



Centro Caribeño de Aumento del Nivel del Mar

Afiliado al:



Un programa del:



Fideicomiso para Ciencia,
Tecnología e Investigación
de Puerto Rico

Golpe en Cámara Lenta con el Aumento del Nivel del Mar

Fernando Pabón Rico AIA, CAAPPR, Director



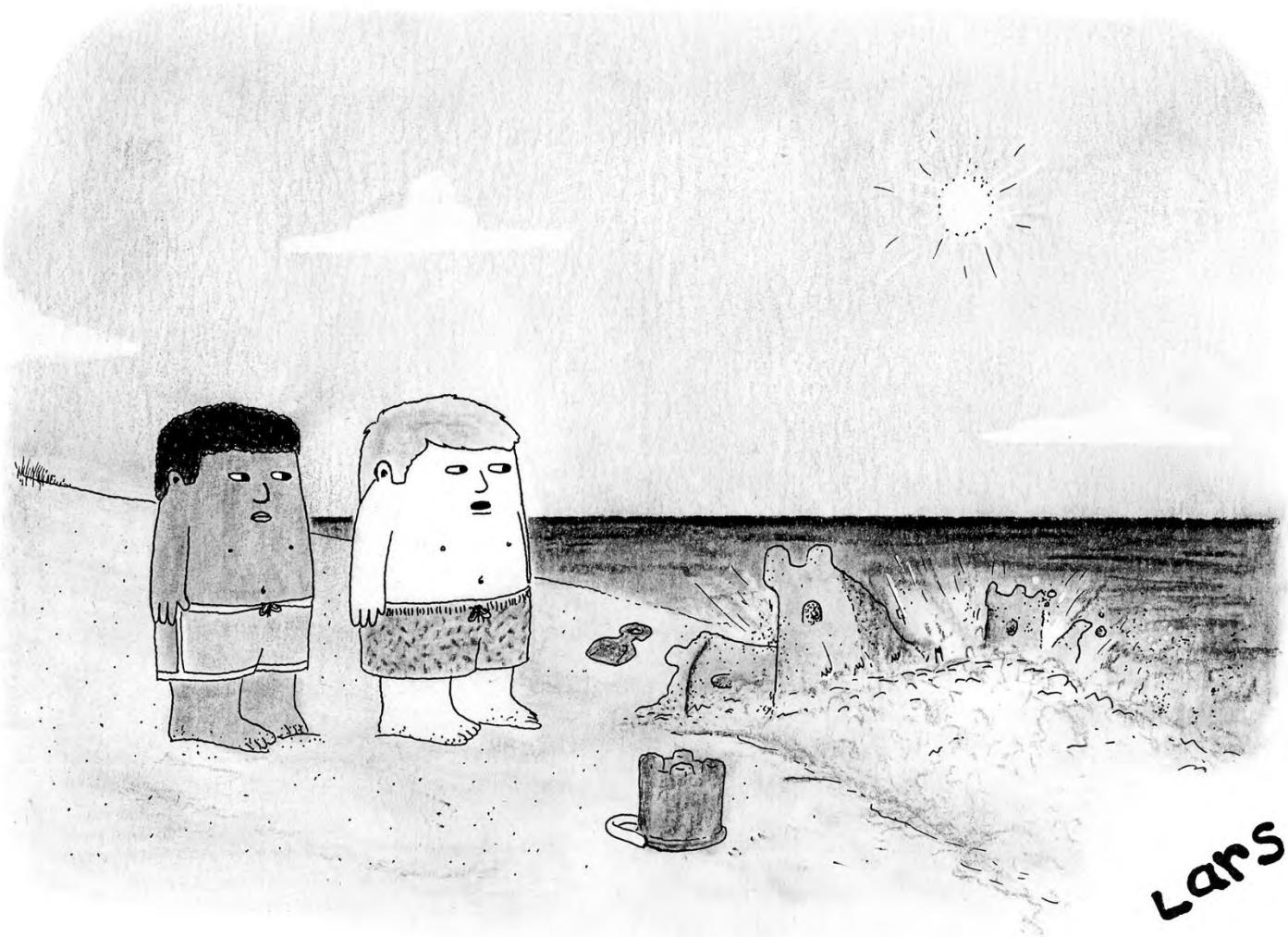
Centro Caribeño de Aumento
del Nivel del Mar

Afiliado al:
**RISING
SEAS
INSTITUTE**
SMART SOLUTIONS FOR FUTURE FLOODING

Un programa del:



Fideicomiso para Ciencia,
Tecnología e Investigación
de Puerto Rico



"Era inevitable, dado que el reino ignoró las advertencias de sus científicos."



Un lugar único

Una sociedad resiliente

Un reto ineludible



Sea Level
RiseLocal
ScenariosMapping
ConfidenceMarsh
Migration

Vulnerability

High Tide
Flooding

+

-

More Resources for Your Community

?

Sea Level
RiseLocal
ScenariosMapping
ConfidenceMarsh
Migration

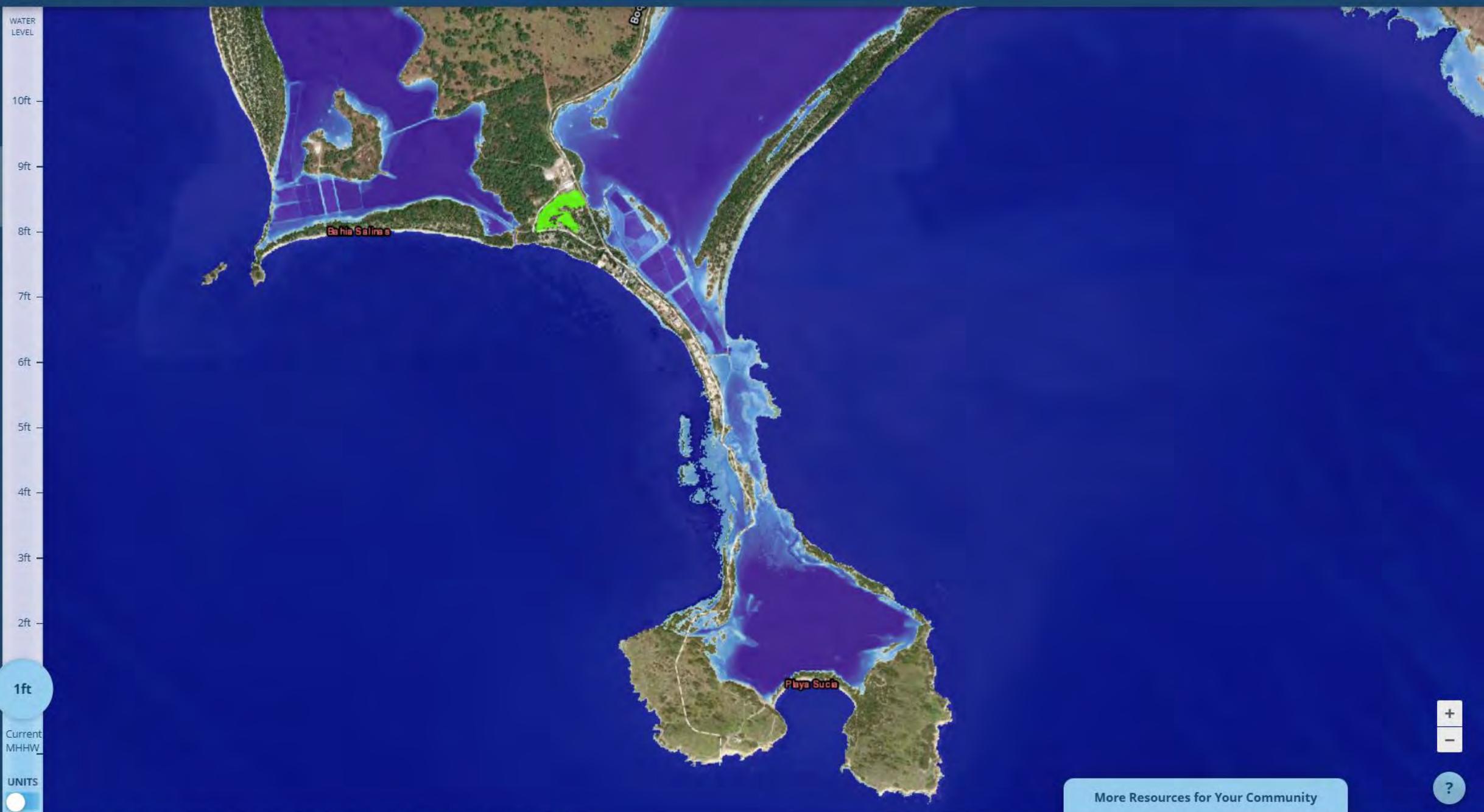
Vulnerability

High Tide
Flooding

+

-

?



Puerto Rico Science Technology & Research Trust

An Introduction to the Trust



Puerto Rico
Science, Technology
& Research Trust

Oso Blanco's /
Historical Remnants

Science City

Forward Center

Environmental
Research
Laboratory

Innovation
Center





WeAreTheTRUST

Board of Trustees



Our Board is composed of distinguished professionals who support and oversee our work, providing guidance to ensure that the Trust is managed within its mission and vision.



Daniel Colón
Ramos, Ph.D



Frances Santiago-
Schwarz, Ph. D.



Esther
Alegria, Ph.D



Félix
Negrón



Alfredo
Casta



Gualberto Medina,
Esq. & CPA



Sebastián
Negrón



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Edith
Pérez, MD



Michael
Caligiuri, MD



Antonio Ramos
Guardiola



Puerto Rico
Science, Technology
& Research Trust



Puerto Rico
Science, Technology
& Research Trust



The Trust is constituted under Public Law 214 as an autonomous entity.

Expansion in research and entrepreneurship programs.

New programs: Technology Transfer Office, Brain Trust for Tropical Disease Research & Prevention, parallel18, Colmena66, PR Consortium of Clinical Research and PR Véctor Control Unit.

Expansion of programs in agriculture, education, community response and access to business funding.

New programs: Recuperación Agrícola, STEM & Workforce Development, SBIR/ STTR Federal Grants, Pre18, Puerto Rico Hurricane Hub and ASHTO

Strengthening of all programs in strategic pillars

Growth in collaborations (51MOUs)

New programs: Re-Grow PR, Telemedicine (PRPHT)

- Science City expansion: Opening of the Forward Center building and new headquarters of parallel18.
- Trust designated as the financial advisor to the PR Economic Development Bank for the Venture Capital Access Program, providing a \$30M allocation from the U.S. Department of Treasury for investment in emerging and expanding companies.
- Hexagon 3D printing studio opening in Ponce (STEM & Workforce program)
- Cohorts for Empresas B en Formación (Meetups Program)
- 199 collaboration agreements signed (MOUs)
- \$13.8M, with ROI of \$37M by Research Grants.
- 22 patents filed and 7 issued by Technology Transfer Office, contributing to Puerto Rico's high ranking in patent applications.
- Over 84 clinical trial protocols by PRCCI.
- Colmena66 Top-ranked in US Source Link network for entrepreneur assistance.

2004

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024



Eng. Luz A. Crespo is appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

New programs: Research Grants, Center for Tropical Biodiversity, Research & Innovation Meetups.

Facilities transformation: Science City is initiated.

Amendment of deed designating the Public Health Institute and Educational Organization as bona-fide fiscal agent of the Government of P.R.

New programs: Cultural Heritage Innovation

Expansion of recovery, economic development and public health programs.

New programs: Resiliency Business Innovation, Response Innovation Lab, Puerto Rico Public Health Trust y ProdTec

- Signing of amendment to the deed of creation of the Trust.
- Public Health Leadership: Enhanced COVID-19 response with telemedicine, expanded community health programs, led genomic surveillance, expanded vector control management and increased investment in clinical trial research.
- Entrepreneurship Growth: Supported +2k entrepreneurs, generated \$189M in revenues, awarded \$11.6M in grants and expanded programs.
- Education & Workforce Impact: Expanded stem efforts and workforce capacity building.
- New programs: Caribbean Center for Rising Seas, Research Institute, Fase 1 , Telemedicina para Adultos Mayores, Laboratorio Genómico de COVID-19, Community Health Promoters Capacity building program, Red de Pacientes, Academia del Cacao, Puerto Rico Ready.

- Awarded the NSF Engines Development Award to the Trust to foster regional collaboration and growth in the biopharmaceutical sector.
- Trust recognized as 1 of 31 Tech Hubs in the United States under the Biden-Harris administration's EDA Tech Hubs program, an initiative that promotes the biotechnology sector with allies such as DDEC, UPR and private companies.
- Selected by the New York Department of Commerce as host in P.R. for the life sciences exchange with IndieBio NY, promoting the development of biotech startups.

With the leadership of our CEO, Engineer Lucy Crespo, the Trust continues to develop Puerto Rico's innovation capacity today for the future.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS



PUBLIC HEALTH



EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Nuestras Metas



Cambiar las prácticas de desarrollo urbano.

**Actualizar los códigos de construcción,
zonificación y reglamentos de uso de
suelo.**

**Redefinir el conocimiento y la
comprensión profesional del
aumento del nivel del mar e
inundaciones.**

**Normalizar la incertidumbre
mediante Investigación.**

Nuestro Equipo



Fernando Pabón AIA, CAAPPR
Director



Gilberto Guevara, MBA
Gerente Senior



John Englander
Oceanógrafo y Consejero
Ejecutivo



Carlos Gómez, BSME
Especialista en Ingeniería



Francisco Aquino, Esq.
Gerente de Política
Pública y Legislación

La Ciencia del Aumento del Nivel del Mar

Antártida = 186 pies de ANM



Fuente: Google Earth, SIO, NOAA, US NAVY, NGA, GEBCO, US Department of State
Geographer, Image Landsat/Copernicus, Image IBCAO, Image USGS

Groenlandia = 24 pies de ANM



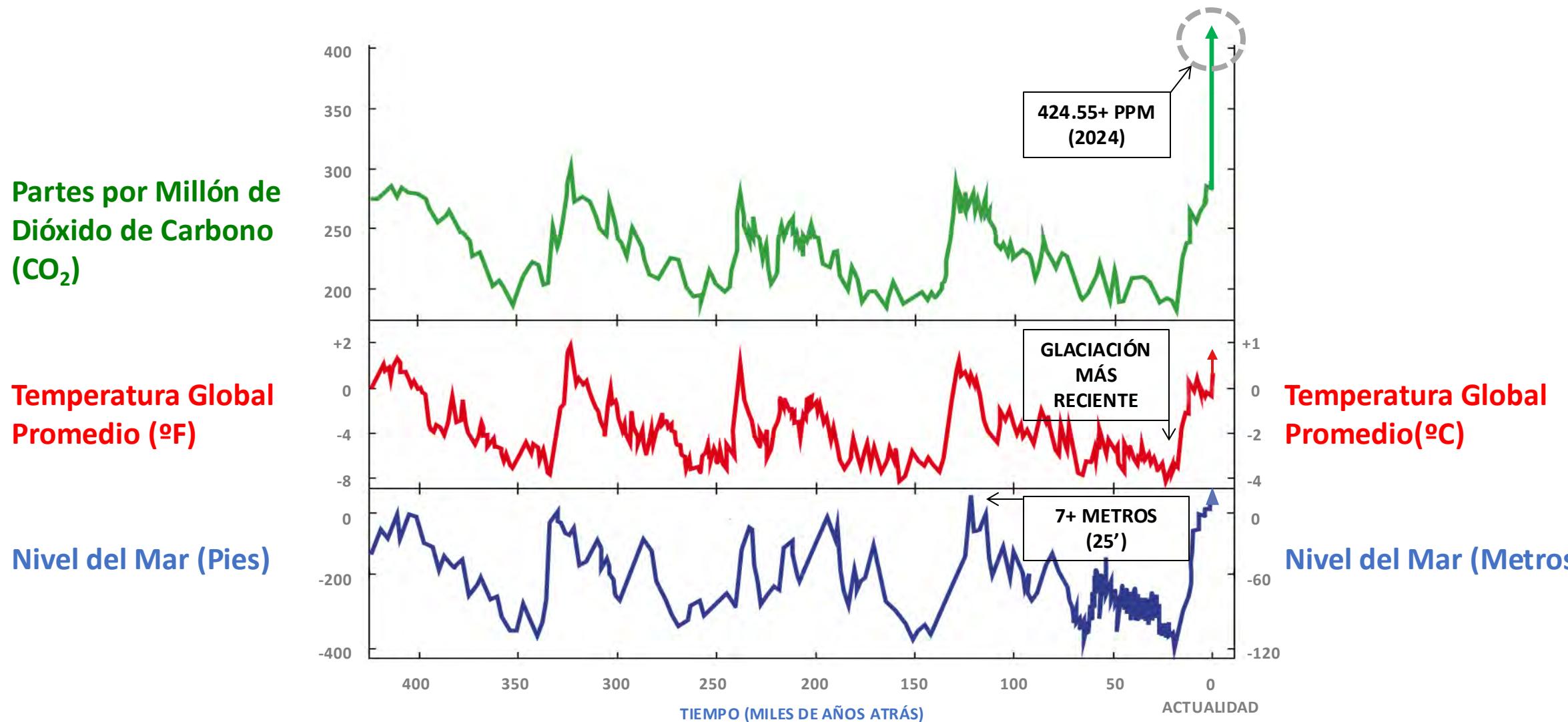
Fuente: Google Earth, SIO, NOAA, US NAVY, NGA, GEBCO, US Department of State
Geographer, Image Landsat/Copernicus, Image IBCAO, Image USGS

