

Monday January 11th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Meeting URL https://bluejeans.com/734288388

Meeting ID: 734 288 388 Call-in Info: +1 408 419 1715

Attendees: Paul Powell, Army Corps; Mary Bohling, PAC Chair/MI Sea Grant; Rose Ellison, EPA; Kaylee Peterson, FDR; Tricia Blicharski, FDR; Bob Burns, FDR; Sam Lovall, FDR; Andrew McDowell, SmithGroup; Anita Harrington, City of Detroit; Jackie Serran, DRCC; Gina Pannunzio, DRCC; Van Litchard, US Steel; Erma Leaphart, Michigan Sierra Club; Melanie Foose, Michigan EGLE; John O'Meara, ECT; Meghan Price, ECT

1.0 PAC Administration

Agenda Comments / Revisions / Additions Introductions

2.0 Presentation –

Revere Shoreline Collapse – Anita Harrington, City of Detroit

- In an effort to try and prevent this from happening again in the future, all property
 owners along the river shoreline, within the City limits, were required to do an
 inspection and submit an engineering report.
- If a property is found not in compliance, there are fines in place
- Mobilization for remediation of the collapsed area occurred late in 2020. They
 have made substantial progress already, should be complete with the seawall by
 end of Jan/Feb. After seawall is complete, they will work on removing the
 material from the river.
- Dates are in the permit for them to adhere to specific project milestones.

3.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Received word in Dec. 2020 that two BUIs, Fish tumors/other deformities and degradation of benthos, have been redesignated as no longer impaired.
- That leaves four BUIs on the CAN side of the river that are currently impaired.
- Degradation of Phytoplankton and Zooplankton is under assessment.
- Construction on Peche Island is complete.
- Ken Droulliard will receive the ERCA Environmental Achievement Award for his efforts in the Detroit River on Jan. 21st.

EPA – Rose Ellison

- Riverwalk project is complete.
- Waiting for final designs for Centennial Park to be complete. Bob Burns asked if PAC could review the design plans prior to them becoming finalized. Rose will inquire.

EGLE – Melanie Foose

- McLouth EGLE and EPA have cooperative agreements for additional field sampling this summer.
- Interviews with U of M for PAC research project Students are going through their research and putting together their recommendations. They will put together



a draft plan, then the PAC will be able to review it prior to finalization. That plan should be finalized in April.

4.0 Project Updates

• 2020 PAC Support Grant

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- Fourth Quarter Report Due at the end of January.
- NOAA Regional Partnership Sam Lovall
 - Okonoka Construction
 - 99.9% complete. Hydraulic work is complete. Bridge and culvert are open. This gives free flow of water from Blue Heron Lagoon through the Lake and then out through the culvert.
 - There are temporary control measures that can be put in place to control flooding if needed. Then we can move forward with postconstruction monitoring. Some site improvement work that remains.
 - Still waiting for final designs from DNR for interpretive signage.
 - Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding
 - FWS approved permit drawings.
 - Final construction drawings are 75% complete.
 - Permit approval is on schedule will be ready for bidding in mid-April.
 - Hennepin Feasibility and Design
 - North Marsh having issue getting information from BASF on seismic information on brine wells.
 - South Marsh moving forward through permitting.
- Detroit Riverfront Parks *Bob Burns*
 - City will be doing construction work at the park in 2021. Coordinating efforts now.
 - Design will likely change a little bit from original design.
 - Looking to get all the funding and contractors in place to start construction in 2022.
- Belle Isle Flatwoods Melanie Foose
 - Anglen Civil (Construction Contractor) will mobilize this spring.
 - Will watch for bald eagle and bat activity.
 - This is a very unique plant community. Did seed collection last fall. Looking for contractor to grow the seeds, which will be used for restoration.
 - EA did the design for this project and will also do the oversight.

