In June 1972, tropical storms caused severe flooding in Pennsylvania and southern New York. The floods were more severe than those of similar rivers and caused widespread damage. The floodwaters reached the outskirts of several towns, including Elmira, Watkins Glen, and several smaller communities. The severity of the floodwaters caused extensive damage to properties and infrastructure. The extent of flooding was delineated by the U.S. Geological Survey's field surveys conducted immediately after the flood. The investigation was conducted in cooperation with the State of New York and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.