Hielo sobre Tierra: Causa Principal del Aumento del Nivel del Mar



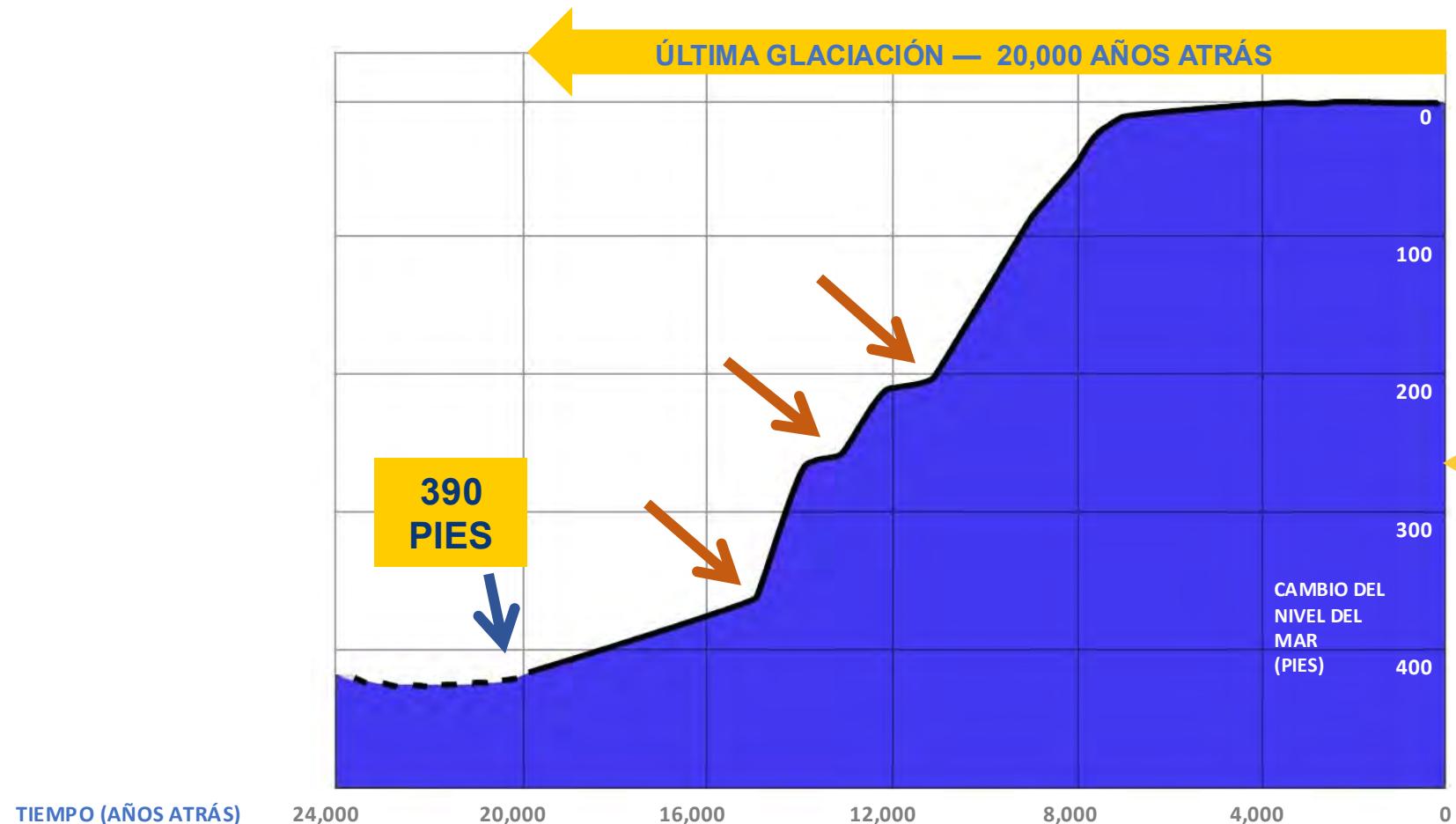


Dióxido de Carbono, Temperatura y Nivel del Mar



Adaptado de: Drs. James E. Hansen & Makiko H. Sato / csas.earth.Columbia.edu

NIVEL DEL MAR DESDE LA ÚLTIMA GLACIACIÓN



Sede del Banco Popular

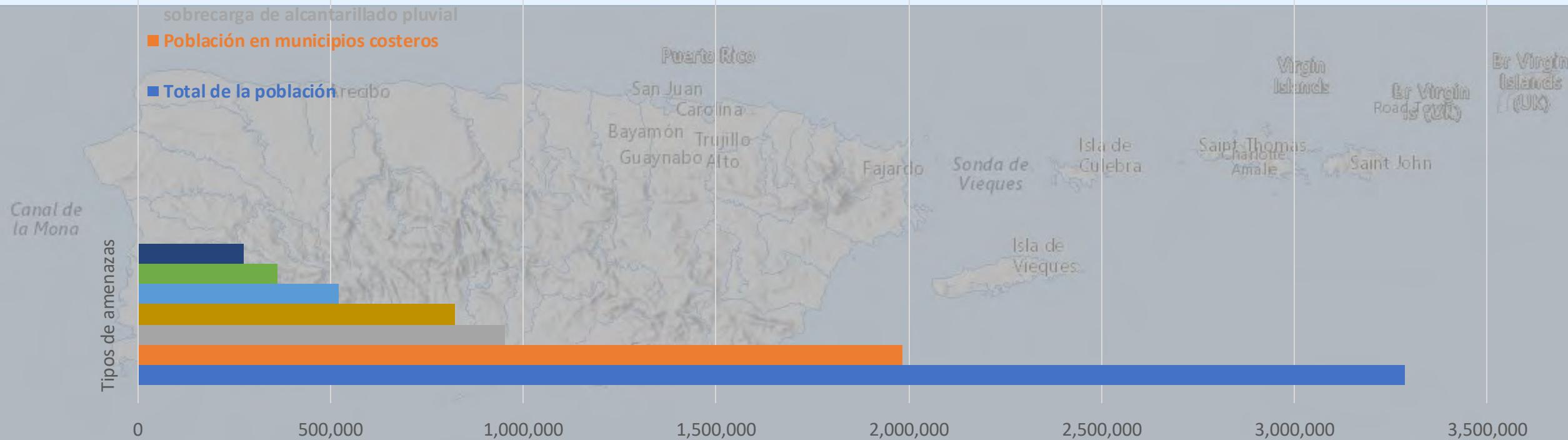
Datos Recientes

Riesgos y vulnerabilidades

- Población vulnerable a erosión costera
- Población expuesta a otros tipos de inundaciones costeras
- Población que ha experimentado inundaciones por marejadas ciclónicas
- Población que entiende que está expuesta a inundaciones fluviales
- Personas que han experimentado inundaciones por sobrecarga de alcantarillado pluvial

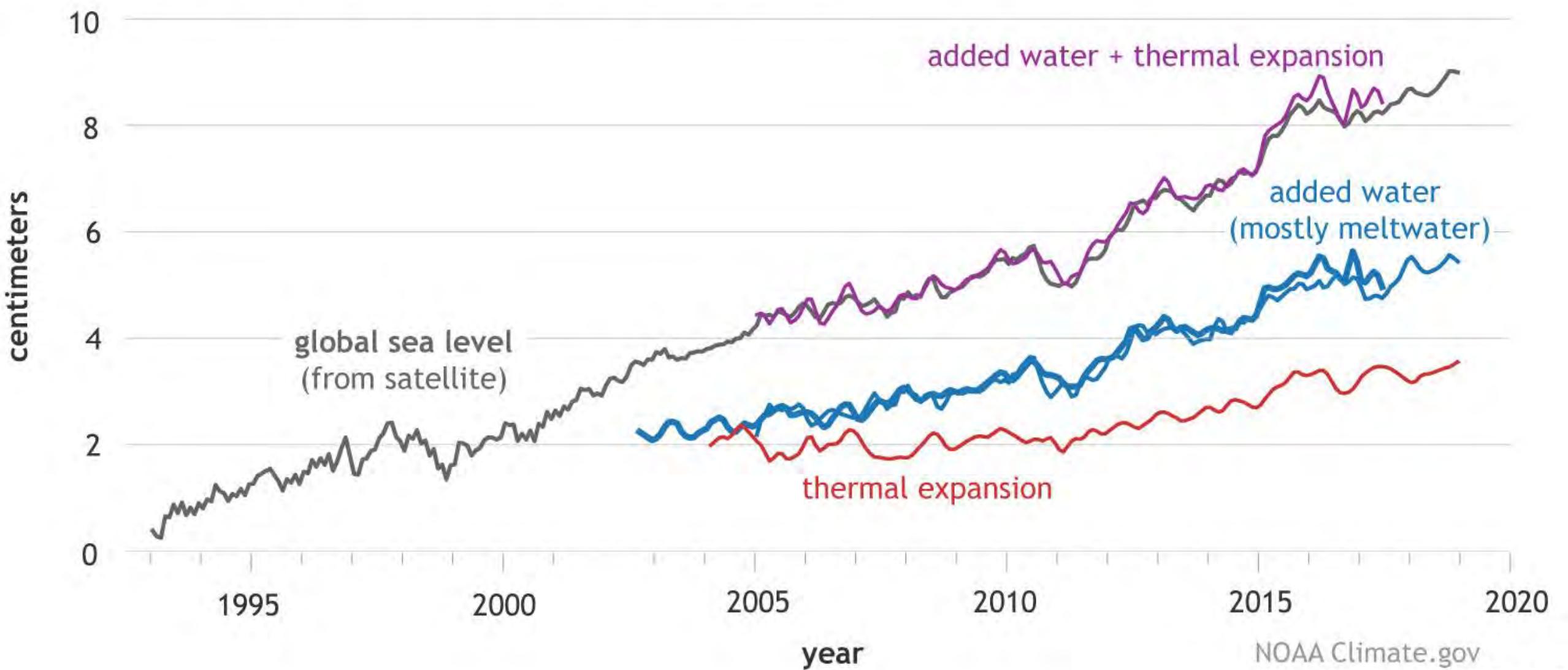
■ Población en municipios costeros

■ Total de la población



Una foto en el tiempo

Contributors to global sea sea level rise (1993-2018)

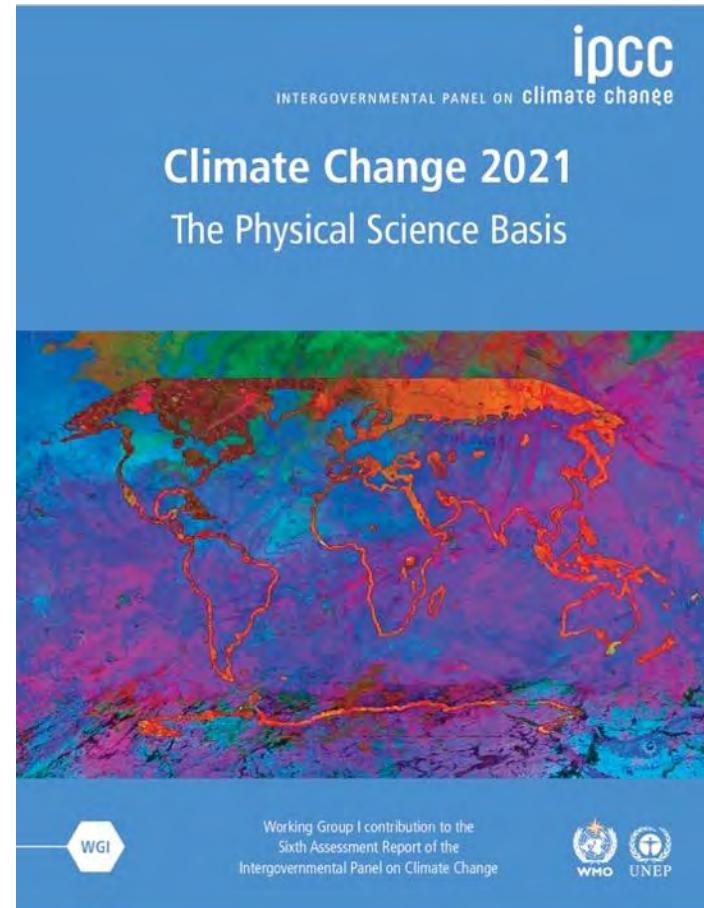


Reporte del PICC (2021)

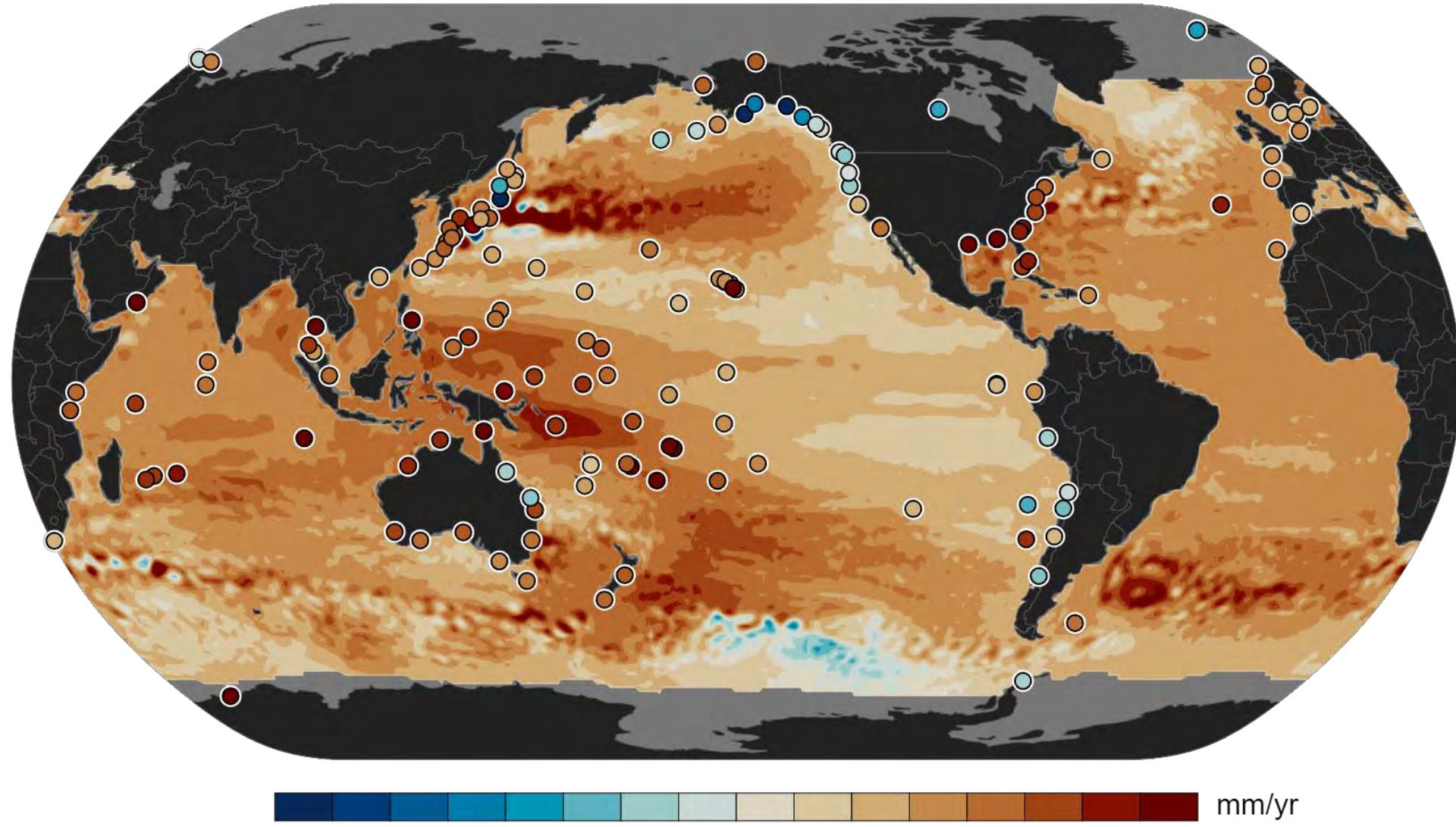
- ❖ Calentamiento actual es **+1.2° C (2.2° F)**

Sintetizando...

- ❖ **1.5° C = 20%** de incremento en calentamiento puede ocurrir **antes del 2030**.
- ❖ Los compromisos internacionales parecerían encaminar las temperaturas a **2.7° C (4.8° F) = ¡La ruta en que vamos!**
- ❖ Los esfuerzos para detener la liberación de gases de efecto invernadero han **fracasado**.



Cambio en el Nivel del Mar (1993-2023)



Union of Concerned Scientists: Looming Deadlines for Coastal Resilience (2024)

Looming Deadlines for Coastal Resilience

Rising Seas, Disruptive Tides, and Risks to Coastal Infrastructure

HIGHLIGHTS

The nearly 90 million people living in US coastal communities depend on an array of critical infrastructure—from the schools that students attend to the power and wastewater treatment plants that provide electricity and clean water. But research led by the Union of Concerned Scientists shows that between now and 2050, climate change–driven sea level rise will expose more than 1,600 critical infrastructure assets worldwide to disruptive flooding at least twice per year. Future flooding particularly threatens public and affordable housing. This burden is borne inequitably; more than half the infrastructure at risk by 2050 is in communities at a disadvantage based on historical and ongoing racism, discrimination, and pollution. The amount of infrastructure in jeopardy late this century will depend heavily on countries' choices about global heat-trapping emissions. Policymakers and public and private decisionmakers must take immediate, science-based steps to safeguard critical infrastructure and achieve true, long-term coastal resilience.

Critical infrastructure up and down the coastlines of the United States is increasingly under assault from flooding during high tides as climate change–driven sea level rise brings water further into coastal communities. In Norfolk, Virginia, the razing of a public housing development due to coastal flood risks has forced former residents of Tidewater Gardens to fight to secure their right to return to new affordable housing in the community (Murphy 2021). In Charleston, South Carolina, sewer overflows due to tidal flooding have sent unhealthy, partially treated wastewater into nearby waterways (Shaffer 2024). And in Miami, Florida, which currently experiences routine high tide flooding and is acutely at risk from sea level rise, a building boom continues despite the billions of dollars of infrastructure already in harm's way (Lucru 2024).

Even without storms or heavy rainfall, high tide flooding—“sunny day” flooding—driven by climate change is accelerating along US coastlines. It is increasingly evident that much of the coastal infrastructure in the United States—including K-12 schools, electrical substations, emergency services, public housing, and brownfields—was built for a climate that no longer exists. Assets that were safe when constructed are now at risk of being regularly inundated with seawater.

As sea level rises progresses, disruptive flooding will imperil thousands of critical buildings and facilities sited along US coasts. That flooding could interfere with the provision of essential community services and expose communities to harmful pollutants.

This analysis by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) reveals a significant amount of critical infrastructure at risk today and in the near future, potentially affecting millions of coastal residents. Here we define *critical infrastructure* as those assets and facilities that provide functions necessary to sustain daily life (CISA, n.d.), which includes schools, hospitals, public and affordable housing, energy infrastructure, and wastewater treatment plants. We also include known sites of industrial contamination that, if they were to flood, could expose people to toxic or hazardous pollutants. The resulting list of critical infrastructure analyzed here is in some instances more expansive than the types included in the US government’s definition but does not include all the types that are likely of concern to individual communities; our selection strives to include infrastructure seen as essential to people’s health and well-being for which systematic data were available (see About This Analysis section).

