

|   |  |   |                 |  |
|---|--|---|-----------------|--|
| Sandusky County Commissioners – 622 Croghan Street, Fremont, OH 43420                               |  |   | 2024 MEETING    |  |
| Meeting: Board Of Commissioners   |  | Location: Commissioners' Board Room                 | Date: 1/18/2024 | Time: 8:00AM – 11:28AM   |
| Present: Commissioners: Russ Zimmerman – President; Scott Miller– Vice President; Charles Schwochow |  |   |                 |  |
| Present: Theresa Garcia – County Administrator  |  |   |                 |  |
| Others Present: Judge Welty, Sheriff Hilton,  |  |   |                 |  |
| (*action items)   |  |   |                 |  |
| AGENDA ITEMS  | BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS / ACTION STEPS:   | PERSON RESPONSIBLE:                                 | DOLLAR AMOUNT:  | MOTION / VOTE  |
| Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance (8:00am)   |  | Russ Zimmerman, President                           |                 |  |
| *Review & Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes, incoming Mail Review & External Meeting Notices | <p>The 1/16/2024 minutes were reviewed/approved by the Board. The Board reviewed incoming mail and external meeting notices.</p> <p>There was a discussion of an invoice for \$500.00 for pens. Facility Management has county pens available that could have been requested instead of spending that kind of money. This is the type of spending that could be cut back on.</p>   | Russ Zimmerman<br>Scott Miller<br>Charles Schwochow |                 | *Motion: Move to Approve minutes<br>Moved by: Russ Zimmerman<br>2nd: Scott Miller<br>Yes – 3 |
| Review of External board / Meetings Attended by Commissioners                                       | Commissioner Schwochow attended the Region 17 meeting yesterday regarding the Opioid funds. The law suit against Ohio One group regarding the legitimacy of the organization was dropped. The funding that was being held has been released and Regions can start putting together projects to have approved for funding. The funding for the regions have to approved and fall under the guidelines set by the State. Commissioner Schwochow shared the organizational chart for the State committee. | Charles Schwochow                                   |                 |  |
|   | Commissioner Zimmerman attended the FCFC Executive Committee meeting yesterday. They talked about the budget and how they will be updating the   | Russ Zimmerman                                      |                 |  |

|   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
|   | <p>budget information. They are receiving a grant for wraparound so there was discussion on how to use the funds. A new financial report was presented to better show the expenses during the year. Most of the discussion was on Village House and the lease process and how the old staff was never told what was happening with the program prior to being let go. DJFS is providing a Director and staff needs will be discussed later. United Way had provided a donation and with the house closed the funding was only paying wages.</p> |  |  |  |
|   | <p>Commissioners attended the START Program graduation yesterday at DJFS. The young lady that graduated has been working at being sober for at least nine months and has been able to get custody of her son back because of her progress. This is a great program and helping many families.</p>   | Russ Zimmerman                               |  |  |
| <b>Commissioners and Administrator Discussion</b> | <p>At 10:09am Commissioner Miller moved to enter executive session to discuss the appointment of a public official / board member.</p> <p>At 10:39am Commissioners exited executive session.</p> <p>Commissioners talked about the interviews for Regional Airport Board members. They would like to have further communication with the candidates to clarify intent and then the board will appoint.</p>  |  |  | <p>*Motion: Move to enter executive session<br/>Moved by: Scott Miller<br/>2nd: Charles Schwochow<br/>Yes – 3</p> <p>*Motion: Move to exit executive session<br/>Moved by: Scott Miller<br/>2nd: Charles Schwochow<br/>Yes – 3</p> |
| <b>* Then /Now Documents</b>                      | <p>Two certificates were presented by Soil &amp; Water. Didn't receive bills until after the first of the year. Two invoices make up these certificates.<br/>Great American Leasing - \$170.75<br/>Sandusky County - \$66.00</p> <p>One certificate was presented by the Commissioner's Office. PO was not in place because invoice was not submitted until after the first of the year. Two invoices to the same vendor make up this certificate.<br/>Smith and Young roofing – \$55,970.00 total</p>  | <p>Soil &amp; Water</p> <p>Commissioners</p> | <p>\$170.75<br/>\$66.00</p> <p>\$55,970.00</p> | <p>*Motion: Move to Approve certificates<br/>Moved by: Scott Miller<br/>2nd: Charles Schwochow<br/>Yes – 3</p>   |
| <b>* Personnel</b>                                | None  |  |  |  |
| <b>* Travel Requests</b>                          | None  |  |  |  |

