

From **Brown** to **Green**

Opportunities for Habitat Restoration and Sustainable Development



Imagine the result



Speakers:

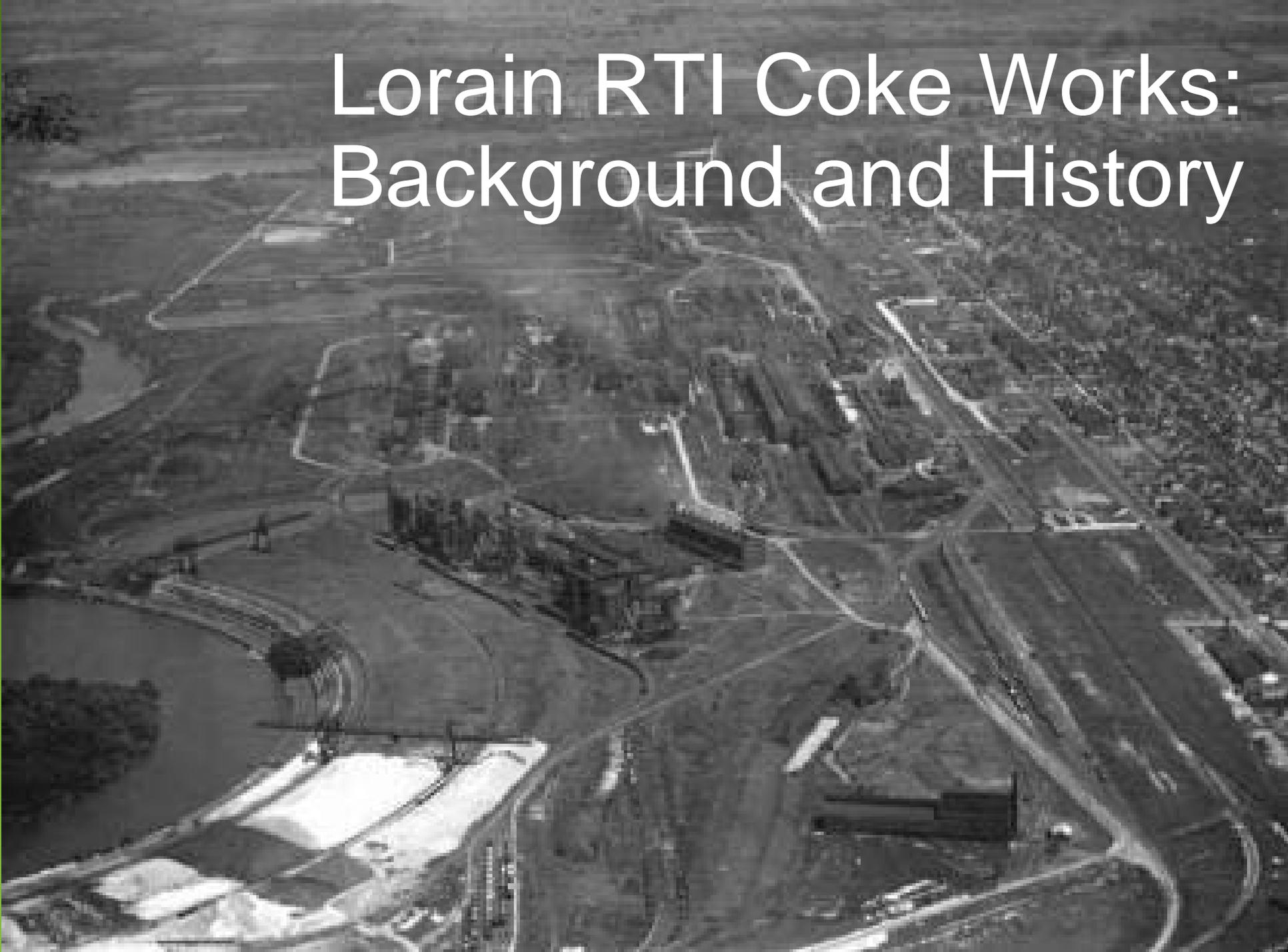
- Corey Timko, City of Lorain
- Heather Dardinger, ARCADIS U.S., Inc.
- Jo Ann Banda, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Sarah Opfer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Agenda:

