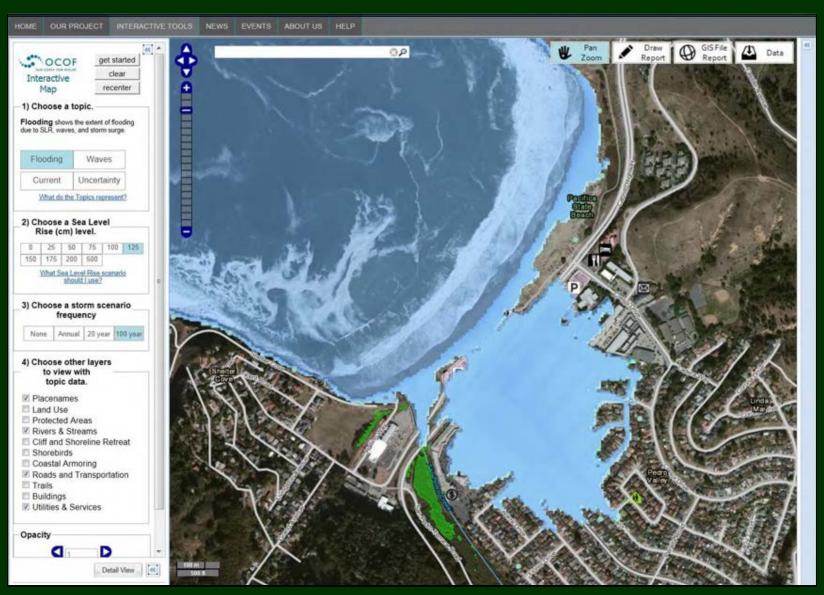
- North-Central CA coast,
 170 km, (Bodega Head to Half Moon Bay)
- 21st century winds & waves
- High resolution grids of lagoons and protected areas
- Annual, 1 yr, 20 yr, 100 yr storm events in combination with SLR 0 m to 5 m at 0.25 m increments +5 m
- Web-based tool

CoSMoS 2.1

- San Francisco Bay
- Spatial- & timedownscaled climate scenario winds
- Fluvial discharges
- Vertical land motion
- Marsh accretion



CoSMoS 2.0- CenCal/NorCal





SoCal CoSMoS Version Differences

CoSMoS 1.0

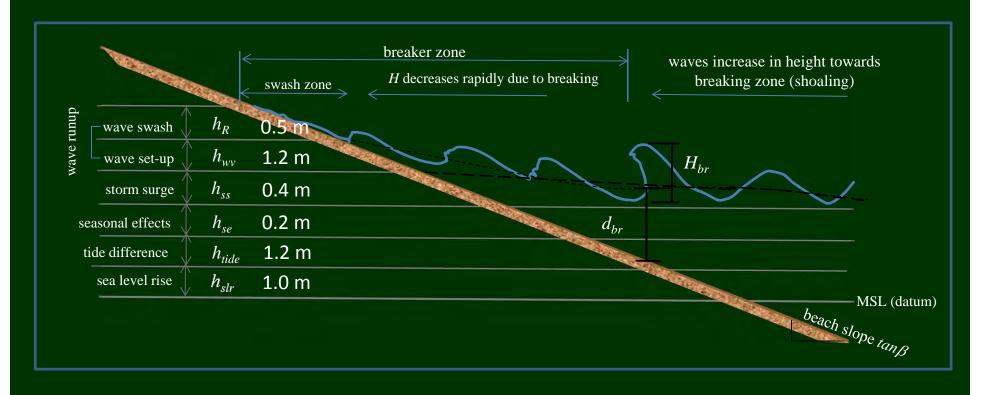
- So Cal, 470 km coastline (Pt. Conception -> Mexico border)
- Historical storms, 2
 SLRs
- Global & regional parts continue to run operationally

CoSMoS 3.0 (updated SoCal)

- So Cal, 470 km coastline (Pt. Conception -> Mexico border)
- Future waves downscaled within the Pacific
 Basin using global climate model (GCM) winds
- Space- & time- downscaled local winds and sea level pressures
- High resolution grids of lagoons and protected areas
- Fluvial discharges
- 100 yr storm events in combination with SLR
 0 m to 1.5 m in 0.5 m increments
- Shoreline change: both cliffs and sandy coast



Overview of Processes Included in CoSMoS



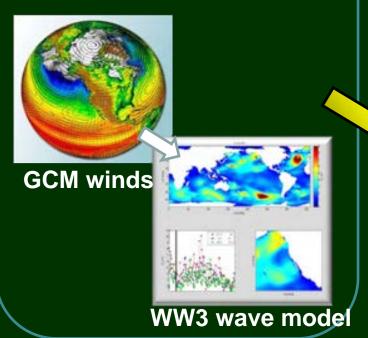
flood level is the combination of rSLR + tides + seasonal effects + storm surge + wave setup + wave runup + fluvial discharge backflow



