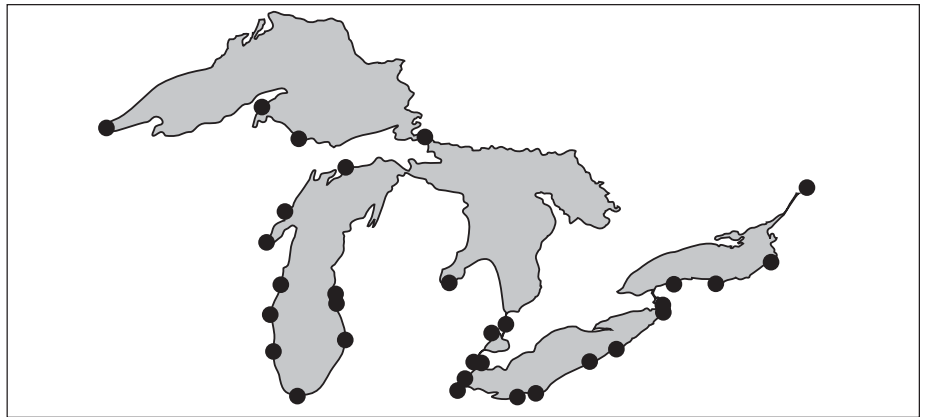


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Great Lakes Legacy Act of 2002

Great Lakes National Program Office

January 2004



These are the 31 U.S. Areas of Concern.

Contaminated sediment is a significant problem in the Great Lakes basin. For decades, industrial sources contributed substantial amounts of harmful pollutants to the Great Lakes, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Recent improvements in controlling these discharges have greatly reduced the amount of contaminants being released into the environment, but high levels of contamination still remain in the sediment as a “legacy” of the historical contamination. These contaminants can subsequently enter the food chain where they can cause adverse effects to human health and the environment.

To help address the contaminated sediment problem, the Great Lakes Legacy Act of 2002 was signed into law on Nov. 27, 2002. The Act authorizes \$270 million in funding over five years, beginning in fiscal year 2004, to specifically assist with the remediation of contaminated sediment in the 31 designated U.S. Areas of Concern (AOCs).

Three Components of the Act

1. Projects: Authorizes Up to \$50 Million Per Year

Projects

- Must lie within a U.S. Area of Concern; and
- Monitor or evaluate contaminated sediment; or
- Implement a plan to remediate contaminated sediment; or
- Prevent further or renewed sediment contamination.

Remediation Projects Requirements

- 35 percent non-federal match.
- Site will not suffer significant, further or renewed contamination.
- Site assessment complete or being addressed.
- Remedial alternatives evaluation complete or being addressed.
- Short-term/long-term effects analysis complete or being addressed.
- Remedial design work under way or complete or being addressed.

Non-Remediation Projects Requirements (i.e.; monitor/evaluate, source control)

- 35 percent non-federal match.

Priority will be given to the following projects as specified in the Legacy Act:

- Remedial action for contaminated sediment.
- Projects that have been identified in a Remedial Action Plan and are ready to be implemented.
- Projects that will use an innovative approach, technology or technique that may provide greater environmental benefits, or equivalent environmental benefits at a reduced cost.
- Projects that include remediation to be commenced not later than one year after the date of receipt of fund.

2. Research and Development: Authorizes Up to \$3 Million Per Year

- Conduct research on the development and use of innovative approaches, technologies and techniques for the remediation of contaminated sediment at U.S. AOCs.
- No non-federal match required.

3. Public Information: Authorizes Up to \$1 Million Per Year

- Provide funding for public outreach and public information at U.S. AOCs regarding sediment remediations.
- No non-federal match required.

For further information, visit

www.epa.gov/glla

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