



*Chautauqua County*  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

200 Harrison St., Suite 300 • Jamestown, New York 14701  
Phone (716) 661-8900 • Fax (716) 483-6679  
[www.planningchautauqua.com](http://www.planningchautauqua.com)

December 2, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Attn: Lis Kiefel  
44 G Street, NW.  
Washington, DC 200314 -1000

Dear Ms. Kiefel:

On behalf of the County of Chautauqua, we are pleased to submit this proposal for feasibility studies for inclusion in the 2015 USACE Annual report.

The Chautauqua County's abundant aquatic resources have always been a catalyst for economic growth by sustaining agriculture, providing drinking water, transportation and recreational opportunities, and are the foundation that supports the rich quality of life that we enjoy here; however, our lakes and streams have been negatively impacted through climate change and development pressure. These impacts are in the form of flooding, impaired water quality and hazards to navigation.

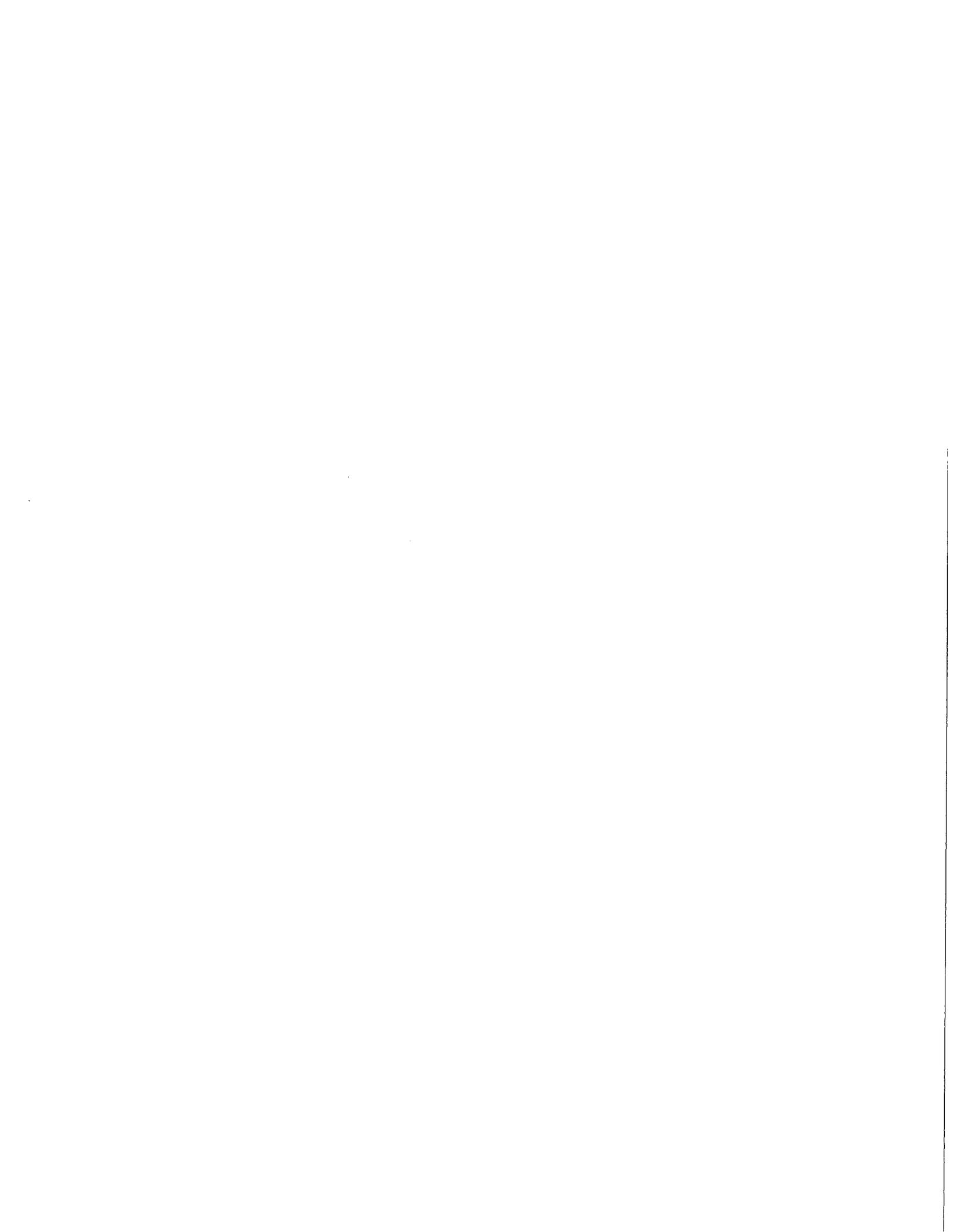
There are three areas of concern within Chautauqua County and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District offered for consideration for engineering and feasibility studies from the USACE Civil Works Program:

