

Inventories and Assessments

Habitat Assessments for Muskegon Lake and White Lake

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*Planning and Implementing
Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Assessments*

Primary Goals/Uses

- *Assess current status of fish and wildlife habitats*
- *Facilitate establishing measurable restoration targets*
- *Provide baseline information to “measure” success of restoration efforts*

Muskegon Lake and White Lake *Habitat Assessment*

- *MCD secured funding and requested proposals*
- *Proposals were submitted and funding awarded*
- *Project was completed*
- *Reports and GIS products were submitted to MCD*

Planning

- *Partnerships*
 - *Local agencies (e.g. MCD)*
 - *Local groups (e.g. fishing groups, Audubon)*
 - *Fish and wildlife biologists*
 - *GIS specialists*

Partnerships *Local agencies*

- *Familiar with AOC*
- *Good connection with local groups*
- *Familiar with funding sources*
- *Help set targets*

Partnerships

Local groups

- *Familiar with the AOC*
- *Very good source of information regarding fish and wildlife*
- *Possible source of funding*
- *Help set targets*

Partnerships

Fish and wildlife biologists

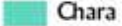
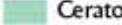



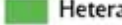



- *Knowledge of fish and wildlife habitat assessments*
- *Knowledge of factors that influence habitat quality*
- *Help set targets*

