

## **Maria G. Honeycutt, Ph.D., CFM**

Dr. Maria Honeycutt is a climate and hazards policy analyst for the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Coastal Services Center. In this role, she applies her research background in coastal geologic processes and her consulting experience in hazard mitigation towards increasing community resilience to hazards and the impacts of a changing climate.



Prior to joining NOAA, Dr. Honeycutt served as a Congressional Science Fellow in the Office of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson (D-Florida). Her issue portfolio included natural hazards policy, emergency management, flood and catastrophe insurance, climate change, fisheries, and ocean and coastal resource management. Her position was jointly sponsored by GSA and the U.S. Geological Survey, and was affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science's (AAAS') Science and Technology Policy Fellowship Program.

Before her fellowship, Dr. Honeycutt spent three years as a Principal Geologist with URS Corporation. Through URS' post-disaster technical assistance contract with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), she led the fast-track development of coastal flood recovery maps that were used by local officials to guide reconstruction along the Gulf Coast following hurricanes Ivan, Katrina, and Rita. She spent the preceding four years with another engineering firm, PBS&J, involved in coastal erosion and flood modeling for the National Flood Insurance Program. Since 2001, she has been an active member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, and became professionally registered as a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) in 2006.

Dr. Honeycutt earned a B.A. with high honors in geology from Smith College, and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in oceanography from the University of Delaware's College of Marine and Earth Studies. Her dissertation research focused on quantifying the impacts of the geologic framework and storms on long-term spatial and temporal patterns of shoreline change along the Atlantic coast of Delaware. Between graduate degrees, she served one year as a Dean John A. Knauss / National Sea Grant Marine Policy Fellow embedded in the Mitigation Directorate at FEMA Headquarters.