- Overview of the Lorain RTI Coke Works Site
- Project Highlights and Funding Mechanisms
- Black River Restoration and Funding Opportunities via USFWS
- Brownfield Restoration Funding via NOAA

Lorain RTI Coke Works: Background and History





RTI Coke Works

- 300-acre industrial property with history dating back to 1895
- Former iron and steel making operations, owned by U.S. Steel, USS/KOBE Steel, and Republic Technologies International (RTI)
- City purchased the property in 2008
- Property comprises a significant portion of the City's land mass
- Part of aggressive strategy to reclaim the City's waterfront



Lower Black River, RM 0-6



2010 Aerial Photograph



Black River Watershed:

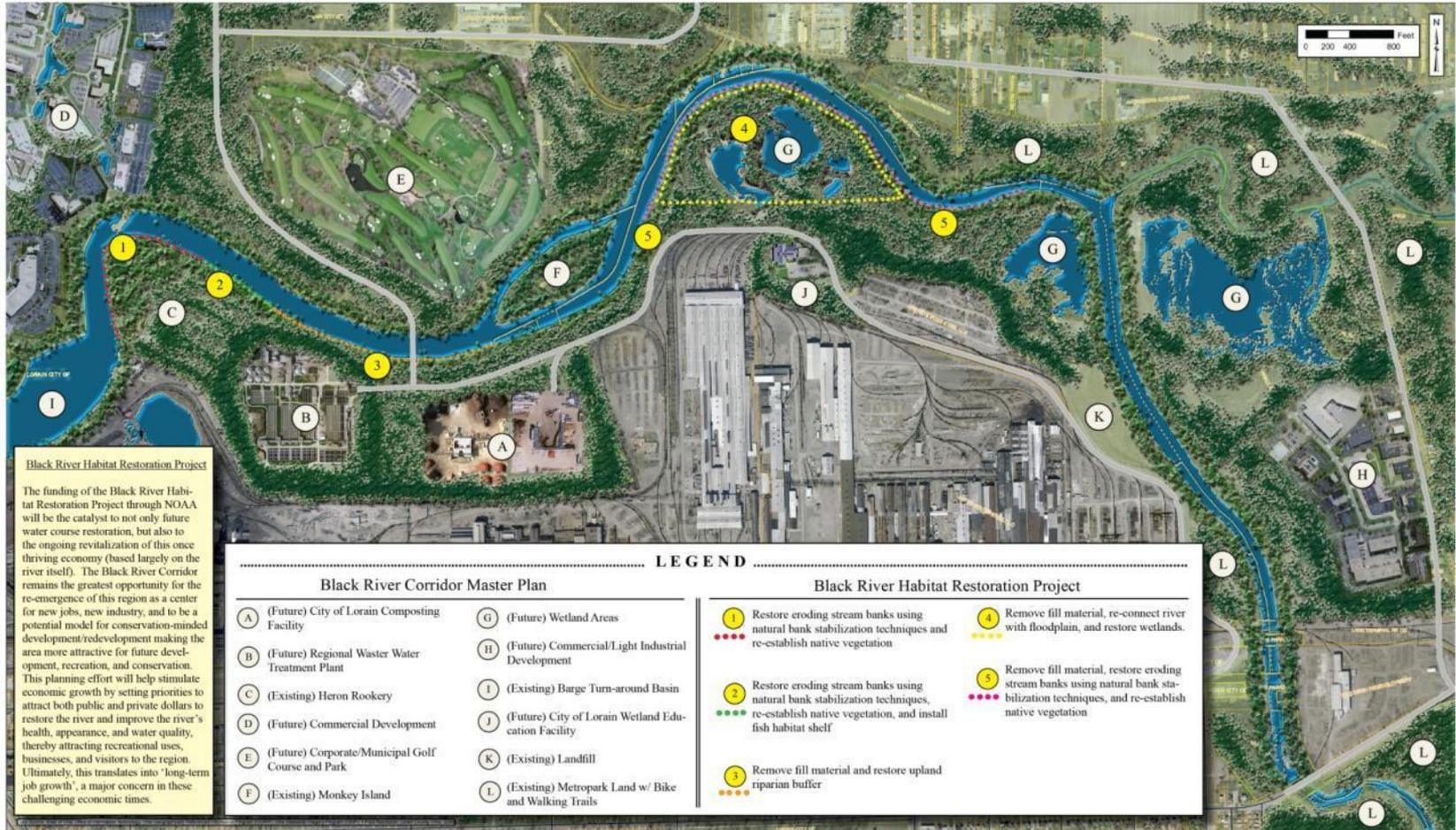
- Federally designated Area of Concern (AOC)
- Contaminated sediments dredged from the river in 1989-1990
- No Contact Order, established in 1983, was lifted in 2004
- Fish Tumor and Other Deformities Beneficial Use Impairment was re-designated from “Impaired” to “In Recovery” in 2004



