The St. Louis River Restoration Initiative

The St. Louis River Estuary
12,000 acre coastal marsh
43 species of native fish
159 species of birds;
43 species of greatest conservation need.



Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan May 2002



St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee

St. Louis River Restoration Initiative Objectives:

- Restore legacy industrial sites
- Recover "lost" populations including Lake sturgeon, muskie, common tern & piping plover
- Support Lake Superior fish populations
- Improve the sate's most diverse sport fish assemblage
- Enhance a globally "Important Bird Area"
- Improve access for all







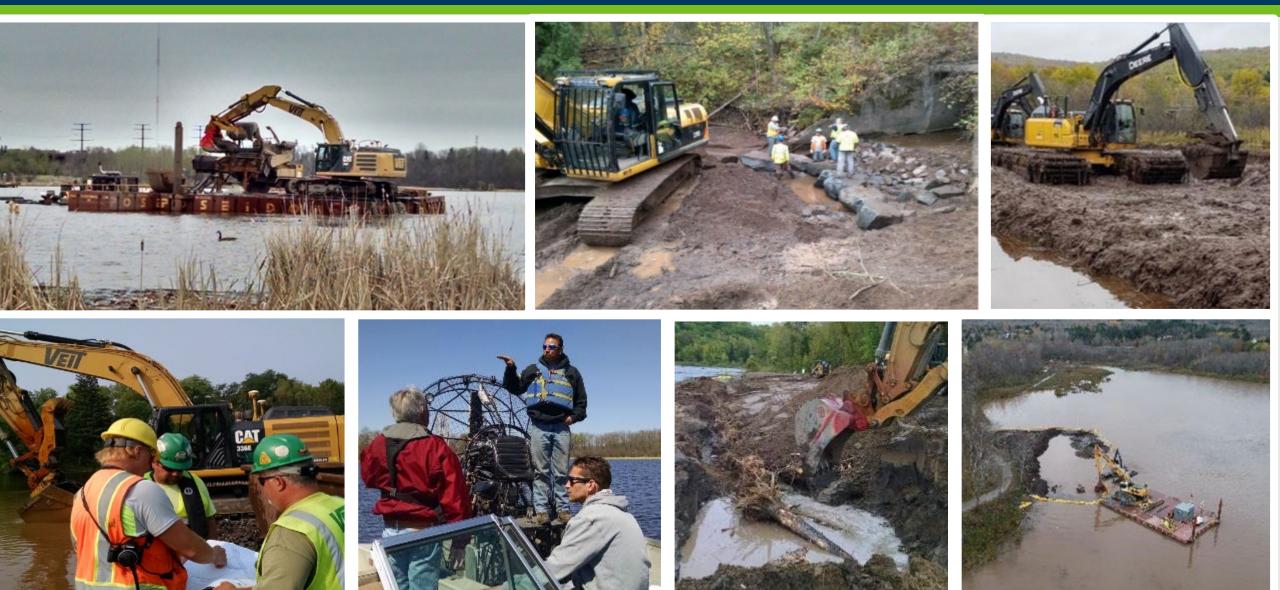
"One of the most important shallow water and wetland complexes on the Great Lakes, and deserves the attention it is finally receiving after so many years of past abuse and neglect." -- Rich Staffon, President, .J. McCabe Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America

Legacy Issues



"The restoration of shallow bay habitat is very important for biological productivity and increased fish production. Habitat." -- Curt Ellestad, President, Lake Superior Chapter of Muskies Inc.

