

## General Investigation Study Next Steps

(Dates are subject to change pending necessary reviews and approvals.)

### 2015

Draft Environmental Impact Statement: April 2015 *We Are Here*  
Agency Decision Milestone: Summer 2015

### 2016

Civil Works Review Board: December 2015/January 2016

Final Environmental Impact Statement: January 2016  
(Public Review)

Chief's Report: March 2016

Record of Decision: Fall 2016 *End of General Investigation Study*

# Comments

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To download the report visit:  
<http://bit.ly/lrb-comment>



# Blanchard River Watershed Study

## Recommended Plan

### Diversion Channel

The proposed 9.4 mile diversion channel will divert flows from Eagle Creek, around the city of Findlay. A permanent channel improvement easement, ranging from approximately 15 to 25 feet on both sides of the channel and the channel footprint, will be required. Over 2 million cubic yards of excavated soil is tentatively expected to be disposed in a quarry located in Findlay. However, a cost analysis to determine the least costly alternative for disposal of the soil is required.

### Mitigation

Mitigation within the study area will include both wetland and stream mitigation.

### Proposed Levee

The proposed levee will reduce flood damage along Lye Creek. A permanent levee easement will be required. The levee will prevent additional diverted flow from the Blanchard River from entering the creek. The levee may induce downstream flooding of approximately 1,500 acres along the Blanchard River.

The Blanchard River to Lye Creek Diversion Cutoff Levee is approximately 9,300 feet long with a 10-foot wide impervious core. The alignment follows the left bank of the Blanchard River from the Findlay Reservoir across Township Road 205 to Township Road 173 and from Township Road 173 to State Road 15.



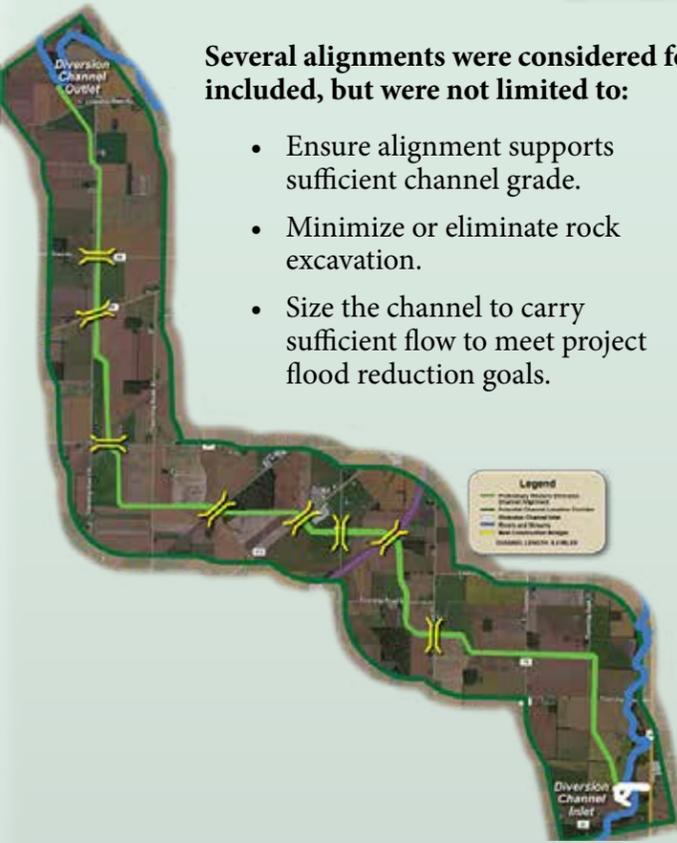
## Diversion Channel

Several alignments were considered for the proposed diversion channel. Alignment considerations included, but were not limited to:

