



## Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

December 14, 2023 9:30am – 11:00am

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### AGENDA

- **Welcome & Meeting/Call Logistics** (Mike Pniewski, Chair)
- **Vote: Minutes** (Chair) (5 mins)
- **Update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee** (Beth Sparks-Jackson, USGS) (15 mins)
  - Update on lower Ottawa River TBD projects
- **Vote: Recommended AquaMAP TBD Project(s) (Lower Ottawa River) (BUI 3a, 6, 14a)** (Chair) (5 mins)
- **US EPA Task Force Leader Report** (Leah Medley, GLNPO) (5 mins)
  - GLRI Action Plan IV update
  - Funding Update
- **Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report/Year in Review** (Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA) (30 mins)
  - AOC Conference Sept 12-14, 2023 report
  - BUI Status Updates
  - MAP Updates
  - EJ/DEI goals and activities for MAAC
- **Facilitating Organization's Report** (Kris Patterson, PCS) (10 mins)
  - Financial update
  - Future activities
    - New grant in April 2024
    - Any key activities requested from the MAAC?
    - Any projects holding celebrations or public meetings/open houses?
- **MAAC membership (Kris)** (5 mins)
  - Current membership breakdown by category
  - Renewing members
  - New members
- **Vote: Applications for MAAC membership** (Chair) (5 mins)
- **Partner Updates** (10 mins)
- **Public Comments & Adjourn** (5 mins)
- **Next meetings for 2023** – proposed schedule February 1, May 2, September 5, December 5



## Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

December 14, 2023 9:30am – 11:00am Held remotely via TEAMS

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### MINUTES

Attendance: Cherie Blair, Kris Patterson, Mike Pniewski, Amanda Kovach, Rowan Coburn-Griffis, Beth Sparks- Jackson, Regina Collins, DJ Mears, Jenny Carter-Cornell, Corey VanStratt, Bill Burkett, Kris Barnswell, Zuri Carter, Courtney Lopez, Vanessa Steigerwald Dick, Lynn Ackerson, Sally Gladwell, Amber Bellamy, Ashlee Decker, Shawn Duke, Bryan Hinterberger, Leah Medley, Brandon Heaney, Lynn Garrity, Joshua Miller, Edith Kippenhan, Regina Collins, LaShawna Weeks, Mitch O-Neil, Dave Sherman, Erin Finley

- Mike Pniewski, Chair welcomed everyone and asked for a vote on the prior meeting minutes. Sally Gladwell motioned to accept the minutes as written, Jenny Carter-Cornell seconded, and the motion passed. It was noted that 2 proxies were granted before the meeting to members that were present.
- Beth Sparks-Jackson, with USGS, provided an update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee on the lower Ottawa River TBD projects. The subcommittee has met several times and members have also gone out in the field several times to look at potential sites. From desktop review, the subcommittee identified 9 potential areas and after preliminary review & field visits, 4 sites were identified as high or moderate priority. Discussions of impacts or effects from sediment contamination or future removal activities were discussed. PCS hired a consultant to develop preliminary concept plans and 3 sites were included as viable in the concept plans. The sites included 1) Harry Kessler Park/Pumphouse on River Road, 2) Howard-Pinkley Landing on Shoreline Drive, and 3) the Hoffman Road Sanitary Landfill. Concept plans including cost estimates were developed for the Harry Kessler Park/Pumphouse and the Hoffman Road Sanitary Landfill. A concept plan at Howard Pinkley Landing was not developed due to budget constraints and probable applicability of the concept design for Harry Kessler Park. It is included in general in the Pumphouse conceptual plan.

Given the estimated budgets and logistical constraints, the subcommittee recommended approving \$400,000 to fund Engineering and Design for one project with two separate but nearby restoration sites, Harry Kessler and Howard Pinkley Landing, at river mile 2.5 of the Ottawa River. The remaining \$2,600,000 will be reserved for project implementation/construction.

