



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Fort Sheridan, Lake County, IL

Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration Habitat and Species Focus Area

Project Location: The study area is located east of Sheridan Road in the Cities of Lake Forest and Highland Park, Illinois, along the western shoreline of southern Lake Michigan. It consists of eight main ravines, several small unnamed ravines, the ravines' watersheds, bluff along the coastline, the beach, and littoral zone of Lake Michigan.

Project Description: Most of the habitat destruction at Fort Sheridan was the result of a conversion of the site to a military base and associated housing. The conversion resulted in erosional conditions along the lakeshore, infestation of invasive woody and herbaceous species, and the loss of stabilizing native grass and forb species. This project would restore approximately 200 acres of lacustrine, beach, dune, bluff, plateau and ravine habitat along Lake Michigan shoreline and provide significant littoral zone habitat for fishes within 25 miles. Restoration would include approximately 1.5 miles of protected shoreline which is host to thousands of migrating birds and five endangered and threatened plants: Buffalo Berry, Seaside Spurge, Sea Rocket, Beach Grass, and Common Juniper. The project will remove/modify excessive infrastructure and urban runoff from the ravines and beach to reduce erosion, improve the habitat for endangered coastal species, migrating birds, stabilize the bluff and ravine communities to reduce erosion, remove non-native and invasive species, and restore the lakeshore habitats.

Non-Federal Partners: Lake County Forest Preserve, Openlands, Town of Ft. Sheridan, and City of Lake Forest.

Ecosystem Benefits: Restoration would lessen impacts to native fish populations in Lake Michigan; increase the coastal habitat quality, size, and viability; restore 1.5 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline; restore the lake's beach, bluff, and ravine communities; protect the coastal endangered and threatened species; reduce erosional conditions and sedimentation into Lake Michigan; allow more compatible public access to the shoreline; and provide educational opportunities for freshwater coastal systems. The mandatory operation and maintenance of this project by the non-Federal partners will ensure permanent long term sustainable benefits to these resources

Project Status: The project is currently in the feasibility phase. With optimal funding, construction could begin in fall 2015.



Estimated Range of Project Costs	
Federal	\$6.5-10 Million
Nonfederal	\$3.5-5 Million
Total	\$10-15 Million

Project Milestones	
Approval of Feasibility Report	Fall 2014
Advertise Construction Contract	Summer 2015
Award Construction Contract	Fall 2015

Point of Contact	
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