



Report on Conditions in the Great Miami River Near Downtown Dayton, Ohio After Low Dam Modifications and Construction of Kayak Chutes (2017-2018)

Report Author: Jeff Kavanaugh, PhD University of Dayton







RIVERS INSTITUTE

# **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	3
Acknowledgements	3
Section 1.0 Introduction	4
Section 2.0 Sampling Methods	4
Section 3.0 Sampling Locations	5
Section 4.0 Results and Discussion	7
4.1 Macroinvertebrates Results and Discussion	8
4.2 Fish Results and Discussion	11
4.3 QHEI Results and Discussion	13
References Cited	17
Appendix A. Surface Water Velocity Data	18
Appendix B. Water Chemistry Data	20
Appendix C. Additional Photographs	22
Appendix D. MBI Report	32

#### **Executive Summary**

- This report describes the physical and biological conditions in the Great Miami River near downtown Dayton, OH
  following the modification of one low dam into a kayak chute and the construction of another completely new kayak
  chute near Riverscape.
- 2) Measurements of river conditions include: Boat electroshocking for fish in dam pools, wading-shocking for fish in shallow water below the kayak chutes, collection of macroinvertebrates using hester-dendy artificial substrates, kick nets and sweep nets, the assessment of the physical habitat around the dams, the collection of water chemistry parameters, and measurements of stream velocity.
- 3) Data collected in fall 2017 and fall 2018 (MBI study) were used to calculate various indices including the MAIS, IBI, ICI, and QHEI.
- 4) Sampling strategy involved collecting in the same locations and using the same methods as the pre-modification study conducted in 2014 (Kavanaugh, 2016) to describe the biota living in a wide range of aquatic habitats.
- 5) The conditions described in the report represent post-dam modification conditions and are intended to serve as a comparison to pre-modification data reported in Kavanaugh, 2016 to assess the effects of low dam modifications.
- 6) Over 22,000 macroinvertebrate specimens were collected and 32 different families of macroinvertebrates were identified.
- 7) The data show all metrics improved from the Pre-modification conditions in 2014 to post-modification conditions in 2017.
- 8) The results show from 2014 to 2017 the QHEI, MAIS, IBI, EPT taxa, and Total # of taxonomic groups <u>all</u> improve. In no case did an index decrease. In one case the Total # of taxonomic groups remained at 31 in 2014 and 2017 based on kick/sweep net samples; but this metric also increased based on hester-dendy samples at both locations.
- 9) Data for 2017 are also shown for the Riverscape (RS) kayak chute which was not present in 2014, so no comparisons can be made at this time (it was finished in spring 2017).
- 10) While the physical habitat and fish community near the RS kayak chute are excellent as measured by the QHEI and IBI, the macroinvertebrate community is poorly developed at this time based on a low MAIS score. A post-installation comparison of data in 2019 or 2020 would be predicted to show improved macroinvertebrate metrics as the organisms fully colonize the area.
- 11) Water chemistry data including temperature, pH, DO, and conductivity were considered within acceptable values.

#### Acknowledgments

This study was made possible by the contribution of UD students including majors in Environmental Biology, Biology, and River Stewards from UD's Rivers Institute. Students who made significant contributions either in the field, in the lab, or both are: Madison Conway, Madeline Norman, Maryna Porter, Hannah Scharf, Sarah Anderson, Suzanne Lowes, John Barnard, Emmett Sheehan Gretchen Lozowski, Madison Johnson, Samantha Berkley, Audrey Hayes, Emma Hiltner Nicole Licher, and Claire Sullivan all participated in the study. Students gained a better understanding of our shared water resources, learned important technical skills and, through this experience, will serve as knowledgeable ambassadors for the Dayton area after graduation. The Midwest Biodiversity Institute provided boat-shocking equipment and crews for fish sampling in dam pools. The Miami Conservancy District provided financial support for the project.

#### Section 1.0. Introduction

This report describes the biotic and abiotic conditions following alteration of the Monument Avenue low dam into a kayak chute on the Great Miami River (GMR) near downtown Dayton, Ohio. Pre-modification conditions were reported earlier in Kavanaugh (2016). The sampling sites for this report correspond to locations in Kavanaugh (2016) and are located immediately below the Monument Avenue bridge at RM 80.6 and in the pool above the dam at RM 81.1 (see Figure 1). This report also includes data associated with the construction of a second kayak chute immediately adjacent to Riverscape at RM 81.3.

#### Section 2.0. Sampling Methods

Data was collected on fish, macroinvertebrates, physical habitat, and water quality.

# Fish Sampling Methods

Two methods were used to collect fish. Below the dam in wadeable, shallow water a portable fish-shocking device was used following methods based on the Ohio EPA method described in *Volume III: Standardized Biological Field Sampling and Laboratory Methods for Assessing Fish and Macroinvertebrate Communities* (OHEPA, 1989). The areas sampled were limited by excessive water depth; i.e., approximately 3 feet deep. Below Monument Avenue dam, habitats around two gravel bars were sampled including riffles, runs, the shallow edge of a pool below the bridge, and inside the vegetated edges of the gravel bars. See Kavanaugh (2016) for more detailed photos of sampling locations.

The electroshocker unit used is identical to equipment used by Ohio EPA and was an engine-driven electric generator designed for DC "fish shocking" service built by Baldor Generators, 3815 Oregon Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902, phone 920-236-4200. The generator consists of a 4-cycle overhead valve 5.5 HP Honda gasoline engine with low-oil shutdown, single cylinder, air-cooled, directly coupled to a DC125/250 volt generator. It provides 750 watt 125/250 volt DC at 3600 rpm.

For sampling fish in the dam pool, methods described in OHEPA (1989) were followed. Boat and shocking equipment owned and operated by Midwest Biodiversity Institute was used for sampling the dam pool. UD personnel assisted MBI during boat-shock sampling.

