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Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency

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Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency

Elizabeth Kersey, Old Dominion University

November 9, 2015



Why a state Center?

- Hampton Roads is 2nd most **vulnerable** U.S. population center at risk to sea level rise – but flooding affects the entire Commonwealth, directly or indirectly
- University partnership provides **coordinated research & technical support**
 - Led by **ODU + VIMS**
 - **Non-partisan** brokers of **expertise**
 - Opportunities for other Virginia Universities
- **Leverage** state Center to bring **federal funding opportunities** to Virginia
- National Model: Parallel **federal effort** with Virginia's Congressional Delegation

Existing National Recognition

Secretary John Kerry will visit ODU campus on November 10th. He will meet with ODU and VIMS faculty on November 10th, and speak to an audience in the Ted Constant Convocation Center about National Security & Climate.

Video Clip of Announcement Available:

<http://www.c-span.org/video/?c4558906/kerry-visit-odu>



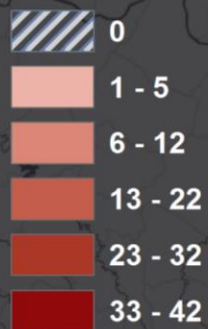
The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are several realistic-looking water droplets of various sizes, some overlapping. The main text is centered on the slide.

Water Knows no Political Boundaries:

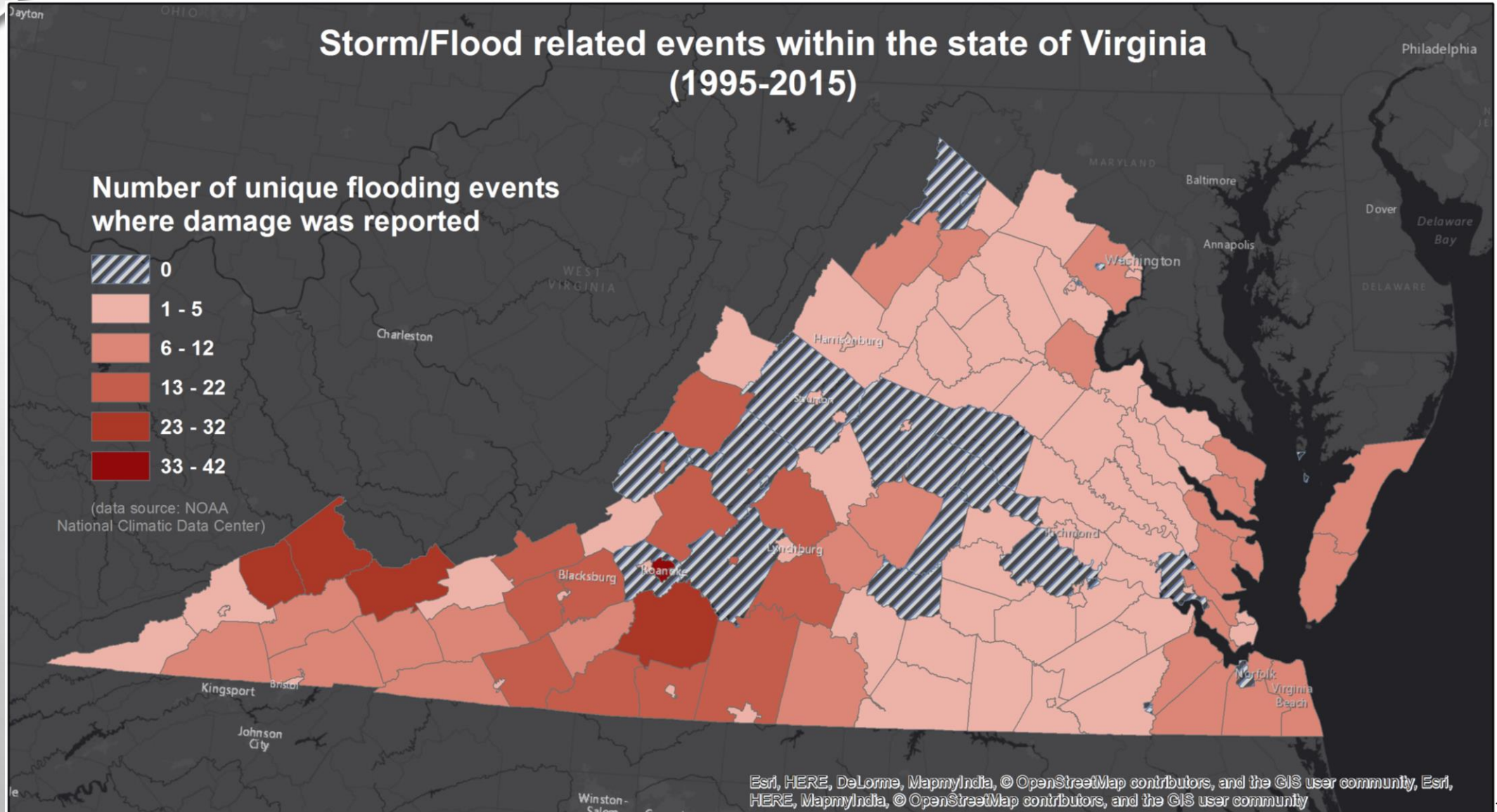
Flooding affects the entire
Commonwealth

