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**Coastal hazard assessment mapping in  
St. Margarets Bay, Nova Scotia**

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The Geological Services Division of the Nova Scotia  
Department of Natural Resources (NSDNR) has embarked

on a systematic mapping program of coastal hazards in Nova Scotia. This represents the first geology-based coastal hazard mapping undertaken by NSDNR. Mapping, data collection, and interpretation were undertaken at a 1:10 000 scale and the resulting products will be released as GIS-based maps. These maps will include links to photographs with accompanying detailed captions, figures illustrating important coastal processes, and explanatory captions typically describing aspects of data interpretation and predictive comment.

St. Margaret's Bay was chosen as the first area to be mapped because it encompasses a diverse spectrum of coastal attributes, examples include varying geomorphology, bathymetry, different wind exposures, different types of development, and varying degrees of infrastructure risk. The bay also offered the author an opportunity to observe and contrast the varying effects of Hurricane Juan and Post-tropical Storm Noel on the area. Though not known in the initial program planning stage, choosing St. Margarets Bay was somewhat fortuitous. In 1893, an unnamed category 3 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale made landfall in Nova Scotia. A category 3 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale is defined as having sustained winds ranging from 178 to 209 km/hr. This was the strongest hurricane to ever hit Nova Scotia and it tracked directly up St. Margarets Bay.