# Macroinvertebrate Sampling Methods

A variety of methods were used to sample for macroinvertebrates. For calculation of the Macroinvertebrate Aggregated Index for Streams (MAIS) kick net and sweep net samples were taken in the shallow areas below each dam following the methods described in Johnson (2007), *Field and Laboratory Methods for using the MAIS in Rapid Bioassessment of Ohio Streams*. Kick net samples were taken in 3 riffles per site and sweep net samples of 20 "jabs" were taken in all available habitats. For the dam pool areas above both dams, it was not possible to take either kick net or sweep net samples due to excessive water depth so hester-dendy samples were collected instead following methods described in OHEPA (1989), *Volume III: Standardized Biological Field Sampling and Laboratory Methods for Assessing Fish and Macroinvertebrate Communities*. For comparison purposes, hester-dendy samples were also taken below the dams. All macroinvertebrate samples were preserved in 70% ethanol in the field and returned to the laboratory for identification.

#### **Water Chemistry Methods**

Basic water chemistry parameters were measured using hand-held meters. Values were recorded above and below both dams for a period of two months beginning in September of 2015. Recordings were made in early morning to ensure primary production from algae did not produce super-saturated values of dissolved oxygen. Hand-held meters were used for measuring pH, conductivity, temperature, TDS, and dissolved oxygen. A YSI Pro ODO, Professional Optical

Dissolved Oxygen meter was used to measure temperature and DO. A Hanna Instruments HI 98129 pH/EC/TDS/Temperature tester was used for pH, conductivity, TDS.

# Physical Habitat Measurement Method

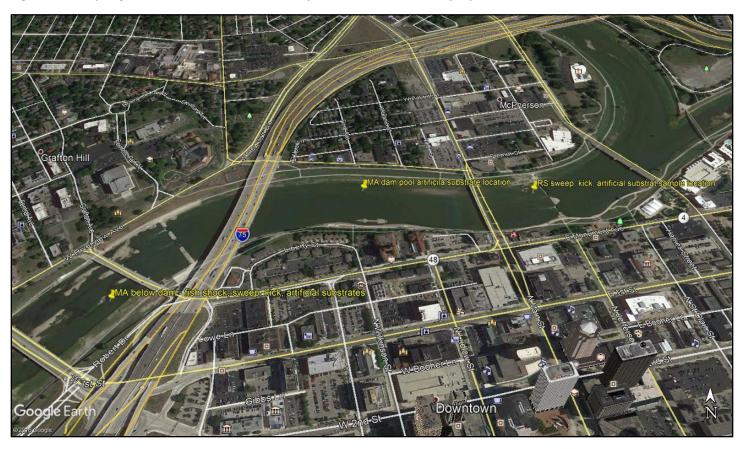
The quality of the physical river habitat was assessed above and below both dams using Ohio EPA (2006) *Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI)*.

# **Stream Velocity Method**

The float method was used to measure surface water velocity. US Forest Service website www.fs.fed.us/ARMdata/PDFfiles/floatmethod.doc

# Section 3.0. Sampling locations and dates.

Figure 1. Sampling Locations and dates for 2017 post-dam modification project.



MA-below sweep net, kick net collected on 9/29/17.

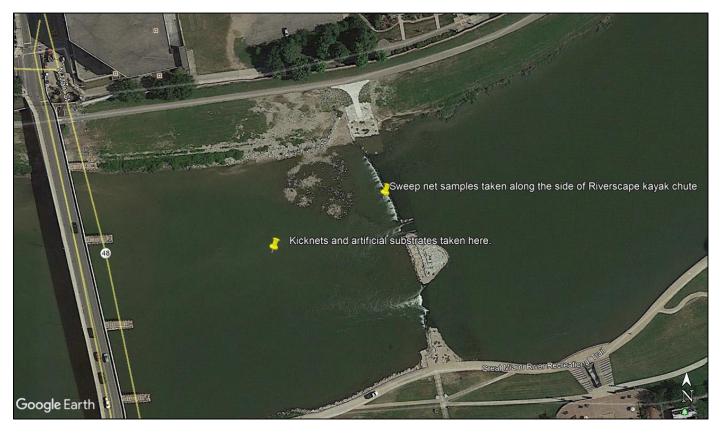
MA-below artificial substrates (hester-dendy) collected after six weeks colonization on 9/30/17.

MA-below wading fish shocking conducted on 10/15/17.

MA-above artificial substrates collected on 9/30/17.

RS sweep net, kick net, artificial substrates all collected on 9/30/17.

Figure 2. Riverscape (RS) kayak chute sampling locations and dates.



RS sweep net, kick net, artificial substrates all collected on 9/30/17.

#### Section 4.0. Results and Discussion

The overall results can be seen in Tables 1 and 2.

The data show all metrics improved from the Pre-modification conditions in 2014 to post-modification conditions in 2017. An unexpected variable that probably helped improve the physical habitat and positively impacted fish biodiversity is the Riverscape (RS) kayak chute and its influence on the upper reaches of the MA dam pool.

Tables 1 and 2 show from 2014 to 2017 the QHEI, MAIS, IBI, EPT taxa, and Total # of taxonomic groups <u>all</u> improve. In no case did an index decrease. In one case the Total # of taxonomic groups remained at 31 in 2014 and 2017 based on kick/sweep net samples; but this metric also increased based on hester-dendy samples at both locations.

The Riverscape (RS) kayak chute data doesn't have a comparable data set to compare to since its construction was finished in spring 2017, the same year of the sampling; i.e., in September 2017. A post-installation comparison of data in 2019 or 2020 is predicted to show improved metrics. The RS data do show excellent physical habitat (QHEI), but the poor MAIS shows the macroinvertebrates haven't colonized the structure or disturbed area around it yet. However, the fish IBI score was excellent indicating the fish responded faster to the changes. Note that the upper end of the boat-shocking zone goes right up to the RS kayak chute.

Table 1. Summary of All Index Values Comparing 2015-2015 to 2017-2018.

