

Discovery Report Appendix J

Kickoff Meeting Notes

Lake Erie – Headwaters to the Buffalo-Eighteenmile Watershed HUC 04120103

Erie, Genesee, and Wyoming Counties, New York

June 2016



FEMA

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Homeland Security
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY

Lake Erie Watershed Discovery Kick-off Meeting

Meeting Minutes from WebEx Series Sessions for May 19-20, 2014

Prepared by RAMPP

Stakeholder Participation:

Email invites were sent out to 81 communities and 6 counties within the Lake Erie watershed study area. Participants for each of the three WebEx sessions are shown in the table below.

Monday 10:30am (5/19/2014)	Monday 1:30pm (5/19/2014)
<p><u>Alleghany County</u> No participants</p> <p><u>Chautauqua County</u> Mark Geise (Deputy Director of Planning) Dave McCoy (Watershed Coordinator) David Himelein (Watershed Coordinator) Thomas Gould (Town of Hanover) Vince Luce (Village of Westfield) Chris Wichlacz (Town of Arkwright) Jeff Paddock (Town of Chautauqua) Donald Emhardt (Town of Chautauqua)</p> <p><u>Additional Stakeholders</u> Laura Ortiz (Buffalo USACE) William Coon (USGS) Shannon Dougherty (Great Lakes Watershed)</p>	<p><u>Cattaraugus County</u> Crystal Abers (Director, Economic Development and Planning) Jim Karaszewski (Town of Farmersville) Patrick Cummings (Town of Farmersville)</p> <p><u>Genesee County</u> Bev Mancuso (Cornell Extension)</p> <p><u>Wyoming County</u> Art Buckley (Director of Planning) Kim Falbo (SWCD)</p> <p><u>Additional Stakeholders</u> William Coon (USGS) Stevie Adams (Nature Conservancy)</p>
Tuesday 10:30am (5/20/2014)	
<p><u>Erie County</u> Michael Breeden (Chief Information Officer) Rachel Chrostowski (Planning and Community Development) Joe Figel (Division of Sewerage Management) Dale Morris (Director of Geographic Information Services)</p> <p><u>Additional Stakeholders</u> William Coon (USGS) Shannon Dougherty (Great Lakes Watershed) Joanna Panasiewicz (Erie County and Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance) Laura Ortiz (Buffalo USACE)</p>	<p><u>Participants from Planning Team:</u></p> <p><i>Paul Weberg (FEMA-Region II)</i> <i>Pat Griggs (FEMA-Region II)</i> <i>William Nechamen (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Dave Sherman (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Jennifer Horton (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Robyn Boyd (Dewberry)</i> <i>Rachael Herman (Dewberry)</i> <i>Jeff Gangai (Dewberry)</i> <i>Yi Zheng (Dewberry)</i> <i>Andrew Martin (Dewberry-RSCII)</i> <i>Emily Dawson (Dewberry-RSCII)</i></p>

Meeting Minutes: (see link to PowerPoint presentation on last page)

FEMA is focused on updating the floodplain maps for coastal regions throughout the United States, and this includes all five of the Great Lakes. The Lake Erie Watershed Discovery project is the beginning of an interactive process that results in a watershed-wide assessment of existing flood hazard mapping needs, existing information useful in updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and ultimate

recommendations for the development of updated Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) and Flood Insurance Rate Map products. This WebEx was intended to introduce the planning team, request feedback from the municipalities, Counties, and regional groups within the project area, identify mapping needs within communities, and determine what additional local floodplain and hazard risk data is available and should be included in the process.

The purpose of the Discovery meeting(s) is to review any information previously provided by communities, state and regional agencies, and local stakeholders; to discuss communities' floodplains and floodplain management activities, mitigation plans and projects and flood risk concerns; and to provide additional feedback for FEMA to consider when developing Risk MAP products for a community, including the potential development of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) where needed.

We will also be scheduling in-person Discovery Meetings within the Lake Erie watersheds in June 2014. These meetings will review the information gathered from the Data Collection Worksheets (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>) and provide an additional opportunity for your community's feedback. Detailed information on these meetings will be sent to you and your community's representatives at a later date.