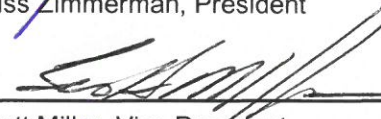
|  |   |   |             |  |
|--|---|---|-------------|--|
| <b>County Court #1</b>   | <b>Judge Welty – County Court.</b> Judge Welty came in to talk about getting security for the County Courts. She does have a bailiff that is OPTA certified but during court he is in court and cannot manage the front door security. Sheriff Hilton came in with Judge Welty to talk about the importance of having security in those courts especially when dealing with domestic violence cases. He feels one person could handle both courts if that person was under the colors of the Sheriff. Administrator Garcia is going to work with the County Court Administrator and put together a possible budget.   | Cindy Welty –<br>County Court Judge<br><br>Chris Hilton - Sheriff |             |  |
| <b>Sandusky County<br/>Grass Carp Barrier<br/>Presentation</b> | Representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineer. They are working on the Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Study project. They initiated the project in March of 2022. They are conducting a feasibility study right now for the project. Their study is in regards to invasive grass carp. There are three different types of carp that could affect Lake Erie. The grass carp in particular can wipe out vegetation in the waterways that can impact the fisheries. They gave some background on how the carp got to the Lake. They have strike teams that search for the carp and remove them from the Lake. They want to prevent their expansion and eradicate them from the waters. They reviewed their plan on removing the carp. They are working on behavioral barriers in the Sandusky River to help with the project. The four different plans were reviewed. They would like to finish the study by 2025 and make a decision on the plan to put in place. There are several organizations working on this project. (See attached presentation.) |   |             |  |
| <b>* Resolutions</b>   | 2024 – 38<br>APPROVING FUND TRANSFER FOR DJFS<br>MANDATED SHARE PLACEMENT PAYMENT<br>(\$15,295.67) AND DECEMBER PLACEMENT COSTS<br>(\$77,248.89)  | \$15,295.67<br>\$77,248.89  |             | *Motion: Move to Approve<br>resolution<br>Moved by: Scott Miller<br>2nd: Charles Schwochow<br>Yes – 3    |
|  | 2024 - 39<br>APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO<br>EMS PI CAPITAL OUTLAYS (\$51,729.22) FOR<br>PURCHASE OF STRYKER POWER COTS, ANNUAL<br>PAYMENT 1 OF 5  | EMS PI  | \$51,729.22 | *Motion: Move to Approve<br>resolution<br>Moved by: Charles<br>Schwochow<br>2nd: Scott Miller<br>Yes – 3 |

|                                    |   |                                     |                            |  |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|                                    | 2024 - 40<br>APPROVING APPROPRIATION TRANSFER FOR<br>SHERIFF FROM CONTRACT SERVICES TO CAPITAL<br>OUTLAY (\$16,000.00) FOR KEY BOX PROJECT AND<br>SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO SHERIFF<br>COMMISSARY FOR TWO PROJECTS (\$26,000.00)  | Sheriff                             | \$16,000.00<br>\$26,000.00 | *Motion: Move to Approve<br>resolution<br>Moved by: Scott Miller<br>2nd: Charles Schwochow<br>Yes – 3    |
|                                    | 2024 - 41<br>AWARDING BID TO GREAT LAKES DEMOLITION<br>COMPANY, LLC OF CLYDE OHIO FOR THE SAN-CR<br>201-0.31 BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE<br>REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PID# 119051  | Engineer                            | \$1,732,223.20             | *Motion: Move to Approve<br>resolution<br>Moved by: Charles<br>Schwochow<br>2nd: Scott Miller<br>Yes – 3 |
| <b>Public Open Session</b>         | Citizens Attendees – none<br>Media Attendees – none<br>Elected Officials – Cindy Welty, County Court Judge.<br>Chris Hilton, Sheriff.   |                                     |                            |  |
| <b>Board of DD</b>                 | <b><u>Sarah Zimmerman – Board of DD.</u></b> Sarah came in for<br>her regular meeting with the commissioners. See<br>attachment for agenda items. See attachment for<br>agenda items. In 2024 Medicaid rates will return to pre-<br>Covid rates. They will have some other revenue coming<br>in to offset any cuts. They will be meeting to abolish old<br>School of Hope positions. This is due to contracting for<br>school personnel. They currently have a waiting list for<br>the school and need more room. They have started the<br>process for a building addition by looking for a design<br>firm. They received \$517,000.00 ARPA Grant. They<br>already have projects planned for the funds. They have<br>a few events coming up in March that were noted. | Sarah Zimmerman –<br>Superintendent |                            |  |
| <b>* Adjournment<br/>(11:28am)</b> | With business completed for the day the meeting was<br>adjourned.   |                                     |                            | * Motion: Move to adjourn<br>Moved by:<br>2nd:   |

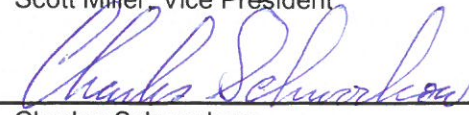
Signature of:



Russ Zimmerman, President



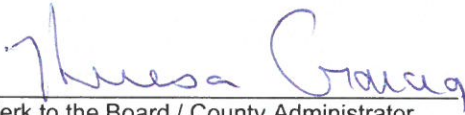
Scott Miller, Vice President



Charles Schwochow

**Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County Ohio**

Attest:



Clerk to the Board / County Administrator

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners,  
Sandusky County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
Is a true and correct copy from the official record of said  
Board of County Commissioners as recorded in its Journal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio





# Sandusky County Commissioners Report Quarter 1

January 18, 2024

## 2024 Budget

- Medicaid waiver rate increases and returns to the normal match percentage.
  - Increases board's waiver match expenses.
  - Increases reimbursement for Title XX, TCM, and waiver administration billing.
- Ongoing/Future changes from salary to contract services for school personnel.
- Building addition
- School playground upgrades
- 2024 ARPA grant award - \$517,000
  - \$200,000 towards the Village House project for upgrades and equipment
  - \$117,000 towards the accessible restroom trailer
  - \$200,000 towards the City of Bellevue's accessible playground through a four-county collaborative ask.

