

Beneficial Use Impairments Restoration Goals and Milestones

Name:

(BUI #8)

Degradation of Aesthetics

Reason for listed:

Aesthetics of water degraded by oily materials at Stryker Bay / Interlake and Hog Island/ Newton Creek.

Comments:

Other areas may have aesthetic impairment

IJC Criteria:

An impairment will be listed when any substance in water produces a persistent objectionable deposit, unnatural color or turbidity, or unnatural odor (e.g. oil slick, surface scum).

SLR RAP Rationale for Listing:

The aesthetic values of the St. Louis River AOC are impaired in some locations. A systematic collection of evidence and data is recommended to determine the specific locations of degraded areas and the sources and types of degrading materials (i.e., oil slicks, chemical and tar residues, taconite pellets on shorelines, rotting grain scum on water surface, etc.). Hog Island Inlet and Stryker Bay are two areas that have repeated reports of oil, chemical, and tar residues on the water's surface. Complaints have also been registered about smells emanating from the sediments and water of Newton Creek and Hog Island Inlet (MPCA, WDNR Complaint Logs 1980-1990). Shoreline aesthetics will be addressed separately and will be remediated through actions taken with riparian interests.

Proposed Restoration Goal:

Odors and sightings of spills, oil slicks, oil blooms, etc. are eliminated in the St. Louis River AOC including, but not limited to, the Stryker Bay/Interlake/Duluth Tar, USS (USX), and Hog Island Inlet/Newton Creek sites.

Proposed Restoration Milestones:

- Five consecutive years of no sightings / complaints for this area.
- Effective spill response measures are implemented and enforced.
- Zoning regulations are in place in both states to prevent new construction from degrading the aesthetics of the SLR AOC and they should be enforced.
- Public awareness campaign including guidance for citizens to report complaints of smells, oil blooms, etc.

Rationale for Removing from the List:

No rationale for removing from the list at this time.

Note:

Persistent objectionable substances are still present.