

# The Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation: A Review

Northeast Monthly Climate Update: Coastal  
Management  
May 26, 2016

# Agenda

- Need for Climate Adaptation in CT
- CIRCA Mission and Priority Areas
- Funding and Research
- The Big Picture

Record flooding, March 2010

Tropical Storm Irene, August 24, 2011

October Snowstorm, October 30, 2011

Superstorm Sandy, August 2012



UConn



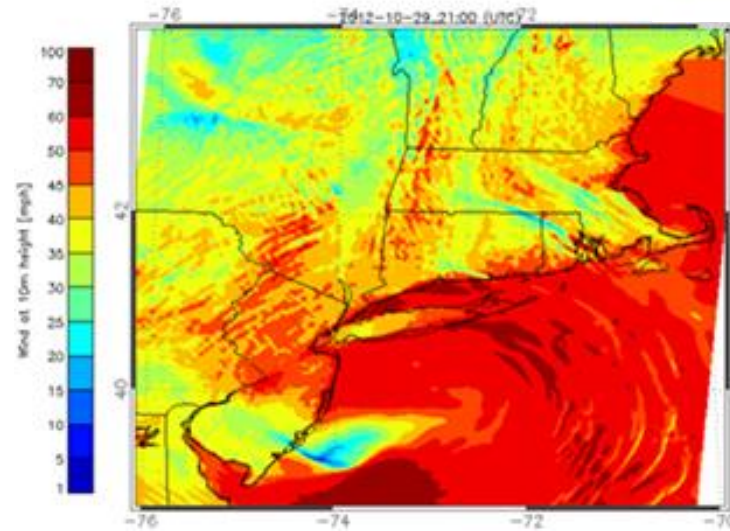
# CIRCA Mission

- *Mission – Increase the resilience and sustainability of vulnerable communities along Connecticut’s coast and inland waterways to the growing impacts of climate change on the natural, built, and human environment.*
- CIRCA Priority Research Areas:
  - Living Shorelines
  - Critical Infrastructure
  - Coastal Flooding
  - Inland Flooding
  - Policy and Planning
  - Sea Level Rise



# Actionable Science

- Funding:
  - Matching Funds Program
  - Municipal Resilience Grant Program
  - Research Funding
- CIRCA Research



# Matching Funds Program

- <http://circa.uconn.edu/funds/>
- Examples of past recipients:
  - Dr. Zhang & Team: Resilient Coastal Communities under Wind and Flood Hazards
  - Dr. Swallow & Team: Public Support for Adaptation to Sea Level Rise

# Municipal Resilience Grant Program

- <http://circa.uconn.edu/funds-muni/>
- Examples of past recipients:
  - Town of Waterford: Waterford Municipal Infrastructure Resilience Project
  - Northwest Hills Council of Governments: Building Municipal Resilience and Climate Adaptation through Low Impact Development
  - City of New Haven: New Haven Industrial Toolbox

# Research Funding

- Real-time Flood Prediction and Vulnerability Analysis of Connecticut's Inland River Network
- Jarvis Creek Flooding Project



Photo Credit: W. Horne



# CIRCA Research

- Sea Level Rise Projections
- Simulations of Riverine/Coastal Interaction during Storms and Impact on Municipal Infrastructure
- Develop Methods/Tools for Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessments
- ID Policy/Financing Options for Municipalities
- Living Shorelines
- Other

# Adaptation and Resilience in CT

- State Agencies Fostering Resilience Council (SAFR)
- National Disaster Resilience Competition
- Partner Institutions and Organizations with Climate Resilience Goals

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