



## Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

December 9, 2021 9:30am – 12:00pm

### [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

1 614-721-2972 Conference ID: 564 454 443#

### **AGENDA**

- **Overview of Meeting & Agenda** (Mike Pniewski, Chair) (5 mins)
- **August Sandpiper Trip Update** (Kris Patterson, PCS) (5 mins)
- **Update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee** (Josh Miller, USGS) (20 mins)
  - Maumee River Habitat Feasibility Study
    - Activities since May MAAC meeting
    - Recap of process and sub-reports accomplished to date
    - Affirm remaining project areas and next steps
  - Status of TBD Sibley Creek HUC-Ottawa River projects
- **Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report** (Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA) (30 mins)
  - Update on BUI Status
  - WildMAPs, AquaMAPs, SedMAPs Updates
  - Prioritization of Ohio AOC Projects and Requests
- **US EPA Task Force Leader Report** (Leah Medley, GLNPO) (5 mins)
  - Budget funding update (GLRI, Infrastructure)
- **Facilitating Organization's Report** (Kris Patterson, PCS) (10 mins)
  - Financial update
  - Outreach activities
  - Update on future activities/Input on next Facilitating Organization grant
- **Partner Reports** (5 mins)
- **MAAC Voting Members for 2022**
  - Vote on applications
- **Meetings for 2022**
  - Second Thursday of the month, once per quarter at 9:30 (Feb. 10, May 12, Aug. 11, Dec. 8) (5 mins)
- **Public Comments & Adjourn** (5 mins)

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**Maumee AOC Advisory Committee**

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*December 9, 2021 9:30am – 11:00am*

*Microsoft Teams Meeting*

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**MINUTES**

- **Virtual Attendance:** Cherie Blair, Amanda Kovach, Kris Patterson, Lynn Ackerson, Scott Butterworth, Kristopher Barnswell, Deanna Bobak, Paul Hotz, Melanie Coulter, Joshua Miller, Vanessa Steigerwald Dick, Cassie Lovall, Ryan Allison, Jenny Carter-Cornell, Lynn Garrity, Archie Lunsey, Beth Sparks-Jackson, Amber R Bellamy, Sally Gladwell, Ashlee Decker, Kari Gerwin, Liv Simkins Bullock, Shawna Towns, Jessica Wilbarger, Sara Miranda Mierzwiak, Bryan Hinterberger, Andrew Timmis, Marc Mills, Shannon Nabors, Alexis Sakas, Tim Schetter, Laura Sullivan
- Jenny Carter Cornell, Vice Chair, gave a brief welcome and overview of meeting agenda.
- Kris explained that because the August MAAC meeting was held on the Sandpiper tour boat, there were no minutes to approve.
- Kris Patterson, PCS, offered some highlights of the August trip aboard the Sandpiper. On this trip, MAAC members and invited guests got a chance to view recent projects and one future project site improving BUIs for the lower Maumee River.
- Josh Miller, USGS, gave a brief update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee.
  - Maumee River Habitat Feasibility Study
    - The sub-committee has been working with numerous partners on a Feasibility study to further refine areas most suitable and feasible for habitat and in stream restoration around several islands areas in the Maumee River.
    - Reports and studies have been coming in & are being reviewed and incorporated into a more substantial (but preliminary) analysis by the US ACE.
    - Stakeholder outreach has been ongoing with an interested tribe, interested landowners, reaching out to nearby or adjacent landowners and through a public open house. The open house was attended by approximately 25 community members. Team members provided presentations at stakeholder meetings, such as boat clubs, to solicit their input and knowledge of the river and islands.
    - The next step will be for the sub-committee to make a recommendation, based on all the information gathered through the Feasibility Study, for the MAAC on the key priority areas for MAP projects within the focus areas in the Maumee River.
  - Josh noted that the next phase, after the Maumee River islands recommendations, for the sub-committee would be the TBD Sibley Creek HUC-Ottawa River projects. Cherie noted that would be after new data is received.
- Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA, gave a Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report. A copy of her presentation was distributed via email to all MAAC members and will be available on [maumeeaac.org](http://maumeeaac.org). Her presentation included updates on BUI Status, WildMAPs, AquaMAPs, SedMAPs updates, and information on prioritization of Ohio AOC projects and requests. Overall, all 20 WildMAP projects are fully funded, and 11 projects are complete as of the end of 2021. Out of 51 AquaMAPs, 32 are funded (some just

