

## Grays Harbor County Coastal Futures Project Kickoff Meeting Summary

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, interested community members of Grays Harbor County gathered at Grays Harbor College to accomplish the objectives listed below. For more information, see the project website:

<http://explorer.bee.oregonstate.edu/StudyAreas/GraysHarbor/ProjectOverview.aspx>

### Meeting Objectives:

1. **Introduce project and process**
2. **Characterize issues and priorities regarding coastal hazards in Grays Harbor County**
3. **Begin to explore alternative visions for the future of Coastal Grays Harbor County**

### Project Objectives

1. Participate in a **‘Knowledge to Action Network’** consisting of a **collaborative team** of stakeholders, researchers, and outreach specialists who will **co-produce knowledge** to inform climate-resilient strategies **Grays Harbor County**.
2. **Collaboratively develop** the information and tools necessary to **envision future scenarios**, **assess impacts and vulnerability** associated with climate change driven erosion and flood hazards, and quantitatively evaluate a **range of adaptation strategies**.



Erosion at Cohasset Beach, WA – C. Dennehy

### Break-Out Groups

Meeting participants split into breakout groups to brainstorm problems and identify important landscape metrics (endpoints) to evaluate in the agent-based model *Envision*, and management strategies to consider for the Grays Harbor County alternative future scenarios modeling. Overall, these working groups had great conversations and contributed a wide range of input that will help move this project closer to developing scenarios. We will be sending out a summary of these themes and issues in the next few weeks.

### Example:

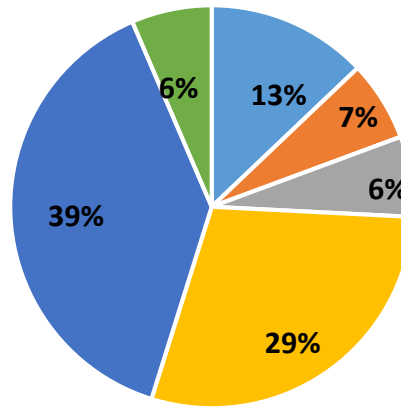
Problem	Strategy	Endpoint	Policy
Coastal properties in danger of erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow hard protection of all beachfront property experiencing erosion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # homes impacted</li> <li>• \$ property protected</li> <li>• Length (amount) of riprap</li> </ul>	??
Flooding in Grays Harbor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise and move structures back</li> <li>• Protect habitat</li> <li>• Restore habitat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # homes impacted</li> <li>• Area flooded</li> <li>• Area habitat restored/protected</li> </ul>	??

## Survey Results:

A survey was administered at the meeting to evaluate who was in attendance and what their interests were for the project. Results of the whole survey will be available on the project website.

Here's one interesting result -

### Most Important Expectation for Participation in the Project



- Learn more about coastal hazards and climate change
- Meet people who are interested in and/or working on the same things I am
- Help scientists learn more about what's happening in my region
- Learn more about ways to adapt to potential climate risks and impacts
- Learn more about coastal management to help make good decisions now and into the future
- Other



First meeting at Grays Harbor College – C. Schwartz

## Next Steps:

The [CIRC](#) team is currently synthesizing the information recorded during the breakout groups. In the coming weeks we will send out a summary of the themes and issues that we identified and ask for your feedback. Your feedback is important to ensure that we accurately reflect our conversations as well as document any additional thoughts or ideas you may have had since we last met. Please let us know if you have other questions, suggestions, or ideas.

## We'd like you to contribute your local expertise!

Please visit the draft 'coastal flood observation page' at <http://explorer.bee.oregonstate.edu/StudyAreas/GraysHarbor/FloodMap.aspx> and participate in a citizen science effort to help us quantify areas that have flooded in the past or during this El Niño winter. On this page you can zoom in and click on areas that you know have experienced flooding. Any information regarding dates and descriptions of the impacts will be useful as well (pictures can be uploaded). The geospatial nature of this effort may aid us in identifying the places within Grays Harbor County that experience chronic flooding.

Grays Harbor County Coastal Futures  
Exploring alternative futures on the Washington coast

Start - Models and Metrics - Scenarios - Storylines - Data Explorer - Citizen Science - More Information -

Grays Harbor County FLOOD OBSERVATION RECORDING FORM

Enter location to search for: [Map]

To add a Flood Observation

1. Double-click on the map at observation location to indicate the Lat/Long coordinates for your observation
2. Enter the information on the form below
3. Click the "Add Flood Observation" button below to record the observation

Latitude: [Text Box]  
Longitude: [Text Box]  
Year: 2015  
Month: Unknown  
Description: [Text Box]  
What was impacted?  Building(s)  Road(s)  Other  
Upload a Photo: File to Upload: Choose File No file chosen  
Upload: [Button]

The Pacific Northwest Climate Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) is a research organization funded by the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) to provide policy makers, resource managers, and communities with the best available science covering the changing climate of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and western Montana. Visit CIRC's website here to learn more: <http://pnwcirc.org/>