

Onondaga Lake NRD Restoration Projects

January 2021 Update



Southwest Shore Trail



Meeting Agenda

January 15, 2021



- Welcome and Introductions
- Status of Projects Underway or Recently Completed
 - Trails, Hudson Farms and NMC Corridor Enhancements, Maple Bay In-Lake Plantings, SCA and C&D Grasslands
- Upcoming Projects
 - Fishing Pier, Outlet Jetty Enhancement Project, Maple Bay and NW Shore Habitat Enhancements
- Additional Project Updates and New Project Solicitation
 - Property Stewardship
 - Invasive Species Plan
 - 2019 Trustee Sponsored Natural Resource Restoration Projects
 - New and Ongoing Biannual Request for Proposals
- Wrap-up and Next Meeting

- Complete
- Scheduled



ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE



In-Lake Structures
 Native Grassland SCA
 Tully Streambank
 Wetland Conservation
 River Boat Launch
 Boat Launch Amenities
 SW Shore Trail
 SW Shore Angler Access
 Erie Canal Trail

Completed

COVID Schedule Impacts

- Fishing pier
- Outlet jetty
- Hudson Farms and Ninemile Creek deer fence

Fishing Pier

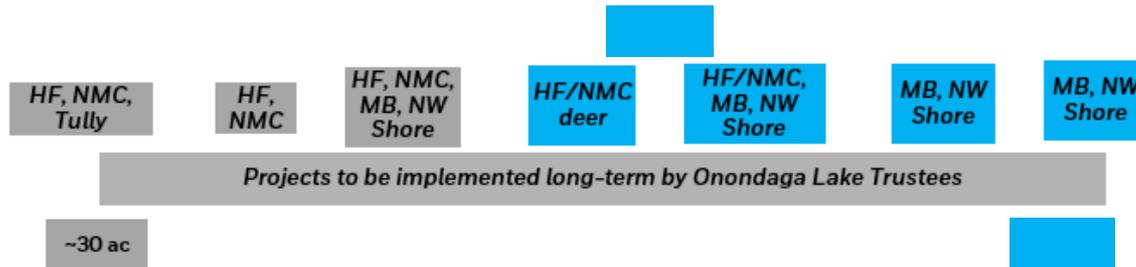
Habitat Enhancements

Invasive Species Control

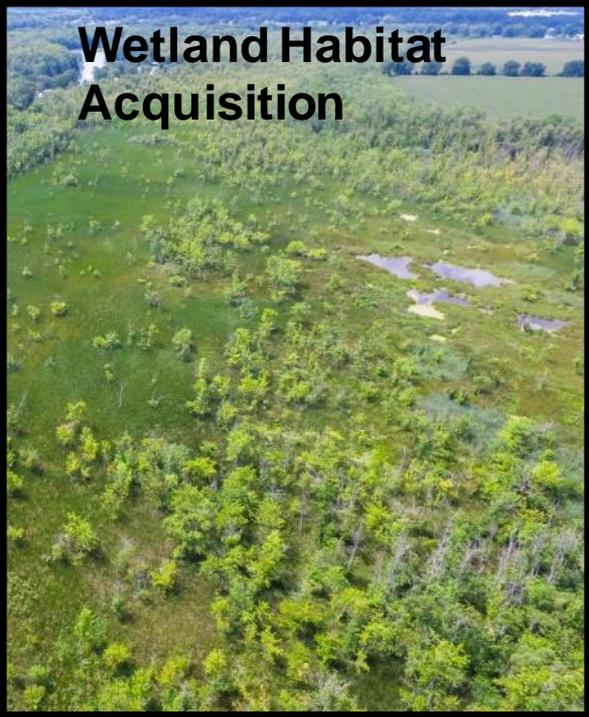
Native Grassland C&D

Outlet Jetty Improvements

Angler Parking Areas



Completed Projects



Erie Canal Trail

Open for public use



Erie Canal Trail - Parking



- Parking area construction to start soon



Southwest Shore Trail and Angler Access

Open for public use



- Trail
- Parking area
- Road improvements
- County trail (complete)



Hudson Farms and Ninemile Creek Corridor



- **Wetland Enhancements**
 - Invasive controls appear effective
 - Final treatments in 2021 followed by native seeding
- **Upland and Floodplain Invasive Species Control**
 - Treatment of buckthorn seedlings completed in spring and fall
 - Area of multiflora rose also ID'd and treated
 - “Touch-up” treatments possible in spring 2021
 - Deer fence to be installed spring 2021
 - Native seeding in 2021
 - Treatments follow NYSDEC regulations



