



US Army Corps  
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Engineer Research and  
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# Chicago, Illinois, Directional Wave Gauge



## Description

The Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory (CHL) operated and maintained a directional wave gauge near the Harrison-Dever water intake cribs from 1989 through 2003. Data are available on the Internet beginning from October 1991 through June 2003 from <http://sandbar.wes.army.mil> (select “Coastal Data” and scroll down to find Chicago, IL hot link)

## Issue

Information from the wave gauge has been used to support projects of the Chicago District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. Data are also used by the National Weather Service to validate nearshore forecasts and by the Wave Information Studies (WIS) to validate hindcasted wave data.

## Products

All data listings and plots are posted to <http://sandbar.wes.army.mil>. Additionally, climatic summaries and extremal analysis are updated annually and posted to the Internet.

## Supporting Technology

Gauges are bottom mounted and data were transmitted via double armored cable to a remote terminal unit (RTU) mounted in the crib. The RTU was polled every 2 hr and data were transferred by telephone to a computer at CHL where it was analyzed, quality-checked and posted to the Web.

## Benefits

Knowledge of actual wave conditions allows the Chicago District to respond effectively when storms threaten the lakeshore

## Sponsors

U.S. Army Engineer District, Chicago



## Point of Contact

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