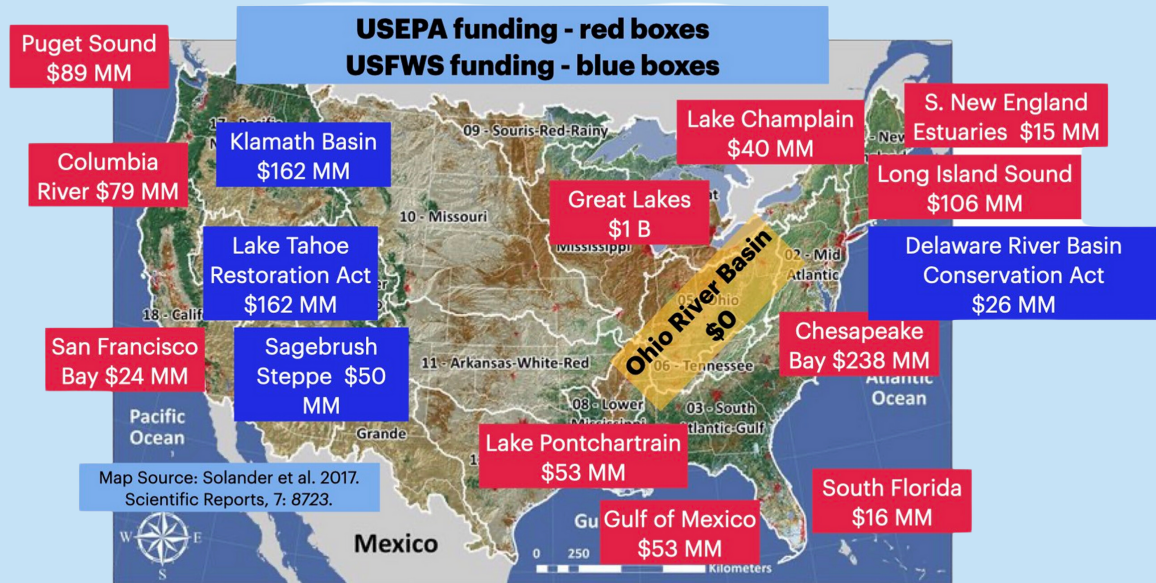


A RESTORATION PLAN FOR THE OHIO RIVER

The Ohio River was recently named the second most endangered river in the United States by American Rivers, a national non-profit organization.

This new ranking underscores the need for increased federal funding to protect water quality.

Geographic Ecological Restoration Funding in Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act



The Ohio River Basin Alliance is currently crafting a visionary plan to restore and protect the Ohio River and the streams, rivers, and wetlands that are connected to it in the 14-state region that includes Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

The action plan will address serious threats to the region's drinking water, public health, and quality of life, such as sewage contamination, toxic pollution, mine waste, habitat destruction, invasive species, and flooding. The plan will seek to restore water resources and prevent new pollution. The plan will prioritize investment in the communities most impacted by pollution and environmental harm, and the plan will support strong local economies by investing in local workforce development and job training for restoration actions.

The plan will benefit the environment and the economy.

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The **Ohio River Restoration Plan** stems from ORBA's Strategic Plan for the Ohio River Basin, which was released in 2020.

ORBA's Strategic Plan for the Ohio River Basin established the need for a regional roadmap to restore and protect the region's waters, while advancing a water restoration economy.

The Ohio River Restoration Plan calls for actions that have produced results in other parts of the country, and is being written by stakeholders from state and federal agencies, colleges and universities, utilities, businesses, and non-governmental organizations.

Input into the plan is also being provided through public listening sessions in the region to make sure that local clean water and conservation priorities are reflected in the strategies. The plan will also include input from federally recognized tribes and state tribes in the region.

RESTORATION PLAN ACTIONS

Restoring habitat and wetlands to support outdoor recreation and clean water.

Supporting farm conservation to improve soil and water health and reduce toxic algal blooms.

Removing old, unsafe dams to increase fish habitat and safe recreational opportunities.

Updating drinking water and wastewater infrastructure to safeguard public health and help with water affordability.

Supporting nature-based solutions that mitigate flooding and pollution.

Cleaning up toxic pollution to protect public health.

Investing in workforce development and job training to support local economies and workers.

