



DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, REMEDIATION, and
RESTORATION PROGRAM (DARRP)



Habitat Restoration in the Lower Passaic River: Exploring the Challenges of Restoring Urban Environments

2nd Passaic River Symposium: Progress and Challenges

Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ

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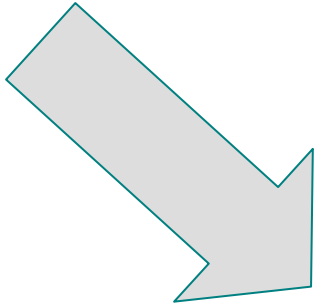
This presentation is designed to initiate a broader discussion on restoration options.

It is not intended to represent the views of any particular agency or person.

The Process and Players...

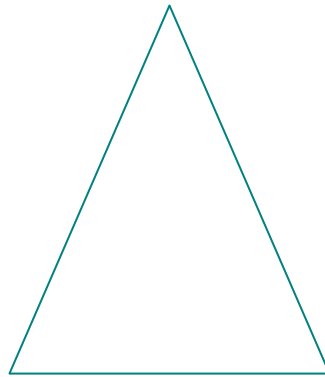
Release(s)

(PRPs, other releases)



Response

(RI/FS by response agencies,
e.g., EPA)



NRDA Restoration

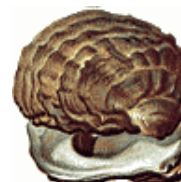
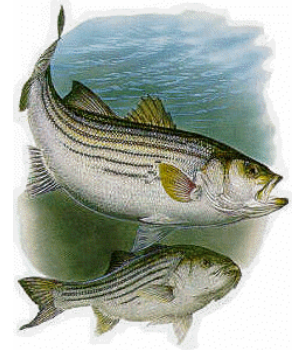
(Trustees, e.g., NOAA, DOI,
NJDEP)

WRDA Restoration

(Other Agencies, e.g., ACOE, NJDOT)

Affected Resources and Services in the Passaic River/Newark Bay

- Recreational Fishing (dioxins, PCB)
- Ecological Health
- Surface Water & Sediment
- Groundwater



Current Uses of the River/Bay

Habitat



Development



The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark

Recreation



Waste Disposal



Restoration Should (Ideally) be Implemented Where/When...

- **Likelihood of Success is Greater, in general** (success can be enhanced through remediation)
- **Greater Benefit to the Resource and the Public** (site may provide the most services)
- **Limits Exposure** (ecological and human health)



- **Compensates the Public ASAP** (including offsite if necessary)

Restoration Options

Restoration NOW

- Public interest, perhaps due to opportunities dwindling, cost of real estate increasing, etc.
- Potential for early settlements
- Will enhance stewardship given public interest to act NOW
- Precedent exists for restoring in urban areas, e.g., Arthur Kill, Bronx
- Remedial timeline and extent uncertain

Restoration LATER

- Ability to address on-going contaminant sources
- Remediation needed to reduce risk
- Restoration after remediation may present more options – cleaner resources and enhanced services

Restoration Options

IN THE 17 mi. LOWER RIVER

- Public interest
- Contaminated habitat better than no habitat, ancillary benefits: erosion, flooding, TSS, stewardship, etc.
- Restoration could be linked with committed uses, e.g., based on management plans, etc.
- Need for a nexus

OUTSIDE

- Greater restoration potential, i.e., greater range/area of restoration possible – more distant from injury
- Still likely to benefit the River and the public
- Long-term benefits
- Conceivably could occur prior to the remedy

What would you advise?





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RESTORATION PROGRAM (DARRP)**

Information on NOAA's

Damage Assessment, Remediation, and Restoration Program

is available on our websites:

response.restoration.noaa.gov

www.darrp.noaa.gov

