

Lake Erie Protection and Restoration Plan

Restoration Plan Database: Crystal Reports of Individual Plan Summaries

I. BASIC PLAN DATA

Plan name:

Lake Erie Protection and Restoration Plan

Brief description of plan:

In 1998 the Ohio Lake Erie Commission released the Lake Erie Quality Index, which evaluated ten separate indicators of Lake Erie quality, including habitat. The evaluation of indicators showed positive trends, as well as areas with little progress towards mitigating impacts of past practices. The Quality Index set environmental, recreational and economic goals and objectives. The plan identifies 84 specific recommendations to accomplish these goals and objectives and includes protection and restoration of valuable coastal properties.

Region the plan is located within:

Great Lakes Region

Watershed(s) included within the plan:

L091x , L093x , L094x , L095x , L096x , L097x , L098x , L099x , L101x , L102x , L103x , L104x , L105x , L106x

Area plan covers (in square miles):

11,649.00 square miles

Plan scale:

State

Plan's lead organization(s):

Ohio Lake Erie Commission, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Departments of Agriculture, Development, Health, and Transportation

Plan's Main Contact Information:

No Information Provided

On-line version of plan:

www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/lepr/lepr.htm

Date of original plan:

2000

II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Plan includes restoration goals: Y

Level of detail of the goals:

G

Summary of the goals:

Resestablish more natual flow regimes to Lake Erie tributaries. Assess the environmental and economic benefit of each Lake Erie tributary dam and encourage the removal of non-beneficial dams, or modify existing dams with fish passage structures, where appropriate, by 2025. For coastal shorelines, protect and restore valuable coastal properties. Implement Lake Erie Marshes Focus Plan as part of the North American Waterfowl Plan by 2020. Use incentives to encourage proper use and placement of shoreline erosion structures. Prohibit the natural movement of sand along Lake Erie's shoreline and nearshore area. Promote the use of non-structural shoreline protection strategies. Develop and implement cost effective technologies to move available off shore sand deposits into the littoral zone for beach nourishment, barrier building, etc. Establish intensive programs by 2003 to eradicate purple loosestrife, Phragmites, and other noxious exotic plants in prime Lake Erie coastal wetland by 2015. Expand wetlands within the Lake Erie watershed. Define and inventory where acquisition and protection of wetland and buffer areas, and other enhanced management, is needed to protect these resources. Create a prioritized list for enhanced management.

Plan recommends or uses criteria for selecting restoration sites (e.g. cost benefit ratio, ecological benefits):

Y

Summary of the criteria:

Expand wetlands within the Lake Erie watershed. Define and inventory where acquisition and protection of wetlands and buffer areas, and other enhanced management, is needed to protect these resources. Create a prioritized list for enhanced management.

Plan recommends restoration of specific project sites:

N

Plan includes a discussion of funding sources:

Y

Plan addresses long-term protection of restored sites:

Y

Partners included in developing the plan:

Federal
State
Local
Business/Industry
Non-profit Organizations
Private landowners

Type(s) of public outreach included during plan development:

Held public workshops, meetings, open house, or scoping meetings
Developed a Web site to inform public and/or seek public input
Formed an advisory group(s)
Information not available

Plan includes public outreach as part of plan implementation (e.g. annual public meeting, local group participation):

Y

Plan discusses the application of innovative approaches to restoration:

N

Plan make use of GIS mapping capabilities:

N

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for ecosystem level monitoring (baseline conditions) by:

G

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for project level monitoring by:

G

The plan discusses or coordinates with other restoration plans covering the same geographic area:

N

Other plan names:

Plan contains detailed information on historic and/or current habitat size, rate of loss, acres restored or protected, etc.):

Y

Summary of this habitat information:

Since the original European settlement of the Ohio Lake Erie watershed, over 90% of Lake Erie marshlands have been filled or converted to some other use. Of the 11,649 square miles comprising original stateonly 22% remains relatively intact as forest cover or wetlands. On average, 1.5 million tons of sediment is transferred every year down the four main tributaries- Maumee, Sandusky, Cuyahoga and Grand Rivers.