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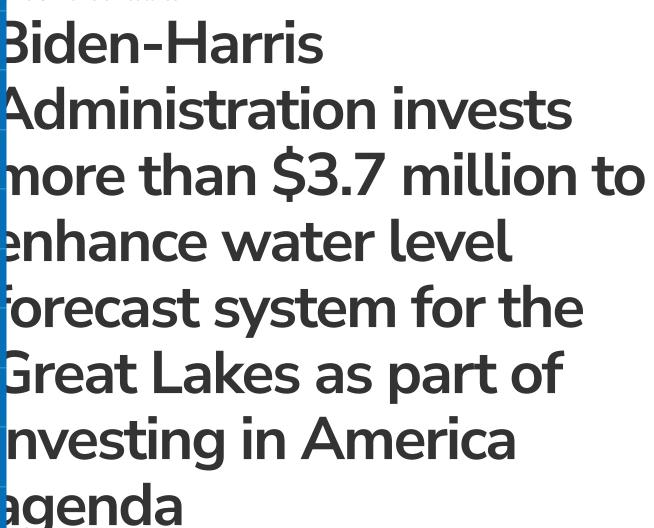












unding from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will support OAA's efforts to predict water levels a year in advance

cus areas: Research

partisan Infrastructure Law, Great Lakes, water levels,

mate outlooks









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gh water levels encroach on seawalls and lakeside property near the town of Oscoda, Michigan on ke Huron. (Image credit: NOAA)

wnload Image

day, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced \$3.72 million in funding support research on Great Lakes water level forecasts as part of President Biden's vesting in America agenda, under the <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</u>. These funds will distributed by <u>NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory</u> (GLERL) to <u>DAA's Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR)</u> , hosted by the niversity of Michigan.

ater level forecasts are an important tool, used by many throughout the region for mmerce, recreation and safety.

he Great Lakes are an economic powerhouse supporting thousands of jobs in urism, recreation and marine transportation, and they depend on adequate water vels to meet the needs of the region," said U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina imondo. "Thanks to President Biden's Investing in America agenda, this investment over \$3 million will boost NOAA's efforts to study and predict water level forecasts id help communities plan ahead to minimize the impacts of flooding along the oreline — all while addressing the regional challenges of climate change."

ne use of current forecasts for decision-making has been historically limited due to rge uncertainties in the rise and fall of anticipated water levels and the short time an of accurate predictions. Research to improve forecasts that provide increased infidence in water level changes could provide critical information to decisionakers, and support efforts to strengthen coastal resiliency.



























hanges in Great Lakes water levels impact commerce, shipping, tourism and the erall economies and livelihoods of coastal communities," said NOAA Administrator ck Spinrad, Ph.D. "More than 27 million people live along the shoreline of the Great kes, and the region depends heavily on these huge bodies of water. These funds will lp us better understand and anticipate water level changes, which often lead to vere flooding, and can have large impacts on so many towns, cities and states."

is project is designed to improve seasonal water level forecasts using technology, e machine learning, to extend the forecasts from six months to one year in advance. ne new advanced forecast will also enable researchers to see how global and gional climate patterns such as El Nino and La Nina affect the Great Lakes water vels. The results will help local and state-level leaders anticipate potential hazards.

laving a more accurate, long term advanced forecast will help communities plan and anage for changes in lake levels to reduce impacts and protect their citizens from oding," said Debbie Lee, Ph.D., GLERL director. "Commercial shipping companies, astal residents, families out for a sail on the lake or a day at the beach — all kinds of ople around the lakes want to know about water fluctuations. This will help them epare for any hazards those fluctuations may cause."

sit NOAA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law website to learn about current and future nding opportunities.

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