Location	Year	Habitat QHEI	Invertebrate MAIS	Fish IBI	Comments
	I	Index Comparisons	for Pre- and Po	st-dam modificatio	ns at MA-Below
MA - Below	2014	65 - good	11 – good	34 – fair	UD – wading shock (IBI)
MA - Below	2017	73 – good+	12 – good+	40 – good+	UD – wading shock (IBI)
	ı	ndex Comparisons	for Pre- and Po	st-dam modificatio	ns at MA-Above
MA - Above	2014	43 poor	1	30 – fair	5-Rivers Metro./UD – boat shock (IBI)
MA - Above	2017-18	60.5 – good+	1	51-exceptional+	MBI/UD boat shock results positively affected by RS kayak chute (IBI)
		Riverscape (RS)	Kayak Chute – N	ew Installation (no	comparisons)
RS – kayak chute	2017	75.5 - excellent	10 - poor	2	MAIS (poor) score result of new structure (< 1 year), not yet fully-colonized, though habitat excellent.

<sup>&</sup>quot;+"Indicates increase in metric from pre-modification samples.

**Table 2. Summary of Additional Macroinvertebrate Taxa Comparisons** 

		Kick/Sweep Net S	amples	Artificial Su	bstrates
Location	Year	Total # Taxonomic Groups	EPT Taxa	Total # Taxonomic Groups	EPT Taxa
	Co	mparisons for Pre- and Post-da	am modifications at	MA-Below	
MA – Below	2014	31	8	10	6
MA - Below	2017	31	11+	13+	7+
	Co	mparisons for Pre- and Post-Da	am modifications at	MA-Above	
MA - Above	2014	_1	1	10	4
MA - Above	2017	_1	1	16+	6+
	Rive	erscape (RS) Kayak Chute – Ne	w Installation (no co	omparisons)	
RS – kayak chute	2017	13	6	12	7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Kick/sweep net samples could not be taken in deep water.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Fish samples for MA-Above apply here too.

#### Section 4.1 Macroinvertebrate Results and Discussion

Tables 1 and 2 show all macroinvertebrate metrics either improve from 2014 to 2017 or, in one case, remained the same. The MA-below MAIS increased from 11 to 12 and was ranked "good". An MAIS couldn't be calculated for the MA-above pool because the index is based on kick and sweep net samples which couldn't be taken in the pool area. At MA-below, the sensitive EPT taxa improved from 8 groups in 2014 to 11 groups in 2017 based on kick/sweep net samples and increased from 6 to 7 based on artificial substrates. At MA-above the EPT taxa also increased, from 4 in 2014 to 6 in 2017 based on artificial substrate samples. At MA-below, the total # of taxonomic groups stayed at 31 in 2017 based on kick/sweep net samples (only metric which did not increase), but increased there based on artificial substrates from 10 to 13. The total # of taxonomic groups showed a large increase at MA-above from 10 to 16 groups. See Tables 3 and 4 for individual MAIS metrics and Table 5 and Figure 3 and Kavanaugh (2016) for explanation of the index and its metrics. All macroinvertebrate data is shown in Table 6. A total of 22,756 specimens were collected.

Data for 2017 are also shown for the Riverscape (RS) kayak chute which was not present in 2014 so no comparisons can be made at this time (it was finished in spring 2017). The MAIS value for RS was low, a 10 "poor". This is likely a result of the structure only having recently been completed, the disturbance to the substrates in the area would have impacted the macroinvertebrates so they need time to recover and colonize the area. EPT taxa, based on kick/sweep net samples were also lower at RS than at MA-below. The total number of taxonomic groups was also lower at RS than at MA-below or MA-above based on artificial substrates. However, RS EPT taxa based on artificial substrates were equal to MA-below and exceeded by one group the EPT taxa at MA-above. It is expected that all macroinvertebrate metrics at RS should improve as the habitat stabilizes.

Table 3. MAIS Score for MA-Below.

Metric	Value	Rounded	MAIS Value
% 5 Dominant Taxa	84	84	1
Modified HBI	5.67	5.67	0
% Haptobenthos	71	71	1
EPT Index	11	11	2
# Ephemeroptera	5	5	2
% Ephemeroptera	27	27	2
SDI	0.80	0.80	1
# Intolerant Taxa	15	15	2
% Scrapers	10	10	1
	Total		12

Table 4. MAIS Calculations for RS Kayak Chute

Metric	Value	Rounded	MAIS Value
% 5 Dominant Taxa	93	93	1
Modified HBI	5.48	5.48	1
% Haptobenthos	54	54	1
EPT Index	6	6	1
# Ephemeroptera	3	3	1
% Ephemeroptera	24	24	2
SDI	0.72	0.72	1
# Intolerant Taxa	7	7	1
% Scrapers	8	8	1
	Total		10

Table 5. Explanation of MAIS metrics.

	METRIC	DEFINITION
1	EPT richness	Number of caddisfly, stonefly and mayfly families
2	# Emphemeroptera	Number of mayfly families
3	% Ephemeroptera	% abundance of mayflies
4	% 5 dominant taxa	5 most dominant taxa combined
5	Simpson Diversity Index	Integrates richness and evenness
6	Modified Hilsenhoff Biotic Index	Taxa are weighted by pollution tolerance
7	# intolerant taxa	# of families with tolerance values of 5 or less (very sensitive)
8	% scrapers	Abundance of macros that feed on periphyton
9	% haptobenthos	Abundance of macros that require clean, coarse, firm substrates

From: Johnson, Kelly S., Field and Laboratory Methods for using the MAIS (Macroinvertebrate Aggregated Index for Stream Rapid Bioassessment of Ohio Streams, June, 2007.

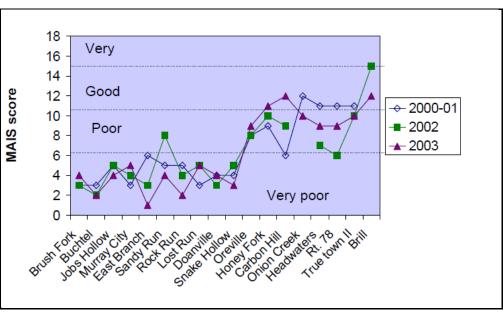


Figure 3. MAIS value rankings in the Western Allegheny Plateau in southeastern Ohio.

From Johnson, 2007.

Table 6. Combined macroinvertebrate data for 2017.

