Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Medium Resolution Vector Shoreline Data

Digital medium-resolution vector maps of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River shoreline are compiled by the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), and translated into multiple common formats including the Topological Vector Profile of the Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS), to enhance data accessibility. The data were originally produced by the Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Water Issues Division of Environment Canada - Ontario Region for the International Joint Commission's Levels Reference Study, and used to assess the influence of lake levels on shore erosion. The vector maps include a three tier classification representing the shoreline geomorphic nature, the extent of shoreline protection, and the nearshore subaqueous geomorphic nature. Metadata, documented in accordance with SDTS specifications, accompanies the digital maps. This work was done in conjunction with the National Geophysical Data Center to develop medium resolution vector coastline data for the conterminous United States, and was funded by NOAA's Earth System Data and Information Management Program. Potential exists for use of the data in shoreline management, and environmental and coastal processes studies.

Sub-directory naming conventions:

arc_export ARC/INFO EXPORT format (Albers Equal Area projection)
ascii_albers ARC/INFO UNGENERATE format (Albers Equal Area projection)
ascii_geo ARC/INFO UNGENERATE format (geographic coordinates)
sdts Spatial Data Transfer Standard format (geographic coordinates)
metadata data documentation in Word, WordPerfect, and text format

Download files at ftp://ftp.glerl.noaa.gov/gis/shoreline/