

# Former Plainwell Impoundment Time-Critical Removal Action

U.S. EPA Open House – July 14, 2009  
Plainwell, Michigan

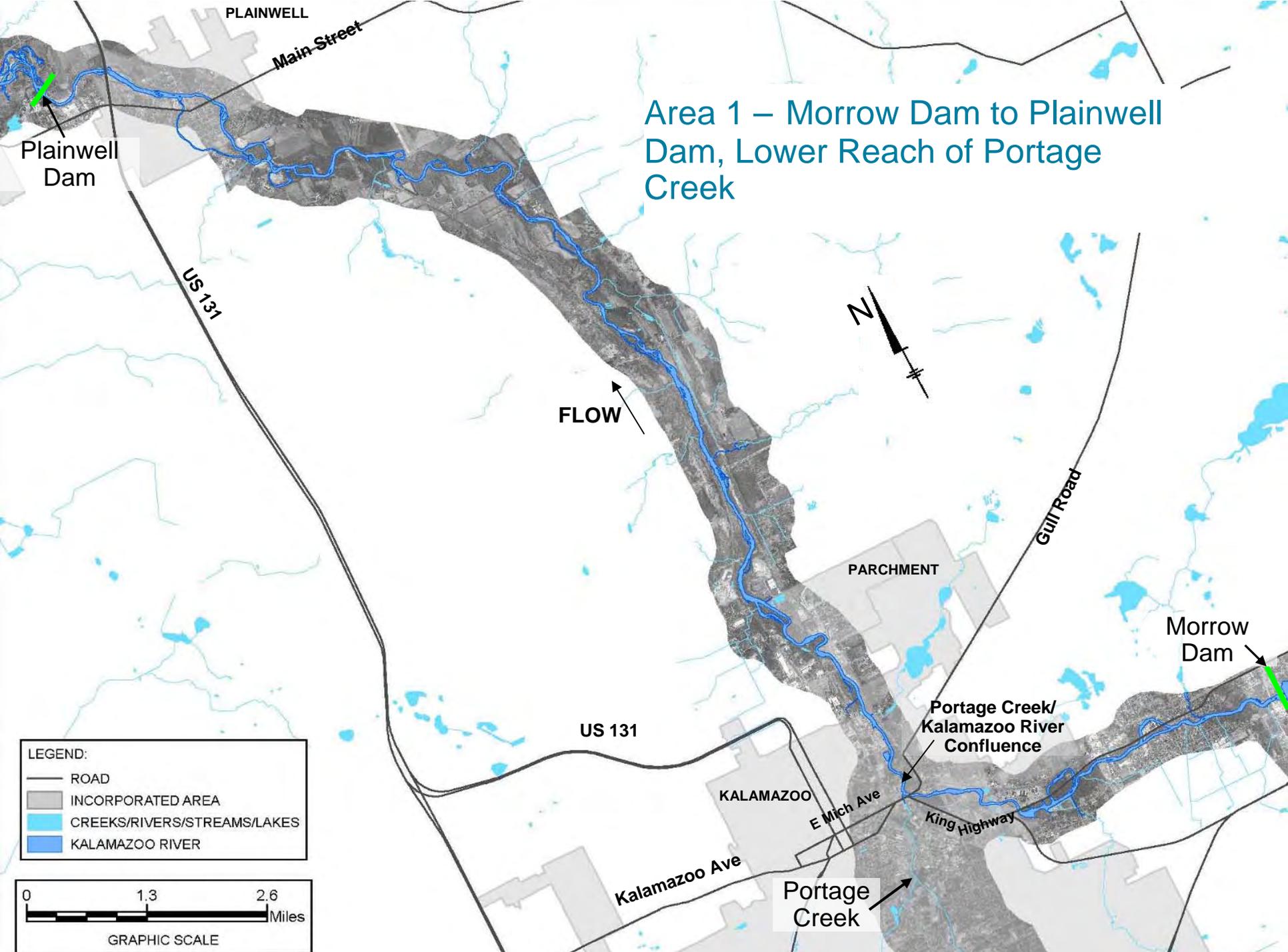
**Mike Ribordy, On-Scene Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**



# Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/ Kalamazoo River Superfund Site

- Operable Unit 1: Allied Paper Landfill
- Operable Unit 2: Willow Boulevard and A-Site Landfill
- Operable Unit 3: King Highway Landfill
- Operable Unit 4: 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill
- **Operable Unit 5: Portage Creek and 80 miles of Kalamazoo River**
- Georgia Pacific/Hawthorn Mill Properties
- Operable Unit 7: Plainwell Mill Property

