



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2013





Great Lakes Commission Staff



GREAT LAKES COMMISSION SEMIANNUAL MEETING

| March 5-6, 2013

| WASHINGTON, D.C.

Federal Policy Agenda - 2013



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- **Fund Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)**
- **Pass comprehensive Great Lakes legislation**
- **Address low water levels by funding dredging**
- **Fund waste and drinking water infrastructure**
- **Pass Farm Bill**
- **Stop Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species**



Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- Mid-way through 5-year, \$2.2 billion program
- Over \$1 billion appropriated to date - \$300M for FY13
- 1,400 projects underway
- Strong congressional and stakeholder support
- Three key priorities for 2012 and 2013:
 - clean up AOCs;
 - reduce nutrient inputs;
 - prevent new invasive species introductions
- Cuts will slow progress, make cleanup more expensive





MARCH 2013

Great Lakes Restoration at work in **Wisconsin**

The state of Wisconsin – together with local communities, tribes, nongovernmental organizations and business and industry – is collaborating with the federal government to implement a comprehensive restoration strategy for the Great Lakes. With strong support from Congress and the Administration, this partnership is generating on-the-ground actions that will improve Wisconsin's economy, environment and quality of life. This fact sheet describes how Great Lakes restoration is benefiting Wisconsin and showcases selected restoration projects now underway.

The Great Lakes: A Vital Economic Asset for Wisconsin

The Great Lakes have profound effects on Wisconsin's environment, culture and quality of life. Lakes Michigan and Superior provide

- sport fishing opportunities for more than 250,000 anglers, bringing \$252 million to lakeshore communities annually;
- the foundation for a \$3 billion tourism industry in lakeshore counties;
- water vital for manufacturing;
- harbors and marinas that support a \$9.4 billion annual recreational boating industry; and
- a maritime transportation network that supports the movement of \$7 billion in cargo through Wisconsin ports annually.

As these figures show, cleaning up the Great Lakes isn't just about correcting mistakes of the past, but of leveraging a vital resource to build a better future.

Investing in Wisconsin's Waterfront Communities

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) is supporting implementation of a comprehensive cleanup plan that has

standards. An interagency task force, led by U.S. EPA, is coordinating federal efforts and directing a majority of funding to states, cities and nongovernmental groups that are best able to address local restoration priorities.

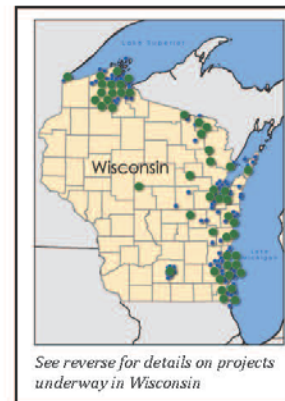
Economic Benefits from Restoring the Great Lakes

Restoring the Great Lakes advances our region's broader strategy to create jobs, stimulate economic development and invest in freshwater resources and waterfront communities. A detailed study by The Brookings Institution found that fully implementing the Great Lakes restoration strategy would generate \$80 billion to \$100 billion in benefits, including

- \$6.5 billion to \$11.8 billion in direct benefits from tourism, fishing and recreation;
- \$50 million to \$125 million in reduced costs to municipalities; and
- \$12 billion to \$19 billion in increased property values in degraded shoreline areas, including up to \$2.3 billion for the Milwaukee metro area alone.

