



Winter 2018

Compact Currents is a quarterly newsletter from the [Southeast Florida Regional Compact Climate Change Compact](#) highlighting the progress of the Compact, and the counties and municipalities in Southeast Florida.

Climate Action Plan Takes Off



Many exciting developments came out of December's [9th Annual Southeast Florida Climate Leadership Summit](#)—[new connections with the business community](#); the first announcement about the [10th Annual Summit in Miami-Dade](#) this October; and lots of news coverage from the [Miami Herald](#), the [Sun Sentinel](#), and [WLRN](#)—but **one of the most anticipated developments was the release of the refreshed [Regional Climate Action Plan 2.0 \(RCAP 2.0\)](#).**

After a [year of collaborative review and revision](#) by local residents, public and private subject matter experts, local government officials, and nonprofit organizations, the Compact unveiled [RCAP 2.0 with a new, interactive design](#) that smoothly integrates recommendations and ways for local leaders to implement them.

RCAP 2.0 includes recommendations to mitigate emissions and make vulnerable areas more resilient to the effects of global climate change, along with new sections focused on [public health](#), [regional economic resilience](#), and [social equity](#). Users can easily prioritize the 142 recommendations by creating [custom implementation guides](#) based on their profession and resilience interests.

Users can also [browse case studies](#) showcasing RCAP successes across the Compact region, from the [Miramar Disco Soup](#) to the Village of Palmetto Bay's [LEED Platinum certified village hall](#), and discover how the region's [109 municipalities have implemented the RCAP](#) so far.

Growing Together

RCAP 2.0 is a living tool and a work in progress. Over the next five years, the Compact will gradually update the resources, guidance for implementation, and case studies that make up RCAP 2.0. We welcome you to work alongside us as you explore the recommendations, case studies, and resources. Are you getting what you need, or is there something missing? [Share your feedback](#) to help us keep improving!

RCAP 2.0 becomes stronger with every new resource and case study we add. Do you know of any examples of these recommendations in action? [Share them with us](#), and they may be featured as a case study! Do you have a helpful resource you want to share? [Tell us about it](#), and we'll connect it to the right recommendation!

[Share your feedback!](#)

Compact Resources

Taking Action

Over the next several years, the Compact and its Staff Steering Committee will be leading opportunities for various stakeholders across the region to learn more about RCAP 2.0. It's our goal to increase the number of municipalities signed onto the Mayors' Climate Action Pledge, so we can **pull in one direction, and speak with one voice, when addressing the region's climate challenges**. We want to help the region's changemakers understand how to best implement recommendations of the climate action plan that meet the needs of all residents in their communities.

Over the next few months, the Compact's Staff Steering Committee and key

partners will be presenting on RCAP 2.0 at events and meetings.

We're also gearing up to host interactive workshops, webinars, and design charrettes to help turn RCAP 2.0 recommendations into action. **Stay connected to the Compact at [@SEFL_Compact](#) and through our [events calendar](#)!**

A Fresh Look



We've been [spiffing up our website](#) so it includes the best resources and it's easier to use! Get the latest on the [Compact news](#), learn about and share [upcoming events](#), discover new [resources](#) on sea level rise and climate change, and explore [RCAP 2.0](#).

