

Ohio Projects in the Great Lakes Habitat Restoration Database

sorted by project phase
as of January 1, 2009

RESTORATION / REHABILITATION / CREATION / ENHANCEMENT / PROTECTION PROJECTS

Project ID: 312

Project Name: Euclid Creek Dusty Goldenrod Land Conservation

Project Phase: Implementation Started

Location: In the Euclid Creek Watershed, in Highland Heights, Cuyahoga Country (?), Ohio

Abstract: The Dusty Goldenrod meadow in the Euclid Creek watershed is the only known location in the state of Ohio where the Dusty Goldenrod (*solidago puberla*), a state registered endangered plant exists. The project will establish a conservation easement for protection of nearly 14 acres of land where this plant resides. This project will also provide conservation services to the entire watershed in preserving upland palustrine wetlands to prevent further stress on the lower watershed functions.

Contact: Lynn Garrity, lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

Project ID: 175

Project Name: Middle Harbor Coastal Habitat Restoration

Project Phase: Design Completed

Location: The East Harbor Complex, Lake Erie, is located on the northeast side of the Marblehead Peninsula, in Ottawa County, Ohio; the basins of interest are East and Middle Harbors.

Abstract: Middle Harbor and East Harbor, Lake Erie, Ohio, used to be of similar water quality and species diversity prior to being separated by a causeway in the mid-1940's. Currently, Middle Harbor has degraded water quality, a lack of diversity of flora and fauna and is not connected to Lake Erie, whereas East Harbor is of higher water quality, a diverse fish community and allows for fish passage to the open lake. The Middle Harbor Coastal Habitat Restoration will involve the dredging of a portion of East Harbor for recreational purposes and the reuse of the dredge material to create an island in Middle Harbor. The objectives of this project are: decreasing wind fetch, which will reduce sediment resuspension and promote aquatic vegetation; increase connectivity to East and West Harbors; increase depth heterogeneity in Middle Harbor; monitor the response of the submerged aquatic vegetation community; monitor the response of the fish community in Middle Harbor and compare it to the adjacent East Harbor.

Contact: eric.weimer@dnr.state.oh.us

Project ID: 213

Project Name: Sheldon Marsh Nature Preserve – OH (sec. 1135)

Project Phase: Design Completed

Location: Huron, Erie County, Ohio

Abstract: Feasibility study will address measures which will restore the barrier beach at the state run Sheldon Marsh Nature Preserve; one of three remaining natural coastal wetlands in OH. Several state and Federal endangered species, including the tiger beetle, the piping plover, the small-flowered evening primrose, and Engelman's spike-rush, live in the study area. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified Sheldon's Marsh as a site for the piping plover recovery program. Preserve is currently protected by a rapidly eroding portion of the barrier beach

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 357

Project Name: Grand River/Rock Creek Drinking Water Treatment Plant Site Acquisition and Restoration

Project Phase: Design Completed

Location: Ashtabula County, Ohio

Abstract: Through land acquisition and restoration, this project will (1) remediate an existing ecological impairment by demolishing an existing drinking water treatment plant, re-contouring an existing holding pond, and restoring the riparian parcel to a more natural condition; (2) prevent future impairments from occurring by purchasing the parcel and protecting it from future development; and (3) protect existing unimpaired water quality conditions that currently exist in the Grand River, as well as providing additional buffer area adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's Morgan Swamp Preserve, which lies immediately to the north of the subject property.

Contact: Terry Seidel, tseidel@tnc.org

Project ID: 202

Project Name: Ballville Dam Fish Passage, Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio

Abstract: The Ballville Dam project area is located in Ballville Township, Sandusky County, Ohio, on the Sandusky River. The Dam impounds approximately 24 acres of water and serves as the only water supply for the City of Fremont. The Sandusky River supports valued fishes and fisheries. The Sandusky River and Sandusky Bay spawning stocks are a very significant contributor to the Lake Erie walleye (*Sander vitreum*) population. This population spawns in the Sandusky River and Bay and provides for a significant spring and fall fishery in Ohio waters. The Sandusky River spawning population appears to have declined since the late-1970s due to a number of factors, including spawning habitat degradation. The Ballville Dam restricts walleye and other fish migrations into the upper reaches of the Sandusky River. Fish passage could have an immediate impact on recruitment if spawning habitat was increased. The project as proposed entails the removal of the majority of the dam. Additionally, several ice control piers may be placed in the river where the dam previously was positioned in conjunction with a composite log ice boom to provide protection from ice jam related damage and flooding. It is also estimated that there is currently 380,000 to 570,000 cubic yards of sediment trapped behind the dam in the reservoir pool that would need to be removed prior to dam removal. The dam's removal would make an additional 22 miles of free-flowing river containing 300 acres of suitable spawning habitat available to walleye and other fish species. This would increase the existing available spawning habitat 15-fold. The proposed project would realize an increased ecological output value of 15,456 Ecological Output units over the Without Project Conditions in the Sandusky River. This is particularly significant as the river supports spawning stocks of walleye that are a very significant contributor to the Lake Erie walleye population. Walleye is of enormous ecological and economic importance to all jurisdictions. The implementation of this project would contribute to goals outlined in a Great Lakes basin management plan developed by the GLFC.