## Design Firm – Addition Update

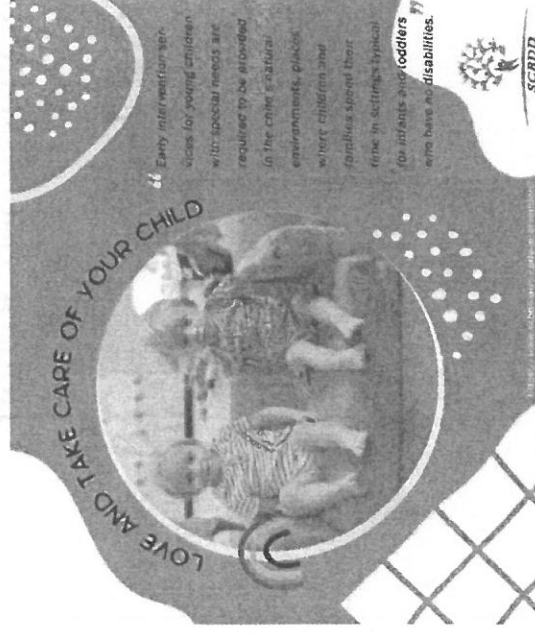
### School of Hope

- North Point Educational Service Center (NPESC) management and employees
- Growing wait list

### DD Month

- 31 Days – social media campaign
- March 19<sup>th</sup> 9 am to 11 am – Leadership Day
- March 26<sup>th</sup> 6 pm - pick-up games at the SCBDD gym

## El Awareness Campaign



## Social Media Campaign



“  
Early intervention has truly been such a blessing to Stevie and our family as a whole. She has learned so much and grown in so many ways.



@scbdd.org/early-intervention/

## Billboard Campaign

# CONCERNED

about your child's development? ACT EARLY!



**1-800-755-GROW**  
**OhioEarlyIntervention.org**



**Ohio** Department of Developmental Disabilities



# GLFER Sandusky River Grass Carp Barrier Fremont, OH

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

## AUTHORIZATION:

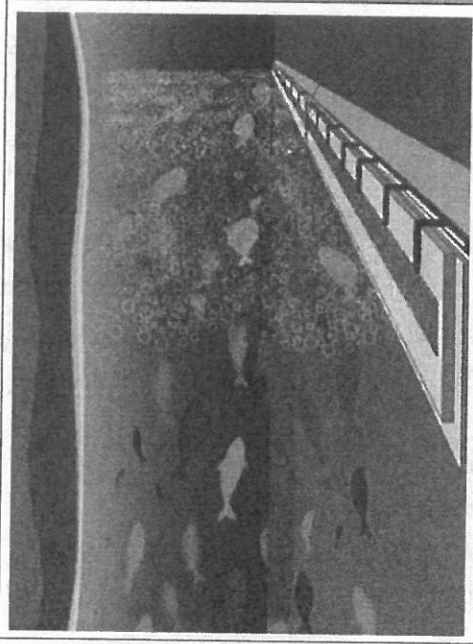
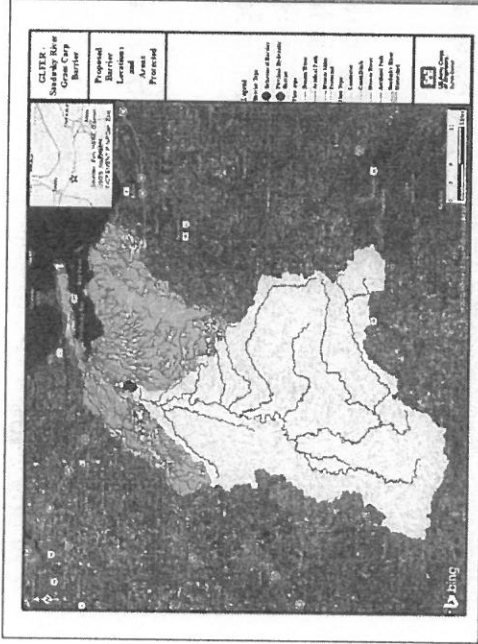
- Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration Section 506, Water Resources Development Act of 2000. Information about the GLFER program can be found here: <https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Home/Great-Lakes-Fishery-Ecosystem-Restoration-Program/>

## PROJECT SPONSOR:

- Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC)

## LOCATION:

- A potential location for a grass carp barrier (behavioral) is being investigated downstream of Brady's Island, in the Sandusky River at Fremont, OH.
- Left-side image depicts the watershed location where the grass carp barrier would be constructed.
- Right-side image shows a conceptual bubble curtain used to deter grass carp.



| Congressional Member Interest      | Key Stakeholder Interest             |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Senator Sherrod Brown D-OH         | Ohio Department of Natural Resources |
| Senator J.D. Vance R-OH            | City of Fremont                      |
| Representative Marcy Kaptur D-OH-9 | Ohio Environmental Protection Agency |
|                                    | US Geological Survey                 |

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Buffalo District  
478 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
<http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil>



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND:

