

# In Support of Ohio's Areas of Concern

## A Framework for Reorganizing and Implementing Ohio's Remedial Action Program



*Amy Jo Klei*

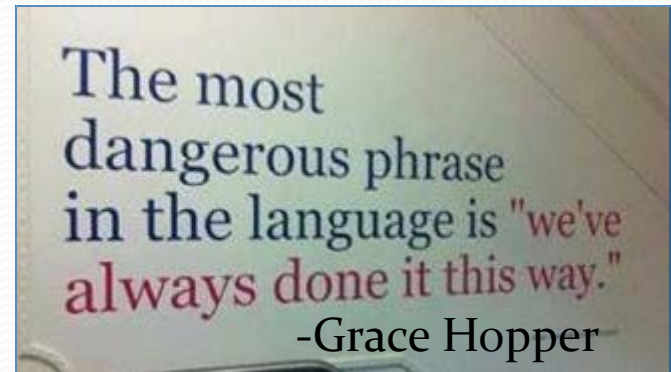
*Ohio EPA Lake Erie Coordinator*

*December 4, 2014*

*Maumee AOC Fall/Winter Summit*

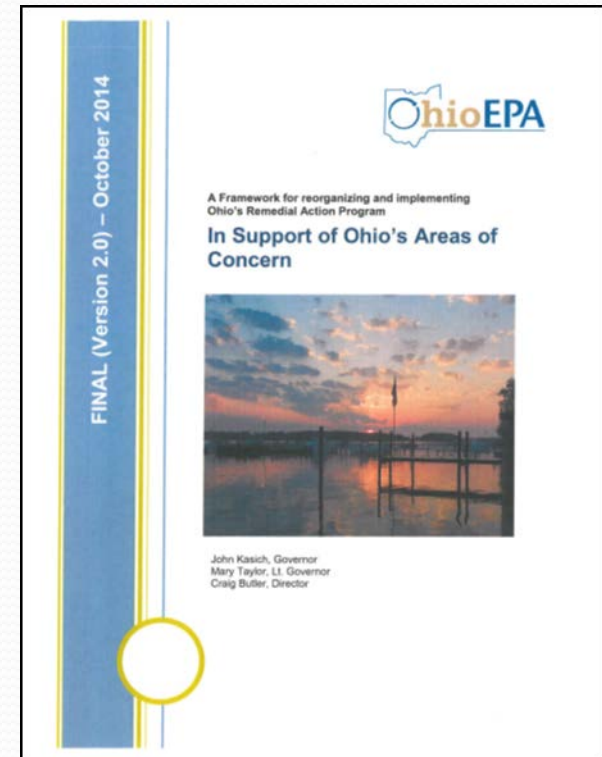
# Overview of Improvements to Ohio's AOC Program

- Evolution of the AOC program
- Opportunities for improvement
  - delisting strategy
  - targeted implementation
  - effective communication and coordination
- Lessons learned
  - public engagement is critical
  - defined roles and responsibilities



# AOC Program Framework

- Finalized in October 2014
- Identifies roles, responsibilities and sets minimum performance expectations
  - Local AOC Advisory Committee
  - Local Facilitating Organization
  - Ohio EPA Lake Erie Program Coordinators
- Provides guidelines for future AOC support grants



# Local AOC Advisory Committee

- Represents the voice of the AOC community
- Advises state/federal partners
- Identifies strategic priorities
- Serves as portal for public comment and engagement
- Transparent and open to the public



# Local AOC Facilitating Organization

- Support and facilitate Advisory Committee
- Provide assistance to local implementers
- Works in partnership w/OEPA and watershed community to develop and implement restoration plans
- Engage AOC community by providing regular opportunities for public input
- Conduct outreach activities to increase public awareness of the AOC
- Administer grant funds





# Agency Actions

- Coordinating agency resources to provide updated assessment of Ohio's AOCs
- Coordinating AOC needs and agency resources on priority actions
- Targeting funding on Lake Erie and AOCs
- Participating on Lake Erie LAMP and Annex 2

