

# **Sand to Soil on the Kankakee River**

**Beneficial Use of River Sand for  
Ecosystem Restoration, Biosolids  
Remediation, and Emerald Ash Borer  
Damaged Tree Disposal**

6 December, 2016

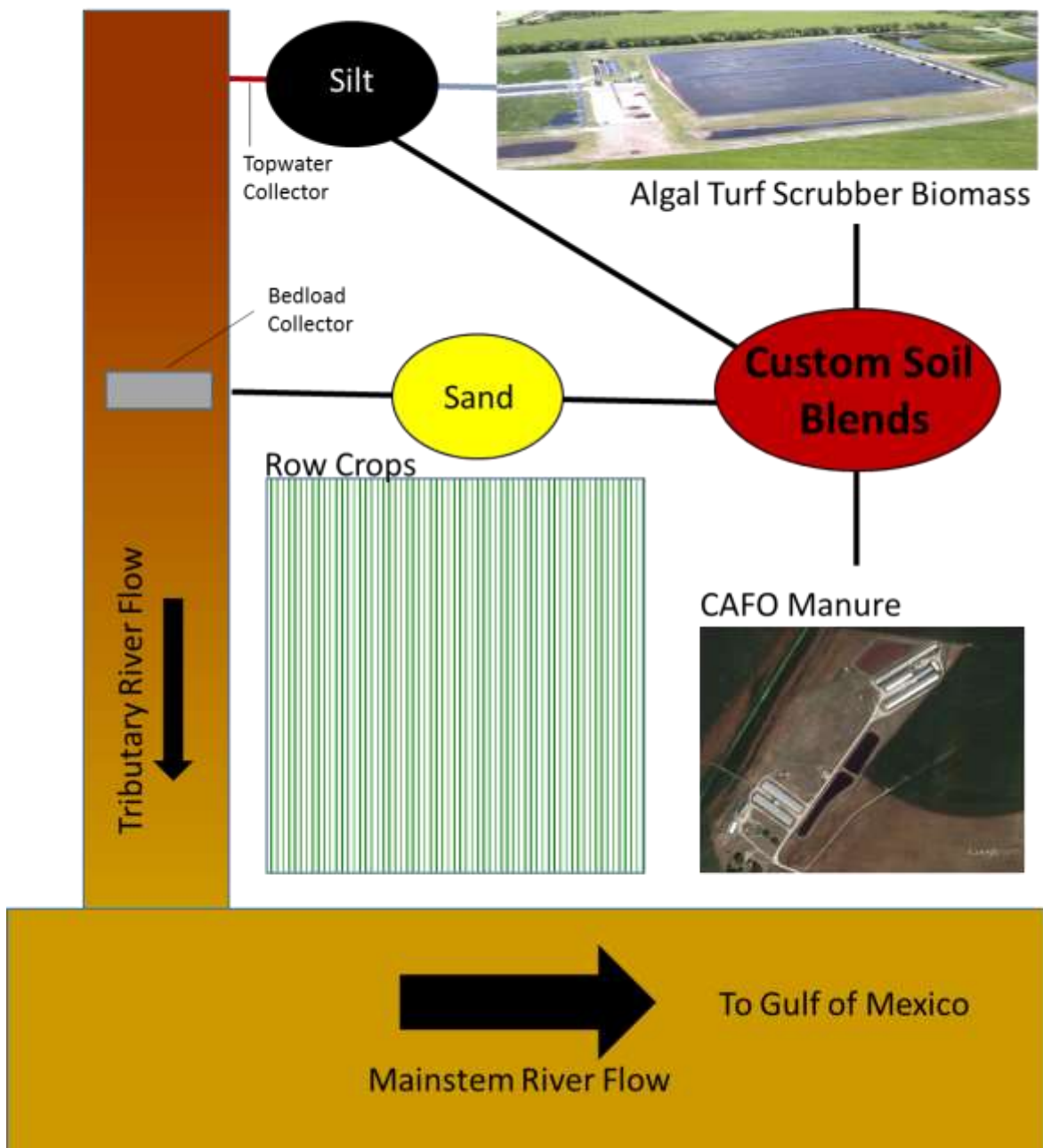
Illinois Nutrient Monitoring Council  
Springfield, IL

Chuck Theiling PhD  
Aquatic Ecologist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Rock Island District

