



US Army Corps of Engineers



***St. Clair River
&
Lake St. Clair***

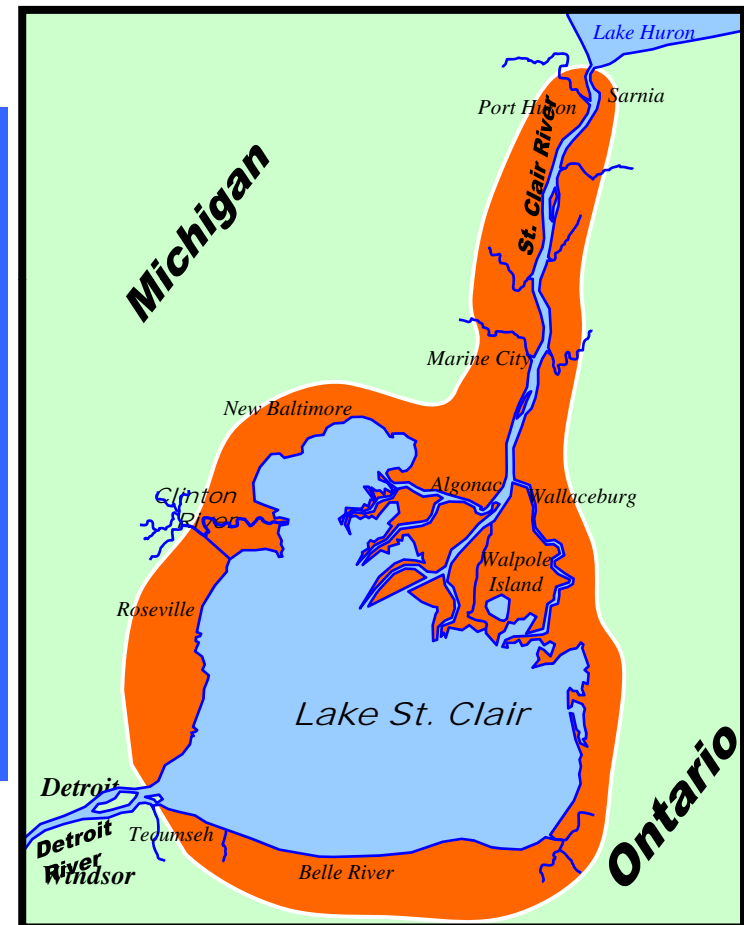
***Management
Plan***

***WLEB Conference
March 12, 2009
Adam Fox***





- ◆ Authorization
- Section 426 WRDA 1999





◆ Transparent Watershed Approach

- Binational Coordination & Product Delivery
- Binational Project Management Team
- Binational Advisory Committee
- Binational Technical Workgroups
- “State of the Lake” Conference
- Web Page www.glc.org/stclair/





St. Clair River-Lake St. Clair Management Plan

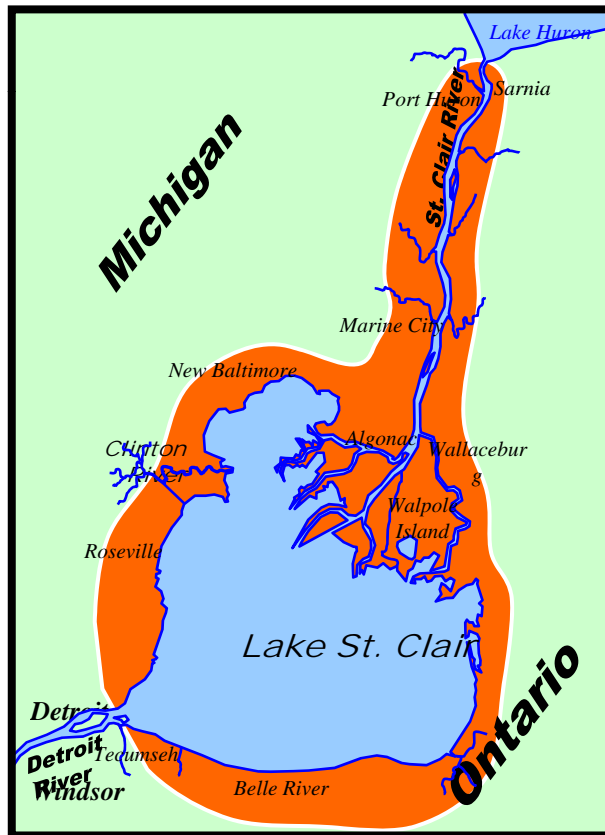
◆ Result

- June 2002 Final Report approved by ASA(CW) in 2007
- 110 Recommendations
- Multi-level cooperation and team building
- Binational Collaboration
 - ✓ Canadian Lake Management Plan
 - ✓ U.S. – Canadian Lake Mngt Partnership





St. Clair River-Lake St. Clair Management Plan - Issues



- Beach closures
- Public health (contact & drinking water)
- Fish & wildlife habitat/biodiversity: loss/degradation
- Public access loss
- Need for Monitoring
- Management oversight & Implementation



WRDA 2007

“SEC. 426. ST. CLAIR RIVER AND LAKE ST. CLAIR, MICHIGAN.

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary **shall establish and lead a partnership of appropriate Federal agencies** (including the Environmental Protection Agency) and the State of Michigan (including political subdivisions of the State)—

“(A) **to promote cooperation among** the Federal Government, State and local governments, and **other involved parties** in the management of the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair watersheds; and

“(B) **to develop and implement projects** consistent with the management plan.





WRDA 2007 (cont.)

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF ST. CLAIR RIVER AND LAKE ST. CLAIR MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

The Secretary shall—

- “(A) **develop a St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair strategic implementation plan** in accordance with the management plan (*recommendations*);
- “(B) provide technical, planning, and engineering assistance to non-Federal interests **for developing and implementing activities** consistent with the management plan;
- “(D) provide, in coordination with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, financial and technical assistance, **including grants**, to the State of Michigan (including political subdivisions of the State) and interested nonprofit entities for the Federal share of the cost of planning, design, and implementation of projects to restore

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section **\$20,000,000.**”





The Road Ahead

- Before proceeding, USACE-HQ needs to issue **“Implementation Guidance”** as to interpreting the WRDA language.
- Implementation Guidance also needs to answer the following:
 - **Who can be a sponsor? Township? Watershed Group? Non-Profit organization?**
 - **What will the non-Federal cost share be, if any?**
 - **Are there any restrictions on the amount of grants or to whom they can be issues and when?**





The Road Ahead

- \$20M Authorized by Congress to fund Federal portion of a significant number of implementation plans within the 110 recommendations;
- Omnibus Bill funding (if any) to reestablish the Partnership and review/refine priority Recommendations;
- Watershed Partnership aiming toward a 2010 Pres. Budget request in the \$5M – \$10M range for actual Implementation of projects.





Implementation Challenges

- **Multi-Jurisdiction & Binational;**
- **Watershed planning is slow, involves great complexity and is not static;**
- **Recommendations are broad and diverse;**
- **Recommendation priority, implementation oversight & funding complexity.**





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◆ QUESTIONS ???

◆ Project POC:

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