Completing Projects



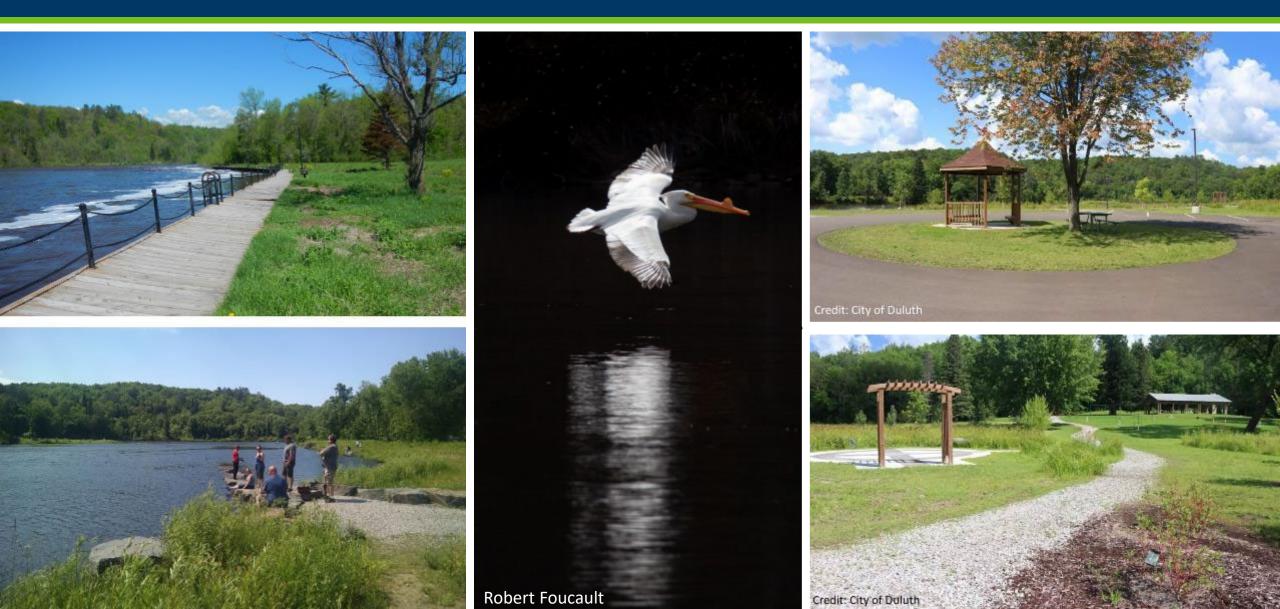
Radio Tower Bay *completed in 2015*



Radio Tower Bay completed in 2015



Chambers Grove *completed in 2015*



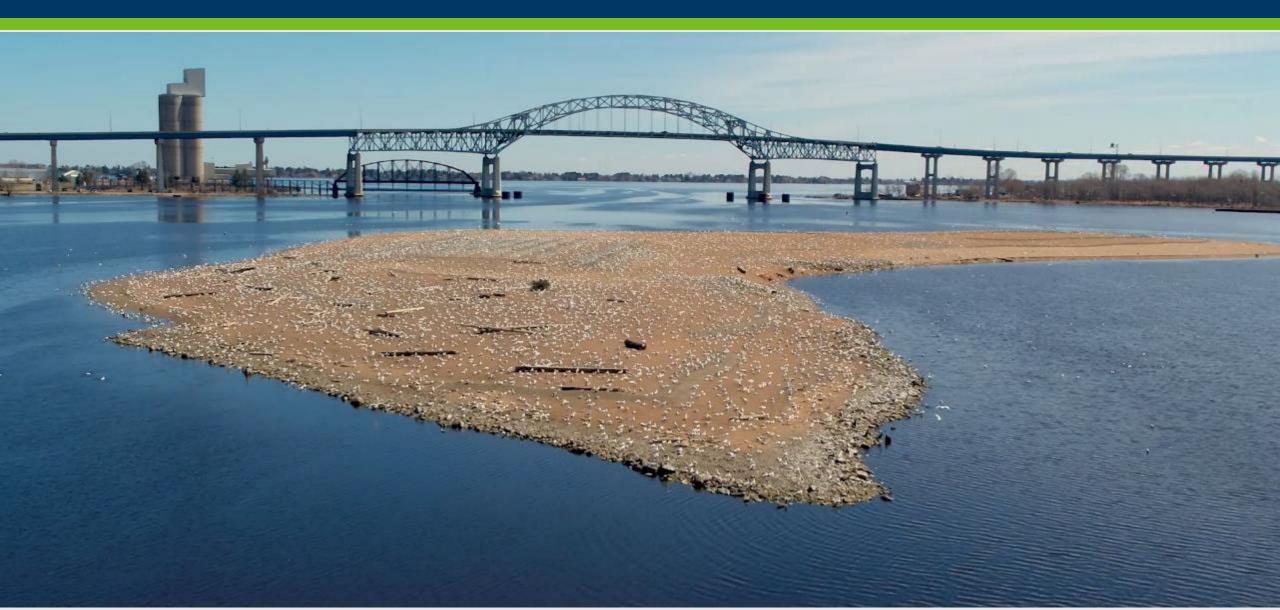
Chambers Grove *completed in 2015*



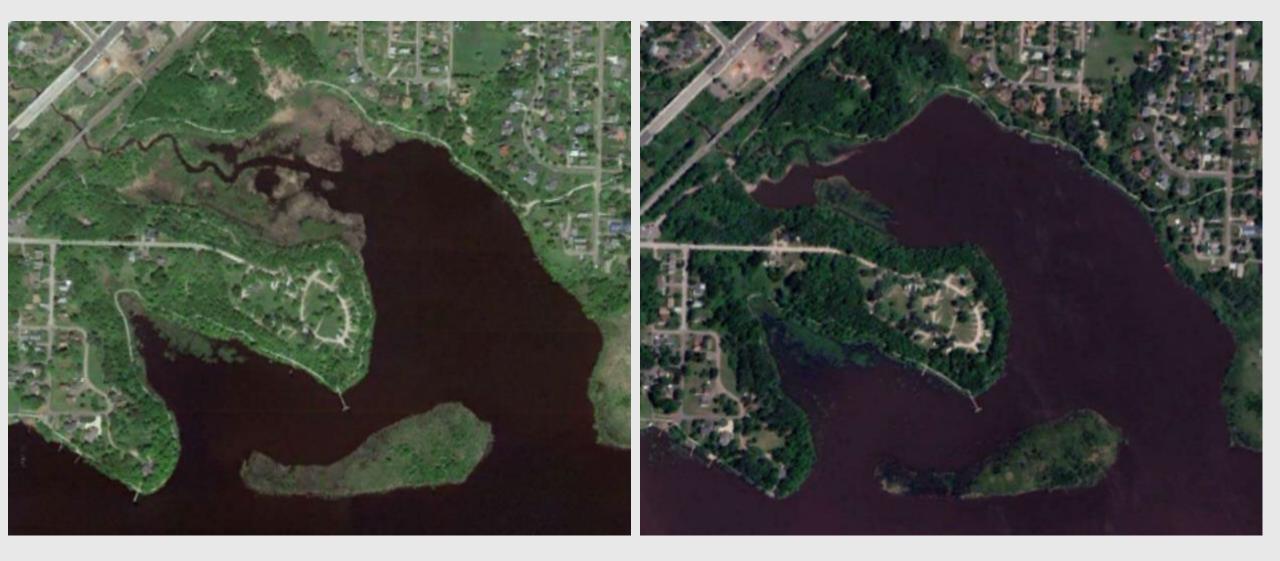
Interstate Island completed in 2021



Interstate Island completed in 2021



Kingsbury Bay *completed in 2021*



Kingsbury Bay *Community Revitalization*



Kingsbury Bay *Community Revitalization*



Interpretive Trail Master Plan March 2021 City of Duluth

TRAIL STRUCTURE Names & Segments

Waabizheshikana's principal elements are the Story Poles and the interpretive spaces which are placed at specific locations in the landscape. These are places where people can hold a unique perspective on the river and its history. This approach overlays with the Segment structure identified in the Mini-Master Plan, but does not call out this segmentation to the trail audience.

The Story Poles and other interpretive elements are meant to be memorable landmarks that carry glimpses of the big story. Later chapters of this report contain detailed maps of the different trail segments and the landmarks nearby.



Miskwaadesi Story Pole

Amii

Segment

Story Pole

Name

Story Pole

Segment o (Existing Trail Miskwaadesi PAINTED TURTLE Amik BEAVER Name STURGEON Migizi BALD EAGLE Zhagashi GREAT BLUE HERON Makwa BLACK BEAR Wiigwaas er Ere PAPER BIRCH 15.00 Manoomin WILD RICE Nigig RIVER OTTER