Contact: michael.j.greer@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 203

Project Name: Maumee Bay Habitat Restoration Unit

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Near the city of Toledo, OH, covering areas in Ohio and Michigan

Abstract: This project will evaluate the Federal interest in restoring and creating over 200 acres of Lake Erie coastal wetland habitat in coordination with maintenance dredging of the Toledo Harbor in Maumee Bay.

Contact: Craig.M.Forget@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 205 ******INCOMPLETE ENTRY******

Project Name: Ottawa River Navigation – Habitat Restoration

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Monroe County in southeast MI, in the Maumee Bay of Lake Erie, just north of Toledo, OH.

Abstract: The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has expressed an interest in partnering with the Corps to beneficially using dredged sediment to create mudflats and associated shorebird habitat adjacent to the Erie Marsh Preserve. Healthy ecosystems need to be created to provide places where birds can nest and raise their young, spend their winters, and rest and rejuvenate during migration.

Contact: craig.m.forget@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 206 ******INCOMPLETE ENTRY******

Project Name: Wynn Road Confined Disposal Site #3

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: The city of Oregon is located in Lucas County, in northwestern Ohio, directly adjacent to Toledo and Lake Erie. Specifically, the proposed fifty-seven acre, one-mile long corridor project site is located along the west side of Wynn Road just inland from Maumee Bay.

Abstract: Stakeholders propose a multi-faceted ecosystem restoration project on a 57 acres site that would allow for the creation of a diverse wetland/terrain mound area using large quantities of dredged material. Preliminary conceptual design would involve the placement of about 100,000 to 200,000 cubic yards of dredged materials creating a coastal wetland with emergent and bank vegetation.

Contact: craig.m.forget@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 211

Project Name: Conneaut Harbor, Ohio (Sec 1135)

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: In the city of Conneaut, Ashtabula County, Ohio.

Abstract: The Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) recommended the removal of sand from the western portion of Conneaut Harbor where the western navigation structures have restricted the natural sand littoral movement process. This project has the potential to provide environmental benefits to OH and PA, including an island for avian species that would be created in the western portion of Conneaut Harbor.

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 219

Project Name: East Harbor State Park, West Harbor, OH

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Adjacent to the West Harbor navigation structure, near Marblehead, Ottawa County, Ohio

Abstract: The navigation structures at the West Harbor Federal Navigation Project have limited the natural movement of sand along the shoreline causing erosion to occur at the 670-acre coastal wetland marsh referred to as Middle Harbor, an area within East Harbor State Park. The Project Restoration Plan recommended protecting Middle Harbor by restoring the protective barrier beach. This plan and others are being evaluated during the Feasibility Study Phase. The Middle Harbor wetlands are important fishery habitat providing spawning and cover areas for numerous species. Middle Harbor is one of three natural coastal wetlands remaining on Lake Erie.

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 235

Project Name: Southwest Lake Erie Land Protection Program

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Coastal wetlands from approximately Monroe, Monroe Michigan to Huron, Ohio

Abstract: The SW Lake Erie Land Protection Program has a five-year goal of securing 6,615 acres (20% acquisition and 80% conservation easements, both donated and acquired). This program has tremendous potential to provide essential buffers and connecting corridors to existing conservation lands in an already fractured landscape. The SWLELPP will also protect existing valuable wildlife habitat and restorable habitat through fee title acquisition. The acres protected will add to the Habitat/Species and Nonpoint Source goals within the GLRC Restoration Plan, conserving wetlands and adjacent uplands, and conserving critical wetland wildlife, including threatened and endangered species.

Contact: Jason Hill, jhill@ducks.org

Project ID: 297

Project Name: Arcola Creek Estuary Restoration

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: The Arcola Creek watershed drains approximately 25.5 square miles in Lake and Ashtabula Counties, Ohio. The main stem of Arcola Creek begins in the southwest corner of Lake County, flowing northward where it flows sharply to the east, before turning northward and discharging into Lake Erie at the Arcola Creek Estuary. The estuary is located approximately 12 miles west of Ashtabula Harbor, OH and 16 miles east of Fairport Harbor, OH. A number of tributaries flow into the main stem of Arcola Creek. The majority of these tributaries are located in Lake County, in the vicinity of Madison Ohio.

Abstract: In order to address the problem of low summer flows within Arcola Creek, Madison Township, Lake County Stormwater Management Department, and Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District have proposed the construction of regional storm water detention basins in strategic locations throughout the watershed. These detention basins would collect spring runoff and stormwater via manually operated gates that would divert high flows from the Creek. Based on a minimum flow requirement, the basins would be designed to release stored water via infiltration that would augment baseflow conditions during periods of low precipitation. This increase in baseflow would provide flow conditions and dissolved oxygen concentrations within the stream necessary to support fish and benthic populations that may otherwise be lost during periods of insufficient flows. In addition to improving habitat within Arcola Creek, it is possible that the construction of these retention facilities would create additional habitat in the retention basins themselves. Depending on water levels within

the basins, it is possible that habitat could be provided for fish, reptiles, amphibians, benthic macroinvertebrates, and a variety of migratory bird species. Water from the retention basins could also be used by areas nurseries for irrigation purposes, thereby reducing their need to draw water from Arcola Creek during the summer. This would help in maintaining the aquatic habitat of Arcola Creek and the estuary through the summer months.