- Grass carp, *Ctenopharyngodon idella*, is an aquatic invasive species (AIS) and has established a reproducing population in Lake Erie, specifically, the Sandusky River. Grass carp are highly adaptable and pose a threat to the fishery and ecosystem if population growth is not effectively controlled. Currently, state and federal agencies are controlling grass carp populations through targeted removals, but a bi-national Structured Decision Making (SDM) process identified that a seasonal behavioral barrier in the Sandusky River would effectively constrain population growth by restricting access to upstream spawning areas. If left unmanaged, grass carp can have broad ecologic impacts including habitat alteration and disruption of the food web.
- The study will examine the feasibility of a species-specific barrier that would impede upstream movement from Lake Erie to 3,696 river miles (RM) or 11,826 acres of potential spawning habitat in the river and tributaries. The feasibility study will include consideration the following alternatives: (1) No Action; (2) Acoustic Deterrence Barrier; (3) Bubble Curtain Barrier; and 4) Bioacoustic Behavioral Barrier. All the barrier systems being evaluated are behavioral (not structural) and are designed to deter grass carp from accessing upstream spawning habitat. Additional trap and sort measures may be implemented, as feasible, to enhance the efficacy of manual removal efforts conducted by ODNR and other project partners.

## BUDGET INFORMATION:

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Authorized Total Project Cost                           | \$953,500 |
| Non-Federal Sponsor Cost                                | \$298,725 |
| Federal Cost  | \$654,775 |
| Federal Funding Received Prior to FY24 President Budget | \$641,215 |

## PROJECT MILESTONES:

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Tentatively Selected Plan                | December 2024  |
| Draft Report Available for Public Review | March 2025     |
| Final Feasibility Study Report           | September 2025 |
| Design & Implementation                  | March 2026     |

## CURRENT STATUS:

- Feasibility study alternatives are being developed and analyzed to determine the most cost-effective plan. NEPA scoping is underway, and a public information session is scheduled for November 13, 2023.

## OUTSTANDING ISSUES / CONCERNS:

- Determining the efficiency of the different barrier systems in a riverine system.

## UPCOMING ACTIONS:

- Public information session at the Neeley Center at Terra State Community College, Fremont, OH on November 13, 2023

**Project POC: Ashley Binion-Zuccaro**, [Ashley.R.Binion-Zuccaro@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ashley.R.Binion-Zuccaro@usace.army.mil)  
(716) 328-8806

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Buffalo District  
478 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
<http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil>

# SANDUSKY RIVER SECTION 506: GREAT LAKES FISHERY AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION STUDY

Fremont, OH

County Commissioners Briefing

Buffalo District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Date: 18 January 2024



*Photo Credit: USGS (top) and ODNR (bottom)*







# STUDY OVERVIEW: SANDUSKY GLFER

## Study Authority:

Section 506 of WRDA 2000 – Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program

## Nonfederal Sponsor:

Great Lakes Fishery Commission

## Project Partners:

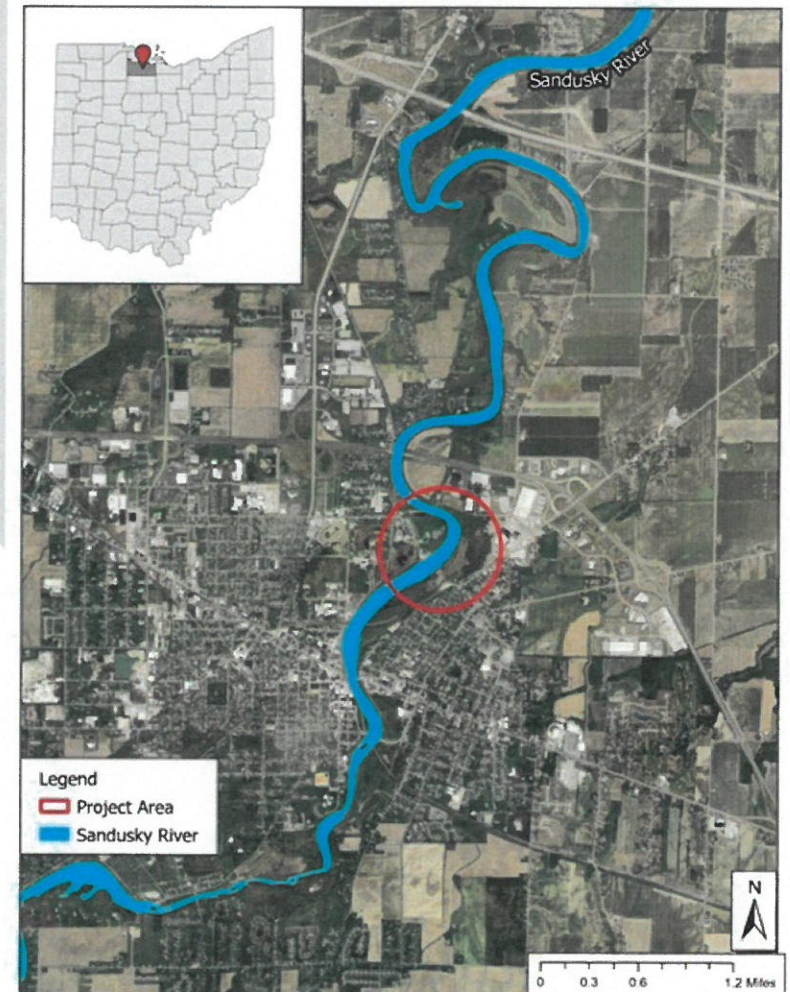
Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
City of Fremont

## Study Initiation Date:

1 March 2022

## Current Status:

Comparing and evaluating alternative plans to limit, or eliminate, grass carp access to upstream spawning areas in the Sandusky River