Charles.h.theiling@usace.army.mil  
309-794-5636 Office  
563-210-4350 Cell

# What is Sand to Soil?

**Chuck Theiling – “Unconventional Ideas”  
presented Aug 2015 to Beardstown, Illinois  
stakeholders**



# Custom Soil Blending



## Custom Blend Mix

### Product Information:

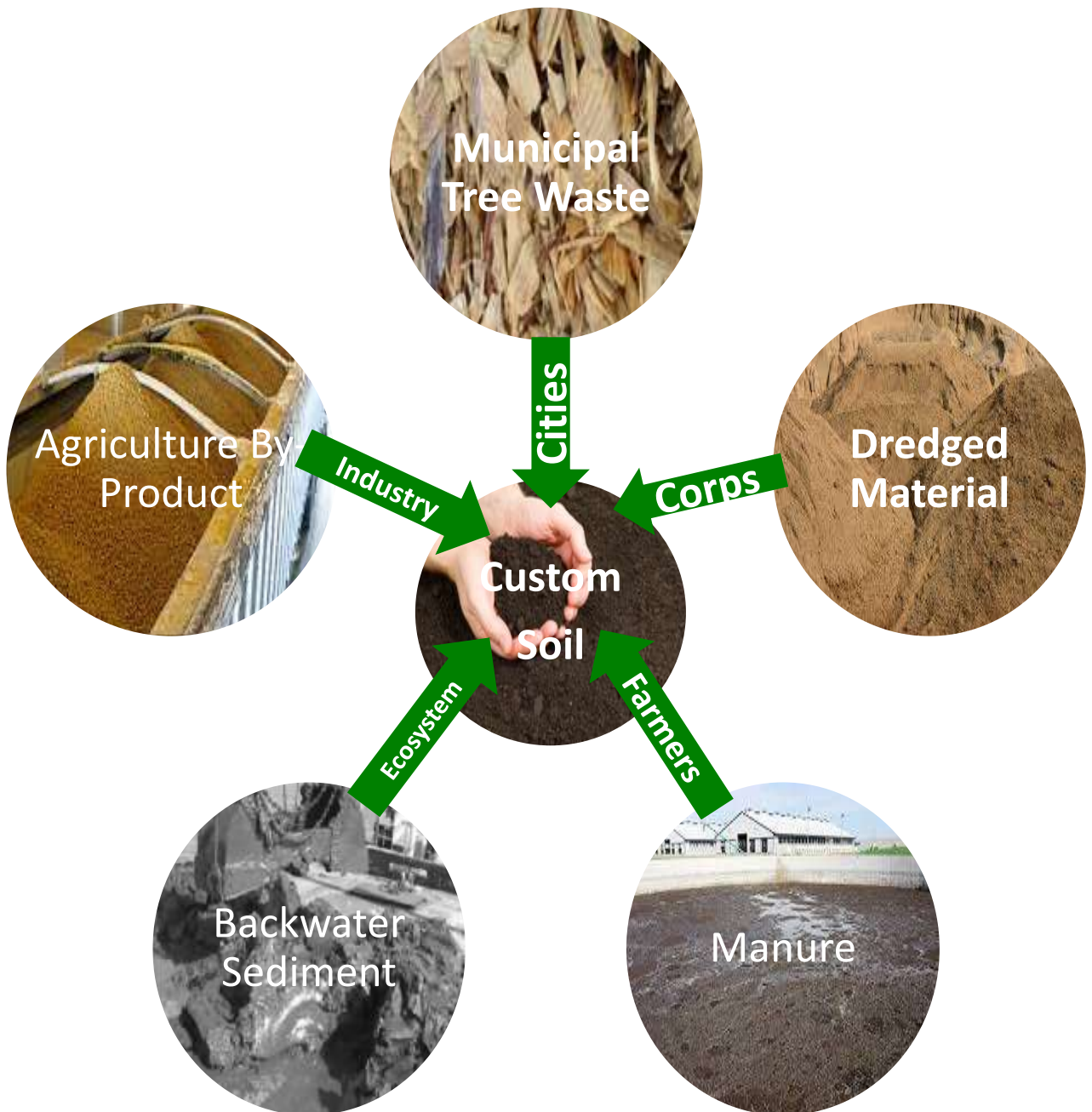
•Let us know your unique application and we will try to mix you a custom blend

### Menu of Materials:

- Peat
- Wood fines
- Black dirt
- Sand
- Manure



# Beneficial Use Model



# Site Operations

## Mulch Compost



Move the lightest or most valuable material the farthest.

## Sand Stockpile and Blending



# Site Operations



Drying fine material



Input stockpile

Custom soil inventory



# Customers

- **Highway shoulder and ditch construction (DOT):** “Provide manufactured soils for use as a medium for treating and filtering stormwater in rain gardens, horizontal filter berms, dikes, bioswales, and bioslopes.” Mn DOT Standard Specifications for Construction 2016
- **Construction**
- **Municipalities:** Stream and organic waste management
- **Rain gardens**
  - Landscaping
  - Municipal stormwater management
- **Ecosystem restoration**
  - Sand removal
  - Site preparation for revegetation
  - Disposal for Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) slash
- **Brownfield remediation**
- **Contaminants remediation**
- **Waste recycling (as input material)**
  - Municipal mulch
  - Municipal biosolids
  - Agricultural by-products
  - Livestock manure
  - Navigation dredged material

