

# Preview of 2020 Activities

## Grasse River Remediation Project

April 2020

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# Topics to be Covered

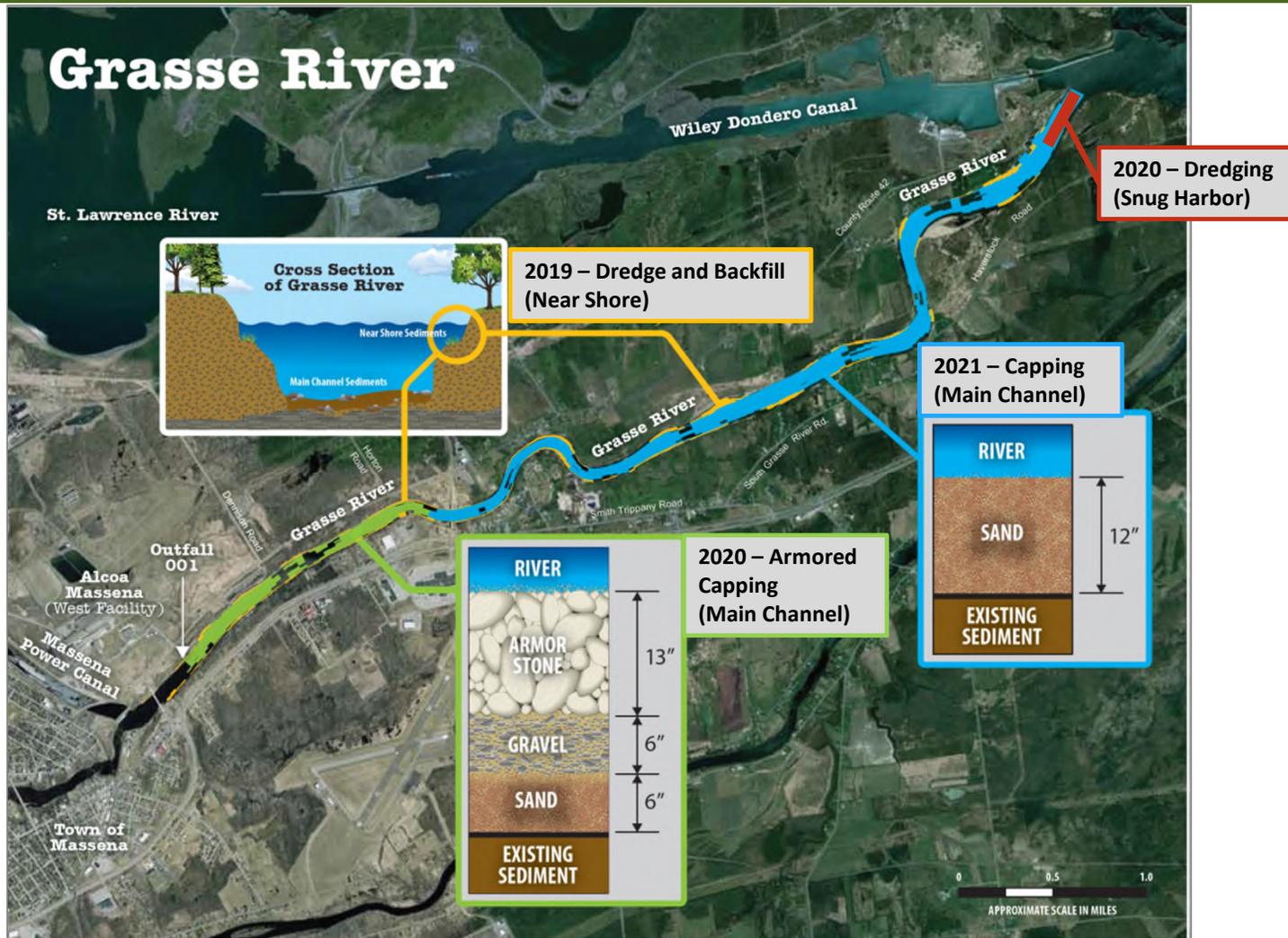
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## *Presentation Slide Summary*

- Project overview
- Work completed in 2019
- What to expect during 2020 in-river work
- Monitoring
- Boating and swimming safety
- Resources for more information