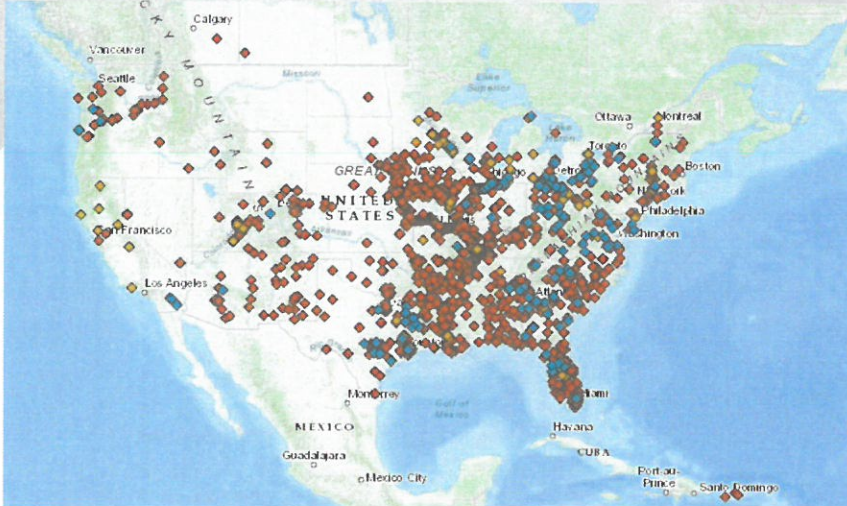


# STUDY PURPOSE AND NEED

## Impacts of grass carp on Lake Erie fishery



Photo credit: USFWS



<https://nas.er.usgs.gov/viewer/omap.aspx?id=4fa78562-5017-42a8-9c8d-f59df21ee3b7>

### Simplified Lake Erie food web, modified to include grass carp

If grass carp are not controlled in Lake Erie, they would likely affect the food web in three main ways:

- They consume rooted aquatic plants and thus compete with native fish by eliminating cover for juvenile stages of fish.
- Consumption of rooted aquatic plants can indirectly increase turbidity and shoreline erosion.
- Juvenile grass carp grow quickly and thus would not become a significant food source for fish-eating fish.

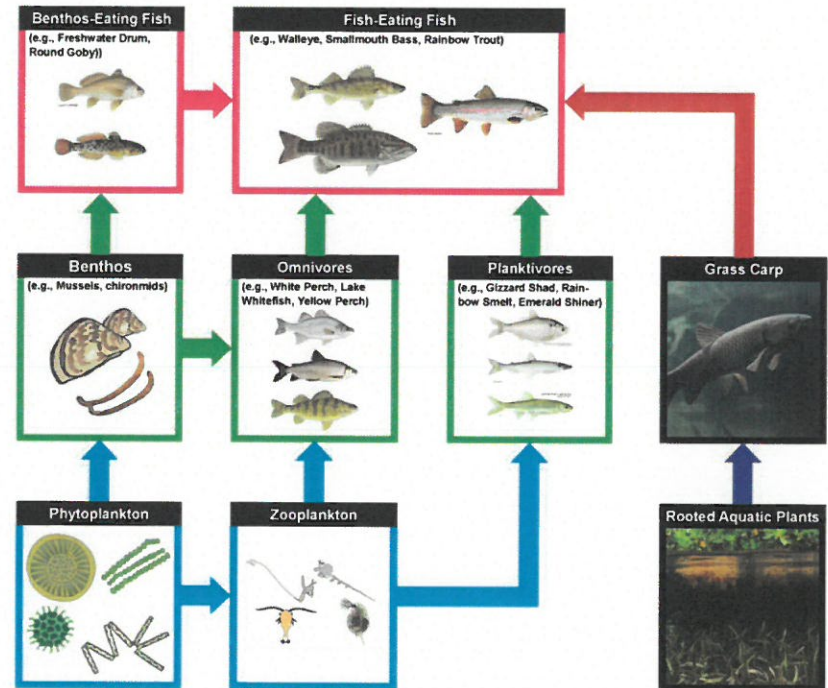
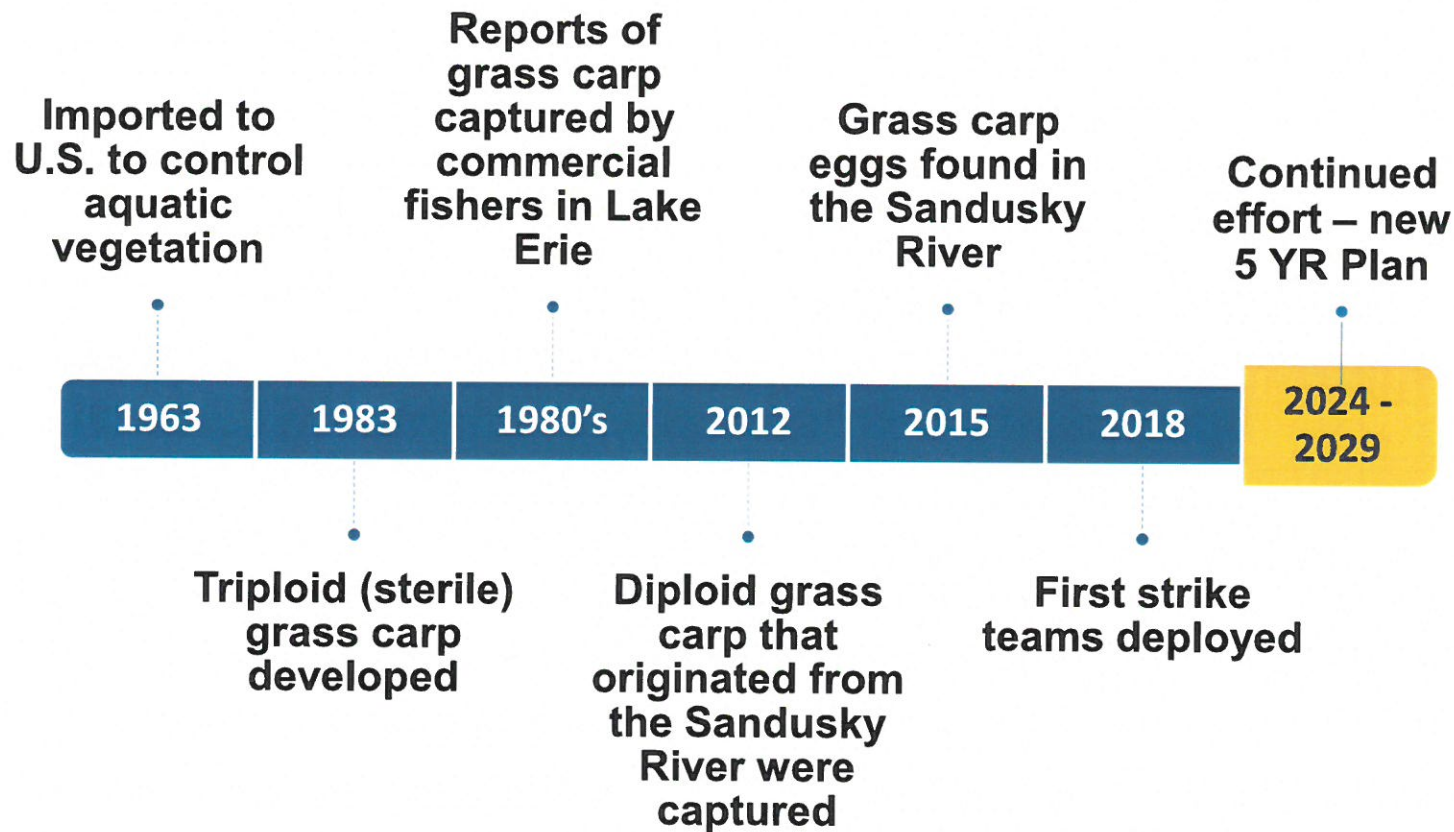


