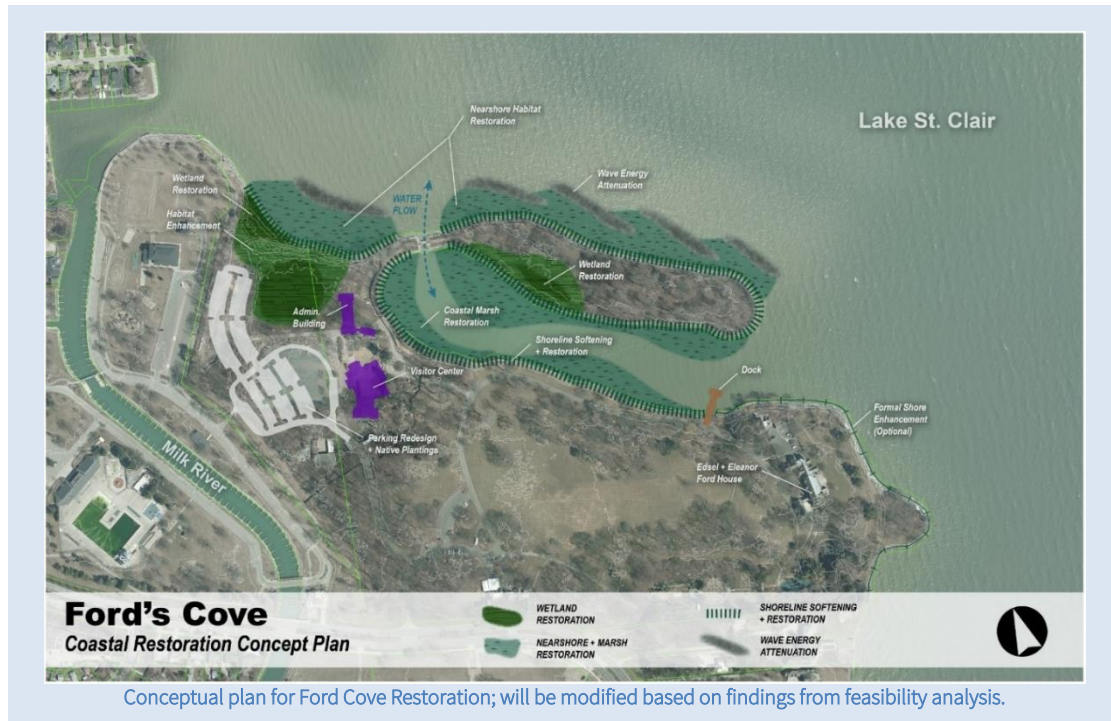




Lake St. Clair Habitat Restoration

Habitat restoration in a heavily developed section of Lake St. Clair during the **Ford Cove Shoreline and Coastal Wetland Restoration** will benefit a wide range of species by replacing hardened shoreline with natural features.



Project Highlights

Habitat enhancement or restoration of approximately 5.5 acres of coastal marsh, 8 acres of nearshore habitat, 4 acres of forested wetland, and 1 mile of Great Lakes shoreline.

Hydrologic and hydraulic modeling will inform restoration strategy.

Reduction in high wave energy impacts will improve habitat and forage availability.

The project is being implemented locally by Edsel & Eleanor Ford House with funding provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Great Lakes Commission (GLC).

Environmental Benefits

Improve fish and wildlife habitat
Improve water quality

Economic Benefits

Tourism and recreation
Coastal resiliency

Community Benefits

Recreation
Shoreline safety and resilience



Aerial view of Ford Cove

Lake St. Clair Background

Lake St. Clair is an approximately 430-square mile lake between Michigan and Ontario that connects Lake Huron with Lake Erie. Nearly 8 million people live within a one-hour drive of Lake St. Clair. Most of the U.S. Lake St. Clair coastline is in Macomb County and the shoreline has been heavily developed. Of Macomb County's 31.5 miles of shoreline only 2,140 linear feet remain in a natural condition, a 99.9 percent reduction in natural shoreline. Ford Cove is one of the few remaining areas in this portion of Lake St. Clair that is suitable for large scale shoreline restoration to improve aquatic habitat and replace hardened shoreline with natural features.

Project Progress

The Ford Cove Shoreline and Coastal Wetland Restoration project was identified as a Michigan priority coastal restoration project under NOAA's Office of Coastal Management's Great Lakes Coastal and Nearshore Habitat Assessment Project. The feasibility study was wrapped up in early 2022. Additional funding was secured by the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House for the engineering and design and implementation phases and is currently underway.

Funding and Partners

Approximately \$230,000 was made available for the feasibility study through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a regional program that is supporting implementation of a comprehensive restoration plan for the Great Lakes. The project funding came from NOAA through a Regional Partnership with the Great Lakes Commission. This phase of the project was managed locally by Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in partnership with support from a project management team that includes the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division; Macomb County's Planning and Economic Development Department, Land and Water Resources Group; and OHM Advisors.

For More Information

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