- The Chair asked for a vote on the subcommittee's recommended AquaMAP TBD Projects for the Lower Ottawa River. Jenny Carter-Cornell motioned to accept the subcommittee's recommendation, Ashlee Decker seconded, and the motion passed. Cherie will update the formal tracking documents and agency management.
- Leah Medley, GLNPO US EPA Task Force Leader, congratulated the MAAC on identifying the final projects and on securing so much GLRI funding so far for other MAP projects. GLNPO has a new director, Teresa Seidel. They are working on early funding approvals and the next funding round will be in January.
- Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA gave a detailed presentation for the Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report/Year in Review. She highlighted the large group from Ohio and from our AOC that attended the EPA AOC Conference Sept 12-14, 2023. She gave an overview of the BUI Status's as of December 2023, the upcoming Great Lakes Legacy Act projects, and of some other MAP project updates. Cherie's presentation is included as an addendum to these minutes and on the Maumee AOC website resources.

- Cherie also brought up EPA's EJ/DEI goals and the reporting that they have asked for from local AOC groups. She would like input on the activities for MAAC from members. Cherie asked for volunteers to meet in January to discuss the goals in more detail and determine what, if any, past activities applied to the initiative and if there were other activities the MAAC would like to prioritize to support EJ/DEI initiatives in upcoming years. Several members volunteered and will meet in a small group in January.
- Kris Patterson, PCS, gave a brief Facilitating Organization's report. She shared that the budget is approximately 72% spent with four months remaining. Kris and Cherie will be touching base and discussing the wrap up of this grant, any underspent funds, and the new grant that begins in April 2024. Kris will be working on the application once it's available. Kris asked if there are any key activities requested from the MAAC. Kris also requested that project leads let PCS know of upcoming public events, such as open houses, kickoff or wrap up celebrations, tours, etc.
- Kris reviewed the current MAAC membership by category and explained that a few existing members will need to sit out during the vote on their renewal applications (they were moved to their own Teams room during that vote). There are three new member applications and three existing members applying for another term.
- Mike motioned and asked for a vote on the new member applications. Sally seconded and the new members were approved. The new members then participated in the vote on the existing members applications, while they went to a separate Teams room. Kris asked for a vote. Sally motioned to accept the returning members applications and Jenny seconded. Motion was approved. The 2024 MAAC now has 10 voting members.
- A few MAAC partners shared project updates. Cory, with Ducks Unlimited, said Camp Sabroske has been acquired and will be transferred to the Refuge in 2024. The Navarre Unit is finishing construction and work is continuing on Pool 1 & 2. Rowan, with Scenic Rivers, mentioned they are looking for land acquisition along the Maumee River. Mike, Lucas County Engineer, mentioned that they are beginning work on Ford Ditch 2-Stage project, under H2Ohio, in December. Jenny, with Verdantas, mentioned that the Delaware/Horseshoe and Clark Island project has a contractor and construction should start in 2024.
- There were no public comments so the meeting was adjourned.
- The next meetings for 2023 are proposed for February 1, May 2, September 5, December 5. The group did not have any changes so the meetings will be scheduled; to be held remotely unless other noted at the time.

# Maumee Area of Concern

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## *2023 End of Year Update*

Presented by  
Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA, Maumee AOC Coordinator  
*December 14, 2023*

