

**Ohio EPA 2004 Integrated Report Appendix D.3
Large River Assessment Unit (LRAU) Summaries**

LRAU Description

LRAU Size (mi²)

Sandusky River Mainstem (downstream Tymochtee Creek to mouth)

1420.0

Integrated Report Assessment Category: 5

Priority Points: 7

Next Scheduled Monitoring: 2009

Aquatic Life Use (ALU) Assessment

Subcategories of ALU: WWH

Sampling Year(s): 1995, 1999, 2001

Impairment: Yes

LRAU Total Length (miles): 65.73

No. Miles Full Attainment: 41.23

LRAU Monitored Miles: 47.73

No. Miles Partial Attainment: 0.00

No. Sites Sampled: 15

No. Miles Non-Attainment: 6.50

% LRAU Attainment (Monitored Miles)

Full	Partial	Non
86.4	0.0	13.6

High Magnitude Causes

High Magnitude Sources

Siltation
Other Habitat Alterations
Flow Alteration

Hydromodification-Development
Dam Construction-Development

Recreation Use Assessment

Subcategory of Use: Primary Contact

Impairment: Yes

Geometric Mean: 203

No. of Ambient Sites: 9

No. of Ambient Sampling Records: 22

75th %ile: 560

No. of NPDES MOR Sites: 2

No. of NPDES MOR Records: 206

90th %ile: 2130

Other:

Fish Consumption Advisory (FCA) Assessment

Waters Within the LRAU Sampled and Assessed: Yes

FCA Issued: Yes

(See the 2003 Ohio FCA for more detailed information at "www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/index.html")

Impairment Due to FCA: Yes

Pollutant(s): PCBs

Comments

Development of TMDLs for pollutants is underway for the upper Sandusky River watershed (headwaters to north of Tiffin and covering about 1/2 of the designated mainstem reach). Monitoring in support of the TMDL was conducted in 2001. All aquatic life use impairment within the mainstem assessment unit downstream from Tymochtee Creek is restricted to habitat limited dam pools behind two dams (St. John's and Ballville). Removal of the St. John's dam commenced during the summer of 2003. Besides the historical aquatic life use impairment, the 2004 Integrated Report assessment of fish tissue data documented body burdens of one or more pollutants at levels exceeding the threshold level upon which Ohio Water Quality Standards human health criteria are based which resulted in listing as impaired for fish consumption. Additionally, assessment of available bacteria data indicated an impairment of the Primary Contact Recreation beneficial use. A report on the findings of the 2001 biological and water quality survey can be found at (www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/document_index/psdindx.html).