Community of Practice?

- What is a community of practice?
  - A group of professionals who aim to achieve common outcomes
- What is the Gulf of Mexico Climate Community of Practice?
  - A network of outreach, extension, and education professionals and local community officials from Gulf states working together to
    - Explore the state of climate science in the Gulf region
    - Learn how coastal communities can adapt to climate change impacts
    - Share lessons learned related to climate communication
The CoP has an active membership that includes EOE professionals, climate researchers, fed, state, local governments, FPMs, EMs, CRMs, social scientists, land use planners and others as appropriate.

CoP members are working together to share lessons learned.

CoP members are working together to gather information.

CoP members understand attitudes, perceptions and beliefs of Gulf communities.

CoP members understand the information needs of the Gulf communities.

CoP members are developing regionally appropriate climate education materials and messages.

CoP members know the best way to communicate with and engage with communities for addressing climate outreach.

CoP members have developed common messages for communicating about climate and are using those messages consistently and often.

The CoP consists of a group of professionals working together around a common challenge to develop a set of effective approaches for addressing climate outreach.

Early adopters from Gulf Community leadership have been indentified and incorporated in the CoP.

Early adopters from Gulf Community leadership are helping to recruit and assisting other community leaders into the CoP.

Early adopters from Gulf Community leadership are moving forward with planning and implementing some adaptation measures.

CoP member are engaged with communities to communicate climate adaptation measures.

CoP members are engaging with communities and have specific projects underway regarding climate adaptation.

Gulf Community leadership has access to all the information they need to develop adaptation plans.

Political leaders and elected officials see adaptation plans as a priority for their community.

Gulf of Mexico Coastal Communities are incorporating Sea Level Rise adaptation and precipitation changes into hazard mitigation and comprehensive plans.

What the Community leaders do.

What EOE does with/for the CoP.

CoP, Community and EOE.
Goals

- **Short Term**
  - The community has an active membership that includes a variety of partners.
  - Members understand the attitudes, perceptions, and beliefs of Gulf communities.
  - Members develop common messages for communicating about climate.
Goals

- **Mid Term**
  - Community of Practice members are engaged with communities to communicate climate adaptation measures.
  - Early adopters from Gulf communities are incorporated into the community of practice.

- **Long Term**
  - Gulf of Mexico communities are incorporating sea level rise adaptation and precipitation changes into hazard mitigation and comprehensive plans.
How do we do it?

- Working Groups
- Annual meetings
- Webinar series
- Small grants
- Website
- StormSmart Connect
- Monthly Tools Bulletin
Accomplishments

- ✓ 7 annual meetings
- ✓ Climate resources toolkit
- ✓ Website
- ✓ Working groups
- ✓ Webinars
- ✓ Perceptions survey
- ✓ Technical assistance for communities
- ✓ On-line forum for continued dialogue and sharing of resources
- ✓ Published peer-reviewed article
Spirit of Community Award

- Established in 2012
- Recognizes communities and individuals who are taking steps to address climate impacts
- Nominate your peers and communities! Demonstrate:
  - Why they are deserving of the award (in terms of climate activities/outreach)
  - How their work benefits and helps reach the goals of CoP
  - How they cooperate with various partners
Past Winners

Community
- 2012 – Orange Beach, Alabama
- 2013 – Biloxi, Mississippi
- 2014 – Corpus Christi, Texas
- 2015 – Delcambre, Louisiana

Individual
- 2012 – Doug Gregory
- 2013 – Lynne Carter
- 2014 – Marian Hanisko
- 2015 – Tracie Sempier
Success Stories

City of Orange Beach, AL

Delcambre, LA

Photo credit: Ray Kron, Louisiana Sea Grant
Questions?

For more information, visit

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