

Fox River Natural Resource Damage Assessment: Oneida's Experience

Tribal NRDA/OPA Conference July 20, 2011

Lisa Miotke, Environmental Supervisor, Oneida Tribe

On Ayote?a·ká

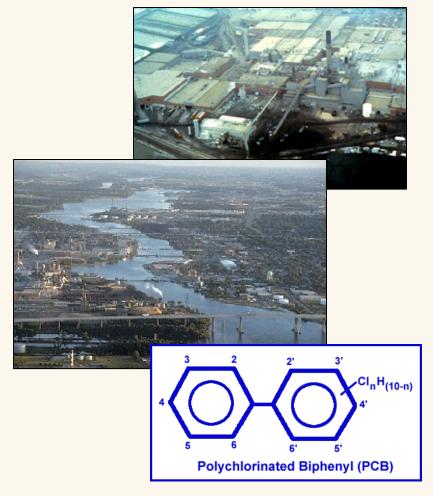
LIVE SUSTAIN GROW





Fox River/Green Bay NRDA

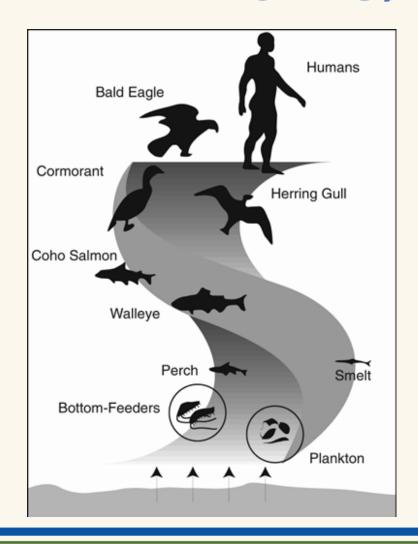
- The Lower Fox River is Wisconsin's largest tributary to Lake Michigan
- Once called "the hardest working river in the world" because of heavy use by industry
- Paper companies used PCBs in carbonless copy paper
- About 125 tons of PCBs were discharged into the river from 1954~1971







The Problem with PCBs

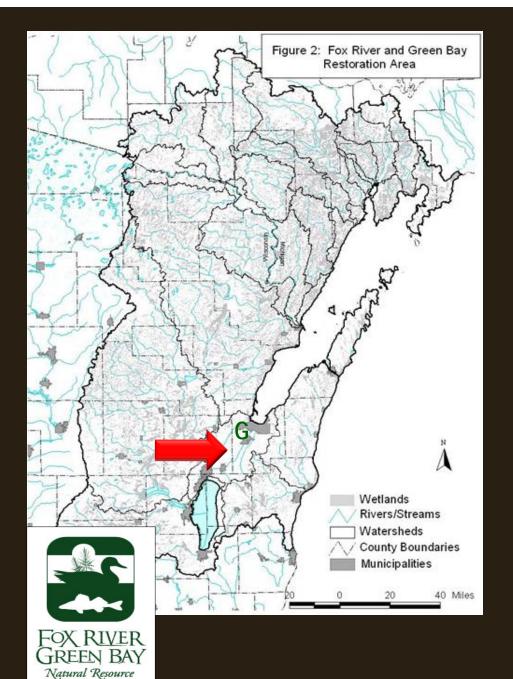


- Small river organisms eat sediment with PCBs
- PCBs accumulate in fatty tissue and get passed up the food chain
- PCBs cause
 - ~ wildlife deformities
 - immune system and reproductive problems
 - ~ developmental delays
 - possibly cancer









Trustee Council

Trustees:

- Oneida Tribe
- Menominee Nation
- Federal Agencies (F&WS for DOI & NOAA)
- State of Wisconsin
- State of Michigan (dropped out 2009)













Lower Fox River/Green Bay

NRDA Trustee Council

Trustees

Tehassi Hill
Business
Committee
Member
Oneida Nation

Charlie Wooley Deputy Director Region 3, US FWS Ken Johnson Water Division Administrator WI DNR Craig Corn Tribal Legislator Menominee Tribe