Phylum Class Cnidaria (Jellies) Platyhelminthes (Flatworms) Turbellaria Etcoprocta (Bryozoans) Entoprocta (Bryozoans) Entoprocta (Bryozoans) Annelida (Segmented worms) Oligochaeta (aquatic ear Hirdinea (leeches) Mollusca Gastropoda (snails) Bivalvia (mussels, clams) Arthropoda Malacostraca Insecta												
(Jellies) minthes (Flatworms) tta (Bryozoans) a (Segmented worms) a					RS - On and Ne	RS - On and Near Kayak Chute		Σ	1A - Below	MA - Below Kayak Chute		MA - Above K.C. (pool)
(Jellies) minthes (Flatworms) tra flat (Bryozoans) tra a (Segmente d worms) a a				Kick Net	Sweep Net	Kick/Sweep (Combined for MAIS)	Artificial Substrate (HD)	Kick Net	Sweep	Kick/Sweep (Combined for MAIS)	Artificial Substrate (HD)	Artificial Substrate (HD)
lifies) Bryozoans) egmented worms)		Order	Family									
Bryozoans) egmente d worms)			Hydridae	-					c	c		
egmented worms)			(Lai Deliai la)	+		r			1	2		
egmented worms)			Barentsiidae									
	Oligochaeta (aquatic earthworms)		(Oligochaeta)				9		1	н		,
	cnes)		Vivinaridae					4	-	ır		-
	(cup)		Pleuroceridae	20	88	82		. %	183	241	2	217
			Physidae	1	3	3		3		!	7	1
			Ancylidae (limpets)						1	П		
	els, clams)		Sphaeridae	84		8		80	1	81		2
			Corbiculidae					230		230		
Arachnida Insecta		Amphipoda (scuds, sideswimmers)	Talitridae (=Hyalellidae)	9		9			15	15		102
Arachnida Insecta			Gammaridae						7	7		
Insecta		Decapoda (crayfish)	Cambaridae					2 5	9	2 5		
0.00		Irombidirormes	Hydrachiidiae (Hydracarina, Water mites)	376	103	25.1	76	1446	120	01.1 27.21	223	
		cpilelleroptera (iviayilles)	Isonychiidae	346	507	402	20 40	28 2	4	62	22	
			Heptageniidae	238	2	240	402	518	. 88	556	1 4	174
			Tricorythidae (=Leptohyphidae)		I		09	942	44	986		32
			Caenidae							н		2
			Potamanthiidae									
			Ephemeridae									
		Odonata - Suborder Zygoptera	Calopterygidae						72	72	4	
			Coenagrionidae					7		7		-
			Alglude									2
		Suborder Anisoptera	Aeshnidae						1	1		
		Trichoptera (Caddisflies)	Hydropsychidae	898	184	1052	2654	3438	606	4347	1096	4
			Glossomatidae					148		148		
			Hydroptilidae		6	6	18	28		28	4	н
			Leptoceridae						Ī,			,
			Polycentropodidae				2	4	-	2		4
			Philopotamidae					12		12	2	
		Plecoptera (stoneflies)	Perlidae	2	10	12		2		2		
		Cole optera (beetles)	Hydrophilidae									
			Elmidae (riffle beetles)	32	4	36	2	190	6	199		11
			Psephenidae (water pennies)									
		Heminters (true bugs)	Gyrinidae (Wniriigig Deetles)									
		ileiiipteia (tide bags)	Gerridae (water striders)									
			Veliidae (smaller water striders)						2	2		
			Belostomatidae (giant water bugs)						12	12		
		Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies)	Pyralidae (= Crambidae) (snout moths)					14	1	15	4	
		Diptera	Simuliidae (black flies)	09	32	92	176	732	293	1025	72	4
			Tipulidae (crane flies)				2				2	
			Empididae (dance flies)									
			Ceratopogonidae (biting midges)									
			Tabanidae (horse flies)	1612	251	1863	787	1806	167	2063	146	273
			Total No. specimens	3570	639	4209	4172	9628	1911	11839	1705	831
			Total No. Taxonomic Groups	12	10	13	12	21	24	31	13	16
			EPT (# of EPT families)	2	9	9	7	10	7	11	7	9

#### Section 4.2. Fish Results and Discussion

The fish community, as measured by the IBI index, improved both above and below the MA kayak chute in 2017/2018 (Table 1). At MA-below, the IBI improved from 34 "fair" to 40 "good". This is partly due to the 2017 sample being comprised of fewer "highly tolerant" species as a proportion of the entire community (Table 8) and see Kavanaugh (2016). An improvement in the boat-shock IBI was measured at MA-above, increasing from a score of 30 "fair" to 51 "exceptional". Various factors may affect the IBI such as improved habitat, improved water quality, current weather and river conditions, experience of boat crews and the quality of their equipment (see Kavanaugh, 2016 for a discussion of comparing IBI scores). In this case, the large increase was probably partly due to the improved physical habitat provided by the newly-constructed Riverscape kayak chute. The upstream end of the fish sampling area was immediately below the kayak chute and would have benefited from the fast-flowing whitewater and improved substrates added to the area during construction. Table 7 shows the quality ranking of IBI scores provided by OHEPA.

Table 7. Quality ranking of fish community by IBI score.

	IBI		M	Iwb	ICI	Narrative Evaluation		
Headwater	Wading	Boat	Wading	Boat	All			
50-60	50-60	48-60	≥9.4	≥9.6	46-60	Exceptional		
46-49	46-49	44-47	8.9-9.3	9.1-9.5	42-44	Very Good		
·		E	astern Cori	n Belt Plains				
40-45	40-45	<b>42</b> -43	<b>8.3-</b> 8.8	<b>8.5-</b> 9.0	<b>36-</b> 40	Good		
36-39	36-39	38-41	7.8-8.2	8.0-8.4	32-34	Marginally Good		
28-35	28-35	26-37	5.9-7.7	6.4-7.9	14-30	Fair		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For this study, see columns under "IBI, Wading and Boat". All values are for the Eastern Corn Belt Plains, the ecoregion in which the low dam in this study is located.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This table is excerpted from 2008 Updates to Biological Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Life: Volume II and Volume II Addendum. User's Manual for Biological Field Assessment of Ohio Surface Waters. (OHEPA, 2008).

