

# TNC in the Maumee AOC



TNC's Mission: To conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends



# Big Picture Goals

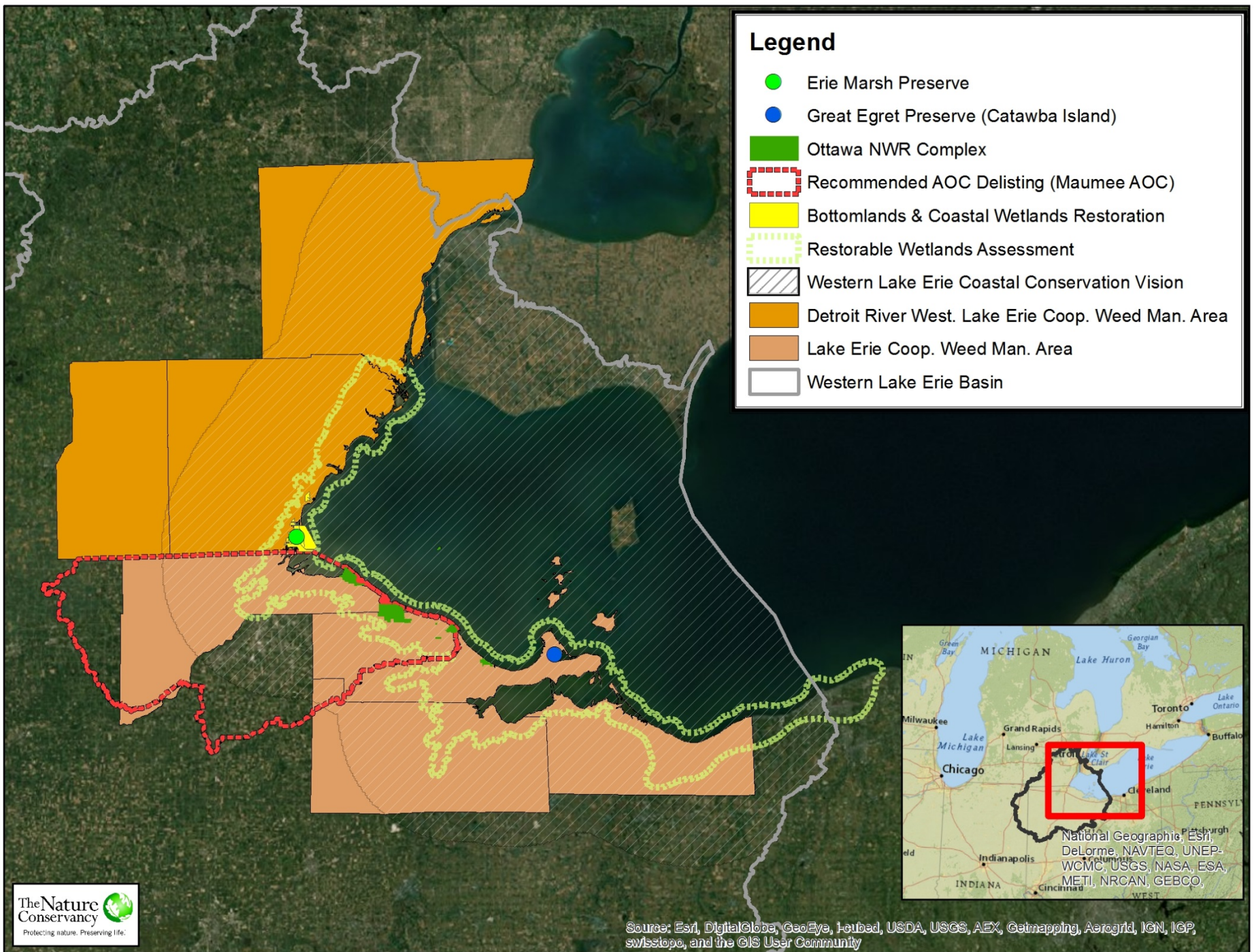
- **Make the Great Lakes among the best managed ecosystems on the planet**
- **Restore 40% of coastal area within 2km of lakeshore to natural land cover (current amount is about 20%), including a 10% increase in wetlands.**
- **Retain at least 30% of select Lake Erie tributary watersheds in natural cover, control invasive plants at or below current levels, and remove or rebuild key dams to improve water quality, access for fish, and wildlife habitat.**
- **Get 10% of 533,000 acre Oak Openings region and 30% of 120,122 acre PCAs in conservation ownership with all natural communities represented in proportion to historic conditions.**
- **At least 50% of Priority Conservation Areas in natural cover, control invasive plants at or below current levels and maintain populations of nested targets.**