Contact: Chad Edgar, cedgar@lakecountyohio.gov

Project ID: 311

Project Name: Euclid Creek East 185th Fish Passage Restoration

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Located in the City of Cleveland, just south of Interstate 90 on East 185th Street, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Abstract: The Euclid Creek East 185th Fish Passage Restoration Project will restore fish migration patterns in Euclid Creek. The East 185th Street spillway is the primary barrier to aquatic life movement from the estuary area of Euclid Creek on Lake Erie to the upper reaches of the main and east branch of the watershed. This project will renew fish passage in the watershed and assist in meeting water quality attainment standards. As a highly popular recreational fishing destination in one of the most densely populated regions of the Great Lakes, this project will provide economic and ecological benefits to the communities and the region.

Contact: Lynn Garrity, lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

Project ID: 315

Project Name: Grand River Lowlands, Ashtabula County, Ohio

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Approximately at the intersection of the Grand River with the Ashtabula and Trumbull County Lines, Ohio

Abstract: The Gleason property acquisition would permanently protect approximately 804 wetland and upland riparian acres in the Grand River watershed. A potential alternative purchase option has also been proposed by the owner, in which a significant portion of the land would be retained for use as a wetlands mitigation bank. The natural resources that will be protected by this acquisition include several hundred acres of the highest quality, Category III, wetlands and both main stem and tributary streams of the Grand River. The Grand River has been determined to be the most biologically diverse and intact ecosystem in the Lake Erie drainage basin in both the United States and Canada. The property is currently owned by a sand and gravel quarry operator who is considering expansion of mining operations onto the site. This project is a combined effort of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Division of Wildlife (DOW), Cleveland Museum of Natural History, The Nature Conservancy and Grand River Partners. The property is ideally suited for public ownership by the ODNR Division of Wildlife, as it is located in an area in which the Division has been expanding its conservation efforts for the protection of the Grand River's unique natural quality and for use and enjoyment by the public. Acquisition costs are unknown for this property as of 5/11/07 due to the complexity of negotiations with the landowner.

Contact: Bob.Fletcher@dnr.state.oh.us

Project ID: 316

Project Name: Keil Farm Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration and Habitat Restoration

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Lucas County, Ohio

Abstract: A purchase option has been negotiated with the current landowner by the Trust for Public Land to acquire a total of 150 acres of agricultural land within the City of Toledo, Lucas County, Ohio. Much of the 150-acre property will remain in agricultural condition after it is acquired in order to promote innovative and environmentally sound sustainable agricultural practices throughout northwest Ohio. Keil Farm is located within the Oak Openings Region, which harbors more rare plant and animal species than any other of similar size in Ohio. The region also sustains two globally rare plant communities, oak savanna and wet prairie. The project area encompasses over 2,600 linear feet along two separate streams as well as 10 acres within the 100-year floodplain. The area is currently in agricultural condition, but 35 acres will be restored to oak savanna and wet prairie habitats following acquisition by Metroparks. Once restored, these 35 acres of the project area will be perpetually managed as an Oak Openings natural area. The public will have access to this area through the establishment / maintenance walking paths. This restoration is necessary to meet the goals of the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, which has partially funded the acquisition of this 35 acres of the property. Restoration of the project area will be conducted by Metroparks staff over a 3 to 5 year period following acquisition and will involve planting of native grass and wildflower species harvested by Metroparks staff from other natural areas within the Oak Openings Region. Funding is still needed to acquire the remainder of the property.

Contact: tim.schetter@metroparkstoledo.com

Project ID: 318

Project Name: West Creek Confluence, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Confluence of West Creek and Cuyahoga River in the Independence, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Abstract: This project involves the acquisition and restoration of 10 acres of developed land at the confluence of West Creek and the Cuyahoga River. The property includes approximately 850 feet of West Creek's main stem, where it meets the Cuyahoga River, and approximately 250 feet of Cuyahoga River frontage. It is positioned at the northern end of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and will provide a public access point to the Cleveland Metroparks' Canalway Reservation, Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail, and Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The property currently consists of an empty warehouse and parking lot with a section of West Creek main stem bisecting the property. West Creek has previously been channelized in this area leading to flooding, degraded stream and river habitat, and influxes of nonpoint source pollution from adjacent impervious surfaces. Acquisition of this property presents a great opportunity to restore a functioning floodplain with a high degree of ecological diversity, flood storage and habitat connectivity to lower West Creek. It will create an expanse of urban floodplain wetlands that will reduce nonpoint source pollution while creating important habitat for waterfowl and amphibians. It will also reconnect the riparian habitat corridor currently severed by commercial development at the site. The protection and restoration of this ecologically significant confluence area has been outlined in the City of Independence Master Plan (July 2004), the Cuyahoga County Greenprint (2003), the West Creek Valley Management Plan (2001), and the West Creek Watershed Action Plan (2005). A matching fund award of \$850,000 was received from the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund. Additional local match of \$250,000 will be provided by local project partners. Total project acquisition cost is \$2.2 million. Restoration project costs have not yet been determined.

