

Conclusions and Next Steps

Results from this study show that well over one-third of the FMSS-listed assets within 40 coastal NPS units are at risk to long-term SLR. These assets have combined value of over \$40 billion and many of the high exposure assets provide essential day-to-day functions, such as visitor access. The Hurricane Sandy case study highlighted that the results from this analysis are likely conservative and that many of the assets listed are already at risk to other coastal hazards such as storms.

Overall, this study provides a broad overview of the high level of exposure to SLR faced by NPS assets. It is not meant to be used directly for decision making at the unit level, as much of the data needed for a more detailed asset specific analysis is not available for many units. FMSS does contain several pieces of data that can be used for decision making, including an asset's historical nature, priority to the unit and overall condition.

Hopefully, this project will help to bring attention to the serious need for broader guidance related to climate change adaptation, not only at the park level, but also by the NPS regional and national levels.

Two additional projects are currently underway that will continue to build upon this analysis. The first is a series of case studies related to climate change vulnerability and adaptation from NPS coastal parks, which will provide park managers with a suite of adaptation strategies that are currently being implemented to protect vulnerable coastal assets. Also underway is an extension of this project to analyze the exposure of another 30 coastal units to SLR.