Performance Verification Monitoring (PVM): Maple Bay In-Lake



- Year 2 of 5
- Survival of plantings appears excellent
- Shoreline Phragmites control is the last implementation task

Shoreline plantings



White water lily plantings and wild rice



PVM: C&D Grasslands



- Year 1 of 5
- Some sparse areas (lack of precipitation) re-seeded with cover crop while native vegetation establish



PVM: SCA Grasslands



- PVM Year 3 of 5
- Excellent outlook for meeting year 5 performance criteria



July 2020

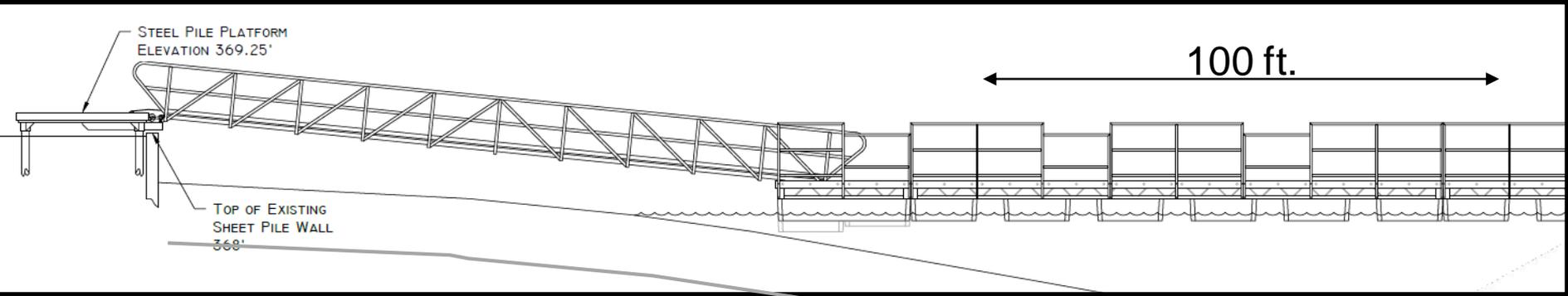
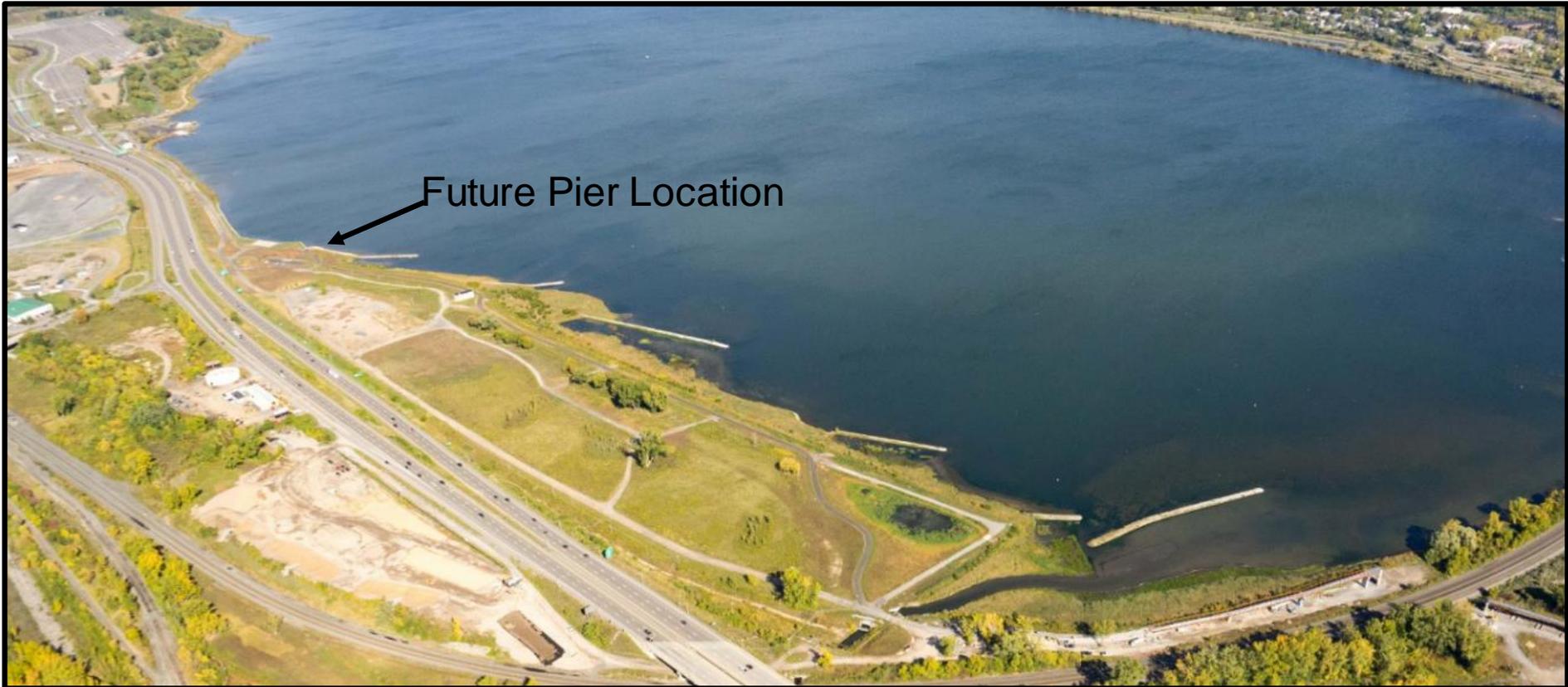