Society highly values the unimpeded functioning of infrastructure assets and the continuous essential services they provide (Weijnen and Correljé 2021). Communities typically—and understandably—have a low tolerance for risk when it



UCS Study



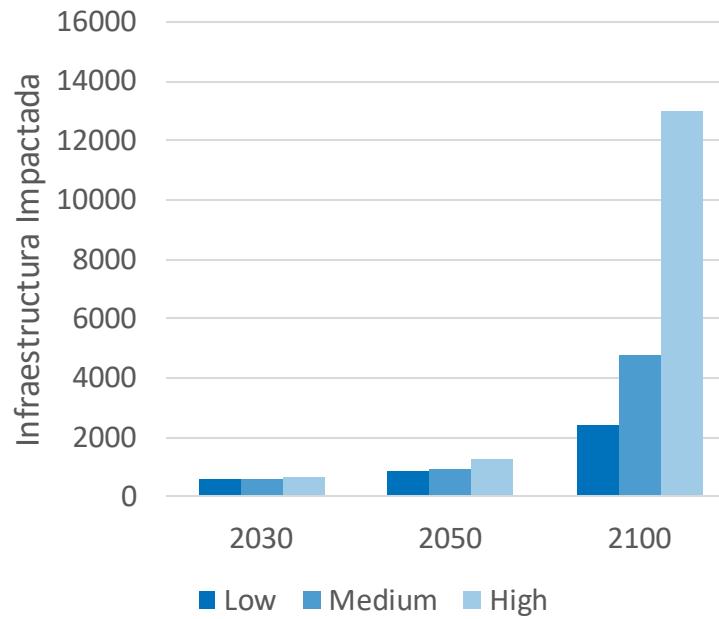
Category of affected infrastructure

- Yellow dot: Public & affordable housing
- Blue dot: Energy infrastructure
- Pink dot: Industrial contamination sites
- Orange dot: Public safety or health facilities
- Dark blue dot: Government facilities
- Green dot: Educational institutions

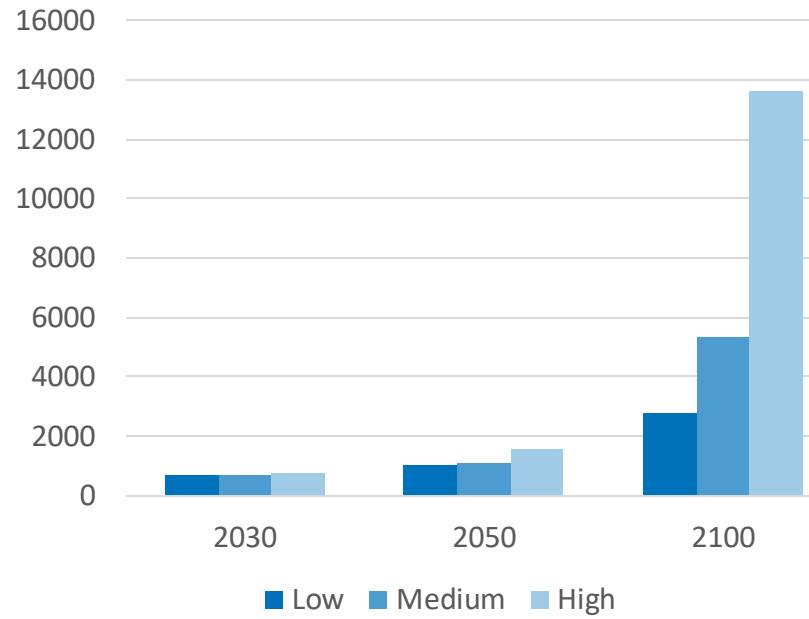


UCS Study: 3 Variables

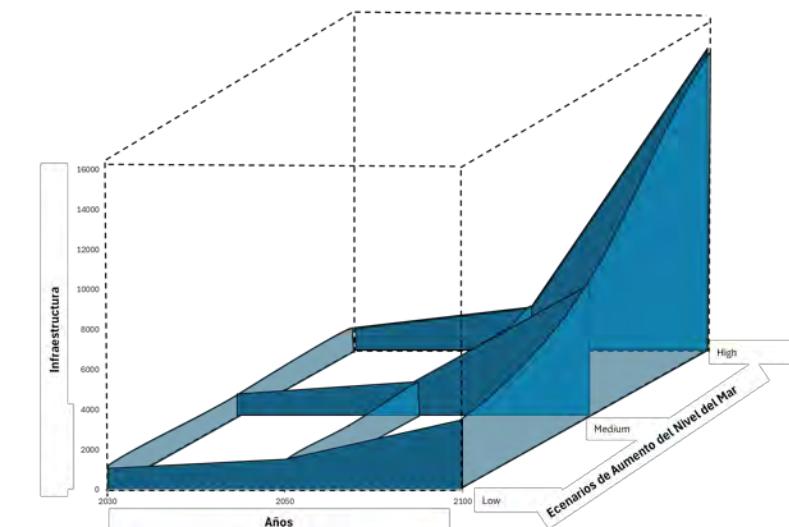
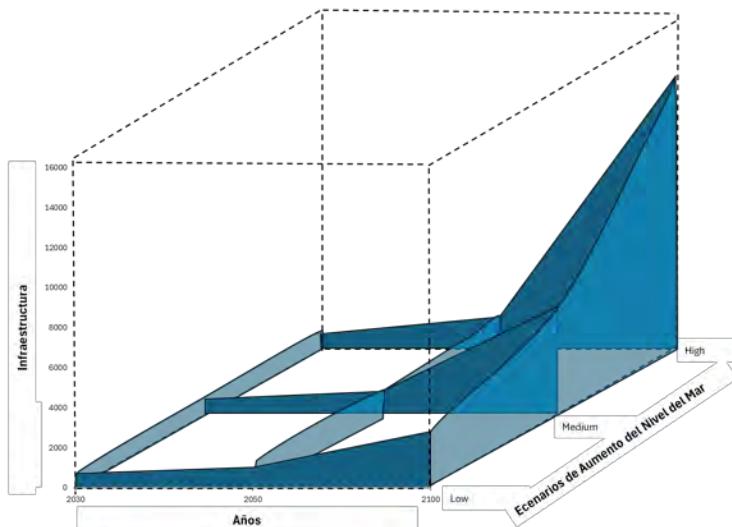
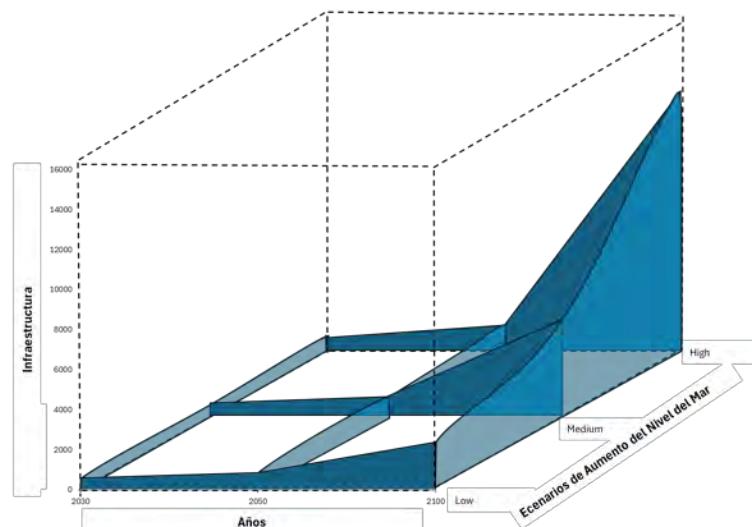
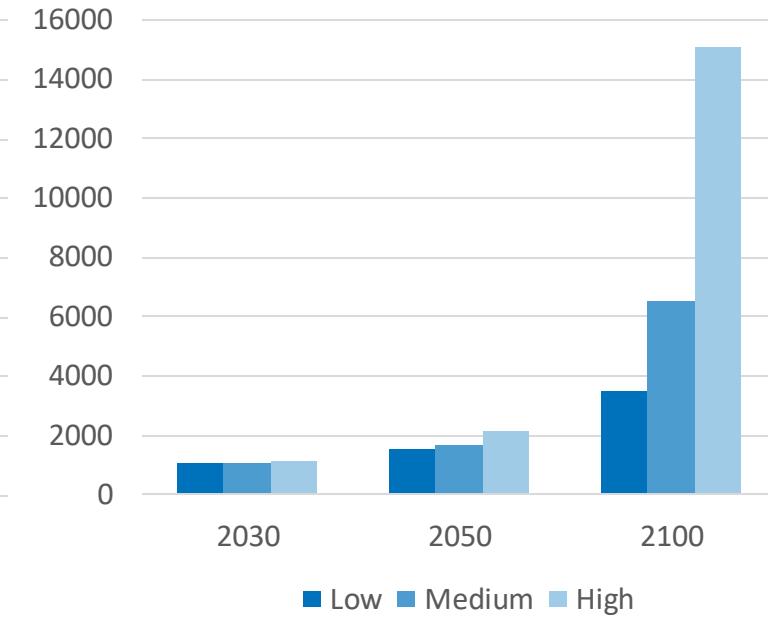
26x/year



12x/year



2x/year



Location:

San Juan, PR

Show map Meters FeetFlooding threshold: [?](#)

10-year flood

Threshold elevation
Above MHHW

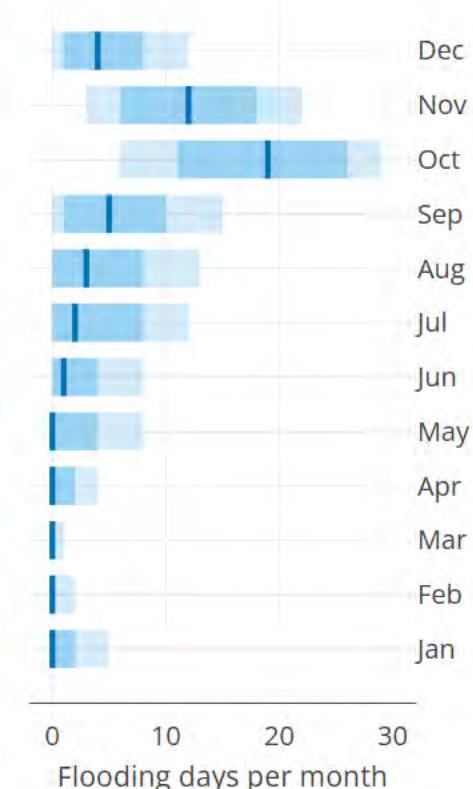
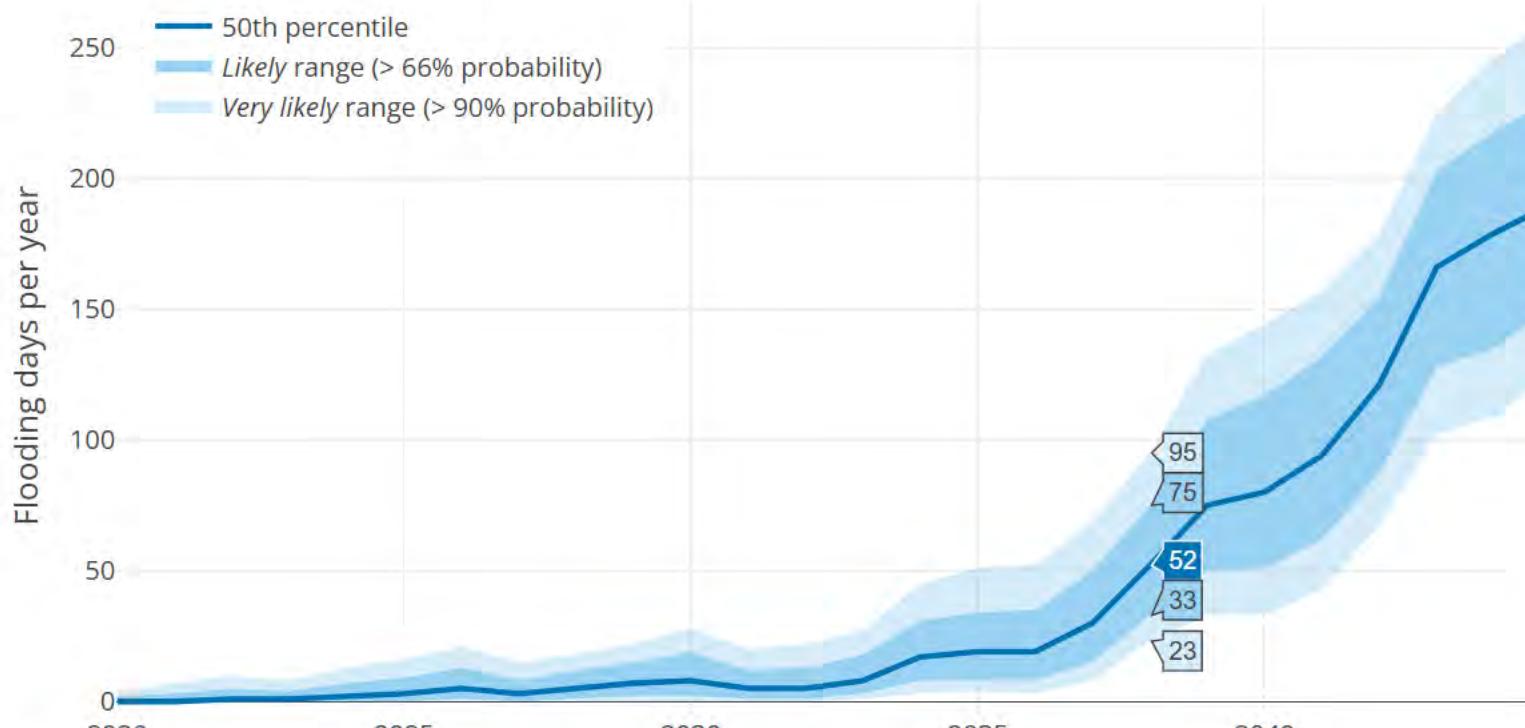
1.12 ft

U.S. Interagency scenario: [?](#)

