

18 December 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commander, Great Lakes and Rivers Division (attn: CELRD-ET-PE, E. Fleming)

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Preliminary Restoration Plan Report (Sec. 1135) Sheldon's Marsh, Sandusky, Ohio

1. The subject report is transmitted for approval. The report and the analysis contained therein has been fully reviewed by the Independent Technical Review team from LRB. Where appropriate, the project development team insured that the report has been modified to reflect review team comments.
2. The report recommends proceeding to the "Detailed Project Report" stage, and it appears that the project is in consonance with the federal interest, as well as being implementable.
3. My review of the project documents indicates that the project report properly reflects and interprets Corps guidance required under the Sec. 1135 program. I have determined that changes, if any, requested by the ITR members have been satisfactorily addressed.
4. I therefore concur with the conclusion and course of action proposed for the subject project.
5. The referenced project is included in the LRB work plan.
6. I request that a telecon with Dan Steiner be arranged for the purpose of obtaining approval of the subject report, thereby enabling LRB to continue to the ERR stage of the project development process.
7. Please contact Laura Ortiz at 716.879.4407 or through email at [laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil](mailto:laura.v.ortiz@usace.army.mil) with questions or concerns in regard to this study.



Christine M. Brayman  
Chief, Planning Branch

Date: 18 December 2001  
Division: LRD  
District: Buffalo

### CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROJECT FACT SHEET

1. **Project:** Sheldon's Marsh – Section 206, Huron, Ohio
2. **Authority:** Section 1135 of WRDA 1986, as amended
3. **Location:** Sheldon's Marsh is situated on Lake Erie, in Erie County, approximately 3.1 miles west of the Huron Harbor navigation project.
4. **Problem:** The navigation structures at Huron Harbor have caused restriction of littoral process to Sheldon's Marsh causing the barrier beach to erode.
5. **Alternative Plans Considered:** The PRP briefly outlined several plans which would protect the eroding shoreline in an environmental beneficial manner. The recommended plan in the PRP suggested constructing a 4,750-foot long, low crested breakwater which would be aligned in the 1969 location of the barrier beach.
6. **Environmental Benefits:** The environmental benefits associated with the restoration of the shoreline of the Sheldon's Marsh Nature Preserve are as follows:
  - Protection of a Coastal wetland along Lake Erie, 87 wetlands currently exist
  - Protection of a barrier beach at Sheldon's Marsh
  - Habitat for 300 avian species
  - Habitat for *Cincindela hirticollis* (tiger beetle) threatened species in Ohio
  - Habitat for threatened plant species in Ohio
  - Habitat for Piping Plover, Federal endangered species.
  - Potential site for Piping Plover Recovery Program.
7. **View of Sponsor:** The Ohio Department of Natural Resources supports the restoration of Sheldon's Marsh and would like to see other plans evaluated in the Feasibility Study.
8. **Statue of Environmental Statutes Compliance:** NEPA compliance will be conducted during the Feasibility Phase.
9. **Costs:**
  - Total Project Cost: \$5,635,000
  - Federal Share: \$4,226.25      Non-Federal Share: \$1,408.75
  - Project Benefits Significant and will exceed costs
  - O&M \$71,000