



Economic Impact of Floods & Solutions that work

Mahesh Ramachandran, Ph.D. Environmental Economist Cape Cod Commission



What economic values are at stake?

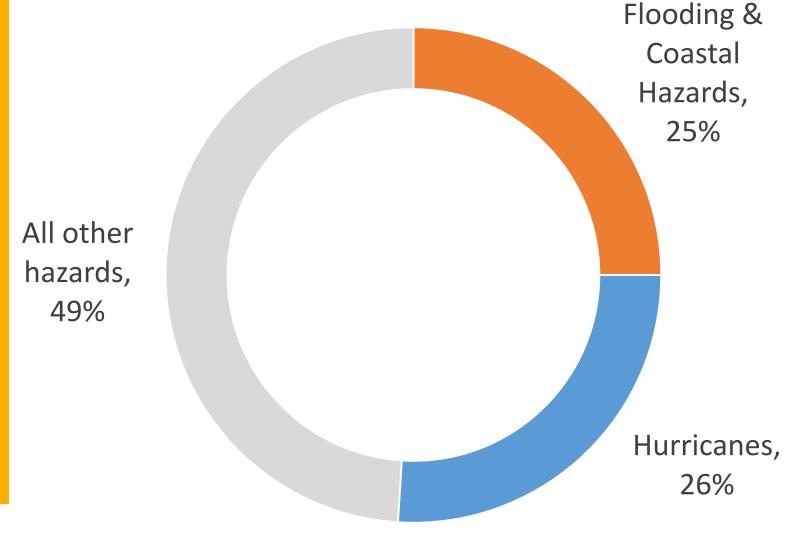






51%

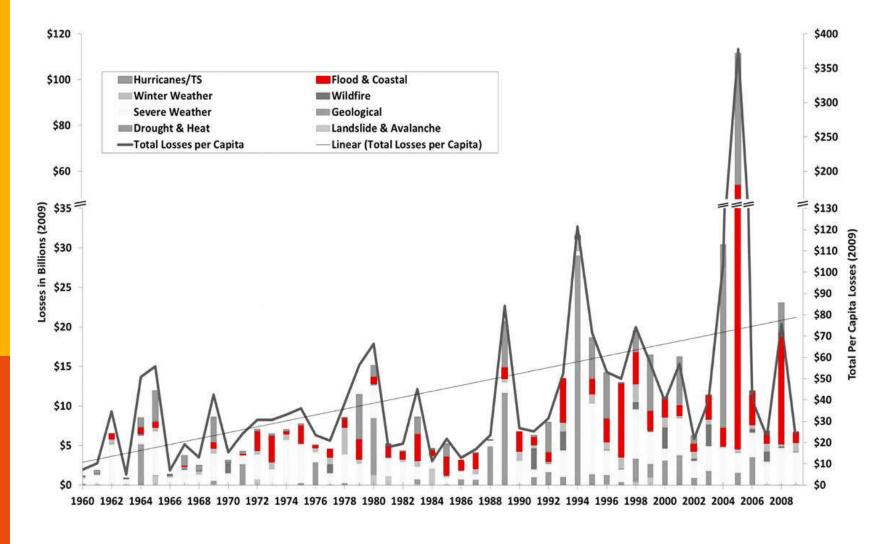
Annual Direct Economic Loss from Natural Hazards 1960-2009





Increasing
Trend in Annual
Direct
Economic Loss

Projected \$300-\$400 Billion losses Nationally within a decade



In 2014 dollars

Source: Gall et al, 2011, "The Unsustainable Trend of Natural Losses in the United States," Sustainability 3(11) 2157-2181

