

# TMACOG WOLF CREEK COMMITTEE

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Date: October 23, 2009 ..... Place: UT Lake Erie Center  
Present: Roster attached

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## **Approval of Minutes and Agenda**

A quorum was present. Daryl Dwyer moved approval of minutes and agenda; Alan Ruffell seconded. Motion carried.

## **UT Lake Erie Center Research**

Pam Struffolino outlined current research at and near the park. It includes water samples from Wolf and Berger twice daily; new stream gauges are not installed yet: there will be one on each stream, and will be used for two years. They will help measure flow from the seiche. It does not appear that the seiche goes as far upstream as Seaman.

In addition to stream samples, Lake Erie Center is testing beach water 4 days/week for E. coli, phosphorus, Total Suspended Solids, and turbidity. Bacteria numbers are generally different than ODH's results. ODH samples one of the four coves; Lake Erie Center tests three. ODH's samples are in the afternoon, while Lake Erie Center's are in the morning (before 9:00). There are significant differences among the coves, with #2 tending highest; which one has the highest bacteria numbers depends on wind direction and other environmental variables. Lake Erie Center is working with USGS on a predictive model for bacteria.

There are also three well nests (two at each location), which measure water table to determine whether there is a relation between the stream flow and groundwater.

Paul Roman said Oregon has a full survey of Wolf Creek, all the way to the lake, and a hydraulic model prepared by Jones & Henry. The flow data will be useful for the model.

## **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative**

Kurt Erichsen reported that RFPs have not been released yet: US EPA missed its November 1 target for releasing them; no news on a new date, but it's still anticipated that when RFPs do come out, the time frame will be short. Kurt noted that funding is proposed for 60 programs from 16 federal agencies. Grants will be targeted for very specific activities to restore water quality. Paul asked whether these are stimulus funds, and projects had to be "shovel ready." Kurt replied that this is not ARRA; the criteria are water quality improvement, not jobs or readiness to proceed.

## **Wolf Creek Riparian Corridor**

Paul Roman reported that the City of Oregon had received its contract with ODNR; he is getting quotes for appraisals and survey work. He discussed possible approaches to the Wolf Creek / Corduroy Rd property; he is considering making an offer for land on the east side of the creek, rather than the same riparian corridor widths on both sides. This approach may allay landowner concerns, and would still offer 4.5 acres of riparian corridor. The area could be designed as an overwide stream channel/floodplain with "benches"

at several levels. This upstream corridor would be used for sediment trapping, to protect a planned wetland at Maumee Bay State Park. The upstream corridor area would be accessible from Corduroy Road for sediment removal. Presently, this land is being farmed. In order to accomplish sediment removal, the Wolf/Corduroy project may require a flow control structure. Paul also discussed the proposed 1.0 acre acquisition at Wolf Creek / North Curtice Road. This acquisition may be complicated by its being in Jerusalem Township.

## **Wolf Creek Restoration Plan**

Kurt Erichsen outlined TMACOG's roles in the project. It includes preparation of a riparian corridor restoration plan for the acquired properties, and a public meeting when that plan is in draft. He suggested a number of potential plan elements:

- Funding sources: grants and match
- Layout: general configuration of restoration on acquired property
- Stormwater retention volume provided
- Ecological design: plants, erosion protection
- Permits required
- Construction costs
- Maintenance requirements and costs

In discussion other elements were suggested:

- Flow control structure
- Sedimentation rates

Paul suggested that it show a proposed footprint for the downstream wetland in the park. From the city water plant to the marina, there is only about 6" of fall; there is generally greater fall to northeast. Daryl noted that he was currently developing three different concepts for a park wetland footprint.

Kurt discussed potential funding: beyond GLRI, EPA §319 may be a possibility. Whatever the source of grant funding, substantial match will be required. The restoration plan should identify this with specifics if possible. The most likely sources would be Oregon, UT and ODNR. He said he expected cash to be in short supply, so match will probably need to be in-kind services.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Friday January 22nd at 10 AM at the UT Lake Erie Center.

Daryl Dwyer offered a presentation for the next meeting on several research projects Lake Erie Center is conducting in the park area, to give committee members a current overview of goals.

Adjourned.