PVM: Tully Streambank

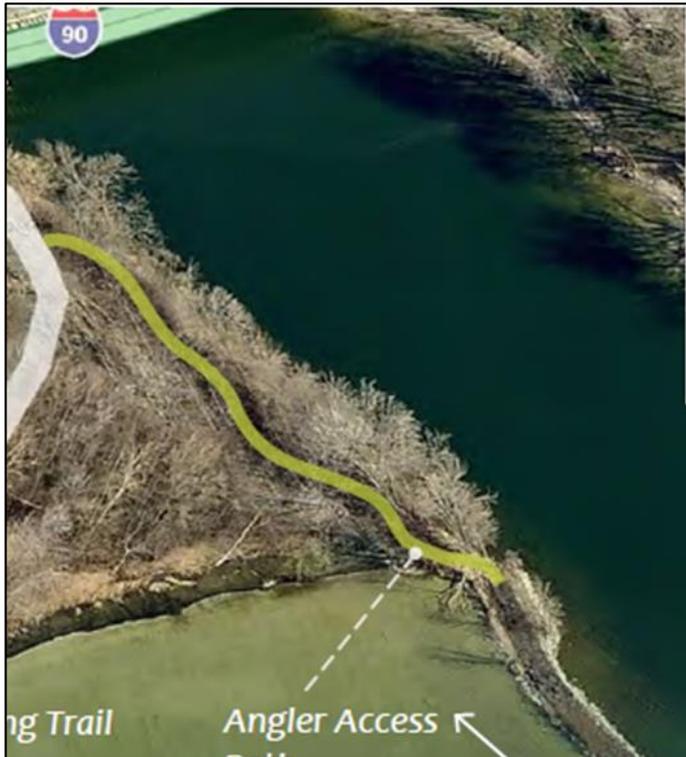
- PVM Year 1 of 5
- Initial survival appears high



Southwest Shore Fishing Pier



Outlet Jetty Enhancements



Stewardship Properties Update



- Honeywell purchased properties for habitat conservation purposes
- Trustees requested proposals from qualified organizations to take ownership of these properties and manage them for conservation purposes

- Wetland Conservation Area 2
The Nature Conservancy

- Wetland Conservation Area 1,
Hudson Farms, and Ninemile
Creek
The Wetland Trust

- Onondaga Lake Visitor Center
and North/South Tully
NYSDEC



2019 Trustee Sponsored Natural Resource Restoration Projects



*Proposed projects must **restore, replace, rehabilitate or acquire the equivalent** of natural resources injured by mercury and other hazardous substances*