**Matching Sources,  
Markets, and Missions  
for Increased Efficiency**

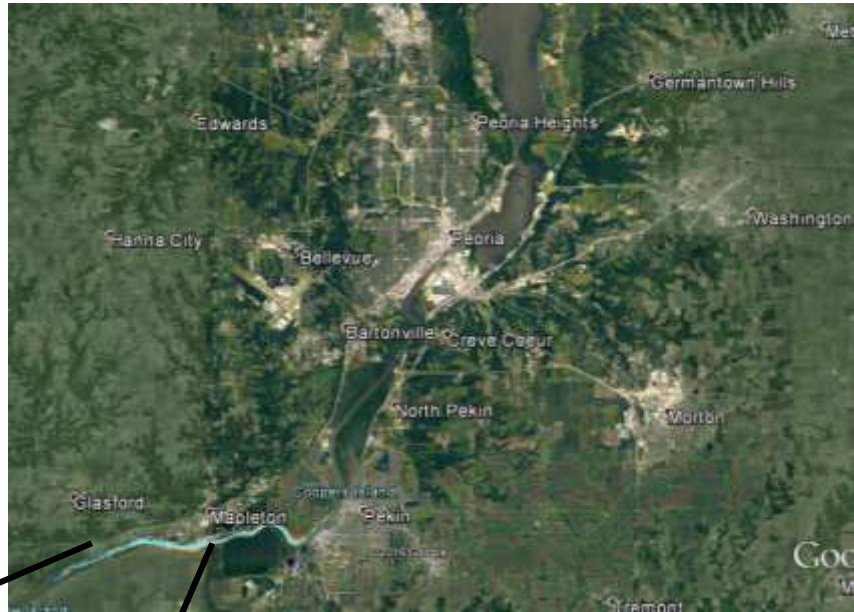
# Mackinaw River Stockpile

- Peoria/Pekin municipalities
- Agriculture by-products
- Chicago market - barge

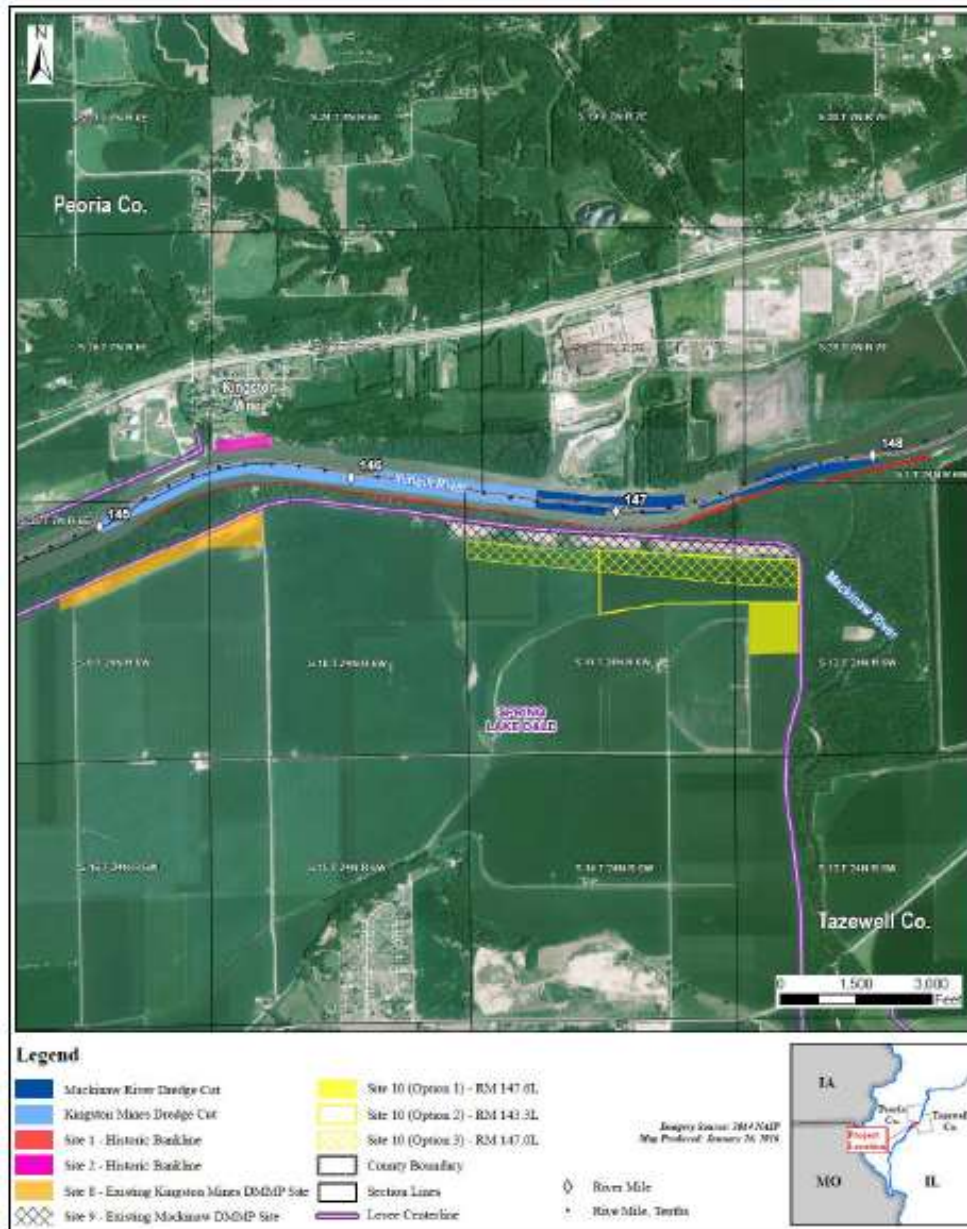
**61 Acres**

**~1,000,000CY**

**Almost full**



# Seek to avoid purchasing 140 acres for 40 more years of current practices

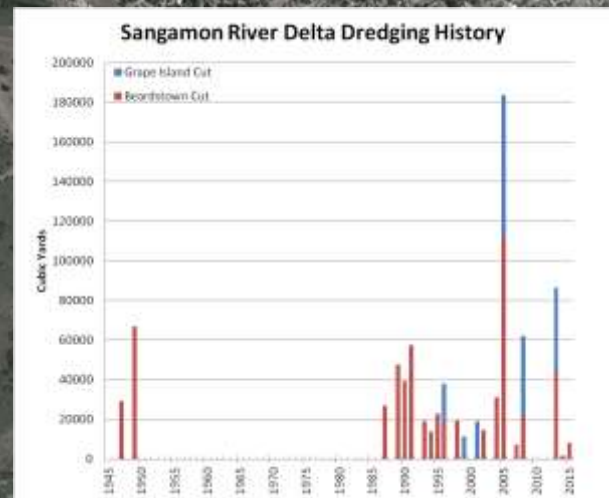
