

# Dredged Material Management After Removal of the Restriction on Navigational Dredging Activities Beneficial Use Impairment in Ohio's Ashtabula River and Black River

## Areas of Concern Program in Ohio

- There were four AOCs (Ashtabula, Black, Cuyahoga, Maumee).
- ALL had BUI for Restrictions on Navigational Dredging Activities
- Review of BUI Removal Criteria in 2019-20
- Previous Criteria focused on Open Lake Disposal. Ohio prohibited the practice of open lake disposal (effective July 1, 2020)
- Restrictions on Navigational Dredging Activities BUI update coordinated with OLEC, Ohio EPA, USACE, USEPA.

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# Ohio Restrictions on Navigational Dredging Activities

## BUI Restoration Target Criteria

*Updated in 2020*

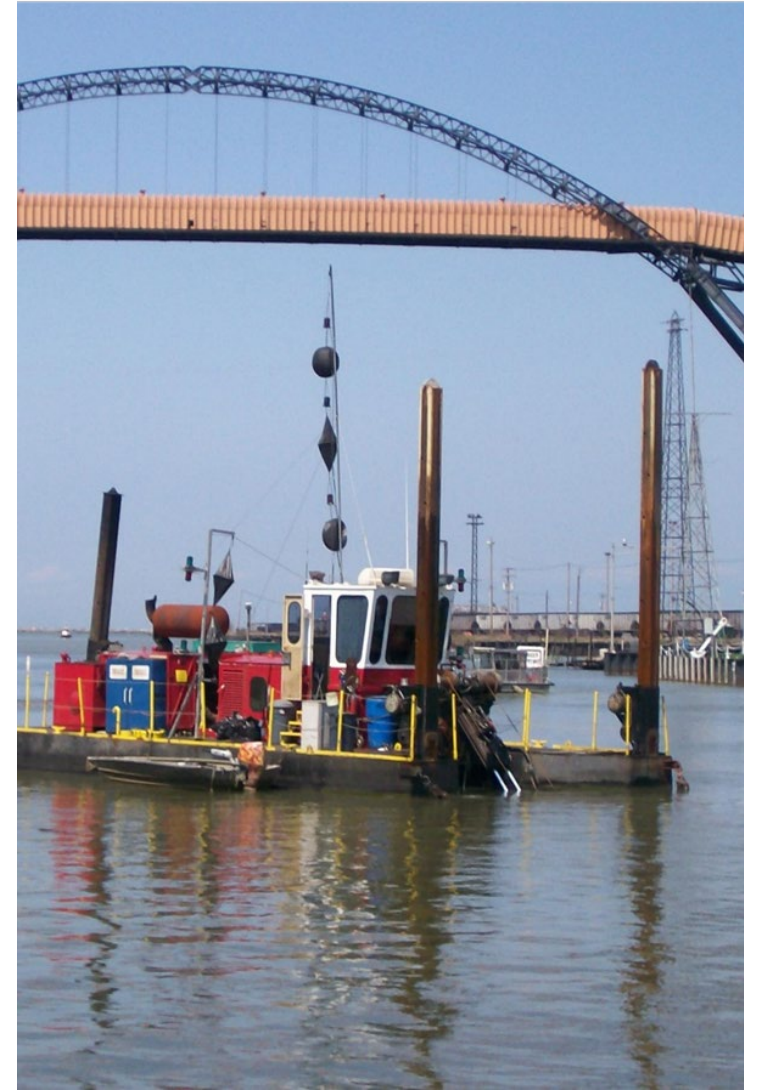
### State of Ohio Restoration Target

There are no restrictions on navigational dredging or disposal activities due to contaminants in sediment, such that there are suitable options available for reuse or disposal of the material.

1. Ohio developed beneficial use rules authorizing the upland beneficial use of Lake Erie dredge sediment (effective March 31, 2019). The rules address individual and general beneficial use permit requirements including the establishment of screening levels, restrictions, or standards.
  - To evaluate this BUI, Ohio will compare dredged sediment data to a number of standards and screening levels, including 1) the residential and/or industrial soil U.S. EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) and 2) information regarding ambient background conditions for the upland beneficial use of dredged sediment.
  - If material would be found suitable for upland beneficial use of the dredged sediment based on the two above evaluation methods, then the restoration target for this BUI will be met.
2. If material would be permissible for aquatic beneficial use for dredge sediment based on the 401 certification process, then the restoration target for this BUI has been met.

# Ashtabula River AOC 2020 Removal of Restrictions on Navigational Dredging Activities BUI

- All dredged sediment from the Ashtabula Harbor Federal Navigation Channel has the potential to be beneficially used upland based on the evaluation of the sediment data to the U.S. EPA residential soil regional screening levels, ambient background conditions, and ecological screening levels.
- Most of the dredged sediment may be able to be used for aquatic beneficial uses such as in-water habitat restoration projects in accordance with the 401 water quality certification process.



