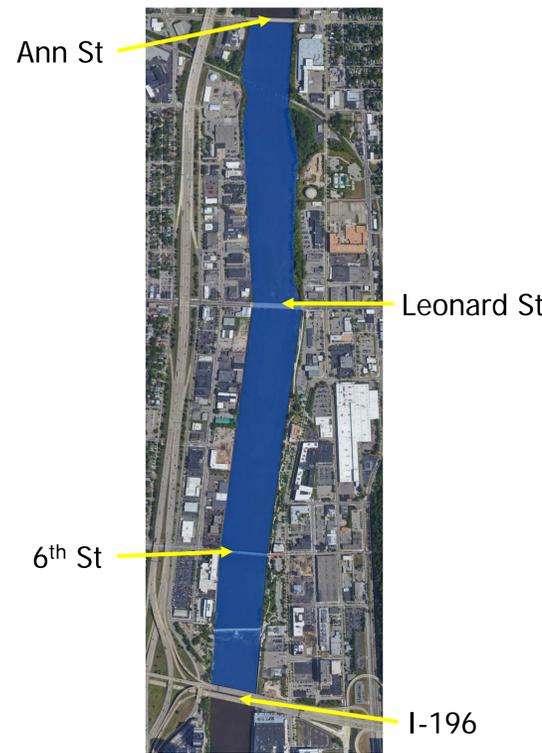


Why habitat restoration and invasive species control is important to achieving a healthy Grand River

The need for a healthy river

- A healthy river is one where the natural functions of the river are balanced with socioeconomic needs.
- Healthy rivers provide multiple types of habitat for a diversity of aquatic organisms and numerous opportunities for sustainable socioeconomic use or development.
- The goal of "habitat restoration" is to increase the available habitat within the river to the benefit of humans and the ecosystem alike.
- Invasive species pose a threat to both the ecosystem and native species and controlling their numbers and range is important to conservation and restoration efforts. Successful restoration efforts consider ways to control invasive species in order to limit the negative impacts they have on the ecosystem.
- The Grand River has been mined, channelized, dredged, and urbanized through the City of Grand Rapids
 - These changes have led to constraints on the physical, chemical, and biological processes of the river.
 - There is interest from multiple parties to restore the habitat and environment of this section of the Grand River.
 - Restoration efforts will be limited by the environment, organisms, and urban geography



The section of the Grand River, as it runs through Grand Rapids, that will be considered for the Environmental Impact Statement. This includes an existing low head dam and fish ladder located between the 6th Street and I-196 bridges.

The purpose of a NEPA Environmental Impact Statement

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District, on behalf of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, is gathering information to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement related to the Grand River Habitat Restoration and Invasive Species Control Project in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This process will include the assessment of proposals and alternatives towards the sustainability or enhancement of aquatic resources of the Grand River while considering current and future watershed needs, and how proposals will address those needs.

- This includes considering historic and potential aquatic resource conditions, past and projected aquatic resource impacts in the watershed, the protection of threatened and endangered species, and blockage of invasive or nuisance species.
- Proposals and alternatives will be assessed to determine which are consistent with sound engineering practices and meet all applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- The Environmental Impact Statement will address which proposals and alternatives contribute, directly, indirectly, or cumulatively, to restoration or protection of water quality, stream flows, air quality, fish and wildlife, floodplains, wetlands, climate, cultural resources, and social and economic resources within the Grand River as it flows through the city of Grand Rapids.

Species	Image/Photo	Image/Photo
Sunfish - Centrarchid fishes		USFWS
"Suckers" - Catostomid fishes		NPS
Bass - Centrarchid fishes		USFWS
Catfish - Ictalurid fishes		NOAA GLERL
Freshwater Drum		NOAA GLERL
Perches & Darters - Percid fishes		Noel Burkhead, USGS
		NOAA GLERL
Buffalo - Ictiobus fishes		USFWS
Carp & Minnows - Cyprinidae fishes		NOAA GLERL
Juveniles		
Sturgeon		NOAA GLERL
Trout & Salmon - Salmonid fishes		NOAA GLERL
Mussels		Dick Biggins, USFWS
Threatened or Endangered	 or 	 = Federally Listed = State Listed

A healthy river provides habitat for many species throughout their life

