



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Buffalo District

## FACT SHEET

February 2022

### FAIRPORT REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT LAKE ERIE Artificial Reef FAIRPORT, OH

Section 204 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material  
Water Resources Development Act 1992  
Continuing Authorities Program

#### Location

- Fairport Harbor is a deep-draft commercial harbor located in Lake County, Ohio. The harbor is situated on the southern shore of Lake Erie at the mouth of the Grand River and is approximately 33 miles east of Cleveland, OH.

#### Project Description

- A minimum of 150,000 cubic yards of sediment must be dredged from the lower river and outer harbor every 1-2 years to facilitate commercial navigation.
- Finer-grained dredged material is discharged at the existing open-water placement area in Lake Erie, located about 3.5 miles offshore from the East Breakwater Light. Coarse-grain sediment is placed in a nearshore area east of the harbor.
- The purpose of this Feasibility study is to determine alternatives to beneficially use dredged material from Fairport Harbor or the Grand River for the purpose of ecosystem restoration with potential secondary benefits of storm damage reduction.

- Feasibility studies under Section 204 are 100% federally funded and require no cost share.
- Design and Implementation phases are cost-share 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal.

#### Importance

- An opportunity may exist for the Corps to beneficially use even more dredged sediment for the purpose of ecosystem restoration and/or storm damage reduction along the Lower Grand River/Fairport Harbor.

#### Consequence

- Lake Erie has experienced a decline in native fish spawning habitat, development of an artificial reef would greatly benefit native species.
- Erosion of lakeshore areas east of the harbor has been expressed as a concern by stakeholders during preliminary discussions.

Project Phase	Est. Fed. Cost of Phase	Federal Funding through FY21	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Budget	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Budget
Feasibility	\$765K	\$765K	\$0K	\$0K	N/A	N/A
Design & Implementation	\$7.2M	\$0	\$50k	N/A	\$250k	TBD

**Project Sponsor/Customer**

- The Lake County Ohio Port and Economic Development Authority provided a Letter of Interest requesting assistance on July 10, 2017.

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative David Joyce R-OH-14
- Senator Sherrod Brown D-OH
- Senator Robert Portman R-OH

**Current Status**

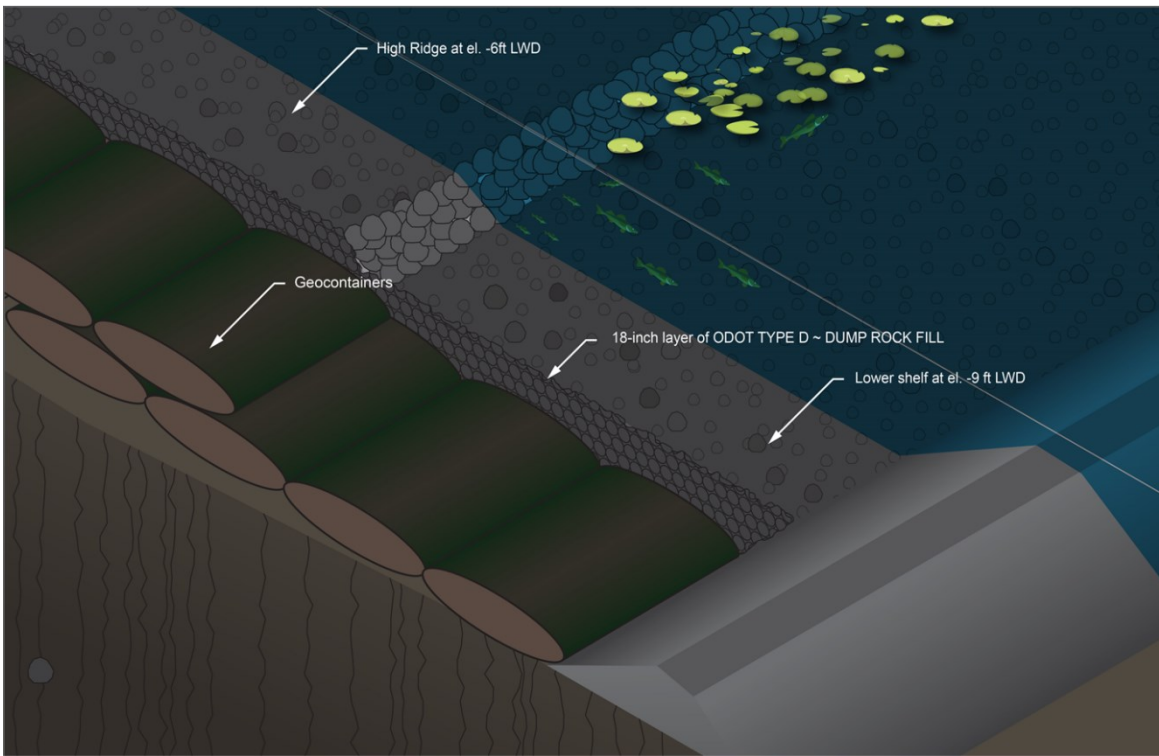
- This project has a positive Federal Interest Determination as of June 2019.
- A Detailed Project Report was finalized on 22 November 2021, and is under LRD validation review as of February 2022.
- The Non Federal Sponsor has requested a delay to development of a Project Partnership Agreement until May of 2022

**Issues**

- Risk to development of a PPA exists due to local development of a sediment recycling facility that may affect the viability of project Design and Implementation phase.
- Non-Federal funding risk.



Fairport 204 Artificial Reef Alternative



**Figure 1 Artificial Reef Iso-Metric Concept**

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