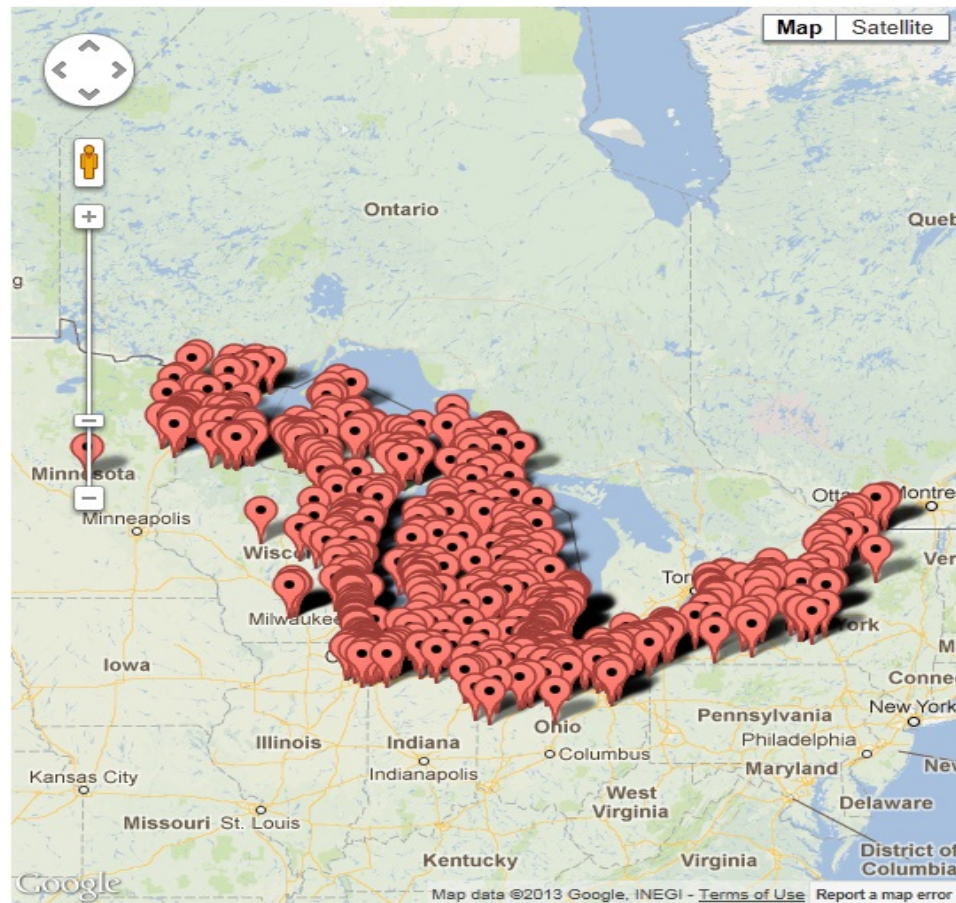
Solving Great Lakes Problems

The GLRI builds on state and local efforts to solve problems



Great Lakes Restoration **At Work**

Site-specific Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects, FY 2010-2012



Select Jurisdictional Boundary Layer

☐ None ☐ Congressional Districts ☐ Counties

[About this site](#)

Use Selection Below to Filter Table and Zoom To State

Select State Enter keyword to search

Project Title	Recipient Organization	GLRI Award	Fiscal Year	State
Tribal Capacity - 1854 Treaty Authority (Grand Portage and Bois Forte Bands of Chippewa)	1854 Authority	\$"85,375"	2012	MN
A Unique Approach to Sediment Reduction in Blue Creek and St. Marys River Watersheds	Adams County Soil and Water Conservation District	\$"448,115"	2010	IN
Alger-Marquette (MI) Cross-Border Restoration Project	Alger Conservation District	\$"105,000"	2012	MI
Collaborative Partnership to Restore Alger County Watersheds	Alger Conservation District	\$"789,384"	2010	MI
Promoting Sediment Reduction in Upper Maumee Watershed	Allen County SWCD for Upper Maumee River Watershed Partnership	\$"353,400"	2011	IN
Marine Debris Removal and Prevention on Belle Isle	Alliance for the Great Lakes	\$"50,000"	2012	MI
"Deploying Tools to Analyze and Reduce Coastal Vulnerability to Climate Change in Michigan City, IN"	Alliance for the Great Lakes	\$"100,000"	2012	IN
Milwaukee Volunteer Restoration Project	Alliance for the Great Lakes	\$"100,000"	2012	WI
Northeast Illinois Ravine Restoration & Monitoring Program	Alliance for the Great Lakes	\$"150,000"	2011	IL

For additional background on the GLRI and specific projects, go to <http://www.glr.us>.

