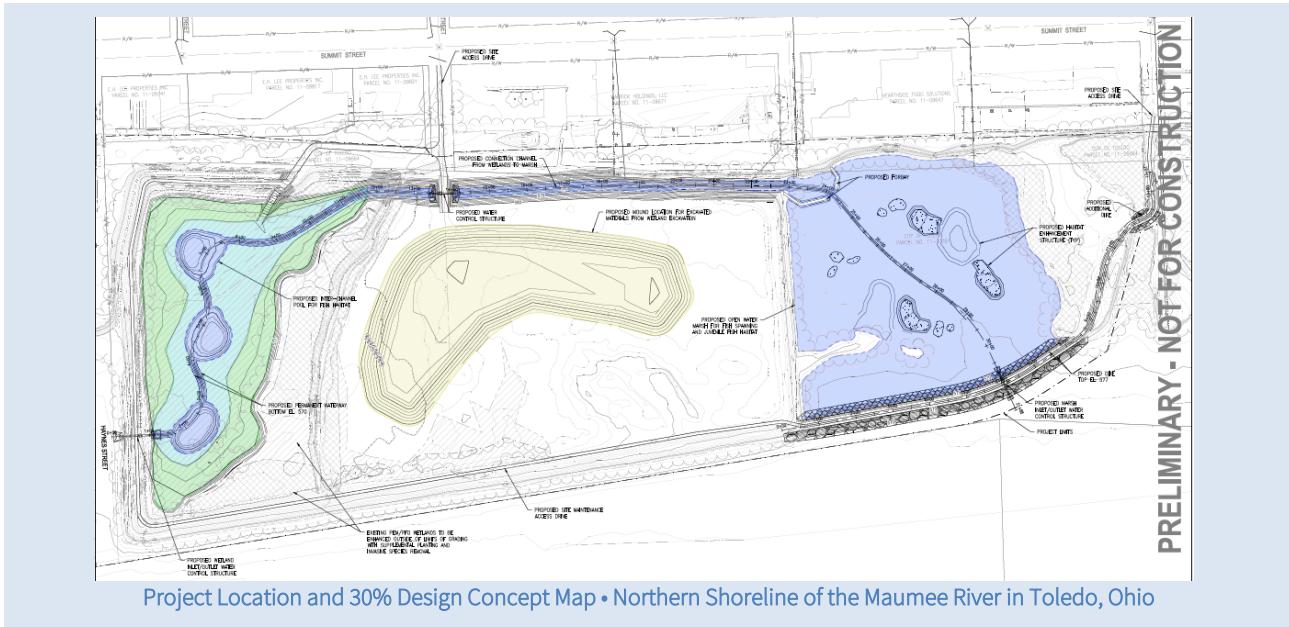




Regional Partnership

Maumee Area of Concern Habitat Restoration

The **Maumee River habitat restoration project at Penn 7** will improve habitat for fish and wildlife by creating coastal wetlands and forested upland along the Maumee River.



Project Highlights

Create 8.5 acres of emergent coastal wetland and 6.7 acres of submerged coastal wetland

Improve roughly 59 acres of habitat including adjacent upland areas

Control invasive plant species and plant native vegetation

Install water control and fish habitat connectivity structures

Funding is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Regional Partnership

The City of Toledo is implementing this project with assistance from their consultant, Verdantas (formerly Hull and Associates)

Environmental Benefits

New fish and wildlife habitat

Improved hydrologic connectivity

Economic Benefits

Regional benefits to eco-tourism, birding and fishing

Community Benefits

Downtown nature space Improved water quality and ecosystem health

Background of the Area of Concern (AOC)



Penn 7 embayment area post-restoration (Photo provided by Verdantas)

Located in Northwest Ohio, the Maumee AOC is comprised of 787 square miles that includes approximately the lower 23 miles of the Maumee River downstream to Maumee Bay, as well as other waterways within Lucas, Ottawa and Wood counties that drain to Lake Erie, such as Swan Creek, Ottawa River (Ten Mile Creek), Grassy Creek, Duck Creek, Otter Creek, Cedar Creek, Crane Creek, Turtle Creek, Packer Creek, and the Toussaint River.

In 1987 the Maumee AOC River was designated as an AOC under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Since then the Maumee AOC has been on a continual journey of evolution. The Maumee AOC program has evolved through many phases and with that evolution comes many changes; in structure, in process, in name, and in the terminology used.

History of Penn 7

The 59-acre Penn 7 property is a former confined disposal facility on the lower Maumee River owned by the City of Toledo. The property currently has marginal fish and wildlife habitat but has the potential to provide significant coastal habitat for a variety of native species while addressing the Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat BUI. The AOC enjoys strong support from federal, state and local agencies, which will help secure technical support and compliance with applicable permits. Strong partnerships and stakeholder forums exist in the AOC to support, guide and sustain the habitat restoration projects, including technical assistance for monitoring. A project management team for this project has been meeting since early 2019 and is well-positioned to assist with full implementation of the project.

Project Progress

Construction for this project has been completed. Final restoration activities are wrapping up.

Funding and Partners

Approximately \$3 million is available for this project through the GLRI, a regional program that is supporting implementation of a comprehensive restoration plan for the Great Lakes, including cleaning up AOCs. The project funding comes from NOAA through a Regional Partnership with GLC. The project is being managed locally by the City of Toledo with assistance from their consultant, Verdantas (formerly Hull and Associates).

For More Information

Eric Ellis, Habitat Restoration Project Manager
Great Lakes Commission, 734-396-6089, eellis@glc.org

Karen Ranney Wolkins, Commissioner
Parks, Recreation, & Forestry, City of Toledo, 419-936-2326,
Karen.Wolkins@toledo.oh.gov