Image modified from the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS). Potential Impacts of Asian Carp in Lake Erie. U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service.

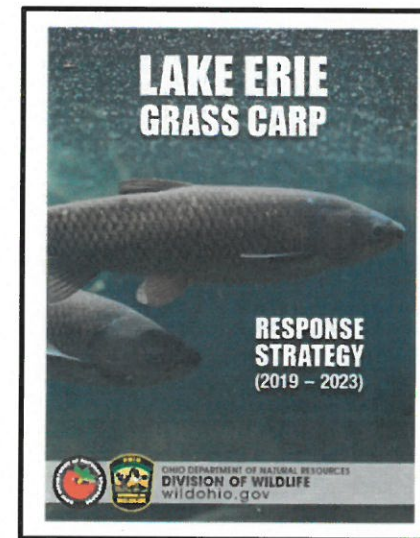
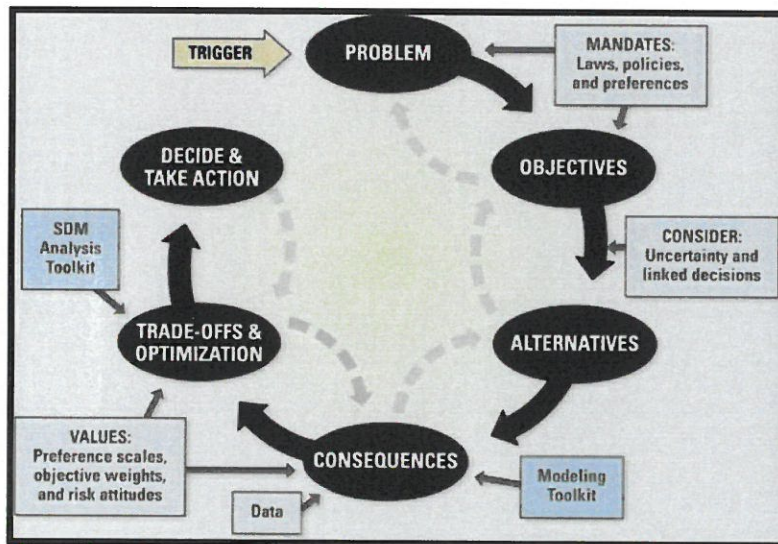
# Grass carp invasion timeline





# Structured Decision Making

## Objective Way to Make Complex Decisions



**Goal 1: Prevented Expansion Beyond Western Basin of Lake Erie**

**Goal 2: Prevent Population from reaching levels that compromise aquatic communities.**

# SDM Outcomes

1. **Removal target:** 390 diploid Grass Carp per year
2. **Sampling method:** The paired gear method of electrofishing and trammel net
3. **Concentrated removal:** Commercial catch and dedicated strike teams
4. **Address critical uncertainties:** Grass Carp abundance and gear efficiency
5. **Barrier evaluations:** Reducing spawner passage with removal actions