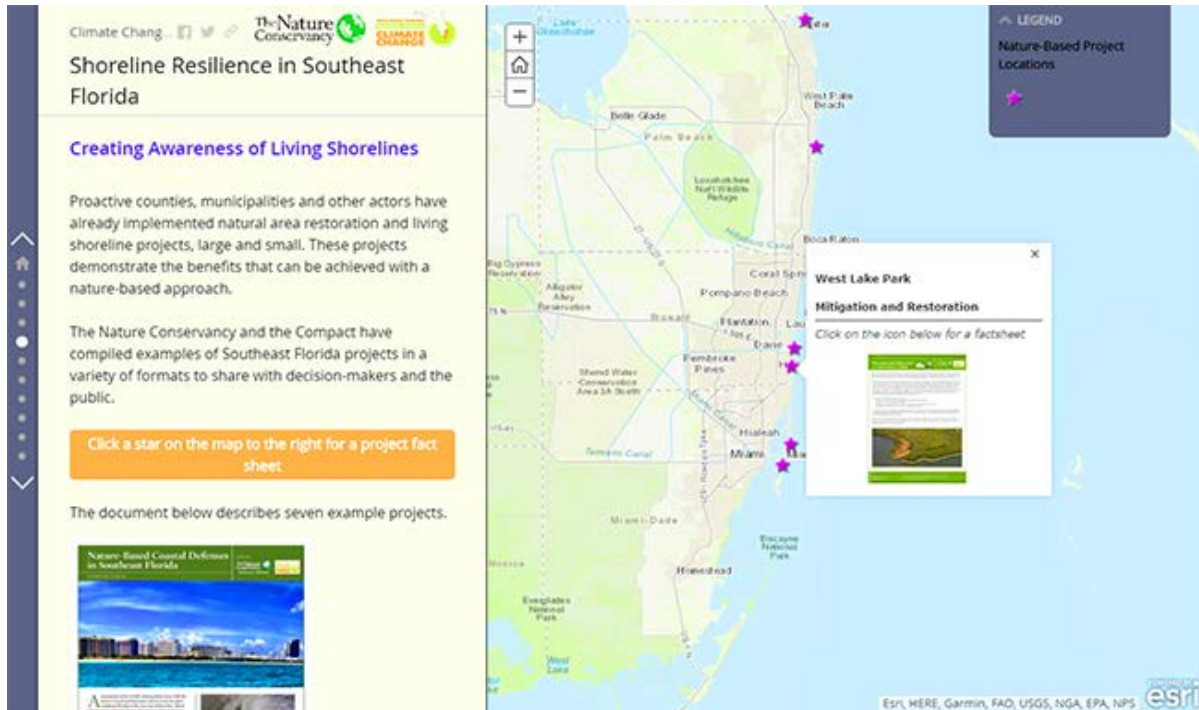
ICYMI: Video of the 9th Annual Climate Leadership Summit

[Watch](#) any of the great keynotes or panels you missed, or [rewatch](#) your favorite talks and share them with friends and colleagues! If you're chatting about the #Summit2017 on social media, tweet at us—[@SEFL_Compact](#)



Case Study

Mapping the Story of Shorelines

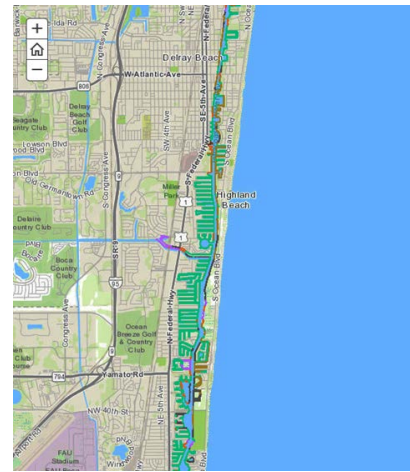


With more than 8,000 miles of coastal shoreline, Florida is particularly susceptible to flooding and erosion, especially as sea levels rise and storms become more extreme. Following years of work identifying and promoting nature-based solutions to these challenges in Southeast Florida, the Compact's Shoreline Resilience Working Group (SRWG) is sharing its successes on the new [Shoreline Resilience in Southeast Florida Story Map](#), an **interactive website that uses maps, images, and text to illustrate the where, what, and how of regional shoreline resilience work.**

The [story map](#) offers a spatial view of eight past projects and four current projects—one from each of the four Compact counties—and shares the insights and knowledge generated through each project.

Perhaps the most exciting part of the story map, however, is the potential it shows for future projects. The SRWG, led by [Florida Atlantic University](#) with support from [The Nature Conservancy](#), [mapped the entire region's inland shoreline](#) to identify places where different nature-based solutions could help build resilience.

According to Chris Bergh, South Florida Program Manager at The Nature Conservancy and Compact Staff Steering Committee member, this could lead to thousands of potential projects.



