

Task Order No. HSFE05-12-J-0133
Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study – Lake Erie Studies
Spring 2014 Quarterly Email

This is the first quarterly email that 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 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 reduction in flood risk and enhance public safety and asset management initiatives.

We Need Your Help

In partnership with FEMA, the Risk Assessment, Mapping, and Planning Partners (RAMPP) Team is continuing work on the Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study along coastal Lake Erie to produce updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). We are seeking help from local communities to supplement the technical data we have already gathered with anecdotal information to document how high storm surge or waves may have reached during past storm events. Examples of the kind of information we are hoping to receive include photographs, newspaper reports, eyewitness testimony, and documented high water marks (including the elevation and location of the observation). If you or your neighbors have information that would help in the study effort, we are asking that you provide it to Emily Dhingra, RAMPP Coastal Engineer, at emily.dhingra@urs.com.

What's Next?

Work will continue in the development of preliminary work maps, a precursor to the regulatory FIRMs, which are slated for completion in early 2015. These work maps will reflect the input that 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 in the June-December 2015 timeframe. We will make more information available on the Workshops, including dates, locations, and times, once we refine the study schedule.

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.