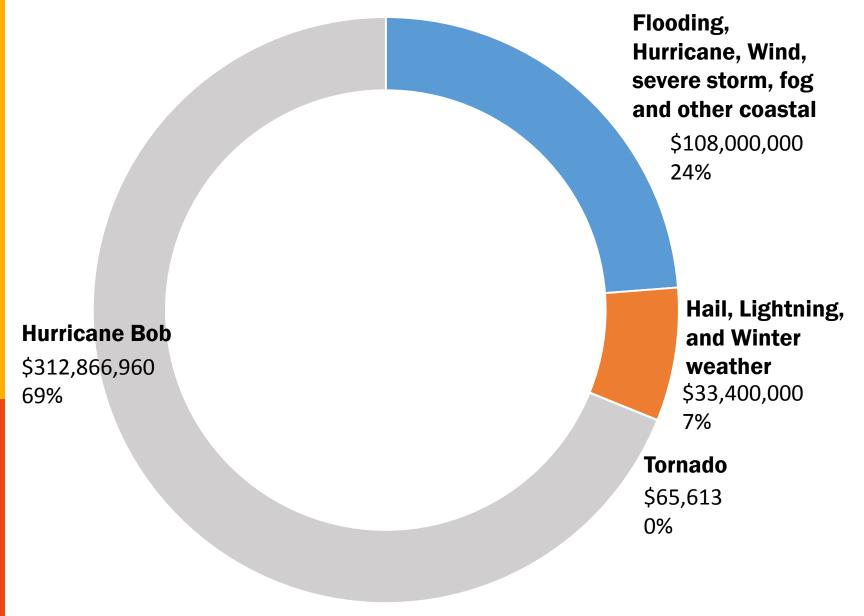


Property Damages from Natural Hazards on the Cape

1960-2014

93%

property damage from coastal hazard on the Cape





Source: SHELDUS, University of South Carolina

13,000

single family homes in Hazard Areas

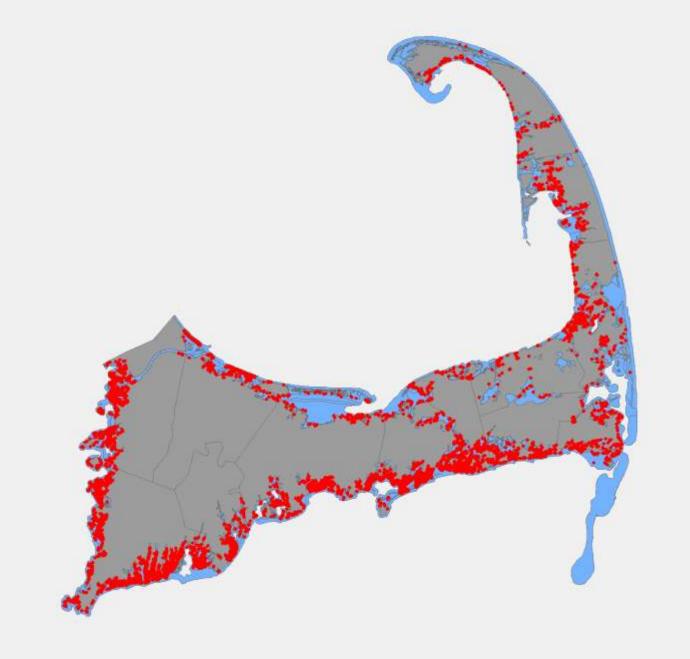
\$ 3B

Assessed Building Value 2012

\$ Зв

insured under NFIP

\$ 6B Land value not covered but relevant for tax base







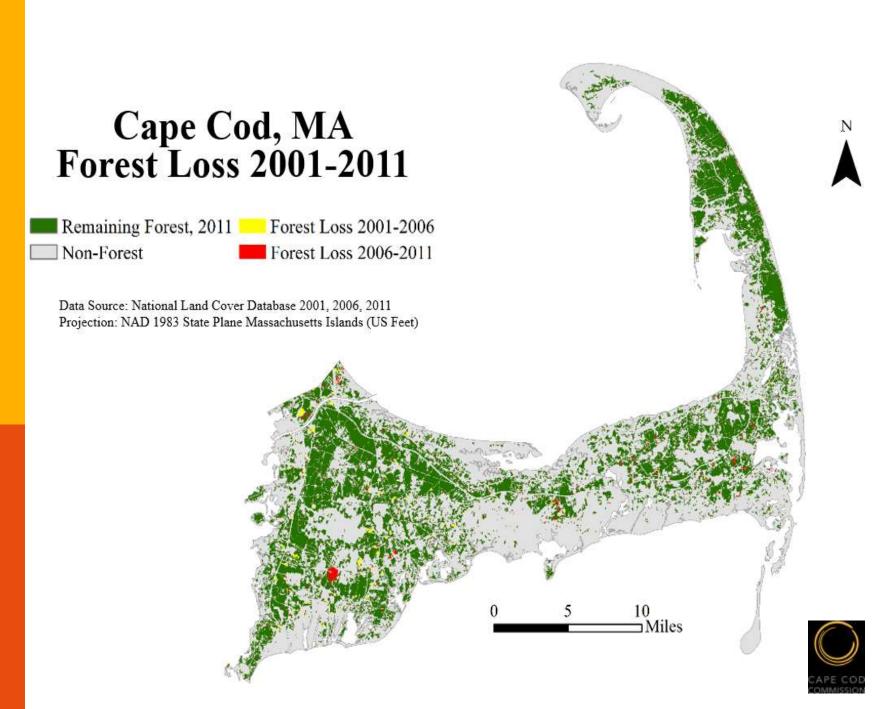


A study of 450 communities participating in FEMA's Community Rating System found protecting open space reduces insured losses

