

A Case Study in Regional Resiliency Outreach and Assessment

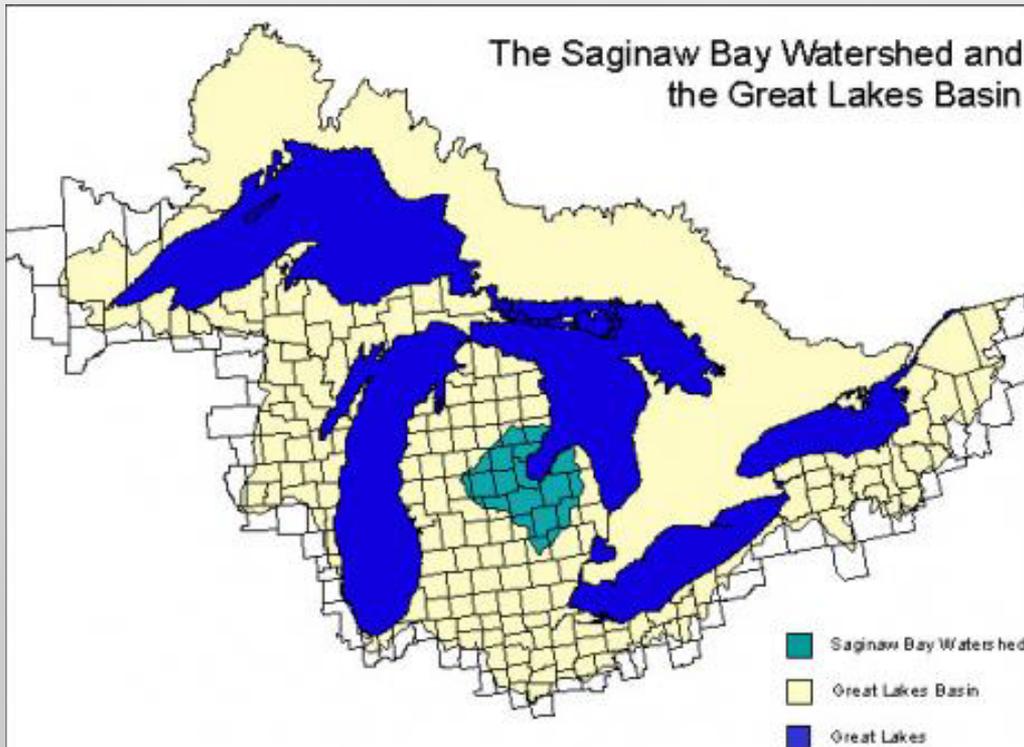
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Saginaw Bay Watershed



- ◆ 15% of Michigan's land mass
- ◆ 7,000 miles of rivers and streams
- ◆ More than 2,800 square miles of lost wetlands

Enhance the capacity of key stakeholders in the Saginaw Bay watershed to prepare for and respond to the impacts of extreme storms



Survey Methods and Respondents

- ◆ Combination online and mail-back format
- ◆ 265 respondents
- ◆ 22 counties
- ◆ 70% local or county government officials



Results: Perceptions of Extreme Storm Hazards

- ◆ None of the storm hazards viewed as having a **major** impact.
- ◆ Most impactful storm hazards reflect historic struggles with water quality concerns.
- ◆ Stormwater flooding of critical infrastructure perceived to have a relatively low impact.



Results: Resource, Knowledge and Capacity Needs



- ◆ Most of the resources consulted for information on extreme storms focused on forecasting.
- ◆ Lack of awareness or interest is a major barrier.

Results: Support for Existing and Potential Risk Reduction Strategies

- ◆ Policy strategies are less popular.
- ◆ Strategies addressing septic system failures and storm water management have the most support.
- ◆ Participants less knowledgeable about green infrastructure strategies.



Outreach Recommendations

- ◆ Promote available planning tools with focus on issues identified as top priority in the watershed.
- ◆ Increase awareness of extreme storms as a significant hazard.
- ◆ Explore options for helping communities develop plans to deal with failing and outdated septic systems.
- ◆ Support stormwater management trainings and workshops and incorporate green infrastructure education elements.



Thank You!

Questions or Comments?

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