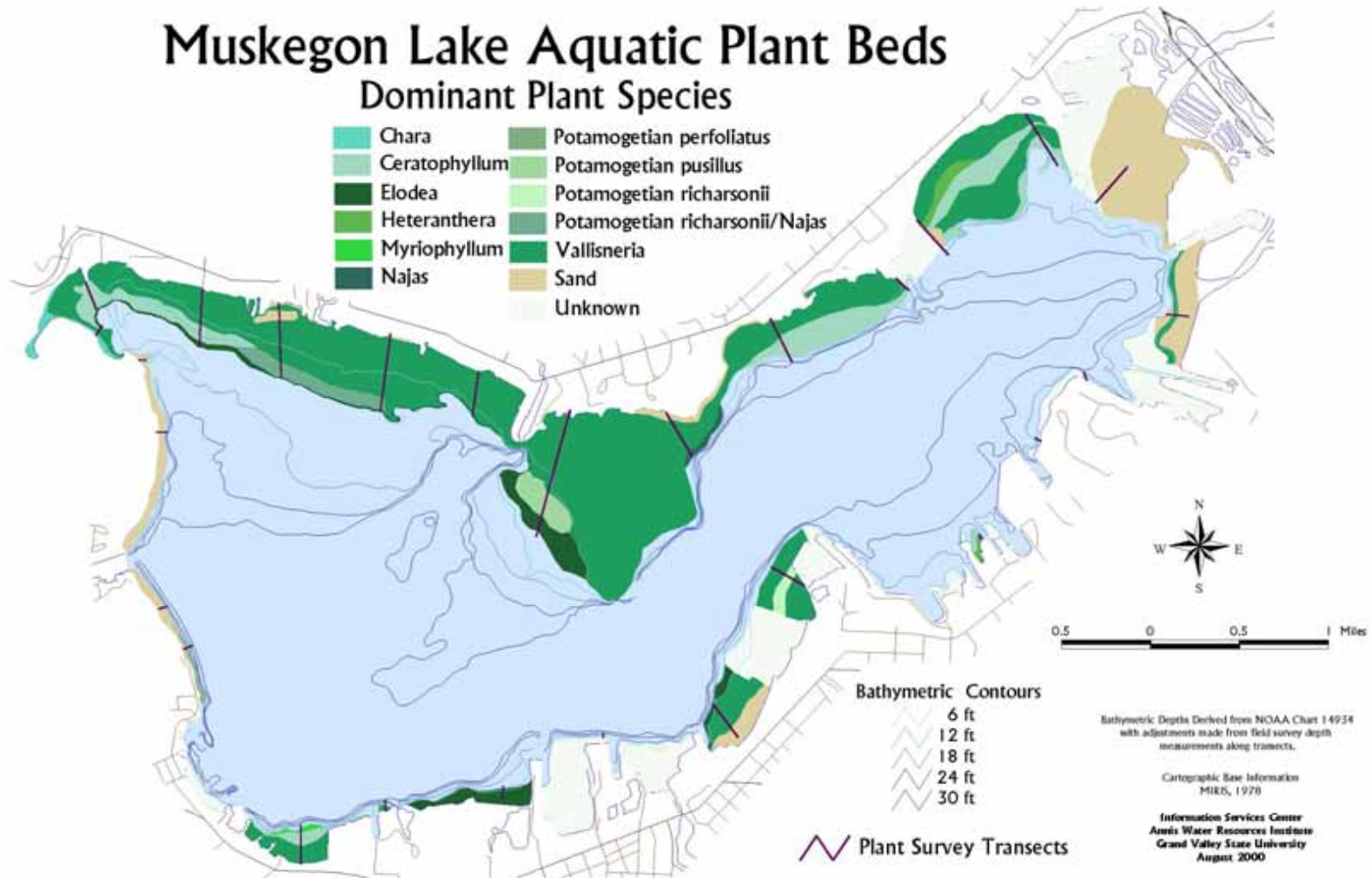
Partnerships *GIS specialists*

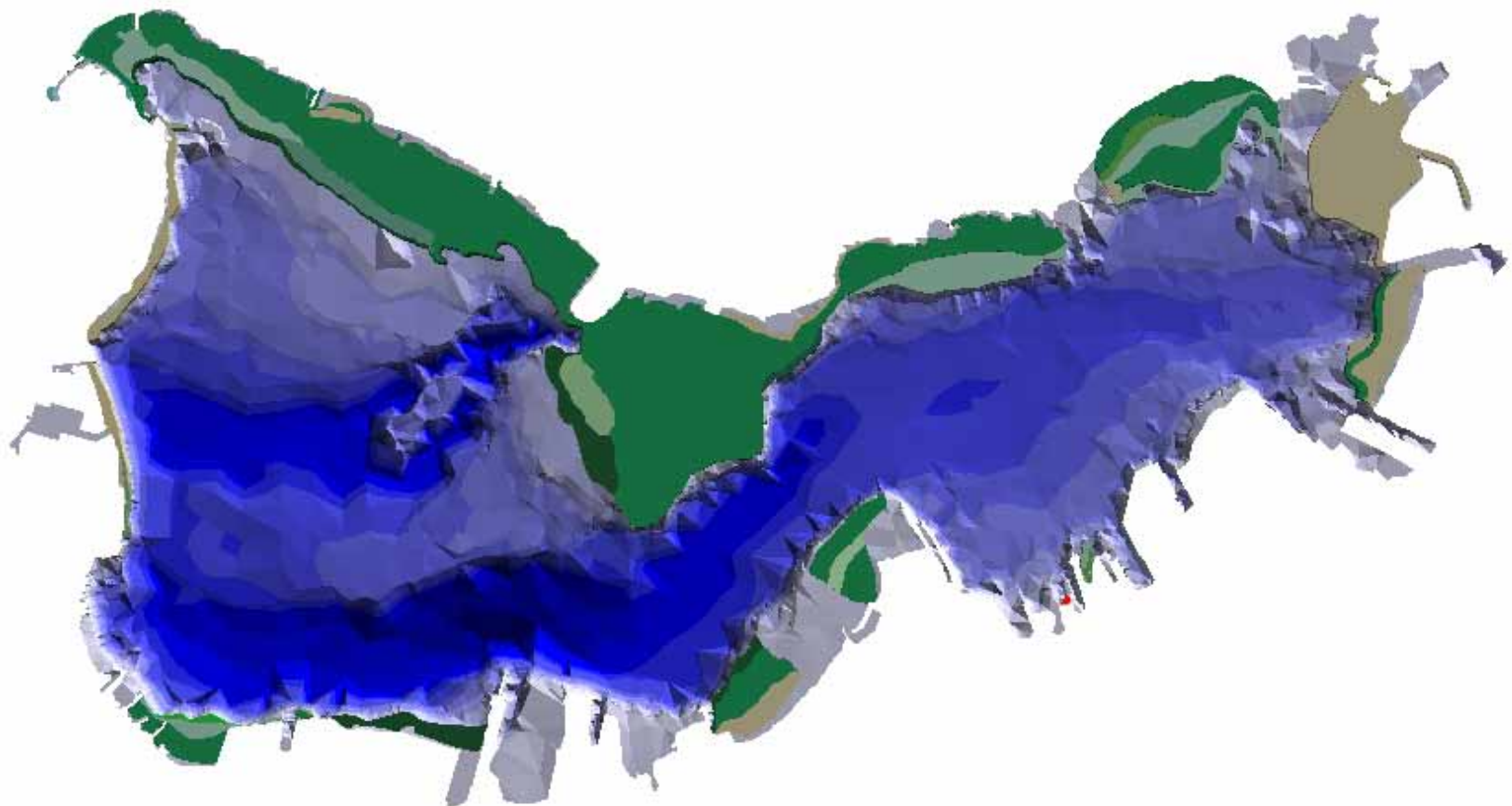
- *Organize information*
- *Builds on available GIS information layers*
- *Makes habitat information very accessible*