“We hope these maps can be a starting point for interested people—local governments or private property owners—who want to build shoreline resilience,” he said. “They can...get a sense of which nature-based solutions may work for their shoreline.”

[Keep checking back with this story map](#), which will capture progress made to current and new projects.

Partner Updates



Monroe County

Bouncing back from a several-month delay caused by Hurricane Irma, Monroe County is continuing its pre-hurricane efforts to map all 300 miles of county roads to prepare for upcoming road elevation projects. The [first two projects](#) will raise the lowest, most flood-prone roads in the Sands neighborhood on Big Pine Key and the Twin Lakes community in Key Largo, becoming the first road projects in the Keys specifically designed to adapt to sea level rise. This work will also include collecting, pumping, and treating the stormwater that runs off the roads.

Before any construction can begin, the county will complete mobile LiDAR scanning of its roads to map their elevation. LiDAR, short for Light Detection and Ranging, is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure distances accurate within a half inch. The scanning efforts, slated to be completed this spring, are an important part of a county-wide analysis of the local road system that will help determine anticipated inundation from sea level rise and inform an implementation plan for future road elevation projects. [Watch this video](#) to see Compact Staff Steering Committee member Rhonda Haag talks about this program to raise the road in the Keys.

Leaders Recognized for Operationalizing Resilience in the Water Utility Sector



Photo courtesy of the [Resilient Utility Coalition](#)

Local resilience-building projects—and the people who lead them—were honored this January at the [2018 Operationalizing Resilience Summit](#). The awards, hosted by the [Resilient Utility Commission](#), celebrated best practices and leadership in resilience and adaptation.

Leadership in Resilience and Sustainability: Jennifer Jurado, Chief Resilience Officer and Director of the Broward County Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division, Compact Staff Steering Committee member

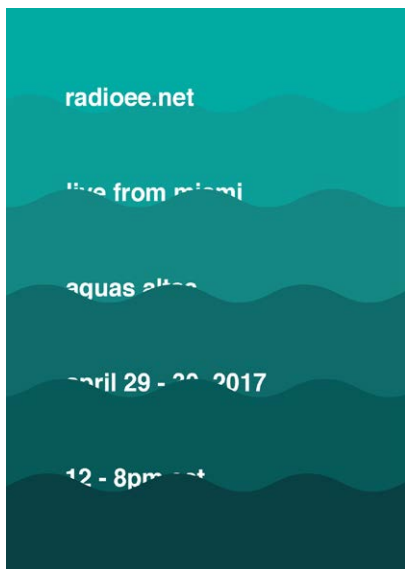
Resilient Project of the Year, Climate Change category: Sunset Harbour Neighborhood Improvements, City of Miami Beach

Resilient Project of the Year, Green Utility category: Cocoplum Pump Station and Force Main Upgrade, City of Coral Gables

Resilient Project of the Year, One Water category: OASIS (Our Alternative Water Supply Irrigation System), City of Pompano Beach

Utility of the Future (population tiers 1-5): North Miami Beach Water, City of Pompano Beach Utilities, City of St. Petersburg Public Works, Broward County Water and Wastewater Services, Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department

Radio Waves



Florida International University [Professor Michael Sukop](#) joined the hosts of [Aguas Altas](#), a special radio station transmitting from a boat navigating the Miami River and South Florida Canals, to discuss sea level rise in Miami. Along its route, this floating station stopped at ports to host live interviews with sea level rise experts, stream sound experiments by local musicians, and share other sound samples. [Listen to Michael Sukop's interview](#) (which is conducted in a mixture of Spanish and English) by navigating to 00:05:25 on the top audio bar.

Nationwide Resilience Building Grant in Miami-Dade

County

The Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, in partnership with the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County offices of resilience and other nonprofits, [won a \\$289,000 grant](#) to restore 17 acres of living shorelines, create a new exhibition about sea level rise adaptation in the region, and support youth in three urban communities threatened by sea level rise to share their stories and identify solutions. This team was one of eight nonprofit groups nationwide to receive a grant through the [Resilient Communities program](#), a joint initiative of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Wells Fargo seeking to increase communities' abilities to plan and implement resilience projects and invest in green infrastructure. With this grant, the Miami-Dade team will be able to undertake restoration efforts at three coastal sites around Greater Miami and the Beaches.