# USEPA Selected Grasse River Remedy and General Target Schedule



# Already Completed: 2019 Remediation and Support Work

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## *Sediment and Soil Removal*

- ❑ Removed ~100,000 cubic yards of sediment/soil from near shore areas within the river and floodplain areas
- ❑ Remediated an upland area just upstream of the Alcoa Bridge and the mouth of the Unnamed Tributary
- ❑ Placed clean cap material and backfill in the river, and reconstructed the near shore and floodplain areas

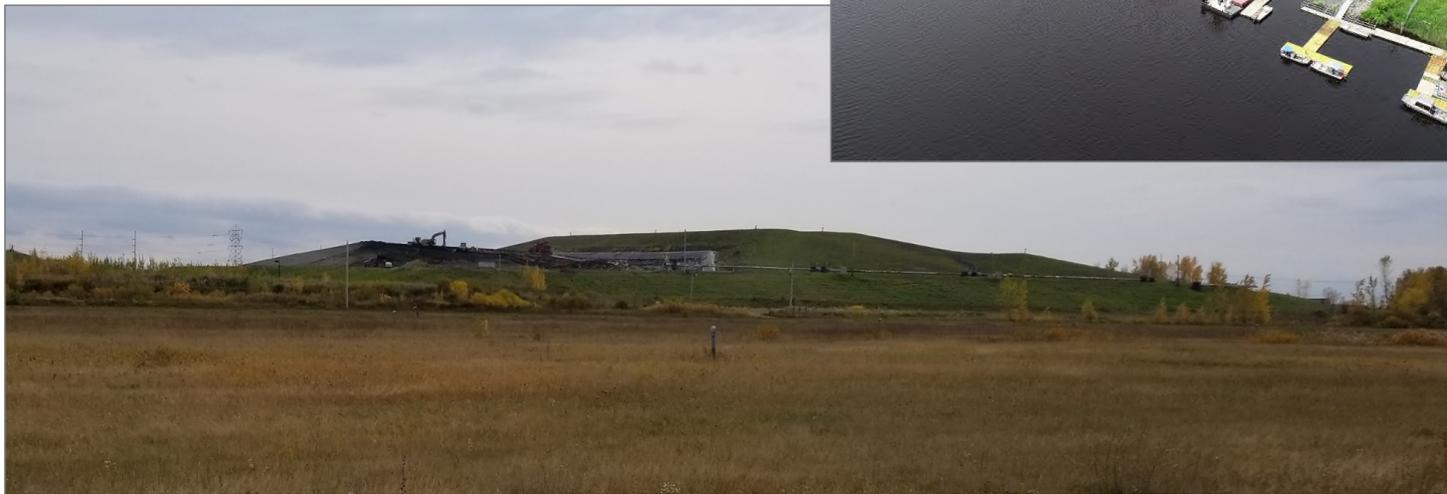


## Already Completed: 2019 Remediation and Support Work (Cont'd)

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### *Material Processing and Disposal*

- ❑ Processed dredged material at the staging area and transported to the Secure Landfill for disposal



# 2019 Monitoring Results Summary

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## *Monitoring Results Confirm Construction Work Protecting Health*