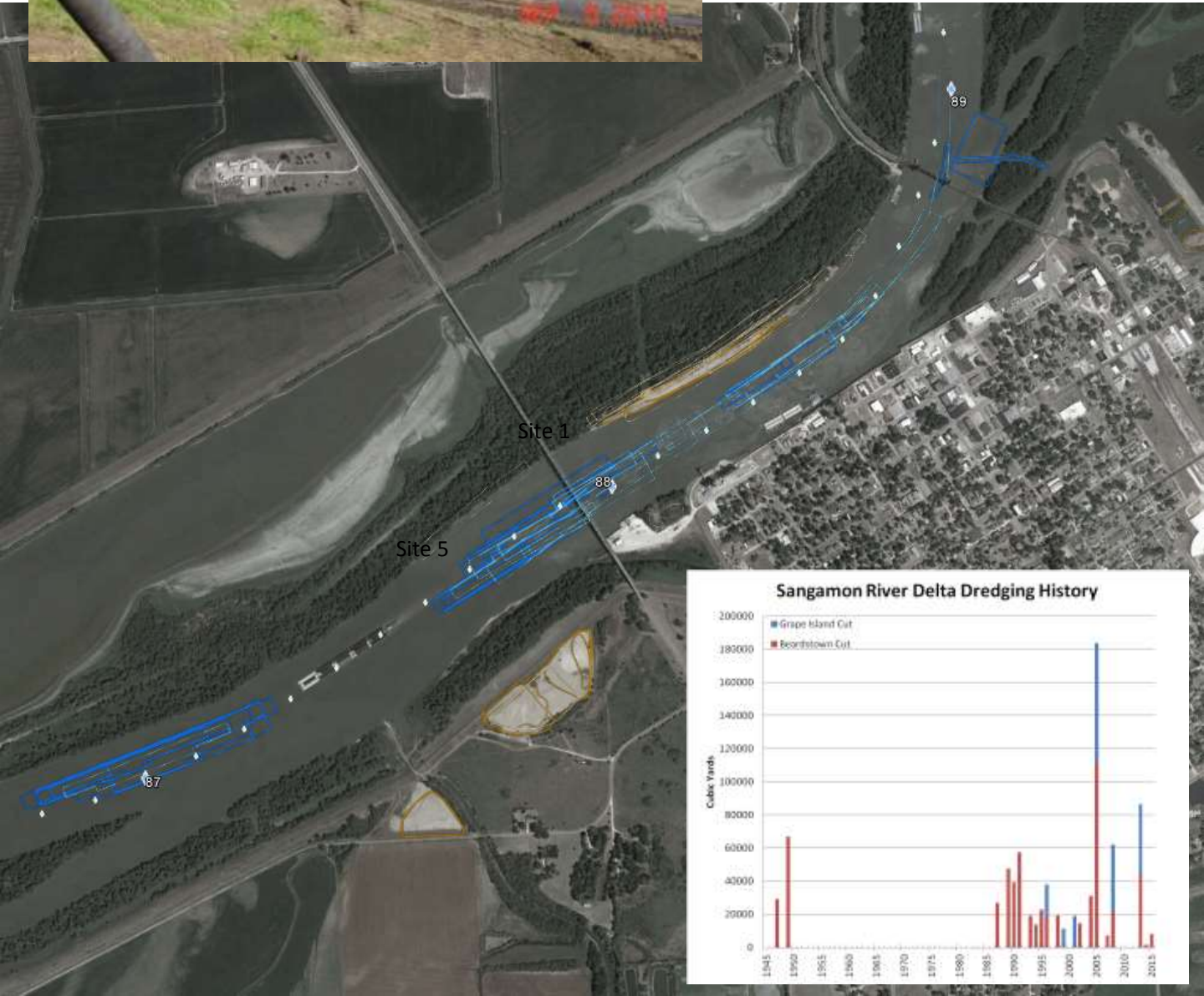


“The dredging frequency during this period for the Mackinaw Dredge Cut is on average one event every 0.89 years. Over the 40-year period of analysis, it is projected that 44 events would yield a volume of 2,456,960 cy (44,672 average per event + 0.25 contingency x 44 events = 2,456,960 cy).”

# Illinois Waterway at Beardstown, IL



- Sanganois dredging
- Sanganois TSI
- Agriculture by-products
- St. Louis market - barge