5.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

- **Eat Safe Fish** have attended resource fairs throughout Wayne County. Will have signage at parks.
- SmithGroup SG and the City of Ecorse submitted a Coastal Zone Management grant to identify opportunities for ecological restoration on the Ecorse Creek.
- US Steel if Van Litchard gets clearance he will get out and take some photos of the U.S. Steel Project. Says it's grown up a lot and during the summer you can see lots of snakes.

6.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- McLouth CAG Jan. 14th to register: <u>ssotoreyes@cbi.org</u>
- Virtual Shiver on the River Tentatively Feb. 5th
- PAC Meeting March 8th
- SPAC Meeting March 9th
- PAC Meeting May 10th



Monday March 8th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Meeting URL https://bluejeans.com/734288388

Meeting ID: 734 288 388 Call-in Info: +1 408 419 1715

Attendees: Mary Bohling, PAC Chair/MI Sea Grant; Tricia Blicharski, FDR; Megan Price, ECT; Sam Lovall, FDR; Bob Burns, FDR; Barb Aylesworth, Healthy Urban Waters; Tom Henderson, PAC Chair; Andy McDowell, SG; Melanie Foose, EGLE; Gina Pannunzio, DRCC; Katie Granthum SEMCOG; Jackie Serran, DRCC; Paul Powell, Army Corps of Engineers; Jeremy Waechter, MDHHS; John O'Meara, ECT; Rose Ellison, EPA

1.0 PAC Administration

Agenda Comments / Revisions / Additions Introductions

2.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Still waiting on some comments from on the Phytoplankton Assessment Report. Expect to submit report for the designation of not impaired by the end of March
- Planning and coordinating for Earth Week with the Detroit River Coalition, including a presentation on habitat restoration on the Detroit River with Bob Burns, Jackie Serran, and Gina Pannunzio
- Peche Island construction has been on pause due to weather, will resume construction this summer.
- EPA Rose Ellison
- Updating EPA AOC website, hoping to include table with all the projects.
- Correcting some of the narrative to correct the AOC boundaries, specifically the southern Detroit River boundary
- Changing map boundary to include the Lighthouse off of Peche Island on the northern end.

EGLE – Melanie Foose

3.0 Project Updates

- PAC Support Grant
 - o 1st Quarter Report
 - NOAA Regional Partnership Sam Lovall
 - Okonoka Construction Z Contractors will get out there to finish landscape restoration. Grade from wet mesic flatwoods to Lake Okonoka will need to be corrected. DNR will be reinstalling coffer dam to make sure construction of the flatwoods can be done.
 - Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding Will be out for bid by Mid-March, with bids due April 9th. Funding for phase one has been secured, will be submitting for phase two (2022).



- Hennepin Feasibility and Design South Marsh is out for permit. North Marsh FDR is in talks with BASF about feasibility of project due to the brine wells. Budget would need to go up for North Marsh.
- Detroit Riverfront Parks *Bob Burns*
 - Riverfront parks are on EPA's ledger, just depends on other AOC projects. Will be up for consideration during a future round of funding.
- Belle Isle Flatwoods *Melanie Foose*
 - Mobilized in January.

4.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

- SPAC Meeting update Possible additional funding to engage underrepresented communities. Will need to designate two people from Detroit PAC to participate in the statewide PAC. There is a possibility for the SPAC sub-committee focusing on DEI and Environmental Justice, if you are interested in participating on this subcommittee let Melanie know.
- HOW March 18th webinar presentation on ecosystem services in urban environments
- Earth Week Cleanup Celebration April 17-24. Many ways to participate in on your own cleanups, group cleanups, or virtual events such as bingo and habitat restoration presentation.
- Eat Safe Fish late April start for the Riverwalker program with additional sites such as the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge.