Comments from Meeting:

- Reports and Data
 - o Silver Creek tends to have a lot of flooding due to topography. Significant flooding in 2009. William Coon to provide the documentation on 2009 flood in Silver Creek and Gowanda.
 - o Peak stage monitoring sites will be provided by William (Bill) Coon.
 - o Thacher Brook being restudied (flooded the week of 5.12.14). Feasibility study on going since the 2009 flood – Laura Ortiz to provide.
- Town of Hanover (Chautauqua County)
 - o Would like to see velocity zones on the maps.
 - o Cattaraugus Creek needs to be remapped.
 - o Has a lot of development (commercial) along Route 5 and Route 20.
- Village of Westfield (Chautauqua County)
 - o Flooding along 3rd Street
 - o Village Drive (unnamed creek) continually being filled and will not drain properly
 - o Flooding at railroad an issue
 - o Acts as an obstruction and forces flow to the west
 - o West side sewer pump station in floodplain per the 1993 FIRM
 - o Actively trying to move it from the floodplain
- Town of Farmersville (Cattaraugus County)
 - o Current flood extent on FIRMs are understated
 - o Lots of sewer pipes have been/are currently being installed or re-routed
 - o Amish communities are developing in area and as a result water use patterns are changing



- Cattaraugus County
 - o Crystal Abers will pull information from the County Mitigation Plan to input in the community survey
- Erie County
 - o Flooding in Town of West Seneca area affected a lot of people
 - o Potentially work with USACE to get updated information for this area
 - o Erie County Water Quality Committee
 - o Meeting to be held on Wednesday 5.21.14
 - o Information from this webinar will be passed to members

Questions from Meetings:

1. Will the Lake Erie Coastal study include information related to climate change?
 - a. Not at this time, the study is based on historical and current conditions, there will be no future projections in this study
2. How does this affect the countywide study that is currently on going?
 - a. FEMA is currently working through the levee seclusion process with several communities in the county to get the countywide study moving forward
FEMA and RAMPP will contact Erie County personnel (Rachel Chrostowski) to follow-up regarding status and timelines.

Stakeholders to Include:

The participants were asked if there were additional stakeholders that should be added to the list. It was suggested the following stakeholders be added to the distribution lists:

- Erie County Water Quality Committee

Schedule:

- June 2014: In-person meetings.

Meeting presentation materials available here:

<https://www.rampp-team.com/ny.htm>

Online Community Survey:

Please complete this online community survey for your jurisdiction/agency:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>

Attachments:

- Lake Erie Watershed Discovery Webinar Agenda & Presentation



FEMA

Lake Erie Watershed Discovery WebEx

Lake Erie Watershed Discovery Kick-off Meeting

Meeting Minutes from WebEx Series Sessions for May 19-20, 2014

Attachments

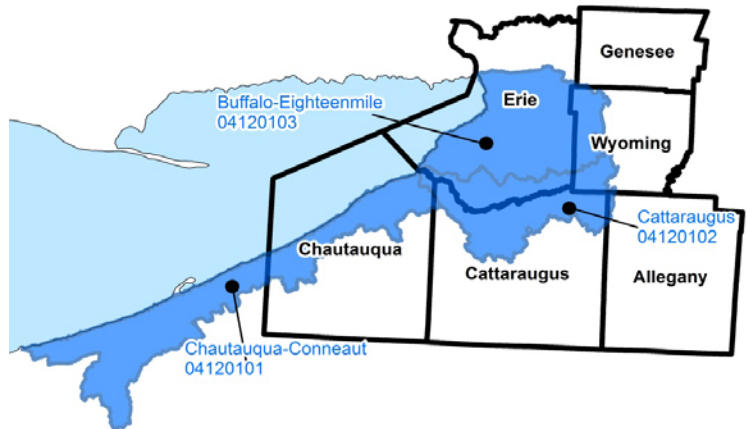
- Agenda
- Presentation
- Presentation with Erie County Levee Slides

Lake Erie Watershed Discovery WebEx

Sessions for the week of May 19, 2014

Background

FEMA is focused on updating the floodplain maps for coastal regions throughout the United States, and this includes all five of the Great Lakes. The Lake Erie Watershed Discovery project is the beginning of an interactive process that results in a watershed-wide assessment of existing flood hazard mapping needs, existing information useful in updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and ultimate recommendations for the development of updated Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) and Flood Insurance Rate Map products.



This interactive WebEx will introduce the RAMPP planning team, provide a background to the Discovery process, and begin to document flood mapping needs for participating communities. Using an online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>), the planning team will capture additional local floodplain and hazard risk data needs and request feedback from the municipalities, Counties, and regional groups within the project area.

