



## FACT SHEET

October 2012

### Lake Erie Dredged Material Disposal Sites Botulism Study

Section 4002 of WRDA of 2007  
General Investigations

#### Location

- The study area includes all USACE dredged material disposal sites along the shores of Lake Erie in OH, PA and NY

#### Project Description

- A Reconnaissance Study would be conducted to determine the nature and frequency of avian botulism problems in the vicinity of Lake Erie associated with dredged material disposal sites and to make recommendations to eliminate the conditions that result in such problems
- Starting in 1999 dead fish and birds were washing up on the shores of Lake Erie in elevated numbers. Type E botulism (*Clostridium botulinum*) has been blamed for these increased deaths, and poses a risk to human and ecological health. Avian

botulism has been a problem in some Lake Erie Combined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) (e.g. Toledo, OH) in the late summer of previous years

#### Importance

- Identification of level of occurrence and threat of avian botulism in the vicinity of Lake Erie dredged material disposal sites will potentially result in recommendations to mitigate or eliminate risks

#### Consequences

- Without funding, the nature and frequency of avian botulism problems in the vicinity of Lake Erie associated with dredged material disposal sites will remain unknown

Project Phase	Est. Cost of Phase	Federal Funding Thru FY11	FY12 Requirement	FY12 Budget	FY13 Requirement	FY13 Budget
Reconnaissance	\$100k	\$0	\$100k	\$0	\$100k	\$0

#### Project Sponsor/Customer

- Potential cost share sponsors will be identified during the Reconnaissance phase

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

#### Congressional Interests

- Representative Marcy Kaptur D-OH-9
- Representative Dennis Kucinich D-OH-10
- Representative Marcia Fudge D-OH-11
- Representative Betty Sutton D-OH-13
- Representative Steven LaTourette R-OH-14

#### Current Status

- Not funded, not initiated

#### Issues

- No funding has been appropriated to this project



Typical Lake Erie Confined Disposal Facility

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