5.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- McLouth CAG April 8th to register: <u>ssotoreyes@cbi.org</u>
- Virtual Shiver on the River To view recording: https://youtu.be/Mb-E6n_mltl
- PAC Meeting May 10th
- PAC Meeting July 12th



Monday May 10th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Meeting URL https://bluejeans.com/734288388

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Attendees: Mary Bohling, MI Sea Grant/PAC Chair; Anita Harrington, City of Detroit; Barb Aylesworth, Heathy Urban Waters; Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club; Brendan Cousino, LimnoTech; Melanie Foose, MI D. of EGLE; Gina Pannunzio, DRCC; Jackie Serran, DRCC; John O'Meara, ECT; Kaylee Peterson, FDR; Paul Doody, Anchor QEA; Robert Burns, FDR; Rose Ellison, EPA; Sam Lovall, FDR; Paul Powell, US Army Corps; Tom Henderson, DRCC; Tricia Blicharski, FDR

1.0 PAC Administration

Agenda Comments / Revisions / Additions Introductions

2.0 Presentation - Brendan Cousino, LimnoTech; Paul Doody, Anchor QEA Sediment Remediation and Habitat Restoration Construction Project – RCW Jr. Centennial Park

3.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Waiting for First Nation comments on the redesignation of zooplankton and phytoplankton. Once comments are back, DRCC will submit to provincial and federal governments.
- Detroit River Evening planned for June, will send out that information.
- Bob and Jackie did a habitat restoration presentation on the Detroit River
- Construction of Peche Island is on hold.

EPA – Rose Ellison

- Groundbreaking event at Uniroyal property on May 12th
 - Monguagon Creek Sediment Cleanup
 - Still trying to get access to Trenton railroad property south of Monguagon Creek to be able to sample. The Army Corps is now trying to push through an access agreement.
 - Got confirmation that the location of the waterline is near the bridge and is closed down. Due to this, this project might change considerably
- EGLE Melanie Foose
 - Environmental Justice Conference May 18-20
 - AOC Conference is being planned for late September in Muskegon, Michigan.



4.0 Project Updates

- PAC Support Grant
 - 2nd Quarter Report
- NOAA Regional Partnership Sam Lovall
 - Okonoka Construction
 - Bi-annual reports were due last month, and FY funding requests were due.
 - DNR has reinstalled coffer dam while the Flatwoods project is underway, post construction monitoring will occur after coffer dam and log stop are taken out.
 - o Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding
 - Received bids in April. Korneffel will likely be the contractor. Cannot award contract until after permit is back from US Army Corps.
 - o Hennepin Feasibility and Design
 - South received bids in late April.
 - North some feasibility issues with brine wells, as a result that part of this project is not going forward.
- Detroit Riverfront Parks Bob Burns no update
- Belle Isle Flatwoods *Melanie Foose*
 - Contractors are on site working on trails, boardwalks, and hydrologic connections
 - Hope to have a presentation on this project in the late fall

5.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

• <u>Sierra Club:</u> Detroit River protection ordinance has gone to the City Council Public Health and Safety Committee for approval

6.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Detroit River Bination Habitat Restoration Presentation To view recording: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAwvxTURAGc</u>
- ERDA52 Conference May 19-24 https://www.edra.org/page/EDRA52
- SPAC Meeting June 17th
- PAC Meeting July 12th
- PAC Meeting September 13th



Monday July 12th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

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Meeting ID: 734 288 388 Call-in Info: +1 408 419 1715

<u>Attendees:</u> Mary Bohling, MI Sea Grant/PAC Chair; Melanie Foose, MI EGLE; Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club; Gina Pannunzio, DRCC; Jackie Serran, DRCC; Tricia Blicharski, FDR; Rose Ellison, US EPA; Anita Harrington, City of Detroit; Robert Burns, FDR; Tom Henderson, DRCC; Sam Lovall, FDR; Richard Hobrla, MI EGLE

1.0 PAC Administration

Agenda Comments / Revisions / Additions Introductions

2.0 Sediment Project List

- Each area has its own report, which lays out the contamination for the individual areas.
- Each section represents the industrial history on the shoreline.
- Management Action List Document was approved

3.0 SPAC

- Representative and Alternate
 - Mary Bohling and Bob Burns will continue to be the designated representative and alternate.
- DEI Committee Update Tricia Blicharski
 - DEI Committee has had a few meetings to assess the needs and capabilities of each PAC group. Looking to get a consultant on board to assist in this process.