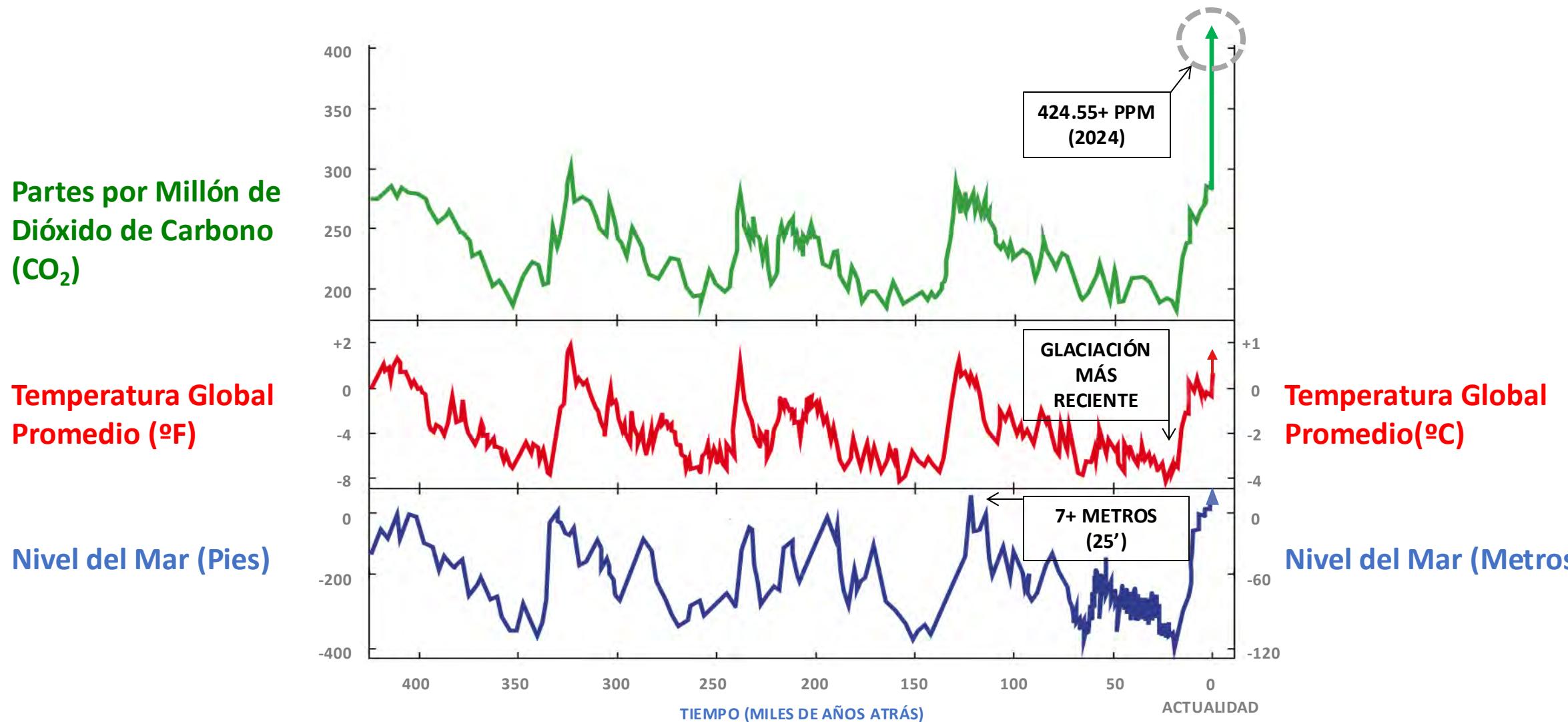
High

Sea-level rise by 2100
Relative to 2000

6.82 ft

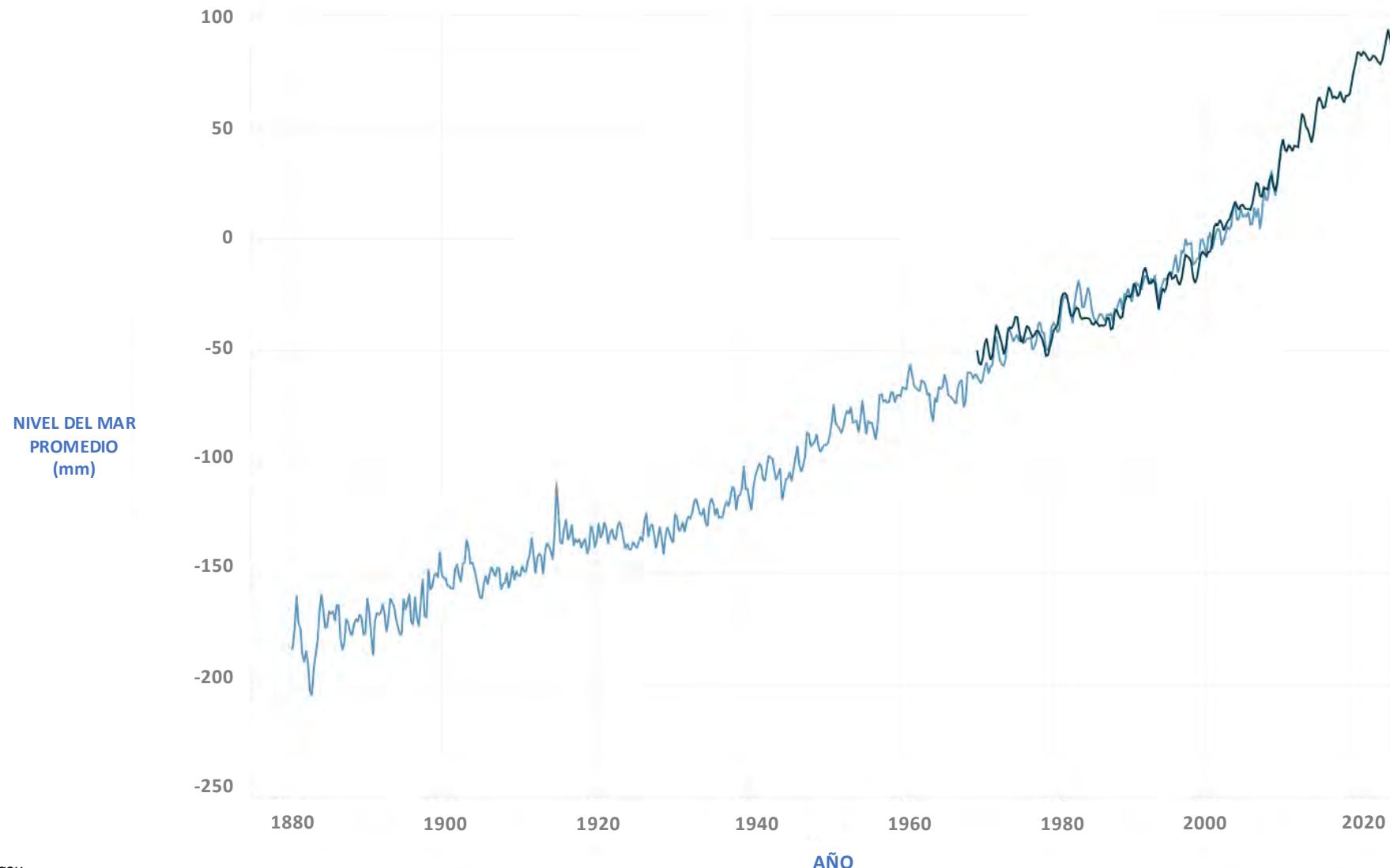


Dióxido de Carbono, Temperatura y Nivel del Mar



Adaptado de: Drs. James E. Hansen & Makiko H. Sato / csas.earth.Columbia.edu

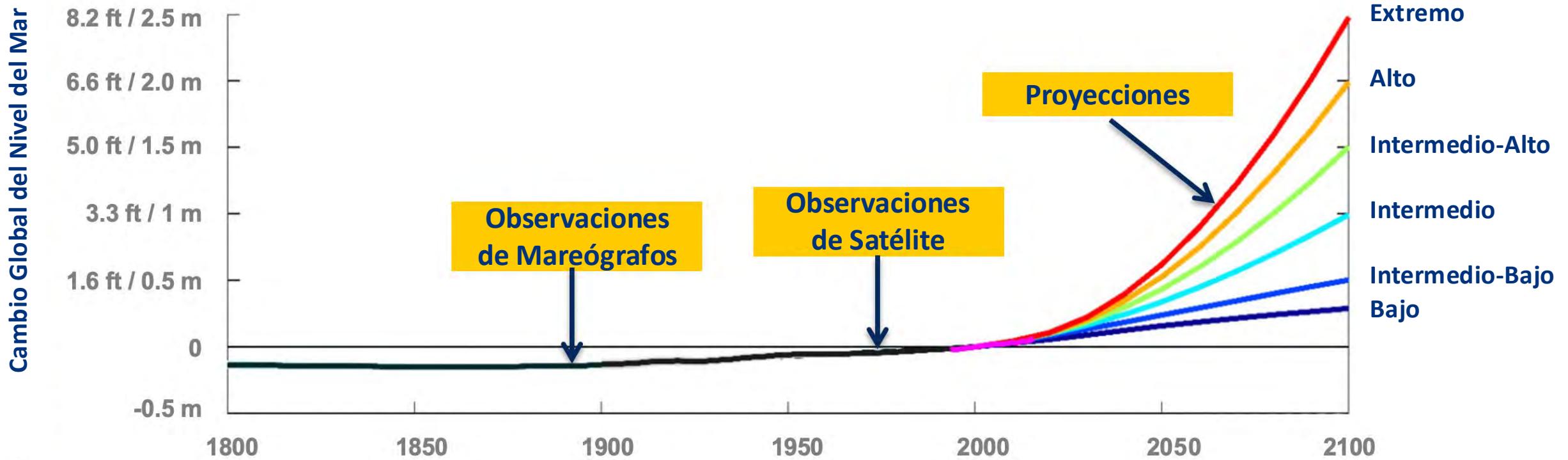
EL RITMO ESTÁ ACELERANDO



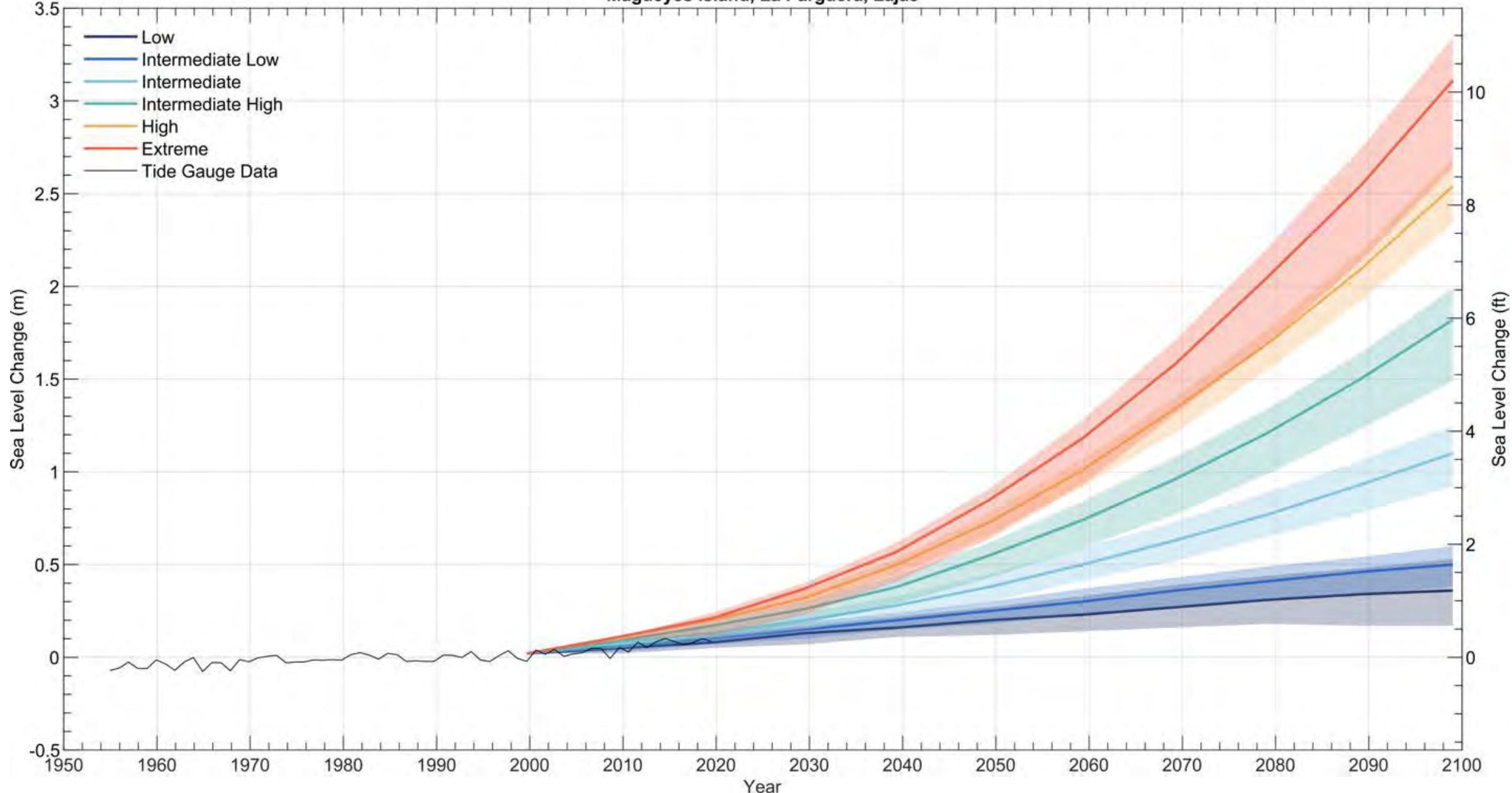
Fuente: Adaptado de Climate.gov

Escenarios Globales de la NOAA

Las proyecciones típicas confunden y demuestran incertidumbre

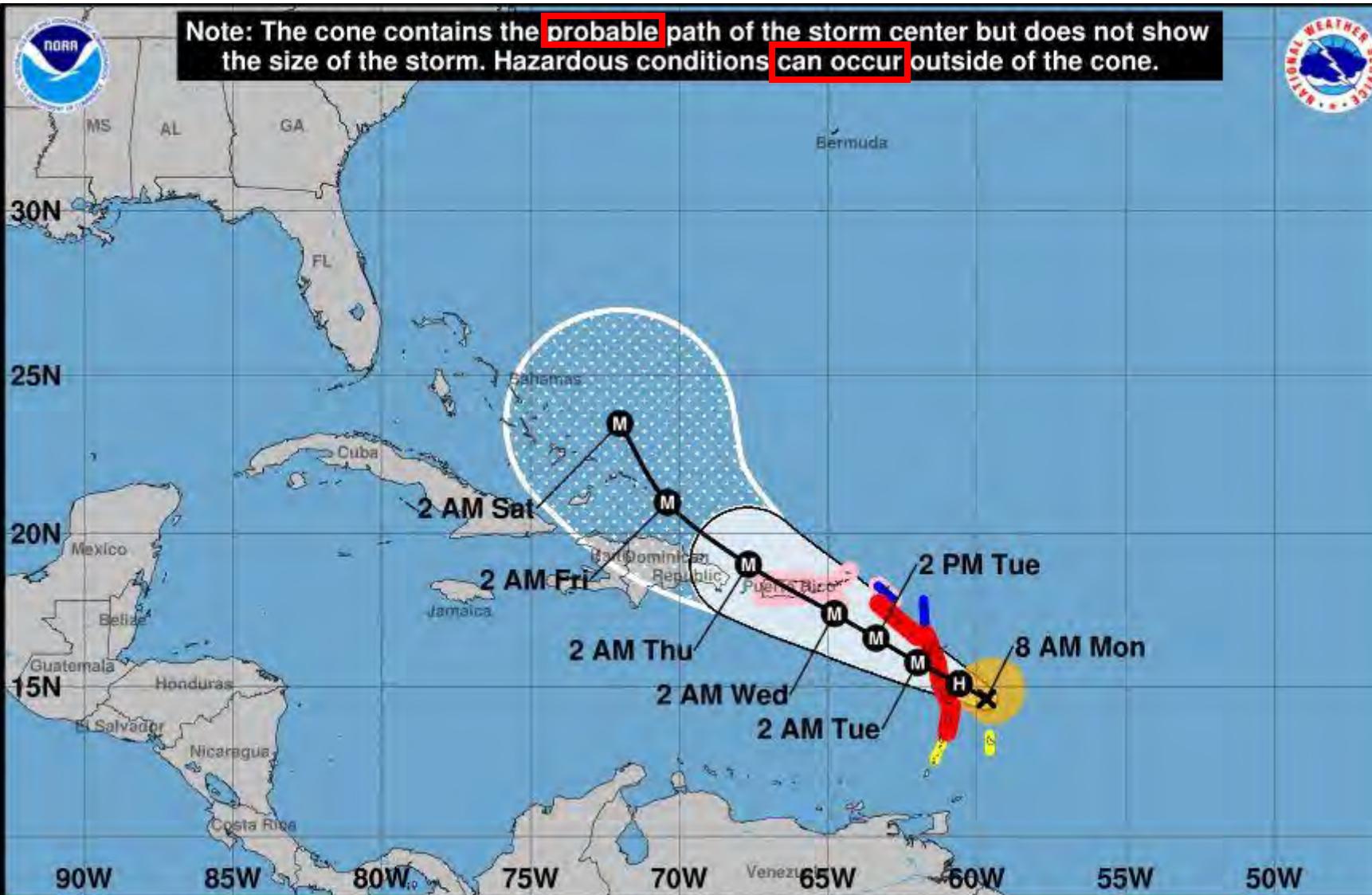


NOAA Regional Sea Level Rise Scenarios
Magueyes Island, La Parguera, Lajas





Note: The cone contains the **probable** path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions **can occur** outside of the cone.



Hurricane Maria

Monday September 18, 2017
8 AM AST Intermediate Advisory 8A
NWS National Hurricane Center

Current information: x

Center location 14.6 N 59.7 W
Maximum sustained wind 110 mph
Movement WNW at 12 mph

Forecast positions:

● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post/Potential TC
Sustained winds: D < 39 mph
S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110 mph

Potential track area:



Day 1-3



Day 4-5

Watches:



Hurricane

Warnings:

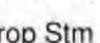


Hurricane

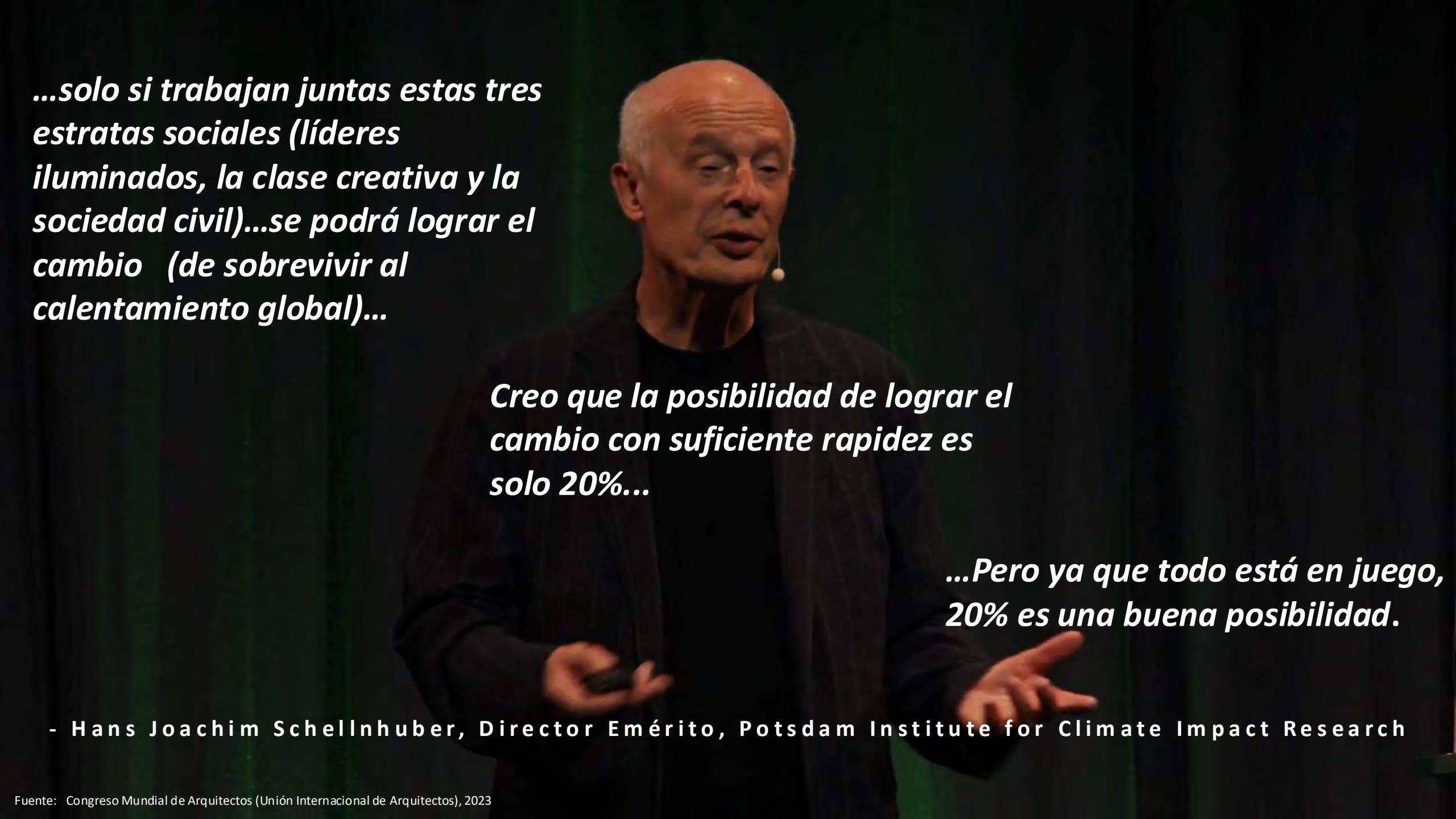
Current wind extent:



Hurricane



Trop Stm



...solo si trabajan juntas estas tres estratas sociales (líderes iluminados, la clase creativa y la sociedad civil)...se podrá lograr el cambio (de sobrevivir al calentamiento global)...

Creo que la posibilidad de lograr el cambio con suficiente rapidez es solo 20%...

...Pero ya que todo está en juego, 20% es una buena posibilidad.

- Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, Director Emérito, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Impactos Anticipados

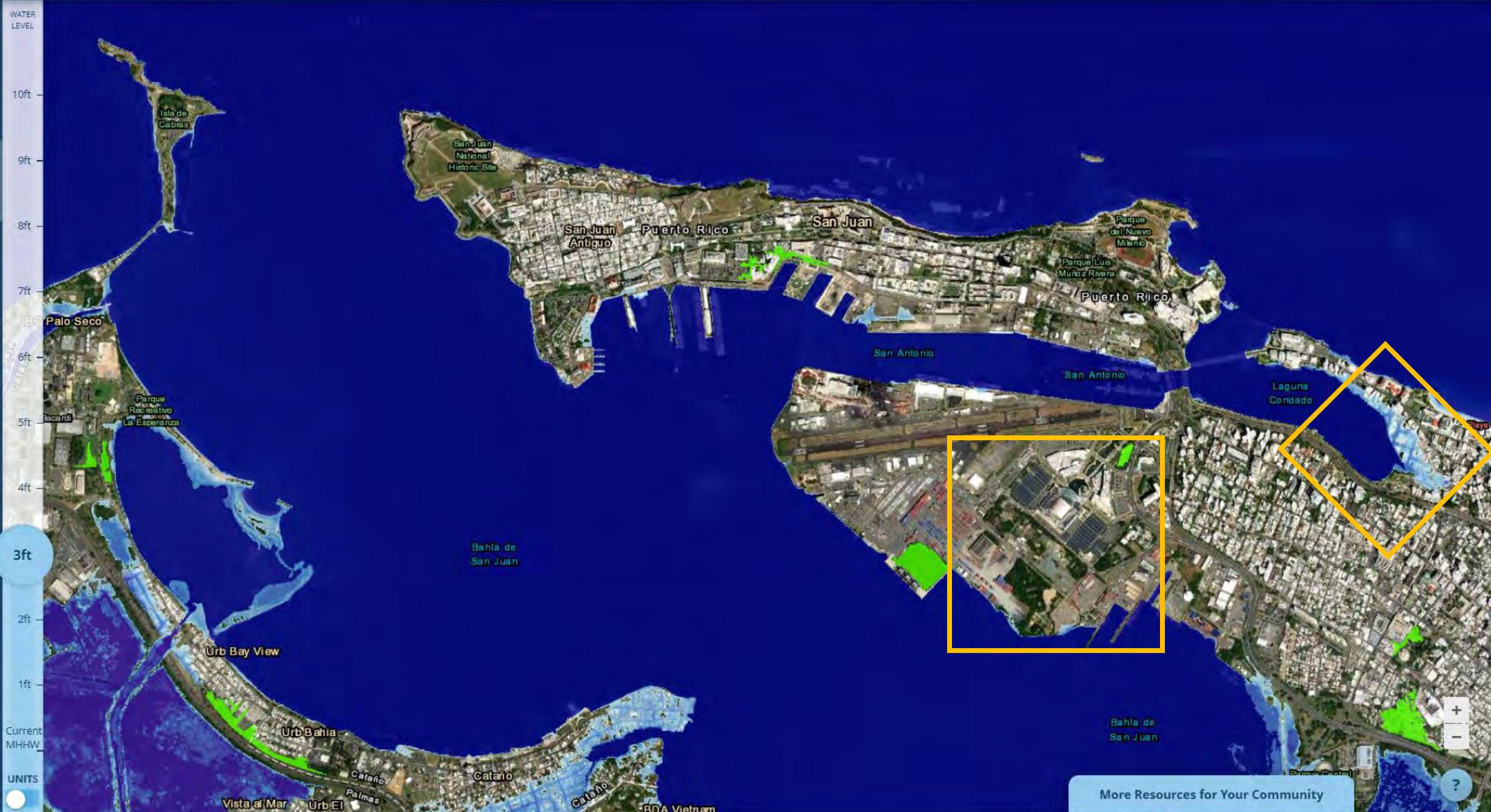
San Juan, Puerto Rico



San Juan, Puerto Rico

Las grandes incertidumbres ameritan preguntas profundas cuyas respuestas no necesariamente están atadas a una fecha precisa en el futuro: su mejor abordaje es mediante la planificación a largo plazo.