Contact: Neal Hess, nhess@westcreek.org

Project ID: 348 *****RECLASSIFY PROJECT TYPE TO PROTECTION*****

Project Name: East Point Acquisition and Preservation

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Northeast point of South Bass Island, Ottawa County, Ohio

Abstract: This project seeks to purchase the Valore land parcel on the farthest northeast point of South Bass Island in the Western basin of Lake Erie, in Ottawa County, Ohio, bordered by Lake Erie on three sides. The Lake Erie Islands have been designated as one of only four significant and unique habitat focus areas by the Ohio Division of Wildlife's most recent State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. Purchasing and protecting this property will keep it from being developed for vacation homes and protect habitat for many important species, including the Lake Erie water snake (*Nerodia sipedon insularum*)(federal designation: threatened; state designation: endangered), eastern fox snake (*Elaphe vulpina gloydi*), and the eastern garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*). Protecting this habitat helps address the requirements for protected habitat for the USFWS's Endangered Species Recovery Plan for the Lake Erie water snake. According to the Ohio Heritage Data Base System, other state-listed species that have been recorded in the near vicinity of this property include Richardson's pondweed (*Potamogeton richardsonii*), alpine rush (*Juncus alpinus*), as well as a number of rare mussels. This area also is important for migratory birds. The Lake Erie Islands are a part of the Lake Erie Western Basin Important Bird Area as designated by Audubon Ohio, with more than 300 species identified. The goals of the project are to: protect habitat and hibernation sites for the Lake Erie water snake; protect wooded habitat within 1/4 mile of Great Lakes shoreline designated important habitat for migratory songbirds; allow protection of nearshore vegetated shallow water habitat for rare plant species, migratory waterfowl (tundra swans), and feeding fish; allow shoreline fishing access; preserve an area for the public, a nature camp, ecotourism opportunities, and other eco-friendly business opportunities; and provide a field location for educational and research opportunities (e.g., The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory); preserve a site for wetland and coastal habitat restoration.

Contact: Lisa Brohl, Black Swamp Conservancy

Project ID: 377

Project Name: Naturalizing hydrology in the Western Lake Erie Watershed: Fish Creek two-stage ditch design

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Located in NE Indiana, NW Ohio, and south central Michigan, the St. Joseph River (SJR) watershed encompasses 694,400 acres. With its headwaters in Hillsdale County, MI, the SJR flows in a SW direction through OH and IN, before converging with the St. Mary's River in Fort Wayne, IN, to form the Maumee River. As tributaries, Cedar Creek and Fish Creek in Indiana contribute significant waters to the SJR.

Abstract: System Conditions--Agriculture is the dominant land-use in the St. Joseph River watershed, a major tributary of the Maumee River in the western Lake Erie basin. The hydrologic alterations associated with agriculture result in accentuated flooding by increasing drainage and by "channelizing" otherwise meandering creeks and streams. During non-storm conditions, the hydrologic changes result in a reduction in the overall flow of surface waters. Both of these conditions pose serious problems for the health of freshwater ecosystems and human use of St. Joseph River water. These hydrologic changes also lead to water quality problems, including accelerated rates of stream bank erosion and the concurrent increase in sediment in our creeks and streams, inadequate processing of nutrients, and increased turbidity, each of which alone, and especially all together, have dire consequences for plant and animal life dependent on the surface waters of the St. Joseph River and its tributaries. These changes also affect human use of this freshwater source for drinking water and recreation, both along

