

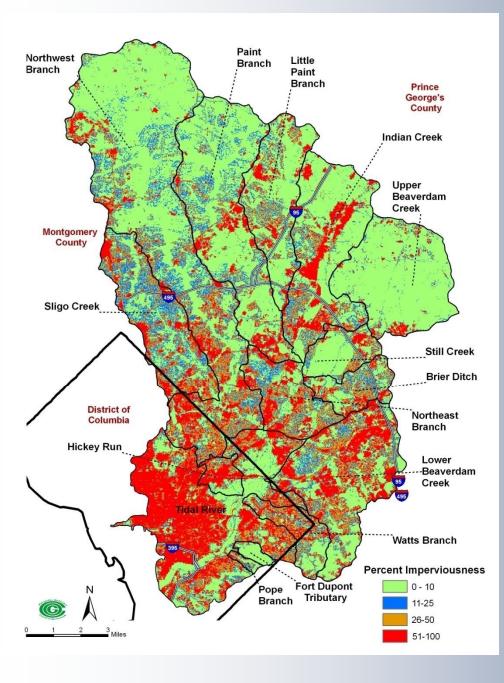
Anacostia Watershed Restoration Plan (ARP)

Status Brief to MWCOG Board

November 12, 2008

# Anacostia At a Glance

176 square miles 83% of the land area is in Maryland-17% in Washington, DC **Generally considered to** be one of the most polluted rivers in the nation One of the most developed in the Chesapeake: 70% developed 25% impervious



# Stormwater is a key problem





# **Key Dates**

- June 2006 The Anacostia
  Watershed Restoration Partnership (AWRP) created by the MWCOG
   Board
- November 2007 Congress directed the US Army Corps of Engineers to develop a comprehensive restoration plan
- February 2010 The planned date of issuance of the ARP



# The US Army Corps of Engineers' Partners and Local Sponsors



The State of Maryland



The District of Columbia



Prince George's County



Montgomery County



Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments



#### **Purpose of the ARP**

• From the Preface:

"While many positive actions have been taken over the years, and others have been planned, most have been earnest independent efforts undertaken in separate jurisdictions rather than in the framework of a holistic plan that considers the needs of the entire basin."

"The watershed-wide ARP will contribute to the watershed's more comprehensive, meaningful, cost-effective and rapid restoration."



## **ARP Key Findings**

- Water Quality Problems: Primarily the result of uncontrolled stormwater, combined sewage overflows (CSOs), and legacy toxic contamination. Only about 36% of the watershed has stormwater controls.
- Sediments and trash are especially bad—10 times the sediments of any other Bay watershed it has studied.



#### **ARP Recommendations**

## Almost 2700 Projects

- 1,781 stormwater retrofit projects controlling 8,587 impervious acres upon completion, 65% of the watershed has stormwater controls.
- 279 stream restoration projects covering 38 miles
- 114 wetland creation projects covering 133 acres



### Summary of the ARP Continued

 Other projects: removal of fish passage blockages; riparian reforestation; trash reduction; toxics remediation; and parkland acquisition

Recommended Programs and Policies



#### Cost of the ARP

- Total cost to implement: over \$1 Billion over 10 years
- The Partnership will seek federal funding to help with implementation



# Benefits of Implementing the ARP

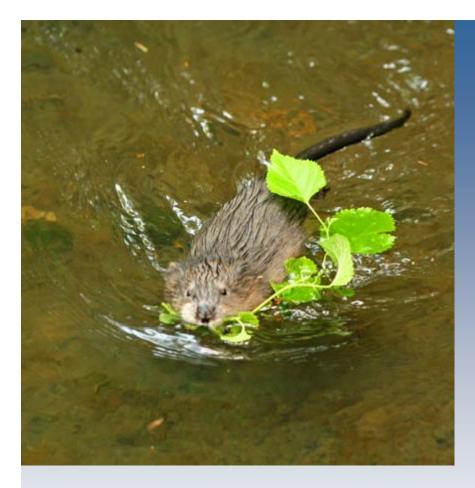
- Significant improvement to the Anacostia watershed and Potomac and Anacostia rivers
- Greening our communities with "environmental site design" such as green streets, trees, and rain gardens improve air quality, energy conservation, heat island mitigation, aesthetics, job creation
- Jurisdictions can use identified projects to meet Clean Water Act MS4 requirements



## **ARP Next Steps**

Public Hearing

- Improvements on the presentation of the plan including information on the benefits
- Briefings for local elected officials and Members of the Anacostia delegation to Congress
- Continuing work on funding issues



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