- Amy Webb, Harvard Business Review





WATER LEVEL

10ft

9ft

8ft

7ft

6ft

5ft

4ft

3ft

2ft

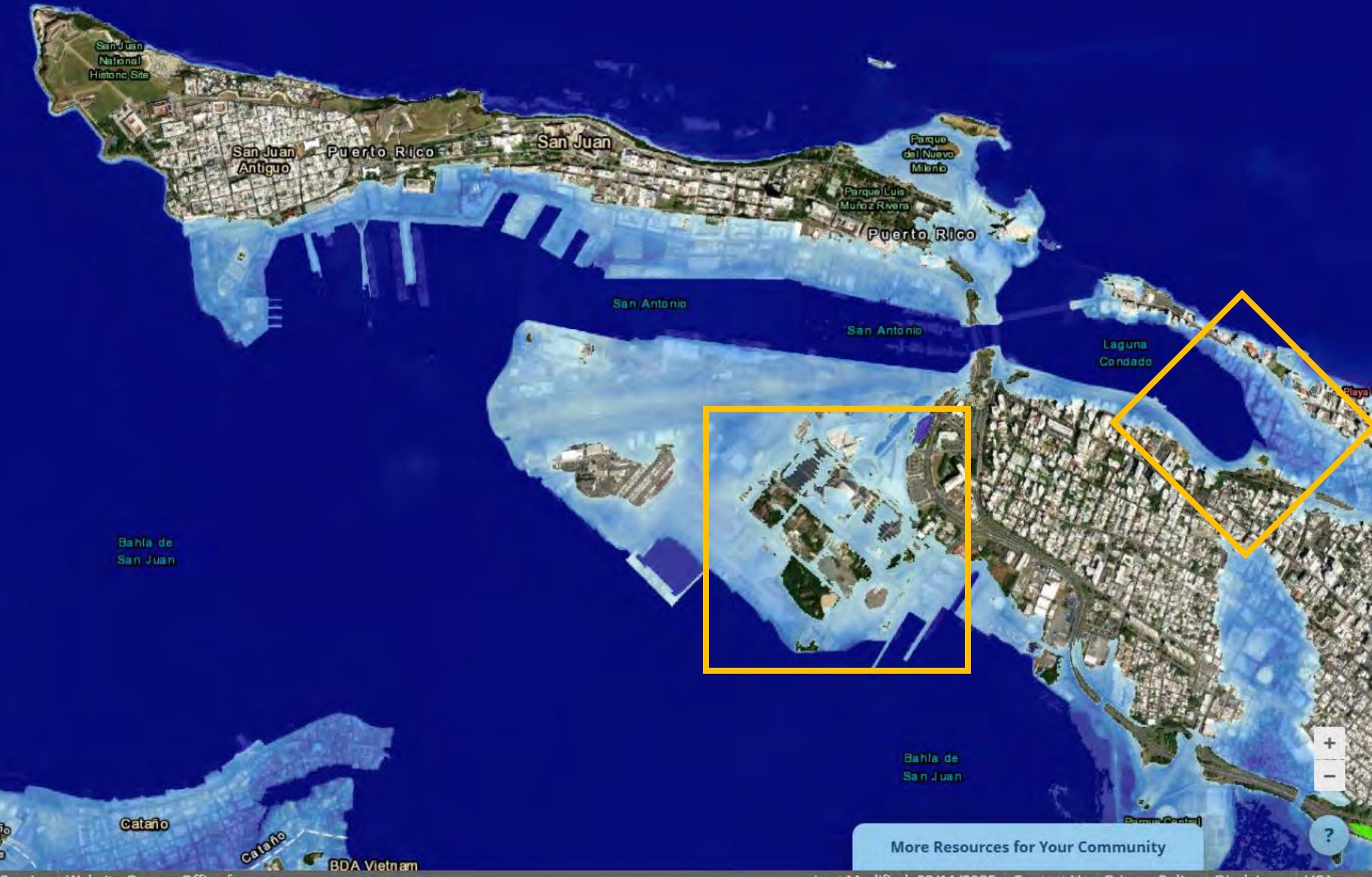
1ft

Current MHHW

UNITS

Vista al Mar

Urb El Palmas



More Resources for Your Community

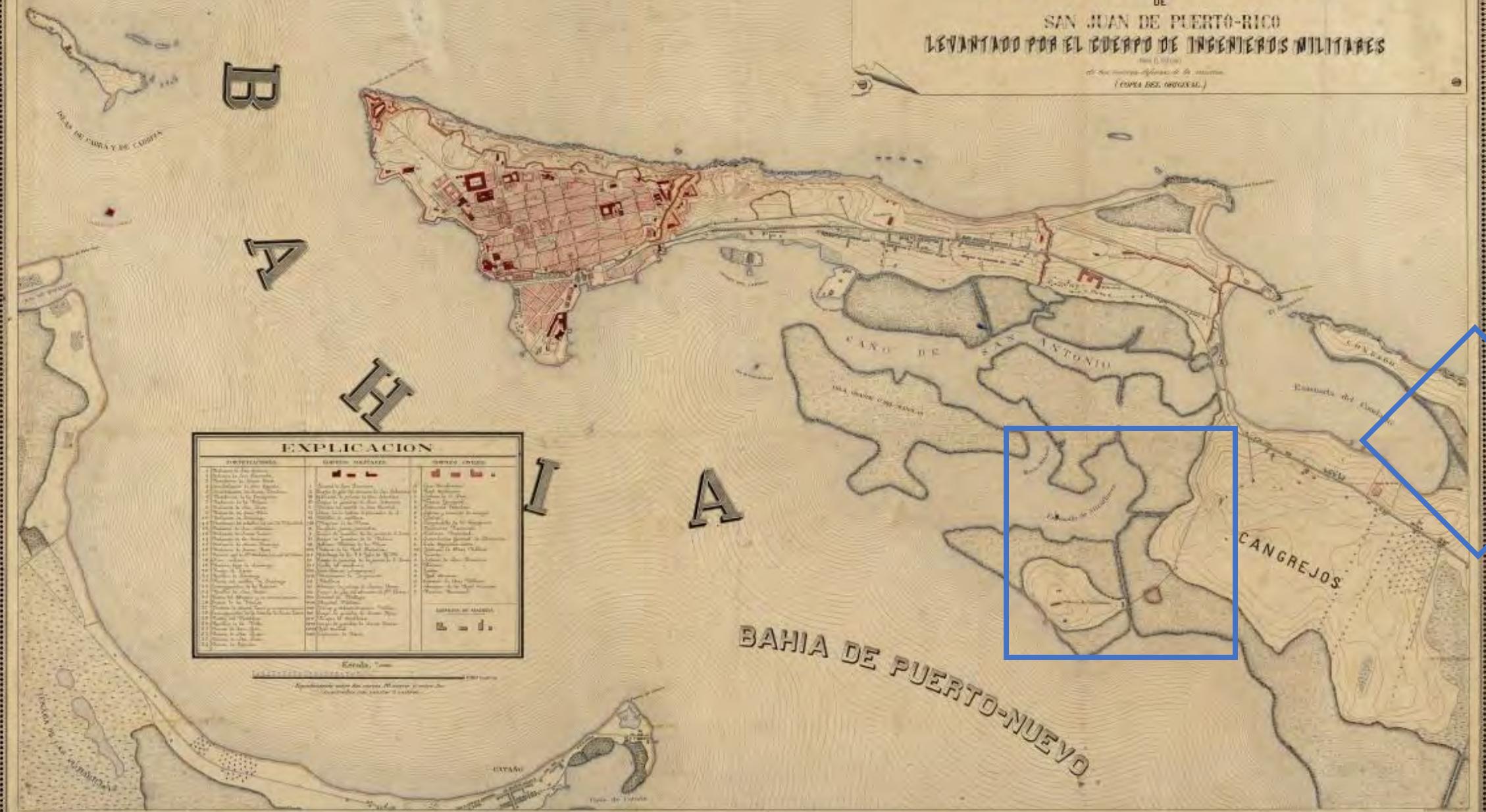
PLANO DE LA PLAZA

SAN JUAN DE PUERTO-RICO

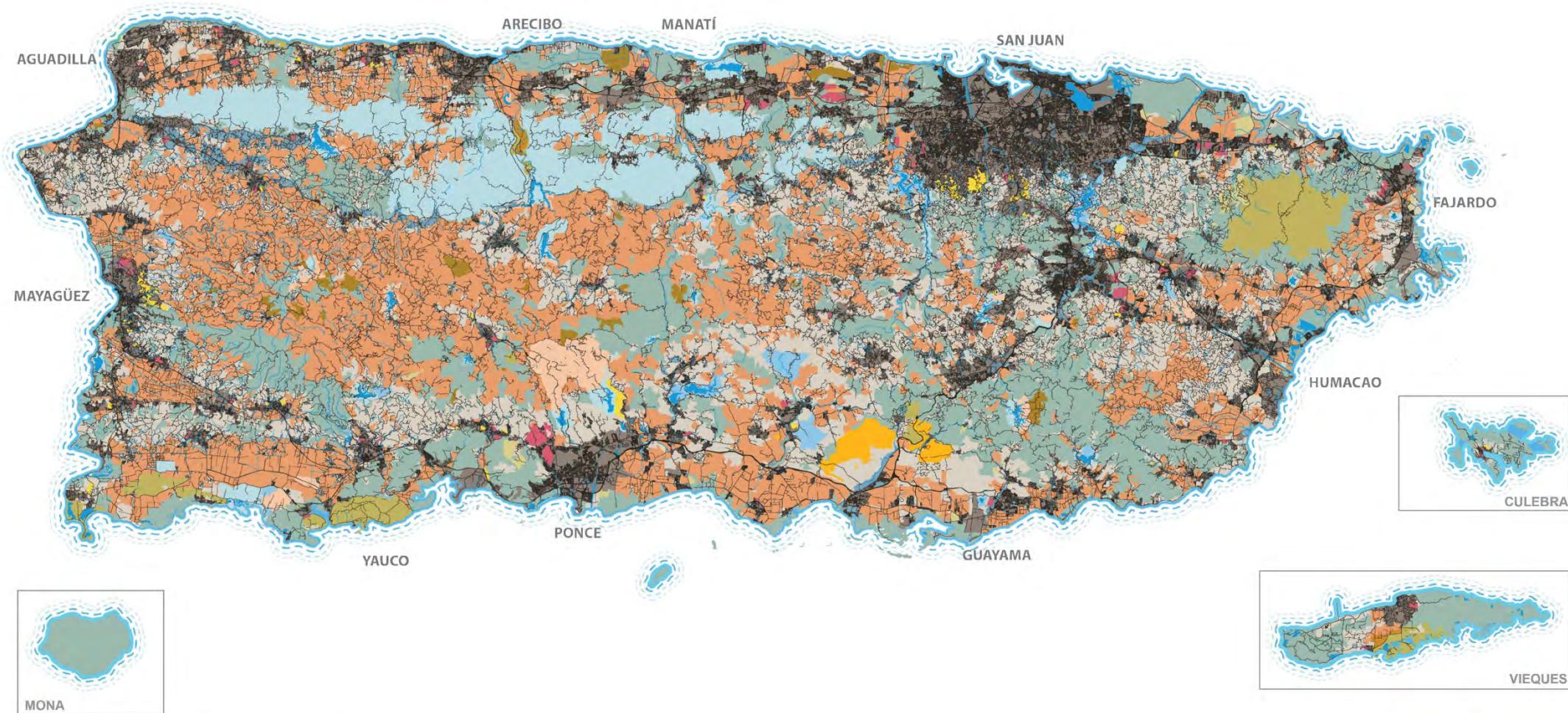
LEVANTADO POR EL CUERPO DE INGENIEROS MILITARES

of the primary objective of research.

(CANTAB. 1823. NOVEMBER.)



MAPA DE CLASIFICACIÓN DEL TERRITORIO



0 5 10 15 20 30 40 millas

Vial
Hidrografía

SU - Suelo urbano
SURP - Suelo urbanizable programado
SURNP - Suelo urbanizable no programado
SRC - Suelo rústico común

SREP - Suelo rústico especialmente protegido

SREP - Hídrico

SREP - Paisaje

SREP - Agrícola

SREP - Agrícola / ecológico

SREP - Agrícola / paisaje

SREP - Agrícola / hídrico

SREP - Ecológico

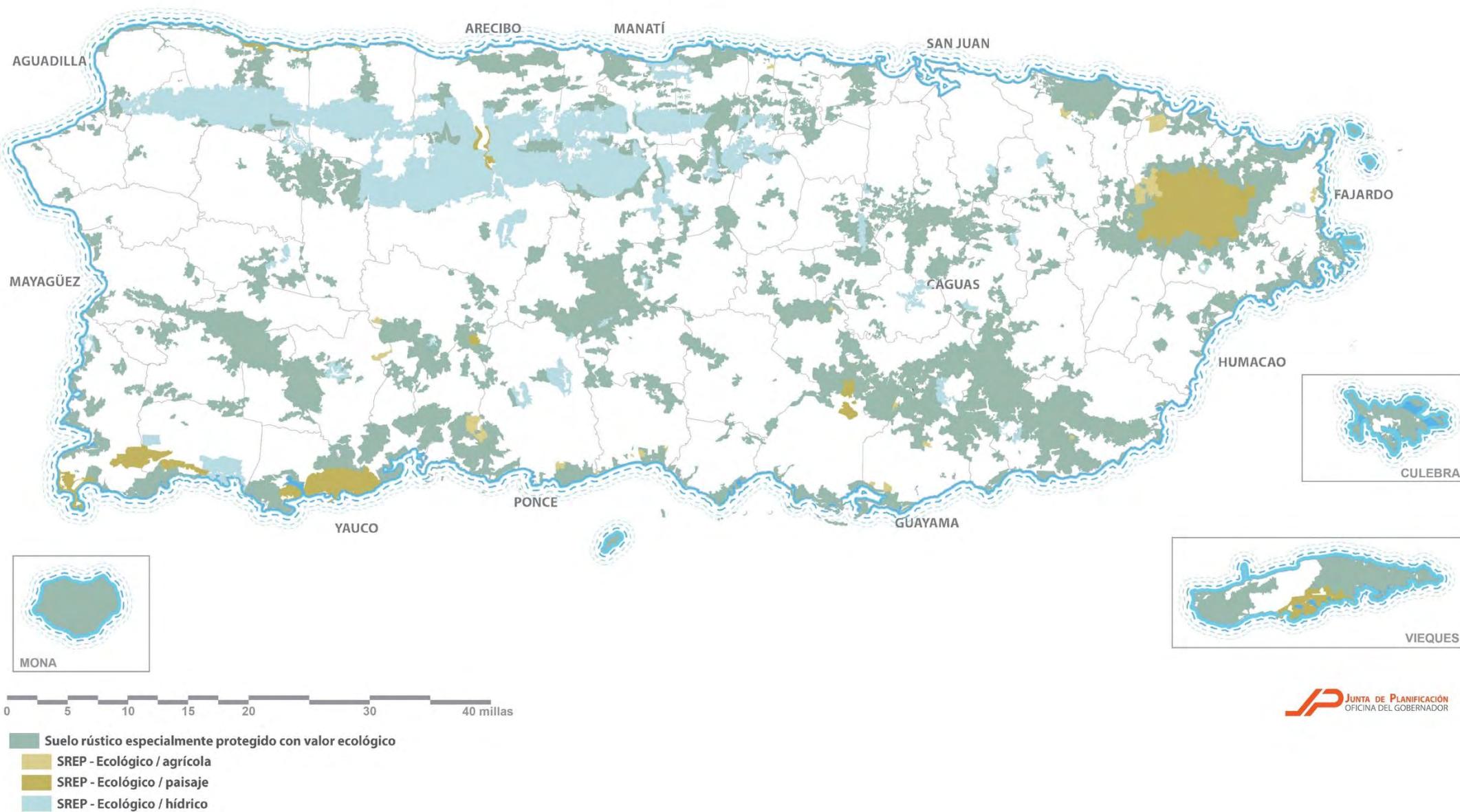
SREP - Ecológico / agrícola

SREP - Ecológico / paisaje

SREP - Ecológico / hídrico

JUNTA DE PLANIFICACIÓN
OFICINA DEL GOBERNADOR

MAPA 36. ÁREAS CON VALOR ECOLÓGICO



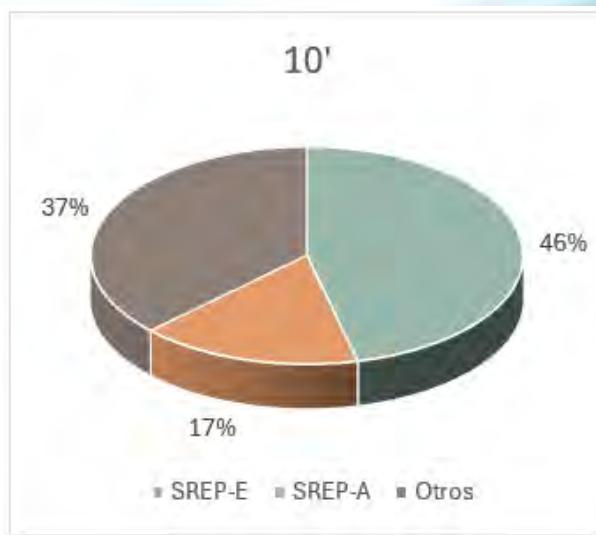
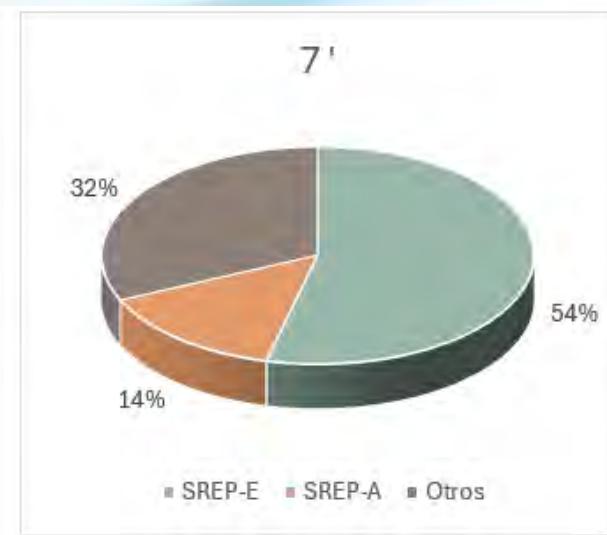
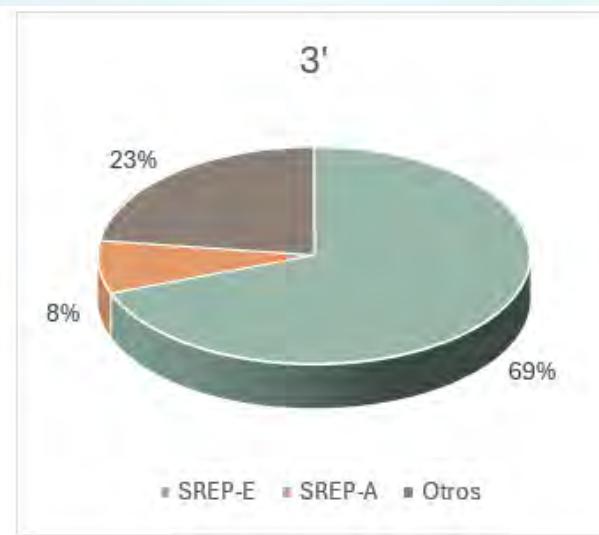
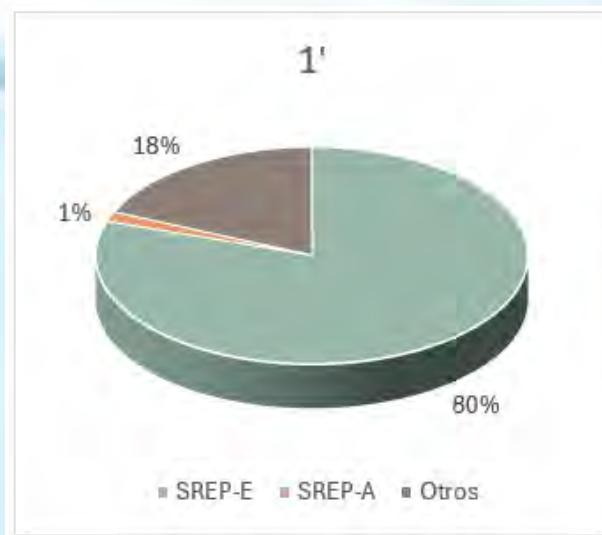
Impacto del ANM en el SREP - Ecológico