its course and as it joins the Maumee River and beyond to Lake Erie. Work--The Nature Conservancy has been working on the ground in the St. Joseph River watershed for over 14 years, working with landowners, farmers, academics, and government agencies to eliminate stresses on the river ecosystem, with a particular focus on the importance of balancing the aquatic ecosystem and water quality. With local partners, the Conservancy successfully implemented many conservation practices for an agricultural landscape, including the planting of buffer strips of native grasses along drainage ditches, creeks, and streams, wetland restoration, reforestation along riparian corridors, and the adoption of conservation tillage practices on local farms, particularly those with thin, highly erodible soils. The Next Step--Recent scientific studies have identified the need for improving water quality and slowing water flows in river headwater areas, the portion of a watershed containing the highest percentage of stream miles and the most opportunity for natural water quality improvement. In the St. Joseph River watershed, for example, headwater streams and ditches comprise over two-thirds of the entire stream miles. Headwater areas are considered the 'arteries' of the watershed, with outflows contributing to the larger river system. The ability of these headwater areas to either improve, or degrade, water quality is substantial as they have an amazing capacity for processing nutrients and sediment when natural water filtration processes occur. When land-use is highly managed and natural water filtration processes do not occur, headwaters also have the capacity to transport nutrients and sediment downstream. In the St. Joseph River watershed, the headwater creeks and streams have been straightened and/or deepened to facilitate adequate drainage for farming. As a result, surface water systems no longer have the natural ability to process and sequester sediment, nutrients, and agricultural chemicals. Project Background--Since 2003, The Nature Conservancy has been working with Ohio State University (OSU) to demonstrate successful alternatives to conventional ditch construction that provide adequate drainage for farming while mitigating the negative effects of typical drain construction. One demonstration of this alternative design called the "two-stage ditch" has been implemented in Hillsdale County, Michigan, at the headwaters of the St. Joseph River. The results of work at five two-stage ditch demonstration sites in Ohio and Michigan are impressive, with average reductions in sediment of 37.5%, in phosphorus of 32.5%, and in nitrogen of 16.5%. Most of these projects involved construction of just one-half mile of a two stage-ditch, which is a relatively small percentage of the overall stream length. Even at a small scale, this design conclusively improves water quality, slows water flow, and improves overall stream habitat without reducing the ability of the ditch to drain farm fields. The Project--The Nature Conservancy now is ready to apply this technology to a larger area to test and demonstrate the effectiveness of this design at a watershed scale. Implementing a two-stage drainage ditch design to alter the hydrology in five to ten square miles of the Fish Creek watershed will reduce the sediment, nutrients, herbicides, and pesticides that flow off of farm fields, moderating the effect of storm events, and providing a habitat for plant life that will capture, trap, filter, and convert non-point source pollution. The project will enable the Conservancy to learn how to implement and measure changes to watershed hydrology on a much larger scale than previously tested, develop best practices to be promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) acting principally through the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for farmers throughout Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio, and improve water quality in Fish Creek and the St. Joseph River. A five to ten square mile area is large enough to measure effectiveness at the larger scales that would apply to the Great Lakes basin.

Contact: Larry Clemens, lclemens@tnc.org

Project ID: 384

Project Name: West Creek Confluence Project

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: 6303 Granger Road, Independence, Cayuga County, Ohio

Abstract: The West Creek/Cuyahoga River Confluence Restoration Project will both remediate an existing ecological impairment and permanently protect the area from future impairments. The site is

located at the confluence of West Creek and the Cuyahoga River, within the West Creek and Cuyahoga River combined floodplains. Currently, the Cuyahoga River floodplain has been extensively developed for commercial and industrial usage in this area of Cuyahoga County. This 10-acre site contains approximately 850 feet of West Creek, which was channelized and straightened during commercial development, and approximately 250 feet of Cuyahoga River frontage. The commercial building is currently unoccupied, underutilized and the site is susceptible to flooding. The West Creek/Cuyahoga River Confluence Restoration Project involves the acquisition of the site, the removal of the commercial building and related impervious surfaces, the restoration and reintroduction of meanders and floodplain access to West Creek, and the re-creation of floodplain wetlands within the West Creek and Cuyahoga River floodplain. The West Creek/Cuyahoga River Confluence Restoration Project presents a unique conservation and restoration opportunity for watershed protection within the Cuyahoga River Area of Concern and Ohio Lake Erie Watershed. The project is detailed in the City of Independence's master plan for this area, displaying their commitment to the project and their desire for the redevelopment of the area along the Lower Cuyahoga River. The West Creek/Cuyahoga River Confluence Restoration Project will be an impetus for the redevelopment of this area toward a more ecologically friendly, environmentally sustainable and eco-tourism based local economy. This project also builds upon a \$3.5 Million partnership between the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) and the West Creek Preservation Committee to restore lower West Creek by increasing floodplain access, creating a more natural hydrology, removing fish blocking structures, and improving aquatic and riparian habitat.

Contact: Neal Hess, nhess@westcreek.org

Project ID: 386

Project Name: Grand River/Trumbull Creek Gorge, OH Riparian Habitat Conservation Project

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: N/A

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to conserve riparian habitat through land acquisition and restoration in the upper Grand River watershed in Ashtabula County, Ohio. The total project area is approximately 743 acres and is divided into two areas: 1) Trumbull Creek Gorge: Project area consists of 15 tracts of land that are currently under consideration by TNC for acquisition that total approximately 733 acres along Trumbull Creek downstream of SR 534 (approx. RM 6.2) and upstream of Windsor-Mechanicsville Road (approx. RM 3.75). The attempted acquisition of the parcels within the project area has been prioritized based on a set of criteria developed by TNC. 2) Grand River/Rock Creek Drinking Water Treatment Plant Site: Project area consists of one 10 acre parcel, site of the former Village of Rock Creek Water Treatment Plant (now defunct). The property includes about 500 feet of riparian corridor along the north bank of the Grand River, and lies immediately south of The Nature Conservancy's Morgan Swamp Preserve. This tract was prioritized in conjunction with the Trumbull Creek gorge tracts. TNC would like to acquire the parcel, restore its natural features, and eventually turn ownership and management of the parcel over to the Ashtabula Park District for public access to the river. TNC made an offer on the parcel at appraised value; however, the sale price is still under negotiation with the Village.

