OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

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Study redefines flood zones along Coos County coast

Portland, Oregon: The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has released a study conducted for the Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Map Modernization program to develop a digital flood insurance rate map (DFIRM) and flood insurance study (FIS) report for Coos County, Oregon.

Special Paper 44, Coastal Flood Insurance Study, Coos County, Oregon, describes the approach used to define new FEMA 100-year coastal flood hazard zones along the Coos County coast in order to provide updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM), which are used for mitigation planning, risk analysis, and disaster response at local, state, and federal levels.

The report fully describes the overall methodology, the input hydraulic conditions, and topographic information acquired and developed by DOGAMI to define and map detailed coastal flood hazard studies for the Bandon shoreline, Bastendorff Beach, and Lighthouse Beach, located on the Coos County coast. These analyses included assessments of the 1% annual probability, or 100-year, wave runup and still water levels (combined, they reflect the 1% total water level) associated with an extreme storm wave event to help determine the degree of coastal flood risk along those shores. Aside from those two areas, DOGAMI developed revised velocity ("V") zones for the remainder of the county shoreline.

DOGAMI Special Paper 44 can be purchased on CD-ROM for \$15 each from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 965, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (971) 673-2331 or order online at http://www.NatureNW.org. There is a \$4.95 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items.

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The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State and has a broad responsibility in developing an understanding of the state's geologic resources and natural hazards. The Department then makes this information available to communities and individuals to help inform and reduce the risks from natural hazards, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. The Department assists in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards is key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology online: http://www.OregonGeology.org

DOGAMI's mission is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.

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