St Clair Detroit River System Initiative
Governance Model for a
Common Agenda

Outline

Background

Challenges

"Collective Impact"

Strategic Vision

Partnership

Subcommittees

Goals and Objectives

Summary

Background

- Hundreds of years of misuse and abuse

- 6 Areas of Concern; high concentration of industrial use

- Major urban and rural agriculture setting

- High Fish and Wildlife Values

- Ten years of multi-agency planning, research and implementation

- First bi-national reef restoration project in the Great Lakes

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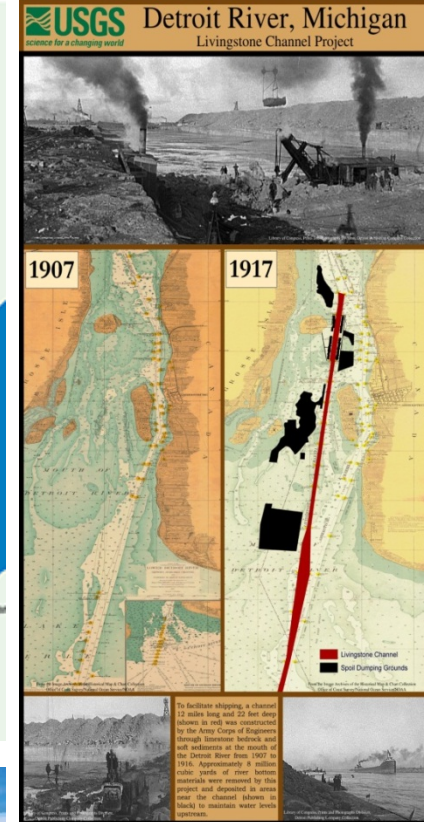
Challenge of Success

- How to organize the diverse mandates, interest, and field of expertise

- Governance, decision making and roles and responsibilities

- Cost

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Collective Impact

A long-term commitment by a group of actors from different sectors willing to work together under a common agenda to solve a problem

- Agreeing to a set of goals and objectives with agreed upon measures of success (or indicators)

- Create, foster and facilitate knowledge sharing, collaborative efforts and program support

Long-Term Goals and Levers for the Vision

Common Agenda

Sustainable improvements to
- physical, biological, and chemical features of habitats
- indigenous biodiversity and production
- reduced risks/impacts from AIS
- societal satisfaction

Management Themes
- sources of nutrients, sediments, and pollutants
- protection, enhancement, and restoration of physical habitat
- connectivity of habitat features to fauna and society
- fish population status, production, and behavior
- sea lamprey control
- prevention of new AIS threats
- human behavior and satisfaction

10-year prioritized Objectives and Implementation Guidance

Objectives (example only)
- improve *specific habitat features* for *specific biota*
- control *specific AIS* that compromise the above
- reduce *specific pollutants* for a *specific BUIs*
- evaluate potential tradeoffs among objectives

science-based strategies for management and research projects, and associated monitoring needs

Objectives	Actions Needed	Expected Outcomes by 2023	Key Uncertainties	Is Needed Research Underway/Planned?	Is Monitoring Underway/Planned

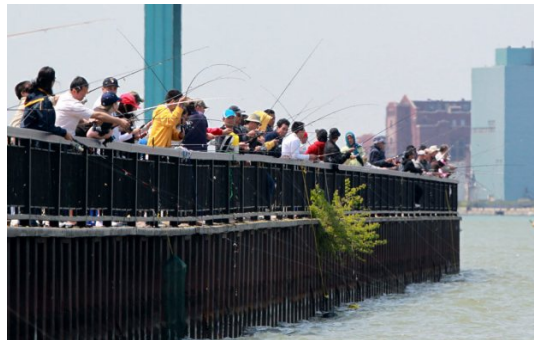Kania, J., and Kramer, M. 2011. "Collective Impact" Stanford Social Innovation Review pp36-41.

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Strategic Vision

The St. Clair-Detroit River System is a thriving ecosystem managed with science-based principles and broad social support, providing desired environmental services for the region and the Great Lakes basin.

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Strategic Vision

Purpose:

Coordinate research and management needs

Common Agenda:

Restoration and protection through adaptive, coordinated science decision

Guiding Principles:

Benefit for society

Science-based

Collaboration

Effective communication

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Strategic Vision

Outcomes:

Prioritized projects that;

- improve biodiversity
- Benefit people
- Reduce risk of invasive species, pollution and habitat
- Measureable