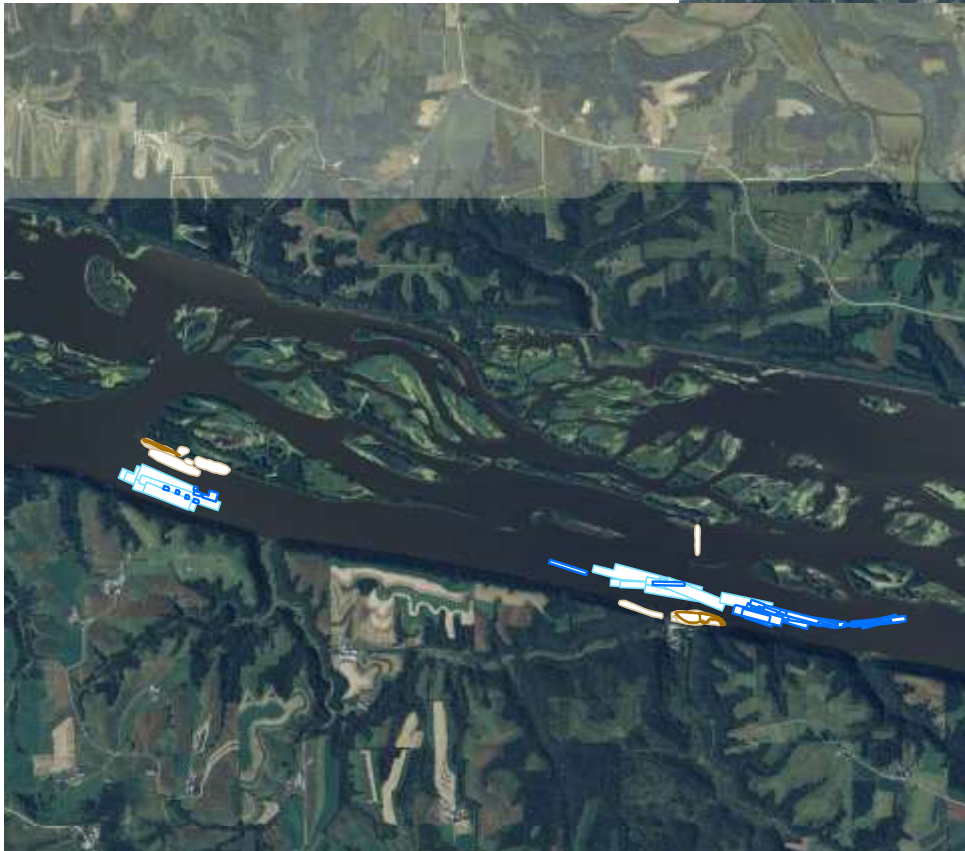
# Pool 11 – DMMP Sites

Turkey River Dredge Cuts and Placement

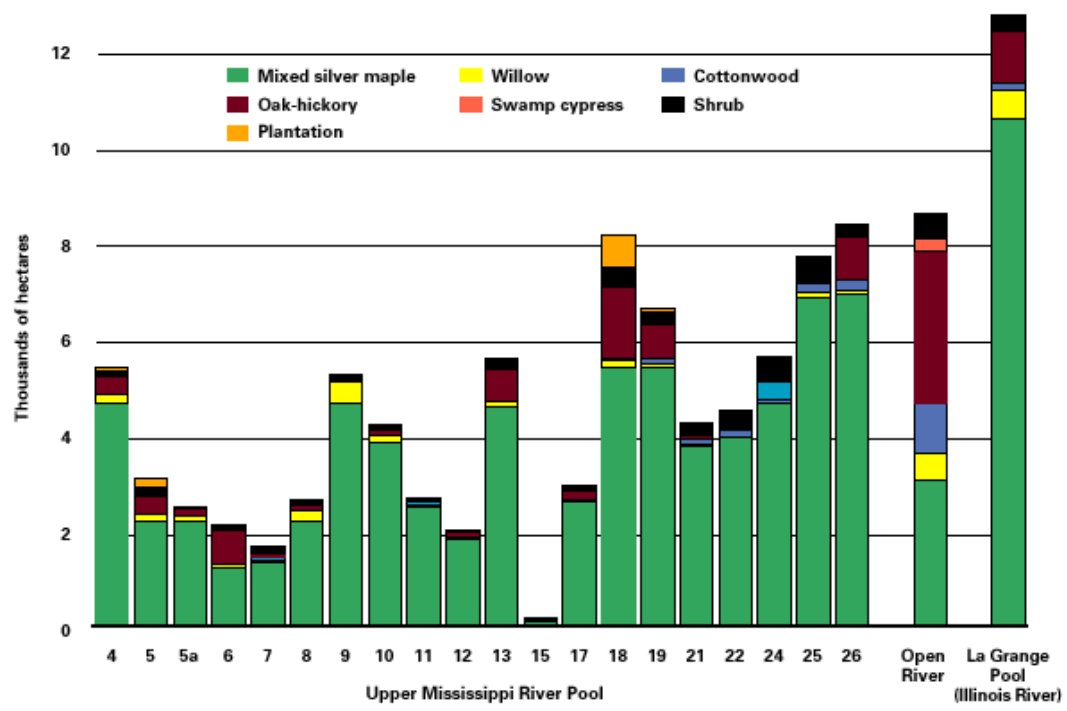
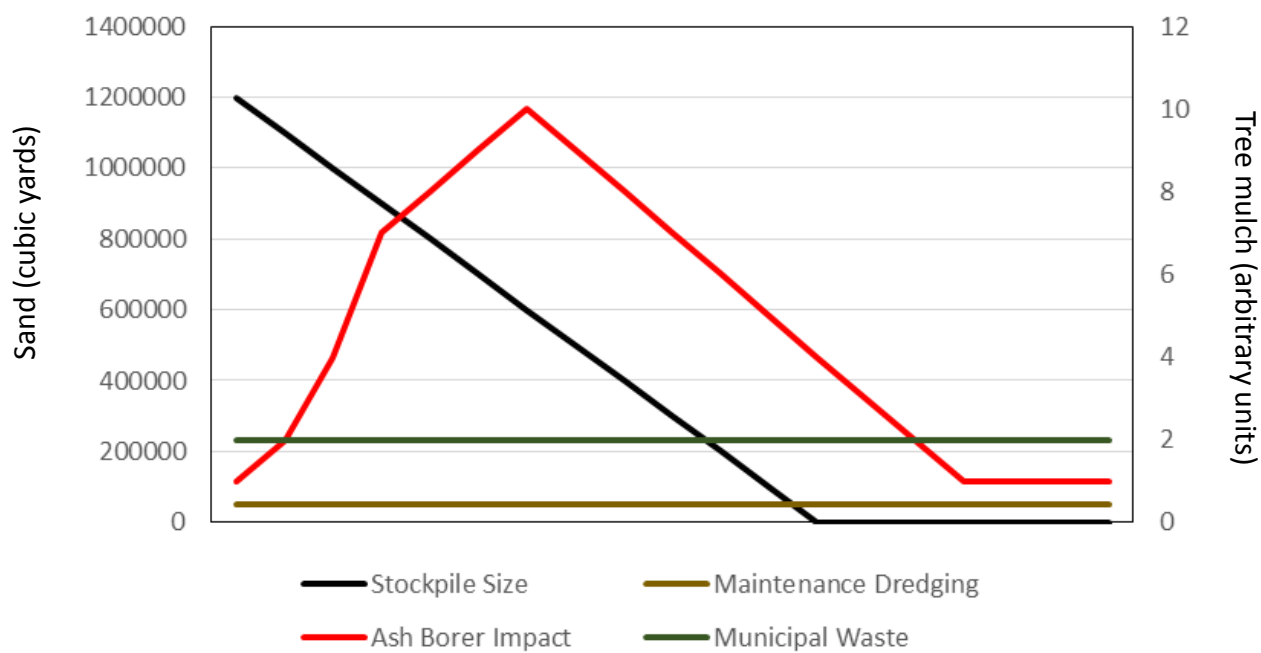
- Refuge TSI
- Agriculture by-products
- Dubuque market – barge/truck