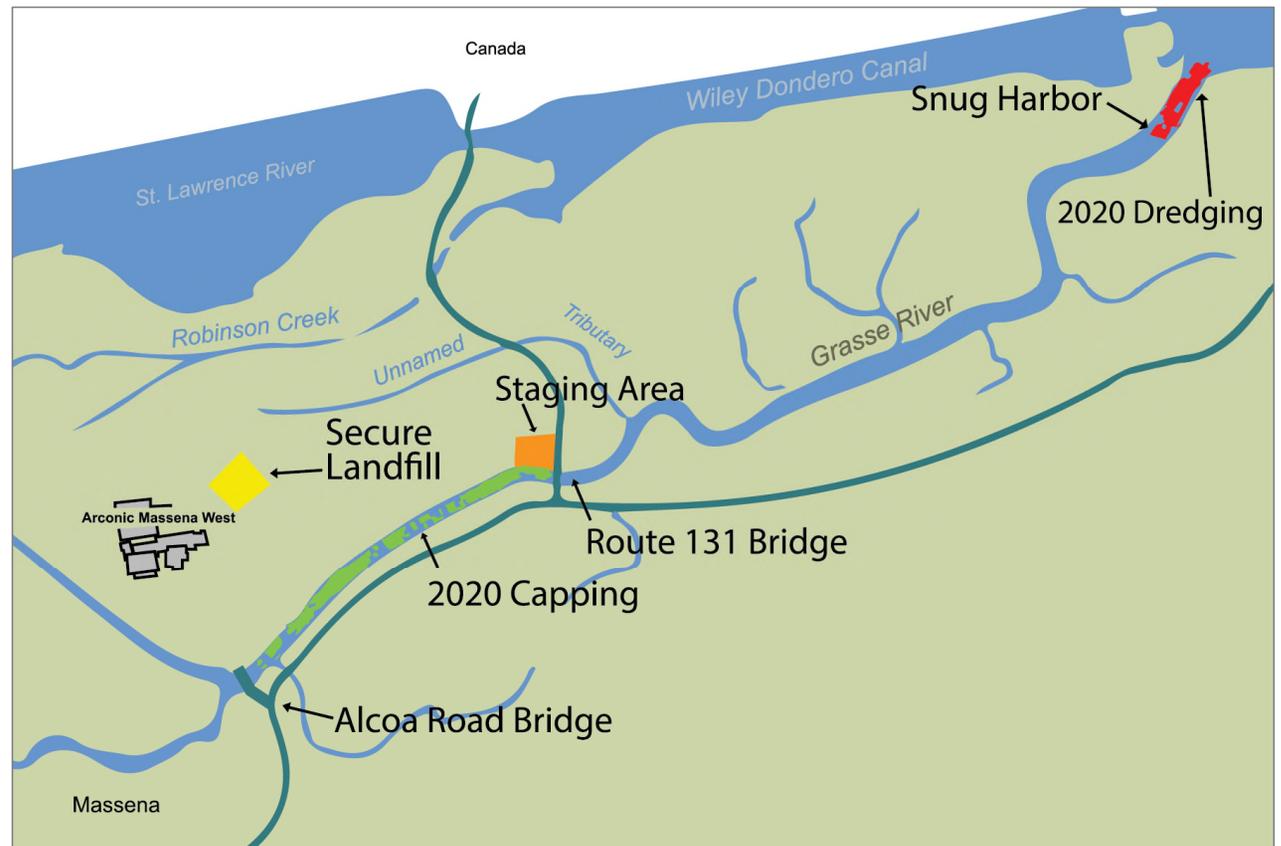
- ❑ Extensive air and water quality monitoring conducted during all 2019 activities and results indicated the work was done in a manner protective of human health
  - All water quality measurements at the river compliance location and drinking water intakes were well below established criteria
  - All air quality measurements at the Arconic property line were below established criteria; there were a limited number of air quality exceedances in early summer at the Secure Landfill, and they were quickly addressed with no further incidents



# What's Next: Grasse River 2020 Remediation Project Activities

## *Sediment Removal, Processing and Disposal – Capping – Planting*

- Sediment removal
- Material processing at the staging area
- Dispose materials at the secure landfill
- Capping
- Replanting



# Grasse River 2020 – Sediment Removal

*U.S. EPA's Remedy Modification → Removal at Snug Harbor Area*



- ❑ Change in river use in vicinity of Snug Harbor due to St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation plans to operate a new tugboat that requires deeper navigational draft
- ❑ Remove ~85,000 cubic yards of targeted sediment over ~20 acres (+ 6,000 cubic yards for navigation)
- ❑ Material transported via barge from removal areas to staging area for processing
- ❑ Material transported via truck from staging area to secure landfill for disposal