	1'	
SREP-E	108	80%
SREP-A	2	1%
Otros	25	18%
Total	135	km2

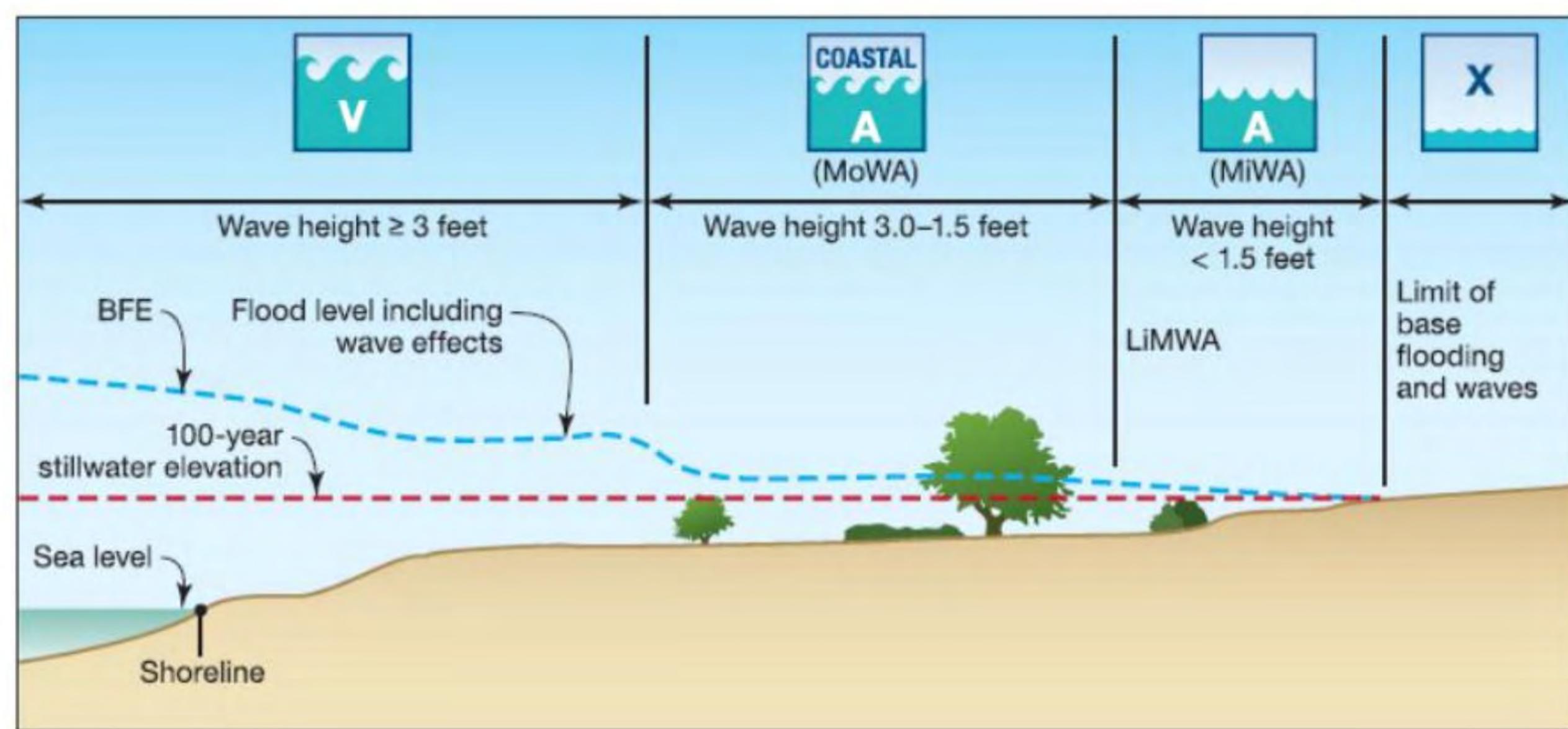
	3'	
SREP-E	165	69%
SREP-A	19	8%
Otros	54	23%
Total	238	km2

	7'	
SREP-E	224	54%
SREP-A	60	14%
Otros	132	32%
Total	416	km2

	10'	
SREP-E	244	46%
SREP-A	88	17%
Otros	196	37%
Total	528	km2

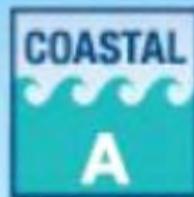






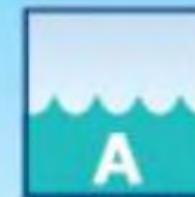


Wave height \geq 3 feet



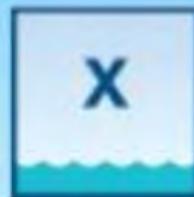
(MoWA)

Wave height 3.0–1.5 feet



(MiWA)

Wave height < 1.5 feet



BFE

Flood level including
wave effects

100-year
stillwater elevation

Sea level

Shoreline

LiMWA

Limit of
base
flooding
and waves

?



Inundaciones Costeras

- 1. Tormentas
- 2. Lluvia
- 3. Escorrentías
- 4. Marejadas
- 5. Mareas Extremas

Causadas por
condiciones del tiempo

Eventos
Temporeros

- 6. Aumento del Nivel del Mar

Marejada.



Marea Alta



Escorrentía



Lluvia



Sources: Microjuris, NOAA, Shutterstock, Fernando Pabón, Eloy Pérez

Inundación Temporera del Huracán Fiona



Combinación



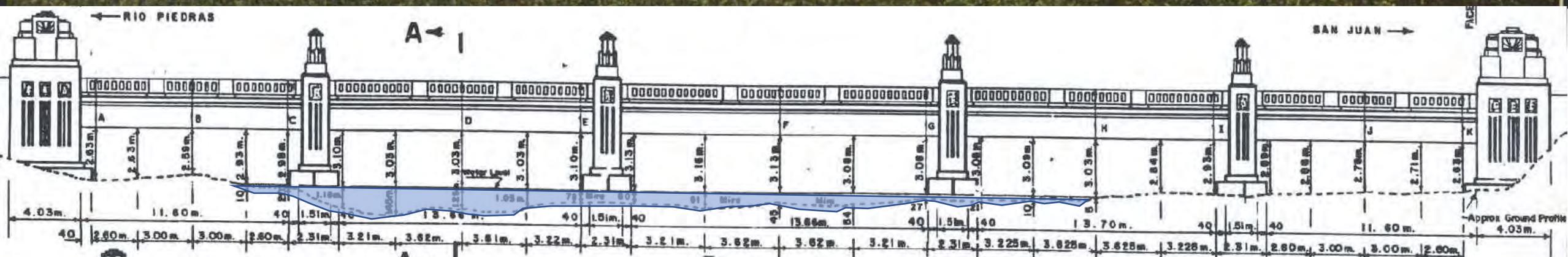
Fuente: Shutterstock photograph from Hurricane María aftermath in Mayagüez

¿A quiénes impacta?



La Infraestructura Debe Durar

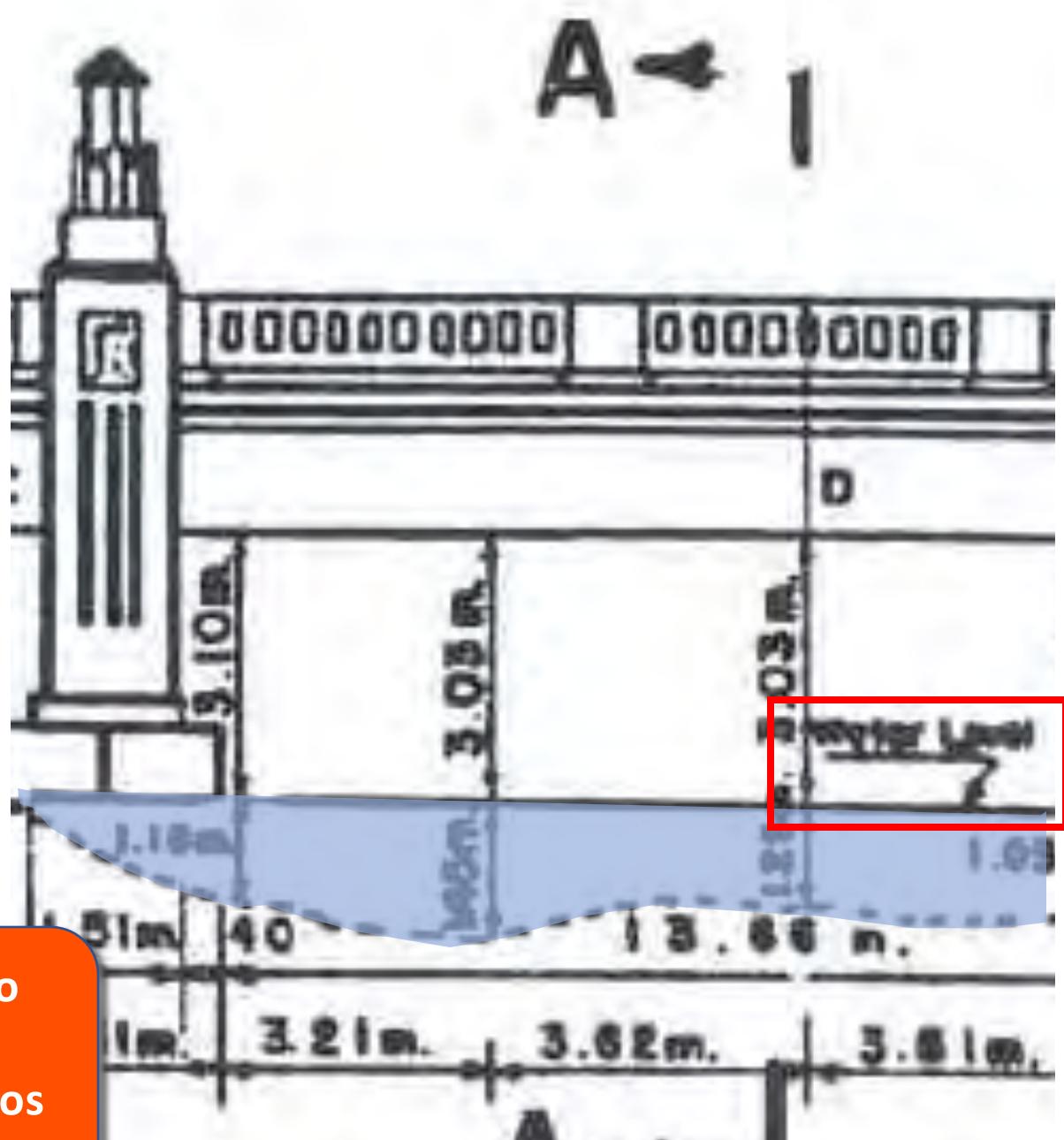
Fuente: Colección Puertorriqueña del Sistema de Bibliotecas de la Universidad de Puerto Rico

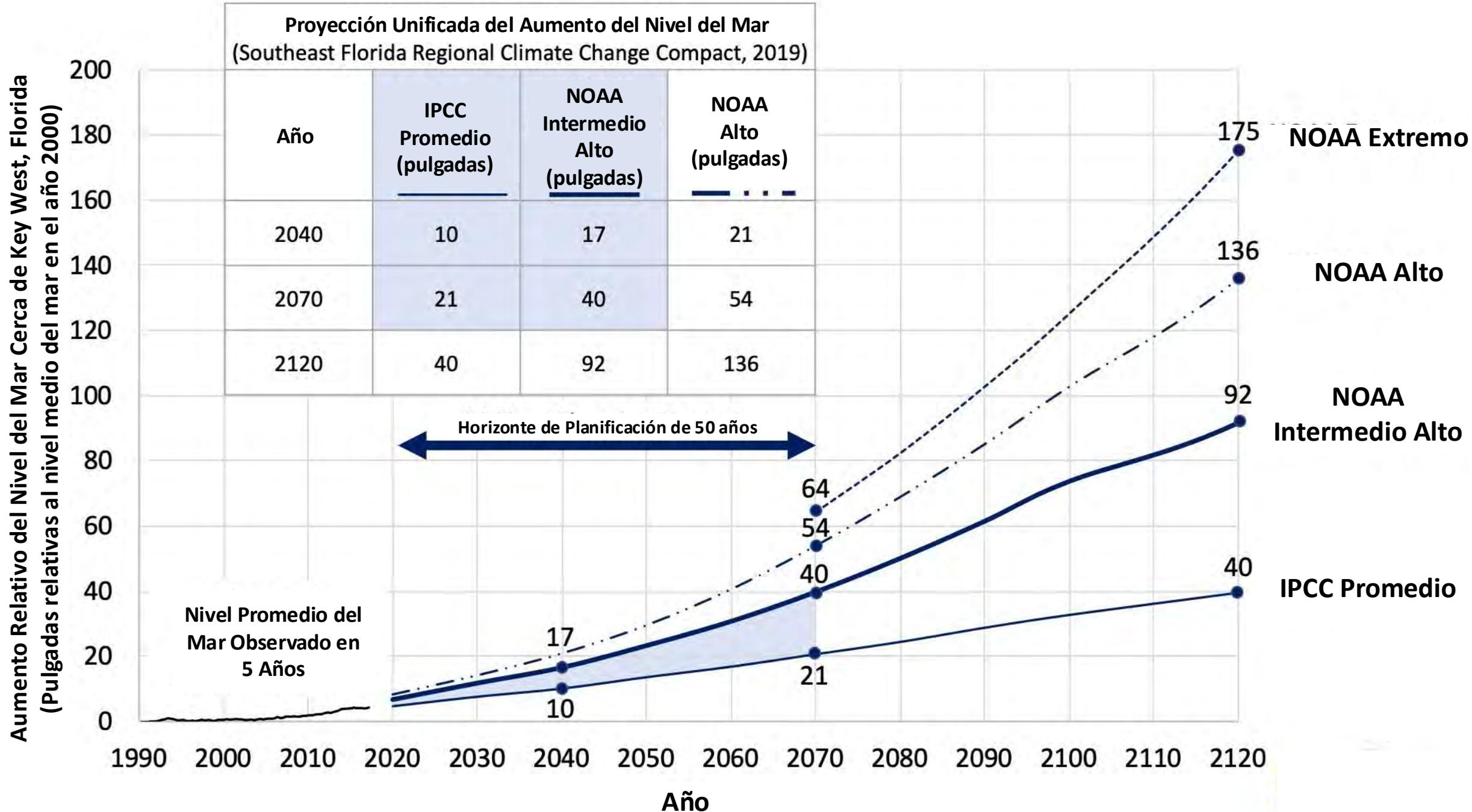


Fuente: Registro Nacional de Lugares Históricos



¿Estamos diseñando
todavía para las
realidades de 85 años
atrás?



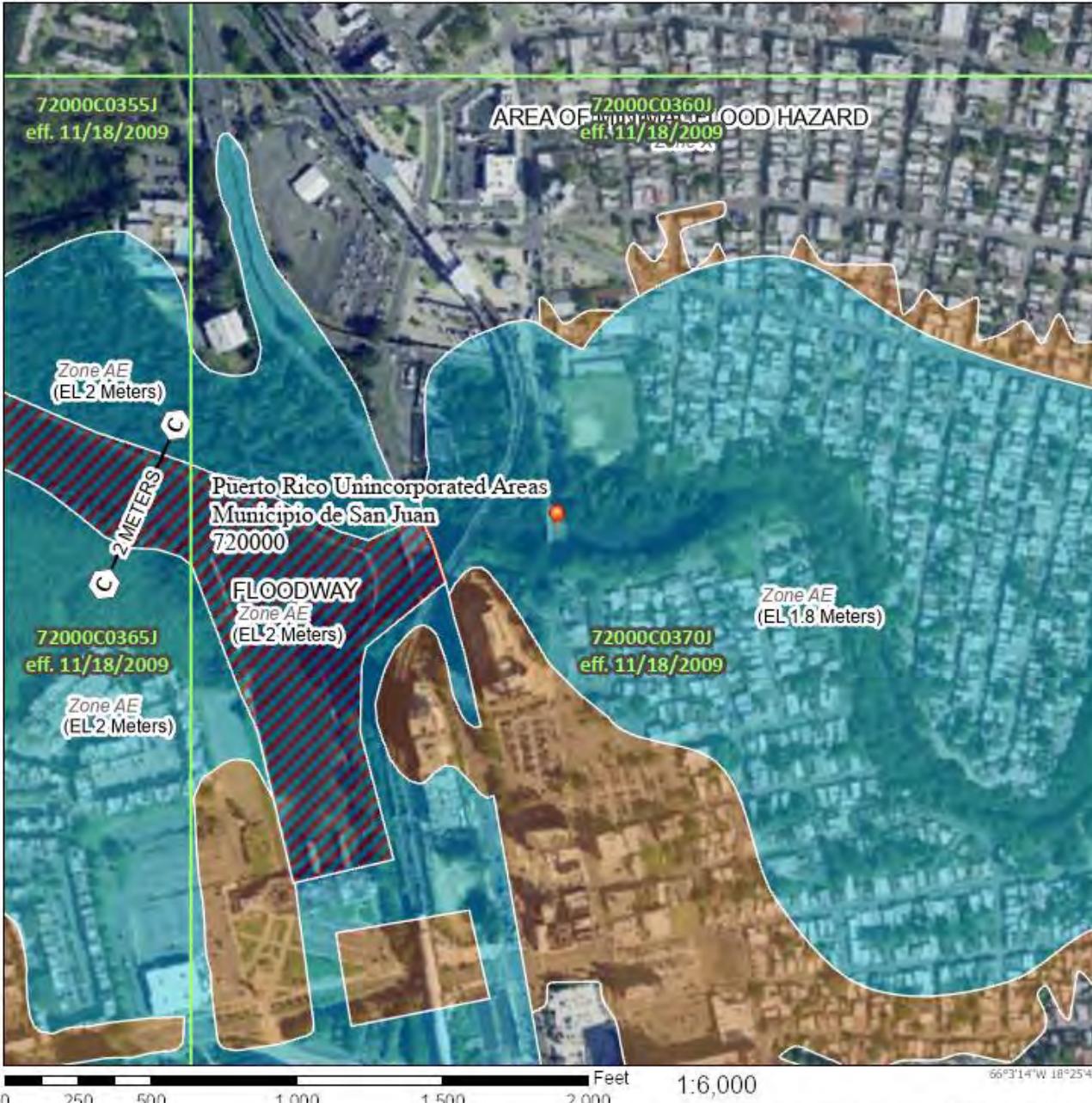


National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



FEMA

66°3'51"W 18°26'17"N



Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
Zone A, V, A99
- With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
- Regulatory Floodway

