

Water Levels in the Southeast Workshop: Understanding Sensors, Tools, Products, and Gaps

Participant Handout | June 15, 2023
Breakout: Gaps, Priorities, and Struggles

Overview

During Days 1 and 2 we will discuss a range of water level topics important for all the organizations represented at this meeting. These discussions are led by NOAA, USGS, State Agencies, and others. The priority items to cover during this Day 3 breakout session include water level sensor geographic gaps, data management and data quality control, metadata generation, and online data access.

During this breakout session we are going to learn more about your individual needs by state. We have 3 items to cover during this session:

- 1) prioritizing gaps in water level data
- 2) identifying training needs from sensor installation to data access
- 3) general issues you have encountered and partnering opportunities

Discussion #1 - Prioritization of gaps in water level stations within each state

- Where are the gaps in water level data? Which of these gaps are priorities for filling?
- Why are these locations priorities?
- For the top 3 priority locations, do you need water level predictions, real time data, storm surge, datums, etc.?
 - Answers to this question will help us determine the type of sensor and station needed - low-cost sensor, USGS sensor, more robust installations such as FL DEP or FIMAN - this part of the exercise is needed as we need to inform agencies/orgs of needs
- Do stations need to be long-term or short term or seasonal deployment?

Discussion #2 - Gaps in knowledge, skills, and applications for the water level data and tools

Overview: Throughout Days 1 and 2 there have been presentations on the types of sensors available, installation requirements, data management needs, and online tools available to analyze/view water level data and information. We want to use this discussion to determine the range of training needs so that we can try to work with partners to provide training opportunities.

- Are there gaps related to applications for the data and tools that were demonstrated by NOAA CO-OPS, USGS, state agencies, and others?

- Example tools - NC FIMAN, NOAA CO-OPS Tidal Datum Calculator, Coastal Inundation Dashboard, USGS flood event viewer, SECOORA QC interface, etc.
 - Do you prefer in-person or virtual training sessions? Or would a webinar featuring these products be useful.
 - Which organizations/people need training?
 - What are the specific training needs?
- Are there needs for training related to:
 - Water level sensor installation?
 - Surveying/leveling?
 - Use of OPUS projects for processing survey data?
 - Others?
 - Which organizations/people need training?
 - What are the specific training needs?
 - Do you prefer in-person or virtual training sessions? Note that survey/leveling is only in person training.
- Are there training needs related to:
 - Data management
 - Metadata development
 - Data processing
 - Which organizations/people need training?
 - What are the specific training needs?
 - Do you prefer in-person or virtual training sessions?
 - Please be as specific as possible. NOAA and USGS have multiple training programs that could be useful.

Discussion #3 – Solving problems

Groups will also document struggles within their state. This is an open discussion of other gaps in knowledge, skillsets, and tools that we have not covered already that could be filled. This could range from funding for stations, training, vertical elevation surveys, to data management.

- We are trying to identify partnering opportunities to solve issues or request training from other groups.