Hurricane Island  
Dredge Cuts and Placement



# Coincidental Glut of Organic Load from Emerald Ash Borer



# Kankakee River Opportunities



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Rock Island District

## ILLINOIS RIVER BASIN RESTORATION SECTION 519

### KANKAKEE RIVER MAINSTEM CRITICAL RESTORATION PROJECT

**SUMMARY REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 2014**

Kankakee River  
Basin Commission

**Kankakee River Conservancy**



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

## Press Release


**Allison Fore**  
Public Affairs Specialist  
312.751.6633  
[publicaffairsinfo@mwrd.org](mailto:publicaffairsinfo@mwrd.org)  
100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

David St. Pierre, MWRD executive director, “Our biosolids program has developed into a strong, well-managed process that takes treated waste and converts it into a superior, usable product. We are always willing to share our insight and demonstrate techniques that are instrumental to our success.”

# KANKAKEE RIVER MAINSTEM CRITICAL RESTORATION PROJECT

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2006 USACE report showed that dredging in the Six-Mile Pool would reduce sand concentrations in the riffle sections downstream, but preliminary cost analysis indicated that this type of project was infeasible. Costs to dredge would be nearly \$20 million, not including placement costs. It is estimated that recurring dredging would occur every 10 years or less adding to maintenance costs.



**At this time there are no recommended viable projects in the Kankakee mainstem.** Sand deposition threatens quality habitat but removing this sand from local areas on the mainstem is costly and does not reduce the high sediment load coming into the Kankakee Mainstem Area which shortens the time period of benefits. It is recommended that future focus include reducing sediment load into the system from the tributaries and watershed in the upper basin including the Iroquois River and Yellow River basins.