- recently), 2 are partially funded, and 17 still need funding. 9 AquaMAP projects are completed. Out of 8 SedMAP areas, 3 next steps are fully funded and 5 are partially funded. Federal partners, such as US EPA ORD, US ACE, and US FWS have been out sampling in 2021 to support work on several BUIs. Cherie noted that H2Ohio projects are now being leveraged to provide non-federal match towards future sediment investigation and remediation steps in the AOC. In addition to past bankruptcy & settlement funds the state held, Clean Ohio bond fund projects, and state H2Ohio dollars are being used for the first time here to leverage next steps in addressing legacy sediment contamination affecting BUIs in some specific areas of the AOC. Cherie stressed that the state wants to move quickly to submit any other AOC needs to US EPA in this federal fiscal year so funding can be prioritized and maximized for this AOC.
- Cherie shared that Leah Medley, GLNPO, applauded the MAP lists all being approved and projects were being reviewed and approved as funding becomes available during the fiscal year.
- Kris Patterson, PCS, gave the Facilitating Organization’s Report, including an update on finances, outreach, and an update on future activities. The grant is underspent but will be drawn down more as several contractors are on board now and just beginning work. Outreach and updates to the DMDS have continued. She solicited input on the next Facilitating Organization grant and was asked if the August Sandpiper trip (and more trips) would be included. Another suggestion was a driving tour style map available to highlight projects.
- Brief partner reports were offered by
  - Scott Butterworth (ODNR) on several H2Ohio projects within the Maumee AOC. These projects are providing “bonus” enhancements that should further support BUI beyond the AOC-funded projects.
  - Cassie Lovall (NOAA) announced that the NOAA Restoration Partners application is now open and this has supported AOC projects in the past.
  - Melanie Coulter (Black Swamp Conservancy) reported that BSC doesn’t have any active projects within the AOC, but is working on a number of H2Ohio projects upstream in the Maumee River, in Sandusky, and in other river systems.
  - Kari Gerwin (TMACOG) reported that while TMACOG has no active AOC projects, they look forward to starting work on “Reducing the Impact of Chlorides on Aquatic Species” project with the University of Toledo and Partners for Clean Streams.
  - Shawna Towns (City of Toledo) has several stream or streamside habitat projects getting funded or underway, such as Bandor Park, Jermain Park, and Collins Park. Jermain & Collins part are through the Great Lakes Commission NOAA Partnership for Engineering & Design (recommended by MAAC) and Bandor has some supplemental AOC funding but is primarily through 319 and is ready.
  - Jessica Wilbarger (Lucas SWCD) said the headwater Ten Mile project, recommended by the MAAC, has a landowner agreement and covenant now.
- MAAC Voting Members for 2022 – Applications were solicited for several months. A few organizations changed their voting member & re-applied. Kris discussed a recommendation that 2 returning members, in different categories, receive 3 year terms so that the Committee would return to a more balanced 50/50 term change-over each year. Those individuals (Paul Hotz & Jim Carter) accepted the

- 3-year nomination. Tim made the motion to accept the slate; Sally seconded. Motion passed. There are now 9 voting members. There was a call put out for more MAAC voting members, especially representing the Citizen/Academia/Non-Profit category. If more applications are received, they will be considered at a future meeting.
- The Committee reviewed dates for upcoming meetings. Meetings are planned quarterly on the second Thursday of the month, beginning at 9:30am EST
  - May 12, 2022
  - August 11, 2022
  - December 8, 2022
- **Public Comments & Adjourn**  
None given.