Decision are based on science and monitoring

Provide a forum to facilitate coordination, transparency and communication
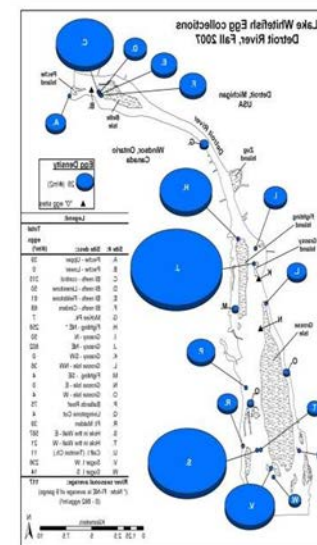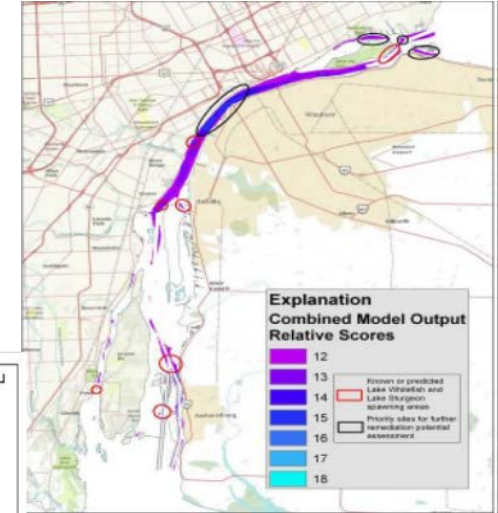
Partnership Agreement

Member	Date Signed
University of Toledo	4/18/2014
Wayne State University	4/25/2014
Michigan Sea Grant	4/25/2014
Great Lakes Fishery Commission	4/28/2014
The Nature Conservancy	5/21/2014
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality	7/13/2014
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	7/17/2014
USGS - Great Lakes Science Center	7/21/2014
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	7/27/2014
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	7/28/2014
Essex Region Conservation Authority	7/29/2014
Walpole Island Fish Nation	7/30/2014
Ohio DNR Division of Wildlife	7/31/2014
Michigan DNR Fisheries Division	8/1/2014
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources	9/19/2014

Purpose:

To coordinate research and management efforts that collectively will achieve measurable progress toward the shared vision, as implemented through a strategic process to link science with integrated management priorities

Structure:
- Steering Committee with Chair and Vice Chair
- Membership
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Subcommittees

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Charges for 2014-15

1. Implementing backbone facilitation for the Partnership.

2. Revise website to reflect the new Partnership vision and structure.

3. Develop methods and products (such as report cards) to communicate annual outputs from the science and monitoring subcommittees to all partners and interested stakeholders.
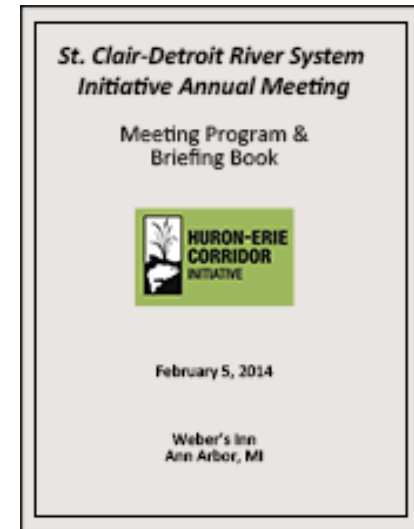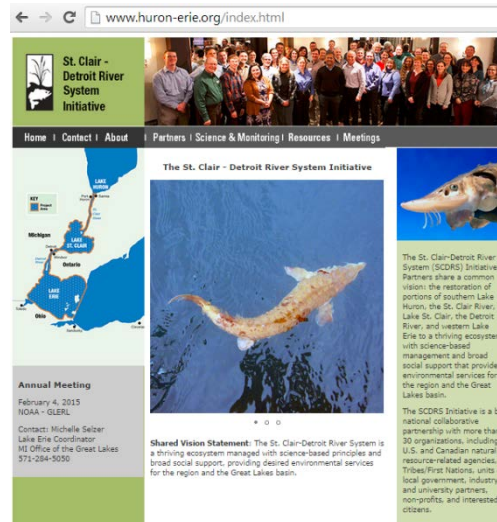
Monitoring Subcommittee
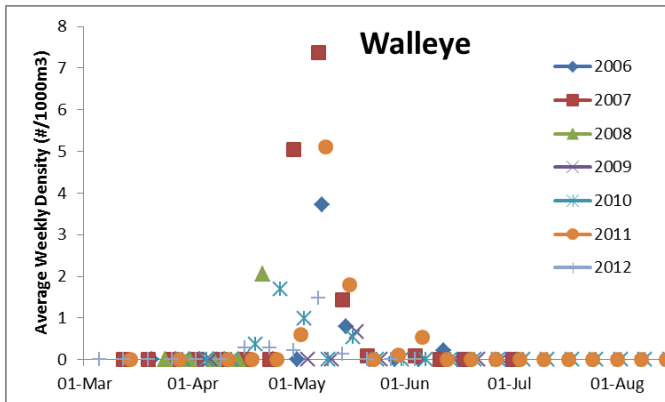
Charges for 2014-15

1. Develop a Monitoring Workplan consisting of with specific surveys and indicators…

2. Develop prioritization criteria to identify surveys of the highest utility for advancing the Common Agenda.

3. Review and amend the Monitoring Workplan annually…,

4. Provide the monitoring plan to the Steering Committee, the Science Subcommittee, and the Communications Subcommittee following any amendments.