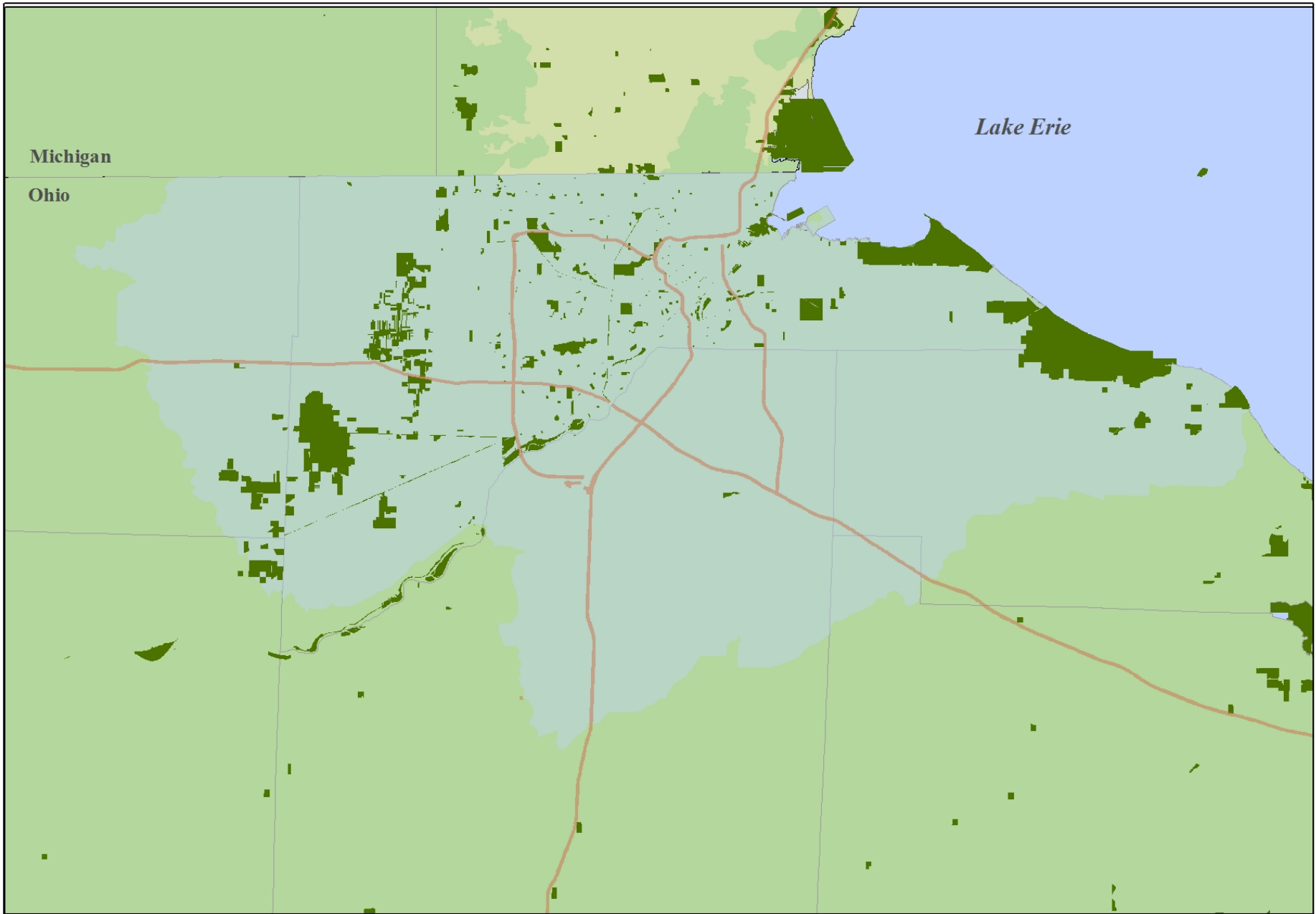
## in AOC TNC works

- For delisting of habitat related BUIs
- Through our Great Lakes Project
- Through our Coastal projects
- Through our Oak Openings Project Office
- Through collaborative planning and partnership with like minded organizations

# Great Lakes Project

- Lake Erie Biodiversity Conservation Strategy  
(Lakewide planning effort)
- Restoration Projects Database  
(AOC based)
- Lake Erie Coastal Conservation Vision  
(Incorporates both ecological and socio-economic values in AOC and beyond)





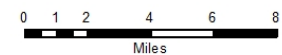
Michigan

Ohio

*Lake Erie*

### Legend

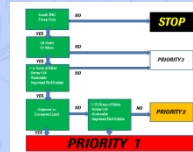
— Highway    ■ Conserved Land    ■ Maumee AOC



