



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Maumee RAP

P.O. Box 1049, 1800 WaterMark Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0149
(614) 644-3020
FAX (614) 644-2329

RECEIVED

NOV 12 1993

George V. Voinovich
Governor

Donald R. Schregardus
Director

November 10, 1993

OHIO E.P.A.
N.W.D.O.

Mr. Lee Pfouts
Chairman, Maumee RAP Implementation Committee
City of Toledo
Division of Pollution Control
26 Main Street
Toledo, Ohio 43605-2032

Dear Mr. Pfouts:

Ohio EPA has reviewed the Investigation Report for the Turtle Creek, Packer Creek, and Toussaint River watersheds and concurs with the Maumee RAP Implementation Committee's recommendation that the Maumee River Area of Concern be expanded to include these streams.

The lack of data regarding these small watersheds makes it difficult to determine the extent to which specific beneficial uses are impaired. However, the instability of the Great Lakes bald eagle population provides sufficient justification for increasing environmental protection efforts in these direct tributaries. Continued monitoring of sensitive coastal areas will enable a more comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of remedial actions taken in the Maumee AOC and is consistent with the ecosystem approach advocated for RAPs.

This investigation report will become part of the Stage I Investigation Report as an addendum; recommendations made for the Area of Concern in Volume 4 will be extended to the Turtle Creek, Packer Creek, and Toussaint River watersheds in Ottawa County. Please contact Sue Thomas at (614) 644-2865 with any questions you may have regarding the expansion of the AOC.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Schregardus
Donald R. Schregardus
Director

- cc: Earl Johnson, MRIC, Vice Chairman
- Ed Hammett, Chief, NWDO
- Ava Hottman, Asst. Environ. Adm., DSW
- Kurt Erichsen, TMACOG
- Julie Letterhos, LEU Supervisor

Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

123 Michigan Street Toledo, Ohio 43624-1996

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August 13, 1992

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
OHIO EPA

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Vice Chairman
Commissioner Bill Copeland,
2nd Vice Chairman

Don Schregardus, Director
Ohio EPA
PO Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43266-0149

Dear Director Schregardus:

At its meeting of February 20, 1992, the Maumee RAP Implementation Committee (MRIC) voted to expand the Maumee RAP AOC to include the attached list of streams, subject to the agreement of the IJC. As Vice-Chairman of MRIC, I would like to request your concurrence with this action.

When the Maumee RAP Area of Concern was originally established, it included some, but not all, of the tributaries between the Maumee and the Portage that flow directly into Lake Erie. It included Crane and Cedar Creeks, but not Turtle, Packer, and Toussaint Creeks. A map is included for your convenience.

There are several reasons why it is important to include these watersheds in the Area of Concern. Agricultural runoff is one of the primary reasons why the Maumee is an Area of Concern. These Lake Erie Direct tributaries are primarily agricultural watersheds, but because of their location, they offer sediment and phosphorus runoff a short route to Lake Erie. Both the MRIC Agricultural Subcommittee and Ohio EPA's §319 Conservation Tillage Equipment Grant program recognize the Lake Erie Direct Tributaries as high priority watersheds for this very reason.

Second, there are many important coastal marshes in these watersheds that are ecologically linked to Maumee Bay, including the Magee Marsh State Reservation. There has been great concern about high PCB concentrations in bald eagle eggs in this area; about 75% of the state's bald eagle nests are located in the Lake Erie coastal marshes. Contaminated fish from the Maumee River are a nearby source of PCBs that threaten wildlife in this area.

The IJC stresses the need for Remedial Action Plans to use an ecosystem approach to impaired beneficial uses and the effects of pollutants. These streams need to be considered to meet that requirement.

Third, these watersheds should not be excluded from remediation programs merely because they flow into the Lake, rather than into a larger river. Agricultural runoff from fields in these watersheds is the same as in tributaries to the Maumee; and their impact on the lake is likely to be greater, because the runoff has a short distance to go.

Fourth, although these watersheds are primarily agricultural, there are other significant water quality issues that should be addressed. After agricultural runoff, unsewered areas is the next largest problem, including Clay Center, Locust Point, and Rocky Ridge. Two POTWs discharge into these watersheds: Luckey and Genoa, both of which have some combined sewers. There are closed dumpsites in the area. There are two sites on Ohio EPA's 1992 Master Sites List in the area. One, Motor Wheel, north of Luckey, the Master Sites Lists notes as a CERCLIS site, and assigns a high priority. Also, the Davis Besse nuclear power station is in the area.

