

COASTAL MANAGEMENT IN MICHIGAN



The Michigan Coastal Management Program (MCMP) promotes wise management of the cultural and natural resources of the longest freshwater coastline by fostering environmentally, economically, and socially vibrant coastal communities and supporting the Great Lakes as a resilient natural system. Recent Actions in Support of the Coast

- **Coastal Communities Scenario-based Planning.** The MCMP has forged strong partnerships with the University of Michigan's Urban & Regional Planning Program of the Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning, Michigan Technological University, Michigan Association of Planning, and LIAA with the primary focus on coastal communities' shoreline management. The center of this work is a research-based investigation of what makes a Great Lakes Coastal Community resilient to the dynamic nature of living on a Great Lakes coast. Through the lens of scenario-based planning, the researchers are looking at site-specific land use, fiscal, social and environmental features to devise community-specific options (e.g. no regrets policies). To date, six coastal communities have been actively engaged in evaluating their master plans, garnering community input, and analyzing options for more informed decision-making.
- **Coastal Water Trails.** Since 2012, the MCMP has invested approximately 1.3 million federal dollars resulting in the development of Michigan coastal water trail system. The ecotourism industry is thriving in Michigan and, in 2017, the MCMP continued to move the needle forward with the additional investment of \$300K to plan, map, market, and create public access, such as easy-docks, racks, and signage to our local networked partners. The MCMP is proud of its accomplishments of creating places and experiences in outdoor recreation for Michigan's citizens and visitors.

Priorities Looking Ahead

- **Coastal Hazards.** Increase knowledge, expand capacity and promote engagement of coastal communities' practices and policies to minimize coastal hazard risks and adapt to climate change.
- **Coastal Habitat.** Identify, assess, quantify, and communicate the value of coastal ecosystem management.
- **Public Access.** Create and enhance access to the Great Lakes coast to foster appreciation of how a healthy coast and creates coastal tourism.
- **Coastal Community Development.** Encourage water-dependent commercial and recreational uses that diversify coastal communities.
- **Coastal Water Quality.** Promote the protection of coastal water quality by minimizing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution.

A State-Federal Partnership



The Michigan Coastal Program strives to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance its 3,224 miles of coastline.

Michigan has participated in the National Coastal Zone Management Program since 1978. This state-federal partnership is essential to the continued health and economic growth of the state's coastal communities, businesses, and population.

FY17 FEDERAL FUNDS: \$2,605,000
FY17 STATE AND MATCHING FUNDS: \$2,125,000
FY17 TOTAL: \$4,730,000

ADDRESSING COASTAL HAZARDS IN MICHIGAN



The City of St. Joseph Coastal Engineering Study.

In partnership with the MCMP, the City of St. Joseph conducted a review of their engineering model which was the basis for the “no-build” zoning ordinance enacted by the City to protect coastal infrastructure from coastal erosion. The City wanted to evaluate their model with changing coastal conditions to determine if possible ordinance amendments were needed. After an analysis of three separate shoreline sites, the City concluded the existing zoning ordinance remain relevant with the changing conditions and continues to provide adequate shoreline management conditions. An important note is that approximately 80% of Michigan’s coastline is privately owned and that majority of the land management responsibilities fall within the jurisdiction of local units of governments. This is an example of a coastal community taking a leadership role of establishing sound foundations to their local shoreline regulations.

While the relationship between the MCMP and Michigan Sea Grant (MSG) has long existed, a key development specific with this networked partner to highlight in 2017 is with Heather Triezenberg, Ph.D., Extension and Program Leader, MSG, Michigan State University. Heather and the MCMP Program Manager are seeking new collaborative approaches to leverage our respective resources of staff talents and program funding to set common goals and particularly building resilient coastal communities.



Ronda Wuycheck, Coastal Program
Manager
Office of the Great Lakes
Michigan Department of Natural
Resources
wuycheckr@michigan.gov
www.mi.gov/coastalmanagement
Twitter.com/MichiganOGL



Coastal States Organization
Hall of the States
444 North Capitol St., NW, Suite 638
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 508-3860
www.coastalstates.org