Technical Team

Lisa Miotke Environmental Supervisor Oneida Nation Betsy M. Galbraith Trustee Council Coordinator US FWS

John Huff Wildlife Biologist WI DNR Jonathan
Pyatskowit
Environmental
Services
Department
Menominee Tribe

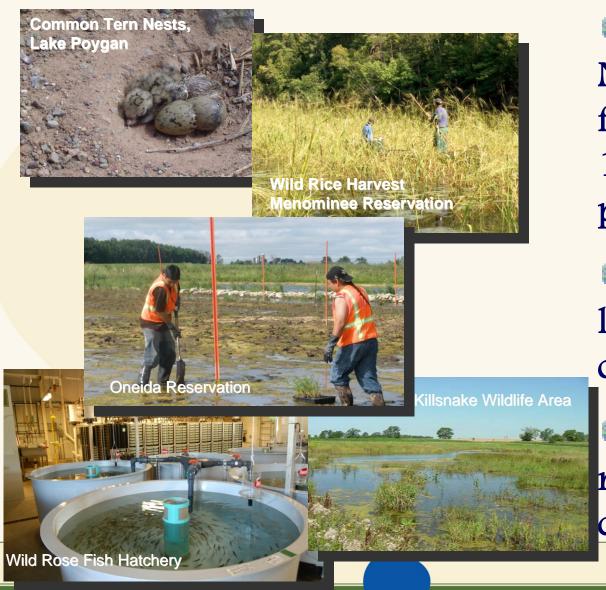






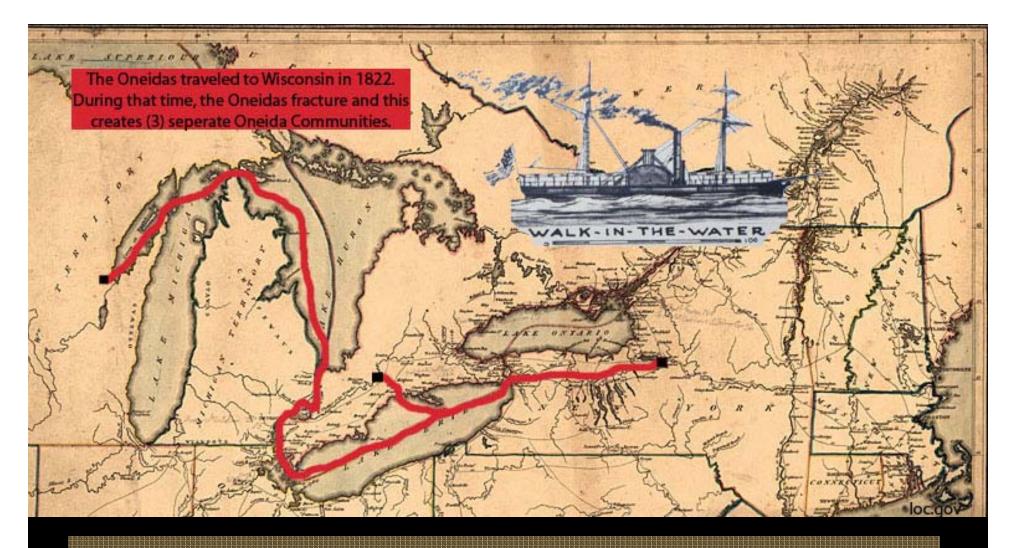


NRDA Restoration Accomplishments



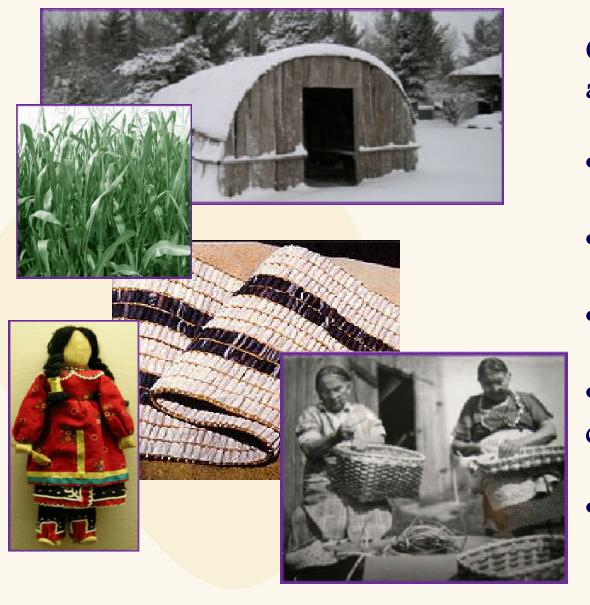
LIVE SUSTAIN GROW

- \$36,000,000 NRDA settlement funds approved for 110 restoration projects
- Over \$22,000,000 leveraged from outside sources
- Over 60 restoration projects completed to date



