



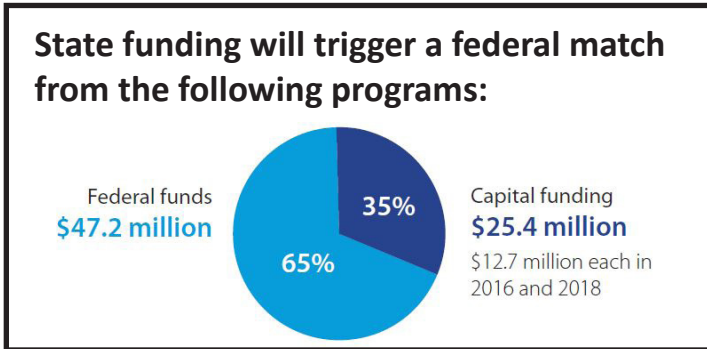
Working together to protect, restore, and enhance the St. Louis River

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# CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN *Factsheet*

## Purpose:

The St. Louis River Alliance is supporting the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s (MPCA) request for \$12.705 million in 2016 bonding for phase One and \$12.705 million for phase Two funds for restoration of the headwaters of Lake Superior—the St. Louis River estuary and Duluth/Superior harbor. These funds will trigger \$47.5 million in federal funds as a part of a multi-level effort to clean up the Great Lakes, to clean up polluted riverbed sediment and industrial waste from the St. Louis River estuary. State funding is crucial to access the 65% federal cost share match.



## Background:

In 1987, this site was designated the St. Louis River Area of Concern. It includes the Twin Ports and the Nemadji River Watershed. It stretches 39 miles up the St. Louis River to the Fond du Lac Reservation and 10 miles up the Lake Superior North Shore. In July 2013, a Remedial Action Plan for the St. Louis River AOC/Estuary and harbor was adopted and approved by the US EPA. This Plan was created by over 40 partner organizations, and with it the major cleanup actions will be completed by 2020 and the site will be delisted by 2025.

Federal funds have been secured to accelerate cleanup efforts and will help communities fulfill the promise of economic revitalization, increased property values and improved quality of life. But they are accessible only when the state authorizes the matching funds.

## Benefits:

The cleanup of the St. Louis River AOC/Estuary, and it’s subsequent delisting, will reap great economic benefits across the entire Great Lakes Region, with a total of at least \$50 billion. Including:

- Direct economic benefits of \$6.5 billion to \$11.8 billion from tourism, fishing, and recreation.
- Directly raise coastal property values \$12 billion to \$19 billion by remediating “toxic hot spots.”
- Reduce costs to municipalities by \$50 million.
- Yield a \$2-\$3 return for every \$1 spent.
- Make the region more attractive to business and workers.

**Federal and state supporting agencies:** MPCA, MNDNR, WDNR, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa **Supporting organizations:** Duluth Seaway Port Authority, ARDC, River Corridor Coalition, Duluth Armory **Please add your name!**

**For More Information Contact:**  
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