



Black River Watershed Assessment, OH

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

Location

- The 180 square mile Black River watershed is located in north central OH and enters Lake Erie at Lorain Harbor. The entire Black River watershed is considered a Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC)

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 Black River
- The primary concern identified for the watershed relates to addressing the Beneficial Use Impairments associated with the Black River Area of Concern (AOC). Additional issues of concern relate to non-point sources of nutrient pollution and aquatic habitat
- The Initial Watershed Assessment for Black River identified Federal and stakeholder interest in watershed planning

- A Final Watershed Assessment (FWA) would further investigate conditions in the watershed related to these concerns for the purpose of developing a strategic plan for watershed restoration and delisting of the AOC

Importance

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

Consequences

- Without the study, the Black 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 further comprehensive and multipurpose planning and implementation of sustainable solutions

Project Phase	Est. Fed. Cost of Phase	Federal Funding Thru FY14	FY15 Requirement	FY15 Budget	FY16 Requirement	FY16 Budget
Initial Watershed Assessment (Complete)	\$102k	\$102k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Final Watershed Assessment	\$400k	\$0	\$200k	\$0	\$200k	\$0

Project Sponsor/Customer

- The Black River Remedial Action Committee submitted a letter of intent in June 2011

Congressional Interests

- Representative James Jordon R-OH-4
- Representative Marcy Kaptur D-OH-9
- Representative Jim Renacci R-OH-16

- Senator Rob Portman R-OH
- Senator Sherrod Brown D-OH

Current Status

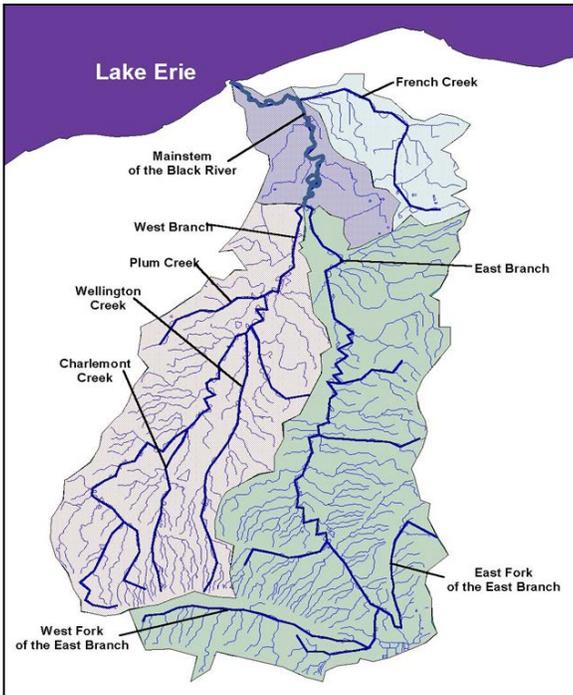
- Initial Watershed Assessment (completed)
- Negotiating Watershed Assessment Management Plan (WAMP) and cost sharing agreement with non-Federal sponsor

Issues

- Project requires funding to move forward

- Stakeholder capability to provide cost share uncertain

*Funded through the GLRI program



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