

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- Great Lakes Commission
Great Lakes Habitat Restoration Regional Partnership
Muskegon River Veterans Memorial Park Project**

DATA SHARING PLAN

The Muskegon River Veterans Memorial Park Project, implemented by the Great Lakes Commission (Commission) and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) will generate environmental information, including pre- and post-restoration assessments of fish community and water quality variables. Information will also be collected on pre- and post-restoration vegetation communities present within the project area, including both native and invasive species coverage. Pre- and post-restoration assessments will also result in information regarding the number of enhanced or created wetland acres, the linear feet of improved shoreline habitat, and the acreage of hydrologically reconnected waterbodies.

Pre-construction soil sample results will be collected and analyzed to help guide design and meet soil disposal requirements. Topographic data will include pre- and/or post-restoration controlling bottom invert elevations, controlling top invert elevations, channel and pond widths, and channel and pond depths. The number of acres and linear feet of improved habitat and post-restoration topography data will be provided within one year of implementation. Vegetation datasets will include percent cover of native and non-native species collected in 12 total plots along three transects in the project area, collected the growing season before restoration initiation and within one year after restoration. Vegetation datasets will be provided within two years of implementation.

Pre-and post- restoration assessment of fish community and water quality variables will include fish assemblage in the north and south ponds, as well as Muskegon Lake, prior to year 1 and following year 2 habitat restoration. Beginning in 2015, fish sampling will be conducted in early autumn of each year via small mesh fyke nets set parallel to the shoreline and will be fished for about 24 hours at each site following the protocol used by Bhagat & Ruetz (2011). Six sites will be sampled at the south pond, three sites will be sampled at the north pond, and two sites will be sampled in Muskegon Lake near where the North Branch of the Muskegon River enters Muskegon Lake. Environmental conditions also will be measured at each site in conjunction with fish sampling, which will include water temperature, dissolved oxygen concentration, pH, specific conductivity, and turbidity (measured with a YSI 6600 sonde) as well as water depth (see Janetski & Ruetz 2014). Additionally, water samples will be collected at each site to measure soluble reactive phosphorus, total phosphorus, nitrate, and chloride concentrations in the laboratory.

Data will be collected by staff from the Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute (GVSU- AWRI). During the project period, field data and derived or associated data such as GIS layers will be processed as necessary and then made available from GVSU-AWRI and WMSRDC upon request. Information in the form of reports, maps or other outputs will be considered in the public domain and will be published and distributed free of charge. Field data developed under this project will also be considered in the public domain or available from project partners directly. Questions and data requests should be directed to the Commission Habitat Restoration Program Manager, Heather Braun, at hbraun@glc.org or (734) 971-9135. Additionally, a summary of monitoring results will be available on the Commission hosted NOAA

Partnership project website (<http://glc.org/projects/habitat/noaa-glc-restoration/noaa-glc-partnership-projects-2013-2016/>) within 1 year of receiving a completed final monitoring report from GVSU-AWRI. The final monitoring report will also be submitted to NOAA as part of regular reporting or in the final project report. As a means of ensuring long-term access to the data, Commission staff will work with NOAA to determine if any of the data can be archived at NOAA or with another federal program following completion of the project. In the past, we have shared similar data through the Commission website.