The purpose of the Discovery meeting(s) is to review any information previously provided by communities, state and regional agencies, and local stakeholders, discuss your community's floodplains and floodplain management activities, mitigation plans and projects and flood risk concerns, and to provide additional feedback for FEMA to consider when developing Risk MAP products for your community, including the potential development of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) where needed.

Agenda

Welcome & Introduction to Discovery Process	Robyn Boyd / Andrew Martin (RAMPP)
Coastal Data and Collection Progress	Jeff Gangai / Emily Dhingra (RAMPP)
Data Collection Survey	Rachael Herman (RAMPP)
Identification of Flood Risk Concerns via ArcMap	

Community Survey

Prior to the webinar, please click on the following link to complete the Data Discovery survey for your community:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>

Note: If you are unable to complete the survey in one sitting, complete as much as you can and exit the survey. When you are able to finish, use the same computer to pick up where you left off. SurveyMonkey will remember your computer.

WebEx Login Information, Schedule & Participating Communities

To join the webinar, click on the WebEx URL to join the meeting.

Once you have joined the online meeting, you will be given several options for audio: meeting can call you, use computer to call in to meeting, or dial into meeting with audio connection.

Meeting Password: LakeErie

Date	Time	Participating Counties	WebEx URL
Monday May 19, 2014	10:30AM- 11:30 AM	Chautauqua County Allegany County	https://connect.dewberry.com/orion/joinmeeting.do?PW=BAAAAGdKONZq0HoAtnmPqVXgfr_EVImWzuyBAHneVBLaUcODaT4uMDC9L1Uz8TEBrywc4OIlxw0SVOEC8BYuS5d0BVpx&MK=997120943 Audio Connection: 703-849-0300 Access Code: 997 120 943
Monday May 19, 2014	1:30 PM- 2:30 PM	Cattaraugus County Genesee County Wyoming County	https://connect.dewberry.com/orion/joinmeeting.do?PW=BAAAAGcqGsrTOR0TT-CugKoEuhgWNYIJ7RqZe2RMw6jm2hI82xDbYZSCisptDt2lmz_qO1bOZBOFVbQKhqkmx2zPgAZG&MK=992854249 Audio Connection: 703-849-0300 Access Code: 992 854 249
Tuesday May 20, 2014	10:30AM- 11:30 AM	Erie County	https://connect.dewberry.com/orion/joinmeeting.do?PW=BAAAAGfertgVZCT5G9XlvjzcRmp3cw-yJxT0cO1kGO8_Mv4OO-Eo1z5N2SI9s3hNIEcesdmVYrcWAbBcDUMh-pzpLX8_&MK=997485666 Audio Connection: 703-849-0300 Access Code: 997 485 666

Contact Rachael Herman (rherman@dewberry.com) for questions related to accessing the WebEx sessions.



Lake Erie Watershed Discovery Meeting

May 19-20, 2014

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Coastal Flood Study

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Who's Involved

- **Project Team**
 - FEMA
 - RAMPP
- **Federal, State and Local Partners**
 - NOAA Coastal Services Center
 - USACE
 - USGS
 - NYSDEC
 - Local and Regional Agencies



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Purpose of This Meeting

- Provide an overview of the Project to date and schedule
- Overview of the ongoing Coastal Study
- Solicit input and feedback on local issues and concerns
- Identify path forward for Stakeholder involvement

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Discovery Process Overview

- **Discovery is a collaborative process for data collection and analysis with the goal of initiating flood risk discussion:**
 - Data and Projects
 - Historical flooding information
 - Existing flood hazard data
 - Areas of significant bluff erosion
 - Mitigation activities and strategies
 - Hazard risk assessments, for example, vulnerable assets
 - Collaboration
 - Communities
 - Regional planning entities
 - Non-governmental organizations
 - State agencies
 - Other Federal agencies



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Discovery and Flood Mapping

- **Discovery helps inform whether a Risk MAP project will occur in the watershed**
 - Specific areas are prioritized based on flood hazard study needs and available funding
 - Within watersheds studied, not all streams and communities will receive new studies or maps
- **All Risk MAP communities will receive updated flood risk assessments, but not necessarily new regulatory products**

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Discovery Results and Products

- **Final Discovery Reports by Watershed**
 - Comprehensive report for documenting discovery process
 - Includes background information and data analysis, meeting agenda, sign-in sheets, discussion topics, decisions made, etc.
- **Final Discovery Maps**
 - Includes feedback from participants
 - Visual representation of meeting outcomes