# Ashtabula River AOC – Delisted 2021



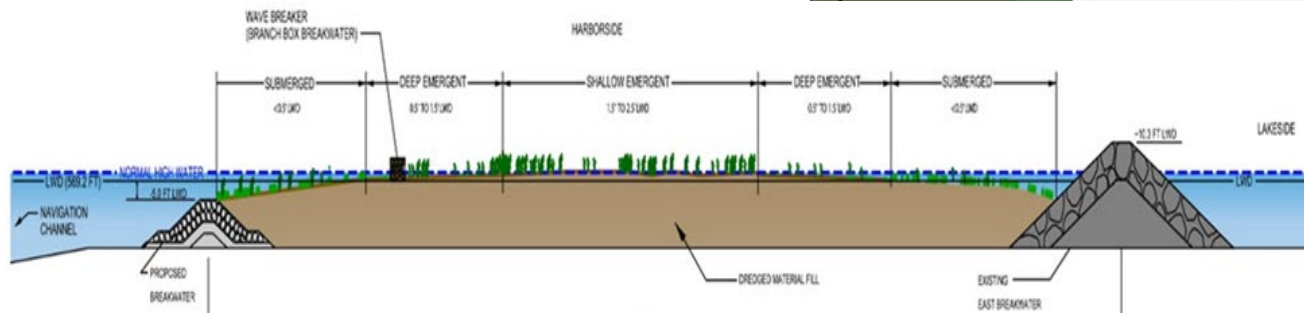
- 30 years of remediation and restoration in the lower 2.32 miles of the Ashtabula River
- Last BUI to be removed was Restriction on Navigational Dredging in September 2020
- Ashtabula AOC was Delisted in August 2021
- First AOC in Ohio to be delisted

# Ashtabula Harbor Section 204

## Beneficial Use of Dredge Material

Great Lakes &  
Ohio River Division

- Beneficial Use to establish 16.5 acres of submerged aquatic habitat
- Design includes anchored logs and log tangles to increase density and diversity of aquatic species
- 80,000 CY of sediment recently placed, with the project able to accept multiple dredge cycles



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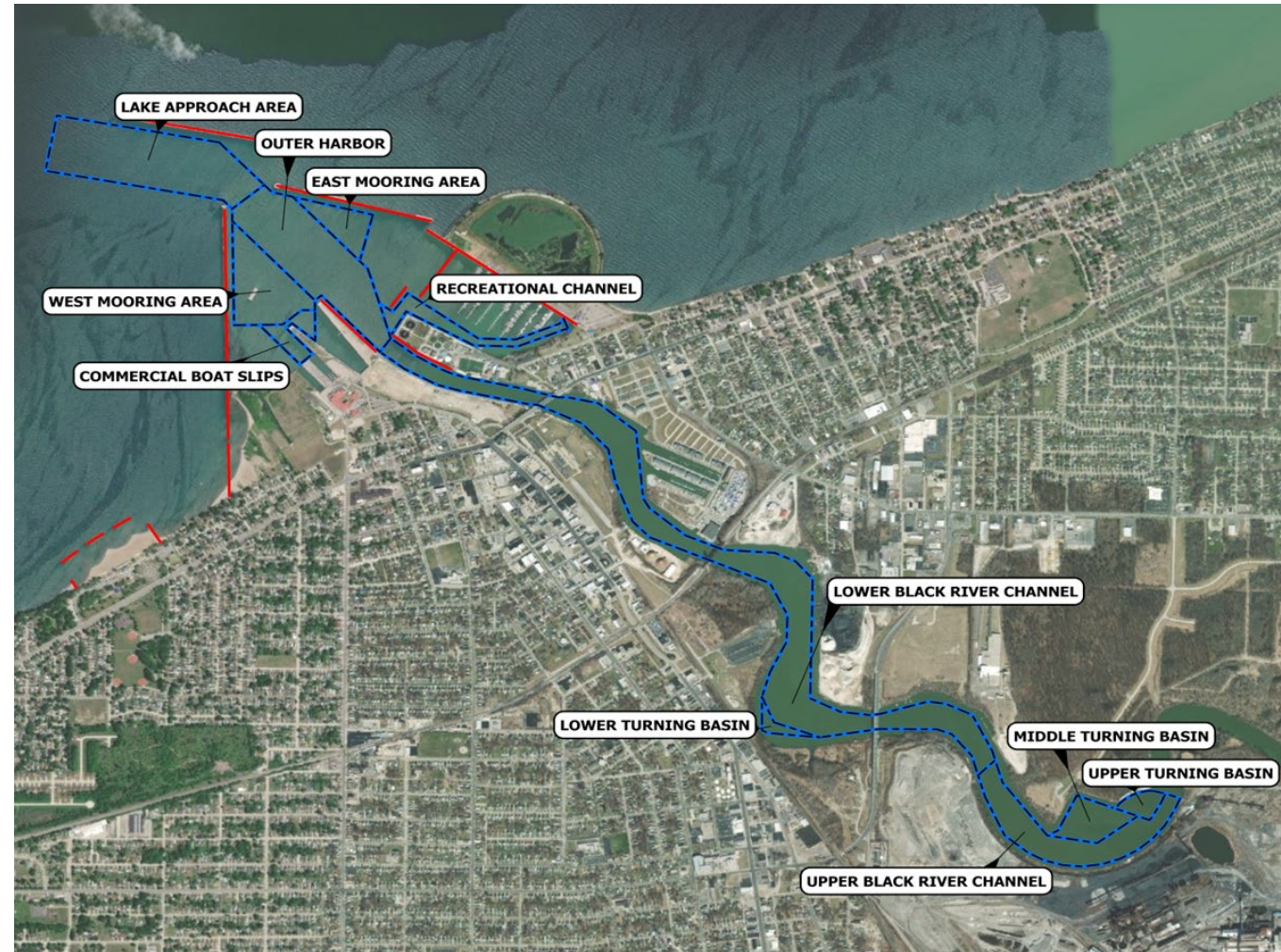