# Area 1 – Morrow Dam to Plainwell Dam, Lower Reach of Portage Creek



Plainwell Dam

US 131

Main Street

PLAINWELL

FLOW



PARCHMENT

Guil Road

Morrow Dam

Portage Creek/  
Kalamazoo River  
Confluence

US 131

KALAMAZOO

E Mich Ave

King Highway

Kalamazoo Ave

Portage  
Creek

**LEGEND:**

- ROAD
- INCORPORATED AREA
- CREEKS/RIVERS/STREAMS/LAKES
- KALAMAZOO RIVER

0 1.3 2.6 Miles

GRAPHIC SCALE

# Kalamazoo River – The Problem

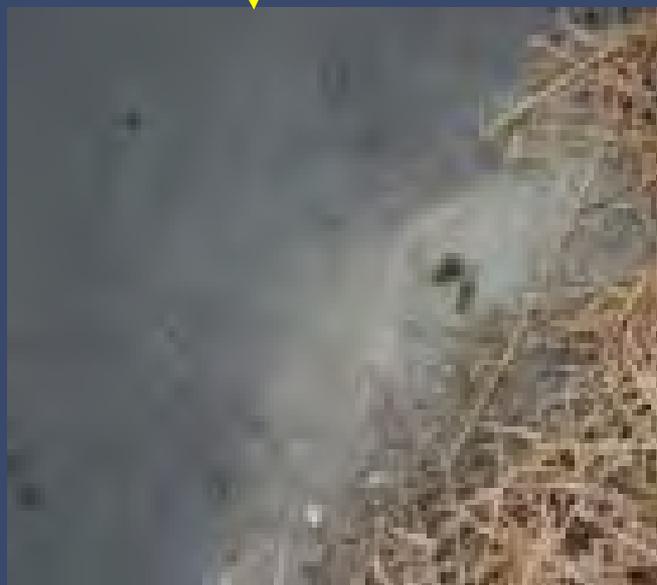
- Approximately 113,000 lbs. of PCBs are currently located in the aquatic system, primarily as the result of waste practices associated with the de-inking of carbonless copy paper between the 1950s and early 1980s.
- The State of Michigan has issued a “DO NOT EAT” advisory since 1977 for many species of PCB-contaminated fish in the Kalamazoo River.
- The ongoing, uncontrolled erosion of contaminated paper wastes and soils from the river banks is the most significant source of PCB loading to the Kalamazoo River.

# Sources of PCBs



**paper waste on  
river banks**

**Residuals  
eroding  
into river**



**Photos by MDEQ**



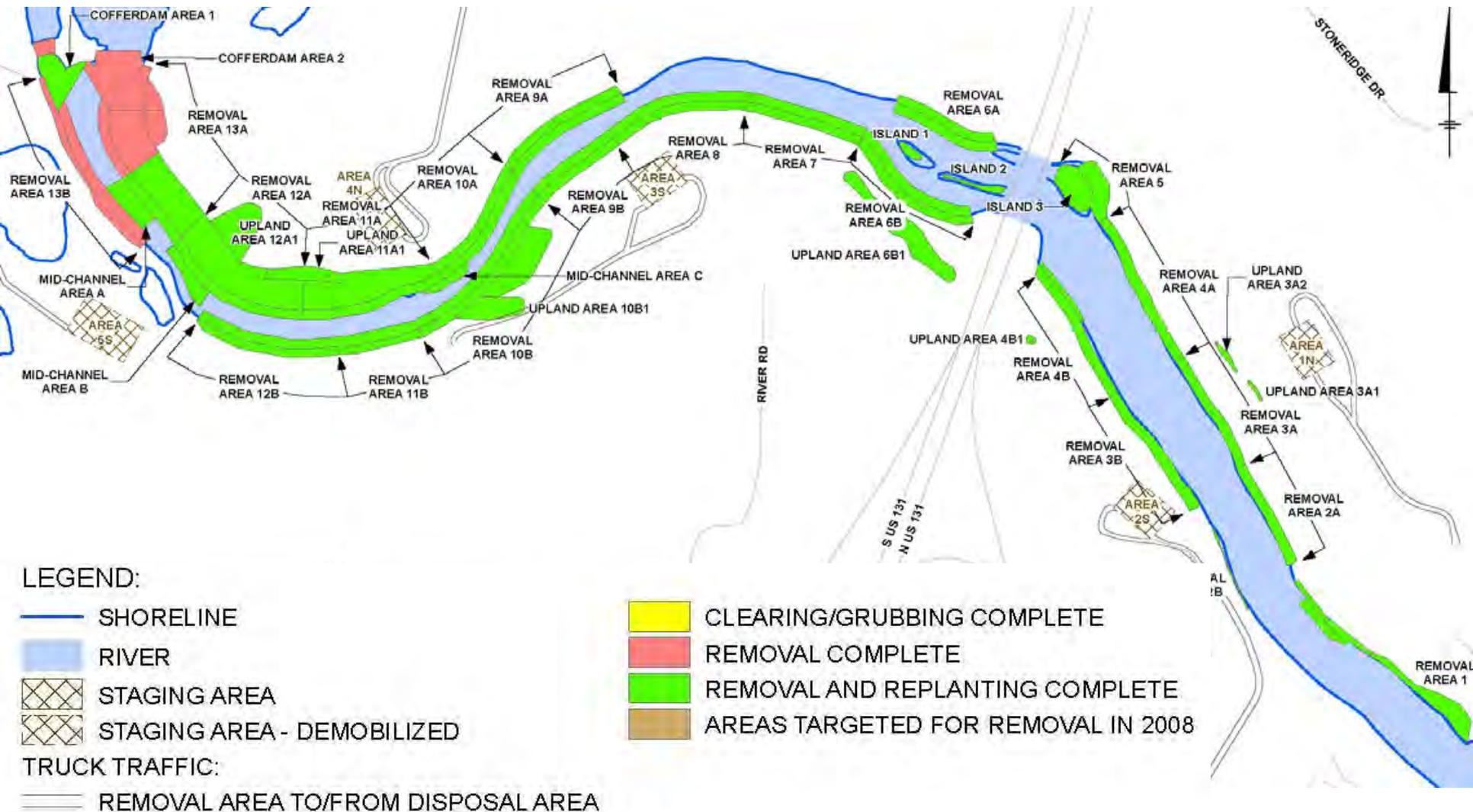
# Plainwell Impoundment Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA) Overview -