0.2% Annual chance Flood Hazard. Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile. Zone X

Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X

Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X

Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D

NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X

Effective LOMRs

Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D

Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer

Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance

17.5 Water Surface Elevation

Coastal Transect

Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)

Limit of Study

Jurisdiction Boundary

Coastal Transect Baseline

Profile Baseline

Hydrographic Feature

Digital Data Available

No Digital Data Available

Unmapped



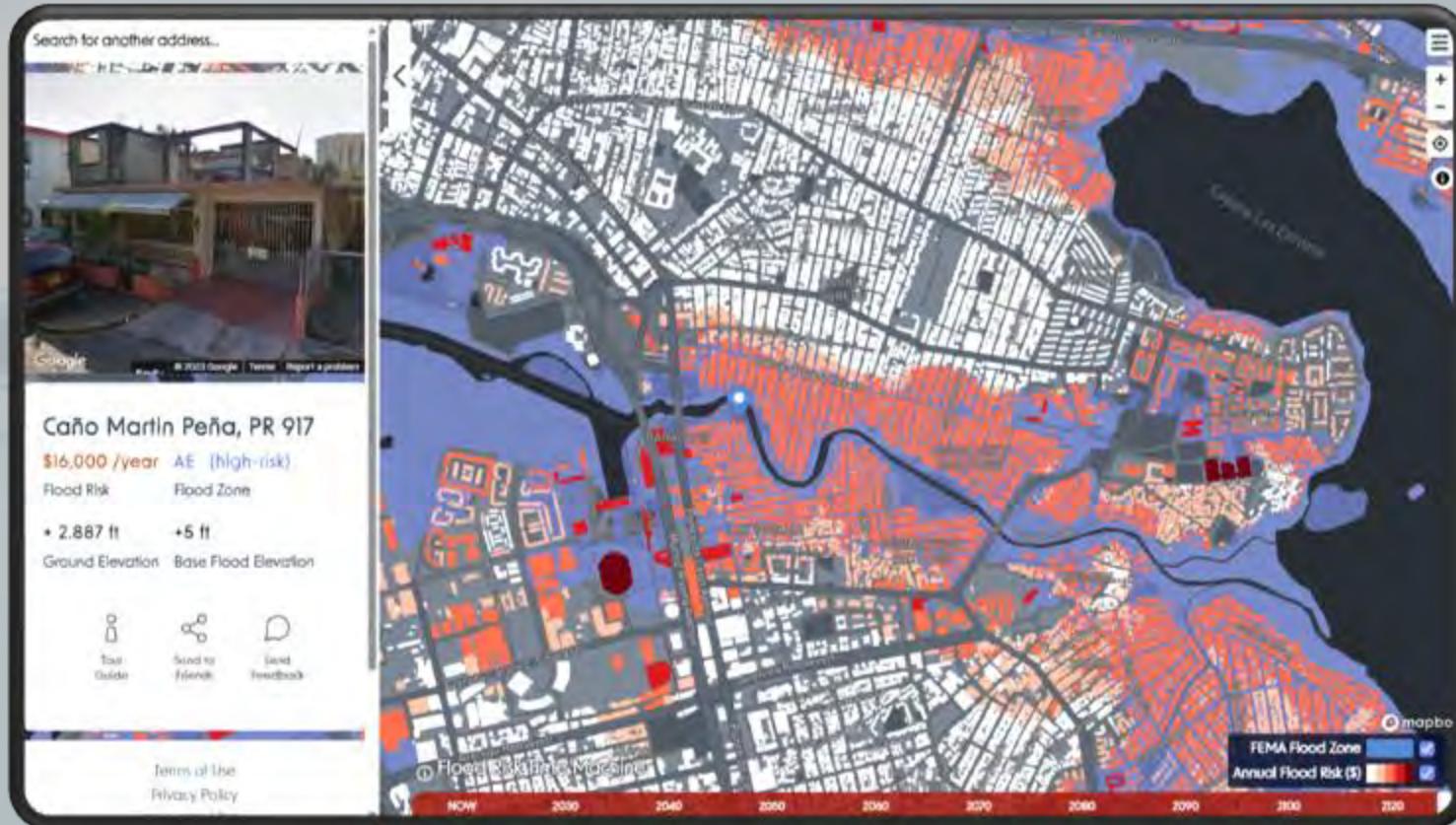
The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 3/4/2025 at 8:04 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

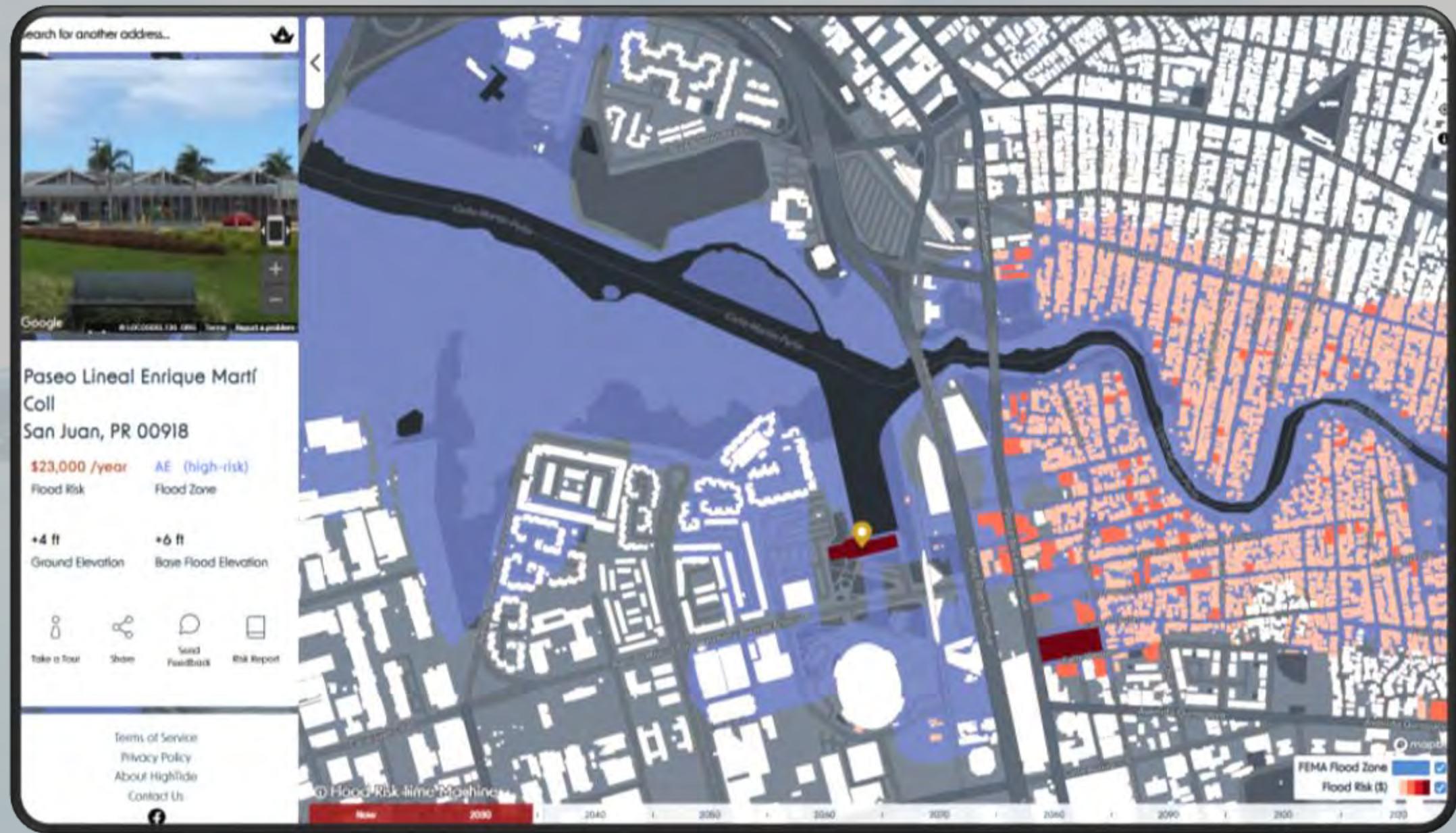
Entender Riesgos Para Planificar a Largo Plazo

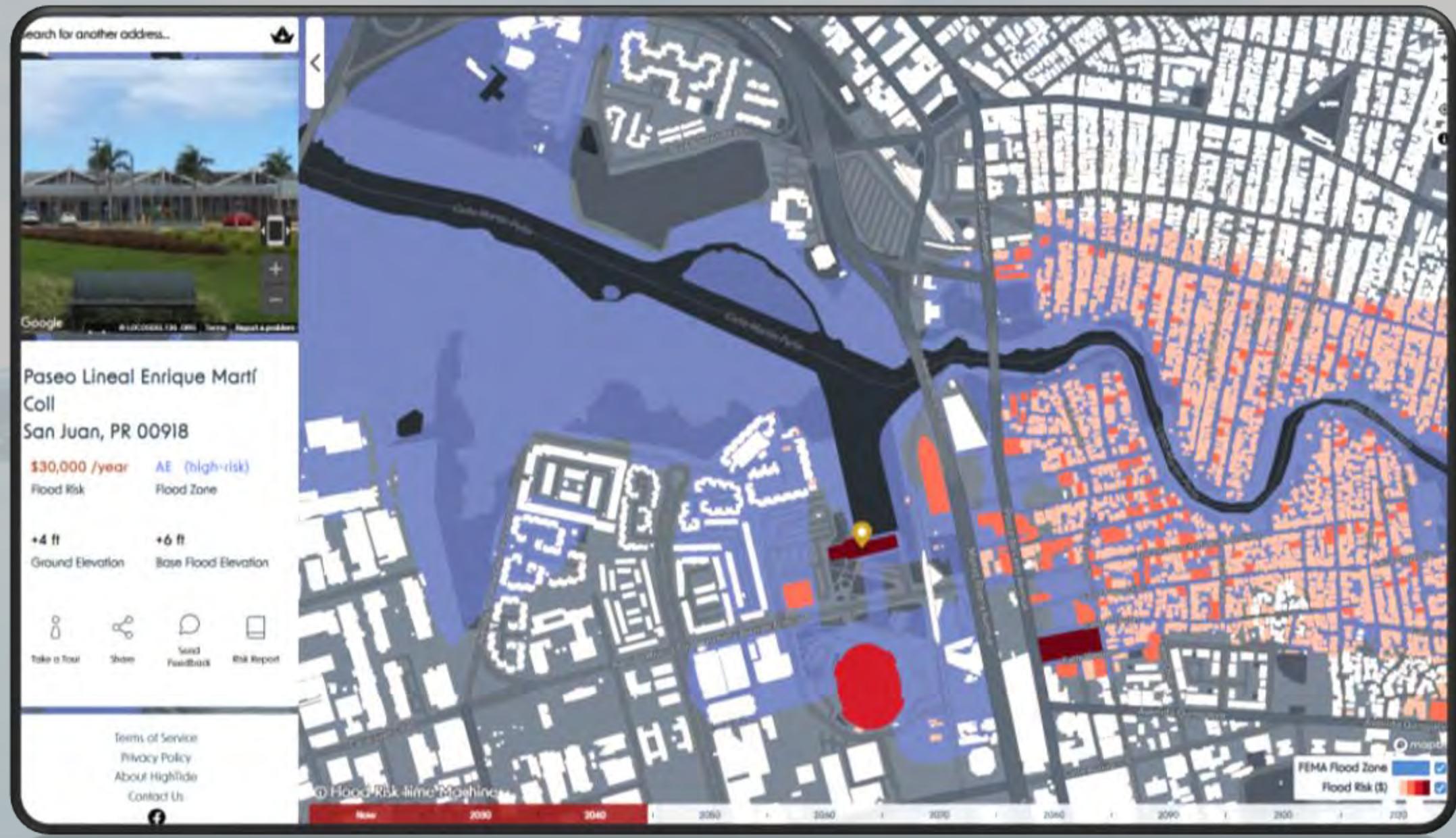








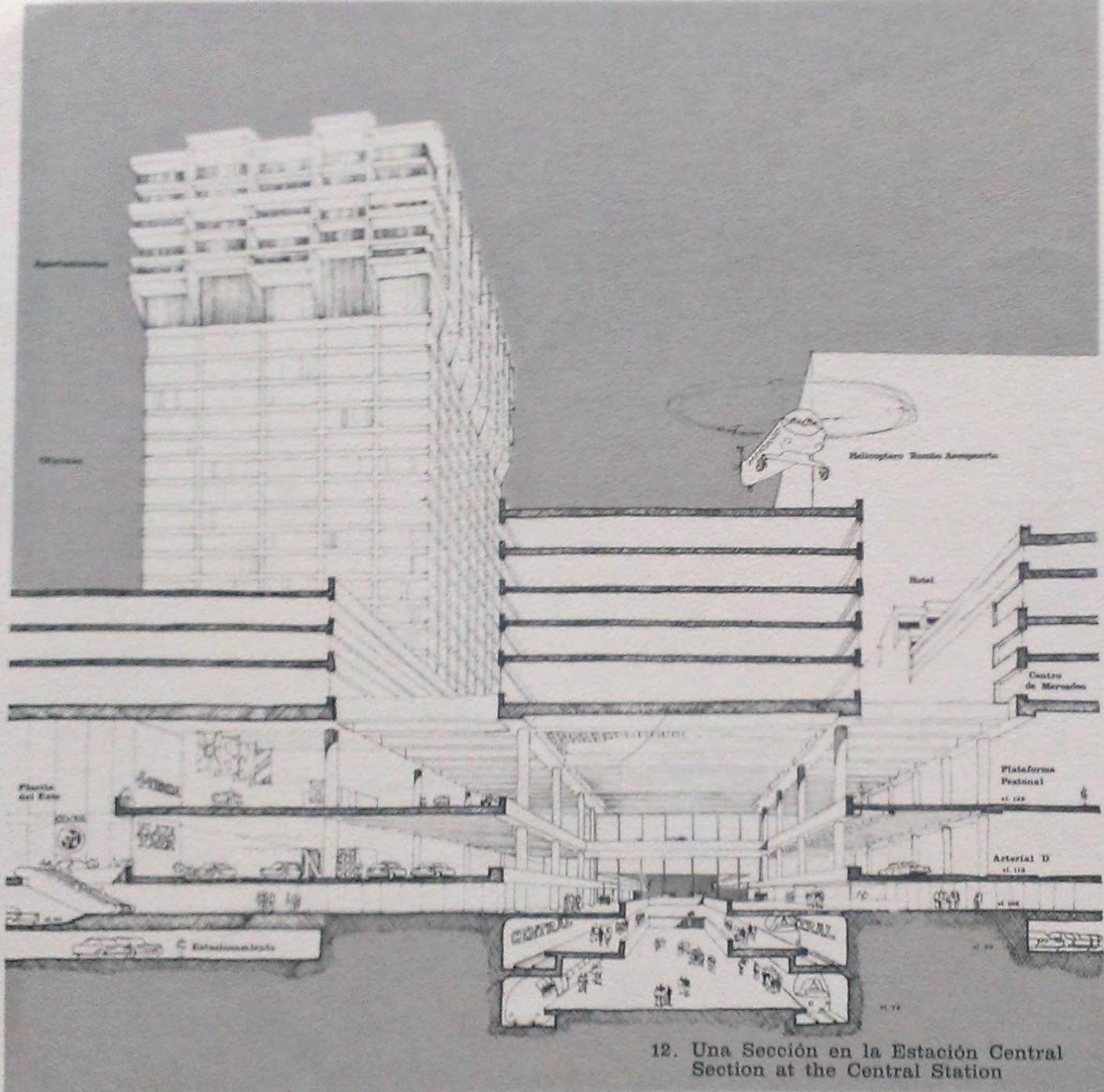
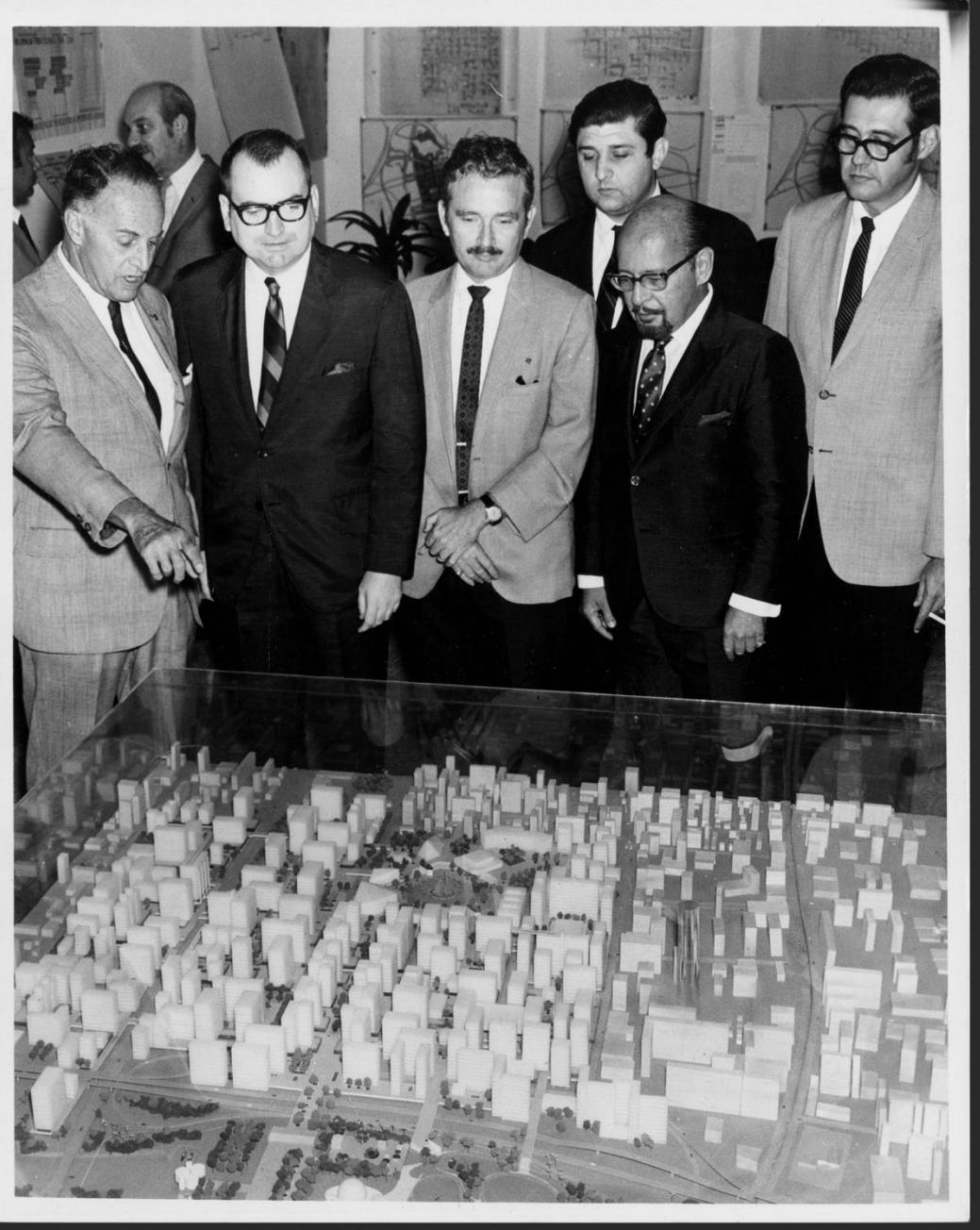