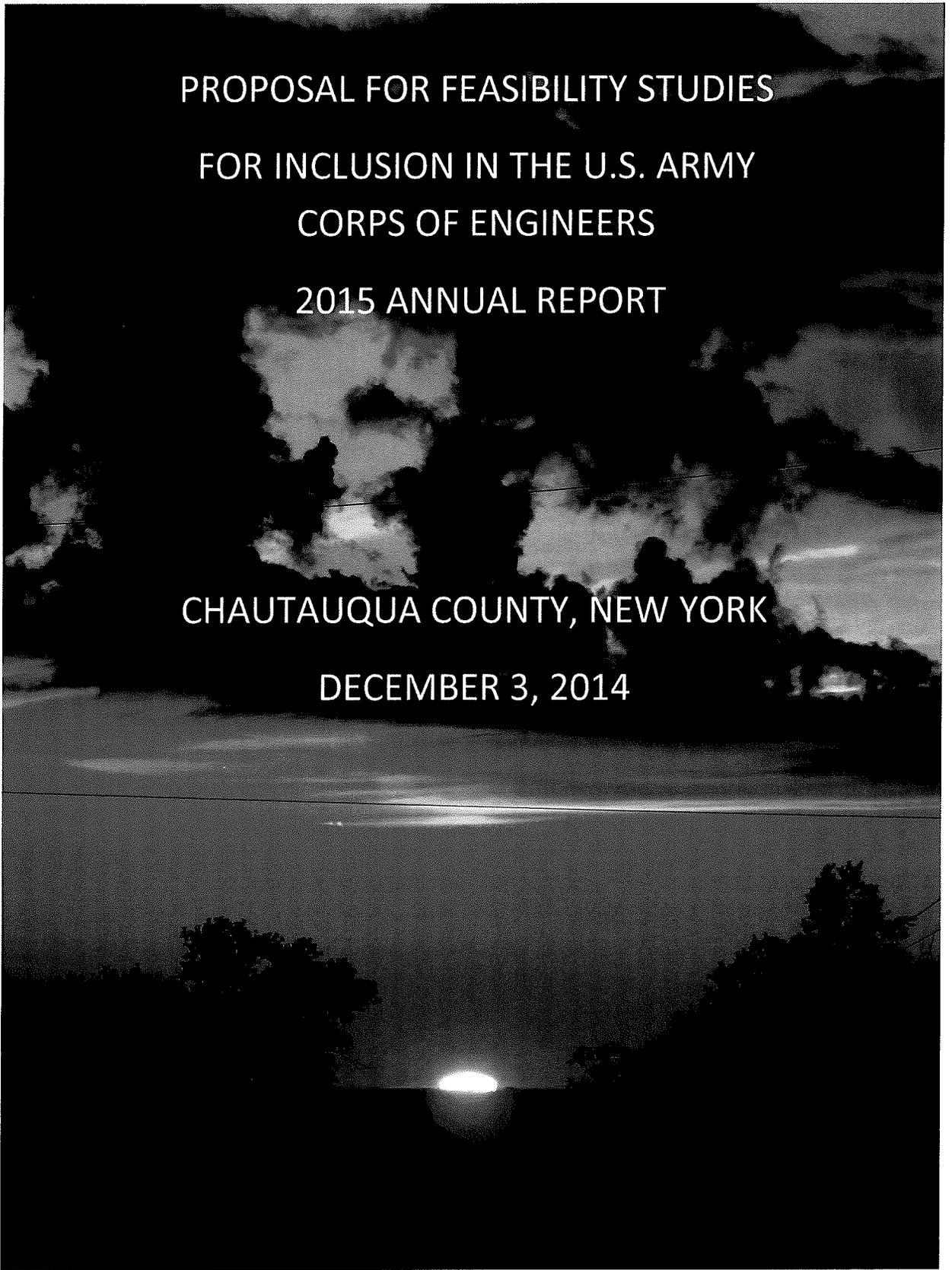
- The Cattaraugus Creek tributary to Lake Erie/St. Lawrence System;
- The Silver Creek tributary to Lake Erie/St. Lawrence System; and
- The Chautauqua Lake tributary to the Allegheny/Mississippi River System.