Contact: Kay Carlson, kcarlson@tnc.org

Project ID: 432

Project Name: Ashtabula 5 1/2 Slip Peninsula Habitat Enhancement

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: Located along the Ashtabula River about 1 mile upstream in Ashtabula County, Ohio.

Abstract: Remedial dredging has just been completed in the Ashtabula River AOC. Now habitat restoration/enhancement is needed to assist in delisting the AOC. The 5 1/2 Slip Peninsula and

surrounding area on the east side of the river hold high potential for reestablishing fish shelves, wetland and upland habitat as well hydrologically connecting a backwater area to the river. A number of projects have been proposed for this area and are being considered under different authorities to provide improved habitat for many native fish.

Contact: cieniawski.scott@epa.gov

Project ID: 207 ******RECLASSIFY PROJECT TYPE TO RESTORATION******

Project Name: Arcola Creek Estuary

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: In the town of Madison, Lake County, Ohio

Abstract: This feasibility study will evaluate alternative corrective measures including creating regional storm water retention basin, creation of riparian corridors, and installation of new culverts to allow for increased fish passage to necessary spawning grounds. The degraded aquatic habitat at Arcola Creek currently suffers from low flows and poor water quality during summer months.

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 208

Project Name: Oregon, Ohio Confined Disposal Facility #3

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Adjacent to Maumee River entrance channel, in Oregon, Lucas County, Ohio

Abstract: The Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) for this study will make recommendations concerning the restoration of coastal wetlands on approximately 100 acres of the CDF along Lake Erie. The City of Oregon, OH wants to make 100 acres of Lake Erie shoreline accessible to local residents. Incorporating wetlands into this property will transform public perception of the CDF from a wasteland to a valuable public and environmental resource. Restoration would act as a buffer between the CDF and the city. Migratory birds are of great ecological and economic value to the area. Healthy ecosystems need to be created to provide places where birds can nest and raise their young, spend their winters, and rest and rejuvenate during migration

Contact: craig.m.forget@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 209 ******INCOMPLETE ENTRY; RECLASSIFY PROJECT TYPE TO RESTORATION; VALIDATE WHETHER THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM ID #210******

Project Name: Cuyahoga River Stream Project (Sec. 206) Akron, OH

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Located within the limits of the city of Akron, Summit County, Ohio.

Abstract: This project involves the restoration of a one mile section of the upstream reaches of the Cuyahoga River. The Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) has recommended restoration of the area to include riparian corridor restoration on both sides of the river and the placement of in-stream structures to improve fish habitat. Restoration of this section of the river would help contribute to the overall improvement of the riparian corridor.

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 210 *****INCOMPLETE ENTRY*****

Project Name: Little Cuyahoga River – Akron, OH

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Located within the limits of the city of Akron, Summit County, Ohio.

Abstract: This is an Environmental restoration feasibility study which will address restoring an eight-mile section of degraded riverside habitat along the Little Cuyahoga River. The Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) has identified several measures including streambank erosion control measures and restoration measures which would include the expansion of the riparian buffer, the removal of understory growth, and placement of structures in portions of the river which would provide fish refuge and spawning areas; being pursued under Section 206, WRDA 1996, as amended.

Contact: laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 216

Project Name: Mentor Marsh, OH

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: In the city of Mentor, Lake County, OH; being a protected marsh along Lake Erie.

Abstract: Became Ohio's first state nature preserve in 1971; marsh is an important breeding and nursery area for several fish that live in Lake Erie; salt leaching into Mentor Marsh from old salt mine tailings dump sites has had severe consequences for the freshwater marsh; marsh is subject to severe shoreline erosion; study would investigate shoreline erosion and salt intrusion alternatives.

Contact: philip.e.berkeley@usace.army.mil

Project ID: 221

Project Name: Painesville Floodplain Restoration, Grand River

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Next to the Main Street Bridge, on an OSW-E portion of Grand River, Lake Country, Ohio

Abstract: The City of Painesville experienced a 100-year storm event last year which flooded approximately 20 residential acres located in the Grand River flood plain. Approximately 60-80 households were displaced. The dwellings were flooded up to the roof-lines. The city wants to buy the property, demolish the flood wall which is partially collapsed and structures and restore area to natural riparian conditions (but if possible reserve a small portion for recreation-soccer fields).

Contact: Lee Homyock, lhomyock@painesville.com

Project ID: 236

Project Name: Lake Erie Land Acquisition and Restoration

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Adjacent to Metzger Marsh/Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in Lucas County, Ohio

Abstract: The overall project goals are in two phases: Phase I would include the protection of a 958 acre farm through fee title acquisition. Phase II would be the restoration of as much of the property as possible. This acquisition and restoration would add a significant parcel of land to the 8,000 acre Metzger/Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge/Magee Marsh complex, thereby benefiting water quality, wildlife corridors, wetland vegetation and the corresponding fish and wildlife values.

