



# WISCONSIN COASTAL MANAGEMENT

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program's (WCMP) mission is to preserve, protect, develop and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of Wisconsin's coastal area for this and succeeding generations, with governmental coordination and public involvement, giving due consideration to the linkages and impacts to resources of inland areas.

## State Program in Action

**Bay Beach Restoration:** funded the reconstruction of the beach at Bay Beach Amusement Park on the southern tip of the Bay of Green Bay. The project will be completed in summer 2020 and will open shoreline amenities to the public year-round and free of charge. These amenities will include a 450-foot long, sixteen-foot wide wildlife viewing platform with ADA accessible fishing railings, a new shoreline boardwalk and a swimming beach. The new beach will provide public access to the water, increase recreational opportunities and resource awareness, and spur future water quality and environmental efforts in the area.

**Project of Special Merit:** partnering with the State Geographic Information Officer and the University of Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office to create a community of practice consisting of mapping professionals from local governments, tribes, NGOs, state and federal agencies and university staff to work to address flooding through the development of a data layer (culvert mapping), and to formalize communication between agencies and locals to promote better response to hazard events.

**DNR Coastal Workshop:** co-led a two-day coastal processes and permitting workshop with the WI DNR for DNR staff and other natural resource professionals. High water levels have increased the occurrence of coastal issues, making it necessary to provide background to DNR staff and other professionals in order to help them manage coastal issues effectively.

**NOAA Coastal Management Fellow:** hosting a NOAA Coastal Management Fellow. The two-year fellowship is focused on applying geospatial technologies to hazard issues identified by coastal stakeholders and communities. The fellow is participating in activities that support the Project of Special Merit by developing culvert hazard vulnerability assessment methods and integrating geospatial resources into coastal hazard education activities.

**J. Philip Keillor Wisconsin Coastal Management/Sea Grant Fellowship:** hosting a fellow since 2016. The fellow is involved with various efforts focused on projects around the state to improve the preparedness and resiliency of Wisconsin and the Great Lakes coastal communities for coastal hazards such as flooding, bluff erosion, and lake level fluctuation.



## Looking to the Future

The City of Bayfield, with CZM funding assistance, is implementing a project to review City of Bayfield codes for green infrastructure opportunities and impediments, assess green infrastructure and coastal resilience needs and opportunities, conduct flow mapping, develop recommendations to address needs and opportunities, and develop a site-specific plan for implementing resilience and green infrastructure at Halvor Reiten Park as a demonstration project. The demonstration project will utilize data gathered during the project and will serve as an example to City residents the benefits of green infrastructure. A Green Infrastructure Team has been created to implement the project and engage green infrastructure and coastal resilience expertise from partner agencies.

**FY20 Federal Funds: \$2,491,000**  
**FY20 State & Local Matching Funds: \$2,341,000**  
**FY20 Total: \$4,832,000**



# HELPING PREPARE FOR COASTAL HAZARDS

WCMP, in partnership with NOAA, Lake Superior National Estuarine Research Reserve, Minnesota Lake Superior Coastal Program and Minnesota Sea Grant, planned and conducted the Highs and Lows: A Western Lake Superior Water Levels Conference in Duluth, MN. The objectives of the conference were to: 1) recognize the history, trends and drivers of water levels in Lake Superior; 2) provide examples of how lake levels have impacted local resources, communities and industries; and 3) identify the challenges and opportunities to improve local resilience to fluctuating Great Lakes water levels. The conference was both an informational and participatory event, with opportunities to network and learn about existing resources. Local, state, tribal and federal governments, elected officials, planning commissions, state agencies, industry representatives, universities, and non-profit organizations from Minnesota and Wisconsin's Lake Superior region were in attendance.

*"The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's partnership with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program has supported community sustainability and access to our coastal resources. Projects with the WCMP include the acquisition and creation of the United States first Tribal National Park, Frog Bay, participation in WCMP sponsored training events related to Managed Visitor Use and Marine Economic Impact and currently supporting the development of a 10-year Comprehensive Plan of Red Cliff's coastal and natural resources that is up for Tribal Council approval in July of this year. Through the WCMP we have engaged in the Wisconsin Coastal Beaches Working Group, Clean Marina Program and are looking to participate in the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts' Tourism workgroup."*

*- Chad Abel, Administrator, Treaty Natural Resources Division  
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa*

## Working with Partners in Wisconsin

WCMP actively develops and maintains long term partnerships with numerous and diverse partners and community leaders. WCMP has been, and continues to be, well situated to work in close partnership on diverse coastal resource and coastal community issues to meet program goals and objectives. WCMP provides technical, coordination and funding assistance to implement projects and initiatives to meet the state and region's needs. WCMP works closely with partners to identify and prioritize project opportunities, and other initiatives, and work cooperatively from planning to implementation. As a trusted program, partners actively seek collaborative opportunities with WCMP.

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