



Black River Remedial Action Plan Coordinating Committee

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BLACK RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Monday, July 29, 2013

12:00 PM

Black River Landing – Transportation Center
Lorain, OH

- **Retiree Awards**
 - **Announced by Ted Conlin**
 - **Ken Pearce**
 - **Jim Boddy**
 - **Dave Stroud**

- **Black River Video Update**
 - **Provided by Ted Conlin**
 - **As part of LCGHD funding, producing video**
 - **All work done through city of Lorain**
 - **Showcase what city has done**
 - **Filming around Lorain and coast of Lake Erie**
 - **Video to be completed by late fall/early winter**
 - **Possible premier at Lorain Theater**
 - **Still need to review all film to make a draft video**
 - **Partnered with Gay Eyerman and LCCC Digital Media Productions**
 - **As has been done in the past**
 - **Focus on what we've done, the value it's provided to the city, and improvements still to come**
 - **Video will be approximately 30 minutes**
 - **Also make a 2 minute bite for public service announcements and other media outlets**
 - **Request to send to other agencies to repost**

- **Fish Shocking and Sampling Update**
 - **See attached from Ted Conlin**
 - **Thanks to those who helped shock fish**
 - **MIwb, Modified index of well-being; IBI, Index of biological integrity**
 - **West Branch at 93% for fish populations to delist**

- **LCGHD Intern Update - Home Sewage Treatment System Inventory**
 - Identify non-point source pollution
 - Conduct an inventory of HSTS in the county
 - ~15,000 homes with HSTS
 - Going to homes to check systems, educate homeowners
 - Have been working with County and City engineers to see maps of sanitary sewer lines
 - Combine data for GIS
 - Owners run anywhere from completely caring for their system to letting them go

- **RAP Membership & Engagement**
 - Been a while since we updated membership list
 - Lots of missing members
 - Retirees and people we never see are still on membership list
 - Goal is to clean up membership list
 - Invite new members to join and participate in RAP meetings
 - Solicit contacts or groups that may be interested
 - Email current list to people in attendance for updates on status

- **RAP Coordinating Committee Meetings**
 - Suggest new time for meetings (morning, late afternoon, early evening, etc.)
 - Is our current meeting time inhibiting participation?
 - Set dates for the year (standing meetings) ex: every third Tuesday of the month during meeting months (April, July, October, January), etc...
 - RAP Secretariat will send email about meeting preferences & feedback

- **Old Business**
 - Meiring Borchers from Cuyahoga County
 - QHEI and HHEI data
 - Tim Gourley has data to share; possibly at October meeting

- **New Business**
 - Invasive species removal
 - 35 acres of phragmites
 - 40 acres of purple loosestrife
 - 3 year grant
 - this year majority of removal
 - next year spot treatment and planting native species
 - monitoring in 3rd year

- **Announcements**
 - 3rd Annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon
 - Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013
 - Competitive races and casual float
 - Stand-alone event with an after-event at Jackalope

- **Like on Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/lorainblackriver>) **and follow on Twitter** (https://twitter.com/BR_KayakAThon); **more information available soon on website** (<http://www.lorainblackriver.com/>)
 - **Need volunteers; contact Heather Dardinger** (<https://www.facebook.com/lorainblackriver>) **if interested**
 - **US Fish and Wildlife**
 - **Locations for next year where there are waste water treatment plants and HSTS**
- **Black River Boat Tour 2:00 PM**

BLACK RIVER ASSESSMENTS 2012-2013

(Provided by Ted Conlin, Ohio EPA at July 29, 2013 Black River RAP Coordinating Committee Meeting)

Fish Shocking Assessments 2012-2013

- 55 sites assessed for IBI (Index of Biotic Integrity)
- 42 sites assessed for MIwb (Modified Index of Well-Being)

Mainstem – Fish Populations could be delistable; Wildlife Populations Not Impaired

- 15 samples for IBI
 - 9 samples in lacustuary
 - **107% of delisting target**
 - 6 samples upstream of lacustuary
 - **130% of delisting target**
- 12 samples for MIwb
 - 7 samples in lacustuary
 - **103% of delisting target**
 - 5 samples upstream of lacustuary
 - **130% of delisting target**

French Creek - Fish Populations could be delistable; Wildlife Populations Not Impaired

- 4 sites assessed for IBI
 - **101% of delisting target**
- 3 sites assess for MIwb
 - **103% of delisting target**

East Branch (All) - Fish Populations could be delistable; Wildlife Populations Not Impaired

- 16 sites assessed for IBI
 - **130% of delisting target**
- 14 sites assessed for MIwb
 - **120% of delisting target**

West Branch (All): Fish Populations remain impaired but reassessment may be necessary; Wildlife Populations Not Impaired

- 20 sites assessed for IBI
 - 93.5% of delisting target (Only Buck Creek met delisting target; 106% of target)
- 13 sites assessed for MIwb
 - 93.2% of delisting target

Fish Habitat Assessments 2012-2013

- 49 Sites assessed

Mainstem - Both Fish and Wildlife Habitat remain impaired

- 10 sites assessed
 - 5 sites in lacustuary for LQHEI
 - 68.9% of delisting target

- 5 sites upstream of lacustuary
 - 132% of delisting target

French Creek – Fish Habitat could be delistable; Wildlife Habitat remains impaired

- 4 sites assessed
 - 132.7% of delisting target

East Branch (All) - Fish Habitat could be delistable; Wildlife Habitat remains impaired

- 16 sites assessed
 - 113.6% of delisting target (All sub-basins meet delisting target)

West Branch (All) - Both Fish and Wildlife Habitat remain impaired

- 19 sites assessed (in 2006 & 2012)
 - 107.4% of delisting target (All sub-basins assessed meet delisting target except Buck Creek)

Fish Populations BUI

- Could try to remove this BUI in:
 - Mainstem, French Creek, East Branch
- West Branch is close but not delistable, reassessments may be necessary due to low flows in 2012

Fish Habitat BUI

- Could try to remove this BUI in all of AOC but what to do with one site in Buck Creek is problematic
 - Fish Habitat does not meet delisting criteria but fish population score shows that habitat quality is not affecting population (yet)

Other BUIs	
Fish Consumption	<p>Mainstem Carp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ?? NOT IMPAIRED ?? <p>FW Drum: 1 meal per month (PCBs & Hg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lake Erie: 1 meal per month (PCBs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Still impaired for Hg, NOT IMPAIRED for PCB <p>East Branch - Impaired Rock Bass, SM Bass, Carp >23", Yellow Bullhead: 1 per month (Hg)</p> <p>West Branch - Impaired White Sucker: 1 meal per month (Hg)</p> <p>Findley Lake - ?? Not Impaired?? LM Bass: 1 meal per month (Hg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● US EPA believes this should not be an impairment ● I will be discussing this with them
Fish Tumors	<p>Mainstem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tumor study conducted in 2012-2013 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results should be available end of 2013 to early 2014 ● DELTs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ May be meeting delisting criteria

Other BUIs	
Benthos	2012 data not posted yet
Dredging	Mainstem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corps is to conduct sediment assessment in 2013 in the last 20% of lower river that cannot be open lake disposed
Eutrophication/Algae	Eutrophication ???? Algae <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be delistable in East Branch • Algae study was to have been conducted in Findley Lake
Recreational Use	Not possible yet
Aesthetics	Unknown, why was this listed?
Fish/Wildlife Habitat	Fish Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delistable in all of AOC?? Wildlife Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not delistable under current delisting criteria • New criteria being looked at by Ohio EPA