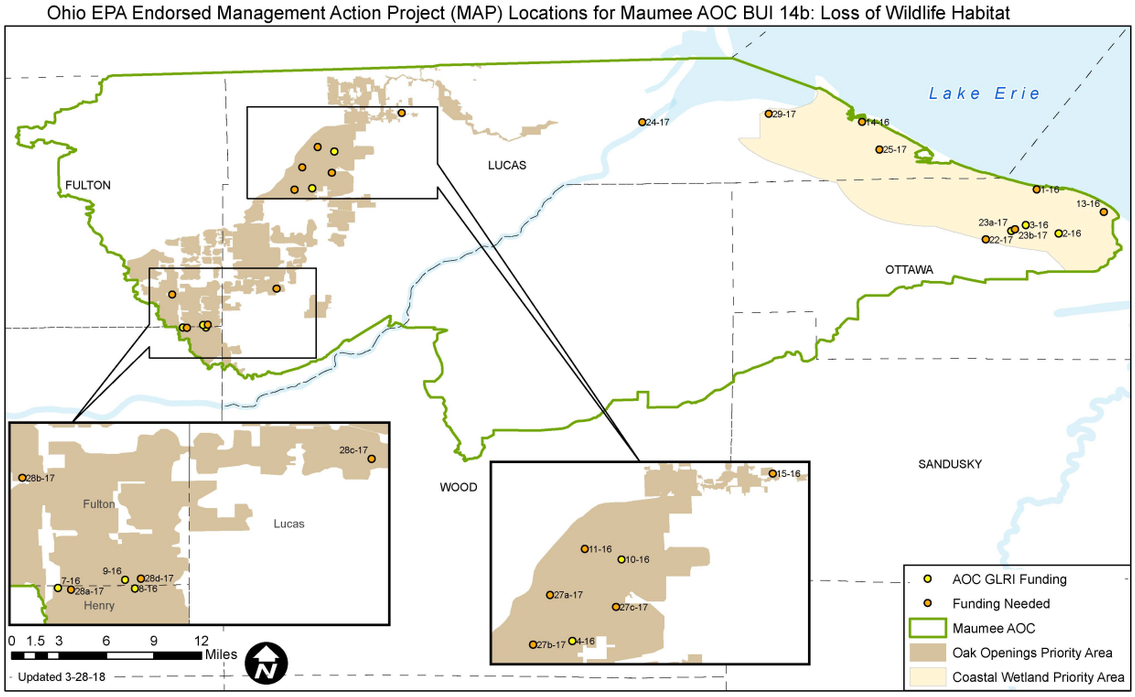
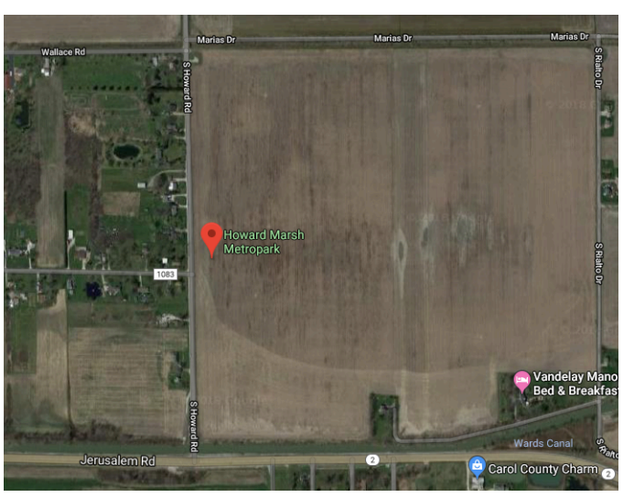
MAUMEE AOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
EASTERN AOC TOUR
Monday, August 13th, 2018

Thank you for joining us on this tour highlighting some of the restoration projects within the eastern portion of the Maumee AOC. All four projects have been recommended for funding by the MAAC, endorsed by Ohio EPA and accepted by the US EPA to address BUI 14b (loss of wildlife habitat). Each project, upon completion, will help achieve this target and enhance local wildlife habitat. This tour will focus on critical coastal wetlands and adjacent uplands ecosystems at four site visits. For more information on habitat restoration projects within the Maumee AOC, visit the DMDS available through http://dmds.maumeerap.org.