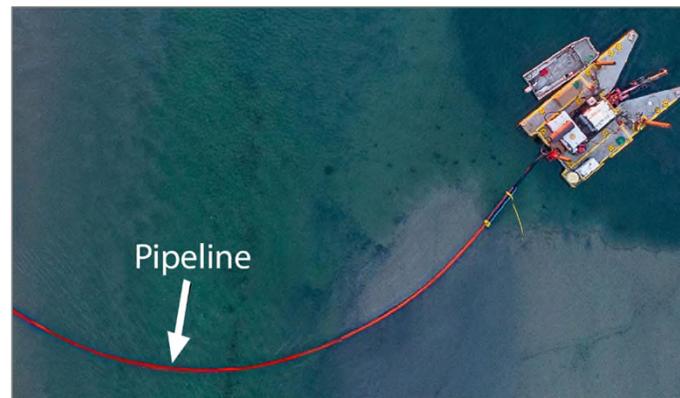
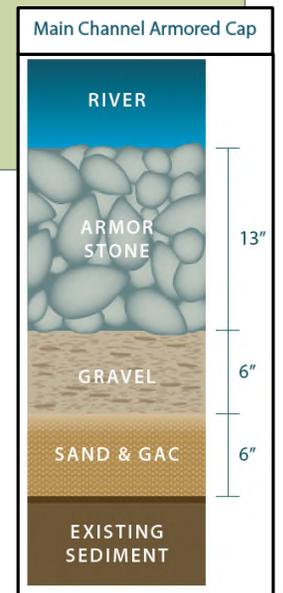
The basis for the change at Snug Harbor can be found at the following link:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/alcoa-aggregate>

# Grasse River 2020 – Capping

*Capping – Between Alcoa Road Bridge and Route 131 Bridge*

- ❑ Place cap material over ~55 acres (~ 2 miles of river)
- ❑ Clean cap material transported via barge and pipeline from staging area to river
- ❑ Material transported via truck to staging area from borrow pit



# Grasse River 2020 – Planting

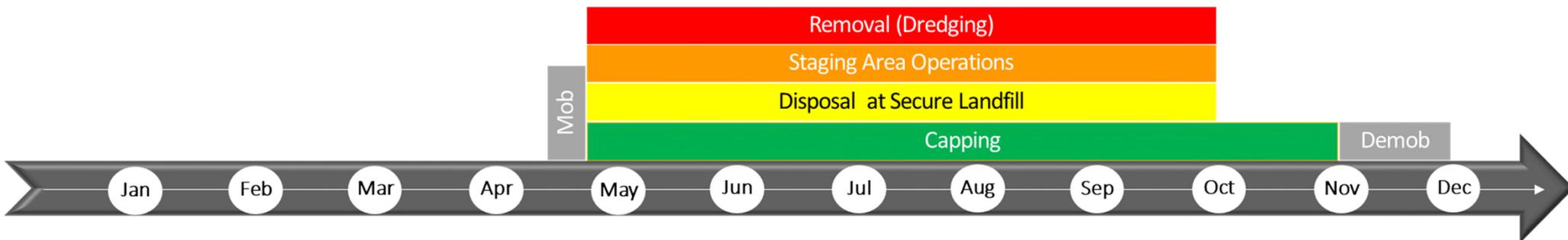
## *Planting – 2019 Near Shore Areas*

- Plant vegetation in the near shore areas dredged in 2019



## Target 2020 In-river Work Schedule

*Target construction schedule pending weather conditions*



- ❑ Work targeted for 6 days per week, 12-24 hours per day on river
  - Night work at staging area and on river during capping operations
  
- ❑ Work to generally be performed upstream to downstream
  - Most upstream area work will not start until mid-June to protect lake sturgeon



# What to Expect During In-river Work

*Working with the contractor and local authorities to limit the impact to residents*

- ❑ Possible noise and associated controls and monitoring
- ❑ Lighting for worker safety and controls
- ❑ Site security
- ❑ Vehicle and boat traffic plans



# What to Expect During In-river Work: Noise Controls and Monitoring

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*Noise reducing measures by the contractor to limit the impact to residents*

- ❑ Construction noise mitigation measures
  - Cap materials will be transported using a pipeline or barges lined with wooden crane mats
  - Placement equipment will be lined with a sound dampening material
  - Booster pumps at the staging area will be surrounded by sound attenuation panels
  - Material deliveries will not occur on the night shift
  - Off site loading and material transport to the landfill will not be allowed after 8:00 pm
  - No back up alarms during the night shift
- ❑ Capping will be upstream of the Route 131 bridge away from the majority of homes along the river
- ❑ Noise levels will be monitored against identified criteria





