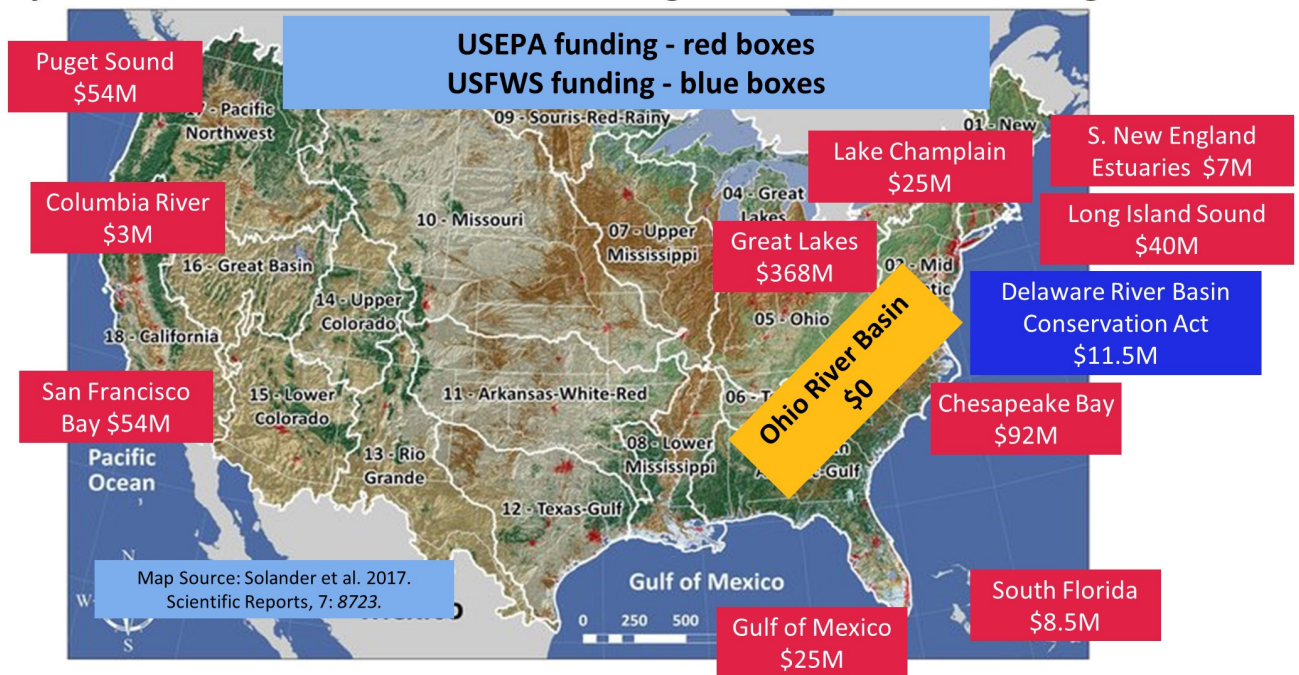


The Ohio River Basin Restoration & Protection Plan

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 urgent federal action to protect the region's drinking water, public health, jobs, and quality of life.

Aquatic Habitat Restoration Funding in 2022 Federal Budget



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

The action plan will address serious threats such as sewage contamination, toxic pollution, mine waste, runoff, habitat destruction, invasive species, and flooding. The plan will seek to restore water resources and prevent new pollution, as well as prioritize investments in rural and urban communities most impacted by pollution and environmental harm. The plan will also support strong local economies by investing in local workforce development and job training initiatives.

The Ohio River Basin Restoration and Protection Plan will benefit the environment and the economy





Ohio River Basin Restoration and Protection Plan Development

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

ORBA's Strategic Plan 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 and Protection Plan is being written by stakeholders from state and federal agencies, colleges and universities, utilities, businesses, and non-governmental organizations. Tribal nations have also been consulted to ensure their conservation priorities are reflected.

ORBA has held 33 public listening sessions to date to ensure local clean water priorities are reflected in the plan.

ORBA expects to release the final Ohio River Restoration and Protection plan in late 2023.



OHIO RIVER BASIN
ALLIANCE

Picture Credit: Joe Wolek



www.orsanco.org/orba



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.