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Coastal Change Hazards: Understanding What's At Stake and Planning for the Future

Erika Lentz U.S. Geological Survey

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The Doctoral Program in Environmental Science & Management and MSU Sustainability Seminar Series Present:

Coastal Change Hazards: Understanding What's At Stake and Planning for the Future

WHEN: April 19, 3:45 pm WHERE: Online via Zoom

Erika Lentz
U.S. Geological Survey



Erika Lentz is a Research Geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) stationed at the Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center. Her research focuses on coastal change and the processes that drive it over a range of spatial (barrier island to regional) and temporal (storms to sea-level rise) scales in both natural and built environments. She is also interested in the meaningful communication of scientific information to support decision-making and is part of the leadership team guiding USGS Coastal Change Hazards programmatic focus.

Coastal hazards affect both human and natural systems in ways that can be sudden, dramatic, and/or irreversible. Flooding, erosion, and landscape change, driven by storms, sea-level rise, and human disturbances present a variety of challenges for those living and working on the coast. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) delivers a variety of products and tools that support the mitigation of coastal hazards, including protecting life and property. Our Coastal Change Hazards (CCH) programmatic focus was born from a goal to better serve communities' needs using the best science available to support effective coastal management and inform decision making from local to national scales. The CCH focus integrates stakeholder engagement, public communication, and technical needs with traditional research expertise and external collaborators to continuously align federal priorities with science and products most beneficial, relevant and useful to our coastal communities. This presentation will feature several examples of co-developed research and engagement efforts that are part of CCH.