

## **Pig's Eye Dump Task Force**

### **Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6**

**Monday, September 23, 2024**

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Main Level Room 100 - MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

- 1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (2:00 p.m.)**
- 2. Re-cap last meeting (2:05 p.m.)**
- 3. Doyne Park guest speaker, Task Force and public questions (2:10 p.m.)**
- 4. Big Marsh guest speakers, Task Force and public questions (2:30 p.m.)**
- 5. Break (3:15 p.m.)**
  - MPCA state funding, Task Force and public questions (3:20 p.m.)**
- 6. Task Force discussion (3:40 p.m.)**
- 7. Adjourn (4:00 p.m.)**

## Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

### Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6

**Monday, September 23, 2024**

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Main Level Room 100 - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

#### Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Planning Assistant General Manager, Metropolitan Council
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South St. Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of St. Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, Ramsey County
- Dave Magnuson, Waste Regulation Supervisor, Dakota County
- Caleb Johnson, Environmental Program Manager, Washington County
- Nathan Wallerstedt, Project Management Branch Chief, Army Corps of Engineers - Saint Paul District
- Kirk Koudelka, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

#### Other Contributors

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Alexa Golemo, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates
- Ashley Thompson, Zan Associates

#### Presenters

- Hans Neve, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates

#### Guest Speakers

- Tony Giron, Doyne Park – Milwaukee County Parks
- Lauren Umek, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District
- Daniel Cooper, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District
- Luis Cabrales, Big Marsh - Chicago Park District

## **1. Welcome, introductions, agenda**

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the meeting, thanked everyone for being in attendance, introduced himself, and went over the agenda. Task force members and consultants followed by introducing themselves.

## **2. Re-cap last meeting**

Hans Neve (MPCA) provided a recap of the July Task Force meeting where they discussed six case studies and identified the two they would be learning more about during this meeting. He gave an overview of the five remedial options to keep in mind. Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) gave an overview of the community meeting, site tour, and stakeholder conversation that were held in September. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) mentioned that it was her first time at the site and that it was beautiful. David Bell (MDH) thanked Pig's Eye Park Friends for guiding the site tour and hearing their vision for the future. Aneesha highlighted some of the feedback themes the team heard from the community meetings including prioritizing ecological health of the area, increased accessibility, future generations, environmental justice, and preserving the history of the site. Aneesha highlighted the other engagement the team has been working on and asked for any recommended events. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) recommended an upcoming event in South St. Paul that the team could attend.

## **3. Doyne Park guest speaker, Task Force and public questions**

Tony Giron (Milwaukee County Parks) introduced himself as the Community Engagement Manager and shared that he would be providing information on the future of Doyne Park and their engagement efforts. Tony provided background on the history of Doyne Park where it was previously a dump site and how it developed into a park. Tony shared how they collected the public's input on the future of the site, how improvements were funded, and what was feasible at the site since it was previously a landfill. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked for clarification of why some were and were not interested in disc golf. Tony clarified that there was a strong interest in disc golf from some residents, but nearby neighbors felt that there were better uses. David Bell (MDH) asked if the site is ever saturated from the nearby location of the river. Tony shared that there is a wall that prevents saturation and flooding. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked what the long-term remediation is and how they know if it is working. Tony shared that there is a two-to-five-foot clay cap on top of the landfill and that they are starting to see erosion in some areas. Bill asked for the size of the site and if there was a cost for the usage plan. Tony shared that it is about 40-acres and that he was unsure of the cost. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked how they decided which neighbors to include when doing door-to-door engagement. Tony shared that it had to do with the size of the park and staff time. David asked if they noticed any attitudes changed when residents learned that the site was previously a landfill. Tony said that most people only knew the site as a park for most of their lives and were not very affected when learning about the history of it being a landfill. Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) asked for more detail on the methane management system on the site. Tony shared the location of venting pipes and a system that the pipes lead to. Caleb asked for clarification on the site ownership. Tony clarified that the City owned it and used it as a landfill and then passed ownership off to the County Park system. Victoria asked what type of waste was in the site and Tony shared that it was mainly wood, old appliances, and street sweepings. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) asked if there were any lessons learned or certain techniques that worked better than others for engagement. Tony shared that door-to-door was the best way to get authentic community feedback and that mailers have a poor success rate. Bill asked if there were specific answers they wanted answered when doing door-to-door engagement and Tony said it was very open-ended conversations about what they would like to see. David asked about cost, if the progress was

split into phases, and how they will be proceeding in the future. Tony shared that they are getting funding for specific parts of the project and will hopefully be starting those soon. A member of the public asked if any of the waste had been removed and what river protections are in place. Tony shared that no waste was removed and that the wall protects some of the river but there are some areas where the landfill is near the river. Caleb asked if they deal with seasonal flooding near the river and Tony said they do not. Victoria pointed out that it is helpful that they knew what waste was present when determining remediation. A member of the public asked if they have done any chemical or environmental sampling at their site. Tony responded that he is unsure on the details of if and what sampling has been done. A member clarified that this project looked more at how to reuse and restore the area and less about remediation and Tony confirmed.

#### **4. Big Marsh guest speakers, Task Force and public questions**

Aneesha introduced the Big Marsh guest speakers which included Daniel Cooper, Lauren Umek, and Luis Cooper from the Chicago Park District. Daniel provided background on how the Big Marsh site was previously an industrial dump and its eventual transition into park ownership who had the goal of creating a space for recreation and ecological improvements. Daniel shared that there were sensitive ecological areas that they did not want to destroy with traditional remediation, so they approached it by capping some areas and doing natural restoration in others. He shared that they developed a relationship with the bike company SRAM to create a bike park and gather funding. Lauren highlighted how they assessed the site to prioritize both recreation and restoration at the site by looking at potential habitat and where remediation was needed. Luis went over what types of recreation and events are currently occurring at big marsh, including a biodiversity festival, summer camps, and bike camps. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) asked if the site was landlocked and if it was challenging to access the site. Daniel clarified that there are roads that go along the site and they are looking into getting a bus route to increase accessibility. Hans Neve (MPCA) asked about what funding all went into the site and Dan shared that SRAM and REI were major contributors for the recreational features. Lauren added that there were also funding from a variety of grants and private donations depending on what improvements they went towards. David Bell (MDH) asked about the timeline of when they started to go after grants and how long it has taken to get to stages of development. Lauren shared that it happened in stages and they started seeking grants for restoration since 2014. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked if the water on site is connected to Lake Calumet and Tony answered that there is no recreation connection to Lake Calumet and that the site is more of a marsh. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if they have any concerns about the industrial sites surrounding the site and if it is factored in. Daniel shared that it is a concern, that they would like to connect to a nearby marsh in the future, and that they try to communicate to park patrons to stay off of nearby landfills and to stay within Big Marsh. David mentioned accessibility and what works best to garner interest from the community to visit the site. Luis mentioned that there are a lot of cool features at the site and events that keep people coming back. Dan added that it has slowly built over time but people continue to revisit. Bill Sumner (MPCA) asked if they deal with anyone who isn't respectful of the park and how they deal with that. Luis shared that most people who visit the park are visiting for the recreation and environmental opportunities but they work with their local police force if needed. Dan Scollan (DNR) asked what types of ecological restoration they have done at the site and if they have ran into issues with contaminants. Lauren shared that they have done invasive plant removal and seeding and that the native plants are affected by heavy metals. A member of the public asked how the aquifer is protected and Dan shared that it is a very industrial city and there is currently not any potable groundwater in Chicago but this site is better than most areas. A member of the public pointed out that this project looks at managing the land differently and incorporating environmental justice and the Big Marsh team agreed.

