MAHONING RIVER BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT UPDATE

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Prepared by United States Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District
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The overall classification of this brief is: UNCLASSIFIED
PURPOSE
To provide an update to the public regarding funding and future timelines with respect to the Mahoning River Basin Water Management Update.

To provide an opportunity for the public to express their interests and concerns as we undertake this update.

INTENT
To optimize the operations at our three flood risk management dams in the Mahoning River Basin to better balance the needs of the people who live in and visit this region.

AGENDA
7:00 p.m. Opening Remarks & Presentation
7:30 p.m. Discussion
8:30 p.m. Closing Comments
Upper Ohio River Basin
- 26,000 Square Miles In Five States
- 10 Significant River Systems
- 328 Miles Of Navigable Waterways
- 23 Navigation Locks & Dams
- 16 Multi-purpose Flood Risk Management Projects
- 80 Local Flood Risk Management Projects
- $13 Billion In Flood Damages Prevented (FY18 accumulative)
- 5.3 Million Recreation Visits Annually
- Serving 5.5 Million People in the basin
Mahoning River Basin

1,132 square miles

**Counties:** Ashtabula, Geauga, Trumbull, Portage, Mahoning, Stark, and Columbiana in Ohio, and Lawrence in Pennsylvania.

Pittsburgh District manages 37.7% of the Mahoning River Basin with its three multi-purpose reservoir projects

Mosquito Creek Dam: $23 million FY 2018
Michael J. Kirwan Dam: $76.9 million FY 2018
Berlin Dam: $218 million FY 2018
Berlin Reservoir Basin
249 square miles – 22% of the Mahoning Basin

Berlin Dam, completed 1943
- Flood Control
- Low-Flow Augmentation
- Water Quality
- Water Supply
- Fish and Wildlife Enhancement –
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act 1958 (PL 85-624)
- Recreation
  - Flood Control Act 1944 (PL 78-534)
Mosquito Creek Reservoir Basin | 97.4 square miles – 8.6% of Mahoning Basin

Mosquito Creek Dam, built 1944
- Flood Control
- Low-Flow Augmentation
- Water Quality
- Water Supply
- Fish and Wildlife enhancement
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act 1958 (PL 85-624)
- Recreation
  - Flood Control Act 1944 (PL 78-534)
M.J. Kirwan Reservoir Basin
80.5 square miles – 7% of the Mahoning Basin

Michael J. Kirwan Dam & Reservoir, built 1966

- Flood Control
- Low-Flow Augmentation
- Water Quality
- Water Supply
- Fish and Wildlife enhancement
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act 1958 (PL 85-624)
- Recreation
  - Flood Control Act 1944 (PL 78-534)
MAHONING RIVER BASIN
WATER CONTROL MANUAL UPDATES

Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations
• $1.05 million

Purpose
• Optimize reservoir operations
• Update and Optimize Gate Operations Current Conditions
• Balancing the Corps’ authorized project purposes

Timeframe 24 to 36 months
WHAT IS A WATER CONTROL MANUAL?

- Single Purpose Reservoirs
  - Standard Pool Elevation to Maximize its purpose
- Multi-Purpose Reservoirs
  - Multiple Pool Levels to create multiple pool levels
- Water Control Manual Dictates the Gate operations to reach the appropriate pool levels
- Based on
  - Design criteria of the dam (Purposes)
  - Climate & Weather Patterns
  - Run-off calculations
WATER CONTROL MANUAL UPDATE PROCESS

INPUTS: 12-18 MONTHS

- Hydraulic & Hydrology Modeling
- Water Quality Modeling
- Sedimentation Surveys
- Climate Change Impacts
- Changes in watershed characteristics
- Changes in development, industry, population and other demographics
- Engage users, stakeholders and partners

OUTPUTS: 12-18 MONTHS

- Updated Water Control Manuals
- Verification or Revision to Water Control Plans
- If proposed revisions are recommended, an environmental assessment is required by the National Environmental Policy Act
- Any revisions to the WCP’s shall not impact the authorized purposes of the projects
BASIN CONCERNS & INTERESTS

- Reducing the risk of flooding
- Sustaining water quality
- Enhancing aquatic ecosystems for fish and wildlife
- Mitigating harmful algae blooms
- Controlling invasive species
- Balancing recreational interests
- Removal of low-head dams
UPCOMING PROJECTS & EVENTS

- **Mosquito**
  - Mosquito 75th Anniversary Event – 15 June 2019
  - Harmful Algae Bloom Water Quality Testing
  - Invasive Species Management
  - Wildlife Population Surveys
  - Trumbull County Beekeepers Association Partnership
  - Mosquito Creek Waterways trail
  - Expansion of the Birdie Disc Golf Course
  - Stilling Basin Joint Sealing
  - Extended Upstream Rip-Rap to Dam Crest

- **Berlin**
  - Water Treatment System Repair
  - Sewer Line Repair at Campground
  - New Signs
  - Tree Pruning
  - Vegetation Management
  - Wildlife Population Surveys
  - Roofing and Flooring in Bathhouses/Restrooms

- **Mahoning River**
  - Low-head Dam Removal
  - Continuous Water Quality Testing

- **Michael J. Kirwan**
  - Emergency Action Plan Update
  - Control Tower Roof Repair
  - Electrical Service to Control Tower Replacement
  - Debris Clean out of Emergency Spillway
THE WAY FORWARD

- Public meetings in individual watersheds commencing this spring to gather input.

- Continued public and stakeholder engagement.

HOW TO ENGAGE

- Facebook: Pittsburgh District, Berlin, M.J. Kirwan, Mosquito Creek

- Phone: 412.395.7500/01/02

- Email: CELRP-PA@usace.army.mil

- Mailing List

- Public Meetings

- Comment Cards / Postal Mail

www.lrp.usace.army.mil
DISCUSSION

We are video recording tonight’s meeting.

Please come to one of the two microphone stations to ask a question.

Please ask one question and a follow up, if desired; then allow for another person’s turn.

Please keep your questions relevant to the Water Management Update and general topics.

Please fill out a comment card and hand to a Corps employee if you’d like us to read it.

Please leave the auditorium should you need to take a phone call.

Please be courteous to speakers.

Please keep side conversations to a minimum.