Insurance cost saved per community \$591,436

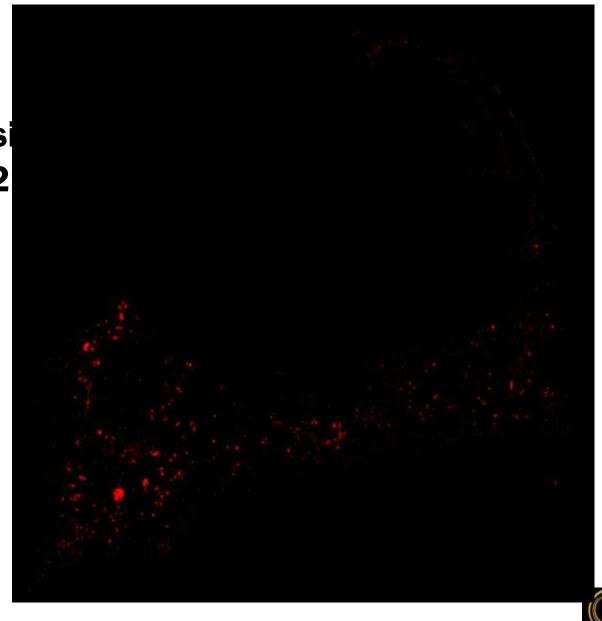


2,300
Acres
Of forest lost

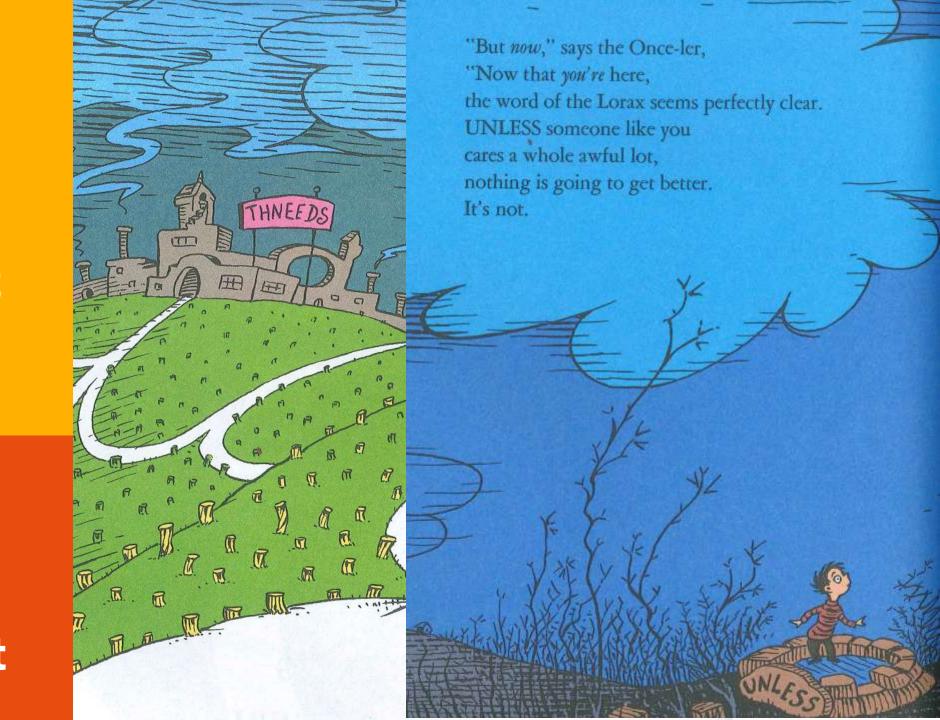


2,300
Acres
Of forest lost

Average si is about 2



2,300
Acres
Of forest lost

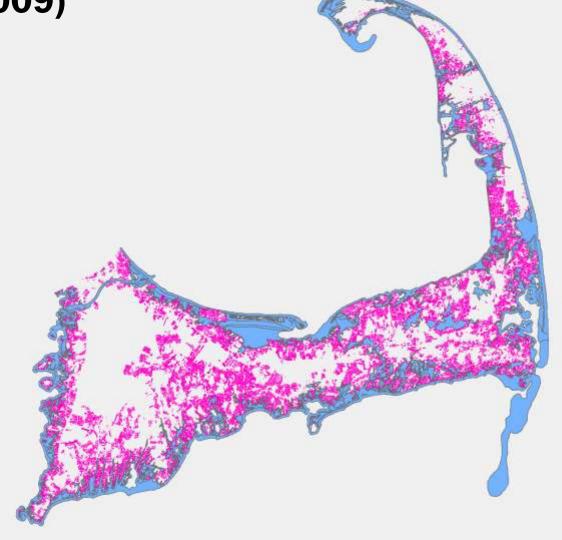


Insure more homes outside FEMA's hazard areas

\$46B

Assessed Value 106,500 homes

National Claims data shows about 30% of claims are outside FEMA's Special Flood Hazard Area (1978-2009)







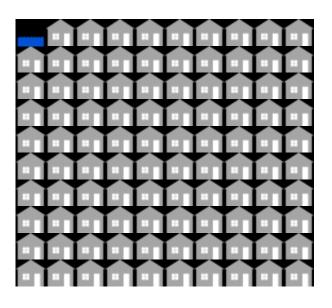
Let's Improve our communication about risk

"100-year flood" is about chance, not time



Let's Improve our communication about risk

Misnomer of the 100-year flood