## 5. MPCA state funding, Task Force and public questions

Pam Anderson (MPCA) gave an overview of how polluted sites are typically funded and what funds Pig's Eye Dump has access to. Pam provided a couple examples of projects in Minnesota that were funded by different sources. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that part of the Task Force's goals is to brainstorm funding opportunities since one party won't be able to fund the remediation and restoration themselves. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that not much has been done here yet because of the lack of funding and that there would be support for gathering federal funding to support the Mississippi River. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked for clarification on if Pig's Eye Dump is eligible to some of the federal funds that the example projects used and Pam responded that they would not since a connection to the great lakes was required. Melanie asked Victoria if there are other federal sources that may be applicable. Victoria shared that it could have access to transportation funds since it is an important transportation route, possible funds for migratory birds, but they would need to tap multiple funds to make progress. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps) added that as a federal partner they do ecosystem restoration so it depends on the remediation because they need a clean site to do restoration on. He added that if there is beneficial use of materials on the site the Corps may have access to funds for that. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) added that the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) is a good example of gathering funding in unique way. A member of the public mentioned that GLRI has funded local projects in the area through the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.\* A member of the public asked if the 3M settlement funds can be used towards the Pig's Eye Dump and Kirk explained that it would likely not be applicable. Victoria asked if there were separate funds out there in the Metropolitan Abatement Fund or if they have been moved into the Environmental Fund to used more broadly. Kirk Koudelka explained that the 25% of the funds go into MLCAT and 75% go into efforts for recycling.

## 6. Task Force discussion

Hans Neve (MPCA) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting. Bill Sumner asked if either of the presidential candidates have mentioned environmental impacts and made any statements and Kirk Koudelka responded (MPCA) that they are not currently following any statements. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) pointed out that Big Marsh seemed like a more applicable example when comparing it to the Pig's Eye site and thanked both presenters. Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) asked if the lottery dollars could be accessed for this project and Pam Anderson (MPCA) said that remediation work is not eligible for those funds. Victoria Reinhardt (Ramsey County) added that the remediation might not apply but its possible restoration efforts may be applicable. A member of the public mentioned that she would like the Task Force to keep in mind who was responsible for putting the waste in the dumpsite. Victoria clarified that they don't know who put what in the site since it was an unregulated dump. A member of the public added that Big Marsh is an impressive example of turning the area into a public park. Victoria added that she will be at the next Task Force virtual meeting but will be retiring soon and still plans to stay engaged in the project.

## 7. Adjourn

Hans Neve (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.

*\* Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding is intended for projects that occur in the Great Lakes basin or for projects that benefit the Great Lakes basin. Historically, per EPA, some projects were funded outside of the basin to support prevention of AIS spread into the basin. For dollars related to remediation activities, they are tied specifically to an Area of Concern within the basin and would not be available for remediation work outside of the basin.*



## Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #6

September 23, 2024



# Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (2:00 p.m.)
2. Re-cap last meeting (2:05 p.m.)
3. Doyne Park guest speaker (Milwaukee, WI) , Task Force and public questions (2:10 p.m.)
4. Big Marsh guest speakers (Chicago, IL), Task Force and public questions (2:30 p.m.)
5. Break (3:15 p.m.)
6. MPCA state funding overview, Task Force and public questions (3:20 p.m.)
7. Task Force discussion (3:40 p.m.)
8. Adjourn (4:00 p.m.)



