




Climate Corps Presentation

Building a Survey



Overview

The goal: Determine what type of observations should be included in the app for southeastern Connecticut. What observations make the most sense for the Mystic River Watershed?

1. Researched climate change in Connecticut to decipher what data should be collected
2. Created the survey
3. Created the website

Climate change in Connecticut

NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information highlights 3 key problems that affect Connecticut the most.

1. Rise in temperature
2. Annual precipitation is highly variable
3. Rise in Sea Level

Rise in temperature

- Temperatures have risen almost 3.5 degrees fahrenheit since the beginning of the 20th century
- Not only rise in temperatures, but an increase in heat wave intensity
- Temperature rises create many problems
 - Not everyone has air conditioning
 - Some can't get out of the heat/don't have somewhere safe to stay
 - Heat has an extreme effect on older citizens
 - Increases droughts

Precipitation

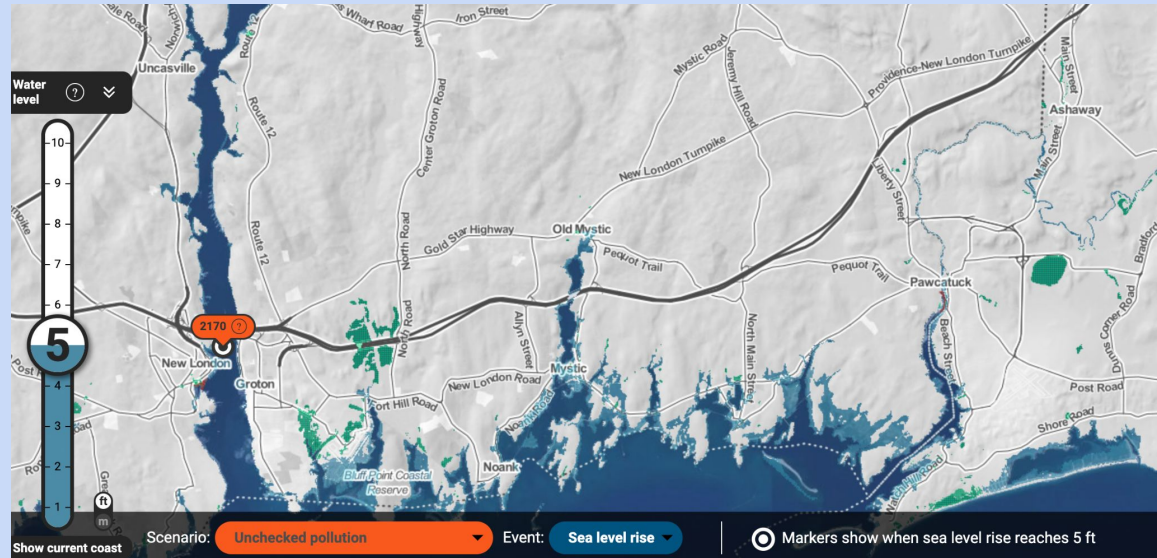
- There has only been a slight increase in precipitation since 1895, but it is becoming much more variable.
- Frequency and intensity of precipitation events in Connecticut are projected to increase
- Precipitation creates many problems to the environment
 - Flooding
 - Erosion
 - Disrupts daily schedules and lives.

Sea Level Rise

- Sea level has risen at a rate of 10-12 inches per century along the Connecticut Coast.
- Global sea level is projected to rise between a range of 1-4 feet by 2100, Connecticut possibly seeing bigger numbers.
- 61% of Connecticut's population lives on the coast
- Sea level rise causes multiple problems.
 - Flooding
 - Erosion
 - Loss of land/beaches
 - Loss of habitats

