



The Lower Black River Habitat Restoration Project Phase III City of Lorain, Ohio



Funding provided by NOAA under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

Phase III of the Lower Black River Habitat Restoration Project has been funded via a \$350,000 GLRI grant from NOAA, which was awarded to the City of Lorain in 2011. This grant will fund the assessment, permitting and design for riparian and aquatic habitat restoration on the Former RTI Coke Works property owned by the City of Lorain. The project design and engineering is being completed by Arcadis U.S., Inc. and Coldwater Consulting, LLC. Upon implementation, the project will include the following components: (1) approximately 1,250 linear feet of fish habitat shelves and stream bank restoration; (2) removal of invasive species; (3) excavation of approximately 40,000 cubic yards of recyclable fill material (i.e. slag) and subsurface contamination; and (4) installation of a remedial system to address a source of water quality impairment. The project will restore habitat for fish and wildlife in the lower Black River, an area that is highly deficient of aquatic structure.

Engineering services funded under the grant include:

- Quality Assurance Project Plan
- Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)
- Phase II ESA
- Ecological Site Assessment
- Permitting
- Remedial Action Plan
- Habitat Restoration Plan
- Feasibility Report
- Final Design / Bid Documents

The assessment, permitting and design tasks are slated to be completed by December 2012. The City is currently pursuing funding for implementation of the final design product.



Several feet of steel slag currently cover the project area, which will be removed to allow for ecological restoration of the riparian area along the river.



Severely eroded banks are currently present within the project area, contributing massive amounts of sediment to the river.