**First bucket of floodplain  
soil removed from  
Plainwell Impoundment on  
June 7, 2007 at 12:17 pm.**

# Targeted Removal Areas – Former Plainwell Impoundment



# Plainwell TCRA –

All Work Completed for Removal Action on June 15, 2009

- Restoration activities in RA 13A and 13B Complete



# Project Summary

•Non-TSCA cy removed	107,695
•TSCA cy removed	20,930
•Total cy removed	128,625
•Total # of Truck Loads	3,077

# River Flowing Freely Through New Western Channel



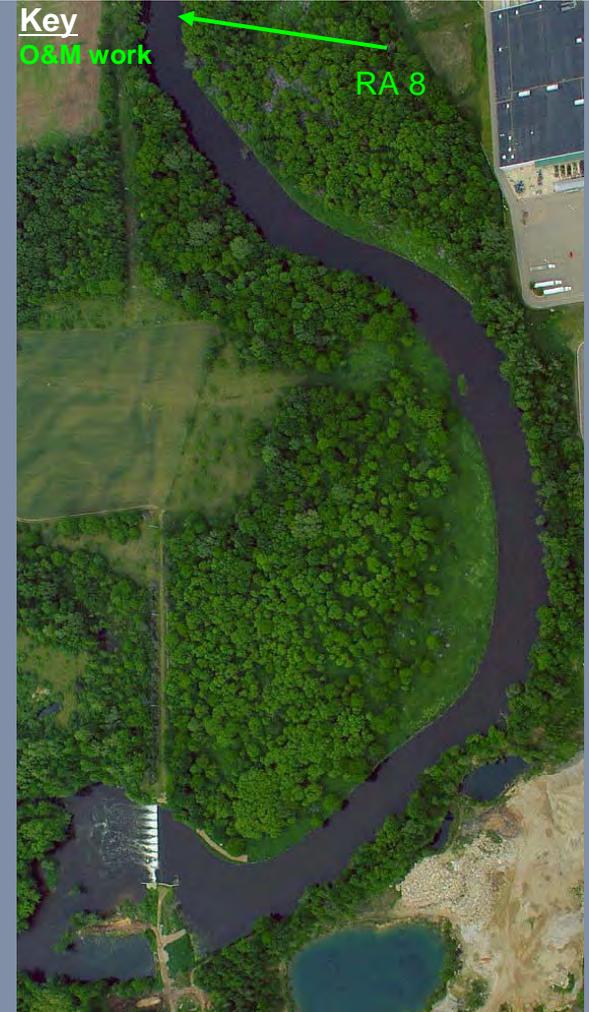
# Plainwell TCRA – Ongoing maintenance activities

- Utility Crossing



# Plainwell TCRA – Ongoing maintenance activities

- Bank Instability Issue in RA 8



# Plainwell TCRA – Ongoing maintenance activities

- Bank and Vegetation Monitoring



# Plainwell TCRA – Ongoing maintenance activities

- Sign Replacement



# **Michigan Contractors**

## **40-50 people**

**Terra Contracting LLC – Kalamazoo, MI**

**The King Company, Inc. – Holland, MI**

**JF New – West Olive & Ann Arbor, MI**

**KAR Laboratories - Kalamazoo, MI**

**Dr. Allen Kurta – Ypsilanti, MI**

**Prein & Newhof – Western, MI**

**MATECO Drilling Corp & Material Testing Consultants –  
Rockford, MI**

# Vendors

**Aggregate Resources (Balkema) – Plainwell, MI**

**Aggregate Industries – Plainwell, MI**

**Carpenter Brothers – Delton, MI**