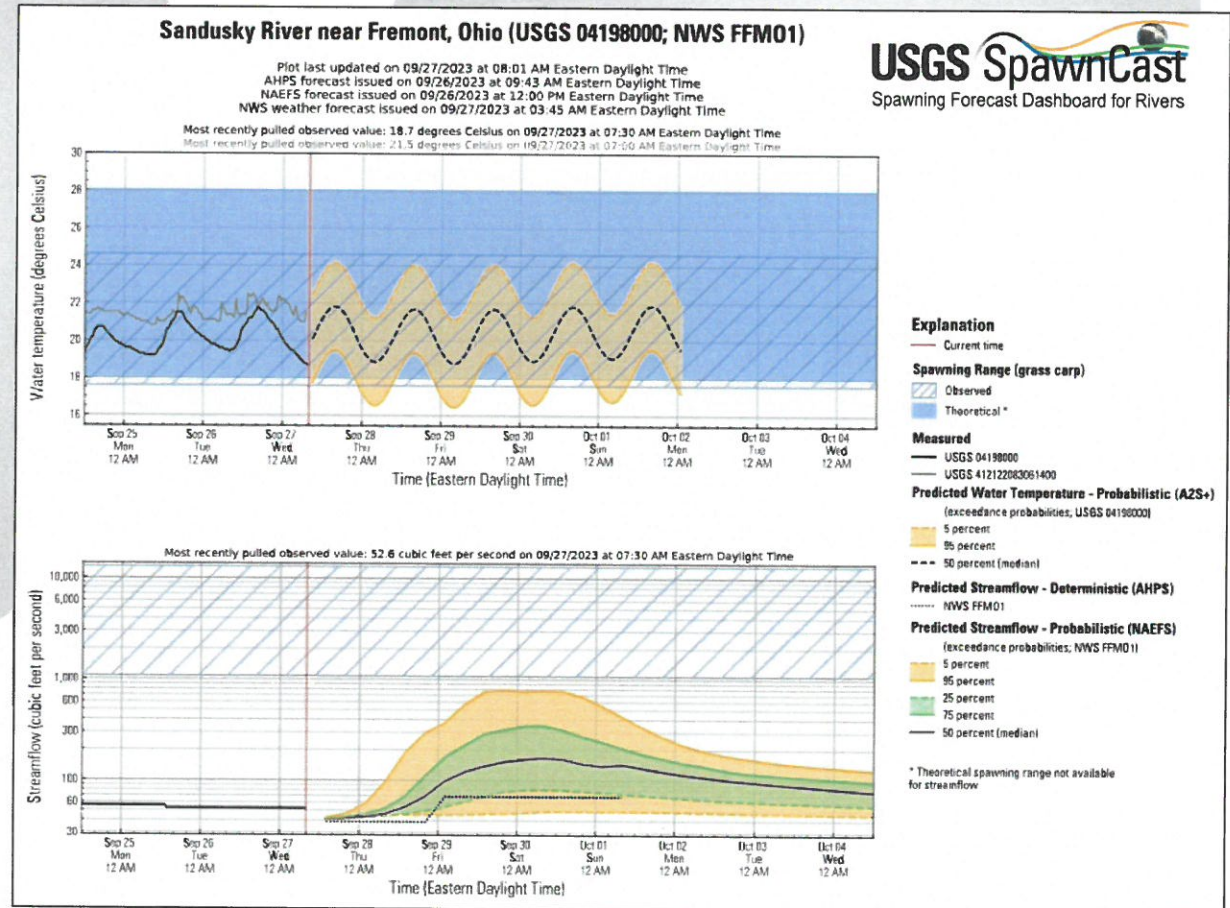




# STUDY PURPOSE AND NEED

## Grass carp spawning in Sandusky River

- Generally occurs in late May/early June through August
- Triggered by weather patterns
  - Water temperatures above 18°C
  - High flows (> 85<sup>th</sup> percentile)
- Habitat characterized by large rivers with moderate flow rather than substrate type
- USGS SpawnCast experimental tool uses observed and forecasted streamflow and water quality data to forecast spawning probability for grass carp in tributaries of Lake Erie
  - <https://il.water.usgs.gov/proj/spawncast/>





## FOCUSED ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES

8

| Alternative                        | Measures  |                     |                |                  |             |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|
|                                    | No action | Acoustic deterrence | Bubble curtain | Light deterrence | Trap & sort |
| 1 – No Action                      | X         |                     |                |                  |             |
| 2 – Acoustic Deterrence            |           | X                   |                |                  | X           |
| 3 – Bubble Curtain                 |           |                     | X              |                  | X           |
| 4 – Bioacoustic Behavioral Barrier |           | X                   | X              |                  | X           |