Including these watersheds in the Area of Concern will require an addendum to the RAP Investigation Report. TMACOG will provide Ohio EPA with this information for inclusion in the *Stage II Report*; this work is part of TMACOG's current §205(j)/§604(b) contract with Ohio EPA.

The Areawide Water Quality Planning Council and the TMACOG Executive Committee have reviewed and approved the RAP Area expansion. The Resolution from these committees is attached. Also enclosed is a letter from Dr. John Hartig stating the IJC's position on expanding an Area of Concern. He notes that it is a local decision, and cites a precedence for this action. This is consistent with the view IJC has always had that the RAP process should come from "the bottom up."

We look forward to continuing to work with Ohio EPA to implement the Maumee RAP. If you have questions, please contact MRIC Chairman Lee Pfouts, or Kurt Erichsen at TMACOG.

Sincerely,



Earl Johnson
Maumee RAP Implementation Committee
Vice Chairman

c: Lee Pfouts, MRIC Chairman
Pat Bulzan, Ohio EPA RAP Coordinator
Janet Thomas, Ohio EPA
Ed Hammett, NW District Office Chief
Ava Hottman, Ohio EPA
Jill Deibel, ODNR
Diana Holt, ODNR; MRIC Agriculture Subcommittee Chair
Dr. John Hartig, IJC
Dan Lawson, US EPA RAP Coordinator

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**To Expand the Maumee Remedial Action Plan Area of Concern
To Include Turtle Creek and the Toussaint River**

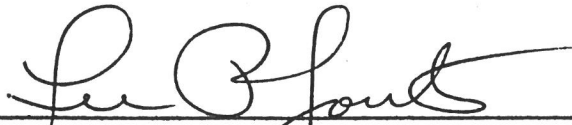
- **WHEREAS**, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) is a voluntary association of local governments in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan serving 800,000 people in a 2,240 square mile area which includes Erie, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Wood Counties, Ohio; and Bedford, Erie, and Whiteford Townships and the City of Luna Pier in Monroe County, and Riga Township in Lenawee County, Michigan; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG), an association of local governments organized on May 31, 1968, was established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Michigan Public Act No. 7 (EX-SESS), has carried out comprehensive metropolitan and regional planning since that date; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan was recommended by the Areawide Water Quality Planning Council on September 25, 1980 and adopted by the Executive Committee of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments on November 19, 1980; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Areawide Water Quality Planning Council has the responsibility to monitor implementation of the Plan and making recommendations to resolve inconsistencies with the Plan, and the Maumee Remedial Action Plan (RAP) is a program to implement the Plan, in which the AWQPC has taken the leading role of local coordinator; and
- **WHEREAS** reducing sediment and nutrient loadings to the Western Basin of Lake Erie is vitally important for the environmental, economic, and public health of the region by protecting drinking water supplies, preventing harbor siltation, and protecting fish and wildlife habitat; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Maumee Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee, a subcommittee of AWQPC, has the responsibility to monitor progress toward cleaning up the Lower Maumee River Area of Concern, and reducing critical pollutant loadings to the Western Basin of Lake Erie; and
- **WHEREAS**, MRIC has identified sediment and nutrient loadings from Agricultural Runoff as one of the fundamental reasons why this is an Area of Concern (AOC);
- **AND WHEREAS**, the small streams that flow directly into Lake Erie between the Maumee and the Portage: Turtle Creek and the Toussaint River, draining parts of Ottawa, Wood, and Sandusky Counties have predominantly agricultural land use, and these streams offer sediment and nutrient a short route from the field to the Lake.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
BY THE TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:***

- **THAT** Turtle Creek, the Toussaint River, and their tributaries be officially designated as part of the Maumee RAP Area of Concern;
- **AND THAT** the Turtle Creek and Toussaint River watersheds be included in future water pollution remediation efforts by the AWQPC, MRIC, and members of those committees.

