

**Consumer Option for an Alternative
System to Allocate Losses
(COASTAL) Act
Project Work Plan**

**USACE-USGS Coordination Meeting
January 17, 2014**

Introduction / Background

- 6 July 2012, the President signed the Federal highway conference bill.
 - The bill included legislation to establish the **Consumer Option for an Alternative System to Allocate Losses (COASTAL) Act**.
- Requires NOAA to produce detailed post-storm analyses following named storms to permit FEMA to “adjudicate” between wind- versus water-caused damages
 - Sanctions modeling approach
 - NOAA has 90 days to do analyses then submit to the DHS/FEMA.
 - NOAA is to make all data and assessments available to the public and maintain online database
 - Model must be “90 percent accurate
 - Database and model are to be operational by Dec. 28, 2013

Collaboration

- The Act requires NOAA to consult with other Federal partners, including USACE and USGS.
- NOAA models are to support the COASTAL Formula, which will be used by FEMA to distinguish between wind and water damage.

Why It Matters

- The COASTAL Act is intended to lower legal costs and litigation delays to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) settlements by better discerning wind versus storm surge damages.
- Focus is on “Clean slabs,” – where little tangible evidence remains.

Approach

- The OFCM Joint Action Group for the COASTAL Act Post-Storm Analysis (JAG/CAPSA).
 - Cochaired by NOAA, US Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Geological Survey
 - Includes the OFCM-sponsored Working Group for Disaster Impact Assessments and Plans: Weather and Water Data (WG/DIAP)
 - WG/DIAP includes the participation from several academic organizations covering a wide range of relevant interests e.g. Digital Hurricane Consortium
 - WG/DIAP members are welcome to participate in this effort.
 - Member organizations:
NOAA (NWS, NESDIS, OAR, NOS), NIST, FEMA, DoD (USAF, USN, USACE), US Coast Guard, NASA, NSF, USDA, USGS, and DOT-FHWA
 - 70 individuals currently participate

JAG/CAPSA Sub-groups

A number of sub-groups are already forming to develop the COASTAL Act deliverables. JAG/CAPSA recognizes and supports the follow sub-groups.

Sub-Group	Task	Lead Organization
COASTAL Formula	Define the COASTAL formula and requirements	FEMA
Database & Modeling	Development of the COASTAL model and database	NOAA
Sensors and Observations	Inventory current and required observational systems	OFCM – JAG/CAPSA
Gap Analysis	Determine the shortfall between what we have and what we need to develop the COASTAL Act capabilities.	OFCM – JAG/CAPSA
Writing Team	Draft the COASTAL Act Capabilities Development Plan	OFCM – JAG/CAPSA

OFCM Workgroup: Disaster Impact Assessments and Plans -Wind and Water



Covered Data

- **water levels**
- **waves**
- **wind speed and direction**
- **Bathymetry**
- **USACE is providing the Gridded Surface/Subsurface Hydrologic Analysis (GSSHA) Model to cover riverine flooding.**

Assets

Fixed-location

NOAA –NOS, NERRs, (tides/waves)

USGS –tides

USACE-tides

(May need protocol for centralized compilation??)

Mobile

USGS (water levels/waves)

Digital Hurricane Consortium (Winds/Waves)

NOAA

NOAA/USACE/USGS (lidar and bathymetry)

SeaGrant and states (high-water marks)

Portable Weather Stations



www.atmo.ttu.edu/TTUHRT

Portable Doppler Radars



Short Range Radars
(K- and X-band)

Long range radars
(C-Band)