We sincerely hope that this proposal for inclusion in the 2015 USACE Work Plan is given serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Dave McCoy  
Watershed Coordinator  
Chautauqua County Planning & Economic Development  
200 Harrison Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
Phone: (716) 661-8915



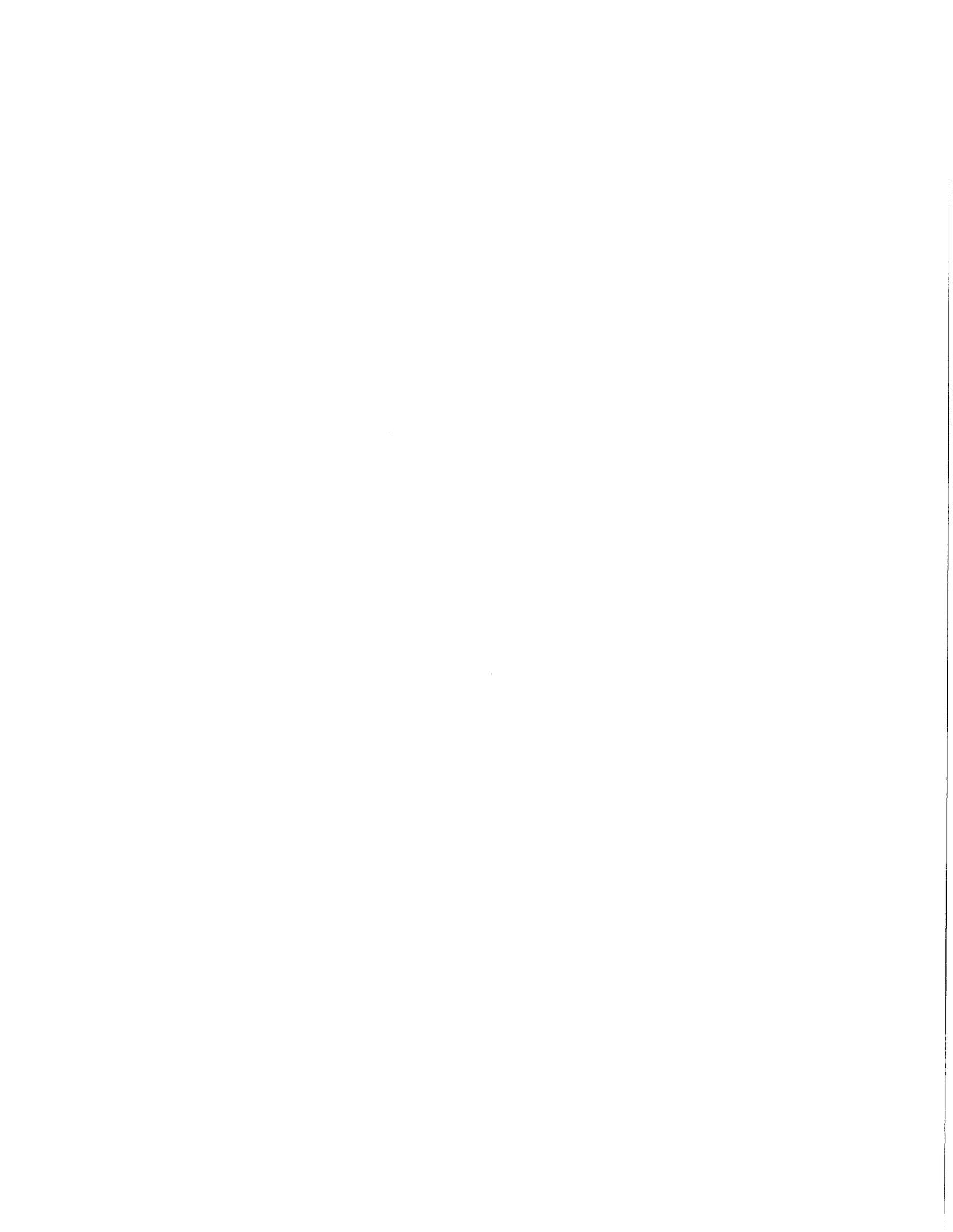


PROPOSAL FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES  
FOR INCLUSION IN THE U.S. ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