Adopted by the Areawide Water Quality Planning Council February 27, 1992

11 0 0
Yea Nay Abstain



Lee Pfouts, Chairman
Areawide Water Quality Planning Council



Janiece Romstadt, Secretary
Areawide Water Quality Planning Council

Adopted by the Executive Committee March 18, 1992

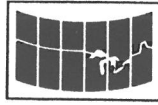
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Yea Nay Abstain



Steven M. Arndt, Chairman
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments



Calvin M. Lakin, Executive Director
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments



International Joint Commission
Commission mixte internationale

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE

RECEIVED MAR 02 1992

February 26, 1992

Mr. Kurt Erichsen
Director of Regional/
Comprehensive Planning
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council
of Governments
123 Michigan Street
Toledo, Ohio 43624

Dear Kurt:

This letter is being sent in response to your request for clarification on changing the geographic extent of an Area of Concern. First, it is the decision of the RAP team, Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA as to what the geographic extent of the Area of Concern should be. If you feel it should be expanded to account for additional sources of pollution, you could do that and communicate that information in either an annual progress report or a Stage 2 RAP. This is precisely the same situation facing Waukegan Harbor, IL where they are expanding the geographic extent of the Area of Concern to be able to address all sources of pollutants. An alternative would be that if the sources or additional tributaries did not impact Maumee Bay proper, they would undoubtedly be addressed through a lakewide management plan for Lake Erie. I hope this helps in the resolution of your problem. If I can provide any other assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

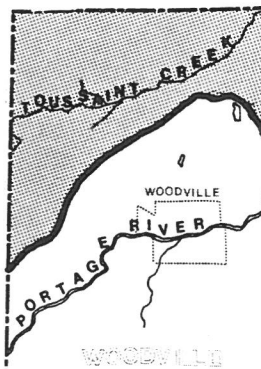
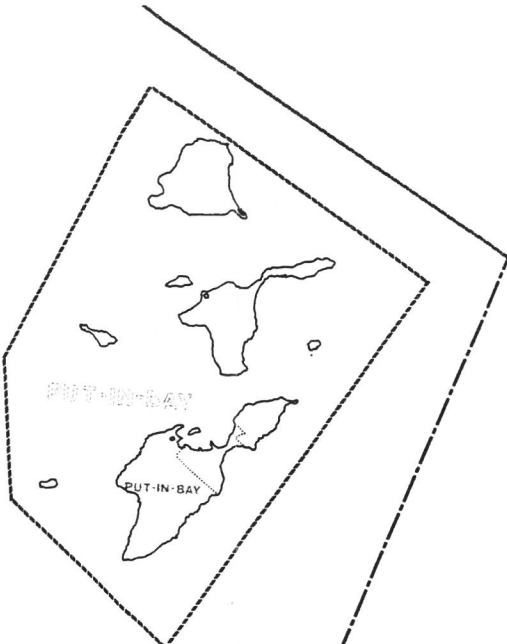
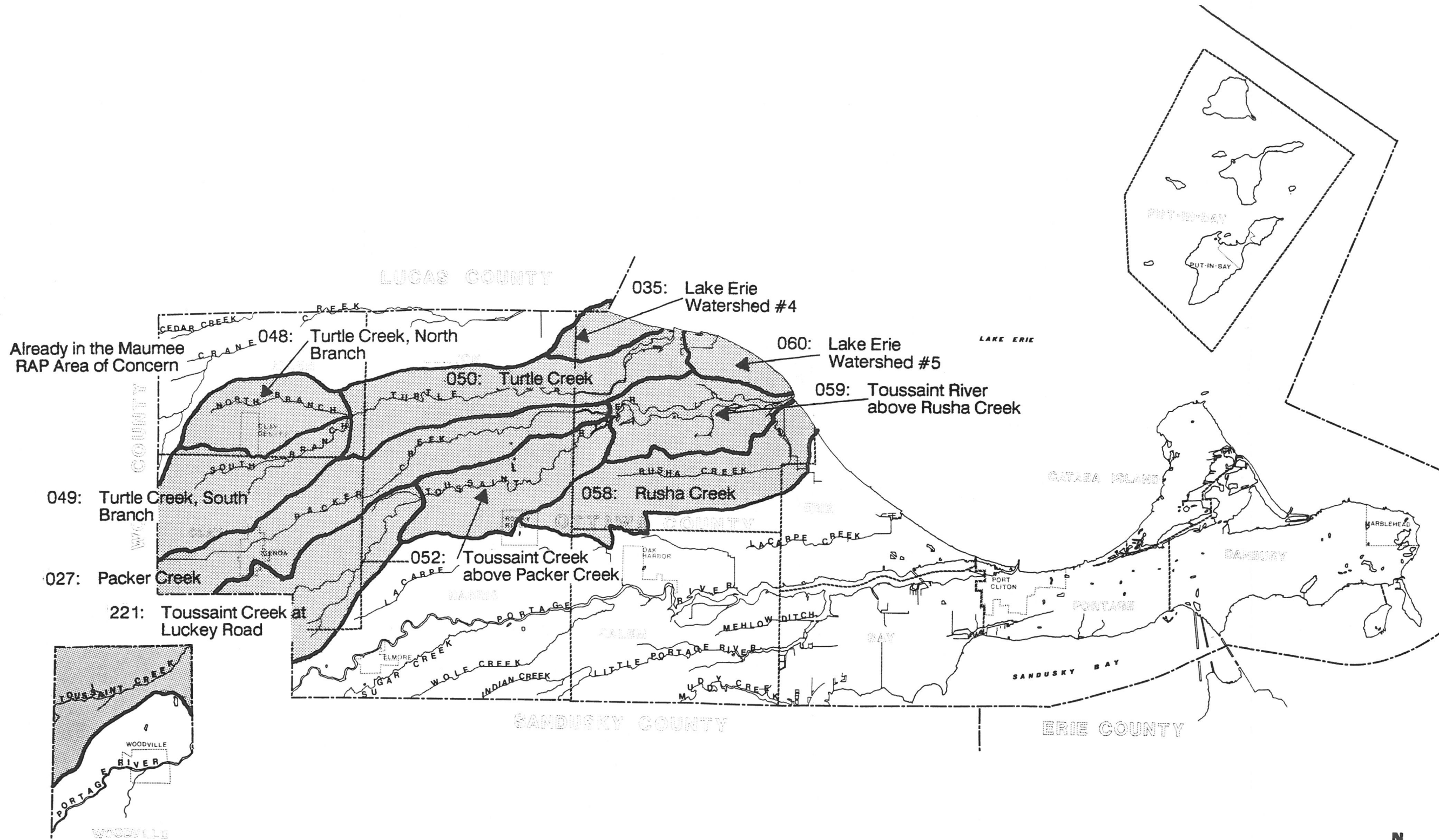