# Welcome and Introductions

- Consultant introductions
- Taskforce members to share:
  - Name
  - Title
  - Organization





# Recap from last Task Force meetings and engagement update

# July Meeting Recap

## Case Studies

- Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)
- Waste Disposal Engineering (WDE) Landfill (Andover, MN)
- Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)
- Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)
- Big Marsh Park (Chicago)



# March Meeting Recap

## Remedial Response Actions

Response Action Comparison	Option 1 (No Action)	Option 2 (Waste In-Place + GW Remedy)	Option 3 (Targeted Waste Removal + GW Remedy)	Option 4 (Total Excavation of Landfill/Waste Hauled offsite + GW Remedy)	Option 5 (Total Excavation of Landfill + Landfill Rebuild + GW Remedy)
Protection of Public Health	<div> <div>Lowest</div> <div></div> <div>Highest</div> </div>				
Cost (Construction Only)		\$	\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$
Long Term Effectiveness	▲	▲	■	●	●
Implementability	●	●	■	▲	▲
Short Term Risk (Construction)	●	●	■	▲	▲
Sustainability (Env/Social/Economic)	▲	■	■	■	●
Construction Timeline	●	●	■	▲	▲
Community Acceptance	??	??	??	??	??

 green
  yellow
  red



# Engagement Update



**9/10 Community Site Tour**



**9/12 Virtual Community Meeting**



**9/16 Conversation at Swede Hollow**

- 29 people attended participated representing various groups (community orgs, nonprofits, government, residents)
- Attendees shared their vision for the site and how to further community involvement



# Engagement Update

## What we heard

- Prioritize ecological health of the area
- Some increased accessibility/low intensity recreation
  - Signage, paths, etc.
- Clean up for future generations
- Opportunities for local youth to learn/participate in restoration
- History of the site
  - Dakota homeland
  - Dump history
- Environmental Justice for Eastside

9/23/2024



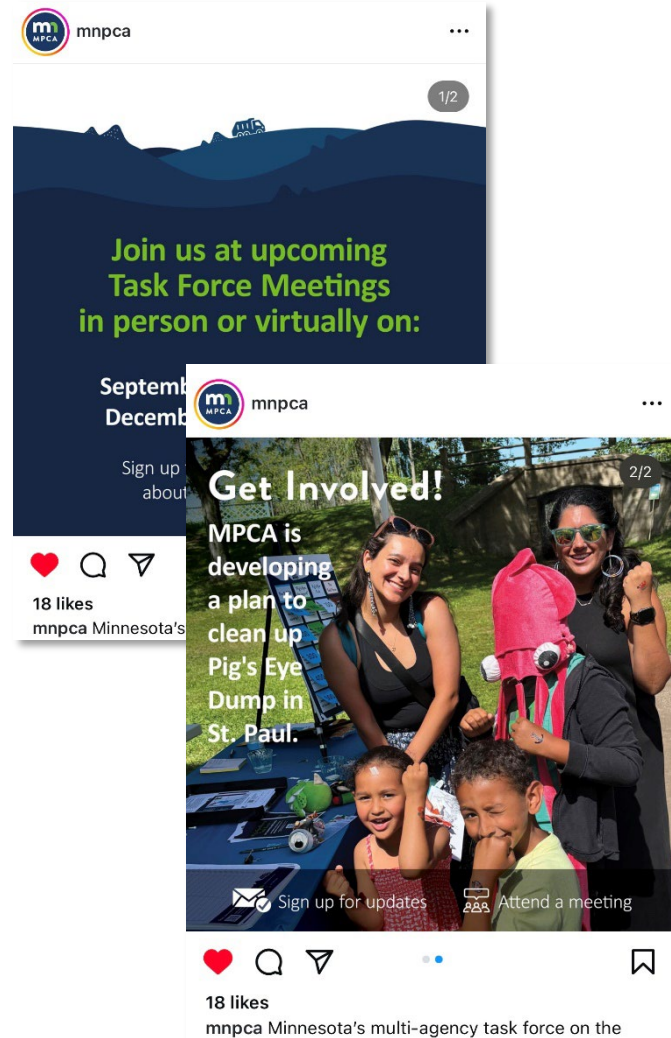
September 10 Community Tour



# FY 2025 Engagement Plan



8/11 – Wakan Tipi Pollinator Festival



- **Pop-ups** focused on Information Sharing with Trivia.
  - Art in the Hollow June 2024 – Completed
  - Pollinator Festival August 2024 – Completed
  - Location 3 TBD (Fall 2024)
  - Location ideas?
- New pop-ups and materials for summer 2025 on remediation/restoration options
- MPCA Social media
  - Reshares/reposts?

# Doyne Park Milwaukee, Wisconsin



# Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

**Site Name:** Doyne Park

**Owner:** City of Milwaukee

**Location:** Milwaukee, WI

**Remedial Action:** Manage in Place

**Year Completed:** Ongoing

**Cost:** Unknown

**Volume / Acreage:** 2.4 million CY / 60 acres



# Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

## Cleanup and Site Use

- Groundwater monitoring wells installed in 1990
- Clay cap (3 feet thick) identified in 1996
- Landfill gas migration control system installed in 1997-1998
  - 38 extraction wells, 25 monitoring points, and 3200 feet of pipe all below grade
- Golf course closed; currently soliciting public input for future use



Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project





# Big Marsh Chicago, Illinois









Railroad  
Marsh

Transfer Station  
& N-S Rail Yard

(↑North)  
Van Vlissingen

Big Marsh

Acme  
Steel  
Coke  
Plant

Lake Calumet

Paxton  
Landfill

Indian  
Ridge  
Marsh  
(CPD)

Google



# Initial Conditions



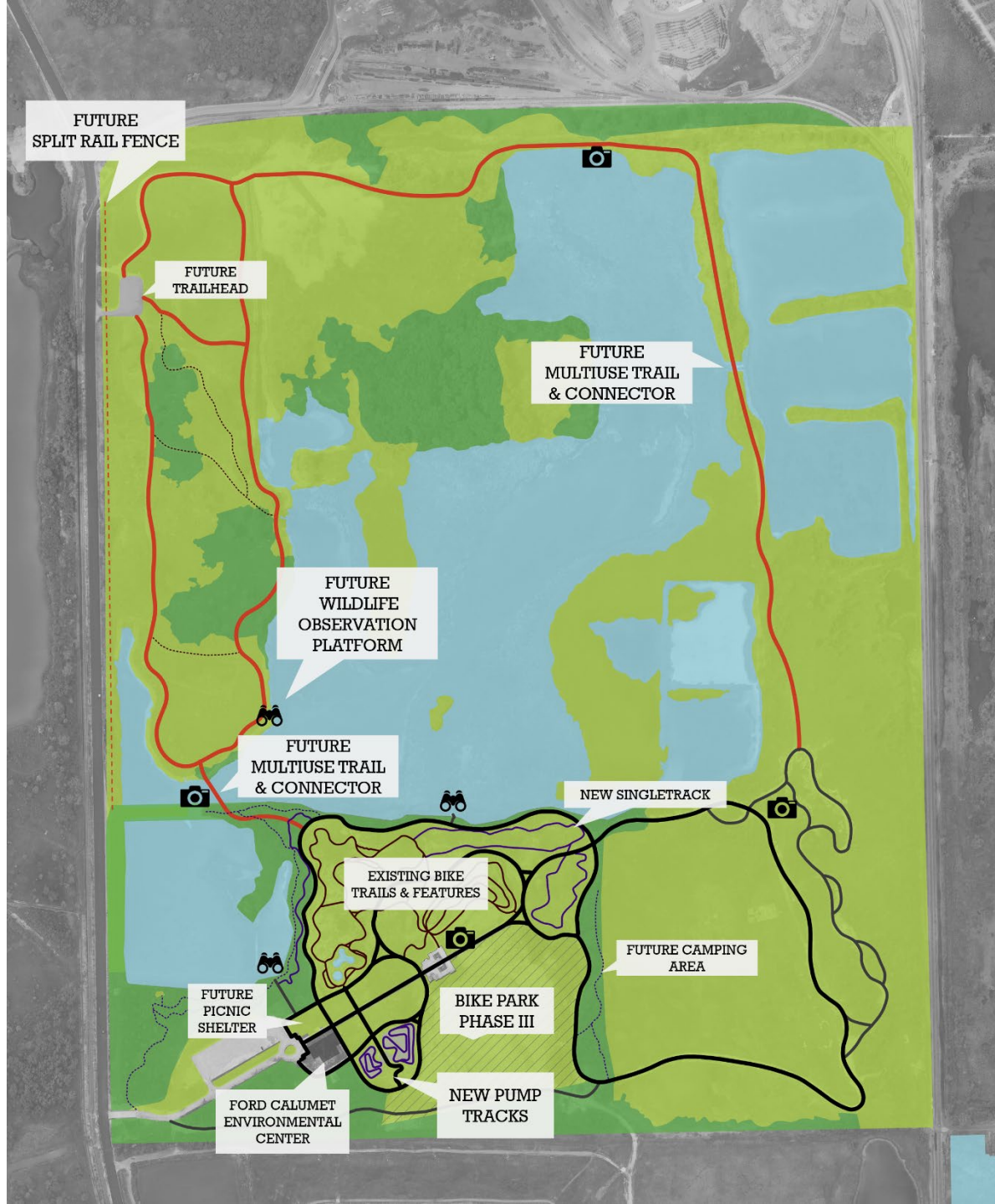
- 98 Acres Open Water
- 68 Acres Emergent Wetland (Phrag)
- 64 Acres Wooded Upland (Buckthorn & Cottonwoods)
- 49 Acres degraded wet meadow, wet meadow & Old Field
- 25 Acres Exposed Slag