City's Vision:

- Black River considered the “crown jewel” of Lorain, one that needs some polishing
- The river is the City’s greatest strength and is key for much needed economic reinvention
- Manufacturing, while still an important part of Lorain, has constricted
- City realizes need to foster growth in tourism, hospitality and other sectors
- Goal is to make Lorain a “destination” on Lake Erie

Black River Corridor Master Plan





Approach:

- Secure ownership of the property after conducting due diligence.
- Engage state and federal agencies for buy in and assistance with long term vision
- Break site down into smaller projects in order to pursue grant funding where available
- Draw upon support of local partners (Lorain Port Authority, Lorain County Metro Parks) and expertise of strong technical team

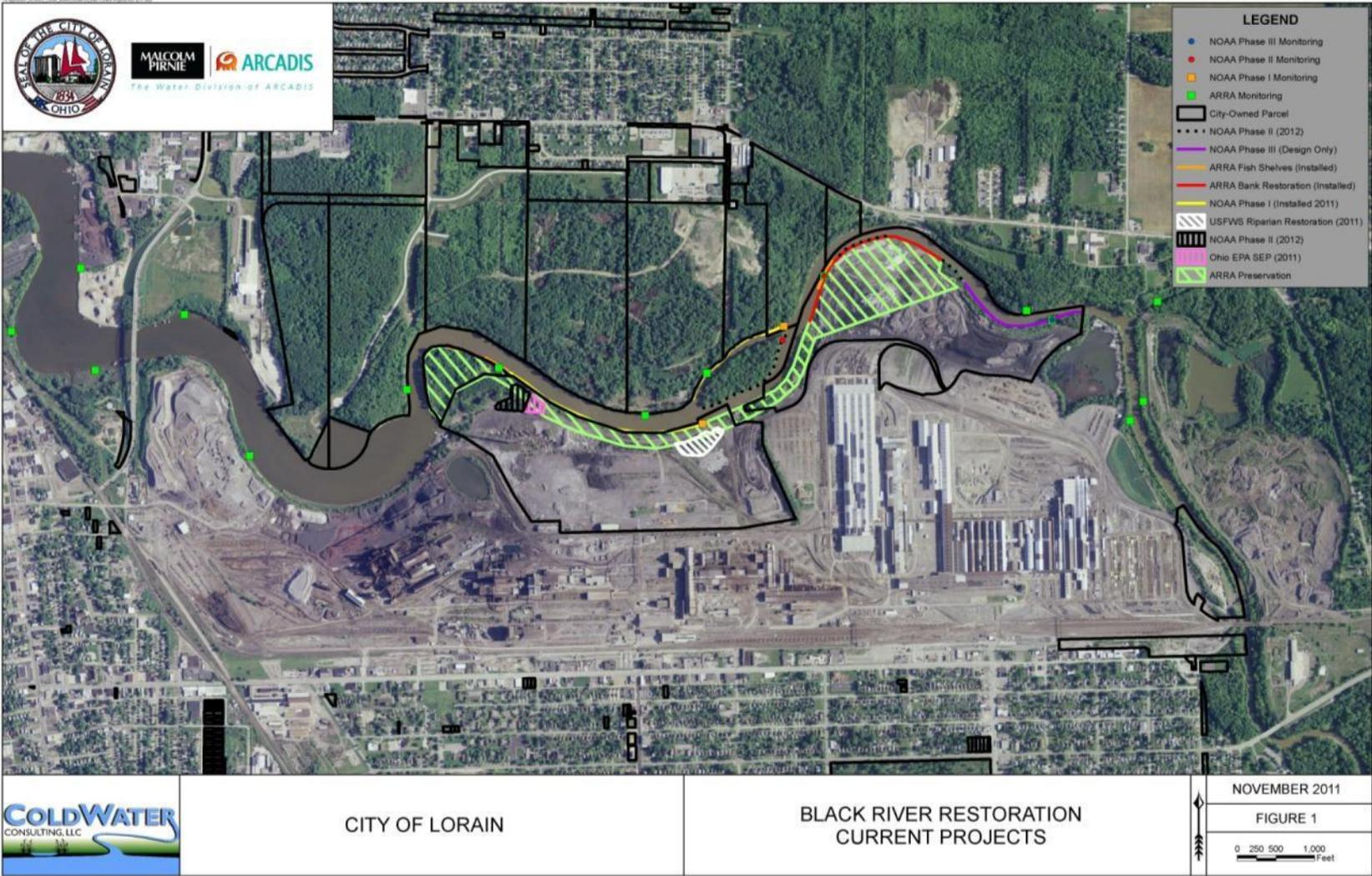
Project Highlights and Funding Mechanisms



