



# Times Beach Aquatic Plant Control

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

**Project Location:** Times Beach is located along the Lake Erie shoreline within the Buffalo Outer Harbor area and has been identified as the specific location for a demonstration project to control and manage aquatic invasive species (AIS) plant species. The site is within the Niagara River AOC and directly adjacent to the Buffalo River AOC and the Buffalo River riparian corridor where regional stakeholders have indicated that AIS management would be beneficial.

**Project Description:** This project is planning, designing, and implementing full-scale efforts to demonstrate means of AIS removal and replacement with beneficial native plants by adaptive monitoring and management techniques. A particular area of focus is control of the non-native perennial grass, *Phragmites australis* (common reed). Rapid expansion of this plant has devastated aquatic, wetland, and riparian habitats throughout the Great Lakes Region, including Times Beach.

**Non-Federal Partners:** Buffalo River Remedial Action Plan (RAP), Buffalo-Niagara RIVERKEEPER, NY State Department of Environmental Conservation, Friends of Times Beach

**Project Benefits:** This project is applying and demonstrating two new and improved management strategies aimed at improving wetland quality and function by reducing coverage and spread of AIS, coupled with active restoration of native wetland plants, increasing native plant and animal biodiversity, and minimizing impacts to threatened and endangered wetland species. The project supports the delisting of the Niagara River AOC by treating over five years 31 acres of AIS acres, and planting of native species to help maintain a high level of vegetative diversity over 0.3 miles of restored Lake Erie shoreline.

**Project Status:** FY11 funds were used to complete mowing, spraying, monitoring and adaptive management for two years of *Phragmites australis* control through Fall 2014. FY12 funds were used to award contracts to complete three more years of nuisance plant treatment, native plant restoration, and monitoring through Fall 2017. FY15 and future year funding will be used for additional monitoring, evaluation, and contract supervision through 2017.



Estimated Project Costs	
Federal	\$1,250,000
Non-Federal	\$0
Total	\$1,250,000

Project Milestones	
Award mowing & spraying contract for 31 acres for 3 final years	30 SEP 2013(A)
Year End Tech. Report	30 JAN 2015 (A)
Complete Monitoring	31 DEC 2017

Point of Contact
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