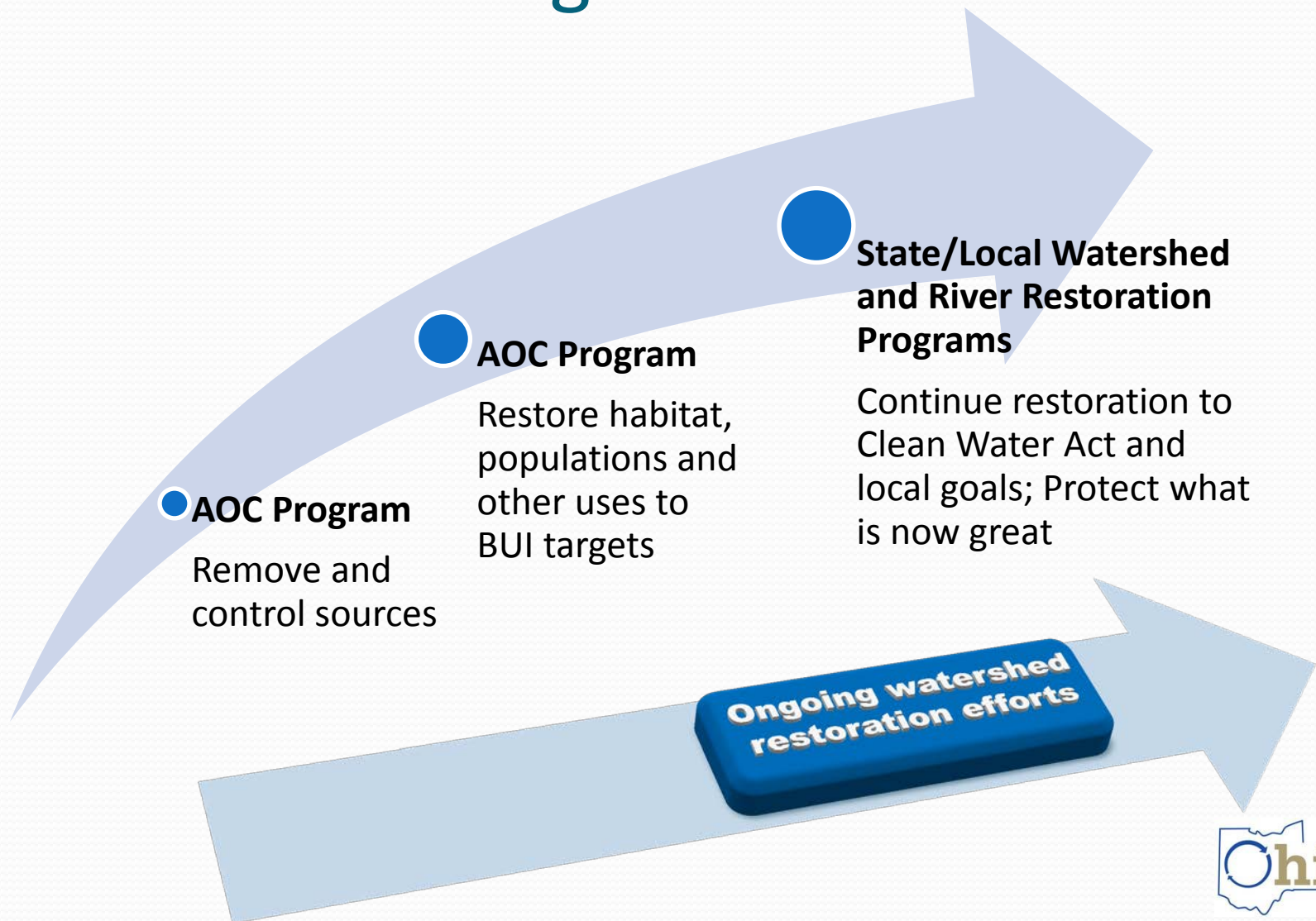


*OEPA R/V Nor'Wester*



*Maumee River 2012*

# Role of AOC Program



# Next Steps

- Work with local groups to effectively organize Advisory Committees
- Adopt BUI restoration targets or develop local targets
- Update BUI status and identify restoration needs for each AOC
- Identify needed management actions and delisting strategies



# Questions...

Ohio's Framework for the AOC Program is  
available online:

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/lakeerie/index.aspx>

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