Table 8. Fish Data from MA-below.

																												BI Score	- 40		
			12		w DELTS																						0.000		+		
			=	Proportion of	Lithophils	>		>	>		>-	>-							>			>	>		>	>-	73.333		co.		
			0	Monthson	Individuals								F														479		e0		
			6	Proportion of	Carnivores									>		>	×										5.556		4		
			80	,	Insectivores	y		>	'n		λ	'n							>		ъ	À	>		>	ý	86.667		4		
			7		Omnivores								'n														7.778		+		
	tegrity Metrics		9	*o	Species								>														7.778		+		
	Ohio EPA Index of Biotic Integrity Metrics		r.	Number of	Species						>														>		2		+		
	Ohio EP A		4	Number of	Species	'n		>	>																		ю		+		
			ю	Number of	Species									>													-		+		
			2	Number of	Species														>		>	>	>		>	y	9		+		
			-	Number of	Species	'n		>	λ.		>	ý	>	>		ъ	>		>		>	>	>		>	>	5		+		
					Species	Moxostoma anisurum	acing regions	Moxostoma erythrurum Golden redhorse	Hyperitelium nigricans	Northern hog sucker	Notropis photogenis Silver shiner	Notropis chrysocephalus Striped shiner	Pimephales notatus Bluntnose minnow	Ambloplites rupestris	Northern rockbass	Micropterus dolomieui Smallmouth bass	Micropterus salmoides	Largemouth bass	Percina caprodes	Normern logberon daner	Ethestoma nigrum Johnny darter	Etheostoma blenniodes Greenside darter	Ethestoma caeruleum	Rainbow darter	Etheostoma zonale Banded Darter	Etheostoma spectabile Orangethroat Darter	Totals		Metric Scores		
				DELT	# Description	;			:		:	ı	:	1		1	1		1			i	:		1	:					
		ning		-	Tolerance	Moderately 0		Moderately 0 Intolerant	Moderately 0	Intolerant	Common 0 Intolerant	:	Highly 0 Tolerant			Moderately 0 Intolerant	0 :		Moderately 0			Moderately 0 Intolerant	Moderately 0	Intolerant	Intolerant 0	:	0				
2017	RM 80.6	line Electrofis	Drainage Area: 2511 miles <sup>2</sup> ction Distance: 0.052 km					1.626	0.395		0.037	0.225	0.025	0.04		0.23	0.013		0.19		0.035	600:0	0.03		0.03	0.012	3.037	e fish collected.	(Bood)		
October 15, 2017	River Mile: RM 80.6	thod: Long	Drainage Area: 2511 mile Collection Distance: 0.052 km		Number Weight (kg)	-		8	ιΩ		4	=	7	-		м	-		7		22	-	m		м	6	6	0.00 % of th	8.4	2.239	478.8
J	EX.	Collection Method: Longline Electrofishing	Drain			Moxostoma anisurum	DING! VACIONS	Maxastoma erythrurum Golden redhorse	Hypentelium nigricans	Northern hog sucker	Notropis photogenis Silver shiner	Notropis chrysocephalus Striped shiner	Pimephales notatus Bluntnose minnow	Ambloplites rupestris	Northern rockbass	Micropterus dolomieui Smallmouth bass	Micropterus salmoides	Largemouth bass	Percina caprodes	Normern logperon daner	Ethestoma nigrum Johnny darter	Etheostoma blenniodes Greenside darter	Ethestoma caeruleum	Rainbow darter	Etheostoma zonale Banded Darter	Etheostoma spectabile Orangethroat Darter	Totals	*DELT anomalies were observed on 0.00 % of the fish collected.	Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) = Modified Index of Well-Being (MIwb) =	Shannon Diversity Index, no.	
					Code	40-008		010-04	40-015		43-021	43-025	43-043	77-003		77-004	900-22		80-011		80-014	80-015	80-022		80-016	80-023		_ +	Mc		

#### Section 4.3 QHEI Results and Discussion

Tables 10-12 show QHEI scores for MA-below, MA-above, and RS kayak chute. Quality rankings are shown below in Table 9.

Various factors can affect QHEI scores, most important are improved habitat features but assessments can also be affected by weather (rainfall patterns) and water levels that obscuring features that observable when levels recede. Silts and unsorted substrates can be flushed out and re-sorted following large rain events.

The QHEI for MA-below is shown in Table 10, it improved slightly from a score of 65 "good" in 2014 to 73 "good" in 2017. The most significant factor increasing the score was that more instream cover was observed in 2017; root mats, root wads, boulders macrophytes, woody debris in "functional" roles were present and overall the cover was more extensive than in 2014.

The QHEI for MA-above improved by a large amount from a score of 43 "poor" in 2014 to 60.5 "good" in 2017. Several factors were responsible. Probably through a combination of re-sorting substrates from high-water events in the three years prior plus slightly lower water levels due to the Monument Avenue low dam being converted into a kayak chute downstream the habitat improved. The QHEI was affected in several areas by these events: most importantly much less silt was evident exposing a higher quality substrate consisting of sand and gravel. The lower levels of silt substantially affected the "substrate" metric. Instream cover was improved and more widespread, certain features such as woody debris that was present in 2014 but not "functional" was functional in 2017 adding to the score. Another significant change was the obvious appearance of some riffles that were not evident in 2014. This improved the "channel morphology", and "Riffle" metric substantially.

The Riverscape kayak chute area was added in 2017 but no comparisons were possible since it was not present in 2014. In general the zone included in this QHEI is excellent habitat, the deep water with strong velocity below the kayak chute, the large substrates, other areas with shallow riffles and a variety of flow regimes (slow and fast), the confluence with the Mad River providing additional complex channel morphology – all contribute to a very high QHEI score.