4.0 UM Student Project Discussion

- Would like to set sometime aside in September's meeting to discuss the Detroit River PAC Organizational Priorities
- Erma Sierra Club/Healing Our Waters was given some funding to help with this

5.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Have completed all public and indigenous engagement and will be submitting for official designation of "no longer considered for further assessment"
- Peche Island is rescheduled for construction within the next few days. Waiting to hear back on a few submitted grant proposals for the project.
- Hosted the 10th Annual Detroit River Evening virtually back in June. Recording of the event: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxCSVJq3NV4</u>
- Habitat Work Group is creating some sub-criteria for BUIs 3 & 14 to create a checklist for delisting.
- Windsor has an Ojibwe Complex of a 900-acre prairie, there has been talk about turning it into a National Park. Some government officials have had meetings about this. Will keep PAC updated on any developments.

EPA – Rose Ellison

- Centennial Park Project In process of putting together a project agreement, for remediation, with the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy.
- Monguagon Creek project If everything works out, they will sample in September.
- Upper Riverfront Parks Project City is doing some upland work.
- EGLE Melanie Foose
 - EGLE has a cooperative agreement with EPA to do some sampling at the McLouth Steel site in September.
 - US AOC Conference is scheduled for September 28-30 in Muskegon, MI. First one since 2019. Will keep an eye on covid restrictions. For more info: <u>https://www.epa.gov/great-lakes-aocs/2021-areas-concern-conference-</u> registration-and-information

6.0 Project Updates

PAC Support Grant

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- 2nd Quarter Report Due by the end of July
- NOAA Regional Partnership Sam Lovall
 - Okonoka Construction
 - Needs to be re-graded. Next year will be conducting postconstruction monitoring.
 - Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding
 - Series of shoals will be constructed on south end of the island to create about 17 acres of backwater for fish spawning and nursery habitats
 - Just submitted for second phase of funding to NOAA
 - Could begin constructing shoals by the end of July.
 - Hennepin Feasibility and Design Mary Bohling & Sam Lovall
 - Construction documents have been submitted for permit. Haven't awarded project, waiting until permit has been issued.
 - Due to brine wells at the North Marsh the project isn't feasible. Will still continue project at South Marsh.
- Detroit Riverfront Parks Bob Burns
 - Belle Isle Flatwoods Melanie Foose
 - Construction continues. MDNR has been asked to attend the November meeting to give a presentation to the PAC on the project.

7.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

• **Sierra Club** – group of people wanting to explore creating a Detroit River watershed plan. Erma will follow up with members on this meeting.

8.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- PAC Meeting September 13th
- US AOC Conference September 28-30th in Muskegon, MI
- State of the Strait Conference December 2nd
- PAC Meeting November 8th



Monday September 13th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Attendees: Mary Bohling, MI Sea Grant; Anita Harrington, City of Detroit; Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club; Melanie Foose, EGLE; Jackie Serran, DRCC; John O'Meara, ECT; Kaylee Peterson, FDR; Paul Powell, Army Corps; Bob Burns, FDR; Rose Ellison, EPA; Sam Lovall, FDR; Tricia Blicharski, FDR; Tom Henderson, DRCC; Tim Karl, City of Detroit

1.0 PAC Administration

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2.0 UM Student Project Discussion

