

Status of the U.S. Niagara River RAP

Niagara River Remedial Action Plan Implementation
Committee Workshop

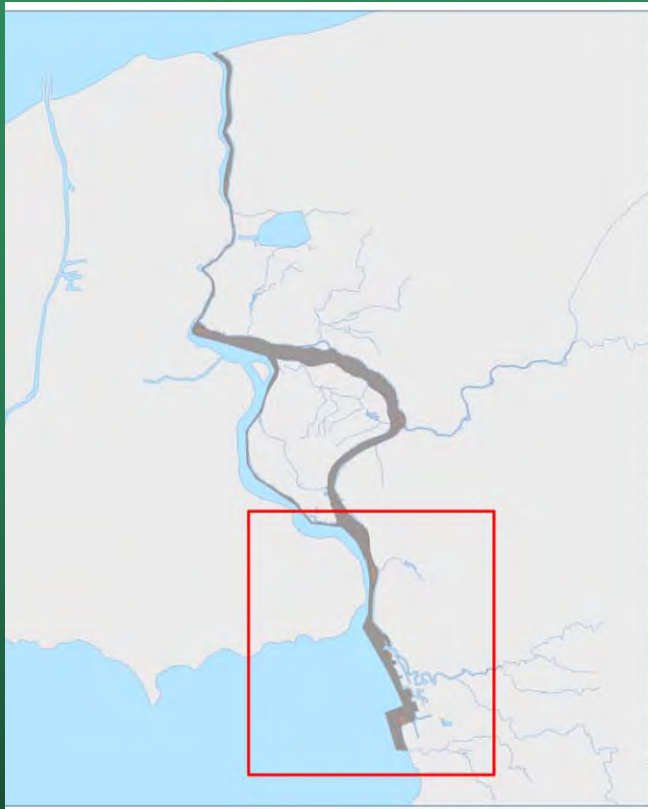
November 10, 2010



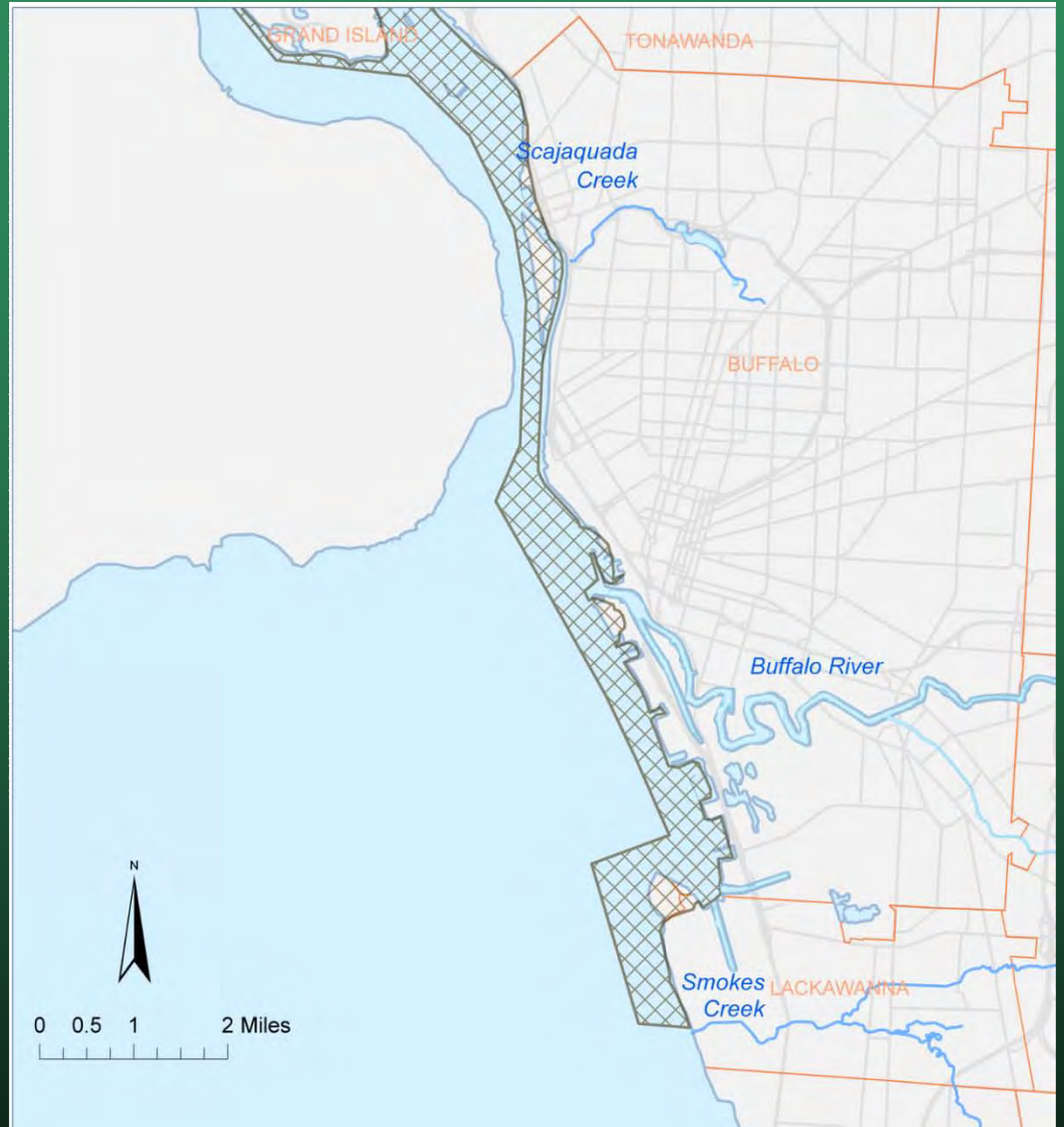
U.S. Niagara River RAP

- Background
- Accomplishments
- Current Projects





Niagara River Area of Concern (U.S. Section)



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Background

Major problems:

- Contamination impacting aquatic life
- Degraded habitat
- Contaminated sediment



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Background

Sources of contamination:

- Contaminated sediments
- Hazardous waste sites
- Wastewater discharges
- Nonpoint sources
- Combined sewer overflows



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Background

Known Beneficial Use Impairments:

- Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption
- Fish Tumors and Other Deformities
- Degradation of Benthos
- Restrictions on Dredging
- Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat



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Background

Likely Beneficial Use Impairments:

- Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations
- Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems



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Accomplishments

Addressing Hazardous Waste Sites

- 31 sites identified by 1994
- Measures to address most sites are complete
- Positive impact on water quality
- Contaminated sediment removed



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Accomplishments

Wastewater Discharge Permit Monitoring

- Self-reporting and periodic inspections
- Dischargers are in compliance
- Permit review and modification



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Accomplishments

Habitat Restoration – Strawberry Island



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Accomplishments

Other Habitat Projects

- East River Marsh restoration
- Motor Island acquisition
- Spicer Creek acquisition
- Hazardous waste site projects



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Current Projects

Enhanced Fish Contaminant Analyses

- Statewide project to support updated consumption advisories
- Comprehensive update for legacy chemicals
- New assessment for chemicals of emerging concern



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Current Projects

Assessing Habitat and Populations

- Lake Sturgeon and Lake Trout projects
(U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
- Marsh Monitoring Program Wetlands
Wildlife Survey
(Bird Studies Canada)



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Current Projects

Evaluating Sediment

- Smokes Creek
(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
- Niagara River navigation channel
(U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)



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Current Projects

Restoration Efforts

- Remaining hazardous waste sites
- Buffalo River sediment
- Combined sewer overflows
- Greenway and habitat improvement projects