# Maumee AOC Updates on BUI Status, MAPs, and Funding

**Maumee AOC Advisory Committee  
December 9, 2021**



# Maumee AOC BUI Status

BUI #	BUI Name	Target Achieved	Current Status	MA Completed	Projected BUI Removal
1a	<b>Restrictions on Fish &amp;</b>	✓	Reduced Ottawa River “Do Not Eat” advisory (2017) & Maumee R. Channel Catfish (2018); target is met	Complete	<b>2022</b>
1b	<b>Wildlife Consumption</b>	✓	Snapping Turtles in Ottawa R do not meet target; sampled in Aug. 2017 & June 2018; target is met	Complete	
3a	<b>Degradation of Fish &amp;</b>		Management Action Project list approved; projects are being funded and implemented	2024	2027
3b	<b>Wildlife Populations</b>	✓	Sentinel species target is met (2017)	Complete	
4	<b>Fish Tumors &amp; Other Deformities</b>		DELTs and bullhead tumors are impaired in 5 of 31 assessment units; 4 units were sampled by US FWS in summer 2021 (not Otter Crk., due to GLLA)	Complete	2023-24
6	<b>Degradation of Benthos</b>		Management Action Project list approved; projects are being funded and implemented	2024	2027
7	<b>Restrictions on Dredging Activities</b>		US ACE is collected sediment in navigation channel during summer 2021	Complete	TBD

# Maumee AOC BUI Status

BUI #	BUI Name	Target Achieved	Current Status	MA Completed	Projected BUI Removal
8a	<b>Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae</b>	✓	D.O condition of target is met (2014)	Complete	2022-23
8b			Watersheds sampled summer 2020; Persistent growth condition could be considered Not Impaired; Ohio EPA is collected water chemistry data in Maumee R./Bay in summer 2021	Complete	
10a	<b>Beach Closings (Recreational Use)</b>		Management Action Project list approved; project funded (2021) and being implemented	2024	2024
10b		✓	Paddling Stream (Maumee R. in AOC) not on 303(d) list, target is met (2014)	Complete	
10c		✓	Ottawa River “No Contact Advisory” for PCBs was rescinded (2018); Hecklinger Pond (Duck Crk.) sign removed (2019)	Complete	
11	<b>Degradation of Aesthetics</b>	✓	BUI status reviewed, removable once Otter Creek GLLA is complete; Otter Creek project was completed in Sept. 2021	2021	2022
14a	<b>Loss of Fish &amp;</b>		Management Action Project list approved; project are being funded and implemented	2024	2027
14b	<b>Wildlife Habitat</b>		Local target of 3427 acres set in late 2016; Management Action Project list approved; projects are fully funded (2020) and being implemented	2024	

# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Wildlife MAP Updates (BUI 14b) (*target = 3427 acres*)

- All 20 projects are funded
- 10 completed totaling ~406 acres as of Nov. 2021
- 1 more projects totaling ~310 acres expected complete by end of 2021
- 9 projects to be completed in 2022-2023



*Photos of WildMAPs completed in 2021*

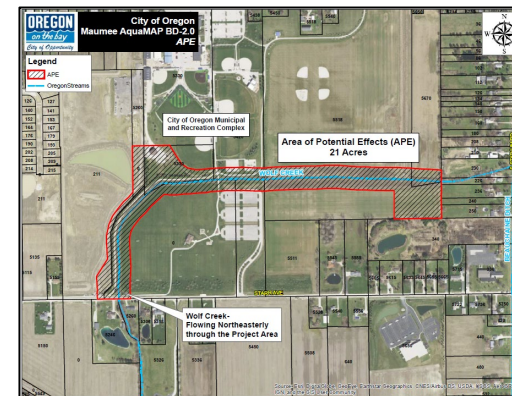
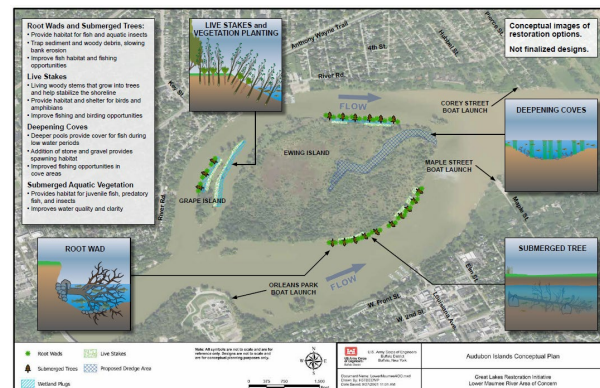


# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Aquatic MAP Updates (BUI 3a, 6, 14a)

- Projects prioritized based on need, readiness to proceed, and resources
- Funding allocated in FFY21 (12 full/2 partials) (\$11.8M)
  - Most awarded in Sept, so just getting started
  - 4 projects received Ohio SHPO letters, provided to GLNPO for section 106
- Only 2 TBDs remaining
  - Maumee River (expect 2-3 projects in Feb 2022, request funding in FFY22/23)
  - Ottawa River (expect projects 1 yr. after data available, request funding FFY23)

*Maumee River Habitat Feasibility Study Feature Diagrams*



*BD-2.0 Area of Potential Effects map from SHPO application*

# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Misc. MAP Updates (BUI 1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11)

- BUI 10: Beach Closings
  - Waterfowl Deterrent for Maumee Bay State Park through ODNR
  - GLRI Grant awarded July 2021 (\$167,200)
  - Working on:
    - QAPP approval
    - Shoreline stabilization/rock contracting
- No MAPs for other listed BUIs



# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Updates

- Steps under the GLLA
  - Sediment Site Characterization
  - Data Gap Site Characterization (if necessary)
  - Focused Feasibility Study (FFS)
  - Remedial Design (RD)
  - Remedial Action (RA)
- Funding Structure
  - Sediment Site Characterization is 100% federal
  - FFS-RD-RA requires a Project Agreement with non-federal cost-share
  - Cost-share of at least 65% federal / 35% non-federal



*Photo by Karen Keil, US ACE*



# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Technical Updates

### Otter Creek

- Remedy: 50,400 CY of contaminated sediment removed in 1.7-mile project area
- Habitat: six bendway weirs, six locked brush-piles, 1200 willow stakes
- Post-project assessment to begin soon (ORD)
- Otter Creek monitoring - 2022 (mussel survey, etc.)



*Photos of Otter Creek GLLA project completed in 2021*

# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Technical Updates

### Maumee River

- Sway Bridge/WWTP sampling conducted (Aug. 2021)
  - Sediment @ 69 locations (US ACE-Buffalo District)
  - Fish @ 11 locations (US ACE-Chicago and US FWS)
  - Benthic & Porewater @ approx. 12 locations (ORD)
- Navigation Channel sampling conducted (Aug. 2021)
  - Sediment @ 21 locations (US ACE-Buffalo District)
  - Will be used for both dredging BUI status and GLLA next step determination
- Expecting in FFY22
  - Data Gap/Site Characterization Report
  - Begin Focus Feasibility Report via USEPA/USACE
  - Initiate Remedial Design Project Agreement



*Photo by Karen Keil, US ACE*



# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Technical Updates

### Swan Creek

- Sampling conducted (Nov. 2021)
  - Sediment @ 55 locations (GLNPO contractor: EA & Affiliated)
  - Fish @ approx. 8 locations (US ACE-Chicago, US FWS)
  - Benthic & Porewater @ approx. 12 locations (ORD)
- Expecting in FFY22
  - Data Gap/Site Characterization Report
  - Begin Focus Feasibility Report via USEPA/contractor
  - Initiate Remedial Design Project Agreement





# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Technical Updates

### Other Sites

- Halfway/Silver/Shantee Creeks
  - Field investigation for access and sediment
  - Final Decision Memo for no additional GLLA work in these watersheds – MAP complete as of July 2021
- Ottawa River
  - Final sampling for Remedy Effectiveness  
Sampling conducted (Fish: US FWS) in August 2021
  - Data and report expected in FFY22
- Maumee River (upstream)
  - Final Decision Memo for no additional GLLA work in these watersheds – MAP completed as of Oct. 2021