Image credit: ODNR

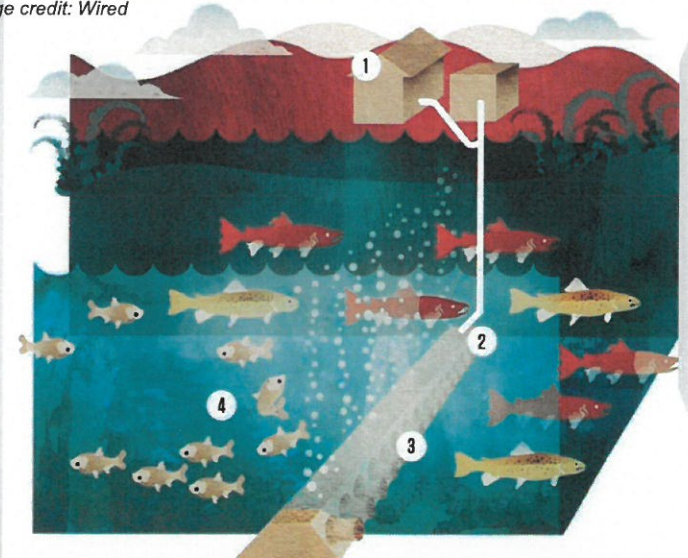




# FOCUSED ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES

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| 4 – Bioacoustic Behavioral Barrier |           | X                   | X              |                  | X           |

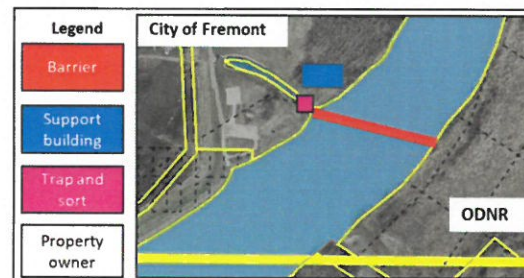
Image credit: Wired



Right – Speakers for acoustic deterrence system used by Trans Mountain at the Westridge Marine Terminal in Vancouver, Canada (Image credit: Trans Mountain)



Left – Proposed orientation of barrier in Sandusky River, with features enlarged for visibility







# FOCUSED ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES

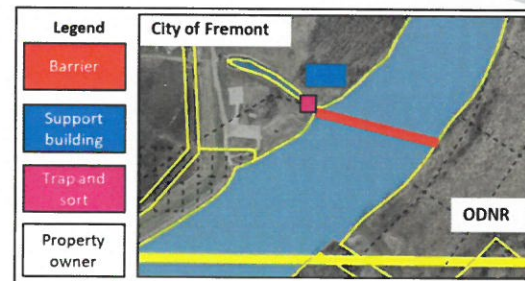
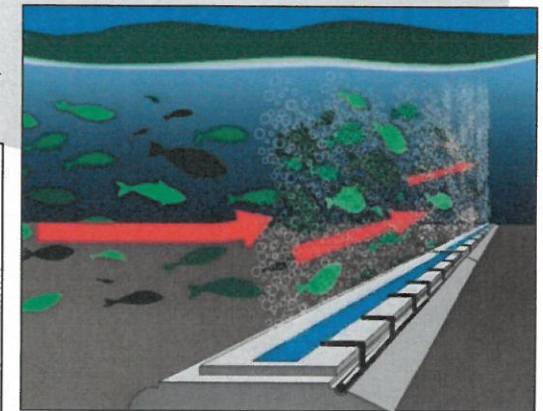
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| 4 – Bioacoustic Behavioral Barrier |           | X                   | X              |                  | X           |



Above – Bubble curtain used for aquatic weed prevention (Tahoe Regional Planning Agency)

Below, left – Proposed orientation of barrier in Sandusky River, with features enlarged for visibility

Below, right – Bubble curtain barrier (USACE 2022)





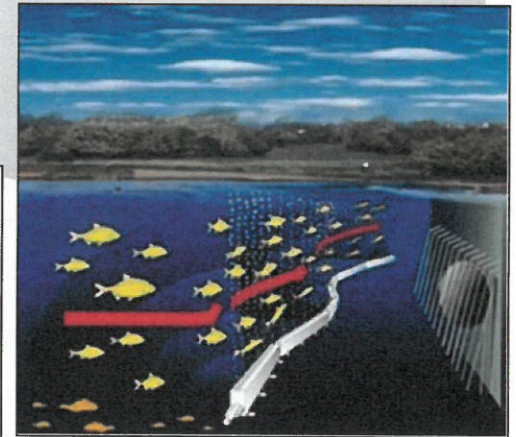
# FOCUSED ARRAY OF ALTERNATIVES

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| 4 – Bioacoustic Behavioral Barrier |           | X                   | X              |                  | X           |

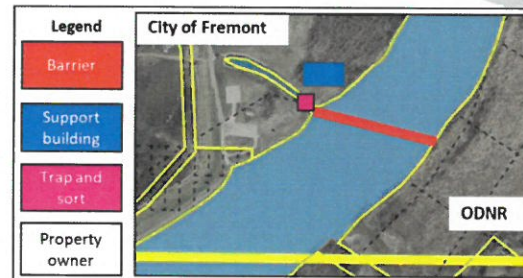


Above – Bioacoustic barrier installation at Barkley L/D, KY

Right – Schematic for Bioacoustic Fish Fence (BAFF) concept (FGS 2004)



Right – Proposed orientation of barrier in Sandusky River, with features enlarged for visibility







## THANK YOU!

Ashley Binion-Zuccaro, Project Manager  
[Ashley.R.Binion-Zuccaro@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ashley.R.Binion-Zuccaro@usace.army.mil)  
419-726-9121



DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DELIVER



1/18/2024

[illegible]