Storm/Flood related events within the state of Virginia (1995-2015)

Number of unique flooding events
where damage was reported



(data source: NOAA
National Climatic Data Center)

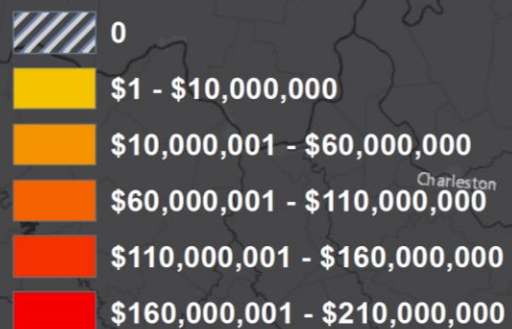


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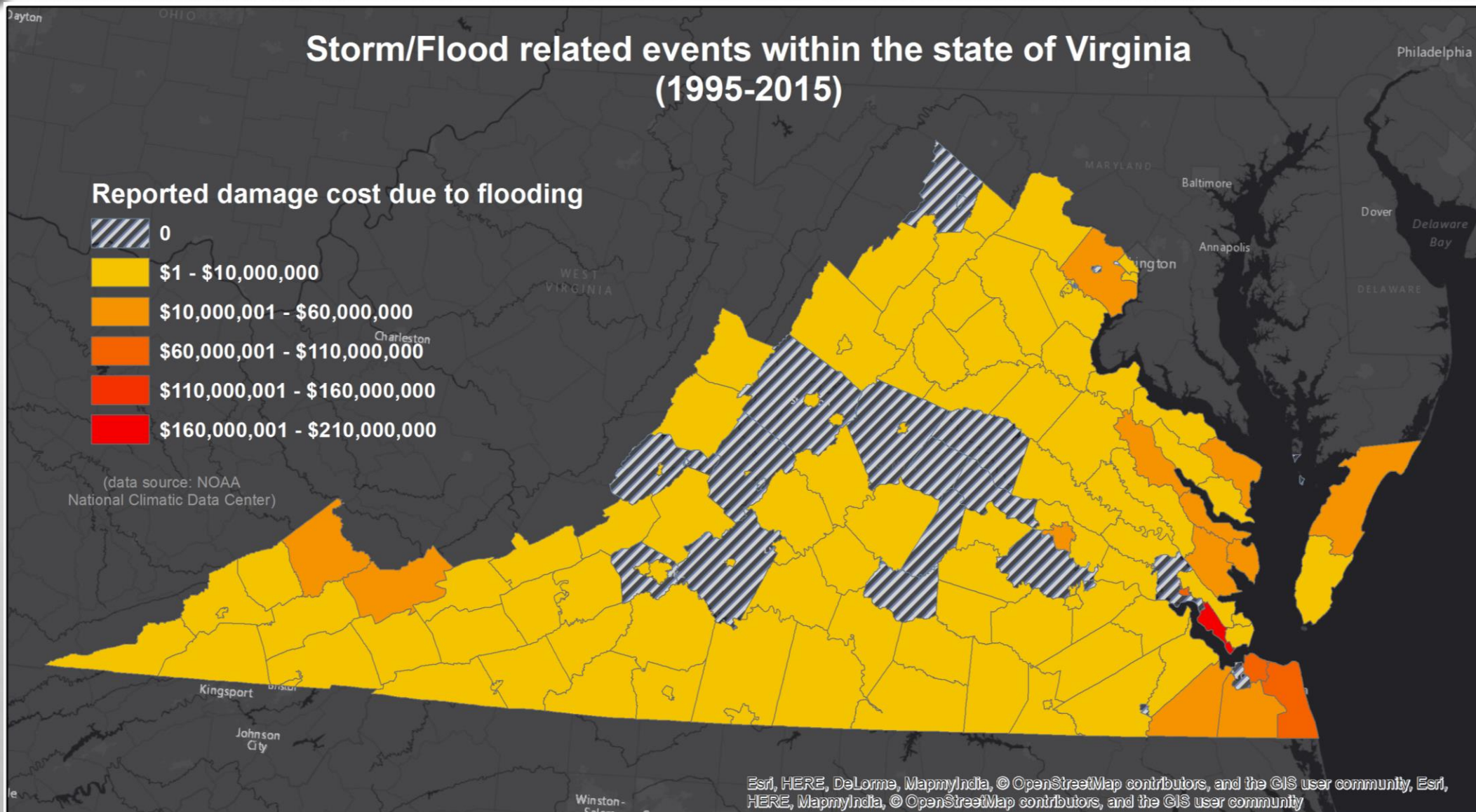
Data From NOAA's National Climatic Data Center, <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