# TNC Coastal Projects in AOC

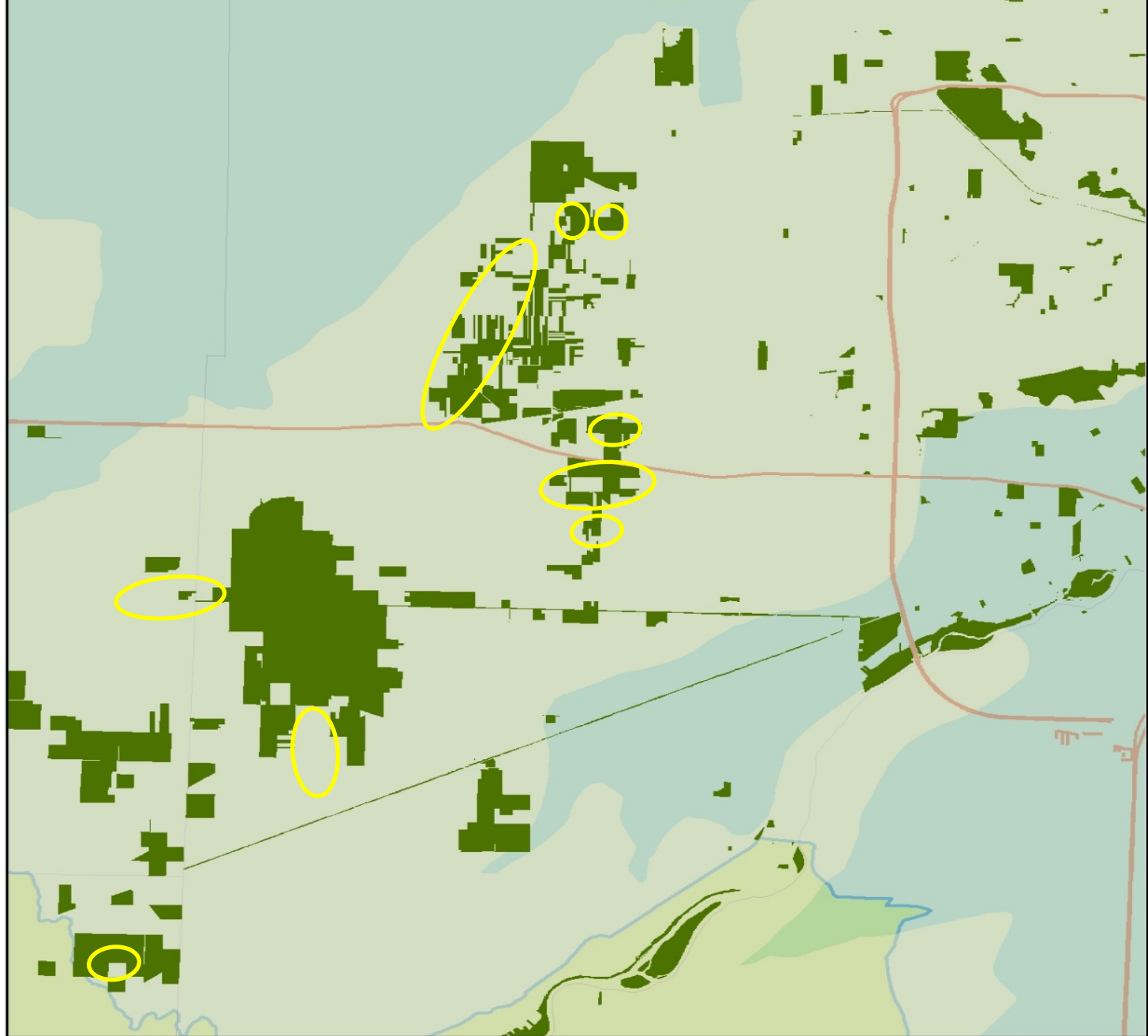
- Identified Priority Lands
- 2010 USFWS Phragmites Control in Western Lake Erie Coastal Wetlands - 2,000 acres
- 2011 USEPA Long-term Phragmites Control through the Lake Erie CWMA - 1,200 acres
- 2012 NOAA Habitat Restoration in the Maumee Area of Concern - 512 acres
- 2012 NFWF Coastal Wetland Restoration in the Maumee Area of Concern - 505 acres
- 2013 NFWF Coastal Habitat Restoration in the Western Lake Erie Basin - 575 acres





# TNC Oak Openings Projects in AOC

- WRRSP land acquisition – Since 2008 we've protected over 240 acres
- 2010 USEPA – Wet Prairie Restoration in Maumee AOC, 601 acres
- 2011 NFWF – SOGL – Interagency Restoration Team, 500 acres
- 2011 GRI ecological model
- 2013 NFWF – SOGL – Interagency Restoration Team Phase 2, 400 acres
- Partner with PCS on “Maumee Corps” project, 140 acres



**Legend**

— Highway    ■ Conserved Land    ■ Oak Openings Soils    ■ Maumee AOC



# What's next for TNC?

- Aid partners in delisting
- Coastal work is TBD when open positions filled
- Complete acquisition and restoration at KTP preserve
- Continued work connecting conservation lands and restoring function
- Increased exposure for conservation
- Expand/extend private lands work
- Current assessment of habitat condition



# Specific Priority Projects

- Finish our Ecological Model
- Qualify and Quantify Ecosystem Services in Oak Openings
- Manage Savannas and connect KBB habitat
- Direct wetland mitigation funding to priority areas
- Re-introduce Bison to Oak Openings to promote ecotourism
- Establish BMPs for grassland creation
- Create compatible hydrology in ditches, marshes and lake plain prairies

