

The Digital Coast Act

The Digital Coast Act is legislation introduced by Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) that helps deliver the next generation of coastal data for community planning, shoreline management and disaster response.

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Digital Coast Project

- The Digital Coast Project gathers the most up-to-date coastal data and makes it available to the public and private sectors.
- NOAA pulls together complicated datasets for free public access and provides training for coastal communities.
- High-tech mapping information allows planners and coastal managers to make accurate decisions & smart investments.

The Digital Coast Act authorizes the next phase in coastal mapping at NOAA

- Authorizing the Digital Coast Project as a program at NOAA supports the next phase in delivering modern data to our coastal communities.
- Coastal managers and developers will have accurate and relevant data to make smart choices for economic development, shoreline management and coastal restoration.
- NOAA can further develop the program so there is more capacity to help communities get the coastal data they need to respond to emergencies, plan for long-term coastal resilience and manage their water resources.

"Our Great Lakes are a great asset for our quality of life but also for our long term economic security.

Wisconsin's Great Lakes communities face a variety of challenges to keep their harbors open, their waters clean and their beaches ready for visitors.

This bill ensures that our coastal communities have the resources and tools they need to adapt to changing environmental conditions, maintain healthy shores and make smart planning decisions to support their local economies and way of life."

- Senator Tammy Baldwin

Support for the *Digital Coast Act*

The *Digital Coast Act* is co-sponsored by Senators Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Mark Begich (D-AK), Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and Angus King (I-ME).

Bipartisan companion legislation has also been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Additional support includes: Continental Mapping Consultants, Quantum Spatial, Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department, American Planning Association (APA), Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), Coastal States Organization (CSO), National Association of Counties (NACo), National Estuarine Research Reserve Association (NERRA), National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Urban Land Institute (ULI), Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS), and National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS).