

Rouge River Area of Concern Projects and Successes



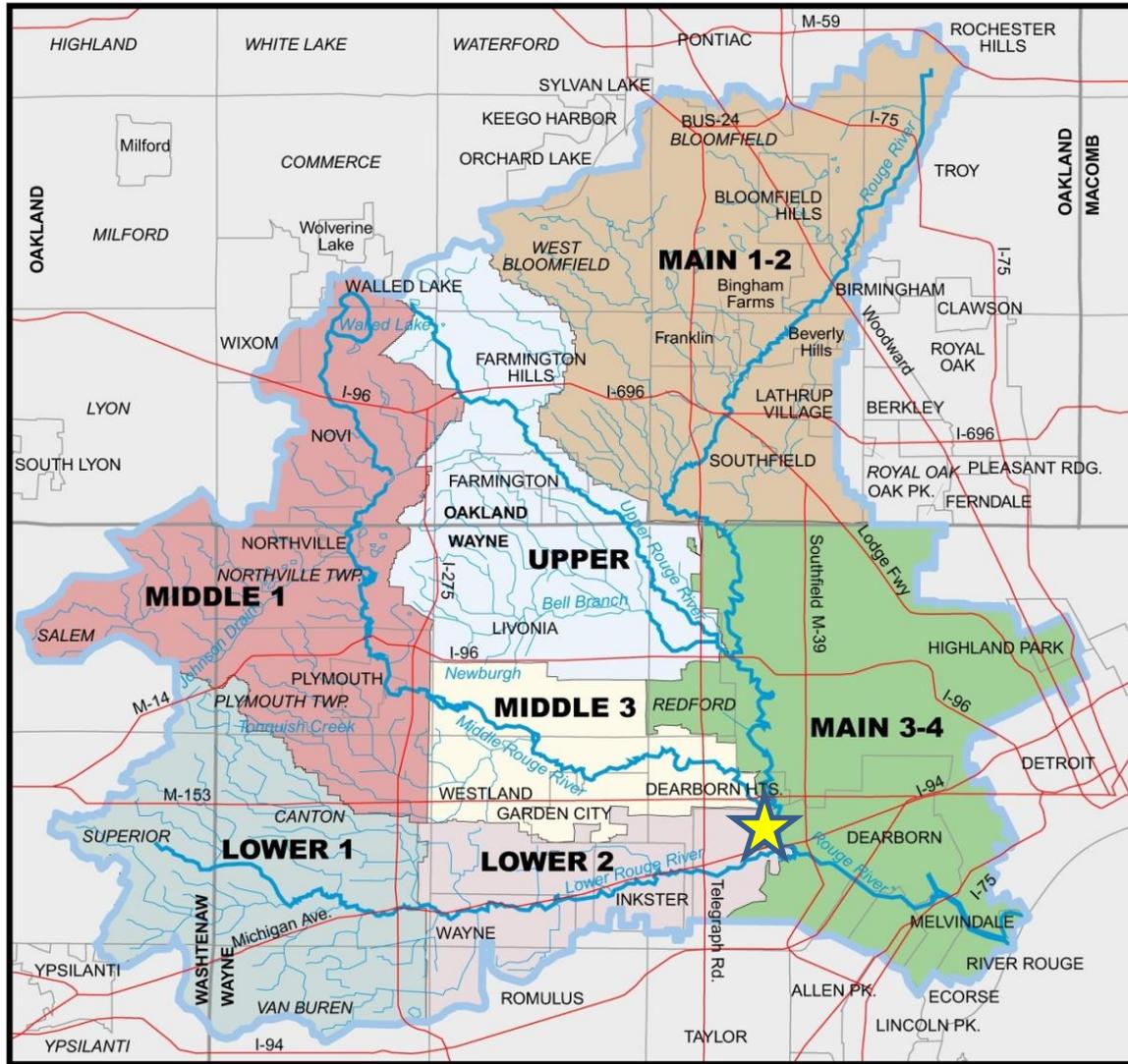
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Rouge River Area of Concern



Encompasses 7 Subwatersheds



By the numbers:

- Drains **467** square miles and has **4** main river branches
- **126** river miles and numerous tributaries
- More than **400** lakes, impoundments, and ponds.
- **1.35** million people in **48** communities and **3** counties
- AOC is **> 50%** urbanized with **< 25%** remaining undeveloped
- Designated as an AOC in 1985

Nine BUIs

- Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption
- Eutrophication or undesirable algae
- Degradation of fish and wildlife populations
- Beach closings
- Fish tumors or other deformities
- Degradation of aesthetics
- Degradation of benthos
- Restriction on dredging activities
- Loss of fish and wildlife habitat

Friends of the ROUGE



- Established in 1986
- To get citizens involved in clean up of AOC
- *Mission to promote restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement, and other collaborative efforts, for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants, and animals of the watershed*

Friends of the ROUGE

Public Involvement & Education

- Rouge Rescue
- Rouge Education Project



Friends of the ROUGE

Public Involvement & Education

- Volunteer Monitoring
- River Restoration

Recreation

- Rouge River Water Trail



What Makes the Rouge an AOC?

Industrial Legacy



Rapid Urbanization and Suburbanization

- Pre-1800's comprised of abundant wetlands and woodlands
- 1800's to present largest proportion of land is urban/suburban and still being developed
- Infrastructure struggling to keep up



Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project

- Initiated in 1992 by Wayne County
- Federal, state, and local agencies
- 1992-2014
- \$350 million multi-year grants from US EPA
- Additional funding from communities & others

THE ROUGE RIVER PROJECT
A WORLD CLASS EFFORT



BRINGING OUR RIVER BACK TO LIFE

Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project

- Mission: *demonstrate effective solutions to water quality problems, leading to restoration*



Rouge Project Highlights

- 88 CSO/SSO control projects
- 71 public education and involvement projects
- 106 watershed management/analysis projects
- 2,008+ illicit discharges corrected



Rouge Project Highlights

- 60+ acres native plant grow zones
- 10,000+ cubic yards invasive plants removed
- 17,000+ ft of streambank stabilization
- 2 dams removed



Keeping the momentum....

Lower Rouge River Old Channel Legacy Act Project

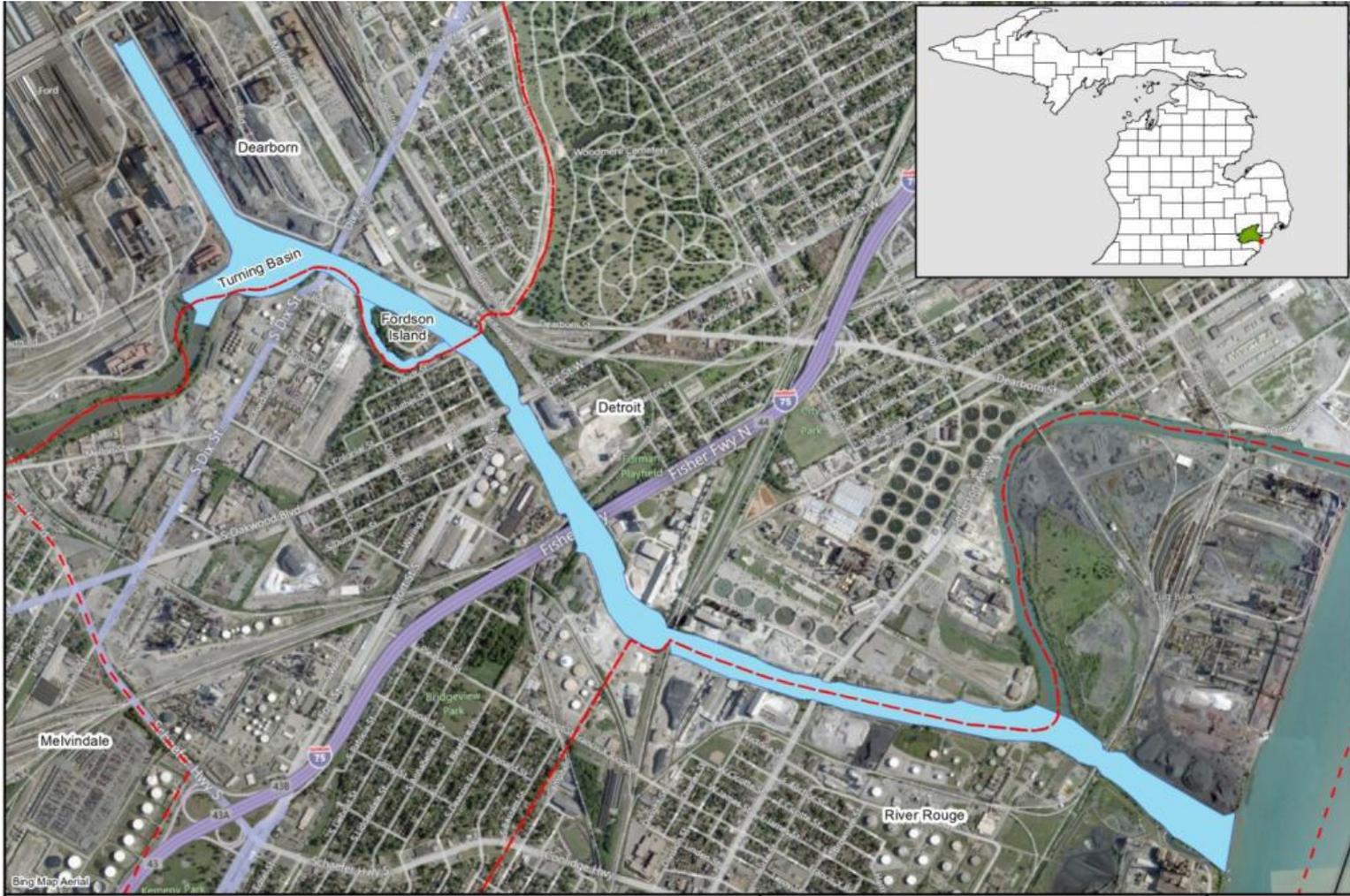
Project Components

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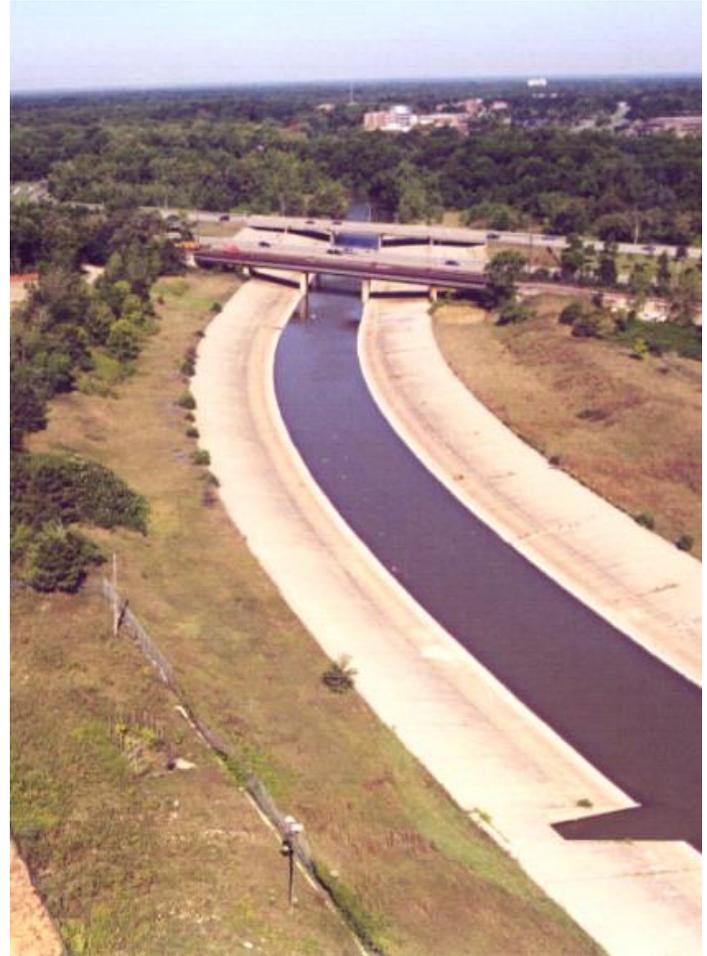


- Permanent stabilization of the shoreline along Detroit Coke & Tar to allow dredging
- Temporary stabilization where needed to allow dredging
- Dredge approximately 90,000 cy of sediment
- Place underwater cap where dredging is infeasible
- Habitat restoration

Lower Rouge River Main Channel Contaminated Sediments



Concrete Channel Modification and Habitat Enhancement



Henry Ford Estate Dam Fish Passage Project



Habitat Project List

- PAC created habitat subcommittee to focus on creating a final habitat project list
- Work funded through state PAC support grants
- Used a targeted approach in selecting what projects to include on the list



Friends of the ROUGE

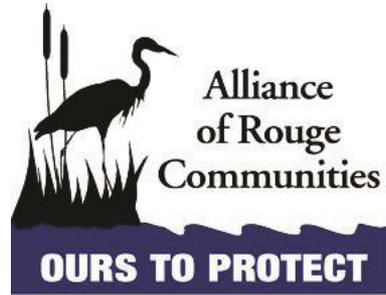
- Ongoing monitoring & education
- Invasive species control
 - GLRI
- Green infrastructure education & installation
 - Nonpoint Source Program
 - Residential Rain Gardens
- Rouge River Water Trail



Partners



**Friends
of
the ROUGE**



Working together, restoring the river



Questions?

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