*Photo by Ohio EPA-NWDO*

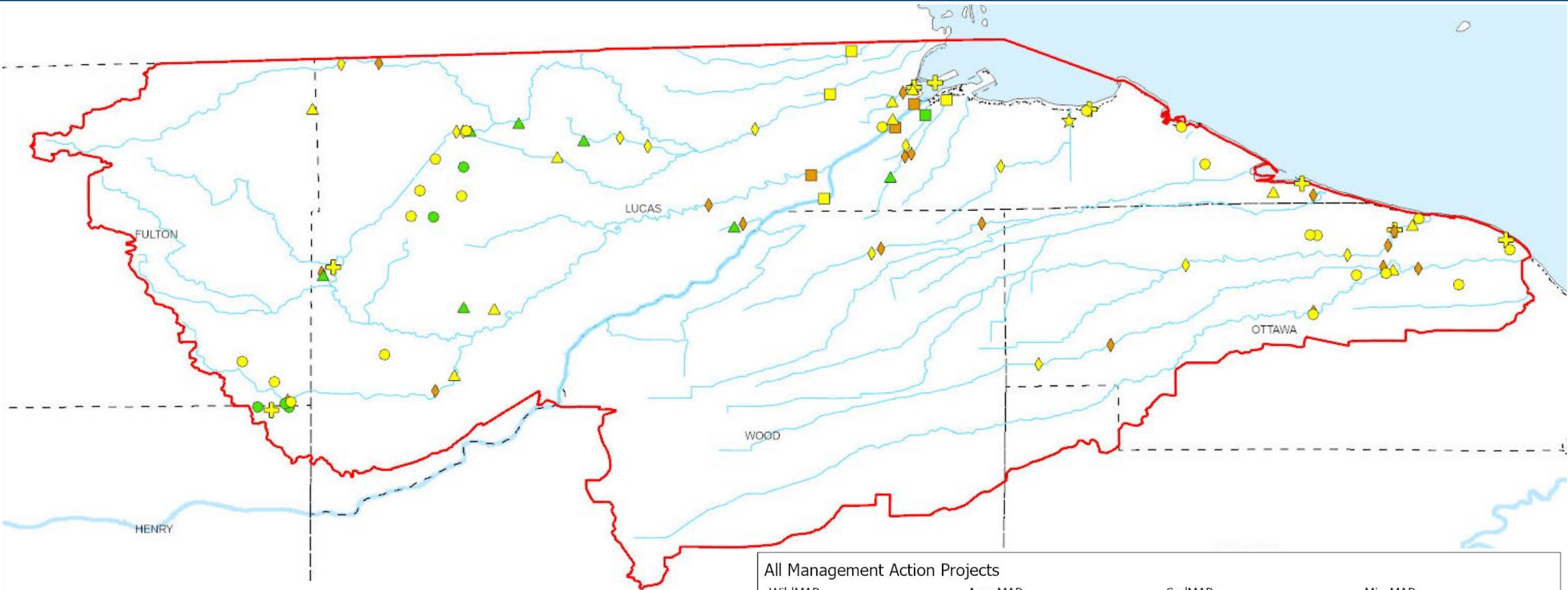
# Maumee AOC MAP Updates – Fall 2021

## Sediment MAP Funding Updates

- Swan Creek Project Agreement (June 2020)
  - Swan Creek Focused Feasibility Study
  - Ohio EPA provided \$70,000 cash cost-share match
- Swan Creek Project Agreement – 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment (Oct 2020)
  - Added 8 habitat restoration projects for future GLLA cost-share
- Changed to Maumee AOC Project Agreement – 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment (June 2021)
  - Expanded scope to include Sway Bridge/WWTP FFS (as determined by Data Gap Investigation)
  - Added an additional \$309,000 cash cost-share from Ohio EPA
  - Added an additional 9 habitat restoration projects for future GLLA cost-share
- Local Partner Outreach Continues