Projects in Brief:

Program	Year	Project	Funding
Clean Ohio	2007	RTI Coke Works Phase II Assessment	\$254,240
USEPA Brownfields	2007	RTI Coke Works Phase II Assessment	\$379,450
WPCLF-ARRA	2010	Black River Restoration Project	\$6,300,000
NOAA GLHRP	2010	Black River Fish Habitat Restoration	\$1,697,800
Clean Ohio	2011	RTI Coke Works Redevelopment Project	\$1,030,110
USFWS	2011	Disposal of Legacy Contaminants and Riparian Restoration	\$339,900
Ohio EPA SEP	2011	Black River Riparian Restoration	\$101,870
NOAA GLHRP	2011	Black River Habitat Restoration Phase II	\$1,089,750
NOAA GLHRP	2011	Black River Habitat Restoration Phase III Design	\$350,000
			\$11.54M

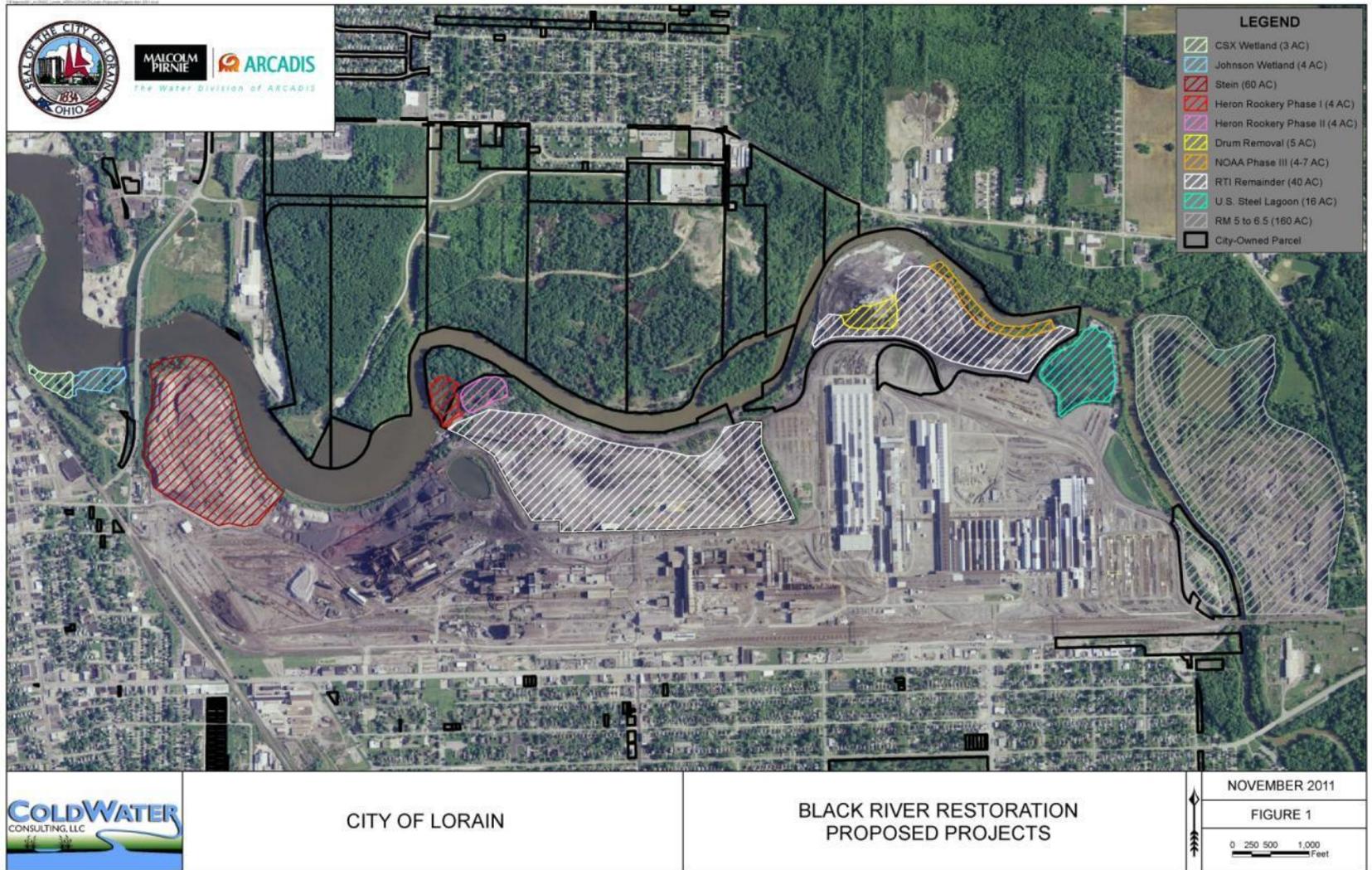
Current Grant-Funded Projects



MALCOLM PIRNIE
The Water Division of **ARCADIS**



Proposed Projects



“Brown” Grant Funding

- Ohio EPA TBA Phase I Assessment
 - Phase I for 270-acre RTI property completed in 2005 by Tetra Tech prior to City purchase
- Clean Ohio Assistance Fund Phase II Assessment
 - Phase II of area slated for new WWTP completed by Malcolm Pirnie in June 2008
- U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment
 - Phase I PA Update, Supplemental Phase II PA, Risk Assessment and Remedial Action Plan completed by Malcolm Pirnie in July 2010
 - Utilized as prerequisites and match for CORF funding

“Brown” Grant Funding

- Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Remediation Project
 - 30-acre parcel slated for new WWTP
 - USEPA grant leveraged as match
 - Will address two areas of soil contamination, demolish below-grade building slabs and remove rail lines



“Green” Grant Funding

- Black River Restoration ARRA Project
 - “Stimulus” funding awarded via Ohio EPA WPCLF
 - Removal of over 1 million cubic yards of “slag”
 - Restored 23 acres of floodplain wetland habitat
 - 52 acres of riparian preserved, including a heron rookery
 - 600 feet of fish habit shelves built



“Green” Grant Funding



Floodplain Restoration Pre-Construction (March 2010)