24 Project Proposals Received (April 10-July 31, 2019)

7 Proposals met the Proposal Criteria (September 2019)

1 Revised Proposal (April 2020)

Sponsored by Trustees: Approximately \$3.4 million

2019 Trustee Sponsored Natural Resource Restoration Projects



Update on Sponsored Proposals: **Approximately \$3.4 million**

- Otisco Lake Shoreline Protection (Finger Lakes Land Trust) – ***acquisition complete***
- Onondaga Creek Greenway (City of Syracuse) – ***Spring 2021 start***
- Onondaga Creek Canoe/Kayak Launch (City of Syracuse) – ***Spring 2021 start***
- Erie Canal Tree Planting (Village of Solvay) – ***Spring 2021 Start***
- Boat Launch Restrooms (NYSDEC) – ***Spring 2021 start***
- Common Tern Rafts (Riveredge Associates)
- Amboy Dam Removal (NYSDEC & USFWS)
- ***NEW: Wetland and Forest Protection (217 acres) and Restoration within Onondaga Lake Basin (The Wetland Trust) – acquisition underway***

Project Proposals Not Sponsored



- Outside of Onondaga Lake Watershed
- Did not result in project that would be sufficiently available to the public
- Project objectives not restoration specific (objectives may have been research or staff based)
- Project did not restore resources or resource uses injured by hazardous substances
- Cost effectiveness not demonstrated
- Technical feasibility not demonstrated

New and Ongoing Biannual Request for Proposals



Two-Step Process

<https://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/ec/onondaga.htm>

Step 1

Submit a completed Onondaga Lake NRDAR Project Concept Proposal to: Amy Roe and Jared Reed. **Concept Proposals are accepted throughout the year.**

Step 2

Applicants that receive Trustee approval of Onondaga Lake NRDAR Concept Proposals are eligible to submit a full Onondaga Lake NRDAR Proposal by the biannual deadlines of **March 1 and September 1 of each calendar year** to: Amy Roe and Jared Reed.

New and Ongoing Biannual Request for Proposals



fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/ec/onondaga.htm



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

New York Field Office

Northeast Region

Search

Monday,
December 21, 2020

- Home
- Endangered Species
- Conservation Planning Assistance
- Environmental Quality
- Partners for Fish & Wildlife
- Contact Information and Directions
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Fish Enhancement, Mitigation & Research Fund
- Upper Susquehanna Conservation Alliance
- Newsroom

Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damage Assessment

In March 2018, the United States Department of the Interior, acting through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the State of New York, acting through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), together the Trustees, settled a natural resource damage claim with the Responsible Parties, Honeywell International Inc. and Onondaga County, New York, for the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site in Onondaga County, New York.

The "March 2018 Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damage Consent Decree" outlines specific restoration projects currently underway and includes additional funding for Trustee sponsored natural resource restoration projects. Specifically, this funding "shall be applied toward the costs of restoration, rehabilitation, or replacement of injured natural resources, and/or acquisition of equivalent resources, including, but not limited to, any administrative, legal, oversight and maintenance costs, and expenses necessary for, and incidental to, restoration, rehabilitation, replacement and/or acquisition of equivalent resources."

How to Submit a Funding Proposal to the Trustees

There is a two-step process to submit a funding proposal for natural resource restoration projects consistent with the 2017 Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damage Assessment Restoration (NRDAR) Plan and Environmental Assessment and the 2018 Onondaga Lake Natural Resource Damage Consent Decree.

Step 1

Submit a completed Onondaga Lake NRDAR Project Concept Proposal to: Amy Roe at amy_roe@fws.gov and Jared Reed at jared.reed@dec.ny.gov **Concept Proposals are accepted throughout the year.** The Trustees will endeavor to make Concept Proposal decisions within 30 days from receipt of Concept Proposals.

- [Onondaga_Lake_NRDAR_Project_Concept_Instructions_11-2020.pdf](#)

Step 2

Applicants that receive Trustee approval of Onondaga Lake NRDAR Concept Proposals are eligible to submit a full Onondaga Lake NRDAR Proposal by the biannual deadlines of **March 1 and September 1 of each Calendar Year**: to Amy Roe at amy_roe@fws.gov and Jared Reed at jared.reed@dec.ny.gov. Funding decisions will be made by April 30 and October 31 of each Calendar Year.

- [Onondaga_Lake_NRDAR_Proposal_Project NarrativeMapBudget_Instructions_11-2020.pdf](#)

Onondaga Lake NRDAR Consent Decree

Environmental Quality

Natural Resource
Damage Assessment

Great Lakes
Restoration Initiative

Oil Spill Response

Refuge Support

Special Projects

Wrap-Up and Next Meeting

Email additional input to:

- Amy Roe: amy_roe@fws.gov
- Jared Reed: jared.reed@dec.ny.gov