When we first got here (the Oneidas) there were different kinds of fish: trout, red horse fish, walleyed pike, sucker, rock bass, and shiners.

Works Progress Administration Papers 1939 (WPA Project): Oscar Archiquette



Ceremonies centered around the seasons:

•Harvest maple sap

•Spring fish runs

•Berry/medicines

•Harvest 3 Sisters (white corn, beans & squash)

Hunting wild game









Oneida's as a NRDA Trustee

- Documented injuries to fish, waterfowl, mink & eagles from PCBs
- Loss of cultural uses of natural resources
- Goal is to replace, restore or acquire injured natural resources

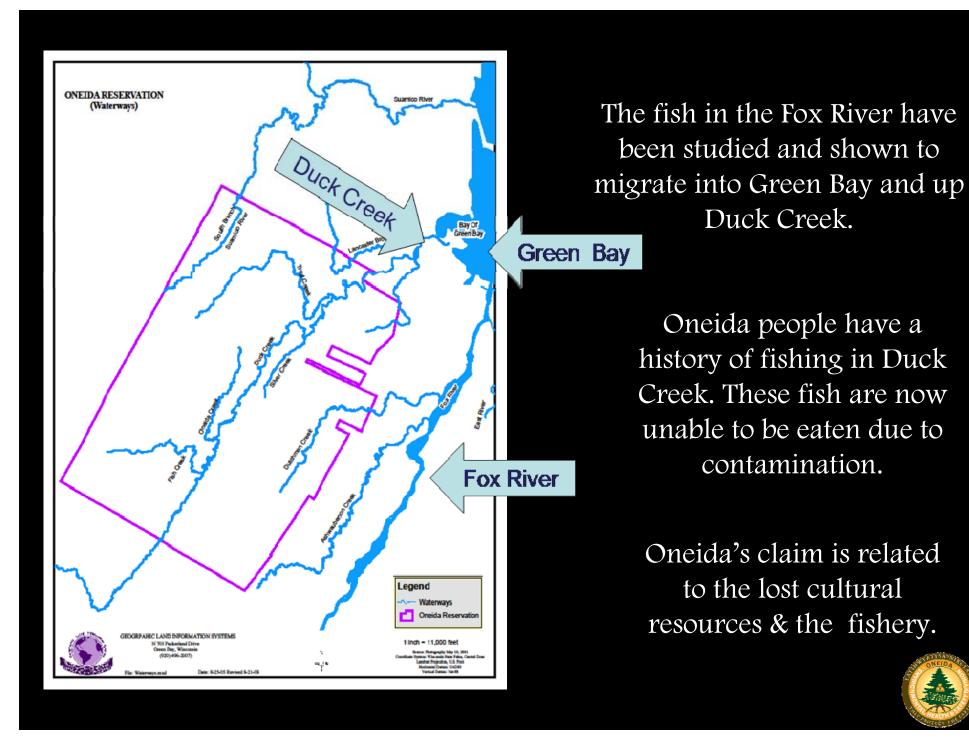












Features of Oneida...