Table 9. QHEI Index Values Ranked

		assigned to QHEI in headwater (≤ 20
1	rs. larger waters.	
Narrative	QHI	EI Range
Rating	Headwaters	Larger Streams
Excellent	<u>&gt;</u> 70	<u>&gt;</u> 75
Good	55- to 69	60 to 74
Fair	43 to 54	45 to 59
Poor	30 to 42	30 to 44
Very Poor	< 30	< 30

From: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. 2006. Technical Bulletin EAS/2006-06-1. Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI). Division of Surface Water, June 2006.

EPA 4520

MA-below

	Qualitative Habitat and Use Assessm		QHEI Score	: [73]
Stream & Location: MA	-Below Kagak-Chi	teR	M: _ 8 D . 6 Date: _	0104/18617
River Code:	STOPET #-	Full Name & Affiliation: Lat./ Long.: NAD 83 - decimal 9 —	/8	Office verified location
1] SUBSTRATE Check ONLY Two sestimate % or note BEST TYPES POOL RIFFLE DID BLDR /SLABS [10] DID COBBLE [8] DID GRAVEL [7] DID GRAVEL [7] DID BEDROCK [5] NUMBER OF BEST TYPES: DID GRAVEL [7] DID BEDROCK [5] NUMBER OF BEST TYPES: DID GRAVEL [7] DID	ubstrate TYPE BOXES; every type present	Check ONI  RIFFLE ORIGIN  LIMESTONE [1]  TILLS [1]  WHARDAN [0]	GUAL  QUAL  HEAVY [- MODERA  NORMAL  FREE [1]  DEO NOBERA  NORMAL  NORMAL	ITY 2] TE [-1] Substrate
quality; 3-Highest quality in moderate of diameter log that is stable, well develop UNDERCUT BANKS [1]  OVERHANGING VEGETATION [ SHALLOWS (IN SLOW WATER)  ROOTMATS [1]  Comments  God Functional area	poderate amounts, but not of high greater amounts (e.g., very large ed rootwad in deep / fast water, of pools > 70cm [2]   POOLS > 70cm [2]   ROOTWADS [1]   BOULDERS [1]	oxboulders in deep or fast water, lest deep, well-defined, functional por OXBOWS, BACKWATERS AQUATIC MACROPHYTE LOGS OR WOODY DEBR	rge Check ONE (Clare of the control	or 2 & average) >75% [11] 25-75% [7] 25% [3]
3] CHANNEL MORPHOLOGY CONTROL SINUOSITY DEVELOPMENT DE	T CHANNELIZATION	STABILITY    HIGH [3]   MODERATE [2]   LOW [1]		Channel   3 Maximum   20
EROSION WID	ARIAN WIDTH  E > 50m [4]	ch category for EACH BANK (Or 2 FLOOD PLAIN QUALITY REST, SWAMP [3] RUB OR OLD FIELD [2] SIDENTIAL, PARK, NEW FIELD [1 NCED PASTURE [1] EN PASTURE, ROWCROP [0]	CONSERVATION OR IN	DUSTRIAL [0] STRUCTION [0]
Check ONE (ONLY!) Check  ☐ > 1m [6] ☐ POOL W  ☐ 0.7 < 1m [4] ☐ POOL W	HANNEL WIDTH  : ONE (Or 2 & average)  IDTH > RIFFLE WIDTH [2] □ T  IDTH = RIFFLE WIDTH [1] □ V  IDTH ★RIFFLE WIDTH [0] □ F	CURRENT VELOCITY  Check ALL that apply  ORRENTIAL [-1] SLOW [1]  ERY FAST [1] INTERSTITI.  AST [1] INTERMITTI  IODERATE [1] EDDIES [1]  Indicate for reach - pools and riffle	Primary Seconda (circle one and c	Pool/Current Maximum 12
☐ BEST AREAS > 10cm [2] ☐ MAXII	Check ONE (C N DEPTH RIFFLE / MUM > 50cm [2] STABLE (e. MUM < 50cm [1] MOD. STAB	Pr 2 & average).  RUN SUBSTRATE RIFF  g., Cobble, Boulder) [2]	Population  LE / RUN EMBEDD  NONE [2]  LOW [1]  MODERATE [0]  EXTENSIVE [-1]	Riffle /
DRAINAGE AREA	VERY LOW - LOW [2-4] MODERATE [6-10] HIGH - VERY HIGH [10-6]		%GLIDE: 5 %RIFFLE: 45	Gradient 10 Maximum 10 06/16/06

# Table 11. QHEI from MA-Above (dam pool)

(MA) Down Pool
ChicEPA Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index and Use Assessment Field Sheet QHEI Score: 60.5
Stream & Location: MA-Above (dam pool) RM: 81.1 Date: 10/04/06/
Scorers Full Name & Affiliation:
River Code: STORET #: Lat./ Long.: 18 Office verified location D
11 SUBSTRATE Check ONLY Two substrate TYPE BOXES;
Check ONE (Or 2 & average)  BEST TYPES POOL RIFFLE OTHER TYPES POOL RIFFLE   UIMESTONE [1]   HEAVY [-2]   MODERATE [-1]   MODE
2] INSTREAM COVER Indicate presence 0 to 3: 0-Absent; 1-Very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality 2-Moderate amounts but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest
quality; 3-Highest quality in moderate or greater amounts (e.g., very large boulders in deep or fast water, large diameter log that is stable, well developed rootwad in deep / fast water, or deep, well-defined, functional pools.
Comments /
macupages 100gs 120 water not toneranal - 100 score
3] CHANNEL MORPHOLOGY Check ONE in each category (Or 2 & average)  SINUOSITY DEVELOPMENT CHANNELIZATION STABILITY  HIGH [4]
some viftles endent, more stable substrates
BANK EROSION AND RIPARIAN ZONE   Check ONE in each category for EACH BANK (Or 2 per bank & average)
Comments navouest vi varian on visht bank, urban flood slain
POOL / GLIDE AND RIFFLE / RUN QUALITY
12
Indicate for functional riffles; Best areas must be large enough to support a population of riffle-obligate species: Check ONE (Or 2 & average).  RIFFLE DEPTH RUN DEPTH BEST AREAS > 10cm [2] MAXIMUM > 50cm [2] STABLE (e.g., Cobble, Boulder) [2] NONE [2] BEST AREAS 5-10cm [1] MAXIMUM < 50cm [1] MOD. STABLE (e.g., Large Gravel) [1] Low [1] BEST AREAS 5-5cm [metric=0] Comments  Deep riffles visible due to low Water
6] GRADIENT ( 5 ft/mi) VERY LOW - LOW [24] %POOL: (10) %GLIDE: (30) Gradient
DRAINAGE AREA   MODERATE [6-10]   MRUN:   RIFFLE:   Maximum   Maxi
EPA 4520 06/16/06