Contact: tim.schetter@metroparkstoledo.com

Project ID: 313

Project Name: Euclid Creek Stream Restoration

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: In the City of Cleveland, approximately one mile upstream of where Euclid Creek empties into Lake Erie/ area is approximately 1.5 miles of stream corridor, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Abstract: The project will restore and improve habitat functions in the Lower Euclid Creek watershed to enhance fish migration patterns and increase the viability of the recreational fishing economy.

Contact: Lynn Garrity, lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

Project ID: 314

Project Name: Mentor Marsh Salt Contamination Remediation, Lake County, Ohio

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Mentor Marsh near Mentor, Lake County, Ohio

Abstract: Funds from the federal Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program were used in part to acquire 97 acres from the Morton Salt Company adjacent to Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve to help protect this treasured coastal resource. This project involved a coalition of partners including the Trust for Public Land, Morton Salt, City of Mentor, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Acquisition of the property, which is now owned and managed by the City of Mentor, supported the goals of the Mentor Marsh Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), developed under the auspices of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. Total project acquisition cost was approximately \$3,000,000. Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve occupies an ancient abandoned channel of the Grand River and was designated a national natural landmark in 1966. With more than 640 acres of wetlands, it is home to a wide variety of animals and birds, attracting naturalists and bird watchers from across the state. Mentor Marsh is also one of the most publicly accessible natural areas along Lake Erie. The project received significant support at the federal level through CELCP and the Transportation Reauthorization Bill. Public funding has also been provided by the state's Clean Ohio Fund, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Cleveland Foundation, and City of Mentor. There are opportunities for restoration projects in Mentor Marsh to restore impairments due to past salt contamination.

Contact: sandra.kosek-sills@dnr.state.oh.us

Project ID: 317 ******REVISIT PROJECT AREA******

Project Name: Port Clinton Waterfront Coastal Wetland Restoration, Ottawa County, Ohio

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Shoreline near downtown Port Clinton, Ottawa County, Ohio

Abstract: The Port Clinton Waterfront acquisition consists of approximately 3.4 acres and contains 1,252 feet of Lake Erie shoreline frontage set between two existing city parks. Federal funds have been awarded for the acquisition of the property, and match funds have been granted by Clean Ohio. Acquisition should be completed by September, 2008. The natural features of the property include near-shore wetlands, coastal marsh and critical waterfowl and shorebird habitat. The property will be managed for restoration and enhancement of the site's natural features. The addition of a nature trail will also allow public access and enjoyment of the Lake Erie coast. The City of Port Clinton was previously awarded a restoration grant, but they were not able to implement it since the property was still in private ownership. There is significant potential for restoration at this site due to the presence of invasive common reed, and a suitable restoration project could be designed after acquisition.

Contact: sandra.kosek-sills@dnr.state.oh.us

Project ID: 346

Project Name: Habitat Restoration in the St. Joseph River Watershed in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: The St. Joseph River watershed encompasses 694,400 acres in three states in portions of the following counties: Branch and Hillsdale Counties, Michigan; Williams and Defiance Counties, Ohio; and Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, and Allen Counties, Indiana.

Abstract: The St. Joseph River watershed supports a rich diversity of fish and wildlife, including several threatened and endangered species. The northern population of the Copperbelly Water Snake (*Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*) is found in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana within the bounds of the St. Joseph watershed. The northern population of the copperbelly is listed as endangered in all three states as well as being federally listed as threatened. In addition, three species of critically endangered mussels, the white cat's paw pearly mussel, northern riffleshell, and clubshell, occur within the St. Joseph River and its tributaries. The copperbelly exhibits seasonal use of habitats, utilizing primarily wetland habitats in the spring and upland habitats in the summer. In addition, copperbellies frequently move between multiple wetlands, relying on forested uplands for travel corridors. This project targets habitat restoration for the copperbelly water snake. Because of the copperbelly's diverse habitat requirements and travel patterns, recovery of this species will require restoration of large, connected complexes of multiple wetland types and surrounding forested uplands. Wetland and upland restoration will also help to reduce erosion and sedimentation in the St. Joseph River and its tributaries, improving water quality for mussel species. In addition, this project will seek opportunities for restoration of riparian vegetation and enhancement of stream habitat for mussels and fisheries.

Contact: barbara_hosler@fws.gov

Project ID: 349

Project Name: East Point Shore Reserve Acquisition and Preservation

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Northeastern point of South Bass Island, Put-in-Bay Township, Ottawa County, Ohio

Abstract: The East Point (Valore) Property on the eastern tip of South Bass Island is being offered for sale to the Put-in-Bay Township Park District. The property includes two parcels, which together comprise approximately 8.6 acres with approximately 1/3 mile of Lake Erie shoreline. The area's rocky shores, shallow waters, and upland cover provide habitat for federally threatened, state endangered Lake Erie Water Snakes, migratory songbirds and waterfowl, and shoreline plants. The site is located on South Bass Island, a key stop in two major eastern migratory bird flyways at the point where they cross Lake Erie. The Put-in-Bay Township Park District is applying for CELCP funds to purchase and protect this property and provide open space and public shoreline access for recreational pursuits such as walking, shoreline fishing, and bird watching. Purchasing this property will preserve the wildlife habitat values of the area and open possibilities for shoreline, wetland, and upland habitat restoration efforts. It will also allow the community to have natural habitat accessible to the public for ecotourism pursuits. Preserving this property would meet the goals of Ohio's CELCP Plan, the Ohio Division of Wildlife's most recent State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, the Lake Erie Protection and Restoration Plan, and key recommendations of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration. The conversion threat for this property remains high, as it is currently owned by a developer. Funding of this project would mean that this high visibility, high ecological value property would have protection for the future and allow its enjoyment by the public instead of conversion to private residential use. The Lake Erie Islands Chapter of the Black Swamp Conservancy will be assisting the Put-in-Bay Township Park District in finding funding for this acquisition. The Western Reserve Conservancy has offered their assistance with this project as well.