Southeast Connecticut

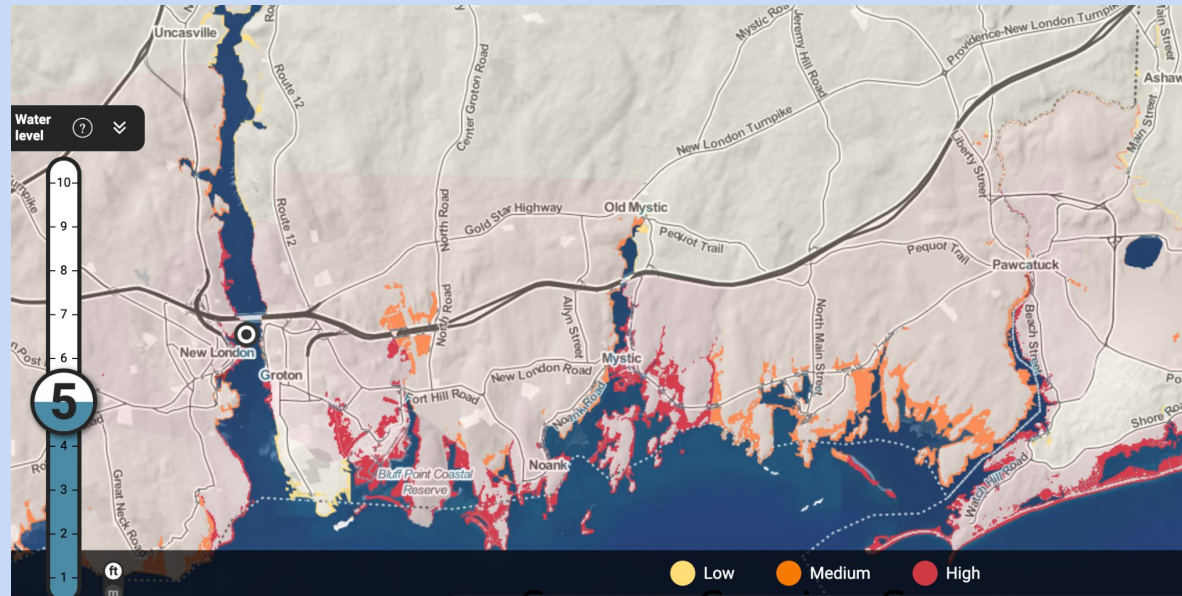
- This image shows where the water level will be in 2170 with unchecked pollution. This shows just how damaging sea level rise can be.



Source: Surging Seas

Southeast Connecticut

- This image shows the social vulnerability to sea level rise. As seen on the image, it is decently high in this area.



Source: Surging Seas

Goal of the Survey

- Climate data lacks everyday observations.
- Citizens who are experiencing climate change impacts, don't have a place to express their observations or questions.

Survey

- Sea Level rise
- Precipitation
- Temperature
- Snowfall
- Water quality
- Growing Patterns
- Animal Sightings
- Plant Sightings
- Pests
- Other

Survey Run Through

The Scenario:

The beach I go to on the coast of CT has an algae bloom!



Source: CT.gov

Survey Tour!

Survey [Link](#)

Behind the [Scenes](#)

Website [Link](#)

Looking in the Future

- Collect and analyze data
- Hold information meetings where data can be shared
- Involve the youth!
- Have an option for people to leave questions about what they are seeing, and have someone answering these questions.

Citations

Kunkel, K.E. “State Climate Summaries 2022.” *Connecticut - State Climate Summaries 2022*, 1 Jan. 1970, statesummaries.ncics.org/chapter/ct/.

“Surging Seas: Risk Zone Map.” *Climate Central*, Climate Central , ss2.climatecentral.org/#10/41.3881/-72.0305?show=satellite&projections=1-K14_RCP26-SLR&level=5&unit=feet&pois=hide. Accessed 25 Apr. 2024.

“What Climate Change Means for Connecticut.” *EPA*, EPA, Aug. 2016, 19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-ct.pdf.

Yaworsky, Lauren. “Connecticut Physical Climate Science Assessment Report: Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (Circa).” *Connecticut Institute for Resilience Climate Adaptation CIRCA*, 8 Feb. 2018, circa.uconn.edu/ct-climate-science/.

Questions?