# Maumee AOC MAP Distribution



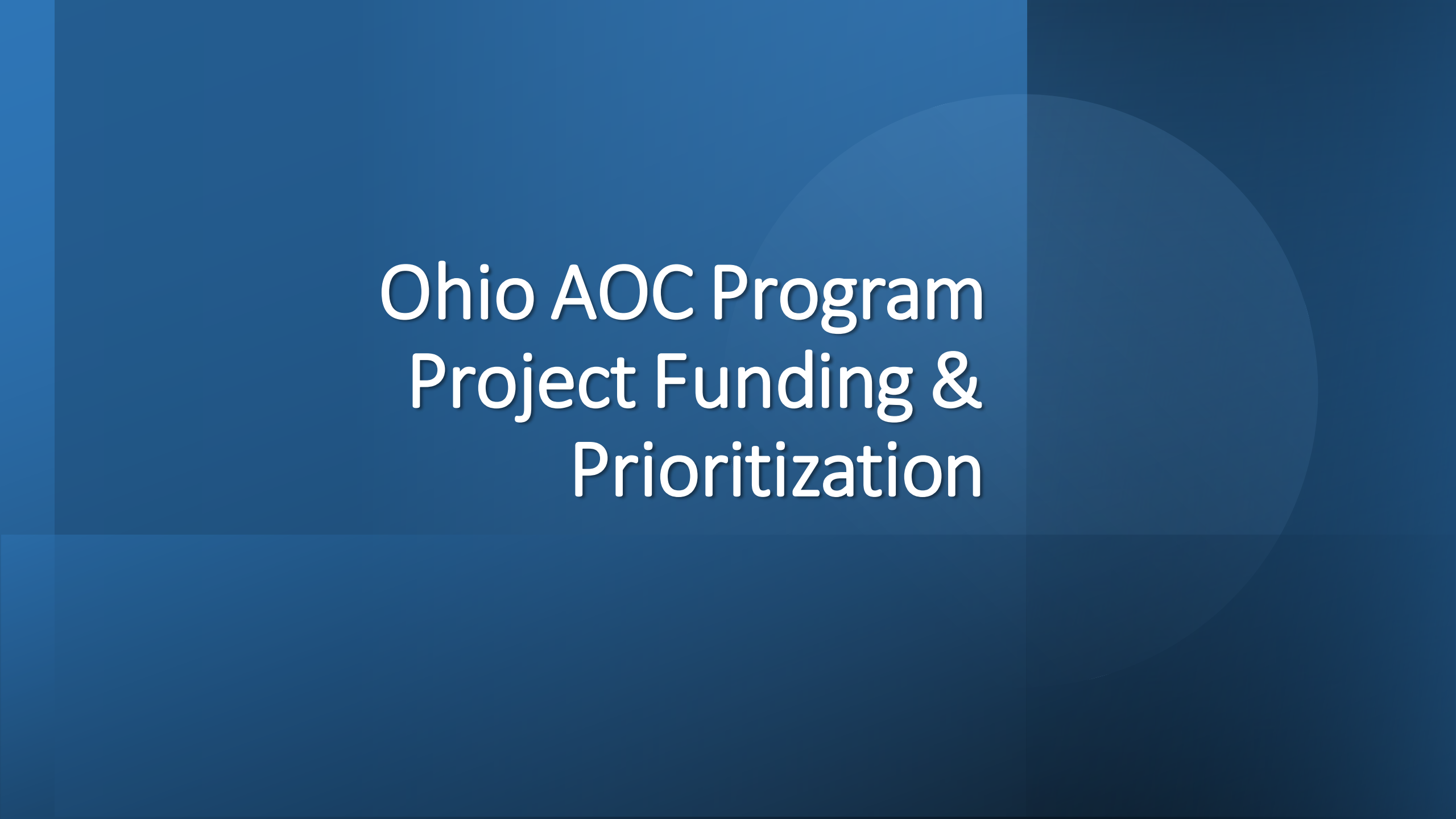
## All Management Action Projects

WildMAP		AquaMAP		SedMAP		MiscMAP	
●	Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	◆	Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	■	Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding	★	Project Completed - AOC GLRI Funding
●	Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	◆	Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	■	Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding	★	Project Funded - AOC GLRI Funding
●	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	◆	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	■	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding	★	Funding Needed - AOC GLRI Funding
		▲	Project Completed - Other Funding	+	Project Completed - Other Funding		
		▲	Project Funded - Other Funding	+	Project Funded - Other Funding		
		▲	Funding Needed - Other Funding	+	Funding Needed - Other Funding		
						□	Maumee AOC