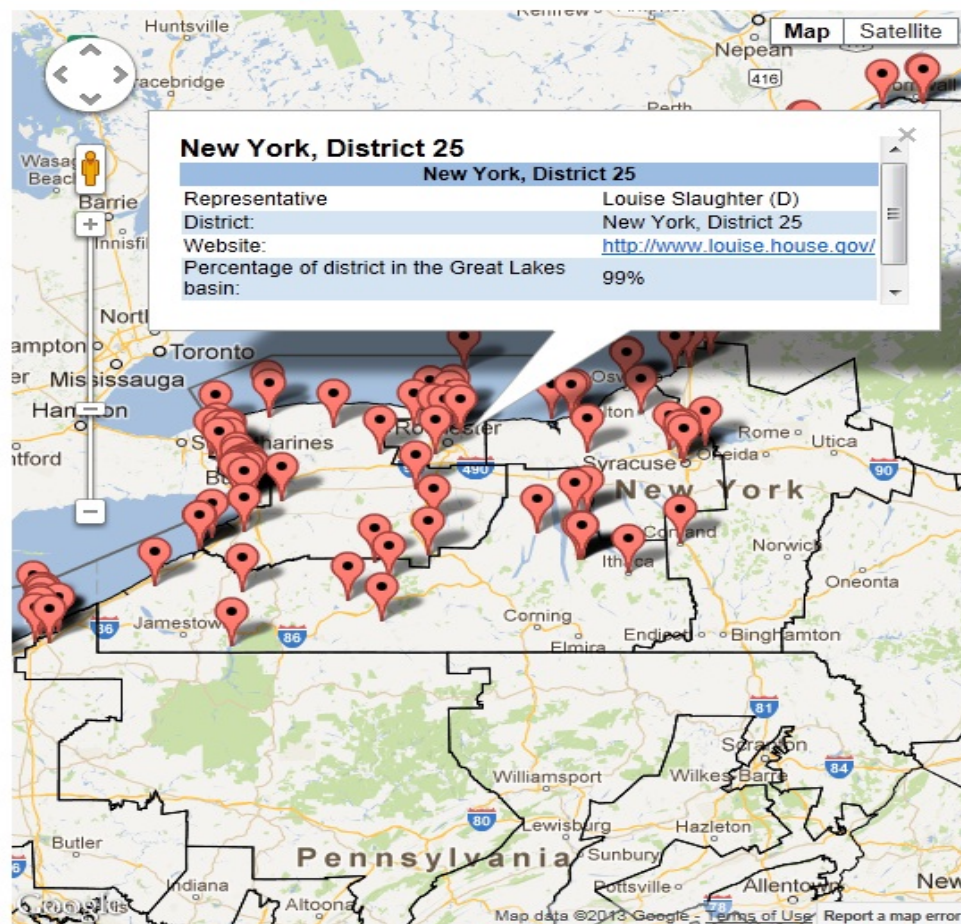


Note: Jurisdictional boundary data was acquired from U.S. Census Bureau. If you have any additional questions and concerns about a GLRI project(s), please [e-mail us](#).

www.glc.org/restore/glrmap

Great Lakes Restoration **At Work**

Site-specific Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects, FY 2010-2012



Select Jurisdictional Boundary Layer

None **Congressional Districts** Counties

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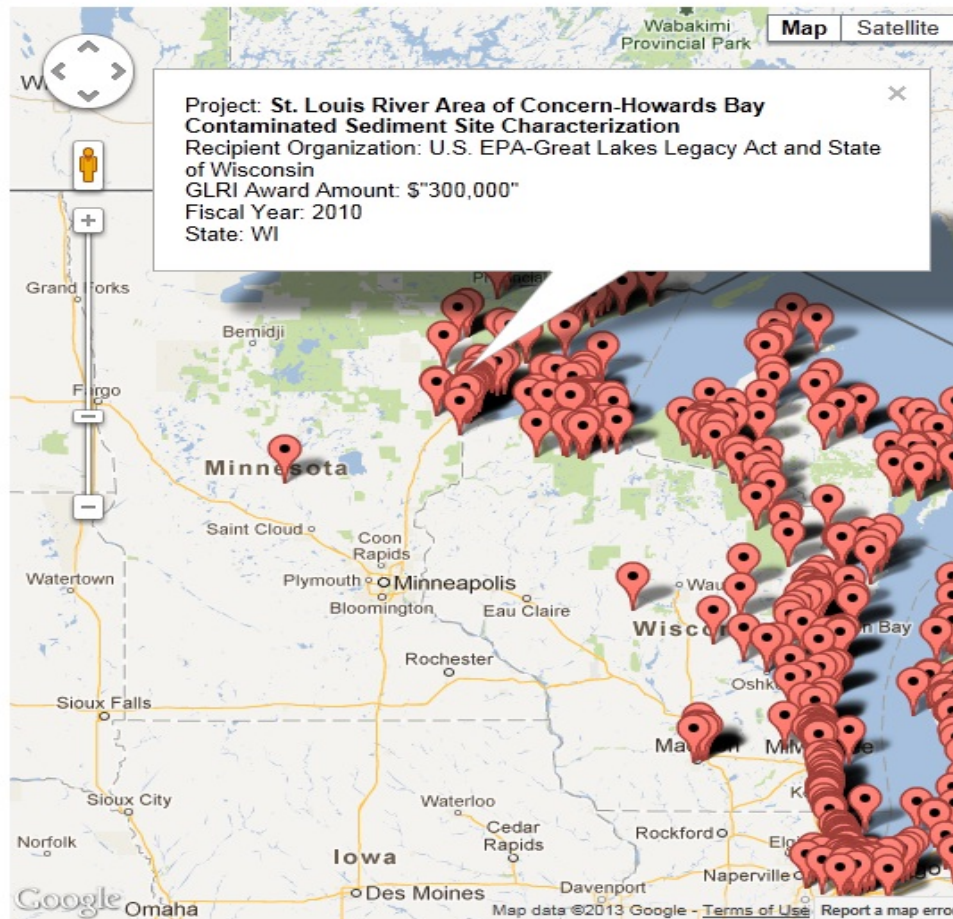