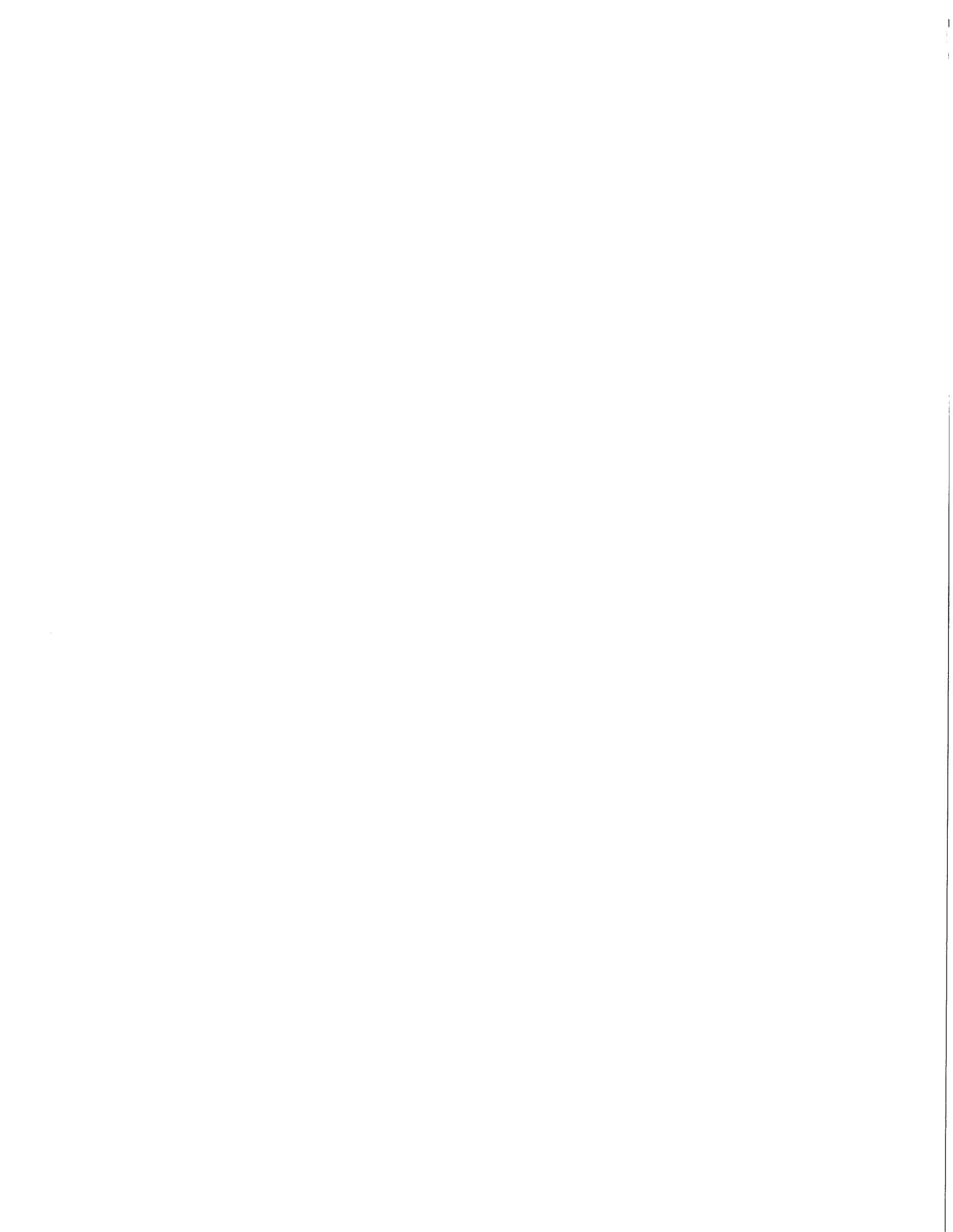
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY, NEW YORK

DECEMBER 3, 2014



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# Overview

As depicted in Figure 1, Chautauqua County is located in Western New York, bounded by Pennsylvania on the south and west, and by Lake Erie on the north. A unique aspect of the County's landscape is the escarpment of the Allegheny Plateau, which forms a high ridge that parallels the shoreline of Lake Erie. The escarpment also represents a key watershed divide between the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence River and the Allegheny/Mississippi basins, and is therefore, within the jurisdiction of the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Districts of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

With approximately 147,000 residents, the population of Chautauqua County appears to be stabilizing after decades of decline. Like many areas in the northeastern United States, Chautauqua County's population is growing older. Generational cohorts known as "Baby Boomers" (generally born between 1945 and 1965) and "Millennials" (their children generally born from 1980 to 2000) are two of the largest generations in US history, yet these two important age groups are underrepresented in the County's population. As a result of the recession, Baby Boomers and Millennials have out-migrated from Western New York to areas of the United States with stronger economies and opportunities for employment. Our greatest challenge is maintaining a high quality of life and a natural environment that will encourage stability and growth.