Miami-Dade County Community Conversations



In January, Miami-Dade County hosted its third community conversation about [Building Efficiency 305](#) (BE305), its new water and energy efficiency strategy for large buildings.

More than 40 attendees—including representatives from the business community, nonprofit organizations, concerned residents, and building owners and managers—offered input on the strategy's proposed programs and policies. By bringing the benefits of efficient energy and water management to property owners and consumers in all neighborhoods across the county, BE305 is projected to create \$200 million in energy and water bill savings, reduce emissions by 1.2 million metric tons (equivalent to taking 250,000 passenger cars off the road), and reduce water usage by 38 million gallons annually. The county will offer additional opportunities for public input, and residents are invited to share their comments at any time via email (green@miamidade.gov) or by calling 305-375-5593.

Jennifer Jurado joins Board of Adaptation and Resilience Society

Compact Staff Steering Committee Member and



Broward County Chief Resilience Officer Jennifer Jurado is [one of the newest members of the American Society of Adaptation Professionals](#) (ASAP) board of directors. ASAP recently welcomed three new board members to serve the society's mission of connecting and supporting climate adaptation professionals while advancing innovation in the field.

News

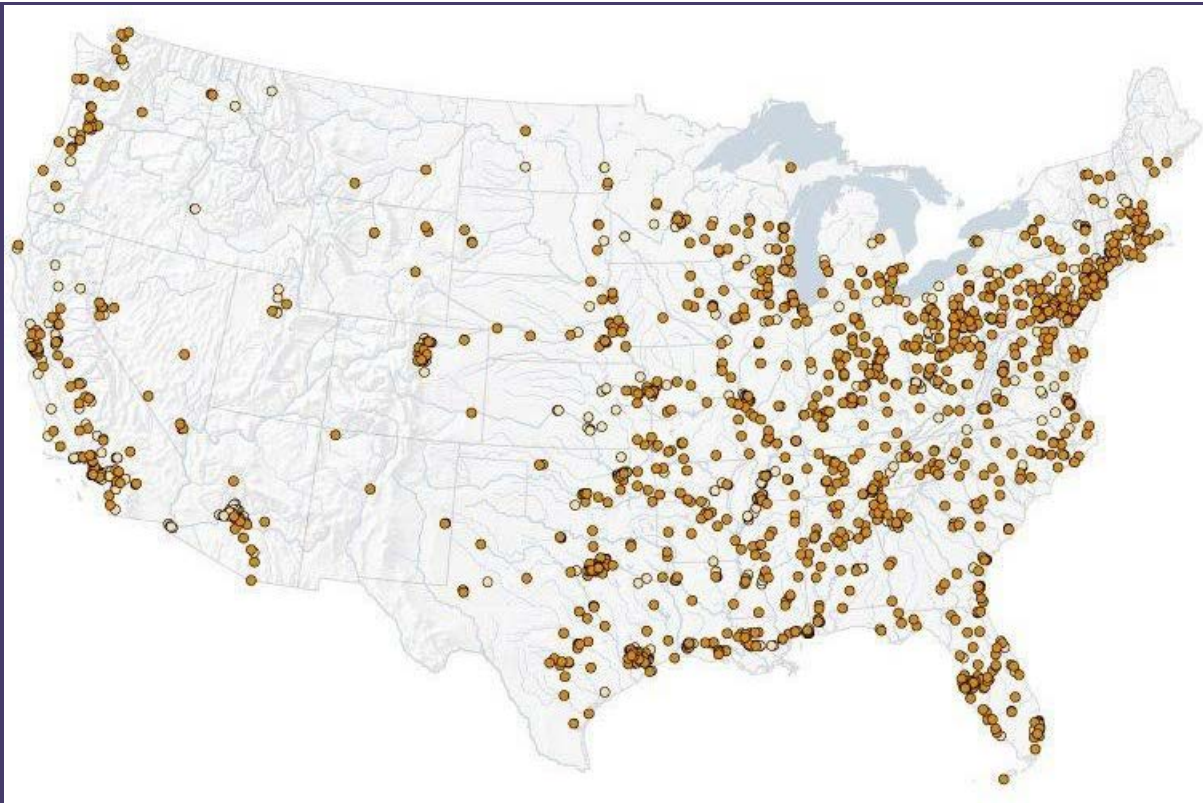
Southeast Florida's Resilience Offers Edge for Miami's HQ2 Bid

