



NOAA Digital Coast Fellowship 2022-2024

Project Title: Shifting Property Lines: implications for management of acquired and vacated coastal properties and infrastructure

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Partners and Funders: CSO, ASFPM, NOAA OCM

Purpose

This is a two-year Digital Coast Fellowship project hosted by CSO, funded by NOAA OCM, and supported by ASFPM.

This project aims to support coastal communities considering managed retreat strategies by creating technical guidance and case studies focused on local planning for cohesive and intentional management of acquired properties impacted by erosion and inundation.

Approach

Enhance community capacity to manage abandoned and acquired coastal property:

- Produce technical guidance for cohesive and comprehensive management of acquired coastal properties targeted at local governments
 - Develop case studies of managed retreat and stewardship of acquired land
 - Assess the state of managed retreat literature to identify gaps and needs and compile best practices for management of acquired land
 - Conduct research via a survey and interviews to build understanding of experiences and needs of communities managing acquired properties
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Project Work

Project work is underway. The work plan was finalized in December 2022, and it will be implemented over the next 17 months. The literature review was completed in February, and, from that, a gaps assessment was developed assessing the state of the literature. That assessment will be built on over the next phases of the project as the project team connects with people doing work on the ground.

The project team is currently preparing to conduct interviews with communities that have acquired private property due to hazard risk and/or impacts and subject matter experts who support that work. These interviews are aimed at understanding the needs, experiences, and expertise of community end users and subject matter experts on managed retreat and management of acquired properties.

During the summer of 2023, case studies will be developed of communities stewarding acquired properties and planning for future acquisitions. Technical guidance will be developed, synthesizing existing resources and utilizing a gap assessment from the literature review and data collection to ensure that it fits users' needs and is not duplicative; target completion date is summer 2024.

Member Participation:

- Recommendations for potential interviewees or case study communities. Interested in local governments that have acquired private property due to challenges with hazard risk and/or impacts (e.g., coastal inundation, erosion, riverine flooding)
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CSO Point of Contact

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