Building Organizational Capacity to Implement Restoration Action

St. Louis River AOC
St. Louis River

* Largest U.S. tributary to Lake Superior
* Major source of bio-productivity for Lake Superior
* 179 miles long, 39 miles primary AOC boundary
St. Louis River Area of Concern
St. Louis River Alliance

* Began as Citizens Advisory Committee
* Helped develop the Remedial Action Plan
* Became a non profit organization in 1996.
Role in Building Capacity

* Creating Awareness
* Engaging Stewardship
* Fostering partnerships
Creating Awareness

- Wild Rice and Wetlands.
- The State of the St. Louis River.
Creating Awareness

• Don’t Muddy the Water Poster.
Canoe Tour & Picnic
Books for kids
Engaging Stewardship

* Planting trees

* Watershed Guardian Program

* RiverQuest
Environmental Stewardship Awards
Volunteer Stream Monitoring

* Assessing the health of stream monitoring locations.

* Over 20 volunteers making up five teams.

* Over 500 hours over volunteer time.
Macroinvertebrates Monitoring
River Clean Up
Buckthorn Removal
Organization Funders

- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies
- Coastal Programs
- Foundations
- Corporations
- Citizens
Fostering Partnerships

- Federal, State, local and Tribal
- Local Non Profit Organizations
- Schools
- Corporations
- Citizens
Partnerships

- Minnesota DNR
- Wisconsin DNR
- MPCA
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. FWS
- Fond du Lac Reservation
- City of Duluth and Superior
- MN and WI Sea Grant, LSRI
- Community GIS
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. COE, DSPA
- MN Power, Sappi Fine Paper,
- Hallet Dock, Potlatch Corp.
- Douglas, Carlton,
- and St. Louis Counties
- Citizens
- EPA & SLRCAC
Working Groups

* Habitat Workgroup
* Contaminated Workgroup
* Stewardship Workgroup
Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan

* A dynamic, coordinated guide that is a resource for Habitat Restoration in the St Louis River AOC.
Finalizing Delisting Targets

* Setting the standards that will help remove the river as an Area of Concern

* Partnering with MPCA & WDNR

* Involved stakeholders and public.
Remediation, Restoration and Protection

- * WI- Hog Island & Newton Creek
- * MN- Super Fund Sites
- * WI- Red River Breaks
Restoration Goals and Strategies

- Restoring Beneficial Uses
- De-listing targets
- Public Review
- Implementation Strategies
Restoring Beneficial Uses

* Nine BUIs
* Proposed restoration goals
* Next phase in the roadmap to de-listing
Implementation

* Collaborative projects
* Obtaining funding
* Partnering opportunities
The People of the St. Louis River
Making the Difference
Thank you