**Now is different, can sand capture be cheaper?**

# **Now is Different, Can Sand Management be Cheaper?**

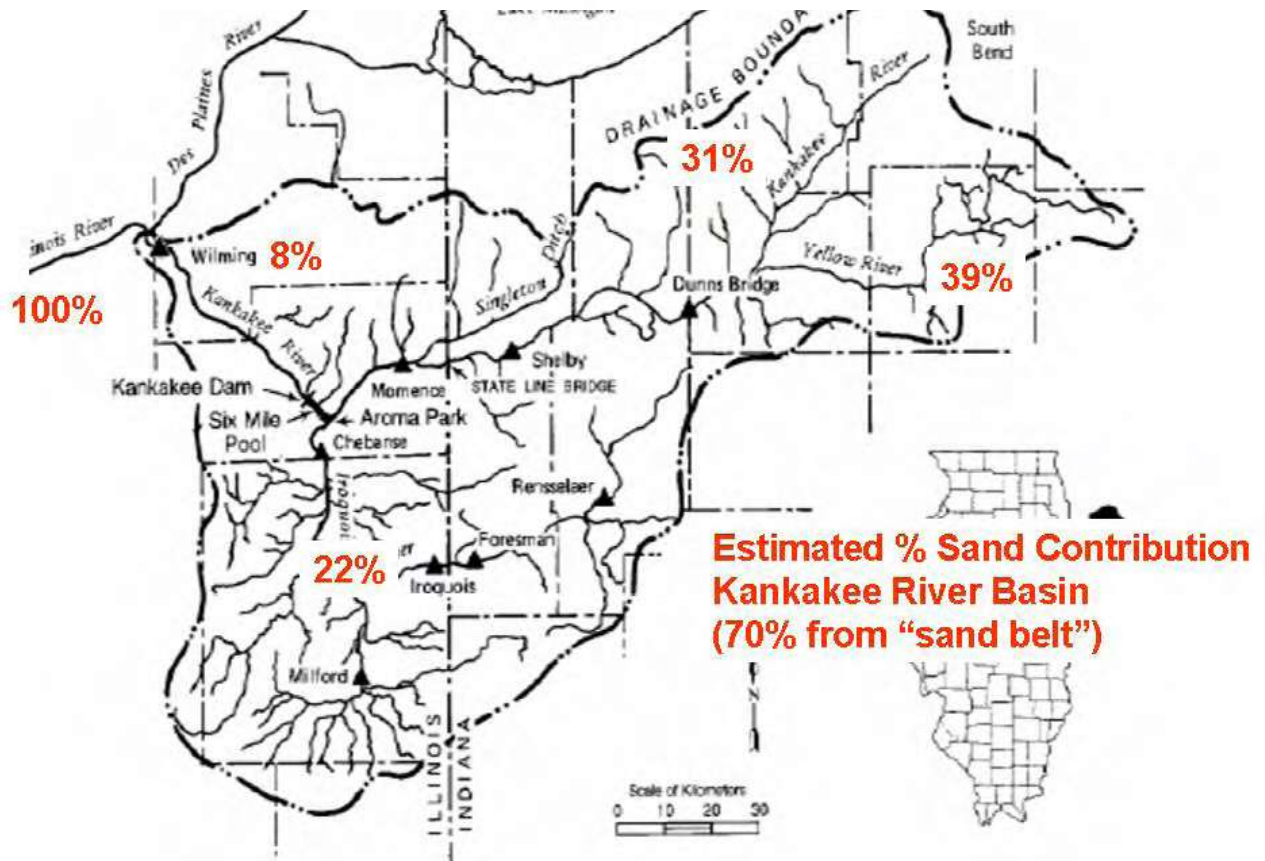
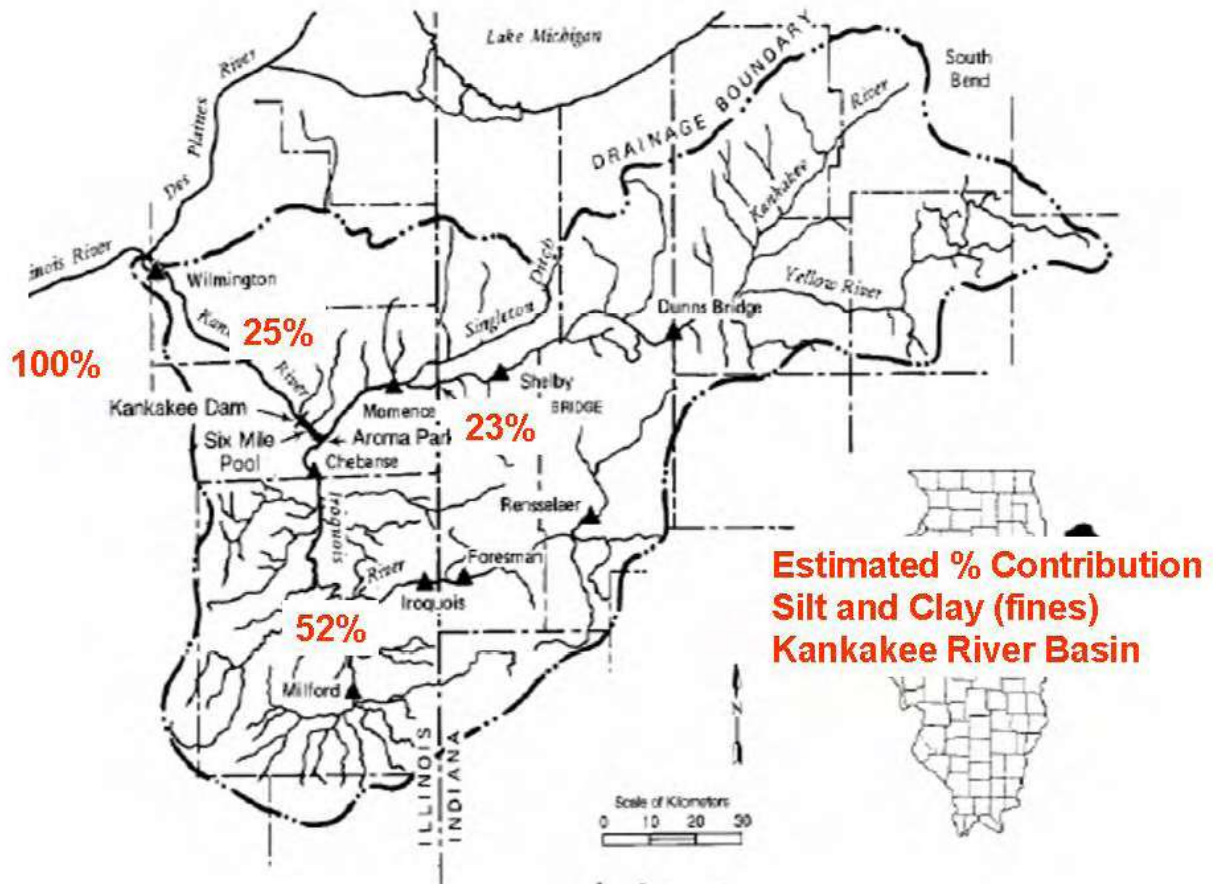
- New tools
  - Bedload sediment collector
  - Bubble curtain to precipitate fine sediment
  - Custom soil blends for beneficial use
- New partners
  - MWRD
  - USACE ERDC
  - IDOT
  - Minnesota Mulch and Soil
- Site prioritization
  - SIAM Model