Contact: Lisa Brohl, leic_bsc@cros.net

Project ID: 363 *****INCOMPLETE ENTRY; RECLASSIFY PROJECT TYPE AS RESTORATION; REVIST PROJECT AREA*****

Project Name: Portage County Wastewater Collection

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: City of Ravenna, Portage County, Ohio, 17th Congressional District

Abstract: This project would entail restoration of critical wetland habitat over approximately 12 acres in the headwaters of the Little Calumet River. This project would also protect the resources of the adjacent Little Calumet Headwaters Nature Preserve and the Little Calumet River.

Contact: Carol Barish, cbarish@pscinc.com (submitter)

Project ID: 365 ******RECLASSIFY PROJECT TYPE TO RESTORATION******

Project Name: Wetlands Restoration Project

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: Cleveland Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Abstract: The goal of the Wetlands Restoration Project is to restore native plant species in about 4.5 acres of wetlands in the local watershed found within the boundaries of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, ensuring that the parkland area continues to serve as an important migratory bird flyway on the southern shore of Lake Erie (the area is designated as an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Society). The project will take place in the upper portion of the Doan Brook with its headwaters in the eastern suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio, and a visible streambed flowing through the city and emptying directly into Lake Erie at a location called Dike 14. The project will map, monitor, and physically remove invasive vegetation, primarily purple loosestrife, yellow flag iris, and Japanese knotweed, from the marsh and replant and reseed the areas with native flora, including buttonbush, broad-leaf arrowhead, northern blue flag iris, and cardinal flower. Bird and animals that will benefit from the project include migratory birds, e.g., kingfishers, green and blue herons, and warblers; resident birds including waterfowl; butterflies such as monarchs; amphibians such as green frogs; and reptiles including painted turtles.

Contact: Carol A. Marshall, Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

Monitoring / Management / Research / Education Activities

Project ID: 299 ******RECLASSIFY AS OTHER PROJECT TYPE******

Project Name: Development of biological control of invasive *Phragmites australis*

Project Phase: Design Completed

Location: Nationwide, not restricted to Great Lakes Region

Abstract: Introduced *Phragmites australis* is one of the most serious wetland invader in North America. Failure of chemical, physical or mechanical means to control populations resulted in the initiation of research to assess the feasibility of biological control. Since 1998, work in Europe and North America has identified several promising stem-mining moths species as potential biological control agents. Preliminary host specificity tests have indicated that these species have a strong preference for the invasive *Phragmites* genotypes and do not appear a threat to endemic North America subspecies *Phragmites australis americanus*. Before any introductions occur, these preliminary data need to be supported by more extensive testing of different genotypes of the endemic subspecies plus testing of other native plant species and a stakeholder survey. This work is currently ongoing at Cornell University, University of Rhode Island and with support by CABI Bioscience Switzerland.

Contact: Bernd Blossey, bb22@cornell.edu

Project ID: 240

Project Name: Biological control of invasive *Phragmites australis*

Project Phase: Planning Initiated

Location: This study will occur throughout the Great Lakes region and North America.

Abstract: Invasive introduced genotypes of the grass *Phragmites australis* continue their invasions throughout the Great Lakes watershed. Associated with the invasion are reductions in biodiversity with particular negative impacts on native plants, birds and amphibians. Current control methodologies (largely herbicide) are unable to control the plant long-term or prevent future expansion.

Implementation of biological control is anticipated to reduce the invasiveness of *P. Australis* and restore diverse native communities, but long-term information about the local food webs of the Great Lakes region must be collected before control agents are released.

Contact: Kurt Anderson, kanderson@ducks.org

Project ID: 358 ******INCOMPLETE ENTRY******

Project Name: Huron-Erie Corridor Initiative (HECI)

Project Phase: Proposed

Location: The Huron-Erie Corridor (HEC) includes southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, and western Lake Erie in the states of Ohio and Michigan and the province of Ontario.

Abstract: The proposed project will generate relevant new scientific information that will assist fishery resource managers in making decisions regarding restoration of native fish species and their habitats in the HEC. The HEC includes southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, and western Lake Erie. It is an international connecting channel, with waters shared by the United States, Canada, and the Walpole Island First Nation. Spawning and nursery habitat in HEC waters is used by more than 65 species of fish, and is home to 16 threatened or endangered fish species.

Contact: Dr. Leon M. Carl, lcarr@usgs.gov