Out of the 238 communities vying to host Amazon's second headquarters, Miami made the top 20, thanks in part to its regional approach to transportation and economic development, [according to WLRN](#). The bid, which came out of a [tri-county collaborative](#), recognizes that it is more than just the City of Miami welcoming Amazon—it's the entire region of Southeast Florida.

That regional approach is nothing new for Southeast Florida, which came together under the [Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact](#) in 2009 to respond to the growing threats of sea level rise and climate change.

If Miami becomes the site of Amazon's second headquarters, the region would see significant changes, with the company expecting to bring in as many as [50,000 people and \\$5 billion investment](#). This influx would have major consequences for traffic, housing, and public transit across the whole region, making Miami's multi-county approach an important asset. The next steps in Amazon's selection process are not yet public, but, regardless of the decision, Southeast Florida's commitment to regional collaboration has the region ready to accept the challenges and opportunities that come its way.

Mapping Flood Risk



*[Orange dots indicate chemical sites in areas at high risk of flooding. Yellow indicates sites in areas at moderate risk.](#) Nadja Popovich/*The New York Times**

Following the explosions at the Houston-area chemical plant that lost power during Hurricane Harvey, the *New York Times* mapped the country's chemical facilities to understand the dangers posed to these sites by extreme flooding. The [resulting visual story](#) identified 2,500 chemical facilities—many already reporting leaking related to flooding—in floodplains, with more than 1,400 in areas at highest risk of flooding, many of these in Southeast Florida.

Upcoming Events

Conference: [2018 National Interagency Community Reinvestment Conference](#)

March 18-21 | Miami, FL

Hosted by the [Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco](#), this conference brings

together public, nonprofit, and private sector practitioners and leaders to learn how to align stakeholders, resources, and strategies to strengthen communities in the face of social and economic challenges. Experts from around the country will offer emerging ideas and best practices in community development, and attendees will explore resilience, recovery, and economic inclusion in Miami through city tours. The program also offers Community Reinvestment Act examination training. [Register here.](#)

Conference: 2018 Coastal Summit: Working Together: Science and Policy for Resilient Coasts

March 20-22 | Washington, D.C.

Join the [American Shore and Beach Preservation Association](#) for three days of policy, technology, and advocacy at its annual summit. Speakers range from members of Congress to the on-the-ground individuals who implement coastal policies. Participants will have the option to participate in small meetings with federal agencies, and to take a short course on project management that would count toward the Certified Coastal Practitioner certification. [Register here.](#)



Meeting: Hydrographic Services Review Panel Public Meeting

April 4-5 | Miami, FL

The Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP) is seeking public feedback related to hydrographic and navigation services, such as emergency response to the 2017 hurricane season. The HSRP will receive presentations, suggestions, and comments on these topics, which it will then discuss and use to make recommendations to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. [Register here.](#)

Leadership Summit

Oct. 24-25 | Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami, FL



Miami-Dade County will host the 10th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit, celebrating a decade of progress with critical discussions on adaptation, innovation, and resilience. The Summit will feature keynotes and panels with local, state, and federal government officials, business and nonprofit leaders, and other experts discussing plans to ensure the region not only survives, but thrives, in the face of sea level rise and other climate impacts. Contact the Miami-Dade Office of Resilience at 305-375-5593 or by emailing green@miamidade.gov with questions and for information on vendor, exhibit, and sponsorship opportunities.

Know of other events happening around Southeast Florida? [Tell us about them](#), and we'll share them on the [Compact calendar](#)!

Missed past issues of Compact Currents?

They're [available here](#).

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