



# The Lower Black River Fish Habitat Restoration Project - Phase I

City of Lorain, Ohio



Funding provided by NOAA under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

A \$1.7 million grant from NOAA funded Phase I of The Lower Black River Fish Habitat Restoration Project. The project design was completed by ARCADIS U.S., Inc. and Coldwater Consulting, LLC, was constructed by Mark Haynes Construction, Inc., and was completed in December of 2011. This project restored habitat for fish and wildlife in the lower Black River, an area that is highly deficient of aquatic structure. The project included construction of over 3,000 linear feet of fish habitat shelves, restoration of eroding river banks utilizing natural bank stabilization and bio-engineering techniques, and installation of other fish habitat features including rootwad revetments and boulder clusters. An invasive plant species (*Phragmites australis*) was also removed within the project area and over 4,800 native plants were installed.



River bank restoration utilizing bio-engineering techniques

Public outreach and education efforts introduced the first annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon, the first of it's kind on the Black. This event was coupled with Port Fest on July 3, 2011 and was attended by over 70 paddlers. The Kayak-A-Thon and other public outreach activities are designed to get the public involved and educated about ecological restoration efforts that are underway to improve fish habitat, recreational opportunities, and water quality in the lower Black River.