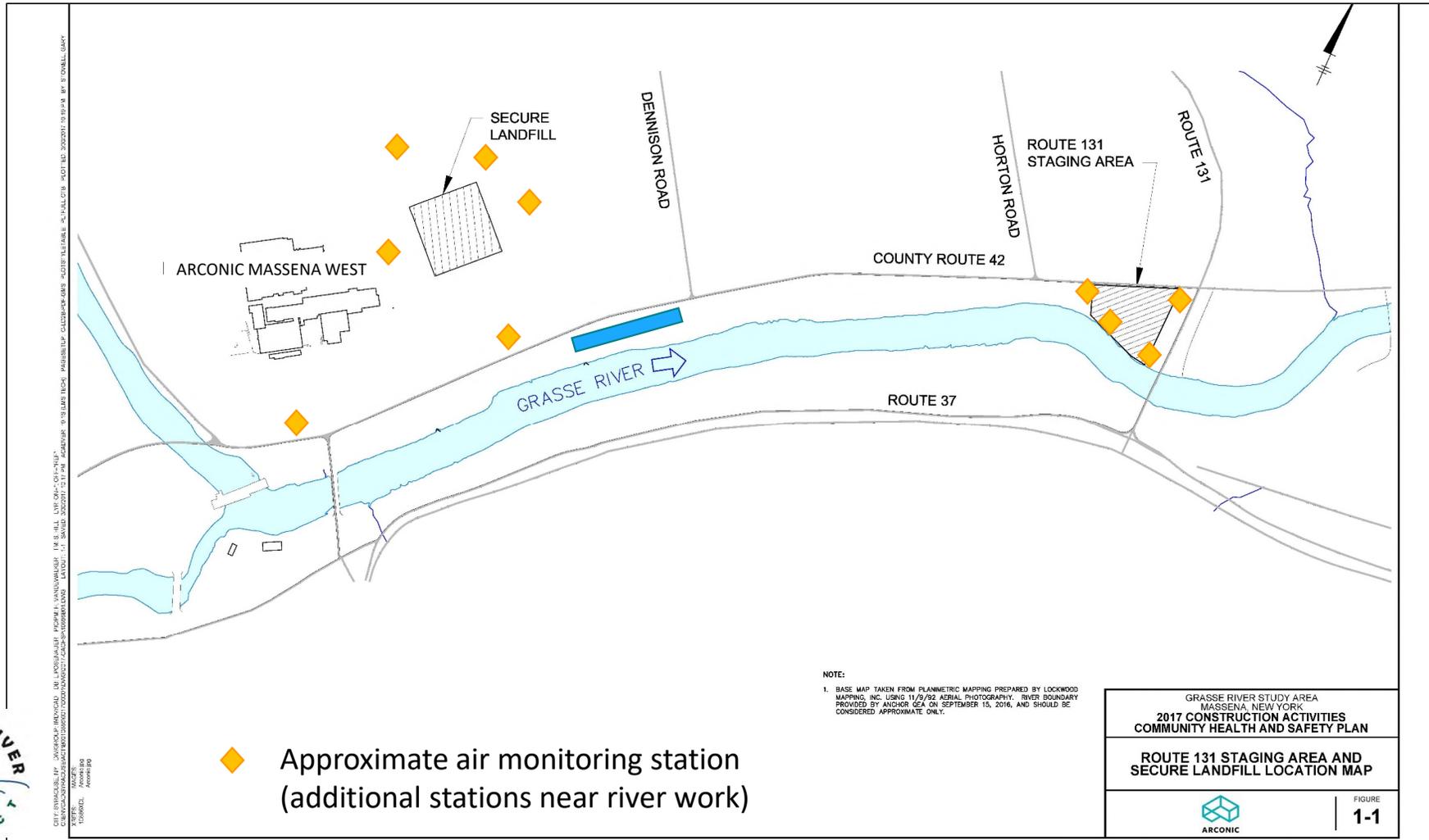
# What to Expect During In-river Work: Monitoring

*Air and water monitoring with established action levels*

- ❑ Community health and safety plan outlines measures to protect the surrounding community
  - Plan posted to the project website  
([http://www.thegrasseriver.com/documents/App\\_K\\_Final%20CHASP%2004-2019%20FINAL%20reduced.pdf](http://www.thegrasseriver.com/documents/App_K_Final%20CHASP%2004-2019%20FINAL%20reduced.pdf))
- ❑ Air monitoring
  - PCBs, dust, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- ❑ Water monitoring
  - PCBs and solids
- ❑ Corrective action levels
- ❑ Monitoring data posted to the project website  
(<http://www.thegrasseriver.com/csmon.html>)



