

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program

Habitat Restoration Funded with Hi View Terrace Superfund Site Settlement

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), along with other Federal and State agencies and Indian Nations, are Trustees of natural resources and are authorized by Superfund legislation to restore natural resources that have been harmed by the release of hazardous substances, such as organic chemicals and metals. The USFWS settled natural resource damage claims related to the Hi View Terrace Superfund Site. A total of \$25,000 was negotiated for natural resource restoration. The Project completed and described in this fact sheet is the acquisition and preservation of wetland habitat in the Town of West Seneca, New York.

Natural Resources and Impacts to those Resources

Prior to placement of cyanide-contaminated fill on the Hi View Terrace property, it contained a wetland swale. Cazenovia Creek, which borders the Hi View Terrace Superfund Site (Site) and flows to Lake Erie, is located at the foot of a steep cliff. Avian wildlife using the Site include migratory songbirds. Waterfowl and wading birds may be found resting and feeding in Cazenovia Creek next to the Site. Approximately 0.5 acre of wetland was lost due to contaminated fill placement, reducing the quantity and quality of wetlands available for wildlife.



Cazenovia Creek, Photo credit: USFWS

The Oxbow Property Western Arm expands the area protected to about 28 acres. The wildlife habitat of the Oxbow Property Western Arm will be restored and enhanced by the Town for protection of wildlife and their habitat, for low impact outdoor recreation and nature observation, and study consistent with habitat protection.

Wetland Acquisition and Preservation

The property known as the Oxbow Property Western Arm, on Buffalo Creek, in the Town of West Seneca, was acquired for preservation and enhancement. The approximately 15-acre property is adjacent to a 14-acre parcel of this oxbow wetland that was acquired by the Town in 2010.



Oxbow Wetland, Buffalo Creek



Oxbow Wetland, Buffalo Creek



Contact Information:

Amy Roe
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
3817 Luker Road, Cortland, New York 13045
amy_roe@fws.gov