**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

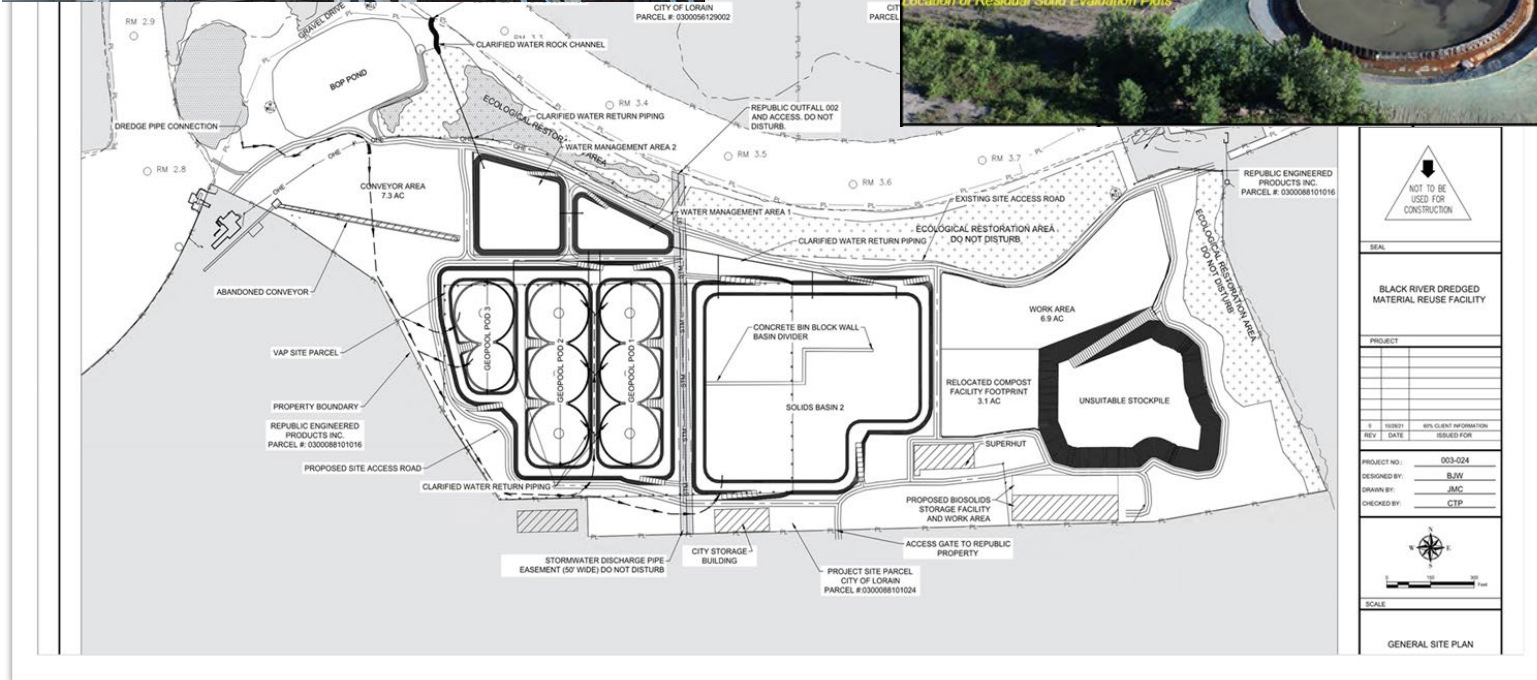


# Black River AOC 2022 Removal of Restrictions on Navigational Dredging Activities BUI

- All dredged sediment from the Lorain Harbor Federal Navigation Channel has the potential to be beneficially used upland based on the evaluation of the sediment data to the U.S. EPA residential soil regional screening levels, ambient background conditions, and ecological screening levels.
- Most of the dredged sediment may be able to be used for aquatic beneficial uses such as in-water habitat restoration projects in accordance with the 401 water quality certification process.



# Black River Dredged Material Reuse Facility GeoPool Pilot Study on Dredge Dewatering Completed



SOURCE:  
Aerial Drone Photography (2020).  
Taken by C. Wendt, Property of Coldwater Consulting, LLC