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Study Area

- 3 Watersheds**
 - Buffalo-Eighteen mile
 - Cattaraugus
 - Chautauqua-Conneaut
- 6 Counties**
 - 81 Communities

County	Effective FIRM Date
Allegany	1983
Cattaraugus	Ranges 1982 - 2008
Chautauqua	Ranges 1981 - 2003
Erie	Ranges 1976 - 2008
Genesee	7/6/1984
Wyoming	Ranges 1982 - 1992

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Great Lakes Coastal Flood Study: Overview

- Current FIRMs outdated due to the age of data & methodologies – many date to 1970s**
- Changes in NFIP policies and methodologies have since occurred, creating need for an update**
- New methods have been developed**
 - Includes basin-wide water surface grids and storm sampling, built from continuous record of 50 years of meteorological, water level, and ice field data (1960 - 2010)
 - Methods will be incorporated into official FEMA guidance – Appendix D.3
 - Demonstration projects were conducted in several lakes to test and improve new methodology described in FEMA guidance
- Study will include entire U.S. Great Lakes coastline**

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Findings: Changing BFEs

Base Flood Elevation on FIRM now includes 4 components:

- Wave height above storm surge (stillwater) elevation
- Storm surge stillwater elevation (SWEL)
- Amount of wave setup
- Wave runup above storm surge elevation (where present)

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Local Data Survey

- Local knowledge request via Online Survey**
 - Base Map Data**
 - Topography/Bathymetry
 - Imagery
 - Coastal Data**
 - Other Data**
 - Historical Flood Data**
 - Risk Assessment**
 - Flood Mitigation Information**
 - Community Plans and Projects**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>

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Discovery Meeting Invitees

- Compiled list of community and county officials, including:**
 - Chief Executive Officers (i.e., Mayor, Supervisor)
 - Building, Zoning, and Planning Officials
 - Local Floodplain Administrators
 - City and County Engineers
 - Conservation Districts
- Need your help to identify others who should be invited to Discovery Meetings**
 - Watershed Associations
 - Others

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Floodplain Mapping Needs

- Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS)**
- Interactive Mapping**
 - Areas within your community where the FEMA FIRMs are not accurate
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 - Flooding problem spots not currently shown on FEMA maps




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Interactive Mapping



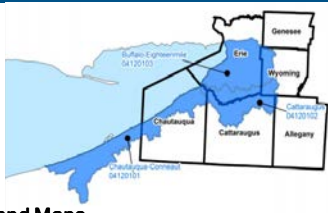
- Launch ArcMap




  

Project Schedule




- Today
 - Web-Ex
- In person Meetings
 - June 2014
- Final Discovery Report and Maps
 - December 2014






Next Steps



- We will provide:
 - Summary of Today's Meeting
 - Document discussions and outcomes
 - Action items
- Work with you to:
 - Complete the local data survey
 - Verify and identify community contacts to attend Discovery Meetings
 - Determine locations and dates for Discovery Meetings

Questions?



Contacts





Paul Weberg
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Rachael Herman
rherman@dewberry.com
 585-429-7448
 716-949-6327

<https://www.rammp-team.com/ny.htm>



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May 19-20, 2014

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Interactive Mapping

- **Launch ArcMap**

Mapping Levees: Seclusion

- **Seclusion is an approach used to map levees**
 - Process developed to allow Flood Insurance Studies to proceed
 - Facilitates communities' use of new data
 - Requires concurrence of impacted communities
- **Now that the seclusion approach is in place, the Lake Erie Watershed study can proceed**
 - Study was put on hold in 2011

ATTENTION: The levee, dike, or other structure inside this boundary does not comply with Section 65.10 of the NFIP Regulations. As such, this FIRM panel will be revised at a later date to update the flood hazard information associated with this structure. The flood hazard data shown inside this boundary (which have been republished from the May 5, 2004 FIRM for the City of Floodville), should continue to be used until this FIRM panel is revised to update the flood hazard information in this area.