John H. Hartig, Ph.D.

JHH/mam

Windsor • Ottawa • Washington

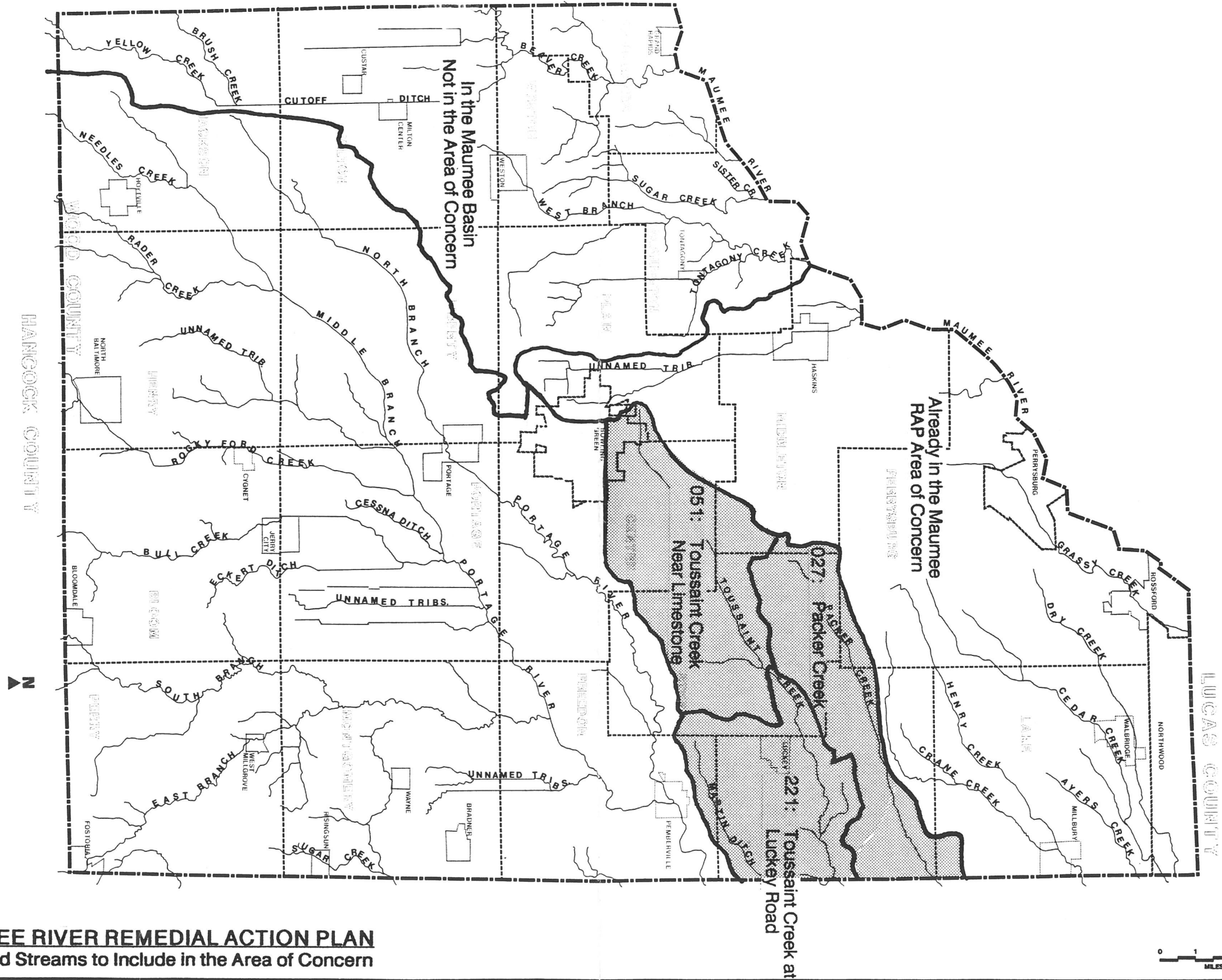
100, avenue Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6T3 (519) 256-7821
or/ou P.O. Box 32869, Detroit, Michigan 48232 (313) 226-2170