The County's abundant aquatic resources have always been a catalyst for economic growth by sustaining agriculture, providing drinking water, transportation and recreational opportunities, and are the foundation that supports the rich quality of life that we enjoy here; however, our lakes and streams have been negatively impacted through climate change and development pressure. These impacts are in the form of flooding, impaired water quality and hazards to navigation.

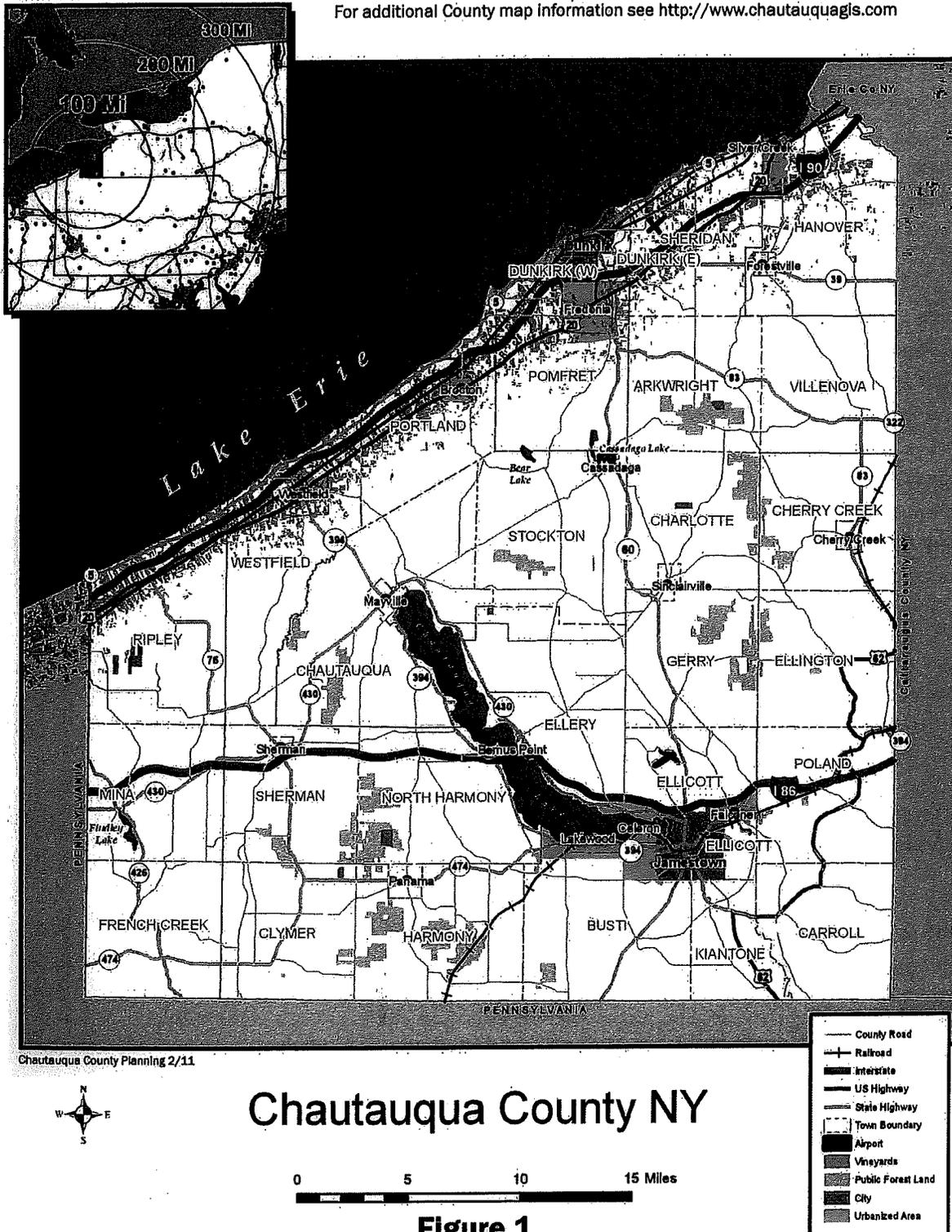
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- The Cattaraugus Creek tributary to Lake Erie/St. Lawrence System;
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- The Chautauqua Lake tributary to the Allegheny/Mississippi River System.

We sincerely hope that this proposal for inclusion in the 2015 USACE Work Plan is given serious consideration.

# CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY MAP

For additional County map information see <http://www.chautauquagis.com>



**Figure 1**