







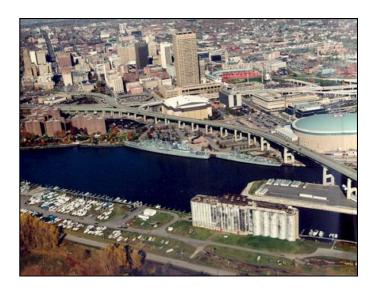


## BUFFALO RIVER RESTORATION 2011 STRATEGIC NAVIGATIONAL DREDGING

August 2011

## Overview of 2011 Strategic Navigational Dredging

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) is a multi-year, multi-agency initiative to restore the Great Lakes. GLRI funds are administered and distributed through the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Using a combination of GLRI and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is supporting the Administration's initiative through the strategic navigational dredging of approximately 600,000 cubic yards of sediments from the authorized limits of the Federal navigation channel (450,000 cubic yards using \$4.6 million of GLRI funds, and 150,000 cubic yards using \$1.3 million of Federal O&M funds).



## **Dredging Operations and Placement**

The dredging activities supported by GLRI funds will add one foot of depth to the channel and remove legacy sediment contaminants (24 feet below low water datum). This dredging will benefit commercial navigation and will also contribute to the ecological restoration of the Buffalo River and the Great Lakes. While dredging operations are expected to have a localized and short-term negative impact on water and sediment quality in the immediate dredging area due to turbidity, these impacts will be eliminated once dredging is complete. Moreover, the Corps dredging will contribute to the reduction of toxic contamination in the river, fish and wildlife and will help move the Buffalo River closer to "delisting" as a Great Lakes Area of Concern.

Dredged sediment will be placed in Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) #4 adjacent to the former Bethlehem Steel site. CDF #4 was constructed by the Corps for the placement of sediment that is unsuitable for open-lake placement in Lake Erie.

Dredging is scheduled to begin in August 2011 and be completed in November 2011.

For more information, please visit the project website:

www.buffaloriverrestoration.org