Main land use is Agriculture

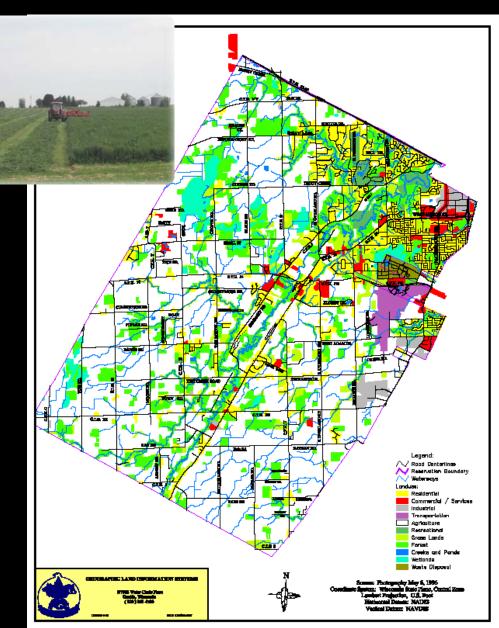
Gently rolling topography and silty-clay till soils

Remaining forests are typically wooded wetlands that were too wet for agriculture

Duck Creek valley bisects in SW-NE direction

233 miles of rivers, creeks, & streams

Austin Straubel Airport is within the Reservation boundary.



Habitat Restoration & Protection on the Oneida Reservation



- Land Acquisition & Protection
- Wetland & stream restorations
- Invasive species control program
- Best ManagementPractices (buffers, etc)
- Fish habitat enhancement



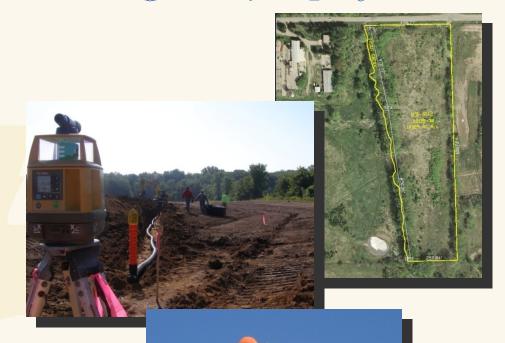




NRDA Restoration Projects In Oneida

\$2.1 million, \$722,000 in matching funds, 11 projects

- Land Acquisitions
- Wetland & stream restorations
- Invasive species control
- Watershed Model
- Nesting habitat project
- Lake Planning & Design











Restoring the Fishery



Oneida Tribal Community is Unique

- Approx 7000
 residents living on or
 near the reservation
- General Tribal Council
- Tribal schools
- Culturally based programs
- Sovereignty







Communication

ONEIDA NATION NRDA UPDATE ONEIDA **SPRING 2010**



November was the end of the 1st year of the cleanup and was considered a success; removing 16% more than planned. This could shorten the project by 1 year. The plan is for 6 more years

- of clean up and 2 years of butions from 20 companie plan to appeal.
- Griesbach found API and demonstrates that NCR ki
- Griesbach approved a cor that had limited liability. T means they have no furth Griesbach asked parties t DOJ ordered Army Corp of erfering with the cleanu draulic dredging which is

NRDA RESTORATION PR the reservation.

- The projects receiving funding
 \$18,000 for the placement Oneida lands. Planning land restoration sites and quired permitting . Installa
- \$425,000 for stream rest River. Meetings have bee
- \$80,000 to improve nativ Course. Waiting on the g
- \$660,000 for habitat pres along Duck and Oneida cludes: portions of Oneida
- \$18,000 leftover from La modification to the plan to
- Assist DNR with fish pag

FOR MORE INFOR

ONEIDA FISHERY RESTORATION PROJECT: Meetings with the Lake Sub-team about contracting for sand removal have occurred and interviews with potential contractors. Steve Linskens