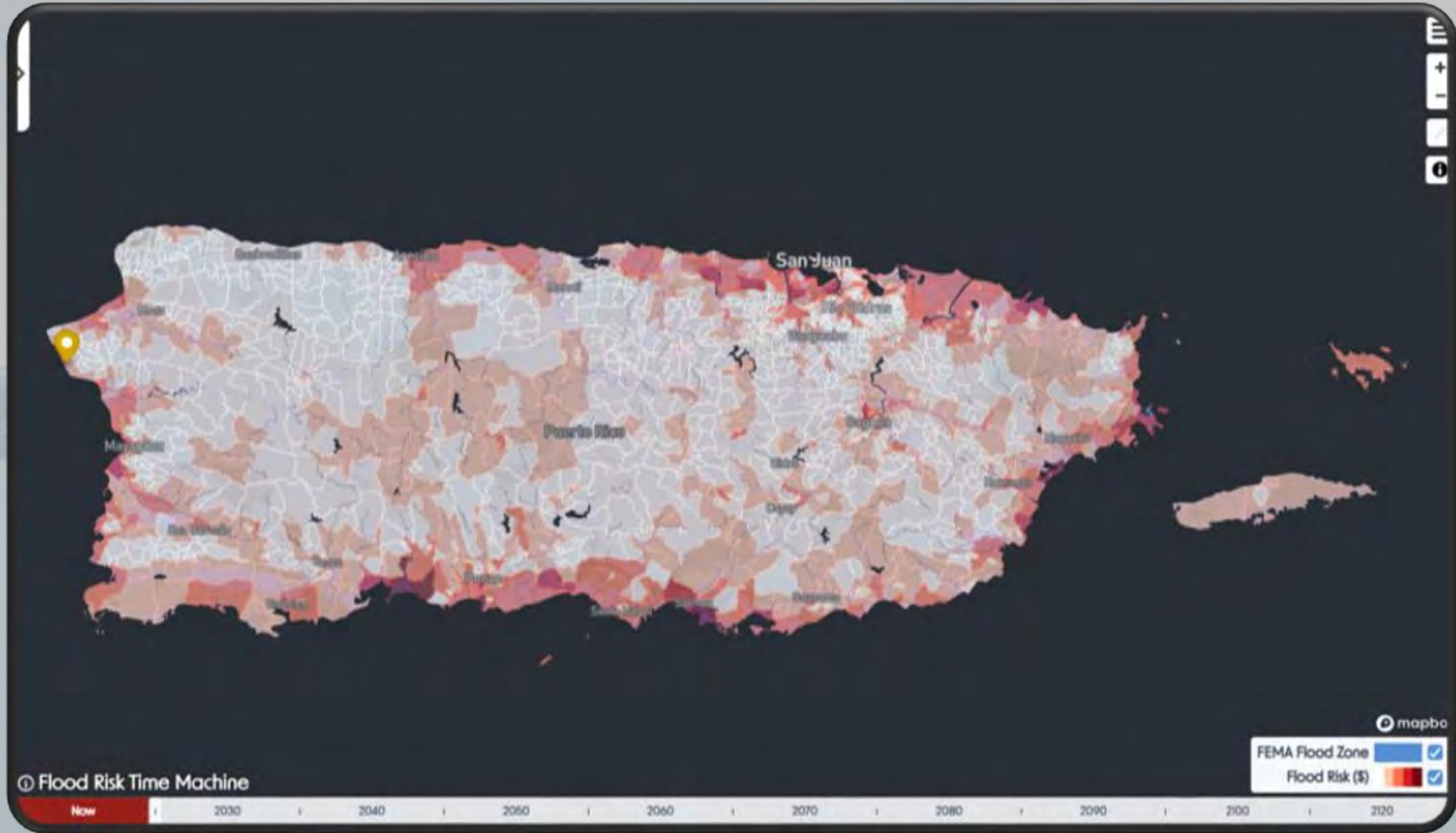








12. Una Sección en la Estación Central
Section at the Central Station



94% de Puerto Rico está a 10' + del nivel del mar



ETAPAS DE AUMENTO DEL NIVEL DEL MAR



Fuentes: ESRI, CGIAR, USGS, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, NPS NOAA Cesar Piovanetti, Fernando Pabón

Investigar para Innovar

Planificar próximos pasos y establecer prioridades significa:

Una forma de gradualmente impulsar un cambio, manejar la incertidumbre y evitar o acostumbrarse a condiciones desventajosas.

Reconocer la creciente obsolescencia de las herramientas disponibles.

- Reunir, actualizar, analizar y representar datos clave.
- Desarrollar nuevas herramientas para apoyar la toma de decisiones con una perspectiva a largo plazo.

Aumentar la Redundancia y así la Resiliencia

- Cotejar e incrementar los márgenes de seguridad.
- Actualizar los Códigos de Construcción, Mapas de Inundación, Reglamentos de Zonificación y otros Instrumentos de Planificación.
- Elevar estructuras o viabilizar su resiliencia y adaptación.

Materializar un nuevo marco holístico de referencia

- Anclar en conocimiento producido por la investigación.
- Adoptar un duo de paradigmas: Retirarse Tierra Adentro, Tierra Arriba.

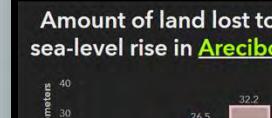
Investigación sobre herramientas

Benchmarks

Guide to Planning Height with Safety Margin per life expectancy of buildings and infrastructures			
Risk Sensitivity	30 Years	50 Years	100 Years
LOW	1'		
MEDIUM	2'		
HIGH	3'		

◆ Reference year for this projection is 2020. The first column is approximate.

Source: John Englander



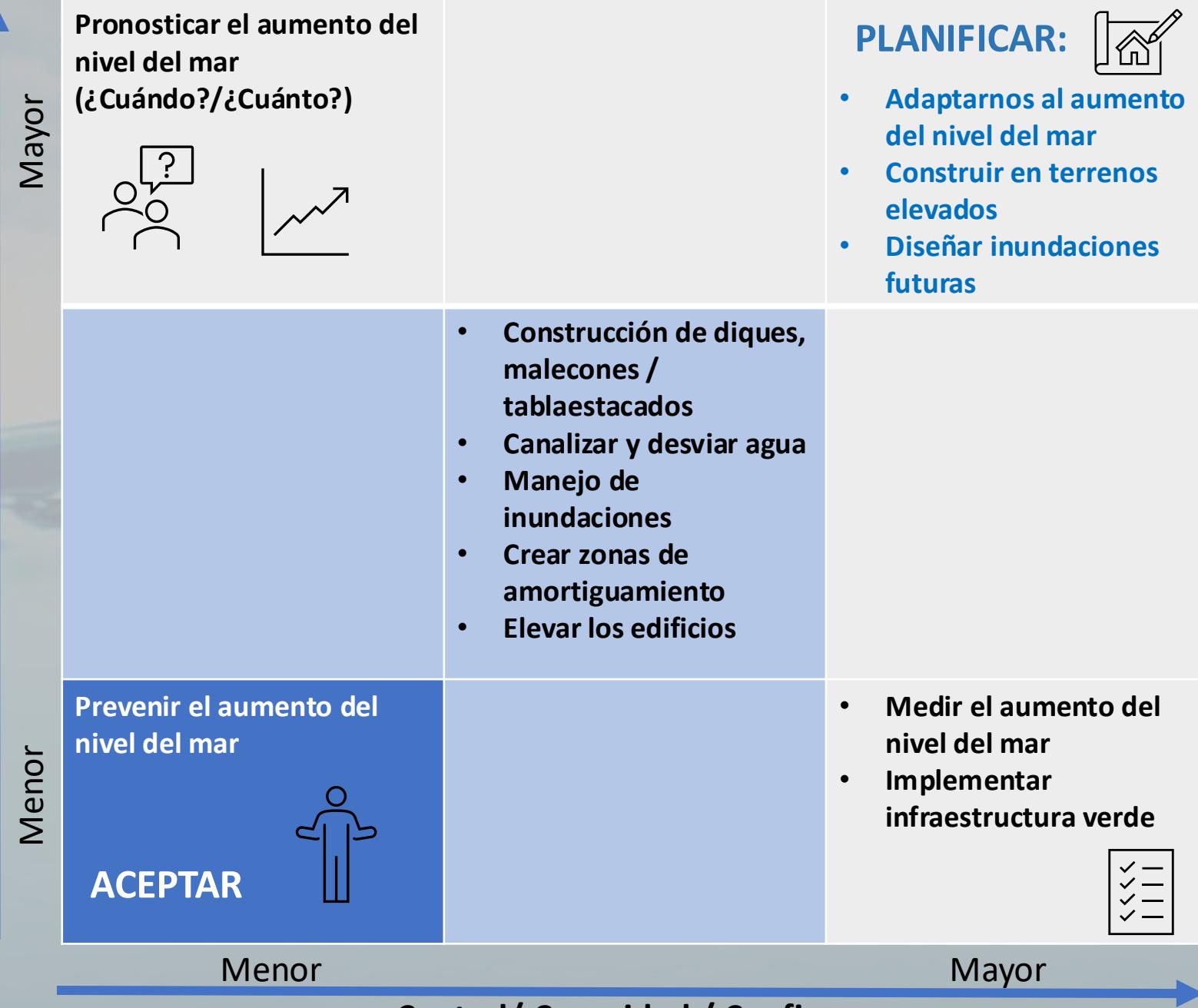
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Un programa del
Fondo para la Conservación
y Investigación de Puerto Rico

EFFECTIVIDAD



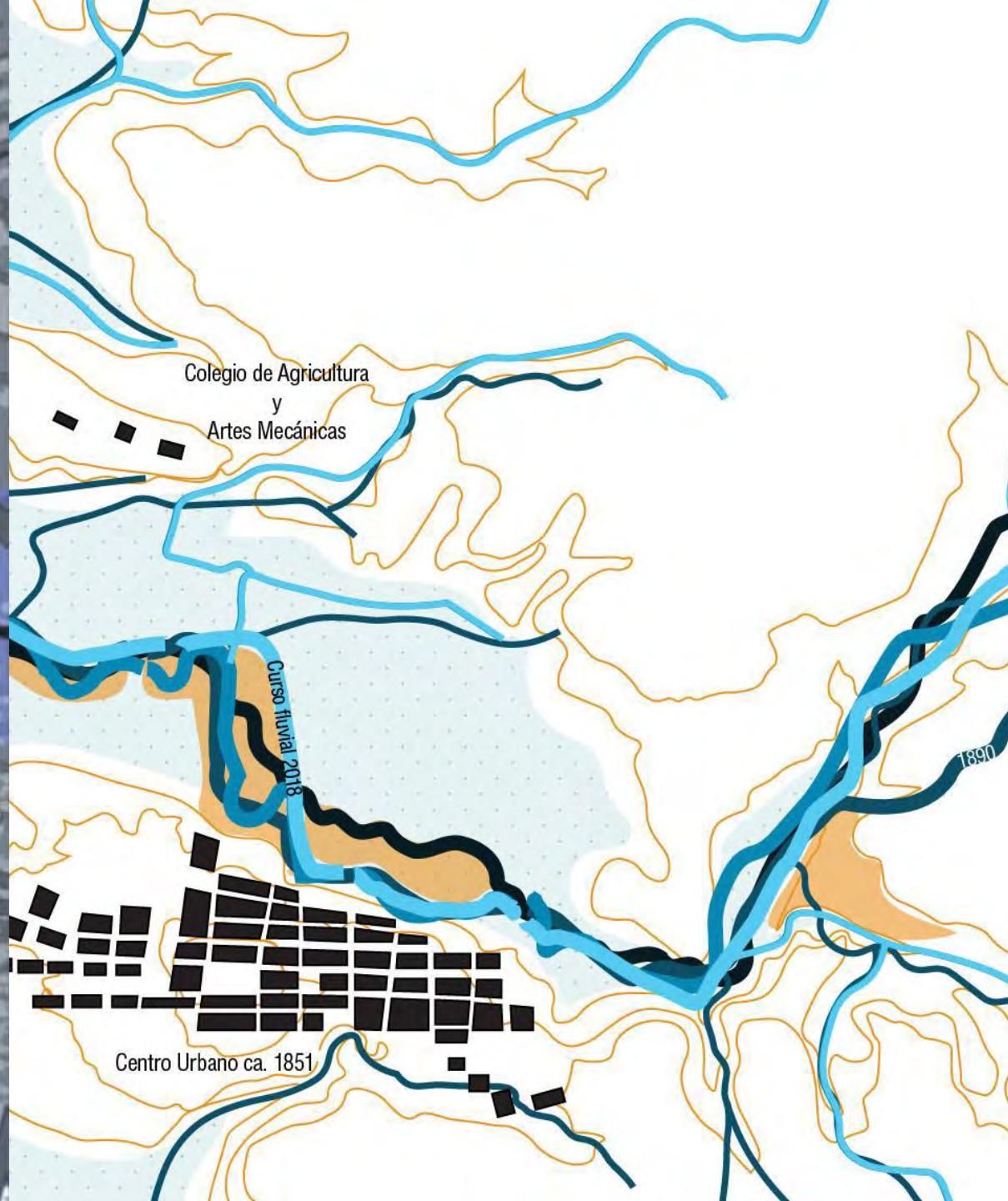
Menor

Mayor

Control/ Capacidad / Confianza

Buena Planificación





Contradicciones



The front page of the Puerto Rican newspaper *EL NUEVO DÍA* from September 20, 2022. The top banner features the *EL NUEVO DÍA* logo with a red star above the letters. The main headline is 'AVALANCHA DE INVERSIONISTAS' followed by a large, bold headline: 'Multimillonaria ola de construcción en el Condado'. Below the headlines is a large photograph of a modern waterfront cityscape with numerous high-rise buildings. A caption at the bottom left reads: 'Expertos catalogan la nueva inversión en proyectos residenciales y turísticos en la zona como la más grande en décadas, mientras líderes comunitarios y vecinos abogan por un desarrollo sostenible'. At the bottom right, it says 'NEGOCIOS PÁGINAS 36-39'.



Fuente: Yiyo Tirado Rivera, La Concha, 2022. Serie Castillos de arena, 2020- Expuesto en el Whitney Museum of American Art



Cuando el
Mar
nos ALCANCE



Centro Caribeño de Aumento
del Nivel del Mar

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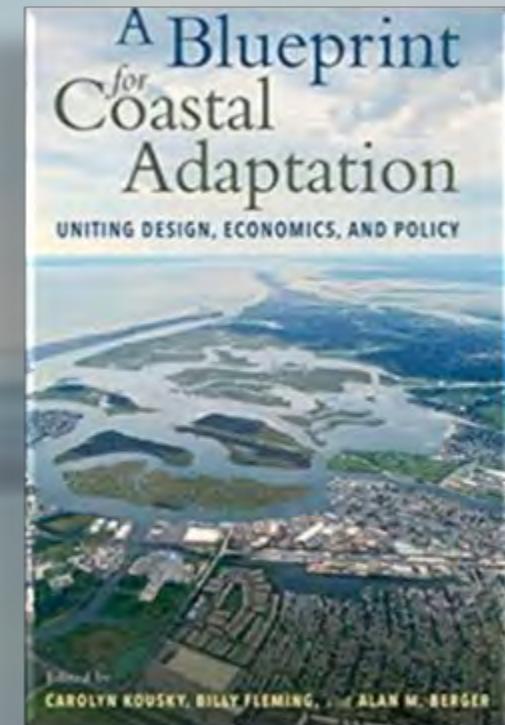
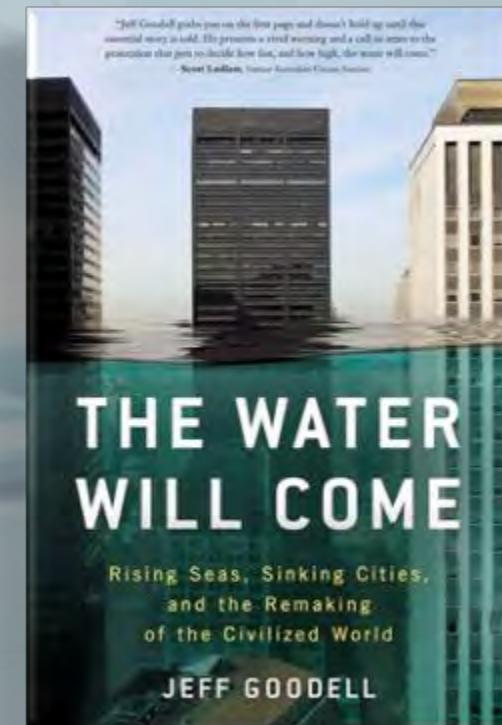
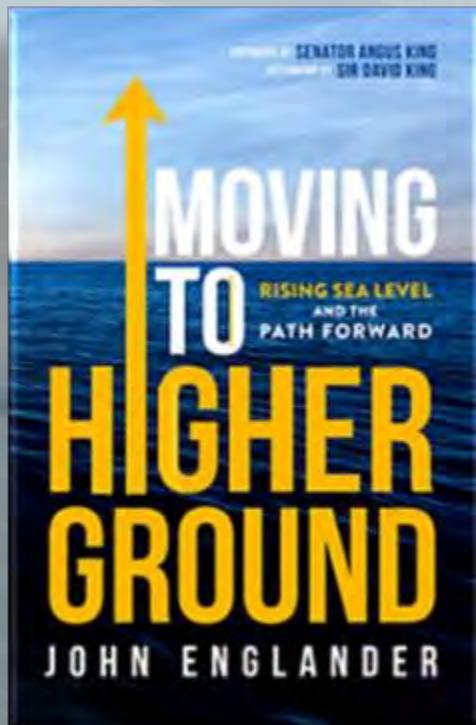
Fideicomiso para Ciencia,
Tecnología e Investigación
de Puerto Rico





Cuando el
Mar
nos ALCANCE

Leer, Educarnos y Enseñar



Centro Caribeño de Aumento
del Nivel del Mar

Edited by:
RISING SEAS INSTITUTE
Un programa del

Tecnológico de Puerto Rico
de Puerto Rico

EN RESUMEN

- ❖ El aumento en el nivel del mar no puede detenerse y está acelerando.
- ❖ Debemos prepararnos para aproximadamente 10 pies o más de aumento.
- ❖ Movernos tierra adentro, tierra arriba... es la mejor alternativa de adaptación.
- ❖ Urge comenzar la adaptación ahora pues tomará generaciones implementarla.
- ❖ Distinto a otros países, Puerto Rico puede adaptarse.



*El planeta rebasó el punto de inflexión...
tenemos que adaptarnos a la marea.*



¡Gracias!



Centro Caribeño de Aumento
del Nivel del Mar

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**RISING
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SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR FUTURE COASTLINES

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