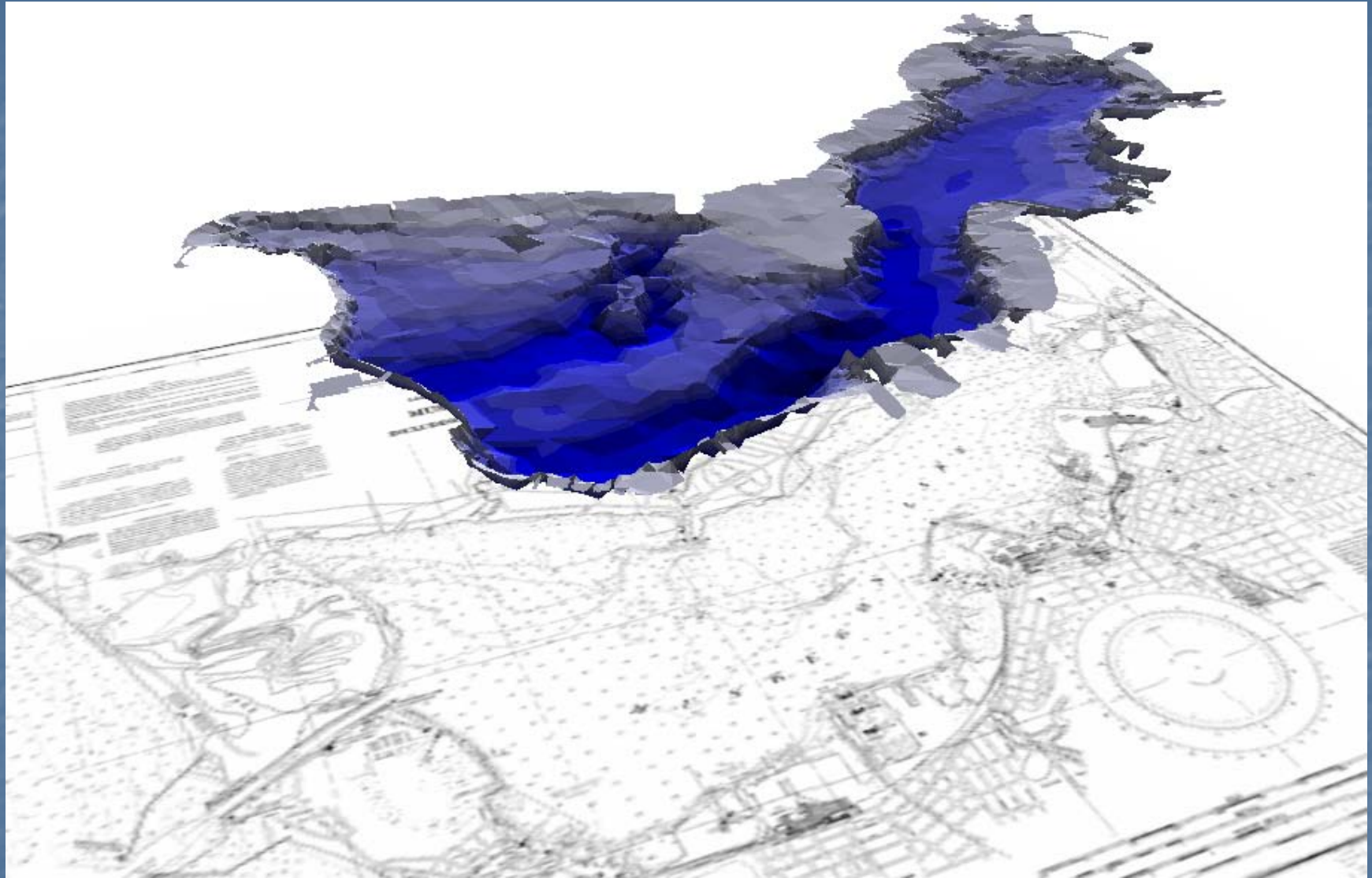
Muskegon Lake Aquatic Plant Beds

Dominant Plant Species

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
|  | Chara |  | Potamogetian perfoliatus |
|  | Ceratophyllum |  | Potamogetian pusillus |
|  | Elodea |  | Potamogetian richarsonii |
|  | Heteranthera |  | Potamogetian richarsonii/Najas |
|  | Myriophyllum |  | Vallisneria |
|  | Najas |  | Sand |
| | |  | Unknown |







Implementing Habitat Assessments

- *Trade-offs*
 - *Funding*
 - *Size of AOC*
 - *Level of detail desired*
- *Recall - “measure” success of restoration efforts*