



Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Background: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is one of 17 federal agencies that are implementing the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The USACE delivers on-the-ground restoration projects in a manner that provides the most economical solutions, including the leveraging of other funding, and use of competitive bid contracts. This fact sheet provides an update on how much GLRI funding the USACE has received and what it has accomplished with it.

Restoration Project Delivery: The USACE uses GLRI funds to plan, design, and construct long-lasting restoration projects in cooperation with non-federal partners. This process for delivering restoration projects is fundamentally different from grants, which are issued by other federal agencies with GLRI funding. We also conduct studies to evaluate and assess environmental problems and provide technical assistance for remedial actions completed by others. USACE projects typically begin with planning that evaluates the feasibility of a restoration project, including many alternatives, their impacts, and cost estimates. As part of this planning process, infeasible alternatives are screened and the project that can deliver the most environmental benefits for the least amount of funds is identified. This evaluation is documented and fully vetted with the public and regulatory agencies before the project is ready to move on to design and construction. When ready to build, the USACE uses a competitive-bid process to select the private contractor who will construct the project. Finally, the USACE closely monitors the construction to ensure that GLRI receives what it paid for.

Funding Summary: In the first six years of GLRI, the USACE has received \$220 million, or about 10 percent of the total GLRI funding. Over 86 percent of these GLRI funds have been used for the planning, design, and construction of environmental protection and restoration projects. The remaining 14 percent has been used to provide studies and technical assistance that support restoration actions by other agencies and organizations. The attached table describes a portion of the 26 projects that have been completed or are under construction by the USACE. Another six restoration projects are scheduled to start construction in 2015.

Timely Use of Funds: The USACE is delivering restoration projects with a very timely expenditure of GLRI funds. Funds are prioritized to the restoration projects that have demonstrated the ability to move into construction the quickest. In addition, funding is provided in increments to ensure that GLRI funds are spent on viable projects as rapidly as possible.

Leveraging Funds: In these economically challenging times, it is vital to leverage all sources of funding to make the GLRI dollars go further. Most of the authorities the USACE utilizes for restoration projects require cost-sharing from non-federal project partners. Our cost-sharing partners include state agencies, local and tribal governments, and non-profit organizations. The USACE has leveraged over \$25 million of non-federal contributions as part of the restoration projects completed or under construction to date. The USACE has also leveraged over \$18 million from our base funding (Energy & Water Appropriations) to complement the GLRI dollars we receive for the construction of projects. On top of this, the USACE base funding has provided nearly \$115 million (FY10-14) to the Asian Carp Framework.

Creating Jobs: Almost all USACE construction and a significant percentage of USACE planning and design are implemented through contracts with private companies. GLRI funds received by the USACE are going into contracts with private companies and supporting over 2,000 jobs in construction, engineering and design, and other professional services.

Looking Ahead: In 2016, the USACE will have 20 additional restoration projects ready to start construction. Most of these projects have been in planning and design for several years. Consequently, the USACE will have the ability to rapidly obligate and expend GLRI funds on construction contracts without further delay.

January 2015

Great Lakes Restoration Projects Constructed with GLRI Funds

Project	Outputs	Status
Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier, Chicago, IL	Created 13-mile long barrier to prevent aquatic nuisance species (including Asian carp) from bypassing electric barriers	Completed
Monroe Harbor (River Raisin), MI	Removed 69,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from Federal channel to complement sediment cleanup and delisting of River Raisin Area of Concern (AOC)	Completed
Buffalo River, NY	Repaired existing confined disposal facility (CDF) and removed 475,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from Federal channel to complement sediment cleanup outside channel by EPA within Buffalo River AOC	Completed
63 rd Street Dune and Beach, Chicago, IL	Restored 21 acres of dune and savanna habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline	Completed
Duluth-Superior Harbor, MN/WI	Removed 34,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from St. Louis River AOC and used sediments for demonstrating restoration of strip mines in northern Minnesota	Completed
Burnham Prairie, IL	Restore 93 acres of ridge and swale complex with meadow, sedge meadow, and wet prairie	Completed
Cleveland Harbor Breakwater Demo, OH	Enhanced near shore fishery habitat on 128 foot reach of breakwater within Cuyahoga River AOC	Completed
Calumet & Ivanhoe Ridge and Swale, IN	Restore 171 acres of wet sand prairie and sedge meadow wetlands within Grand Calumet River AOC	Under construction
Chicago Botanical Garden, IL	Restored 5,000 feet of shoreline and riparian habitat and protect 26 acres of lacustrine habitat	Completed
Times Beach CDF Phragmites Demo, NY	Demonstrate alternative techniques for eradicating invasive aquatic plant on 31 acres within Niagara River AOC	Under construction
Orland Tract Perimeter, IL	Restore 300 acres of wet mesic/mesic savanna and prairie shrub land habitat that are on Lake Michigan flyway for migratory birds	Under construction
Ashtabula Harbor, OH	Removed 126,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments to support delisting of Ashtabula River AOC	Completed
Green Bay Dredged Material Disposal Facility, WI	Construct new facility for 2 million cubic yards of sediments from the Fox River AOC and restore/protect 1,200 acres of coastal wetlands	Completed
Little Calumet Riparian, IN	Restore natural floodplain forest on 42 acres in an urban corridor within Northwest Indiana	Under construction
Northerly Island, IL	Create 40 acres of savanna, wet prairie, marsh and lake habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline	Under construction
Ashtabula Harbor Breakwater Demo, OH	Enhanced near shore fishery habitat on reach of breakwater within Ashtabula River AOC	Completed
Menominee Rookery, MI	Restore scarce island habitat in order to delist Menominee River AOC	Under construction
Rosewood Beach, IL	Construct soft structures to restore 5 acres of beach and coastal habitat benefitting fishery within 25 miles along Lake Michigan shoreline	Under construction
Horner Park, IL	Restore 15 acres of riparian and wetland habitat in urban park	Under construction
Great Lakes Hydrilla Collaborative	Demonstrate alternative techniques for eradicating invasive aquatic plant that is on the doorstep of the Great Lakes	Under construction
Menomonee River, WI	Remove concrete lining from about a mile of river channel and restore natural river features and native plants in Milwaukee Estuary AOC	Under construction
Black Rock Channel, NY	Remove up to 250,000 yards contaminated sediments from the Niagara River AOC	Under construction
Jackson Park, IL	Restore and protect 155 acres of diverse habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline in Chicago	Under construction
Frankenmuth Fishery Passage, MI	Create rock ramp to enable fish to swim over dam and access 1,765 miles of upstream spawning habitat.	Under construction

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