

# Scanlon Reservoir Sediment Project

*St. Louis River Area of Concern*  
*Scanlon, Minnesota*

## UPDATE

A sediment project occurred at Scanlon Reservoir to protect human health, wildlife and the environment from legacy contaminants left behind by historic industrial discharge into the river. In-water work has been completed. The project was conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency through a Great Lakes Legacy Act voluntary partnership. Scanlon Reservoir Sediment Project is part of a larger effort to restore and delist the St. Louis River as an Area of Concern.

### ☆ Accomplishments

- Addressed 55,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment over 13.5 acres
- Started upland habitat restoration

### ✓ Benefits

- Improved habitat for fish and wildlife
- Reduced contaminant exposure

### △ Contaminants

- Dioxins/Furans

### 💰 Costs

- \$10.5 million funding from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and State of Minnesota bond funds.

### 🕒 Timeline

- In-water work completed: Fall 2022
- Continuation of upland site restoration: Spring 2023

### 👥 Outreach

- Stakeholders interviewed to guide outreach efforts
- Closure alert signs & flyers were posted

### CONTACT:

MPCA Project Manager  
1-800-657-3864

### FIND OUT MORE:

Scan QR code  
or  
Visit: [bit.ly/3KTAsPM](https://bit.ly/3KTAsPM)



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## Updates

The following are no longer closed for this project:

- Fishing pier
- Kayak launch
- St. Louis River Recreational Trail\*
- Parking area & Road

*\*Sections of the trail may temporarily (up to 30 days) close in Spring 2023 for site restoration work.*

## Method

The project used modern technologies, which included applying a thin layer of carbon over 13.5 acres of contaminated sediments. Depending on the depth of the water, different techniques were used to apply the carbon. Activated carbon in the form of pellets have a filtering power, attaching themselves at the chemical level to pollutants. Applying a thin carbon layer will prevent the pollution from collecting in the small organisms on the bottom of the food chain and moving up the food chain. Both methods improve the habitat for fish, wildlife, and the community. This approach will also be used in the upcoming Thomson Reservoir project.

