



Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration

funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The health of Great Lakes habitats and wildlife depends upon the protection and restoration of ecosystems. A multitude of threats affect the health of Great Lakes habitats and wildlife, and many opportunities exist to protect and restore critical elements of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

NOAA Restoration Center

NOAA Restoration Center in the Great Lakes provides financial and technical assistance to remove dams and barriers, construct fish passage, clean up marine debris, restore coastal wetlands, and remove invasive species in Great Lakes Areas of Concern. In addition, NOAA's Restoration Center also supports partnerships that allow for a targeted approach to address priority projects in Great Lakes Areas of Concern including design and engineering of habitat restoration projects, on-the-ground restoration work, project evaluation to inform future restoration efforts, and climate change expertise to inform restoration planning and implementation.



Black River, Lorain, OH. Four GLRI-funded projects in the Black River Area of Concern include the construction of 5000+ linear ft. of fish habitat shelves, approx. 1500 ft. of riverbank stabilization and restoration, the removal of 45,000 cubic yards of steel slag, the restoration of 2.3 acres of riparian habitat, the engineering and design of additional in-stream and bank restoration, and the treatment of invasive species.

Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal lands. GLRI Land Acquisition CELCP projects will protect wetlands and other important coastal habitats, reduce coastal water pollution, and provide the public with access to Great Lakes coasts.



Mashek Creek Property Protection. NOAA and the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program are working together to support the permanent protection of the 26.87 acre Mashek Creek property, which includes 1,700 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline. Wooded areas on this parcel provide important stopover habitat for migrating neotropical migrants and raptors moving along the shores of Lake Michigan. The Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources matched federal funds awarded through the CELCP.

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