# Air Monitoring Stations at the Secure Landfill and Staging Area



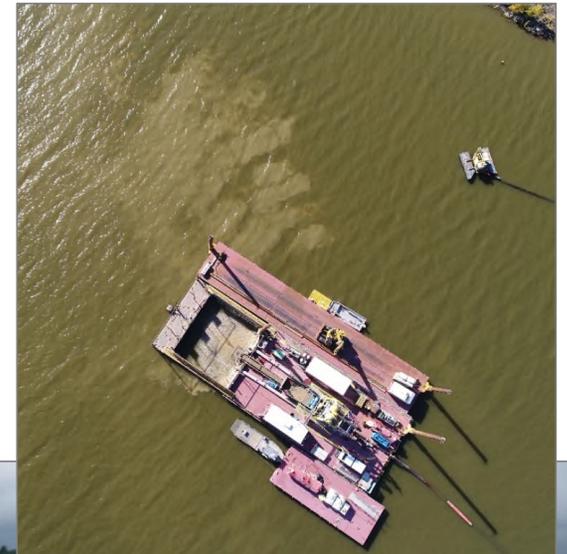
# Air Monitoring Stations for the Sediment Removal Operations



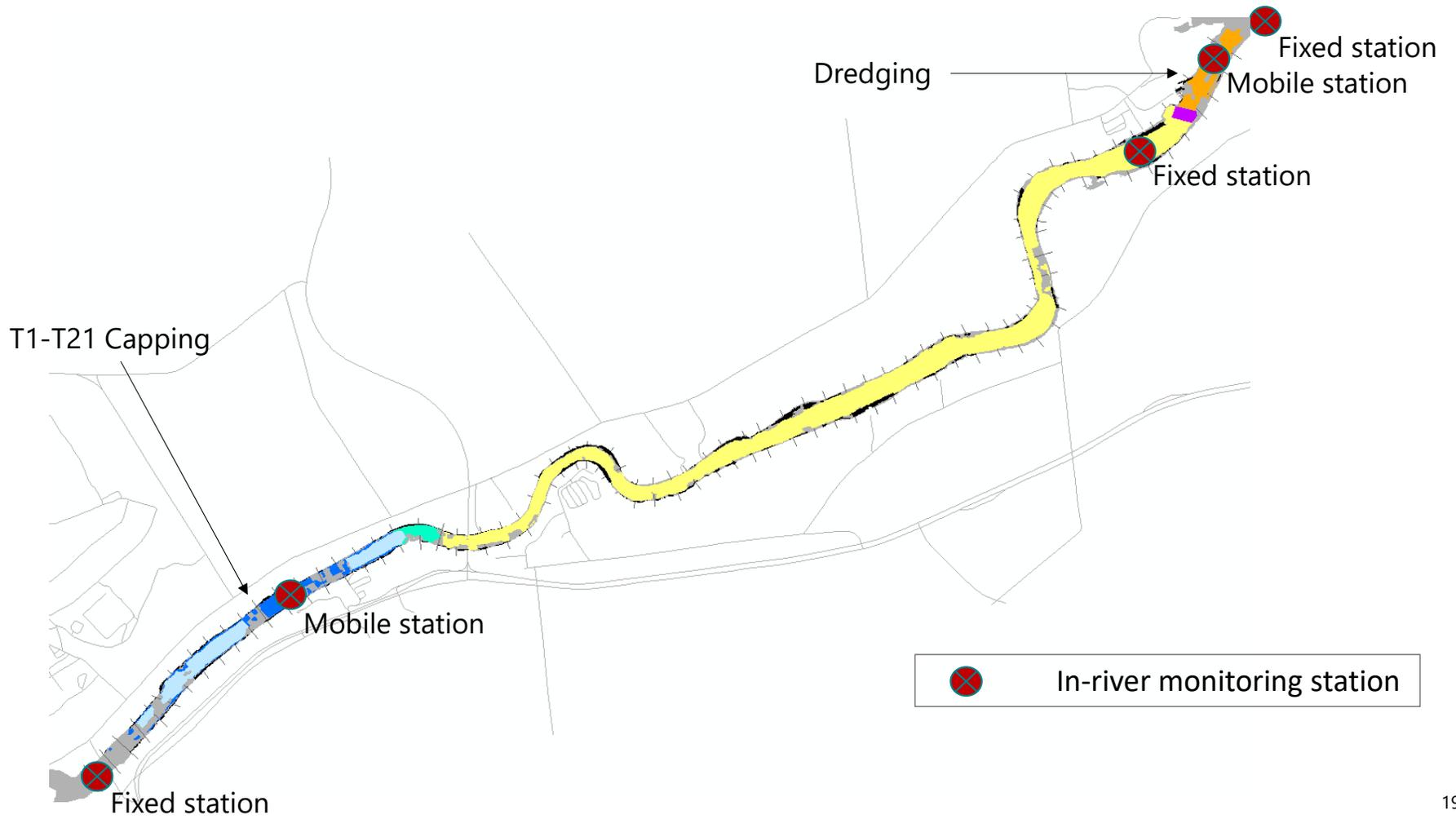
# What to Expect During In-river Work: Turbidity