# Maumee AOC MAPs in Summary

	Total # Projects	Estimated Total Cost	Needs Funding	Funding Allocated	Completed as of Nov. 2021	Expected Complete End of 2021
<b>WildMAPs</b>	20	\$25,564,484	0	20	10	11
<b>AquaMAPs</b>						
- AOC Funded	31	\$35,518,837	Part of 2 All of 17	Part of 2 All of 12	0	0
- Non-AOC Funded	20	\$16,582,909	0	20	9	9
<b>SedMAPs - GLLA</b>	8		Parts of 5	Parts of 5 All of 3	3	3
- Federal Funded		\$59,107,323				
- Non-Fed Funded		\$29,890,000				
<b>MiscMAPs</b>	1	\$167,200	0	1	0	0
<b>TOTALS =</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>\$166,830,753</b>	<b>17+</b>	<b>56+</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>

The slide features a dark blue background with a lighter blue circular graphic on the right side. The text is centered and reads: Ohio AOC Program  
Project Funding &  
Prioritization.

Ohio AOC Program  
Project Funding &  
Prioritization

## GLNPO Priorities for Funding

# Change in Approach to Funding AOCs

- Tiered approach is no longer being used
- Based on input from all Great Lakes states, the current approach focuses on priority projects
- 5 priority project types were identified
  - GLLA projects with available cost-share
  - Projects on approved Management Action Lists
  - Shovel-ready projects
  - Projects with a clear and direct link to Environmental Justice
  - Time-sensitive projects
- All states were asked to provide statewide, collectively ranked funding priorities for remaining MAPs in Sept for FFY22



# Ohio FFY22 AOC Program Project Prioritization

## Overview of Ohio's AOC Program Statewide Funding Priorities for FFY22

- 28 Ohio AOCs MAPs need funding (\$28.7M)
  - 5 GLLA Projects
    - Cuyahoga AOC – 2
    - Maumee AOC – 3 (*Swan, WWTP, Sway*)
  - 23 Habitat Projects
    - Cuyahoga AOC – 3
    - Maumee AOC – 20
- Statewide prioritization info requested
  - Prioritize MAPs into A, B and C categories
  - Determined Environmental Justice impacts

# Ohio FFY22 AOC Program Project Prioritization

## Prioritization Categories

### **'A' Priority**

- GLLA or Habitat. GLLA priority is based on current phase of GLLA process and readiness. Habitat are projects with initial work underway.

### **'B' Priority**

- Habitat projects that are prepared to proceed with project implementers.

### **'C' Priority**

- Limited BUI target benefit or limitation for readiness to proceed.

# Ohio AOC – FFY22 Project Prioritization Request

(as submitted in September 2021)

MAPs by Priority	Other Ohio AOCs	Requested	Maumee AOC	Requested
<b>Priority A Projects</b>				
- GLLA Projects	Cuyahoga (2)	\$800,000	Maumee (3)	\$1,600,000
- Habitat Projects ( <i>partially funded</i> )	Cuyahoga (1)	\$150,000	Maumee (2)	\$3,074,500
<b>Priority B Projects</b>				
- Habitat Projects	Cuyahoga (1)	\$1,500,000	Maumee (14) Maumee mainstem (E&D)	\$8,636,636 \$750,000
<b>Priority C Projects</b>				
- Habitat Projects	Cuyahoga (1) Black (1)	\$250,000 \$750,000	Maumee (1)	\$3,000,000
	6 projects	\$3,450,000	20+ projects	\$25,311,136
	<b>26+ projects for \$28,761,136</b>			

*Note: The recommended order of the Maumee AOC projects is the same as in the MAP Summary Tables and is based on implementer readiness to proceed.*



# DRAFT -- Ohio AOC – FFY23-26 Project Prioritization

*(expected submission in January 2022)*

MAPs by FFY	Other AOCs	Maumee AOC
<b>FFY23 Projects</b>		
- GLLA Projects	Cuyahoga (1)	Maumee (3)
- Habitat Projects	Cuyahoga (3)	Maumee (2) <i>plus any not previously funded</i>
<b>FFY24 Projects</b>		
- GLLA Projects	Cuyahoga (1)	Maumee (3)
- Habitat Projects	Cuyahoga (1)	Maumee <i>plus any not previously funded</i>
<b>FFY25 Projects</b>		
- GLLA Projects	--	--
- Habitat Projects	--	--
	7 projects	8 projects
	<b>15 projects over \$210,000,000</b>	

Questions?