“Green” Grant Funding



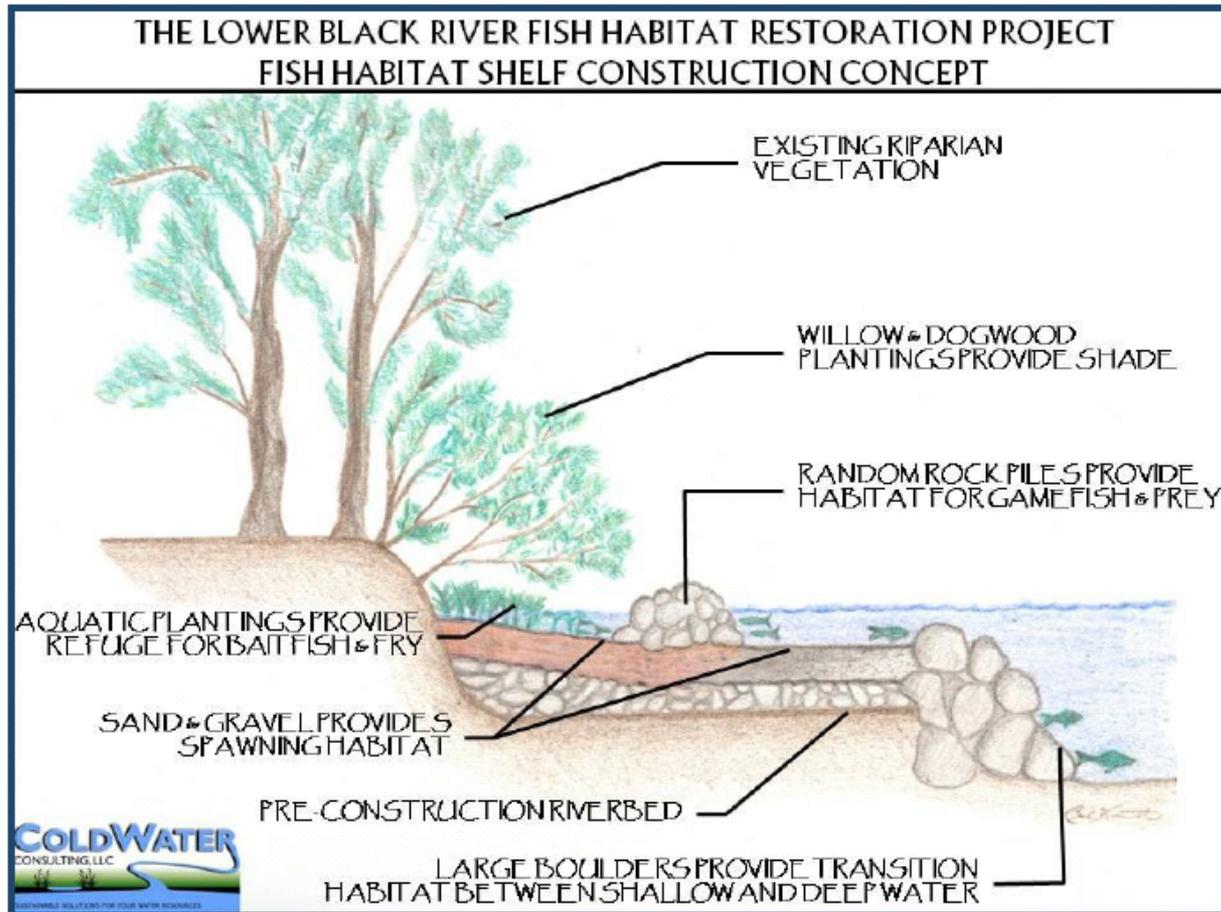
Floodplain Restoration Post-Construction (Sept 2011)

“Green” Grant Funding

- NOAA Black River Habitat Restoration Phases I, II and III
 - Grant funding awarded from the NOAA Great Lakes Habitat Restoration Program under GLRI
 - Nearly 6,000 feet of fish habitat shelves constructed under Phase I and II
 - Associated stream bank stabilization, riparian restoration and invasive species control



“Green” Grant Funding



“Green” Grant Funding



“Green” Grant Funding

- Ohio EPA SEP Black River Riparian Restoration Project
- USFWS Disposal of Legacy Contaminants and Riparian Restoration





Lessons Learned:

- Brownfields provide opportunity for open space and natural habitat, as well as new development
- Coupling “brown” funding with “green” funding is key...must be creative in order to overcome the financial realities of brownfield remediation and reuse
- Chase whatever opportunities are available and be persistent; may take several rounds to secure a grant
- Success begets success

Black River Kayak-a-Thon

- 2nd Annual Black River Kayak-a-Thon will be held June 23, 2012 in Lorain
- Visit website for more information





The Lower Black River Restoration Website

LORAIN, OHIO



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www.lorainblackriver.com