



## NOAA Digital Coast Fellowship 2022-2024

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

**Fellow:** Annika Tomson

**Partners and Funders:** CSO, ASFPM, NOAA OCM

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### Purpose

This is a two-year Digital Coast Fellowship project hosted 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.

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### 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 local government stewardship of acquired hazard-impacted parcels
  - 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

The project team is developing technical resources that are responsive to the challenges and needs identified in the first year: structural disconnect between present and historical use of voluntary buyout programs and future need to rapidly move people and homes out of hazard areas; the role of a community-driven vision of the future in programmatic success; and a lack of technical and lived expertise in remediating and managing properties continuously experiencing coastal hazards.

The project team is developing four resources that will work in tandem as a suite of tools: a technical resource library, case studies, a question workflow, and a community visualization. These will be finalized over the next three months and rolled out in Summer 2024 as the fellowship wraps up.

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### What's Next?

CSO and ASFPM have partnered again to support a Digital Coast Fellow for 2024-2026. The fellow will be hosted by ASFPM in Madison, Wisconsin, and their project will focus on expanding the Coastal No Adverse Impact Handbook and developing trainings to accompany the updated Handbook. Interviews will be held next month, and the fellow will start August 2024.

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### CSO Point of Contact

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