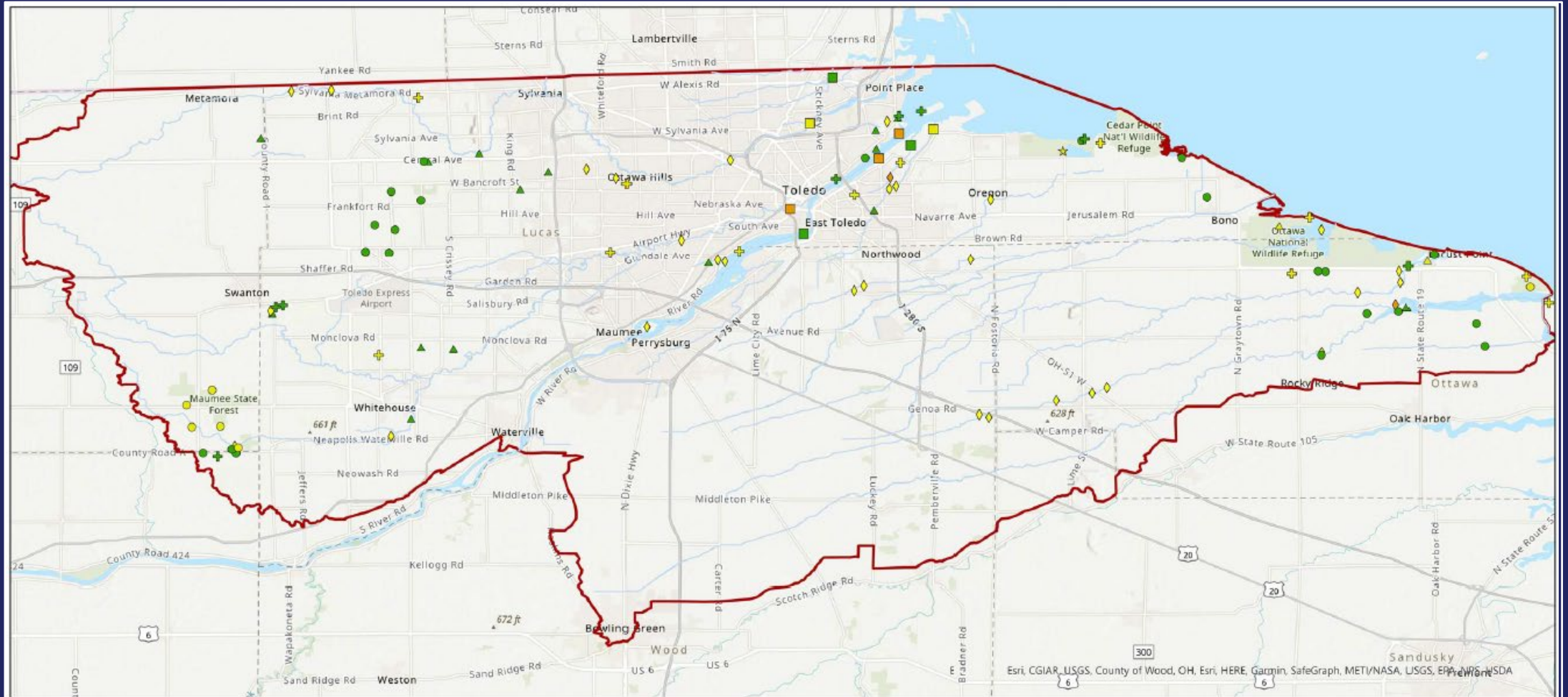
# Maumee AOC - BUI Status

BUI #	BUI Name	Target Achieved	Current Status	MA Completed	Projected BUI Removal
1a	Restrictions on Fish &	✓	Reduced Ottawa River "Do Not Eat" advisory (2017) & Maumee R. Channel Catfish (2018); target is met	Complete	2022 <b>REMOVED</b> 8/22
1b	Wildlife Consumption	✓	Snapping Turtles in Ottawa R do not meet target; sampled in Aug. 2017 & June 2018; target is met	Complete	
3a	Degradation of Fish &		Management Action Project list approved; projects are being funded and implemented	2026	2027
3b	Wildlife Populations	✓	Sentinel species target is met (2017)	Complete	
4	Fish Tumors & Other Deformities		<p>Bullhead tumors are impaired in 2 assessment units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Toussaint/Packer (2021-5.9%) and Otter (2013-17.1%) HUCs</li> <li>→ Toussaint/Packer re-sampled by FWS in May 2023</li> <li>→ Otter not sampled due to FWS boat issues, to be sampled May 2024</li> </ul> <p>DELTs are impaired in 2 of 31 assessment units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sibley (lower Ottawa R) and Turtle HUCs</li> <li>→ FWS sampled both HUCs in September 2023</li> </ul>	Complete	2025
6	Degradation of Benthos		Management Action Project list approved; projects are being funded and implemented	2026	2027
7	Restrictions on Dredging Activities		US ACE collected sediment in navigation channel during summer 2021; Ohio EPA reviewed data and found the BUI to no longer be impaired. A removal document is in development for submission in FFY24.	Complete	2024

