



Sediment Cleanup Project Beginning This Summer

River Raisin Great Lakes Legacy Act Project

Monroe, Michigan

June 2012

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The GLRI is the largest investment in the Great Lakes in two decades. Eleven federal agencies are working together on five priorities:

- Cleaning up toxics and Areas of Concern.
- Combating invasive species.
- Protecting watersheds from polluted runoff.
- Restoring wetlands and other habitats.
- Raising public awareness, tracking progress and working with partners.

GLRI's Legacy Act

Under the first priority, the Great Lakes Legacy Act provides up to 65 percent of the cost of a project. The rest comes from cities, states and businesses. Legacy Act partnerships have cleaned up 13 sites and removed some 2 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment.

Completed cleanups have been a springboard for communities to build a foundation for future growth by transforming former toxic hot spots into attractive locations. Areas that were obstacles to economic growth are now valuable waterfront assets.

Contact EPA

For more information, questions or to apply for a Legacy Act project, visit www.epa.gov/glla or contact:

Great Lakes Legacy Act

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Dredging will begin this summer as a project to remove contaminated sediment from the River Raisin gets under way. Contractors for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will begin work on the major component of the \$17.3 million project, run jointly by the EPA and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Workers will remove about 109,000 cubic yards of sediment contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. EPA is providing 65 percent of the funding through the Great Lakes Legacy Act, or about \$11.1 million. MDEQ will provide the remaining 35 percent share, about \$6.2 million, through cash and in-kind services.

Two systems in use

Dredging is expected to continue through mid-October. Contractors will use both mechanical and hydraulic dredging techniques.

A mechanical dredge will remove approximately 3,000 cubic yards of the most highly contaminated material, transfer it to the adjacent Ford Motor Company property and process it for disposal at a licensed landfill in Wayne County, Michigan, about 35 miles north of the site.

A hydraulic dredge will be used to remove about 106,000 cubic yards of less contaminated sediment. This material will be transported through a pipeline to the Sterling State Park Confined Disposal Facility, about two miles north of the mouth of the river.

Precautions being taken

To keep from exceeding the CDF's capacity, the project team is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to move some 106,000 cubic yards of previously dredged material out of the CDF. The team sampled and analyzed the material to be removed, and submitted the data to the MDEQ for evaluation. Based on the low levels of contamination, the MDEQ designated the material as acceptable for unrestricted upland use.

Workers started this part of the project in early June. It is expected to be completed by January. The material is being trucked to the Ford plant site to be stockpiled for potential reuse at the property.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the city of Monroe and the Port of Monroe are also involved in the project.

Photo on reverse side.

