

## Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Great Lakes Shoreline Stabilization Projects

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requests public comment on the draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for shoreline stabilization measures (proposed action) on the Great Lakes in the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. The PEA will evaluate shoreline stabilization measures eligible for FEMA grant funding. This notification is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, FEMA's implementing procedures (44 CFR Part 9 and FEMA Directive 108-1), and applicable environmental laws, including Executive Orders 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), 11988 (Floodplain Management), and 12898 (Environmental Justice). The PEA has been prepared to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed project on the human and natural environment in accordance with NEPA. The public; local, state, tribal, and federal agencies; and other interested parties are invited to provide comments on the draft PEA.





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The purpose of shoreline stabilization assistance provided through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance and Public Assistance grant programs is to reduce risks associated with erosion hazards that affect people, structures, and infrastructure by mitigating the effects of flowing water, wave, or wind action. The draft PEA evaluates potential impacts associated with bioengineered stabilization measures including bank regrading/stabilization, marsh and wetlands creation, restoration, or enhancement, and beach/dune nourishment; hard stabilization measures including revetments, bulkheads and seawalls, breakwaters, and groins and jetties; and actions commonly connected with shoreline stabilization projects (i.e., connected actions) including infrastructure relocation or repair, piers and boardwalks, rain gardens and bioswales, and structure acquisition and demolition or relocation.



The purpose of the PEA is to identify, at a programmatic level, the potential adverse and beneficial effects associated with certain shoreline stabilization measures in the study area and to facilitate FEMA's compliance with environmental and historic preservation requirements by providing a framework to address the potential impacts of shoreline stabilization actions. The PEA would be used to streamline the review of future applications for grant funding for shoreline stabilization projects on the Great Lakes.

The draft PEA will be available electronically at https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/5. Alternatively, a paper copy may be requested from Duane Castaldi using the contact information below. A public comment period to solicit comments on the draft PEA will remain open for 30 days following publication of this notice until May 12, 2021. Interested persons may provide comments or obtain more detailed information about the PEA by contacting:

Mail: Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region V, 536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605-1521;

Email: Duane.Castaldi@fema.dhs.gov.
Please put "Shoreline PEA" in the subject line.