

## **GREAT LAKES COASTAL RESILIENCY STUDY**

**CONGRESSIONAL INTERESTS:** REP Marcy Kaptur (D-OH-09), REP Peter Visclosky (D-IN-01), SEN Richard Durbin (D-IL), SEN Rob Portman (R-OH), SEN Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), SEN Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), SEN Robert Casey (D-PA), SEN Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), SEN Sherrod Brown (D-OH), SEN Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), SEN Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), SEN Charles Schumer (D-NY), SEN Gary Peters (D-MI), SEN Tina Smith (D-MN), (NY-27), REP Debbie Dingell (D-MI-12), REP Sean Duffy (R-WI-07), REP Marcia Fudge (D-OH-11), REP Bob Gibbs (R-OH-07), REP Brian Higgins (D-NY-26), REP Bill Huizinga (R-MI-02), REP David Joyce (R-OH-14), REP Mike Kelly (R-PA-03), REP Dan Kildee (D-MI-05), REP Gwen Moore (D-WI-04), REP Mike Quigley (D-IL-05), REP Jim Renacci (R-OH-16), REP Louise Slaughter (D-NY-25), and REP Fred Upton (R-MI-06).

**PROJECT NAME (ACCOUNT):** Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study (Investigations-FRM)

### **PROJECT PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION:**

Study will address how the cumulative effects of future climate variability, continued land use and development patterns, and impaired natural processes affect the ability of the Great Lakes coast to withstand, recover from, and adapt to disturbances. The study would result in the development of a programmatic coastal resiliency plan that outlines a collaborative investment strategy for the future management of the Great Lakes coast through a range of structural, non-structural, natural, nature-based, institutional, and regulatory measures.

### **PROJECT ISSUES/SUCCESS:**

- FY2019 Energy and Water Appropriations Act directed consideration of a new start “multi-purpose watershed study to address coastal resiliency” in the Work Plan.
- The study is a regional initiative with all eight (8) Great Lakes states as non-Federal cost-sharing sponsors, working in collaboration with NOAA, USGS, FEMA, and USEPA.
- Demonstrated bipartisan support including letters of intent from all eight Great Lakes states, letters from multiple federal agencies, NGOs, and letters from thirty (30) members of Congress.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- The study area encompasses over 5,200 miles of shoreline and 4.2 million people living near the coast within the five Great Lakes and connecting channels in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.
- Improving the resilience of the Great Lakes coast, and in turn the many industries that rely upon it, is vital to maintaining the nation’s economic security:
  - Great Lakes navigation system (60 commercial harbors; >123M tons in 2015)
  - Cold-rolled steel production critical for nation’s automobile sector
  - Recreational fishing (\$1.3B annual) and boating (1/3 of nation’s registered boats)
- Without an integrated plan that identifies vulnerable areas and identifies measures to improve resilience, federal, state, and local jurisdictions will continue to utilize a piecemeal approach which is both inefficient and limited in effectiveness.
- Section 1219, WRDA 2018 directs the Secretary to carry out a study under Section 729, WRDA 1986, as amended – watershed study authority.
- Utilizing Regional Sediment Management funds to further scope study in FY2019.

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**PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS with CONGRESS:**

- Twelve (12) U.S. Senators from across the Great Lakes sent two letters (17JAN2018 and 28SEP2018) to ASA(CW) and OMB requesting the study be funded in FY2019.
- Eighteen (18) U.S. Representatives sent a letter (29JAN2018) to ASA(CW) and OMB requesting the study be funded in FY2019.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:** This study was not supported in the FY19 work plan as a new start.

**FUNDING DATA HIGHLIGHTS:**

Allocations through FY18	\$0
FY19 Allocations	\$0
FY20 Budget Amount	\$1,200,000
Balance to Complete after FY20	\$7,800,000
Benefit to Cost Ratio (at 7%)	NA