# Table 12. QHEI from RS Kayak Chute.

(p5)

Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index and Use Assessment Field Sheet QHEI Score: 75.5
Stream & Location: Riversco-pe Kuyak drop - (New Site) RM: 81.5 Date: 10/64/9617
Scorers Full Name & Affiliation:
River Code: - STORE! #: Later Code: 16 . Location L
1] SUBSTRATE Check ONLY Two substrate TYPE BOXES; estimate % or note every type present Check ONE (Or 2 & average)
BEST TYPES POOL RIFFLE OTHER TYPES POOL RIFFLE ORIGIN QUALITY
□□ BLDR /SLABS [10] □□ HARDPAN [4] □□ HEAVY [-2]
BOULDER [9] DETRITUS [3] TILLS [1] SILT MODERATE [-1] Substrate
COBBLE [8]
GRAVEL [7] SAND [6] SAND [6] SAND [6] SANDSTONE [0] SANDST
□□ BEDROCK [5] (Score natural substrates; ignore □ RIP/RAP [0]
GRAVE[7]
Comments SHALE [-1] SHALE [-1] NONE [1]
Kingk drop - Silt sept in backwar areas around antilip + downstream)
A MOUNT
quality: 2-Moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality: 3-Highest quality in moderate amounts (e.g., very large boulders in deep or fast water, large diameter log that is stable, well developed rootward in deep / fast water, or deep, well-defined, functional pools.  UNDERCUT BANKS [1] POOLS > 70cm [2] OXBOWS, BACKWATERS [1] EXTENSIVE >75% [11]  OVERHANGING VEGETATION [1] ROOTWADS [1] AQUATIC MACROPHYTES [1] SPARSE 5<25% [3]  SHALLOWS (IN SLOW WATER) [1] BOULDERS [1] LOGS OR WOODY DEBRIS [1] NEARLY ABSENT <5% [1]
Comments Maximum   2
buckmuter near banks on both sides areas of vegetation, functional logis 20
3] CHANNEL MORPHOLOGY Check ONE in each category (Or 2 & average)  SINUOSITY DEVELOPMENT CHANNELIZATION STABILITY  HIGH [4] EXCELLENT [7] NONE [6] MIGH [3]  MODERATE [3] GOOD [5] RECOVERED [4] MODERATE [2]  LOW [2] FAIR [3] RECOVERING [3] LOW [1]  NONE [1] POOR [1] RECENT OR NO RECOVERY [1]  Comments  Comments
including can there w/ Mad K, sinus to good there
4] BANK EROSION AND RIPARIAN ZONE Check ONE in each category for EACH BANK (Or 2 per bank & average)  RIVER right looking downstream RIPARIAN WIDTH EROSION   WIDE > 50m [4]   FLOOD PLAIN QUALITY   CONSERVATION TILLAGE [1]   SHRUB OR OLD FIELD [2]   WIDE > 50m [4]   SHRUB OR OLD FIELD [2]   WIDE > 50m [4]   SHRUB OR OLD FIELD [2]   WIDE > 50m [4]   SHRUB OR OLD FIELD [2]   MINING / CONSTRUCTION [0]   RESIDENTIAL, PARK, NEW FIELD [1]   MINING / CONSTRUCTION [0]   Indicate predominant land use(s) past 100m riparian. Riparian Riparian Maximum 100   Residents
5] POOL / GLIDE AND RIFFLE / RUN QUALITY  MAXIMUM DEPTH CHANNEL WIDTH CURRENT VELOCITY  Check ONE (ONE (Or 2 & average) Check ALL that apply  S > 1m [6] □ POOL WIDTH > RIFFLE WIDTH [2] □ TORRENTIAL [-1] □ SLOW [1]  Recreation Potential Primary Contact  Secondary Contact
□ 0.7-<1m [4]  □ POOL WIDTH = RIFFLE WIDTH [1]  □ VERY FAST [1]  □ INTERSTITIAL [-1]  □ (circle one and comment on back)  □ 0.4-<0.7m [2]  □ POOL WIDTH > RIFFLE WIDTH [0]  □ FAST [1]  □ INTERMITTENT [-2]  □ INTERMITTENT [-2]  □ MODERATE [1]  □ EDDIES [1]  □ Indicate for reach - pools and riffles.
comments variety of depths & water relocity due to chute
Indicate for functional riffles; Best areas must be large enough to support a population of riffle-obligate species: Check ONE (Or 2 & average). RIFFLE DEPTH RUN DEPTH RUN DEPTH RIFFLE / RUN SUBSTRATE RIFFLE / RUN EMBEDDEDNESS  ■ BEST AREAS > 10cm [2] ■ MAXIMUM > 50cm [2] ■ STABLE (e.g., Cobble, Boulder) [2] ■ NONE [2]
□ BEST AREAS 5-10cm [1] □ MAXIMUM < 50cm [1] ☑ MOD. STABLE (e.g., Large Gravel) [1] □ MODERATE [0] Riffle / □ MODERATE [0]
[metric=0] Comments
6] GRADIENT ( 5 ft/mi)   VERY LOW - LOW [2-4] %POOL: 45 %GLIDE: 11 Gradient Maximum
( mi²) HIGH - VERY HIGH [10-6] %RON: ( ) MRIFFEE. ( ) 10
EDA 4520

#### **References Cited**

Environmental Protection Agency. (2003a). Benthic Macroinvertebrate Sampling & Processing. 1-31. Retrieved February, 2016, from https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/r8-src\_eh-04.pdf.