- John O'Meara what does PAC want to take on? What are things that are maybe being done by agencies and how can we tie those things into the PAC?
- Erma Leaphart all of these things seem doable and are things I (Erma) have experience in and have some ideas about.
- Jackie community stewardship fits in well with the DEI work.
- Sam We should include more importance on the PAC when giving presentations.
- Mary the community education would also fit well. Maybe we craft some messaging and/or slides about the PAC for folks to use on presentations.
- Melanie From discussions in the sub-committee EGLE is going to look to make a PAC recruitment package that is customizable for each PAC/AOC.
- Mary maybe we want to create a sub committee to discuss how to implement this. We will keep this as a standing item on the agenda for discussion on future meetings.
- NEXT STEPS:
 - Develop slides
 - Put together list of folks to invite
 - Next conversation will be on community education

3.0 PAC Website

- FDR launched new website in September. The PAC page can be found under the "Get Involved" tab. If there is anything that is missing, or something you think should be included please email that those to Kaylee.
- Melanie to send Kaylee link for EGLE's Detroit River AOC page.

4.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Hosted cleanup near the Ambassador Bridge. First in-person event since covid began. 30 volunteers collected over 300 lbs of trash.
- Peche Island construction starts back up next week. Once this phase of the project is complete there will be six sheltering islands on the north side of Peche, used for spawning and habitat.
- Waiting to hear back from provincial gov on redesignation of Phytoplankton and Zooplankton BUI.
- Virtual PAC meeting on the Canadian side will be held on October 7th from 4:30 to 6:30
- Funding for DRCC will be in place for the next 5 years.



EPA – Rose Ellison

- Upper Riverfront Park Project does require a bit of redesign work to mesh with a city restoration project. Construction could be 2023.
- Wilson Park Project Many entities have taken a look at thefinal design documents, trying to get that turned around quickly to start contracting. Anticipated construction would be Spring 2022.
- Upper Trenton Channel Project undergoing some redesign work for the water treatment analysis.
- McLouth Shoreline sampling work is being done.
- Monguagon Creek Project Contactors are finally in the water to do sampling. Will be hosting a virtual public meeting on the project some time in January.

EGLE – Melanie Foose

- Press release and fact sheet has gone out about sampling work
- SPAC has an upcoming meeting on September 30th conversations will be centered around what projects are ready for funding and the rank of projects.
- AOC Management Action List the list that was talked about the last meeting will be submitted to the EPA before the end of September. Hopefully it will be approved by the end of the fiscal year.

5.0 Project Updates

- PAC Support Grant
 - 3rd Quarter Report due by mid-October.
 - PAC Report Card Bob, Melanie, Tricia, Kaylee, and Mary have been drafting the report card. Drew on some details from the Canadian PAC's Report Card. Will be finalized by 2/2022.
- NOAA Regional Partnership Sam Lovall
 - Okonoka Construction construction is completed. In the process of setting up a final walkthrough, hoping for mid to late-September.
 - Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding placing stone for islands 2-5, leaving 1 and 6 for next year. MLive will be covering Sugar Island in an upcoming article.
 - Hennepin Feasibility and Design secured the permit and funding. E.C. Korneffel has signed contracts.
- Belle Isle Flatwoods *Melanie Foose*
 - Continuing construction, building boardwalks, and removing roads. DNR will attend next meeting to give a presentation on the project.

6.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

- Anita upcoming meeting on Waterbody Ordinance hasn't been solidified yet.
- John the Rouge Concrete Channel outreach with landowners have begun.
- Mary Erma and I have been working with a group on Detroit's Eastside for an approved watershed management plan, for a section of the city that doesn't have one. Eventually at the end of the plan there will be a list of projects to remove stormwater from areas, could be 2-3 year project.

7.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- PAC Meeting November 8th
- US AOC Conference September 28-30th in Muskegon, MI Postponed to May 2022
- State of the Strait Conference December 2nd in UM Dearborn



Monday November 8th, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Attendees: Tricia Blicharski, FDR; Robert Burns, FDR; Amber Falkner, EPA; Anita Harrington, City of Detroit; Robert Clancy, DNR; John O'Meara, ECT; Paul Evanoff, FDR; Paul Powell, Army Corps; Melanie Foose, EGLE; Katie Grantham, SEMCOG; Greg Norwood, DNR; Rose Ellison, EPA; John Myers, Jefferson Chalmers Community; Kevin Kowalk, EA Engineering; Tom Henderson, DRCC; Erma Henderson, Sierra Club; Meghan Price, ECT.

