

SECTION 2 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ruddiman Creek is located within the boundaries of the Muskegon Lake Area of Concern (AOC). The 2002 Muskegon Lake Remedial Action Plan identified heavily polluted sediments and degraded habitat and benthic communities within the Ruddiman Creek watershed. The Remedial Investigation found concentrations of chemicals in Ruddiman Creek sediments that exceed the site specific sediment quality criteria, as defined in the Focused Feasibility Study of Ruddiman Creek, for protection of human health, wildlife, and aquatic life.

The Ruddiman Creek Remedial Action will reduce risks to human health, wildlife, and aquatic life within Ruddiman Creek and the AOC, restore aquatic habitat, and build on efforts underway to eliminate or control sources of contaminants to Ruddiman Creek. These objectives will be achieved through dredging and disposal of approximately 51,200 cubic yards of sediment contaminated with heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). Installation of flow control structures will reduce peak flows within Ruddiman Creek and reduce residual sediment transport downstream. This remedial action will complement other source control measures being implemented by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the city of Muskegon.

Post-dredging sediment testing will be used to verify that each location meets the site-specific sediment quality criteria for the protection of human health and the environment. Additional sediment toxicity testing, benthic macroinvertebrate surveys and chemical analysis will be conducted one-year post-remediation to measure the restoration of aquatic habitat and overall success of the project.