Grassy Point *completed in 2021*



Grassy Point *completed in 2021*

ACEC Minnesota

2022 "Grand Conceptor" Award Winner





Manoomin (wild rice) 2014 - ongoing

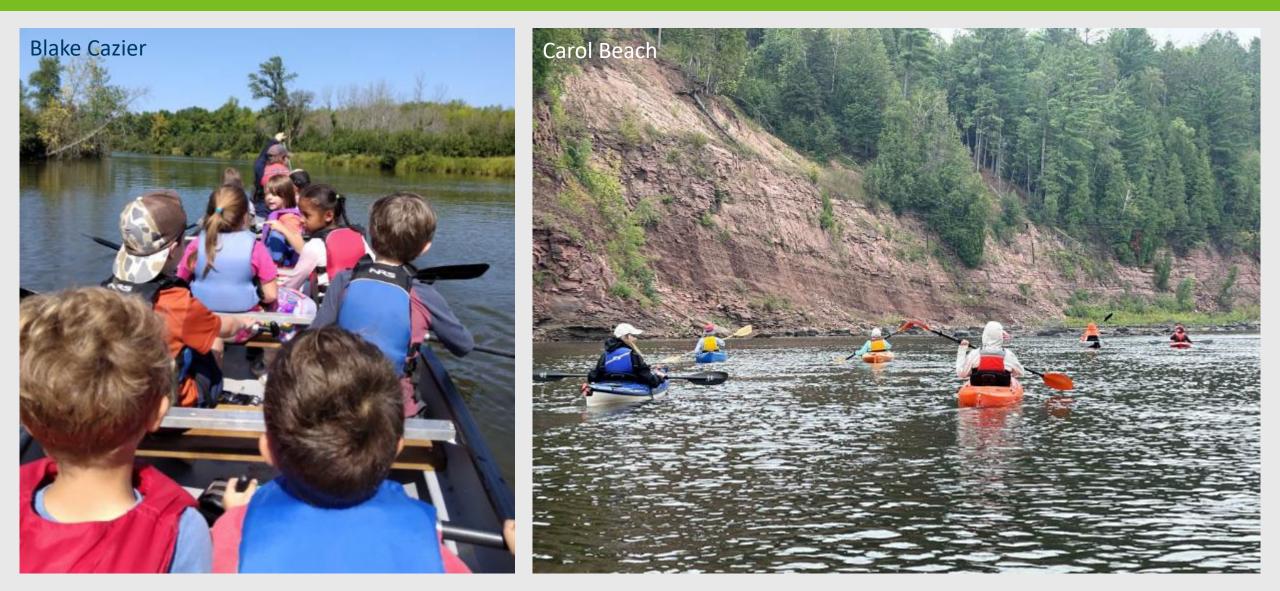


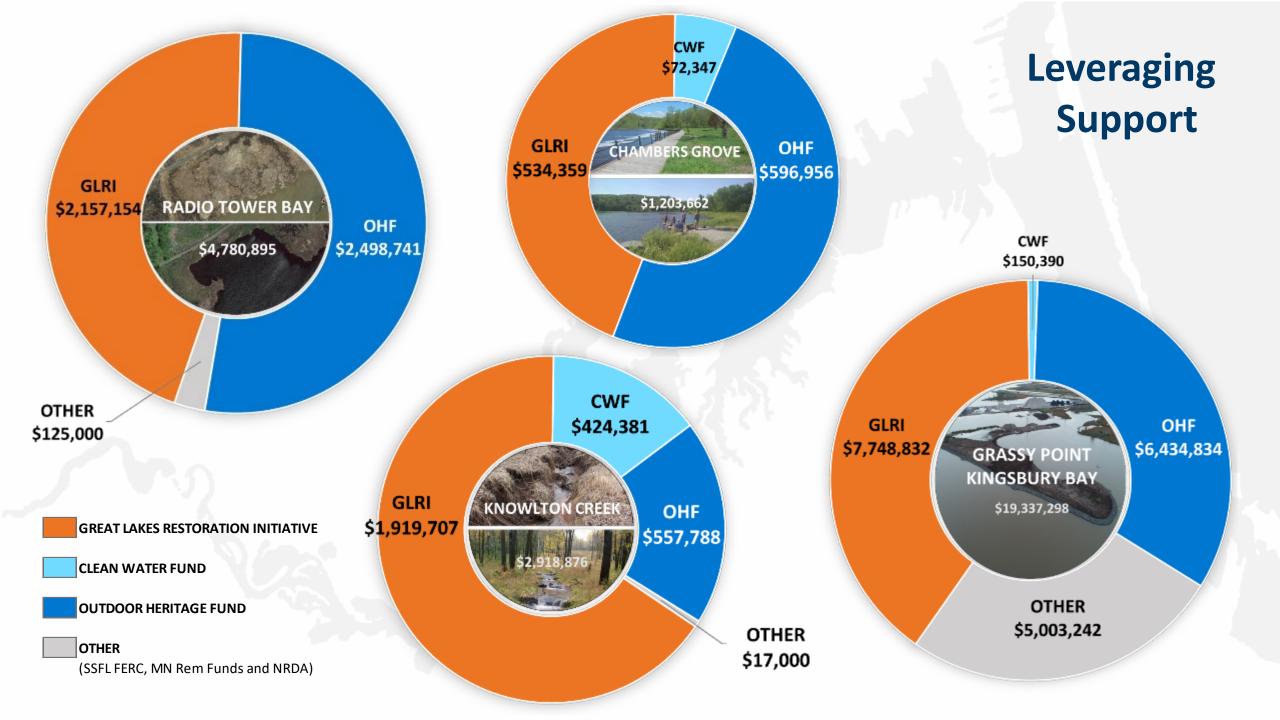
"These efforts are having a positive effect on the water quality and the biological productivity of the fish and wildlife." -- David Nelson, President Twin Ports Walleye Association

Karen McTavish At Chambers Grove

Seeing the Results

Seeing the Results





There's more to do...



Closing Thoughts



The St. Louis River Estuary is...

- An unmatched habitat resource
- Unique and incredibly diverse

We are making a difference!





Thank You!

Melissa Sjolund

St. Louis River & Lake Superior Program Supervisor



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