MAUMEE RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN
 Proposed Streams to Include in the Area of Concern

OTTAWA COUNTY STREAMS





MAUMEE RIVER REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN
 Proposed Streams to Include in the Area of Concern

WOOD COUNTY STREAMS



Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

123 Michigan Street Toledo, Ohio 43624-1996

OHIO EPA
DWQPA

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Chairman
Mayor Charles Duck,
Vice Chairman
Commissioner Bill Copeland,
2nd Vice Chairman

May 6, 1992

Pat Bulzan
Ohio EPA
Division of Water Quality Planning & Assessment
PO Box 1049
1800 Watermark Dr.
Columbus, OH 43266-0149

Dear Ms. Bulzan:

At the its last meeting in February, the Maumee RAP Implementation Committee (MRIC) voted to two add two Lake Erie Direct tributaries to the Area of Concern, subject to the agreement of Ohio EPA and the IJC.

The AOC expansion follows the recommendation of the Agricultural Runoff Pollution Abatement subcommittee, which recommended including Lake Erie Direct tributaries between the Maumee and the Portage in our remediation efforts. As originally defined, the AOC included some of these tributaries (Crane and Cedar Creeks) but excluded others (Turtle Creek and the Toussaint River.) This action officially includes Turtle and the Toussaint in the RAP Area.

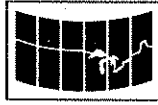
We have received a letter from the IJC stating its acceptance of the AOC expansion. A resolution supporting the AOC expansion has been adopted by both the Areawide Water Quality Planning Council and the TMACOG Executive Committee. The IJC letter and the signed resolution are enclosed.

On behalf of the RAP Implementation Committee, and at the request of its Chairman, I would like to request Ohio EPA's concurrence with this action. Please give me a call if there are any questions.

Sincerely,



Kurt Erichsen, P.E.
Director of Regional Planning



International Joint Commission
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GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE

RECEIVED MAR 02 1992


February 26, 1992

Mr. Kurt Erichsen
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John H. Hartig, Ph.D.

JHH/mam

Windsor • Ottawa • Washington

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Adopted by the Areawide Water Quality Planning Council February 27, 1992

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Yea	Nay	Abstain



Lee Pfouts, Chairman
Areawide Water Quality Planning Council



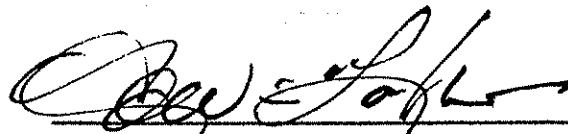
Janiece Romstadt, Secretary
Areawide Water Quality Planning Council

Adopted by the Executive Committee March 18, 1992

<u>19</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Yea	Nay	Abstain



Steven M. Arndt, Chairman
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Calvin M. Lakin, Executive Director
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments