



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Buffalo District

February 2005

FACT SHEET

Title/Name: Eighteenmile Creek Area of Concern (AOC), NY, Agreement 1 – Section 401 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1990, as amended (Great Lakes Remedial Action Plans [RAP]).

Location: The Eighteenmile Creek AOC includes Olcott Harbor at the mouth of the creek and extends upstream to the farthest point at which backwater conditions exist during Lake Ontario's highest monthly average lake level (roughly 1.4 kilometers).

Project Description: Niagara County has concerns about the effects of Burt Dam and the contaminated sediments trapped behind the dam on the fish and wildlife in the AOC. This Eighteenmile Creek RAP study is a cooperative effort by the Corps of Engineers, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Niagara County Legislature. The first part of the study is the non-Federal sponsors habitat restoration project below Burt Dam. The Corps is providing assistance on the design of the habitat restoration project. In the second part of the study the Corps is responsible for evaluating watershed-scale models for their utility in managing the problems of the watershed and their impacts on the AOC, collecting suspended sediment data and developing current Geographic Information System land use layers as inputs for the watershed-scale model; collecting and analyzing sediments for contaminants of concern in the AOC, conducting bioaccumulation assessments of surface sediments in the AOC, and providing assistance to the county for the preparation of a watershed management plan.

Appropriation Category: General Investigations

Total Estimated Cost: The overall cost of the study is \$1,114,000.

Project Sponsor/Customer: The Niagara County Legislature is the primary sponsor and customer for this study. Additionally, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is a major stakeholder.

Congressional Interests:

Representative Louise M. Slaughter D-NY-28
Representative Thomas M. Reynolds R-NY-26
Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
Senator Hillary Clinton D-NY

Current Status:

The Section 401 Agreement was signed and executed May 20, 2003.
The study is currently scheduled to conclude in October 2006.

Issues: RAP funding is not budgetable by the Corps. Study progress is uncertain and subject to the availability of Congressional ads.

Project Manager: Anthony M. Friona (716) 879-4215

