



Buffalo River Watershed Study - NY

Section 729 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, as amended
General Investigations

Location

- The Buffalo River Watershed is located in Erie and Genesee Counties, NY, and includes the Buffalo River Area of Concern

Project Description

- The purpose of the watershed assessment is to develop a multi-agency strategic plan for recommending and implementing measures that will restore the beneficial uses of the Buffalo River
- This proposed watershed assessment will provide a framework for sustainable development in the watershed by examining comprehensive ecosystem restoration including habitat and wetland restoration, prevention of future environmental losses, elimination of bacterial loadings and pollutants of concern, analysis of flood control operations to ensure that they are meeting evolving conditions, and

improvement of combined sanitary sewers and home sewage disposal

- Initial Watershed Assessment phase has been completed and identified positive Federal interest in watershed planning

Importance

- The watershed management study will result in a strategic plan to guide sustainable development and environmental restoration in the watershed

Consequence

- Without the study the Buffalo River watershed stakeholders will continue to work in the watershed on a project by project basis without the benefits of a strategic watershed plan to reference and use to guide comprehensive and multipurpose planning and implementation of sustainable solutions to their complex water resource problems

Project Phase	Est. Fed. Cost of Phase	Federal Funding Thru FY14	FY15 Requirement	FY15 Budget	FY16 Requirement	FY16 Budget
Initial Watershed Assessment (Complete)	\$0	\$92k*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Final Watershed Assessment	\$400k	\$0	\$200k	\$0	\$0k	\$0

* Initial Watershed Assessment completed using GLRI funding.

Project Sponsor/Customer

- Buffalo Niagara River Keeper has expressed support for the study and interest in acting as the non-Federal sponsor

Congressional Interests

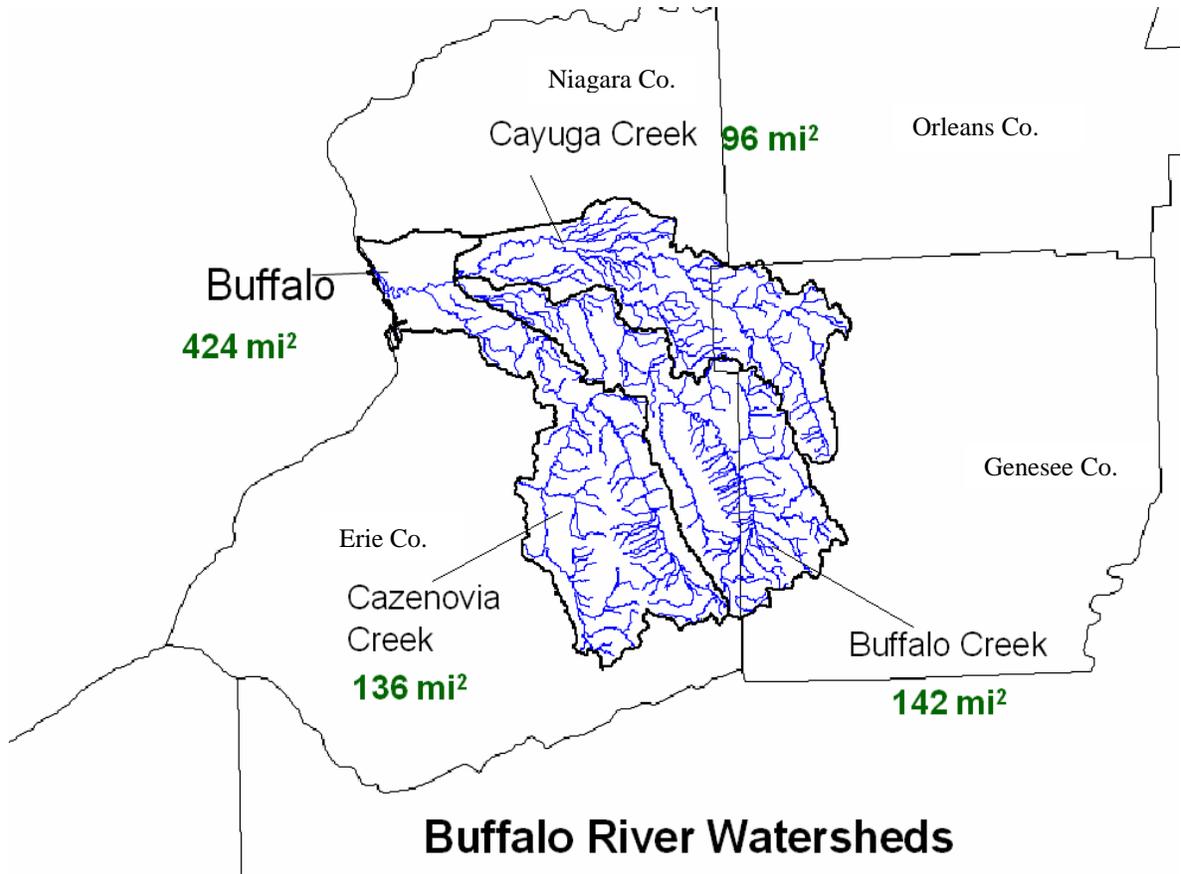
- Representative Brian Higgins D-NY-26
- Representative Chris Collins R-NY-27
- Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D-NY

Current Status

- Initial Watershed Assessment (IWA) complete
- Developing a Watershed Assessment Management Plan (WAMP) and negotiating cost sharing agreement with non-Federal sponsor

Issues

- Project requires funding to move forward



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