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Great Lakes Restoration **At Work**

Site-specific Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects, FY 2010-2012



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None Congressional Districts Counties

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Wisconsin

Enter keyword to search

Concern Great Lakes Legacy Act Lincoln Park Contaminated Sediment Remediation	U.S. EPA-Great Lakes Legacy Act and State of Wisconsin	\$"5,000,000"	2012	WI
Sheboygan River Area of Concern Great Lakes Legacy Act Contaminated Sediment Remediation	"U.S. EPA-Great Lakes Legacy Act, State of Wisconsin, City of Sheboygan, Wisconsin Public Service and Pollution Risk Services"	\$"28,000,000"	2012	WI
St. Louis River Area of Concern-Howards Bay Contaminated Sediment Site Characterization	U.S. EPA-Great Lakes Legacy Act and State of Wisconsin	\$"300,000"	2010	WI
Milwaukee River Area of Concern-Lincoln Park Contaminated Sediment Remedial Design and Sediment Remediation	U.S. EPA-Great Lakes Legacy Act and State of Wisconsin	\$"5,174,000"	2010	WI
Sheboygan River Area of Concern Contaminated Sediment Site Characterization and Feasibility Study and Remedial Design	"U.S. EPA-Great Lakes Legacy Act, State of Wisconsin, City of Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, and Wisconsin Public Service"	\$"368,000"	2010	WI
Coastal Wetland Restoration at the Pt. au Sable Nature Preserve	University of Wisconsin	\$"150,000"	2012	WI
Botulism/Algal Reporting & Data Management-Public Tools	University of Wisconsin - Madison	\$"107,980"	2010	WI
Innovations to improve stormwater treatment	University of Wisconsin - Madison	\$"411,883"	2010	WI

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www.glc.org/restore/qlrimap

www.glc.org/restore/glrimap



Comprehensive Great Lakes Legislation

- Reauthorize Great Lakes National Program Office
- Great Lakes Advisory Board
- Federal Interagency Task Force
- Authorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative - \$475 Million per year
- Reauthorize the Great Lakes Legacy Act - \$150 Million per year



Legacy Act – Task Force

- Reauthorize at \$150 Million (currently \$50 M)
- Address cost share for “no responsible parties”
- Address sites nearby but not within boundaries