Ohio EPA Endorsed Management Action Project (MAP) Locations for Maumee AOC BUI 14b: Loss of Wildlife Habitat



Site #1: MAP 25-17a – Howard Marsh Phase II



Description: Engineering & design for restoration of 240 acres of coastal marsh habitat and associated uplands. Includes construction of wetland dikes, installation of wetland pumps and fish passage which will provide a direct hydrological connection between the restored wetlands and Lake Erie. This project addresses BUIs 3, 8, and 14. Phase I (funded through other sources) is completed and open to the public currently; Phase II will also be accessible to the general public through installation of boardwalks, fishing platforms, and a canoe/kayak launch.

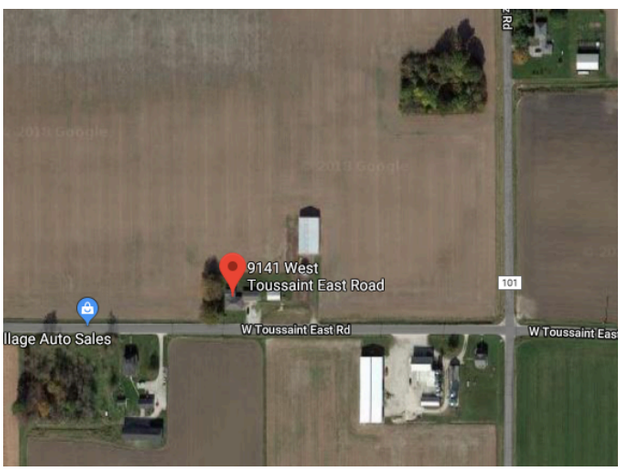
Lead: Toledo Area Metroparks, Ducks Unlimited (via NOAA Partnership)
Status: Engineering and Design has been funded

Site #2: MAP 23-17a/b – Restoring Coastal Wetlands at Toussaint Marsh State Wildlife Area Phase II/Phase III

Description: Restoration of 125 acres of emergent and lowland shrub wetlands within western Lake Erie's coastal zone. Phase II will result in restored and increased capacity to manage water levels and aquatic vegetation, improve the ability to control invasive species, and increase wetland habitat connectivity for fish and wildlife by installing a pump and associate water control structures, renovate the remaining section of damaged exterior river levee, and remove additional sections of unnecessary internal levees.

Lead: Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited (via NOAA Partnership)
Status: Phase II: funded, Phase III: funding in process

Site #3: MAP 3-16 – Toussaint Parcel West (and MAP 2-16 – Toussaint Parcel East)



Description: Several parcels are being acquired/restored to achieve the combined MAP project goal of 203 acres within the Toussaint River watershed. One of the acquisition/restoration projects is the 50-acre Weber farms, which we are visiting. MAP 3-16 – Toussaint Parcel West and MAP 2-16 – Toussaint Parcel East are being implemented under one cooperative agreement between Ducks Unlimited and the US FWS (with GLRI funding from US EPA). All properties purchased under this agreement will be restored by Ducks Unlimited, then turned over to the US FWS as part of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge.

Lead: US Fish & Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited
Status: funded via Interagency Agreement to US FWS from US EPA

Site #4: MAP 13-16 – Restoring Coastal Wetlands & Fish Passage at Navarre Unit of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

Description: Approximately 600 acres of degraded coastal wetlands at the Navarre Unit of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (on land owned by First Energy but managed by US FWS as part of the refuge system) will be enhanced through the design and installation of an upgraded wetland management infrastructure. These wetlands are in a degraded condition due to the lack of water level management capability. US FWS has received funding via an Interagency Agreement with US EPA to survey and redesign the wetland management infrastructure (pumps, water control structures, levees) including a possible hydrological connection with Lake Erie or the Toussaint River.

Lead: US Fish & Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited
Status: funded via Interagency Agreement to US FWS from US EPA
Due to security issues, this will be a virtual tour site with presentation at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge by Refuge Manager Jason Lewis.