Coastal Climate Resilience in Maryland

Kate McClure, PhD

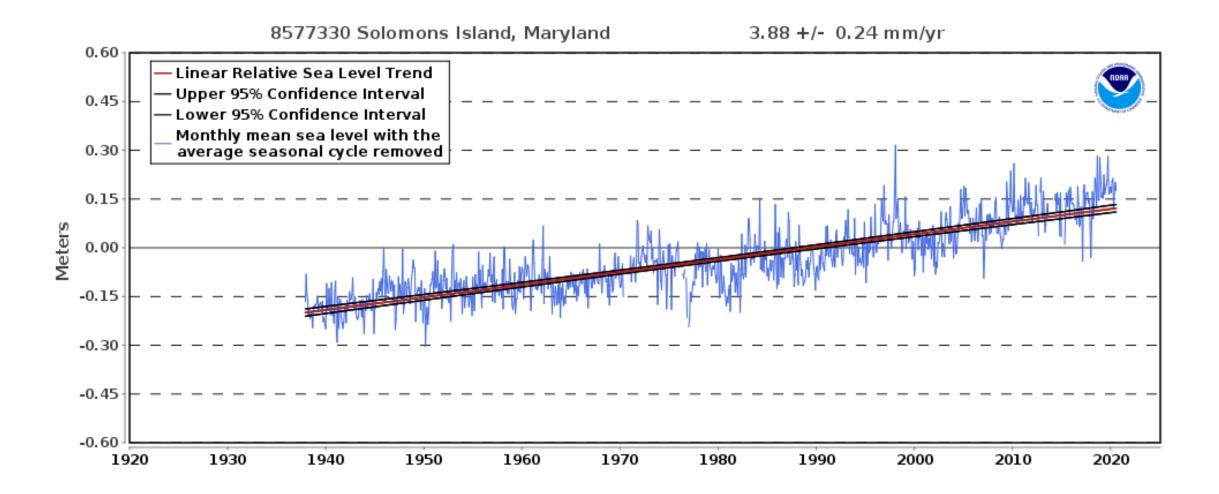
Coastal Climate Specialist University of Maryland Sea Grant Extension October 29, 2020



Climate-related stressors



Sea Level Rise in Maryland



Source: NOAA Tides and Currents (https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/sltrends_station.shtml?id=8577330)

Causes of relative sea level rise in Maryland

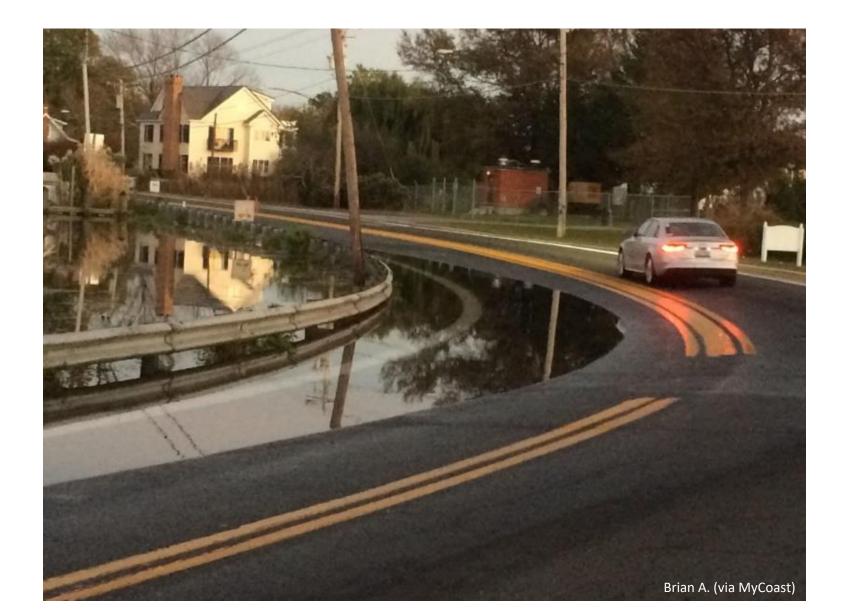
Global Factors

- Thermal expansion of ocean water
- Melting of ice from land into the ocean

Local Factors

- Changes in ocean circulation patterns
- Land subsidence due to glacial isostatic adjustment and groundwater withdrawal

"Nuisance" Tidal Flooding



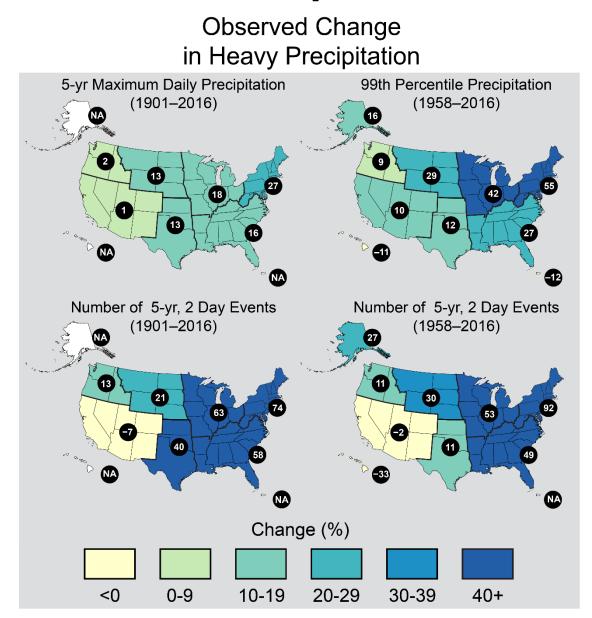
Saltwater Intrusion



Loss of Coastal Habitats



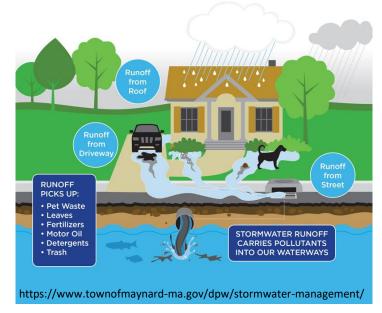
Extreme Precipitation Events



Source: Fourth National Climate Assessment (https://science2017.globalchange.gov/chapter/7/)

Flooding Impacts









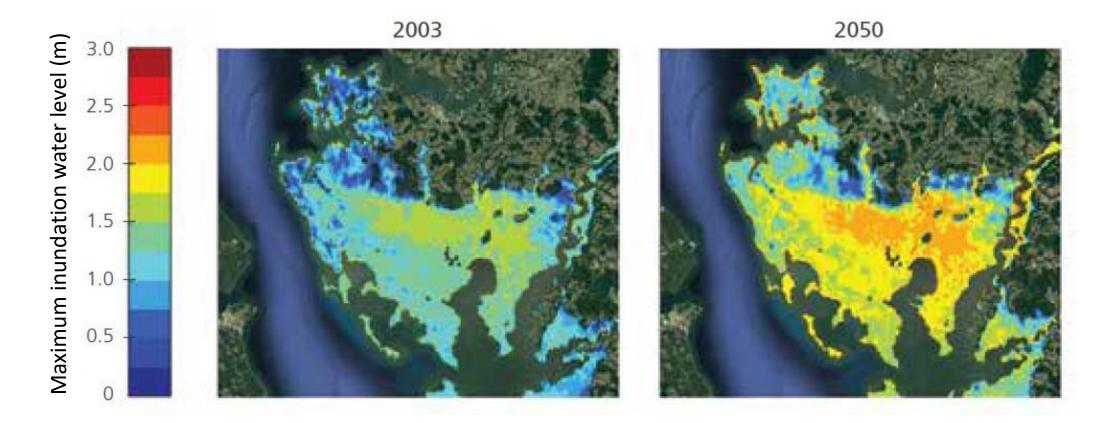
Coastal Storms





Hurricane Isabel, September 2003

Coastal Storms



Model estimates of storm-surge inundation from a Hurricane Isabel-like storm in 2050.

Source: Sea-Level Rise Projections for Maryland 2018 (https://www.umces.edu/sites/default/files/Sea-Level%20Rise%20Projections%20for%20Maryland%202018_0.pdf)

Climate-related stressors



National Sea Grant Program

- A federal/university partnership between NOAA and 34 universitybased programs
- Unbiased honest-broker of scientific information



Maryland Sea Grant

Maryland Sea Grant serves as a bridge between scientific expertise and the needs of people who manage, conserve, enjoy and make their living from the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's coastal waters.

- Research
 Communication
- Education Extension



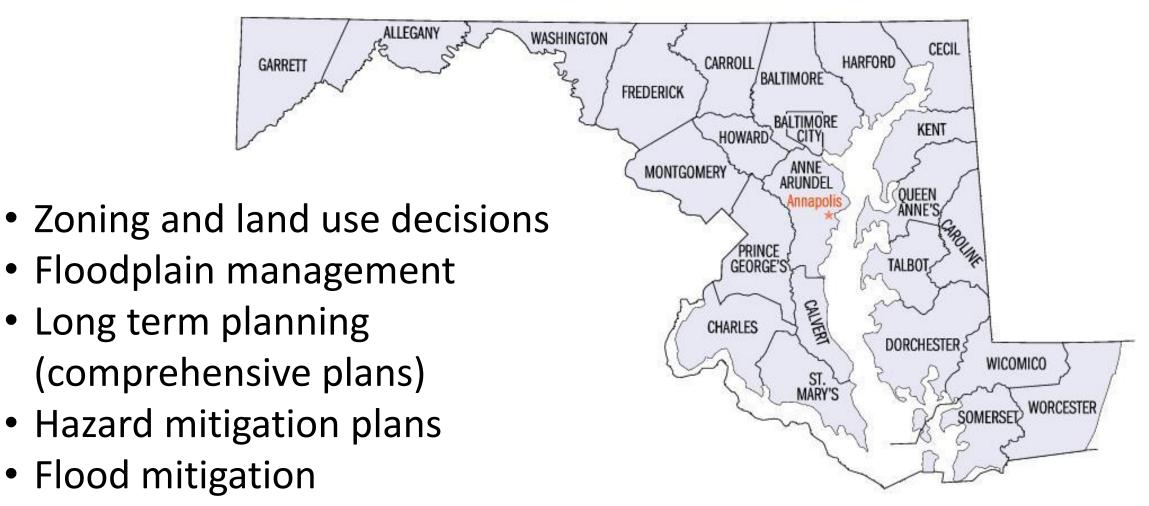
Maryland Sea Grant Extension

Building connections and facilitating partnerships

Translating science-based information for specific user groups



Local Government



Shoreline restoration

Local Government Regional Partnerships



Local Government

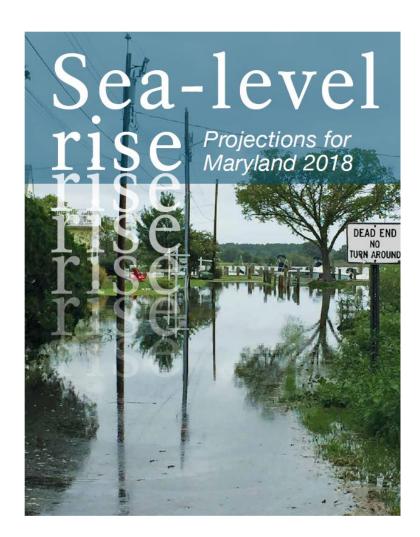


Table 2. Projected sea-level rise estimates above 2000 levels for Maryland based on the Baltimore tidegauge station. Columns correspond to different projection probabilities and rows represent to time horizons and emissions pathways. See caveat in the text concerning potentially greater sea-level rise late this century under higher emissions pathways.

Year	Emissions Pathway	Central Estimate 50% probability SLR meets or exceeds:	Likely Range 67% probability SLR is between:	1 in 20 Chance 5% probability SLR meets or exceeds:	1 in 100 Chance 1% probability SLR meets or exceeds:
2030		0.6 ft	0.4 – 0.9 ft	1.1 ft	1.3 ft
2050		1.2 ft	0.8 – 1.6 ft	2.0 ft	2.3 ft
2080	Growing	2.3 ft	1.6 – 3.1 ft	3.7 ft	4.7 ft
	Stabilized	1.9 ft	1.3 – 2.6 ft	3.2 ft	4.1 ft
	Paris Agreement	1.7 ft	1.1 – 2.4 ft	3.0 ft	3.2 ft
2100	Growing	3.0 ft	2.0 – 4.2 ft	5.2 ft	6.9 ft
	Stabilized	2.4 ft	1.6 – 3.4 ft	4.2 ft	5.6 ft
	Paris Agreement	2.0 ft	1.2 – 3.0 ft	3.7 ft	5.4 ft
2150	Growing	4.8 ft	3.4 – 6.6 ft	8.5 ft	12.4 ft
	Stabilized	3.5 ft	2.1 – 5.3 ft	7.1 ft	10.6 ft
	Paris Agreement	2.9 ft	1.8 – 4.2 ft	5.9 ft	9.4 ft

Source: Sea-Level Rise Projections for Maryland 2018 (https://www.umces.edu/sites/default/files/Sea-Level%20Rise%20Projections%20for%20Maryland%202018_0.pdf)

Coastal Residents



Partnership between the University of Maryland, Maryland DNR, Deal Island communities, researchers, and NGOs to increase the resilience of local environments and communities to coastal flooding, erosion, and other environmental changes



Map adapted from T. Saxby, IAN Image Library, UMCES, ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/

Coastal Residents

Purchasing Coastal Property in Maryland: Questions and Answers for Prospective Buyers

- How can I find out if the property has flooded in the past?
- How will sea level rise impact the property in the future?
- Will I need to buy flood insurance? How can I find out how much it will cost?
- Is the property's shoreline eroding? What can I do to protect my property if it becomes threatened by erosion?

Guide coming soon!

Questions?

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https://www.mdsg.umd.edu/coastal-climateresilience