On June 30, 2009, Wiscomin's seat belt law became a primary law. That

STATE STATISTICS

Council, Wisconsin's seat belt rate is expected to rise from 74% to 84% over the next year, as a direct result of the new law. If that happens, it will mean 19 lives may be saved on Wisconsin roads. In terms of traffic deaths, July was the safest month in Wisconsin nce World War II. Forty-lour people died in 43 traffic crashes in July, ac-cording to preliminary statistics from the Wiscomin Department of Transpor- Transportation

> Join Us! Fall Join us for the 5th Annual Thursday, September 17 i event will be held at the C Office, N8047 County U

nore about the natural resources of the Oneida Reservati forestry, trails, and much more will be provided. Our proj and local agencies will also be on hand to discuss what th offer. A free harvest lunch, eaturing reasted wild turkey. Prizes, music, activities, and workshops will also be avail

femand this year is the tree stand silent auction.

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Shuth & Saley Division, P. O. Box 365, Onesia, WT 54125 Phone: (900) 494-2030

WI Passes Primary Seat Belt Law

of July were in 1978 and 1979 with 114 fatalities. Traffic fatalities in July were 18 means that a dever can be pulled over means that a dever can be pulled over and ticketed for not wearing his or seat 7 bit. Prior to this law, an officer data of July 31, a total of 596 people have died in have another reason to pull you over, in Micromini waffie embre during 2009.

**Taffic deaths through July were 19 feest: ** than during the same period in 2008. "July is typically a high fatality month, so the drop last month in Fig. ...

cording to the National Safety

yet to theorize for primary safe more people m Hughes, Chief DOT Bureau of

Culture Language & History @ tation (WisDOT). The deadliest months. Continued page 4.

> Tribal Services Business Enterprises





ONEIDA TRIBE OF INDIANS O

Oneida Fisheries Restoration Project: Oneida Lake

Paper companies along the Fox River used PCBs in their manufacturing process between 1954 and 1971. Waste products containing PCBs were released into the Fox River and contaminated fish, waterlowl, shorebirds, and other natural resources.

PCBs are known to cause adverse health effects in humans and wildlife such as repneurologic, developmental and immunological problems. They are also thought to caus in humans. Fish advisories issued for the Fox River and surrounding waterways suggest.

The Oneida Tribe became a member of the Fox River NRDA Trustee Council in the Historic, cultural, and natural resources on the Oneida Reservation were damaged by the of PCBs. Subsequent studies documented damages to fish and wildlife within the re

As part of the Fox River cleanup project, several of the companies identified as historically responsible for the release of PCBs into the Fox River have made NRDA agreements to fund a number of natural resource restoration projects in northeast Wiscons

Since 2002, the Oneida Tribe has received funding for six projects to replace, acquire, and restore resources that were injured by the release of PCBs. These projects have ranged from wetland restorations to watershed studies to land acquisition. Future projects will focus on restoring reservation fisheries and sustaining tribal fishing traditions

For more information, contact Betsy Galbraith at (920) 496-5327

Helpful links for the Fox River NRDA and Clean-up:

sconsin Department of Natural Resources

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/foxriver/index.html

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service http://www.fws.gov/midwest/FoxRiverNRDA/

kalihwisak

picks plan for new lake

Oneida VFW celebrates 60 years

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- T LANG
- PEOPLE
- WATER

Contact Us

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Community Events & Ceremonies

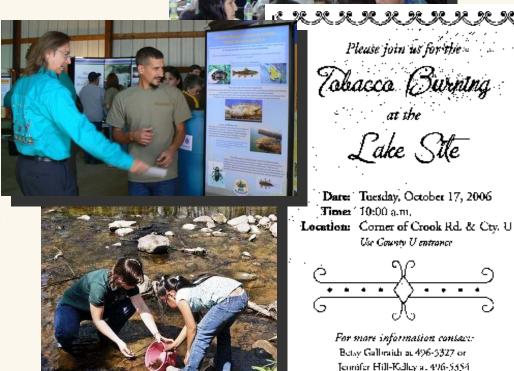
Pow-Wows, General Tribal Council Meetings, Youth & Elder Fishing Day, Fall Fest, etc...

