



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GX22.LQ00.UN80423; OMB Control Number 1028-NEW]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Assessment of Flooding Impacts and Climate Inequities

AGENCY: Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to U.S. Geological Survey, Information Collections Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 159, Reston, VA 20192; or by email to gs-info_collections@usgs.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1028-NEW - Flooding in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact John Warner by email at jwarner@usgs.gov, or by telephone at 508-457-2237. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point of contact in the United States. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the PRA (44 U.S.C.

3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval. We may not conduct or sponsor, nor are you required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

- (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- (2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) How the agency might minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you

can ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: We will investigate social vulnerability to coastal-storm flooding in urban neighborhoods to assess inequities in the burden of flood risk. Recent flood disasters arising from severe coastal storms and hurricanes (i.e., Hurricane Ida 2021) have demonstrated the critical importance of incorporating rainfall into assessments of coastal flood risk. Climate change is leading to both increasing rainfall intensity and higher water levels during floods, creating increased risk for residents of low-lying areas such as those living in basement apartments who are often low-income or from minority racial groups. We will collect data on vulnerability to flooding from rainfall and tidal flooding through interviews and household/small business surveys. Participants will be drawn from residents and businesses in the Jamaica Bay watershed in and around Brooklyn, New York, who have experienced rainfall and/or tidal flooding within the last four years. Interview participants will be identified through snowball sampling and contact with community leaders. We plan to interview or conduct focus group discussions (FGDs) with 20 residents and to interview 5 small business owners, with each interview or FGD lasting 1-2 hours. Participants will share their experiences, concerns, and responses to flooding events and risks. Interviews will be recorded and transcribed. Transcripts will then be analyzed using qualitative data analysis software such as Atlas.ti. We will survey 300 households and 150 small- to medium business owners, with each survey lasting about 30 minutes. We will select survey participants through stratified random sampling. We will use regression analysis on the survey data to investigate indicators of vulnerability.

Title of Collection: Assessment of Flooding Impacts and Climate Inequities

OMB Control Number: 1028-NEW

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: New.

Respondents/Affected Public: Residents and businesses in the Jamaica Bay watershed in and around Brooklyn, New York, who have experienced rainfall and/or tidal flooding during the last 4 years.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 475: 20 resident interviews or FGD participants, 5 small business interviews; 300 household surveys, 150 small business surveys.

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Estimated Completion Time per Response: 2 hours for resident interviews or FGDs, 1 hour or less for small business interviews, 0.5 hour for household surveys and 0.5 hours for small business surveys.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 270 Hours

20 resident interviews/FGD x 2 hrs = 40 hrs

5 small business interviews x 1hr = 5 hrs

300 household surveys x 0.5 hr = 150 hrs

150 small business surveys x 0.5 hr = 75 hrs

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Frequency of Collection: One time.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: None

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, nor is a person required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq*).

Jane Denny,

Acting Center Director,

USGS Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center.

[FR Doc. 2023-09695 Filed: 5/5/2023 8:45 am; Publication Date: 5/8/2023]