Storm/Flood related events within the state of Virginia (1995-2015)

Reported damage cost due to flooding



(data source: NOAA
National Climatic Data Center)



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Data From NOAA's National Climatic Data Center, <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

Full Partnership: Building on **Complementary Strengths**

ODU

- Socio-Economic Modeling & Impact Analysis
 - Modeling & Simulation
 - Convening Stakeholders
- Coastal Physical Oceanography
 - Engineering
 - Public Health

VIMS

- Data Integration of Water levels
 - Storm-Surge Modeling
 - Water Quality Modeling
 - Living Resources Assessment
- Public Policy and Legal Analysis (W&M)



OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

I D E A FUSION

- **University-wide Priority** since 2010 – CCLRI
- HUD National Disaster Resilience Grant
- Intergovernmental Pilot Program
- VMASC
 - Emergency Evacuation Modeling
 - Medically Fragile Populations
 - Housing Resilience Modeling
- CCPO – Hot Spot of Sea Level Rise
- Mitigation and Adaptation Research Institute





- **Largest Marine Science Institute** focused on Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Virginia
- Recurrent Flooding in Tidewater Virginia Report
- Street-Level Storm Surge Modeling
- On-line resiliency planning tools for local government
- Virginia Coastal Policy Center

Center for **Recurrent Flooding Resiliency**:

*Leverage the strengths of **ODU + VIMS/W&M** to provide **coordinated research & technical support** for planners and decision makers with **tools** for **adaptation and mitigation** in the field of **recurrent flooding and resilience** across **Virginia**.*

Role of the Center: Increasing **Resiliency** In Virginia

- Consult with Commonwealth, agencies, PDCs, municipalities, and other organizations to enable short and long-term decision making:
 - **Integration** & coordination of federal, state, local, and nongovernmental **data**;
 - Evaluation of **best practices** to increase resilience;
 - Build upon successful **applied** research and conduct **interdisciplinary studies**;
 - Engage **stakeholders** across Virginia; and
 - Provide **outreach, education, training, technical, and non-technical services**.
- Liaise with federal agencies and pursue federal & other **funding** opportunities enhancing resiliency in Virginia.

Proposed: Recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee

Support a Resolution Designating the
Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency
Jointly @ ODU & VIMS/W&M.

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