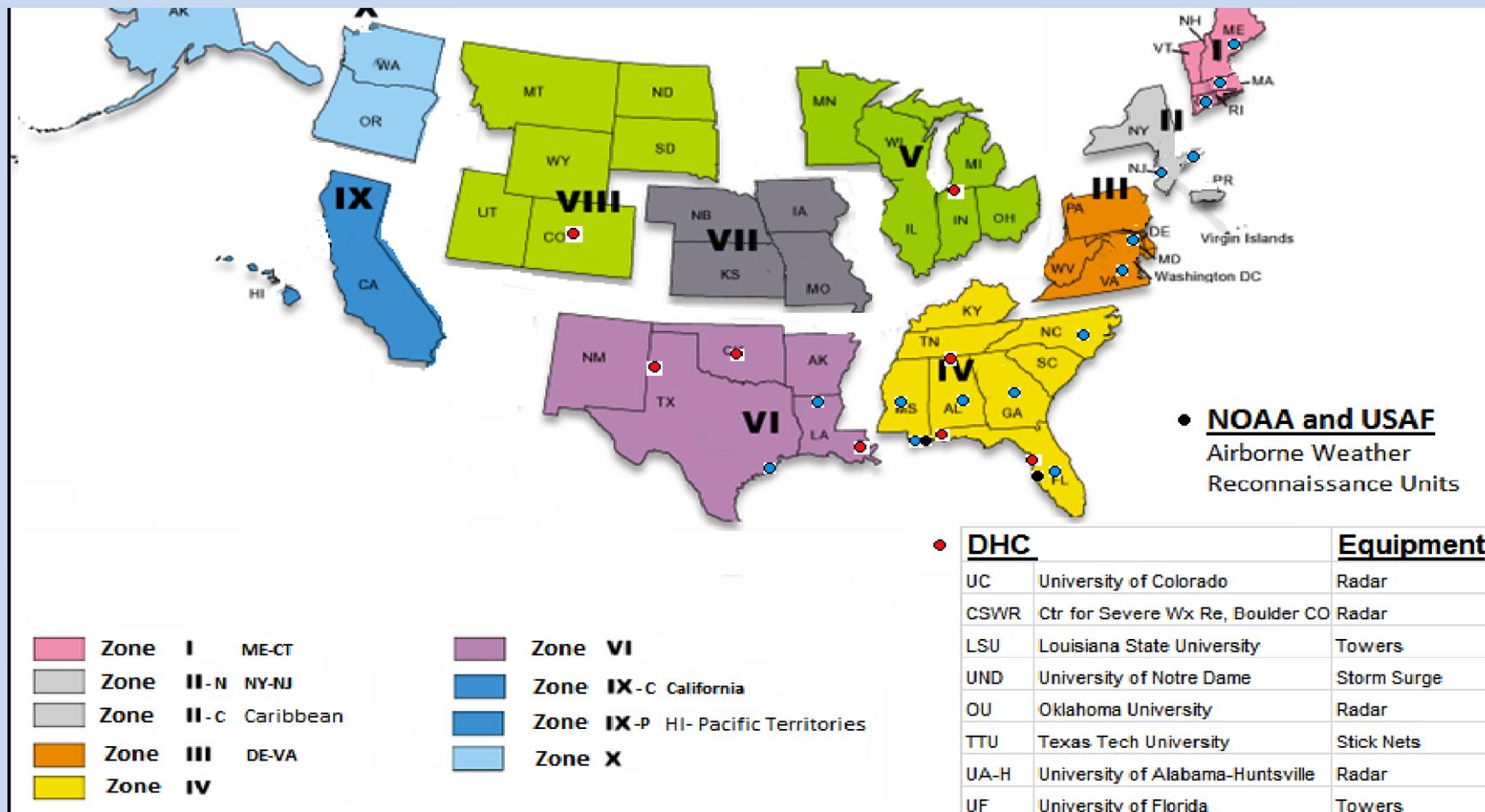
CSWR, TTU, UAH,

Surge and Wave Sensors



Notre Dame and USGS

Deployment Zones



- Zone I ME-CT
- Zone II-N NY-NJ
- Zone II-C Caribbean
- Zone III DE-VA
- Zone IV

- Zone VI
- Zone IX-C California
- Zone IX-P HI- Pacific Territories
- Zone X

Next Steps

- Awaiting Congressional response to plan
- Develop/Improve coordination
- Establish funding mechanisms
 - Digital Hurricane Consortium grant or contact
 - NOAA –USACE/USGS IAA and tasking process
 - Draft “pre-scripted” mission assignment (PSMA) for FEMA (Hurricane Program)

Thanks!!

