

# Minnesota's Five Year Evaluation Metrics 2018-2023

*Approved August 28, 2019*

Included below are Minnesota Lake Superior Coastal Program's (MLSCP; Coastal Program) evaluation metrics for 2018 – 2023.

## Metric 1

### Goal

Coastal communities, states, and territories effectively plan and prepare for change. ([National Coastal Zone Management Program's Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023](#); Goal 1)

The impacts of climate change on Minnesota's lands and waters will be minimized ([Ecological and Water Resources Division Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028](#); Strategic Issue Area: Climate Change)

### Objective

Prepare for and minimize the risks from natural hazards, changing conditions and emerging uses. (National CZM Strategic Plan 2018-2023; Objective 1.1)

### Strategy

The Coastal Program will **help communities make informed choices to assess risk and minimize losses from coastal erosion and flooding.**

The state's new (March 2019) [All-Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) calls out coastal erosion and flooding for the first time. The plan identifies the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as a resource and funding source for action in these areas. As a part of the DNR, the Coastal Program can help with both. Our program has local knowledge of these hazards and local and regional connections. We will share information and expertise; develop resources; transfer data; provide education and outreach; and be available for consultation and advice that helps local practitioners and their leaders assess risk. We will have a coastal fellow joining us in August 2019, further expanding our capabilities. We also have pass-through funding available that can help communities minimize their losses. Counties, cities and towns are all eligible to apply for the program's Annual and STAR (Short-term Action Request) grants. Grantees use them to defray coastal management project costs. Data, local planning and regulation, natural system protection and education and awareness actions like those called out in the plan are generally eligible projects.

We plan to support (a) 0 state-level policies and plans; (b) 3 local-level policies and plans; (c) 0 projects completed at the state-level; and (d) 7 projects completed at the local-level to reduce future damage from coastal hazards with assistance from CZM funding or staff.

The performance measure is Coastal Zone Management Act Performance Measurement System (CZMAPMS) #11.

The target equates to approximately two completed plans, policies or projects per year. This is a stretch for us, given our history (i.e., only one hazard activity reported since 2014, and it was related to training) and the substantial time needed to fully develop plans and execute projects. Still, we believe it is doable; there is intense interest in this kind of work and we have the people and resources that make us a valuable partner in such efforts.

### **Performance Metric**

Between 2018 and 2023, the number of (a) state-level policies and plans completed; (b) local-level policies and plans completed; (c) projects completed at the state-level; and (d) projects completed at the local-level to reduce future damage from coastal hazards with assistance from CZM funding or staff.

### **Target**

Between 2018 and 2023, a total of 10 (a) state-level policies and plans completed; (b) local-level policies and plans completed; (c) projects completed at the state-level; and (d) projects completed at the local-level to reduce future damage from coastal hazards with assistance from CZM funding or staff.

## **Metric 2**

### **Goal**

Strengthen the program's ability to advance coastal management. ([National Coastal Zone Management Program's Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023](#); Goal 3)

We will exemplify excellence in organizational communication and collaboration ([Ecological and Water Resources Division Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028](#); Strategic Issue Area: Communications and Collaboration)

### **Objective**

Increase state, territory, and local coastal zone management implementation capacity. (National CZM Strategic Plan 2018-2023; Objective 3.2)

### **Strategy**

The Coastal Program will **train decision makers on timely and relevant coastal issues.**

Delivering trainings is a core service of our program. We will host workshops, seminars and small audience presentations on a variety of topics. The key audience for these events is local staff, community leaders, resource managers and practitioners. We have and will continue to collaborate with local, regional and national colleagues on training events of shared interest. The Lake Superior Reserve and Minnesota Sea Grant are natural partners in these efforts given their proximity. Finally, we have grant funding available. Local communities, non-profit organization and academic institutions are eligible to apply for the program's Annual and STAR grants. Grantees use the funds to defray coastal management project costs. Training is an eligible type of project. It is an effective way to ensure coastal decision makers have the skills and knowledge they need to do their jobs to the best of their abilities.

The performance measure is CZMAPMS #4a, 7a, 10a, 12a and 15a.

The target equates to nine trainings per year. This is up slightly from the previous five years (40 trainings completed). In the past, we relied heavily on the efforts of our pass-through grant recipients. This time, we will have staff more involved. We are intentionally including training in our annual work plans.

### **Performance Metric**

Between 2018 and 2023, the number of training events related to government coordination; public access; coastal habitat; coastal hazards; and coastal dependent uses and community development offered by the CZM Program.

### **Target**

Between 2018 and 2023, 45 training events related to government coordination; public access; coastal habitat; coastal hazards; and coastal dependent uses and community development offered by the CZM Program.

## **Metric 3**

### **Goal**

Coastal and ocean ecosystems are protected, preserved, and restored for use and enjoyment. ([National Coastal Zone Management Program's Strategic Plan 2018 – 2023](#); Goal 2)

The biological diversity of Minnesota's lands and waters will be healthy, protected, restored and enhanced, and will be used and enjoyed sustainably by people ([Ecological and Water Resources Division Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028](#); Strategic Issue Area: Biological Diversity)

Minnesota's water resources will be managed and used sustainably and the water quality will be improved and protected ([Ecological and Water Resources Division Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028](#); Strategic Issue Area: Water Resources)

## Objective

Preserve, restore, and better understand the services provided by coastal and ocean ecosystems.  
(National CZM Strategic Plan 2018-2023; Objective 2.1)

## Strategy

The Coastal Program will **help counties, cities and towns implement practices that protect the coastal area's water, wildlife and way of life.**

Our program is knowledgeable about effective practices, methods, and climate trends - expertise communities seek out. We will share information; develop resources; transfer data; and be available for consultation and advice that helps local practitioners and leaders take action in the communities' areas of interest and on their timeline. Our Annual and STAR grants are an attractive option for communities. We can and do give project grants to communities for improving lakes, rivers and streams within their boundaries; enhancing their parks, trails and open spaces; minimizing the volume of and pollutants in runoff; and adopting other smart growth development strategies. We will also support and fund applied research, demonstration projects and monitoring through our pass-through grants.

Overall, our communities know what they need to do to protect their coastal resources. They have solid plans for action. The new [Lake Superior North One Watershed: One Plan](#) is just one example of a plan that identifies concrete, measureable actions that will keep our area's water amongst the cleanest in the state. More importantly, they take action. Five of our 12 cities are [Minnesota GreenStep Cities](#); they are actively working to achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. Our smaller towns and counties are making progress too. Lake County and the towns of Tofte and Duluth are examples of places making strides in improving their parks and trails, addressing failing septic systems and managing runoff.

The performance measure is CZMAPMS #13b and 14b.

The target equates to half our coastal communities. It will require us to stay engaged with many of the communities we have worked with in the past. We will also have to expand our efforts to at least four new communities where we do not have a recent history (about one per year).

## Performance Measure

Between 2018 and 2023, the number of coastal communities that completed a project to implement a sustainable development plan or polluted runoff management plan with assistance from CZM funding or staff.

## Target

Between 2018 and 2023, 15 coastal communities will have completed at least one project to implement a sustainable development plan or polluted runoff management plan with assistance from CZM funding or staff.