Prizes and giveaways

Make it fun!

Gather community input

- ~ mini~surveys
- ~ addresses
- anecdotal



Community members are encouraged to ago



Youth Programs





- Field trips to restoration and clean-up sites
- Solicit input for lake design & restoration projects
- Partnerships with Summer Recreation Program & Tribal Schools







Tours & Signage



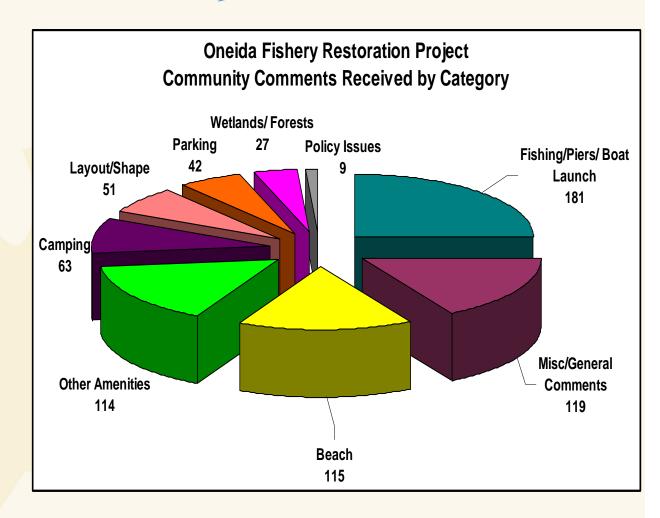
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LIVE SUSTAIN GROW



Surveys

- Both officially& unofficially
- Use survey knowledge for planning purposes
- Offer prize incentives



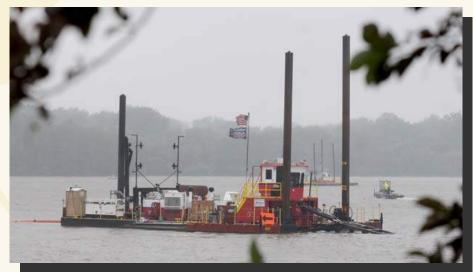






Status of the Case

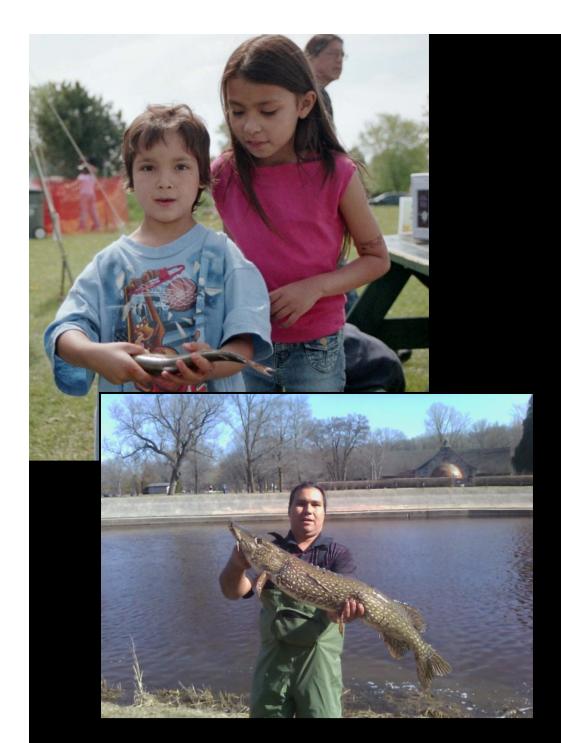
- In 3rd year of cleanup on the River
- \$36,000,000 in settlements for restoration
- About \$4.3 million more in restoration settlement pending court approval
- Dept of Justice &
 State of WI filed
 lawsuit in October
 2010











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