*Turbidity expected during material placement in the river*

- What is turbidity?
  - Measure of water clarity and how much the material suspended in water decreases the passage of light (USEPA)
  - Increased turbidity (cloudiness) expected, but note that turbid water is also visible during and after a storm
- Does it pose a concern?
  - Water quality criteria were met during 2019 dredging
  - Capping materials to be placed are clean
  - Monitoring and corrective action levels will be in place
- How much is expected?
  - Visible impacts expected and will return to natural conditions following work



# Water Column Monitoring Locations



# Water Intake Monitoring Locations

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# Boating and Swimming Safety

*Please take precautions and following signage near active work areas and stay clear to keep safe*

## □ Boating

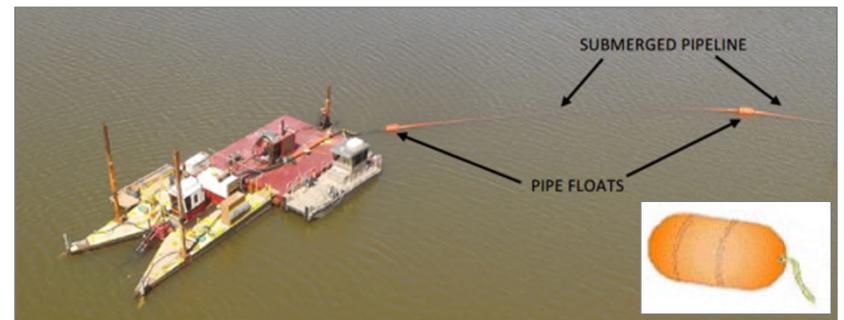
- Work areas identified with floating signs
- Requesting reduced boat speed and safe distance
- Navigational arrows point to direction for passing around equipment
- Be aware of floating pipeline marked with buoys



## □ Swimming

- Avoid swimming near or immediately downstream of active work areas
- Refer to guidance contained in NYS Department of Health swimming factsheet

([https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/investigations/lower\\_grasse\\_river/](https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/investigations/lower_grasse_river/))



# Additional Health and Safety Measures

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## *Coronavirus – COVID-19 Measures*

- ❑ Measures will be put in place prior to and during construction for protection of the workers and community in response to the COVID-19 outbreak



## For More Information on the Grasse River Remediation Project

*USEPA and Arconic will be reaching out in various ways*

- ❑ Mailers and other communications
- ❑ Visit Arconic's project website: [www.thegrasseriver.com](http://www.thegrasseriver.com)
- ❑ Visit U.S. EPA's Grasse River Superfund site: [www.epa.gov/superfund/alcoa-aggregate](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/alcoa-aggregate)



If you have questions or concerns, please contact Arconic's community liaison:

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- ❑ Additional contacts for more information about the project:

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Daniel Tucholski	NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Environmental Exposure Evaluation	Phone: 518-402-7860 Email: <a href="mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov">BEEI@health.ny.gov</a>
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