Slag and Industrial Legacy





Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



5 Minute Break

# MPCA State Funding Overview

# Remediation and Funding

- Generally funded by a Responsible Party (RP)
- State led sites funded through our Remediation Fund (subset of the Environmental Fund)
- State led sites funded through bonding dollars (general obligation and appropriation bonds)
- Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Act – Fund established in 1984 to ensure that necessary and reasonable care would be adequately funded at mixed municipal solid waste disposal facilities in the 7-county metro area. Funded by a portion of the metropolitan solid waste landfill fee.



# Sources of Funding

- Great Lakes Legacy Act - The Great Lakes Legacy Act provides federal funding to accelerate contaminated sediment remediation in Great Lakes Areas of Concern. The Legacy Act was authorized in 2002 with the first appropriation in 2004. The Act was reauthorized in 2008.
- Site clean up and redevelopment funding through the Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Other sources

# Munger Landing

- 77-acre shallow sheltered bay
- Cadmium, copper lead, mercury, nickel, zinc and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls and dioxins/furans present in sediment



# Munger Landing

- Removed 107,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment and disposed it at an offsite landfill
- Placed 79,000 cubic yards of clean substrate over 38 acres
- Restored approximately 8 acres of aquatic habitat
- Restored MNDNR boat launch to modern standards
- Built a new, sandy kayak landing
- Additional Partners:
  - City of Duluth
  - Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Cost: \$42M
- GLLA: \$25M
- CWF: \$387K
- State Bond: \$2.1M
- Private Partner/Responsible Party: \$14M
- State of WI: \$355K

# Thompson Reservoir

- 330-acre hydroelectric reservoir near Scanlon
- Dioxins/furans are the primary contaminants





# Thompson Reservoir

- Remediate approximately 245,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments by adding activated carbon amendment
- Improve and expand parking lot serving the National Kayak & Canoe Center
- Includes additional partners
  - Minnesota Power
  - U of M Duluth Recreational Sports Outdoor Program
- Cost: \$34 M
- GLLA: \$23M
- CWF: \$420K
- State Bond: \$4M
- Private Partner/Responsible Party: \$6.7M

# Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



# Task Force Discussion





**m** MINNESOTA POLLUTION  
CONTROL AGENCY

Upcoming:  
Task Force Meeting #7  
December 6, 2024  
9:30-11:30 am (Virtual)



September 10 Community Tour

# Thank you!