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Charges for 2014-15

1. Develop a Science Strategy with relevant working/research hypotheses and evaluation indicators…

2. Develop prioritization criteria to identify hypotheses of the highest utility for advancing the Common Agenda.

3. Review and amend the Science Strategy annually…,

4. Provide the science strategy to the Steering Committee, the Monitoring Subcommittee, and the Communications Subcommittee following any amendments.
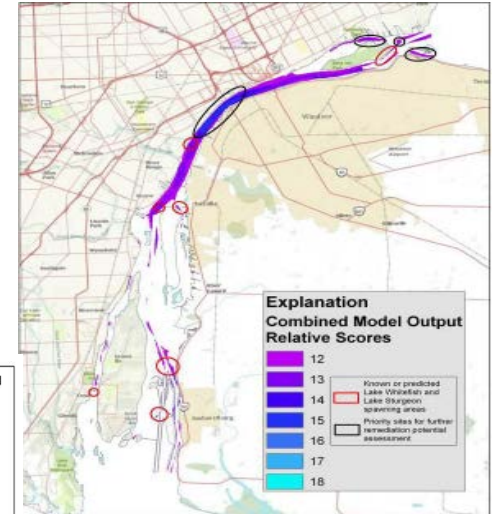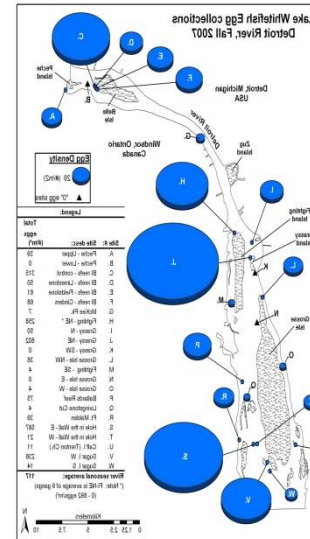
Priority Management Actions

1. Address Beneficial Use Impairments to de-list Areas of Concern

2. Improve water quality through reductions in pollutants form sources

3. Increase overall biodiversity through protection and improvements to habitat

4. Increase production of indigenous fish stocks through protection and improvements to habitats

5. Reduce the impacts on habitat, biodiversity and fisheries from Aquatic Invasive Species threats

St. Clair - Detroit River System Initiative

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Annual Partnership workshop

77 participants representing multiple agencies and organizations

Use clicker technology to prioritize objectives

Breakout groups to recommend ranking system

Steering Committee chose 9 key priority objectives

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Yellow Highlights (italics) are the final set of Objectives selected by the Steering Committee on Feb 5, 2015.

In 2014, the Steering Committee established five management priorities. They include (non-ranked):

1. Address beneficial use impairments to de-list the Detroit River AOC and St. Clair River AOC in both countries
2. Improve water quality through reductions in pollutants from SCDRS sources
3. Increase overall biodiversity through protection and improvements to a connected mosaic of habitats in the system
4. Increase production of indigenous fish stocks through protection and improvements to functional habitats in the system
5. Reduce impacts on habitats, biodiversity, and fisheries from AIS threats

Last Updated: 9/23/15

Priority Objectives

1. Complete habitat improvements projects to remove loss of fish and wildlife habitat BUI

2. Reduce loading from regulated and unregulated sources of TP/DRP

3. Identify contaminants of concern, determine sources and develop load reduction strategies

4. Increase riparian complexity/connectivity through increased softened shorelines and native riparian vegetation

5. Increase continuous area of functional wetlands and their connectivity to the SCDRS

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Priority Objectives

6. Increase spawning habitat

7. Increase and protect critical habitat areas for rare species, including river mouth habitats and connectivity with tributaries

8. Develop surveillance monitoring for AIS based on habitat requirements and availability

9. Implement preventive strategies through information / education programs and management of potential sources and pathways (AIS)

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Next Steps

- Analyse science and monitoring database

- Develop a monitoring work plan consisting of specific surveys and indicators

- Develop a science strategy with relevant working/research hypotheses and evaluation indicators…

- Implement habitat improvement projects to remove loss of fish and wildlife habitat beneficial use impairment

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Special Thanks

Environment Canada

Essex Region Conservation Authority

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Michigan Sea Grant

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Ontario Ministry of the Environment

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Geological Survey

Walpole Island First Nations

BASF

Central Michigan University

CineGroup

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup

DTE Energy

Environmental Consulting and Technology, Inc.

Friends of the Detroit River

Great Lakes Commission

Herpetological Resource and Management

Michigan State University

Michigan Wildlife Conservancy

SmithGroup JJR

The Nature Conservancy

University of Michigan

University of Toledo

University of Windsor

Wayne State University

Wildlife Habitat Council