Seclusion in Lake Erie Study Area

- **Seclusion may affect 3 panels and 4 communities in the Lake Erie Watershed Study area**
 - Total number of Erie County panels in the study: 248
 - Total number of Erie County communities in the study: 49
- **Cheektowaga Flood Control System (1 panel)**
 - Relatively small system along Cayuga creek
- **Cayuga Creek Flood Control System (1 panel)**
 - Relatively large structure along Cayuga Creek in Depew/Lancaster
- **Ellicott Creek Flood Control System (1 panel)**
 - Small structure along Ellicott Creek in Amherst

Seclusion in Lake Erie Study Area Cheektowaga Flood Control System

Seclusion in Lake Erie Study Area Cayuga Creek flood control system

Seclusion in Lake Erie Study Area Ellicott Creek Flood Control System

Ellicott Creek in Amherst, New York →

Project Schedule – Erie County



- **Discovery Web-Ex**
 - Today
- **In-person Discovery Meetings and follow up discussion re: flood control systems**
 - June 2014
- **County-wide FIS: Revised Preliminary FIRM panels issued for secluded areas**
 - Mid-June 2014
- **County-wide FIS: Letter of Final Determination**
 - Late Fall/early Winter 2014
- **Final Discovery Report and Maps issued**
 - December 2014
- **County-wide Effective FIRMs issued**
 - Late Spring/early Summer 2015



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Next Steps



- **We will provide:**
 - Summary of today's WebEx
 - Documentation of discussions and outcomes
 - List of action items
- **We will work with you to:**
 - Complete the local data survey
 - Verify and identify community members to invite to attend Discovery Meetings
 - Determine locations and dates for Discovery Meetings

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Questions?

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Contacts



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**Lake Erie Watershed Discovery**

Meeting Minutes from Discovery Meetings for June 10-11, 2014

Prepared by RAMPP

Stakeholder Participation:

Email invites were sent out to 81 communities and 6 counties within the Lake Erie watershed study area. Participants for each of the three Discovery Meetings are shown in the table below.

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<u>Genesee County</u> Felipe Oltamari (Planning Department) Derik Kane (Planning Department)	<u>Erie County</u> Chuck LaBarbera (Town of Evans)
<u>Additional Stakeholders</u> Laura Ortiz (Buffalo USACE) Jim Vogel (NYSDEC) Tom Wantuck (NYSDEC)	<u>Additional Stakeholders</u> Mike Jabot (SUNY Fredonia) Jacqueline Chiarot (Representative Tom Teed)
Wednesday 9:30am (6/11/2014)	<u>Participants from Planning Team:</u>
<u>Seneca Nation</u> Patricia Crowe Michael Gates	<i>Paul Weberg (FEMA-Region II)</i> <i>Pat Griggs (FEMA-Region II)</i> <i>William Nechamen (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Dave Sherman (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Jennifer Horton (NYSDEC)</i> <i>Robyn Boyd (Dewberry)</i> <i>Rachael Herman (Dewberry)</i> <i>Jeff Gangai (Dewberry)</i> <i>Yi Zheng (Dewberry)</i> <i>Andrew Martin (Dewberry-RSCII)</i> <i>Emily Dawson (Dewberry-RSCII)</i>
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<u>Allegany County</u>	



Tuesday 9:30am (6/10/2014)	Tuesday 2:30pm (6/10/2014)
Karl Graves (Legislator) <u>Cattaraugus County</u> Crystal Abers (Director, Economic Development and Planning) Crystal Gross (Cattaraugus County) Cary Perkins (Town of Ashford) Marcia Spencer (Town of Yorkshire) Daren Smith (Village of Delevan) Colleen Feth (Town of Otto) Francis Fetch (Town of Otto) Robert Keis (Town of Mansfield)	

Meeting Minutes: (see link to PowerPoint presentation on last page)

FEMA is focused on updating the floodplain maps for coastal regions throughout the United States, and this includes all five of the Great Lakes. The Lake Erie Watershed Discovery project is the beginning of an interactive process that results in a watershed-wide assessment of existing flood hazard mapping needs, existing information useful in updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and ultimate recommendations for the development of updated Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) and Flood Insurance Rate Map products.

The purpose of the Discovery meeting(s) is to review any information previously provided by communities, state and regional agencies, and local stakeholders; to discuss communities' floodplains and floodplain management activities, mitigation plans and projects and flood risk concerns; and to provide additional feedback for FEMA to consider when developing Risk MAP products for a community, including the potential development of new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) where needed.

Stakeholders to Include:

The participants were asked if there were additional stakeholders that should be added to the list.

Schedule:

- August 29, 2014: Data Survey Due
- December 2014: Final Deliverables available

Meeting presentation materials available here:

<https://www.rampp-team.com/ny.htm>

Online Community Survey:



FEMA

Lake Erie Watershed Discovery

Please complete this online community survey for your jurisdiction/agency:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LakeErieDiscovery>