1 in 100 chance every year



1 in 4chance over30 years





Increase participation under FEMA's Community Rating System

A national study of claims data shows that damage claims from communities with at least basic mitigation efforts (Class 9 and Class 8) are 13.5 % lower than communities with no mitigation efforts (class 10)

(Kousky and Michel-Kerjan, 2015)





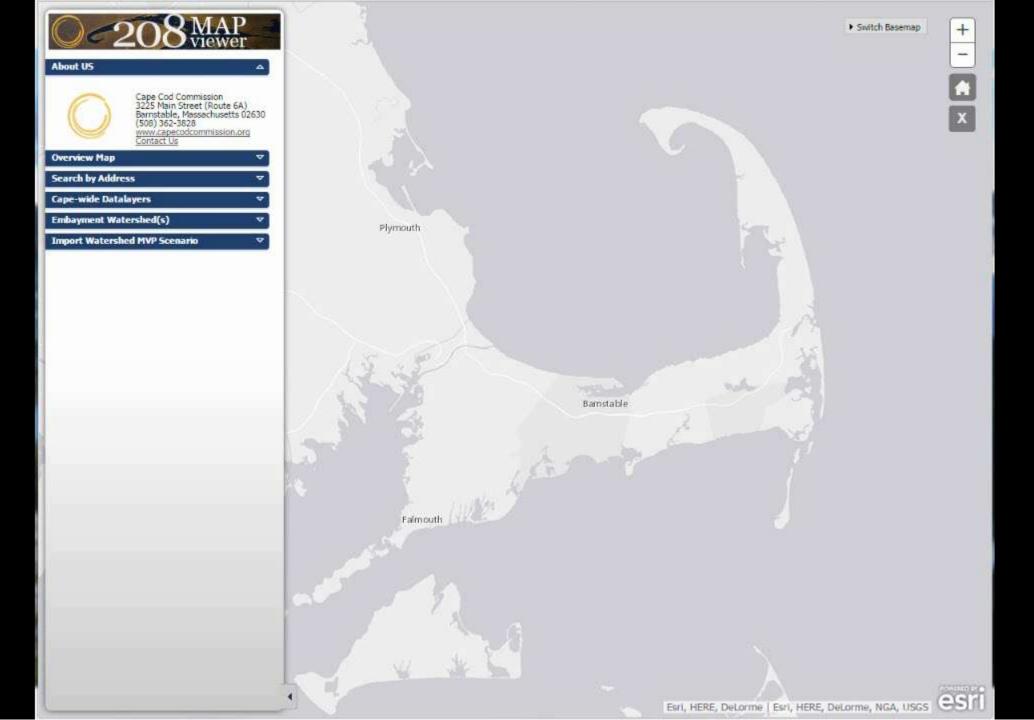
Let's find flood-resilient solutions that remove excess nitrogen

We need holistic solutions



Allows stakeholders to evaluate social, economic and environmental outcomes of water quality policies on Cape Cod





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