Black River RAP Meeting 4-11-2011, 1:30-4:30 PM Carlisle Visitor Center

- Attendees:
  - Ken Pearce
  - Ted Conlin
  - Kim Polin
  - Raymond Romero
  - Carl Schneider
  - Jennifer Wasilk
  - Frank Anscombe
  - Jim Boddy
  - Kristen Brandon
  - Cheryl Wolf-Craigen
  - Andy Vidra
- Welcome - Ken Pearce
  - Introductions from everybody
- New US EPA RAP Liaison Introduction - Ted Conlin
  - Introduction from Frank and situation with Anne Marie
    - Background in steel
    - Did drive around with Anne Marie to see area. Impressed with progress.
    - Not from regulatory office with EPA
      - Works in voluntary context
      - US Chlorine industry, previous voluntary work
      - Interested in learning and to see if he can contribute anything useful
- 2010 Annual Report Planning - LCGHD
  - Requests for content for 2010 annual report
    - Ken: Slag remediation
      - Went out to Lorain with Andy and was impressed with progress
      - Not a lot of people know about the progress
      - Would like to arrange for other people to come down and see it
      - Major piece of influence since dredging in 90's
    - Ken: Include article with people that are leaving and have been big within the RAP
- Future Studies Planned for the Black River AOC - Ted Conlin
  - See notes provided by Ted
    - Fish bugs and habitat
      - Deformities eroded fins and tumors
      - Most fish data is 14-19 years old, as with bug data
        - New regulation says we cannot use data over 10 years
      - Main Stem
      - East Branch
        - Old data, bugs have already been delisted
      - Upper East Branch
        - May have enough to delist
          - No data for bugs
        - Will be doing bacteria study
          - Hopeful to get some data to delist
            - Currently no data
        - Ken: Jim has some data, can work together
      - West Branch
        - Fish work done this summer
        - 5-15 year old data sets
        - Fish is 90% of what is required
        - Bugs, 19 year old data
      - French Creek
        - Old data
        - 97% of what is needed to delist
          - Rivermouth 6.9
            - Exceeds delisting criteria
            - Past it is 70%
      - GLRI Grant
        - Look at Bullhead tumors
      - Brentwood Lake
        - Dam is gone, so it is not a problem
      - Findlay Lake
        - Alum distribution
        - Flocculation
      - Plum Creek waste water treatment plant
        - Contesting NPDS Permit
        - TMDL written several years ago
          - Nutrient reduction
            - Address Phosphorous reduction
              - Increase Assimilation of stream is an option
              - Ask Cheryl if college would be interested in participating
                - Cheryl says it would be great
      - Federal Initiative
        - Provided boost
      - Kristen: RFP sent out for consultant services to complete watershed action plan
        - Received 3 proposals
          - Cold water consulting out of Columbus
            - Consulting with Chagrin with Christina Znidarsic
          - Tentative deadline of August
            - Contract is state endorsed
          - Will be done with 90% of work by mid to late June
            - Begin public meetings after this
              - Submit by July or August
- Stage 2 Report Update - Ted Conlin
  - Circulated Stage 2 and received comments
    - City of Lorain has projected some items that will be included
  - Ken: What is US EPA particularly looking for?
    - Ted: nothing in particular for the Black
      - For Ashtabula, delisting updates
      - For Black, whatever actions/projects/studies needed to delist
  - Frank: Those that have gotten attention from US EPA are those that have given clarification on delisting
    - Ken: takes longer with non-point source, long-term
    - Looking to wrap up on a few rivers (4 of them in particular), Ashtabula being one of them
  - If RAP is satisfied, will send out
    - Ken: Next 2-3 weeks give comments to Ted
      - All comments by April 29th
- Announcements
  - City of Elyria applied for 1/2 million dollar grant from GLRI to repair eroding river banks in Cascade park
    - Consult to work with RAP
  - Lorain applying for GLRI grants
    - Consultant unaware that if they wanted work done it needed to be in Stage 2 report
  - Kim to Andy: Tree planting
    - Spoke to Open Door, wanted to tie in to Elyria pride day
      - Mayor changed focus into something else
      - If we want to, don't tie it to Elyria pride day
      - Willow tree planting in April
        - Slight delay but starting to accelerate
        - Cleve. metroparks
          - Working with them to do willow planting
          - would like to take tour of places already planted
            - 1-2 weeks from now
            - golf course and reservation
            - 2 days to harvest willows
            - Harvest a few weeks in advance, in April, do plantings in May
        - Lorain, near steel plant to do plantings
        - Willows, later in fall or in spring is best times to do plantings
  - Andy: Lower Black Ecological Restoration Master Plan
    - Handed out brochure/document
    - Asking for any changes or updates to document
- New Business
  - Propose new date for July picnic
    - To celebrate retirees
    - Change it from the 11th
      - Change to July 19th, tentative
    - Boat Trip
- Old Business
- Watershed Update - Don Romancak/Lorain County Community Development