GecoView, the Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Services Viewer, is a story map about the benefits provided by Gulf coastal habitats, such as salt marshes, mangroves, and oyster reefs. The story map allows users to explore information on both the market and non-market value of ecosystem services provided by marshes, mangroves, and oyster reefs in the U.S. Gulf states and application to Gulf Ecological Management Sites (GEMS). The values of non-market services such as aesthetics and existence, habitat, spiritual and historic use were calculated through a Gulf-wide household survey, which elicited respondents’ preferences. GecoView also provides a Hazus modeling application in Corpus Christi Bay as it relates to hazard moderation or storm protection and details about the project, ecosystem services and definitions.

GecoView was created by the Harte Research Institute Socio-Economics’ Group and their partners, Resources for the Future, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Northern Gulf Institute, and Gulf of Mexico Foundation, to provide a way to learn about the importance and value of ecosystem services. GecoView was built with funds from the Gulf of Mexico regional Sea Grant, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Environmental Protection Agency Gulf of Mexico Program.
GecoView was primarily developed for natural resource managers, who can use the tool to inform their decision-making process. However, it is available to all stakeholders and it does not require GIS skills to navigate the tabs and explore the maps and tables.

The tool was developed to inform the decision-making process by providing values for coastal habitats that could be used, for example, to compare alternative management strategies.

In the future we will add results from other projects currently ongoing, to provide information at different scales. We also hope to obtain funding to include additional habitats such as seagrasses and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy has just released the Economics of Coastal Adaptation App on the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Resilience Tool. TNC is holding a webinar presentation and discussion of the new tool on February 19, 2016 at Noon CT (12pm CT/1pm ET/10 PT).

Join the WebEx meeting [here](#).
Meeting number: 828 535 642
Join by phone:
Call-in toll-free number: 1-(866) 385-9623 (US)
Conference Code: 234 639 0030

For feedback and further information, please contact the Socio-Economics Group at [SEG-HRI@tamucc.edu](mailto:SEG-HRI@tamucc.edu).
[www.gecoview.org](http://www.gecoview.org)

Is there a tool that you think should be featured in the Climate Community of Practice Tools Bulletin? Let us know! Send an email to [rcollini@disl.org](mailto:rcollini@disl.org).