CoSMoS 3.0 Southern California

Global

Global conditions of future climate scenarios



Regional

Tides, water levels, and regional forcing

SWAN wave model

Regionalized storm response

20-year storm return

Local

High resolution hydrodynamics and



Delft FLOW-WAVE

XBEACH Open coast

Fluvial discharge VLM Coastal change

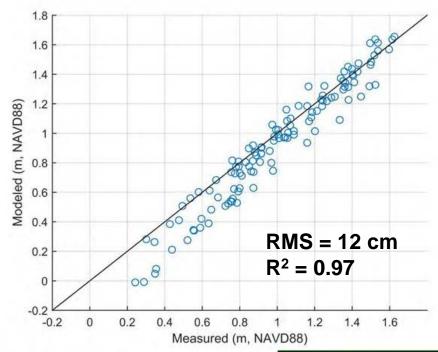
results projected onto hi-res DEM

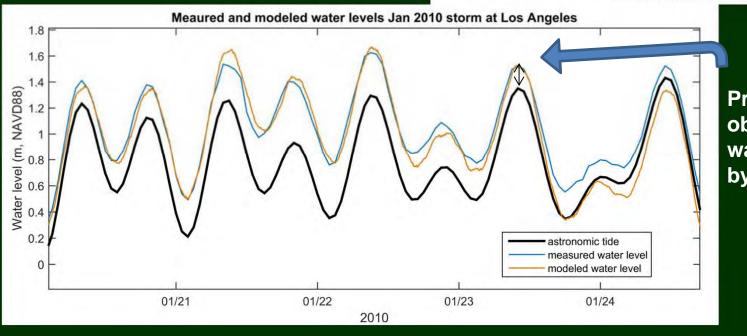




CoSMoS validated with January 2010 Storm

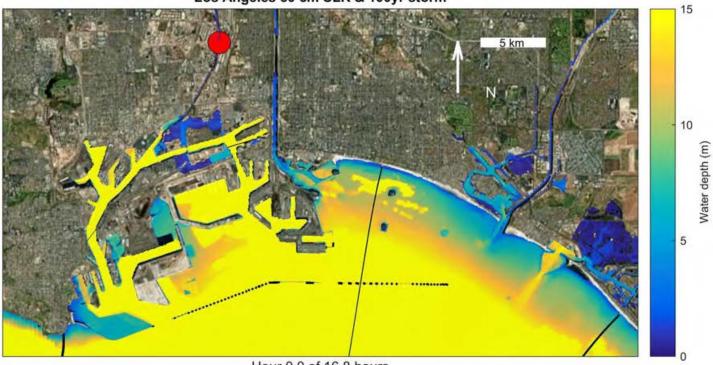
Los Angeles tide gauge



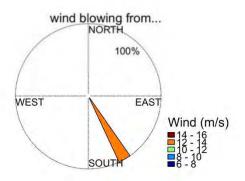


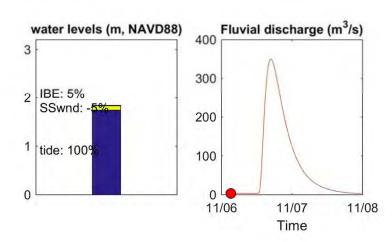
Predicted and observed/modeled water levels differ by 6 to 52 cm

Los Angeles 50 cm SLR & 100yr storm



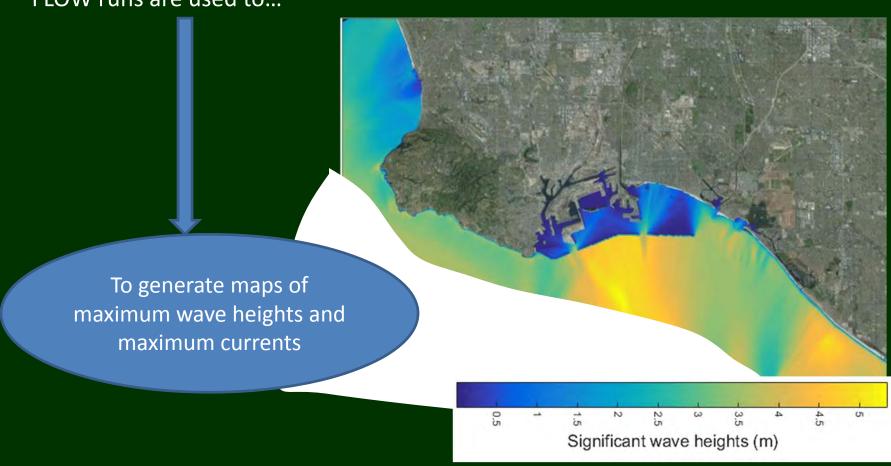
Hour 0.0 of 16.8 hours





Products- Wave and Currents

 Delft3D model results from all local SWAN and FLOW runs are used to...