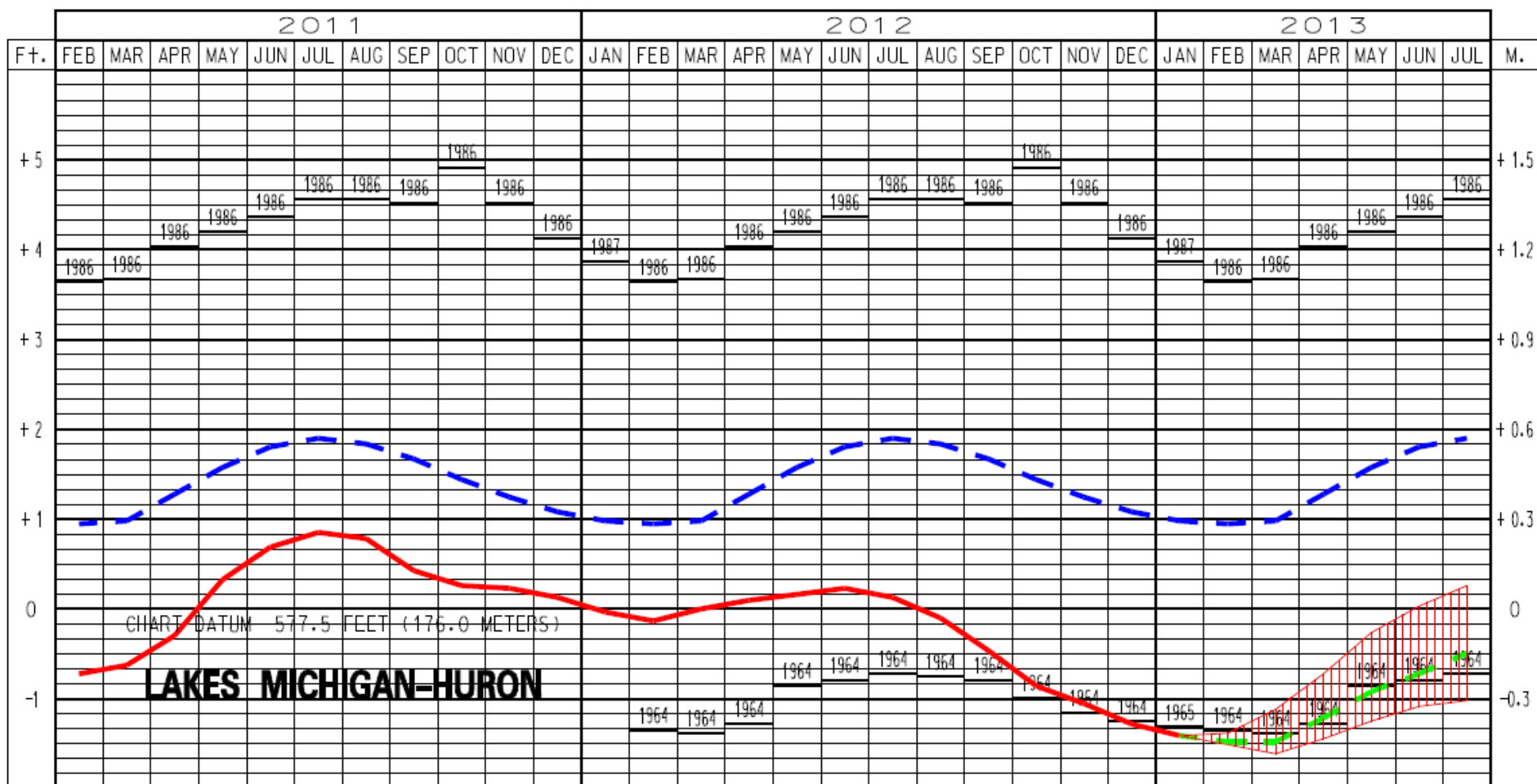


Low water levels - Dredging

- Reform Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund
- HR 335 (RAMP Act)
- S 218 (Levin bill)



