

## **Estimates of Great Lakes Sediment Remediation Needs**

*Prepared by U.S. EPA, Great Lakes National Program Office*

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### Why?

- A commitment in Great Lakes Strategy 2002 to produce estimates of remediation needs by end of 2004 and update biennially afterward.
- Great Lakes Legacy Act (and clarifying letter from Senators DeWine and Levin) calls for report on resources and time needed to clean up sediments in Areas of Concern.

### What?

- Best professional judgement estimates of sediment volumes to be remediated, low and high end costs, and time line.
- Uses best available information.
- A snapshot in time.
- A dynamic process: estimates are subject to revision as new or better information becomes available – not cast in stone, no one will be held to the estimates.

### How?

- Round 1 – May 2004: USEPA GLNPO sends it's rough estimates of remediation needs to State sediment technical staff for their review, comments, or changes.
- Round 2 – July 2004: USEPA GLNPO incorporates Round 1 results and sends revised estimates to Federal partners [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, USEPA Superfund, NOAA (NRDA), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (NRDA)] for their review, comments, or changes.
- Round 3 – October 2004: USEPA GLNPO incorporates Round 2 results and sends revised estimates to State sediment technical staff for their “final” review, comments, or changes.
- December 2004: USEPA GLNPO incorporates Round 3 results and transmits “final draft” estimates to State Directors for their information, inviting comments.

### Bottom Line:

Basinwide Sediment Remediation Needs Estimate:

- 76.5 million cubic yards of sediment to be remediated at a cost of \$1.6 to \$4.4 billion.