# Maumee AOC - BUI Status

BUI #	BUI Name	Target Achieved	Current Status	MA Completed	Projected BUI Removal
8a	<b>Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae</b>	✓	D.O condition of target is met (2014)	Complete	2025
8b			Watersheds sampled summer 2020; Persistent growth condition could be considered Not Impaired; Ohio EPA collected water chemistry data in Maumee R./Bay in summer 2021	Complete	
10a	<b>Beach Closings (Recreational Use)</b>		Management Action Project list approved; project funded (2021) and being implemented	2024	2024-25
10b		✓	Paddling Stream (Maumee R. in AOC) not on 303(d) list, target is met (2014)	Complete	
10c		✓	Ottawa River “No Contact Advisory” for PCBs was rescinded (2018); Hecklinger Pond (Duck Crk.) sign removed (2019)	Complete	
11	<b>Degradation of Aesthetics</b>	✓	Otter Creek GLLA project completed in Sept. 2021	2021	<b>REMOVED</b> 2023 7/23
14a	<b>Loss of Fish &amp;</b>		Management Action Project list approved; project are being funded and implemented	2026	2027
14b	<b>Wildlife Habitat</b>		Local target of 3427 acres set in late 2016; Management Action Project list approved; projects are fully funded (2020) and being implemented	2025	

# Maumee AOC - MAP Distribution



- **Over 80 MAPs plus 20 GLLA cost-share projects**
- **>\$89.3M in projects funded since 2018**
- **\$45M in MAPs are currently in progress**

**All Management Action Projects**

WildMAP	AquaMAP	SedMAP	MiscMAP
● Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	◆ Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	■ Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	★ Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding
● Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	◆ Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	■ Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	★ Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding
● Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	◆ Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	■ Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	★ Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding
▲ Project Completed - Other Funding	▲ Project Completed - Other Funding	▲ Project Completed - Other Funding	▲ Project Completed - Other Funding
▲ Project Funded - Other Funding	▲ Project Funded - Other Funding	▲ Project Funded - Other Funding	▲ Project Funded - Other Funding
▲ Funding Needed - Other Funding	▲ Funding Needed - Other Funding	▲ Funding Needed - Other Funding	▲ Funding Needed - Other Funding
			■ Maumee AOC

# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## Wildlife MAP Updates (BUI 14b) (*target = 3427 acres*)

- All 20 projects are funded
- 19 completed totaling ~3325 acres
- Only 1 projects left (152 acres) to be completed
  - WildMAP 28-17: Maumee State Forest Expansion (expected complete in 2025)



*Howard Marsh Phase 2 (WildMAP 25-17)*



*Cedar Point NWR Pool 2 (Gradel Marsh) (WildMAP 14-16)*





# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## Aquatic MAP Updates (BUI 3a, 6, 14a)

- Funding allocated in FFY21 (12 full/2 partials) (\$11.8M)
  - Most are working on field data collection, design, construction RFPs
  - 7 of 9 GLNPO-funded projects have completed Tribal consultation
  - 3 projects under construction now
  - 1 partial (acquisition only) complete
  - 1 partial (FS only) expected complete soon
  - 2 full projects are completed