Products- Flood Maps

- Delft3D model results from high resolution grids (inlets, harbors, etc.)
- Combined with open coast XBeach results
- Overlain and differenced from the 2 m resolution DEM

To generate maps of flood extents, duration, and depth





XBeach results along open coast



Flood map





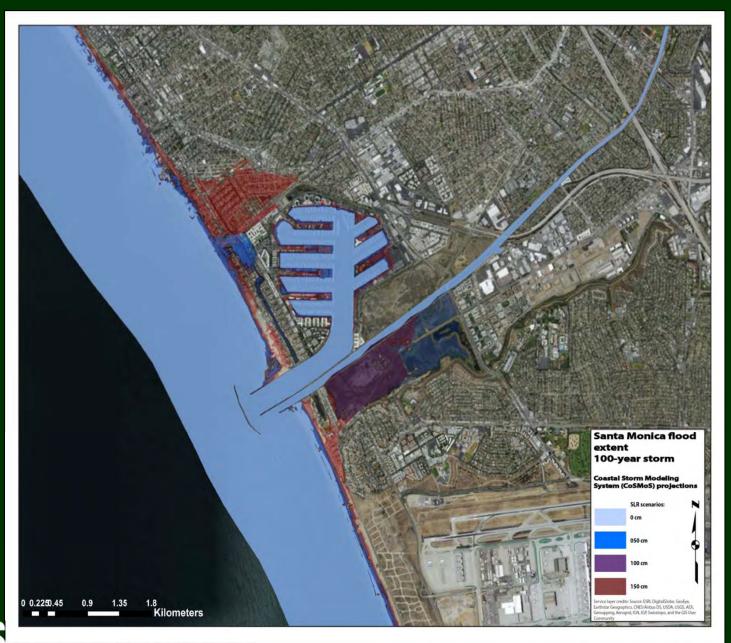






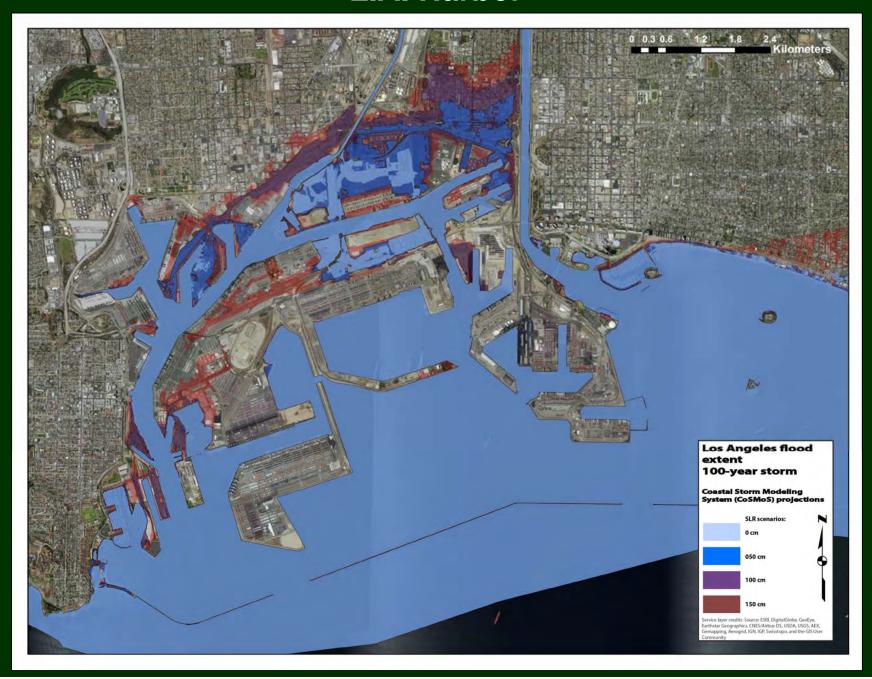


Venice / Marina Del Rey





L.A. Harbor



Shoreline Projections



What's Coming Summer 2016

- 40 scenarios of SLR + storms
- Long-term coastal evolution integrated into flood mapping
- Socioeconomic impacts
- Groundwater, hurricane impact pilots
- Our Coast Our Future (OCOF) web tool

*For more information, contact Patrick Barnard: pbarnard@usgs.gov

USGS CoSMoS website: http://walrus.wr.usgs.gov/coastal_processes/cosmos/index.html

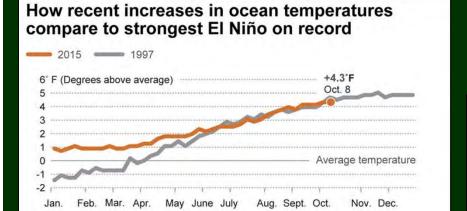
Our Coast- Our Future tool: www.prbo.org/ocof



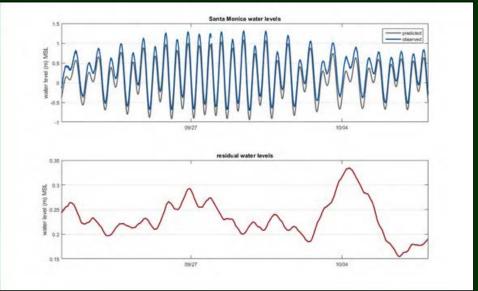


2015-2016 El Nino

@latimesgraphics









Source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center

2015-2016 El Nino