Environmental Protection Agency. (2003b). Fish Collection by Seining or Electrofishing. 1-17. Retrieved February, 2016, from https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/r8-src\_eh-06.pdf.

Johnson, Kelly S. 2007. Field and Laboratory Methods for using the MAIS in Rapid Bioassessment of Ohio Streams.

Kavanaugh, J.L. 2016. Preliminary Report (2014-2016) on conditions in the Great Miami River near downtown Dayton, OH prior to the removal of the Monument Avenue and Tait Station low dams. Submitted to MCD.

OHEPA. 2006. Technical Bulletin EAS/2006-06-1. Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI). Division of Surface Water, June 2006.

OHEPA. 2008. Updates to Biological Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Life: Volume II and Volume II Addendum. User's Manual for Biological Field Assessment of Ohio Surface Waters.

United States Forest Service. Measuring stream discharge using the float method. www.fs.fed.us/ARMdata/PDFfiles/floatmethod.doc

Appendix A
Stream Velocity Data

Figure 4. Water velocity sample locations.

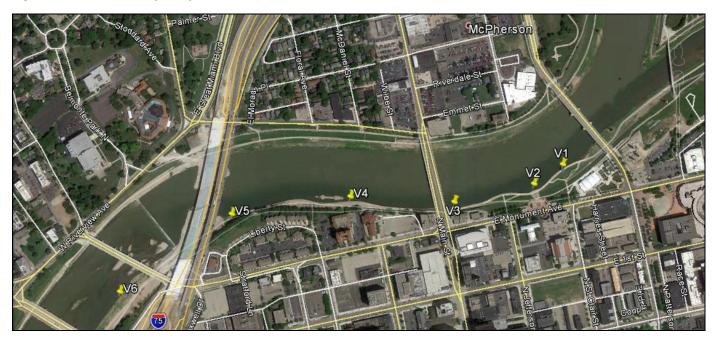


Table 13. Water Velocity Reading Compared Pre- and Post-Modification

	Monument Avenue						
		Below					
	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	
	Measurements taken October 21, 2017						
	0.047	0.082	0.097	0.049	0.150	0.230	
	0.117	0.070	0.067	0.067	0.100	0.200	
Readings	0.130	0.070	0.076	0.069	0.058	0.170	
m/s	Measurements taken November 19, 2017						
	0.043	0.105	0.160	0.068	0.058	0.470	
	0.039	0.140	0.168	0.070	0.043	0.370	
	0.035	0.100	0.101	0.060	0.060	0.380	
mean	0.069	0.095	0.112	0.064	0.078	0.303	
cm/s	6.9 <sup>a</sup>	9.5	11.2	6.4	7.8	30.3	
	Comparisons to Pre-modification water velocity data in 2014						
mean cm/s	23 <sup>a</sup>	7	8	8	8	19	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Location of site "V1" changed from Kavanaugh (2016) to slightly below the gazebo to rule out the effect of water speeding up around the outside bend of the steps leading into the river. As a result the stream velocity was slower in 2017 compared to 2014.

Appendix B
Water Chemistry Data

Table 14. Water Chemistry Data

Location	Date	Time	pН	Conductivity (ms)	Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Temperature (C)
MA-Below	9/25/18	7:25 AM	7.22	642	323	8.63	19.6
MA-Below	9/27/18	8:00 AM	7.3	653	327	8.98	18.7
MA-Below	9/30/18	8:10 AM	7.2	592	296	9.16	17.2
MA-Below	10/10/18	7:49 AM	7.71	707	353	7.83	21.6
MA-Below	10/11/18	7:48 AM	7.98	703	351	8.04	20.3
MA-Below	10/12/18	7:45 AM	7.83	693	346	8.90	16.4
MA-Below	10/24/18	8:02 AM	6.98	747	375	10.02	11.0
MA-Below	10/25/18	7:54 AM	8.75	725	365	10.05	11.2
MA-Below	10/31/18	7:44 AM	6.8	720	358	9.90	12.1
AVERAGES			7.53	686	343	9.06	16.5

Location	Date	Time	рН	Conductivity (ms)	Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Temperature (C)
MA-Above	9/25/18	7:32 AM	7.56	674	338	8.24	19.5
MA-Above	9/27/18	8:07 AM	7.37	656	327	8.68	18.2
MA-Above	9/30/18	8:22 AM	7.19	656	328	8.80	17.1
MA-Above	10/10/18	8:00 AM	7.54	732	366	7.41	21.0
MA-Above	10/11/18	7:58 AM	8.03	726	362	7.93	19.5
MA-Above	10/12/18	7:52 AM	7.78	720	361	8.57	15.7
MA-Above	10/24/18	8:10 AM	7.33	745	385	9.32	10.5
MA-Above	10/25/18	8:02 AM	8.17	737	369	9.35	10.6
MA-Above	10/31/18	7:51 AM	7.16	710	354	9.45	12.7
AVERAGES			7.57	706	354	8.63	16.1

Appendix C
Additional Photographs



View of Riverscape kayak chute in August, 2017



View of Monument Avenue kayak chute in August 2017.



View of MA-below in August 2017



Setting artificial substrates in August 2017. Note the cinder block tied to the hester-dendys.



Students standing close to where artificial substrates placed in August 2017.



Boat shocking the Island Metropark dam pool (Steele impoundment) in September 2017.



Island Metropark dam pool in September 2017.



Island Metropark dam pool in September 2017.



Boat shocking MA dam pool immediately below RS kayak chute in September 2017.



Student boat shocking MA-above in September 2017.



Student boat shocking MA-above in September 2017.



Kick net sampling at MA-below in September 2017.



Kick net sampling MA-below in September 2017.



Kick net sampling RS kayak chute in September 2017.



Kick net sampling RS kayak chute in September 2017.



Kick net sampling RS kayak chute in September 2017.



Note kayak in background while kick net sampling RS kayak chute in September 2017.

# Appendix D Midwest Biodiversity Report (attached separately)