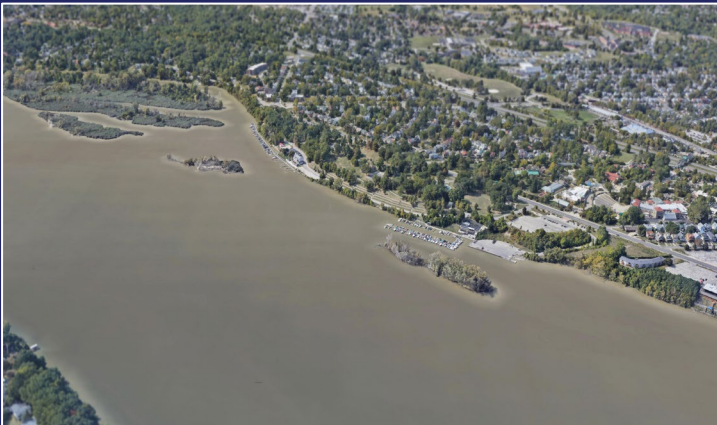


*Collins Park Stream Restoration (AquaMAP OC-5.0)*

# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## Aquatic MAP Updates (BUI 3a, 6, 14a)

- Funding allocated in FFY22 (14 full/2 partial/3 with NOAA) (\$15.9M)
  - Most are working on RFPs, contracting, QAPPs, field data collection, design
  - 6 GLNPO-funded projects expected to go to Tribal consultation this winter
  - 1 partial (E&D only) was completed in June
- Funding allocation in FFY23 (1 partial/1 with NOAA) (\$6.7M)
  - Implementation funding for 1 project, E&D funding for 1 project
  - 1 GLNPO-funded project completed Tribal consultation



*Renderings of Delaware Islands  
Complex Restoration  
(AquaMAP MR-14.2)*

← Pre-project

Post-project →



# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## Aquatic MAP Updates (BUI 3a, 6, 14a)

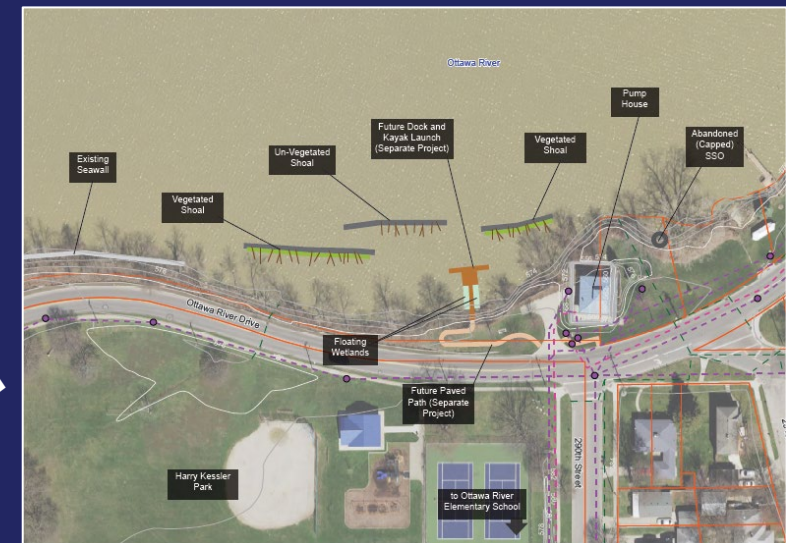
- Expect a funding request in **FFY24** (1-2 full/2 with NOAA) (\$4.5M)
  - Implementation funding for 2 projects (via NOAA)
  - Only 1 TBD remaining - lower Ottawa River projects (1-2)
    - MAAC recommendation to state after today's Dec. meeting
    - Expect to send to GLNPO this month
    - Funding for Eng/Design to be requested in early 2024



Draft Concept Plans for  
TBD Ottawa River project(s)

← Hoffman Rd

Kessler Park →



# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## Misc. MAP Updates

(BUI 1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11)

- BUI 10: Beach Closings
  - Waterfowl Deterrent at Maumee Bay State Park
    - Began planting in May 2023
    - Treating invasives during establishment
    - Plan to plant 10-15 trees and reseed bare areas in Spring
    - Expected complete 2024
- No MAPs for other listed BUIs