**Ideally, Corps tech transfer will introduce new restoration methods and partnerships that prove cost-effective for managing MWRD biosolids and ecosystem restoration by selling waste disposal and manufactured soil products.**

# Bedload sediment collector



# Sediment Impact Analysis Methods (SIAM) Model Results



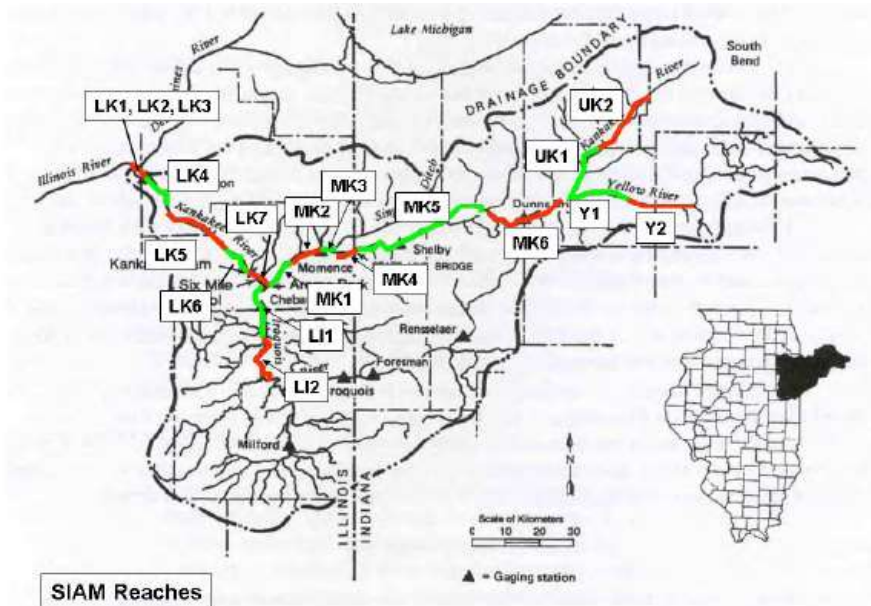


Figure 8 SIAM Reaches.

## Kankakee – Preliminary SIAM Results

Reach	Existing local bal	Existing total	Alt 1 local bal	Alt 1 total	Alt 2 local bal	Alt 2 total	Alt 3 local bal	Alt 3 total	Alt 4 local bal	Alt 4 total	Alt 5 local bal	Alt 5 total
LK1	0	947,000	0	943,000	0	931,000	0	738,000	0	885,000	0	947,000
LK2	-4,508	1,077,000	-4,508	1,073,000	-4,508	1,061,000	-4,508	868,000	-4,508	1,025,000	-4,508	1,077,000
LK3	0	917,000	0	914,000	0	901,000	0	708,000	0	866,000	0	917,000
LK4	-124,000	922,000	-124,000	918,000	-124,000	906,000	-124,000	712,000	-124,000	870,000	-124,000	922,000
LK5	0	715,000	0	711,000	0	699,000	0	506,000	0	663,000	0	715,000
LK6	0	683,000	0	679,000	0	667,000	0	473,000	0	631,000	0	683,000
LK7	69,300	643,600	69,300	639,600	69,300	627,600	69,300	434,600	69,300	591,600	69,300	643,600
MK1	-12,500	295,300	-12,500	292,300	-12,500	279,300	-12,500	295,300	-12,500	244,300	-12,500	295,300
MK2	0	217,000	0	213,000	0	201,000	0	217,000	0	185,000	0	217,000
MK3	-21,100	174,500	-21,100	170,500	-21,100	158,500	-21,100	174,500	-21,100	122,400	-21,100	174,500
MK4	2,081	146,400	2,081	142,400	2,081	130,400	2,081	146,400	2,081	94,600	-16,700	146,400
MK5	-6,859	128,800	-6,859	125,800	-6,859	113,100	-6,859	128,800	-6,859	77,200	9,204	109,986
MK6	33,000	91,600	33,000	88,000	33,000	75,600	33,000	91,600	30,900	62,900	35,700	88,912
UK1	2,974	22,033	2,974	22,033	2,974	22,033	2,974	22,033	124	12,423	2,978	22,029
UK2	2,413	5,987	2,413	5,987	2,413	5,987	2,413	5,987	1,153	3,047	2,413	5,987
LI1	-18,900	439,600	-18,900	439,600	-18,900	439,600	-18,900	229,600	-18,900	439,600	-18,900	439,600
LI2	-1,765	240,765	-1,765	240,765	-1,765	240,765	-1,765	121,765	-1,765	240,765	-1,765	240,765
Y1	19,800	72,100	-569	68,500	18,000	56,200	19,800	72,100	18,000	66,200	19,800	72,100
Y2	-30,900	55,900	-30,900	55,900	-31,600	44,200	-30,900	55,900	-31,600	44,200	-30,900	55,900

degradational or less sediment

aggradational or more sediment

Total load computed for downstream end of reach

Total load is mostly (but not all) fines.

Alt 1 - Yellow River bank erosion reduced by 100% (sand)

Alt 2 - Yellow River watershed yield reduced by 50%

Alt 3: Iroquois River watershed source loads reduced by 50 percent

Alt 4: Kankakee River (above state line) watershed source loads reduced by 50%

Alt 5: Re-meandering of Kankakee River reach from state line through Shelby (SIAM reach M5)

# Next Steps

- Introduce partners
- Share technology
- Identify and grow soil market potential
- Design project
- Implement and run project
- Monitor results
- Share results