Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study – Lake Erie Studies
Winter 2015 Quarterly Email

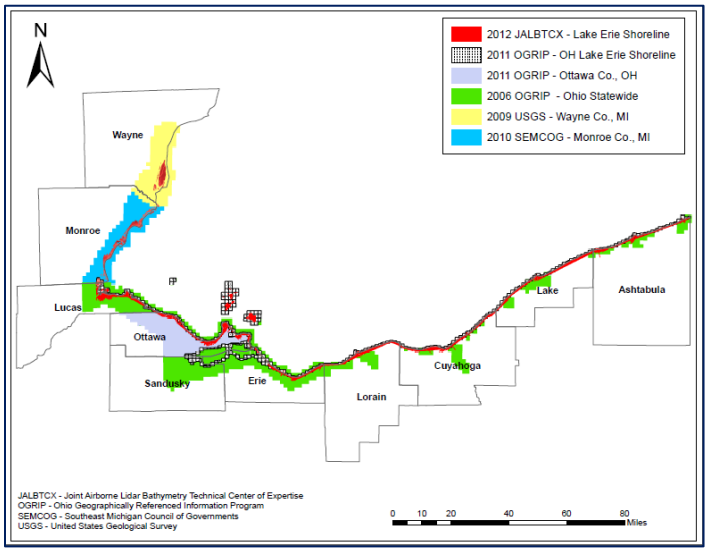
This is the second quarterly email FEMA has prepared to keep Lake Erie communities up to date on its ongoing work on the coastal analysis, flood hazard mapping, and risk assessment and planning assistance for Lake Erie coastal communities.

Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study Overview

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Association of State Floodplain Managers, and other partners, continue in their efforts to conduct a comprehensive study to assess flood hazards in communities impacted by flooding from the five Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair. The Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study (GLCFS) is an unprecedented project that will put a wide range of data in the hands of communities along the Great Lakes to promote long-term flood risk reduction and enhance public safety and asset management initiatives.

We Needed Your Help – And You Answered!

Through further coordination with key project stakeholders, including the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, we identified additional datasets in Ohio not found during the pre-Discovery and Discovery phases of the GLCFS. We learned that two additional data sets were collected in 2011 by the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP). The GLCFS project team originally only had 2006 data. Our data now includes information for Ottawa County, Ohio and a buffered area along the Ohio portion of the Lake Erie shoreline. We have also received several photographs taken by the Alliance for the Great Lakes during Hurricane Sandy, which provides validation of storm effects and useful information about wave heights and wave runup experienced during the storm.



The map shown here provides a visual summary of the wide array of topographic data sources used by the team for the Lake Erie portion of the GLCFS. This has been a truly collaborative effort, and topographic data products from four different agencies and six different LiDAR collection projects have been used. Contributing agencies and programs include:

- Joint Airborne LiDAR Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise (JALBTCX)
- Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP)
- Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG)
- United States Geological Survey (USGS)

We greatly value the information received up to this point, and it is not too late to provide us with information, such as photographs, newspaper reports, eyewitness testimony, and documented high water

marks (including the elevation and location of the observation) to supplement our ongoing analysis. If you or your neighbors have information that would help in the study effort, please contact Emily Dhingra, RAMPP Coastal Engineer, at emily.dhingra@aecom.com.

What's Next?

Now that we have completed topographic mapping of the study area, we have started the coastal analysis in all coastal counties in Ohio and Michigan on Lake Erie. Work will begin on Preliminary work maps, which are slated for completion in early 2015.These work maps will reflect the input we have received from Lake Erie communities throughout the study process. Communities will have an opportunity to review the maps and provide additional input through a series of Risk Data and Mitigation Workshops, which are tentatively slated to take place beginning in Spring 2015. We will make more information available regarding the Workshops, including dates, locations, and times, once we are further along in the process.

How to Contact Us

Please visit www.greatlakescoast.org to learn more about the Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study. You may also contact Ken Hinterlong, FEMA Region V Senior Engineer, and Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study Project Manager, at Ken.Hinterlong@FEMA.dhs.gov.