*Planting seed*



*Native and Pollinator plant establishment around inland lake*

# Maumee AOC - MAPs Timeline

## Estimated Timeline for AquaMAP, WildMAP, MiscMAP

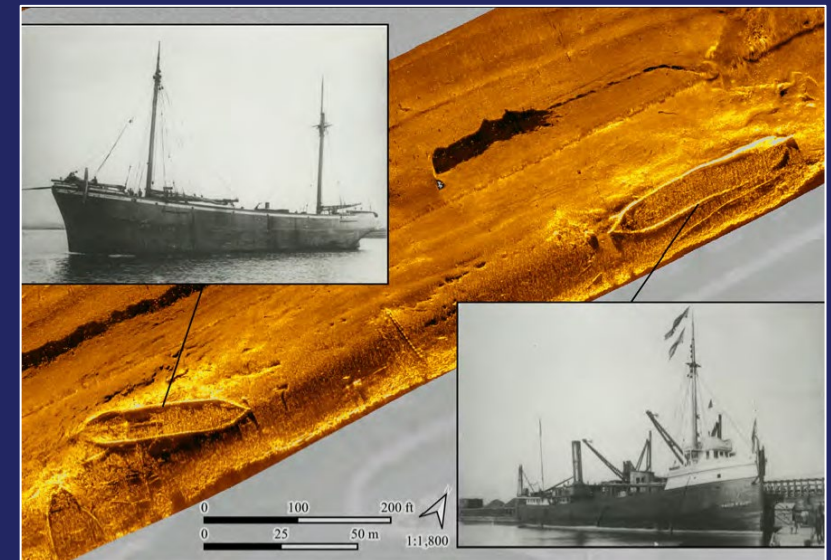
Phase of Project	FFY22	FFY23	FFY24*	FFY25*	FFY26*	FFY27*
Project Award	18	2	4	0	0	0
Feasibility Study/Planning	4	10	4	1	0	0
Engineering/Design	9	18	22	3	0	0
Construction	14	6	21	28	7	1
Substantially Complete	4	7	5	19	11	1

\* Phases are estimated for projects that are not funded yet.

# Maumee AOC - 2023 MAP Update

## SedMAP Technical Updates (BUI 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14)

- Swan Creek
  - Feasibility Study expected complete in Spring 2024
  - Section 106 investigations
- Lower Maumee River (Sway Bridge, WWTP)
  - Feasibility Study public meeting in August, report completed in early October
  - Section 106 investigations
- Ottawa River
  - Additional hot spot delineation by Ohio EPA
  - Reaches 1-4 decision
- Otter Creek
  - Remedy Evaluation by ORD
  - Post-project mussel evaluation



*Lower Maumee River Section 106 investigation*

# Maumee AOC – MAPs Timeline

## Estimated Timeline for SedMAPs

	FFY24	FFY25	FFY26	FFY27
Swan Creek	Complete FS, Complete Pre-Design, Start RD	Complete RD	Start RA	Complete RA
Lwr. Maumee River (Sway/WWTP)	Complete FS, Complete Pre-Design, Start RD	Complete RD	Start RA	Complete RA
Ottawa River	Additional 4Y sampling, Determine next steps	TBD	TBD	TBD
Otter Creek	Habitat evaluation, Remedy Effectiveness	TBD	TBD	TBD

# Maumee AOC - MAPs in Summary

	Total # Projects*	Estimated Total Cost*	Needs Funding	Funding Allocated	Completed as of Oct. 2023	Expected Complete Dec. 2023
<b>WildMAPs</b>	20	\$27,413,756	0	20	18	19
<b>AquaMAPs</b>						
- AOC Funded	33-35	\$40,661,190	Part of 2 All of 1-2	Part of 2 All of 31	3	4
- Non-AOC Funded	20	\$13,012,240	0	20	17	18
<b>SedMAPs - GLLA</b>	8		Parts of 5	Parts of 5 All of 3	3	3
- Federal Funded		\$59,692,323				
- Non-Fed Funded		\$30,455,000				
<b>MiscMAPs</b>	1	\$167,200	0	1	0	0
<b>TOTALS =</b>	<b>83+</b>	<b>\$171,401,709</b>	<b>6+</b>	<b>78+</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>