1.0 PAC Administration

Agenda Comments / Revisions / Additions Introductions

- 2.0 Belle Isle Flatwoods Project Presentation Bob Clancy (DNR) & Kevin Kowalk (EA)
- 3.0 UM Student Project Discussion

4.0 Agency Updates

Detroit River Canadian Cleanup - Jackie Serran, RAP Coordinator

- Construction on the habitat project at Peche Island continues. Currently 4 sheltering islands are constructed, and the construction crew is constructing an additional 2.5 islands, which brings the total number of islands to 6.5. A portion of the revetment on the northeast side of the island is planned for construction after the sheltering islands. This phase of the project is expected to be completed by end of year. The project is only partially funded, so should additional funds be secured, construction to complete the project will occur next year.
- On September 28, the DRCC officially received word that the status of the Degradation of Phytoplankton and Zooplankton Beneficial Use was changed from Requires Further Assessment to not impaired. This leaves 4 impaired beneficial uses for the Canadian side of the Detroit River – Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat, Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption, Degraded Fish and Wildlife Populations, and Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems.

EPA – Rose Ellison

- MCUTC Project has finished sampling for the pre-design investigation. Moving into design in early 2022. There will be a virtual public meeting to discuss the project in January 2022.
- McLouth Steel Community Action Committee call last week. After the meeting Rose started to coordinate with remedial project manager on investigation of uplands and sediments.
- Infrastructure Bill was signed, and it looks like we might get more resources for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

EGLE – Melanie Foose

- Management Action List is set for the Detroit AOC.
- Sampling that EGLE did at McLouth Grosse IIe is done and should receive results this winter.



 Next SPAC meeting is January 20, 2022. Looking to hold an all-PAC meeting, where all PAC members can come to a virtual meeting possibly in February.

5.0 Project Updates

- PAC Support Grant
 - 4th Quarter Report due end of January.
 - PAC Report Card
 - One deliverable of the PAC support grant is a report card. Currently working on verbiage for all the sections. Finalizing draft. MI SeaGrant will work on graphics and final touches. Goal is to have the Report Card completed by February.
- NOAA Regional Partnership Bob Burns
 - Okonoka Construction
 - Last thing to do on the contract is post construction monitoring, will need free flowing water to do the monitoring. Hope that will happen next spring.
 - Walk through happened a few weeks ago, admin from NOAA was there. Very happy to see water flowing through the system for the first time. All primaries signed off.
 - o Sugar Island Feasibility and Design / Construction Funding
 - Site visits to sugar to see which fallen trees can be used for
 - Building outer shoals. Put corestone in at 2, 3, 4, and 5. Moved 20-30,000 tons of stone already.
 - Will turn to do shoreline restoration next spring.
 - Hennepin Feasibility and Design
 - Main work will start after thanksgiving and will continue through the winter.
- Detroit Riverfront Parks Bob Burns
 - Coordinating between city and restoration design team for A.B. Ford and Lakewood East. Kevin is working on updating design to make sure designs are consistent between the projects. Looking to include a bioswale in the A.B. Ford Park design.
 - Will be going out for construction bid in 2022.
 - Will be the last US project for BUIs: Loss of population and loss of habitat

6.0 PAC Member Update Roundtable

• EPA asked FDR to provide a 10 min presentation on Detroit River projects for the Executives Annual Meeting. Rose will have a secured date this week or next week, looking at December 1st or 2nd.

7.0 Upcoming Meeting Dates

- PAC Meeting January 10, 2022
- State of the Strait Conference Postponed until May 2022
- US AOC Conference Postponed to May 2022 in Muskegon, MI