

BLACK RIVER MAINSTEM

LENGTH OF STREAM	15.6 miles
ADJACENT LAND USE	Lower mainstem is highly industrialized with steel mills and commercial shipping. USS/Kobe/Republic Steel is a major influence on the river.
HISTORIC POLLUTION PROBLEMS	Legacy sediment contamination (due to PAHs and heavy metals) in the vicinity of USS/Kobe/Republic Steel is a secondary source of biological impairment.
FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES <i>(from the 31st Bridge, Lorain to Lake Erie)</i>	ONE MEAL PER WEEK: -Brown Bullhead -Freshwater Drum ONE MEAL PER MONTH: -Common Carp
RECREATIONAL CONTACT ADVISORIES <i>(from the 31st Bridge, Lorain to Lake Erie)</i>	NO SWIMMING OR WADING
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS (WWTPS) & SEWAGE RELATED PROBLEMS	<p>The Lorain Eastside WWTP had a local impact due to high loadings of Ammonia Nitrate (NH₃-N).</p> <p>Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) were the primary cause of biological impairment in the reach flowing through and downstream from Elyria, with a secondary impact associated with the Elyria WWTP discharging high levels of nitrates.</p>
OTHER PROBLEMS	<p>Low dissolved oxygen concentration derived from pollutant loadings is the primary cause of biological impairment in the lake-influenced reach.</p> <p>Slag piles upstream of Republic Technologies Inc. continue to be a problem.</p> <p>Oil and grease problems are an ongoing problem near Outfall 001.</p>
RECOMMENDATIONS/FUTURE MONITORING CONCERNS	<p>Additional controls or operation & maintenance improvements need to be employed by USS/Kobe to control the amounts of oil, grease and other toxins that are discharged through outfall 001 (by permit).</p> <p>Net thermal loadings of outfall 002 should be studied and reduced to protect water quality (by permit).</p> <p>Lorain Eastside WWTP needs established effluent limits for NH₃-N.</p> <p>Continued Assessment of Fish tissue contaminants levels is necessary in determining if fish advisories can be lifted.</p> <p>Encourage the use of best management practices (BMPs) at slag piles & steam clean oil.</p>