\*Projects and cost estimates include all MAPs regardless of funding source



# 2026

Management Actions Complete

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# 2030

AOC Delisted

# 2023-24 MAAC Focus

- Support the many wildlife habitat and aquatic BUI MAP projects
- Work with Ohio EPA on BUI removals (BUI 7 in 2024)
- Work with Ohio EPA to determine future BUIs removals
- Continue to evaluate data & make BUI status determinations
- Continue to assist with Project Management Teams
- Showcase successes & momentum
  - Showcasing projects & momentum underway
  - Celebrating milestones & project completions
  - Organizing tours & public outreach (site visits, open houses, etc.)
  - Continuing to engage partners working on related AOC projects



# DEI-EJ in Local AOC Advisory Committees

## Baseline Assessment Status

### TWO Phases →

#### Community Area mapping: *(led by Ohio as of now)*

- GLNPO has met with all States who requested assistance in developing a community area
- 4 States have submitted community areas for their AOCs to GLNPO and received data packages for their review
- 1 State has reviewed their data package and provided feedback/guidance for future analysis

#### DEI Engagement spreadsheet: *(joint input Ohio & locals)*

- Most States appear to be in the process of setting up meetings with their partners (PACs, other agencies, etc.) and developing a plan for collecting this information
- 1 AOC has submitted an Engagement Efforts spreadsheet
- GLNPO aiming to provide evidence of progress to management early 2024

# DEI-EJ in Local AOC Advisory Committees

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## Baseline Assessment Status

### DEI Engagement spreadsheet: *(joint input Ohio & locals)*

- AOC
- State
- DEI Goal Identified
- Engagement Strategy Type
  - Targeted Print Materials
  - PAC-run Programs
  - Networking at Non-PAC Events
  - Invited Representation
  - Other
- Years Done or Proposed (FY)
- Strategy Details

# DEI-EJ in Local AOC Advisory Committees

## Baseline Assessment Status

### DEI Engagement spreadsheet: *(joint input Ohio & locals)*

- AOC
  - ➔ *Maumee*
- State
  - ➔ *Ohio*
- DEI Goal Identified
  - ➔ *Recruit more diverse representation to AOC Advisory Committee*
- Engagement Strategy Type
  - ➔ *Invited Representation*
- Years Done or Proposed (FY)
  - ➔ *2023*
- Strategy Details
  - ➔ *Professional relationships with individuals & organizations led to personal invitations for application. Target audiences = TBD*

