

Lacustrine Refuge in the Cuyahoga AOC Project

Lake Erie Synthesis & Coordination Team Meeting, November 29, 2011



Project Participants

GLRI Recipient:

- Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District



Consultant Awarded Design/Build Contract

- RiverWorks - a stream and wetland restoration partnership made up of three local firms, EnviroScience, GPD Group and RiverReach Construction



Project Partners / Advisory Committee:

- City of Cleveland
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Cleveland Museum of Natural History
- Friends of Euclid Creek
- Midwest Biodiversity Institute
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- Northeast Shores Development Corporation
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)
 - ODNR - Cleveland Lakefront State Parks
 - ODNR - Ohio State Parks Divisions
- Ohio EPA

Project Period

- September 1, 2010 - May 31, 2013

Funds

- GLRI - \$1,396,050



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Top 3 Accomplishments/Impacts

- Preliminary Design work near complete
- All permit applications submitted
 - Section 408 – Modifications/Alterations of Corps of Engineers Projects – affecting project schedule
- Surveying, Wetland Delineation and first Invasive Plant Treatment applied



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Regional Value

- Project will provide information on habitat restoration approaches which can be applied to many freshwater coastal areas, particularly those in urban areas where armoring and bulkheads on the shoreline lead to critical need for nearshore habitat.



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Ecosystem and Management Improvements

Ecosystem Improvements:

- 2.5 acres of urban coastal/lacustrine wetlands created
- 1500 feet of shoreline habitat in the Lower Euclid Creek to serve as a fish habitat refuge and nursery
- 2.5-3.0 acres of riparian enhancement/restoration
- 2.5-3.0 acres of invasive plant management

Management Improvements:

- Invasive Species Management Plan
- On-going Maintenance Recommendations / Estimate of Cost

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Public Benefits from Project





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Economic Impacts

With an investment of approximately \$1.4 million for Lacustrine Refuge project, this grant is anticipated to create a **total economic impact of \$2.5 million in Cuyahoga County** – based on three components:

- Investment of approximately \$1.4 million for Lacustrine Refuge project
- Indirect economic impact among the inter-industry vendors supporting the direct vendors which will add \$485,000 in economic output
- Induced impact due to household spending will add \$553,000 in economic output

Based on standard input-output regional economic modeling techniques and data from the U.S. Bureau of Census, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration



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New Research Needs and Management Questions

- Not at results/findings stage of project to date, therefore, cannot assess research needs and management questions.



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Benefits of Synthesis Effort

- Sharing: NEORSD has shared monitoring data from project in our project vicinity (beach monitoring at Euclid Beach/Villa Angela)
- General Information: great to hear about all of the projects going on and proximate/similar projects for collaboration