

Great Lakes Areas of Concern

Land Acquisition Projects

“Areas of Concern” are watersheds, or portions of watersheds, along the Great Lakes suffering from degraded environmental conditions. Millions of dollars have been invested to restore and protect these areas through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Some of that funding is provided through NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management. To date, nearly \$2.7 million in NOAA funds have been provided to state and local partners to protect these critical coastal lands through land purchases and conservation easements. Restoration often follows, with the end result being improved water quality, positive economic impacts, and increased flood protection, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities.

In fiscal year 2016 and beyond, sites within designated “areas of concern” are eligible for similar funding opportunities through NOAA’s Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. For more information, visit coast.noaa.gov/czm/landconservation.



The following list outlines previous NOAA grant awards by area of concern and fiscal year. Eight projects (shown in bold) have been completed, permanently protecting over 260 acres. The remaining three projects, if successful, will protect approximately 240 additional acres.

Clinton River Area of Concern, Michigan 2012: **Black Creek Marsh – 70.5 acres**

Cuyahoga River Area of Concern, Ohio 2013: **Mill Creek Wetlands Protection – 9.7988 acres**

Maumee River Area of Concern, Ohio 2012: **Maumee Oak Openings Habitat Corridor, Phase I – 56.57 acres**

2013: Maumee Oak Openings Habitat Corridor, Phase II (formerly Ten Mile Creek Floodplain Acquisition) – 24.7 acres

2014: Maumee Oak Openings Habitat Corridor, Phase II – 58 acres

Muskegon Lake Area of Concern, Michigan 2011: **Bear Lake Acquisition for Habitat Restoration (Willbrandt-east) – 18.2 acres**

2012: **Muskegon Land Acquisition (Bosma) – 57.51 acres**

2013: **Muskegon Land Acquisition (Willbrandt-west) – 21.09 acres**

Saginaw River and Bay Area of Concern, Michigan 2011: **Saginaw Stoney Island and Marsh Par 3 (formerly Prindle) – 23.04 acres**

St. Louis River Area of Concern, Minnesota and Wisconsin

2015: **Balsam Creek Conservancy Project (WI) – 155 acres**

White Lake Area of Concern, Michigan 2011: **White Lake Shoreline Habitat Acquisition – 7.11 acres**

National Coastal Zone Management Program
Office for Coastal Management