LAKES MICHIGAN-HURON WATER LEVELS - FEBRUARY 2013



LEGEND LAKE LEVELS

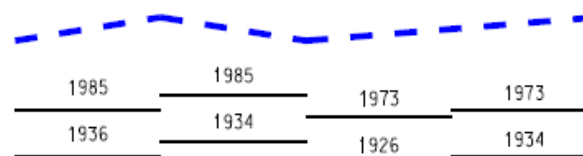
RECORDED

PROJECTED

AVERAGE **

MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2011

Benefits of the Great Lakes Navigation System

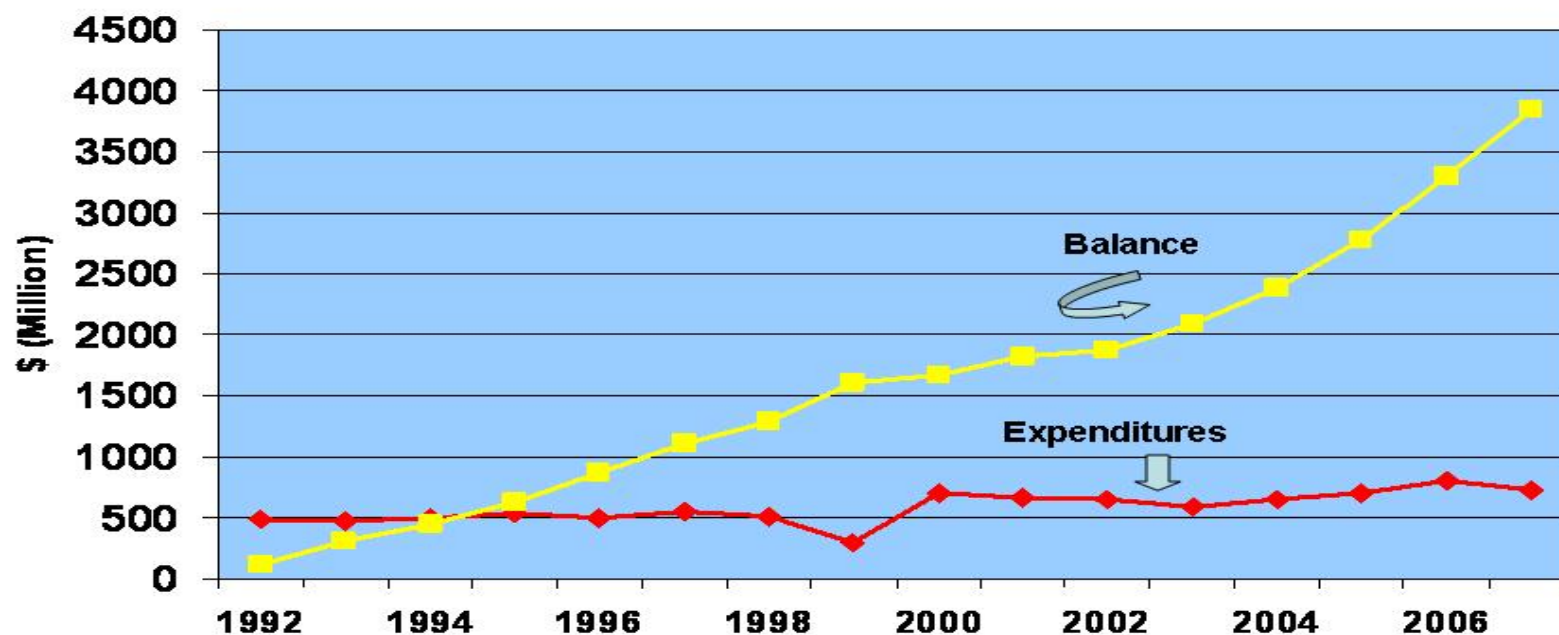
- 227,000 Jobs
- \$ 33.5 Billion in business revenue
- \$14.1 Billion in annual personal income
- \$6.4 Billion in local purchases
- \$4.6 Billion in tax revenue
- \$3.6 Billion in Transportation Rate Savings



Trust Gap



Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Expenditures and Balance, 1992-2007

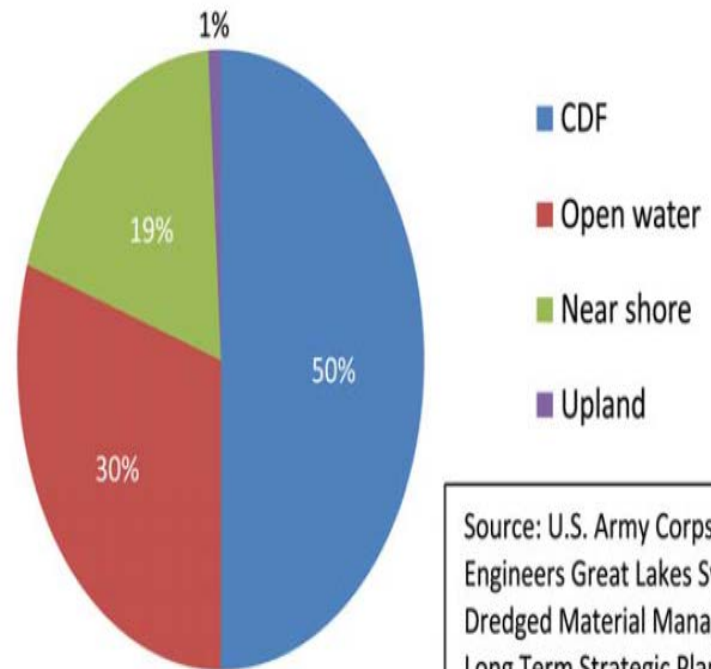


Projected for 2007 Based on Conf Rpt.

Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials



Dredged material placement by volume at
U.S. federal Great Lakes harbors 1999-2008



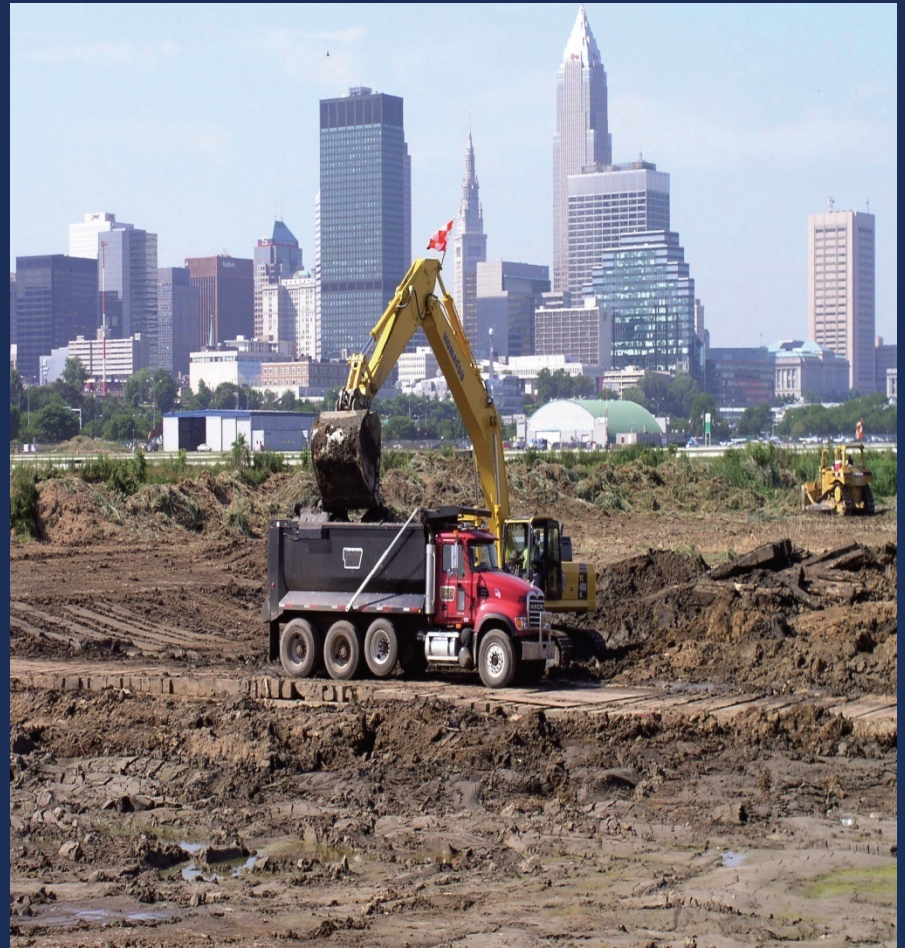
Source: U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers Great Lakes System
Dredged Material Management
Long Term Strategic Plan 2012

Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials

Times Beach, Buffalo



Cleveland brownfield capping



Fund wastewater infrastructure

- \$70 Billion need in Great Lakes
- 70% of nation's CSOs are in our 8 states
- Reps Bishop and Higgins bills

Pass Farm Bill

- Regional Conservation Partnership



Stop Aquatic Invasive Species



Stop Aquatic Invasive Species

- Reform Lacey Act
 - Prevent dangerous imports
 - Scientific screening – pre import
 - Allow screening for species already in trade.
- Fund Asian carp, base budgets



Tab 6 – Workplan Updates

Workplan Program Areas

Strategic Plan Core Services

Communications

Info Integration/Reporting

*Facilitation/
Consensus Building*

*Policy Coordination/
Advocacy*



Clean Energy and Climate

*Water-Dependent Economy
and Infrastructure*

Invasive Species

Water Resource Management

*Water Quality and
Ecosystem Health*

Habitat and Coastal Management

+





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