

Great Lakes Shoreline Classification Database Shape File Term Descriptions - 2012

The following shoreline descriptions are to be used at your own risk.

Shoreline Material: The 2012 USACE Oblique photos were used to determine all of the shoreline classification constraints, including the Shoreline Material type. The oblique images were taken over 1000' off of the ground so the classification of the Shoreline Material type is on a course scale. The exact sediment type cannot be determined from the oblique images. This classification types were determined by visual inspection of the shoreline and nearshore slope, color, and vegetation. The primary shoreline material covers the majority of the immediate shoreline. The secondary shoreline material is either the minority of the immediate shoreline and/or the classification of the backshore that is visible in the oblique images.

Cohesive Clays and Silts: The shoreline in this area appears to be composed of finer grained materials that stand on a greater slope than a sandy material would.

Sand: The shoreline in this area appears to be composed of a smaller granular material.

Shingles, Pebbles, Cobbles: The shoreline in this area appears to be composed of larger granular material.

Boulders, Bedrock: The shoreline in this area appears to be composed of many large boulders or exposed bedrock.

Artificial: The shoreline in this area appears to be composed of an artificial or natural material that is used as a manmade shoreline protection.

Null: This is used when there is little or no visible data for this classification type. When used under the secondary classification type then there is little to no difference between the primary and secondary classification type.

Beach Width: The 2012 USACE Oblique photos were used to determine the beach width of the transect reach. The oblique images were taken over 1000' off of the ground so the classification of the Beach Width is on a course scale. The exact beach width cannot be determined from the oblique images, so several beach width ranges were used. The primary beach type covers the majority of the immediate shoreline. The secondary beach width is the minority of the immediate shoreline.

None: There is little to no beach in this transect.

5' - 30': The beach appears to be between 5' and 30' in width from the water level in the oblique images in the transect.

30' - 60': The beach appears to be between 30' and 60' in width from the water level in the oblique images in the transect.

60' - 90': The beach appears to be between 60' and 90' in width from the water level in the oblique images in the transect.

90' +: The beach appears to be between 5' and 30' in width from the water level in the oblique images in the transect.

Null: This is used for the secondary classification type when there is little to no difference between the primary and secondary beach width.

Landuse: The 2012 USACE Oblique photos were used to determine the Landuse of the transect reach. The oblique images were taken over 1000' off of the ground so the classification of the Landuse type is on a coarse scale. The exact land use type cannot be determined from the oblique images. This classification types were determined by visual inspection of the shoreline land use clues such as building types and infrastructure features. The primary land use covers the majority of the immediate shoreline. The secondary land use is either the minority of the immediate shoreline and/or the classification of the backshore that is visible in the oblique images.

Low Density Residential: From the oblique images there appears to be between 1 and 25 residences in the transect reach (1 km).

Moderate Density Residential: From the oblique images there appears to be between 26 and 100 residences in the transect reach.

High Density Residential: From the oblique images there appears to be more than 101 residences in the transect reach.

Commercial/Industrial: From the oblique images the shoreline development appears to be commercial or industrial.

Park Land: From the oblique images the shoreline appears to be used as recreational park land.

Farm Land: From the oblique images the shoreline land use appears to be manicured farm land.

Forested: From the oblique images the shoreline appears to be natural forested land.

Null: This is used for the secondary land use when there is little to no difference between the primary and secondary classification type.

Coast Type: The 2012 USACE Oblique photos were used to determine the Coast Type. The oblique images were taken over 1000' off of the ground so the classification of the Coast Type is

on a course scale. The exact coast type cannot be determined from the oblique images. The coast type was determined by visual inspection of the shoreline and nearshore slope, height, and vegetation. The primary coast type covers the majority of the immediate shoreline. The secondary coast type is either the minority of the immediate shoreline and/or the classification of the backshore that is visible in the oblique images.

Dune 2' - 10': The coastline appears to be a sand dune that is between 2' and 10' from the water level in the oblique images.

High Dune 10' +: The coastline appears to be a sand dune that is 10' or higher from the water level in the oblique images.

Bluff 2' - 10': The coastline appears to be a cohesive bluff that is between 2' and 10' from the water level in the oblique images.

High Bluff 10' +: The coastline appears to be a cohesive bluff that is 10' or higher from the water level in the oblique images.

Coastal Wetland: The coastline appears to be a natural coastal wetland from the oblique images.

Flat Coast: The coastline appears to be a flat coast from the oblique images.

Null: This is used for the secondary land use when there is little to no difference between the primary and secondary classification type.

Vegetation: The 2012 USACE Oblique photos were used to determine the Vegetation Type. The oblique images were taken over 1000' off of the ground so the classification of the Vegetation Type is on a course scale. The exact vegetation type cannot be determined from the oblique images. The vegetation type was determined by visual inspection of the shoreline and nearshore slope, height, and vegetation. The primary coast type covers the majority of the immediate shoreline. The secondary coast type is either the minority of the immediate shoreline and/or the classification of the backshore that is visible in the oblique images.

None: There appears to be little to no vegetation in the transect length.

High Density Shrubs/Trees: The vegetation in the nearshore is composed of very dense amounts of shrubs and trees. This would be a very difficult area to traverse; the vegetation would be very thick.

Moderate Density Shrubs/Trees: The vegetation in the nearshore is composed of a moderate density of shrubs and trees. This would be a moderately difficult area to traverse, the vegetation would be thick in some areas but overall you could walk through a majority of it.

Low Density Shrubs/Trees: The vegetation in the nearshore is composed of a low density of shrubs and trees. This would be an area with a small number of shrubs and trees.

Unmaintained Non-woody Vegetation: The vegetation in the nearshore is composed of non-woody unmaintained vegetation such as dune grasses or phragmites.

Manicured Lawn: The nearshore is composed of manicured grasses and/or planting beds.

Null: This is used for the secondary vegetation type when there is little to no difference between the primary and secondary classification type.