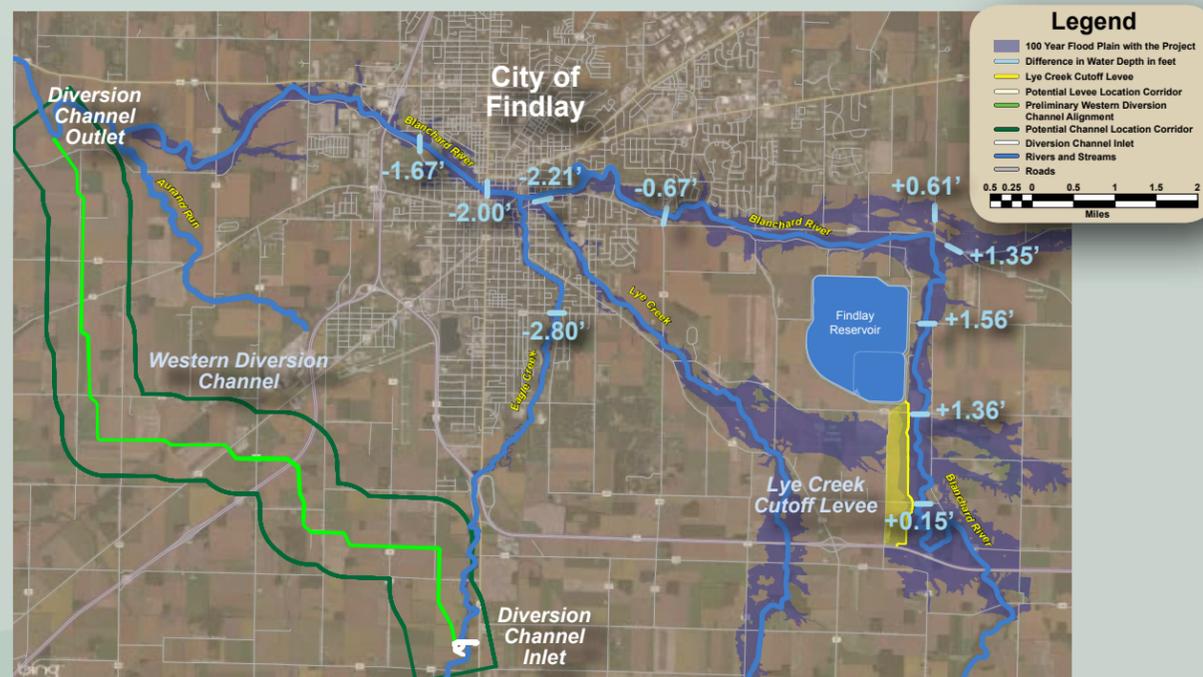
- Ensure alignment supports sufficient channel grade.
- Minimize or eliminate rock excavation.
- Size the channel to carry sufficient flow to meet project flood reduction goals.
- Minimize impacts to existing farm fields, residences, and farm structures.
- Minimize road crossings and avoid transmission towers.
- Minimize environmental impacts, including impacts to wetlands and streams.

The proposed recommended project includes construction of eight bridges across the diversion channel:

1. Township Road 67
2. County Road 9
3. County Road 313
4. County Road 84
5. County Road 86
6. State Road 12
7. Interstate 75
8. Norfolk Southern Railroad



## 100 Year Storm Event with Proposed Project



The 100 year flood plain is based on the results of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) hydrology and hydraulics model. USACE will coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and submit the necessary documentation for map revisions for modifications to existing flood insurance maps.

## Cultural Resources

*Your help is appreciated.*

**Do you know of any cultural resources within the area of potential effect?**

The area of potential effect is the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties (National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible or listed archaeological sites, standing structures, etc). To obtain information about the Section 106 Process of the National Historic Preservation Act or consulting party form, please visit the study webpage at <https://bit.ly/BRWStudy>.



## Real Estate

Properties which may be impacted by the proposed project will be identified in the final phase of the feasibility study in 2015 and documented in the Final Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Statement scheduled to be released to the public at the end of 2015 or early 2016.

Once the project becomes a Specifically Authorized Project, public landowner meetings are required by Section 302 of the Land Acquisition Policy Act of 1960, Public Law 86-645 (33 U.S.C. 597). Within six months after the date Congress authorizes construction of a water resources project, the non-Federal sponsor must advise owners and occupants in and adjacent to the project area as to the requirements for, and probable timing of, the acquisition of lands for the project. Within a reasonable time after initial appropriations are made for land acquisition or construction, including relocations, the non-Federal sponsor shall conduct public meetings at locations convenient to owners and tenants in order to advise them of the proposed plans for acquisition and to afford them an opportunity to comment.

The non-Federal sponsor is required to perform real estate acquisitions in accordance with Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 as amended. Specific details of the act can be located at: [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/real\\_estate/publications/act.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/real_estate/publications/act.cfm)

Just compensation is the price that must be paid to a property owner for the real estate interest that is required for the project. A licensed appraiser will appraise impacted properties and determine the fair market value of the real estate interest that is required. There are various appraisal guidelines that would be used to determine the fair market value and to capture the just compensation for that interest.