**EXAMPLE**

DEI-EJ in Local

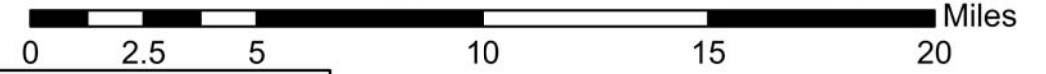
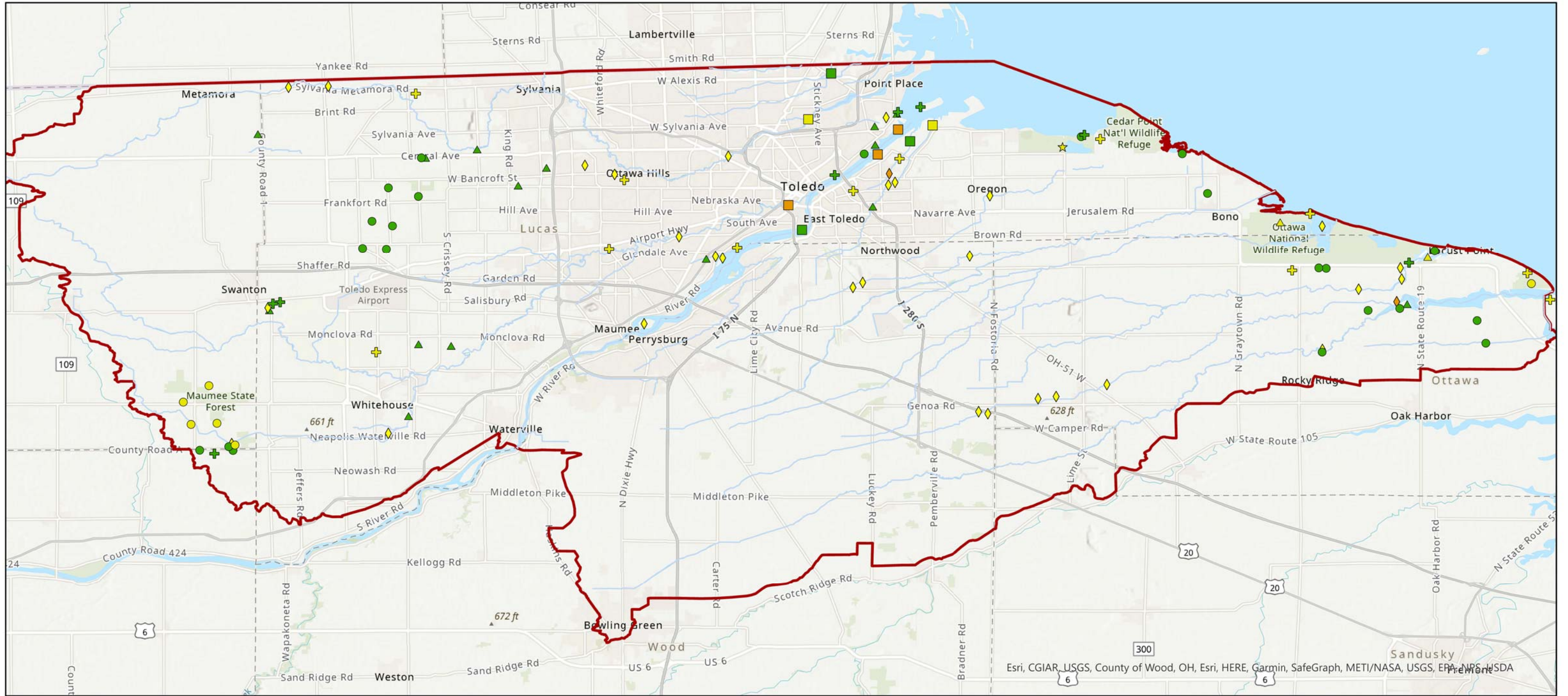
AOC Advisory Committees

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Baseline Assessment Status

- Ohio AOC Program wants local AOC Advisory Committee input on spreadsheet
- Planning a 2-hour meeting; week of January 1
- Any future activities will be separate from this exercise
- Need volunteers for this one-time activity
  - 5-year look back
  - AOC and non-AOC activities to engage, inform, involve, diversify, create access, etc.

# All Maumee AOC Approved Management Actions Project (MAP) Locations for all BUIs



All MAPs			
<b>SedMAP</b>			
■	Project Completed - AOC-GLLA		
■	Project Funded - AOC-GLLA		
■	Funding Needed - AOC-GLLA		
+	Project Completed - Other Non-Federal Funding		
+	Project Funded - Other Non-Federal Funding		
<b>WildMAP</b>			
●	Project Completed - AOC-GLRI Funding		
●	Project Funded - AOC-GLRI Funding		
●	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding		
<b>AquaMAP</b>			
▲	Project Funded - Other Funding		
▲	Project Completed - Other Funding		
◆	Funding Needed - AOC-GLRI		
◆	Project Funded - AOC-GLRI		
◆	Project Completed - AOC GLRI		
<b>MiscMAP</b>			
★	Project Funded - AOC-GLRI Funding		
★	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding		
★	Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding		

