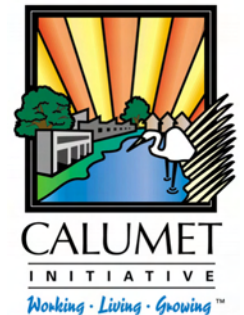


# Calumet Initiative

Nicole Kamins  
Chicago Department of Environment

*Historic photos courtesy of Southeast  
Chicago Historical Society*



Nature



Industry



Community





Photo By Marcin Gliszewski



# Wet Prairies



# Forested Wetlands



# Emergent Wetlands



American soldiers stationed at Fort Dearborn hunted in the Lake Calumet marshes. There they found water birds "*of every kind that breed upon this continent.*"



Black-crowned night heron





Yellow-headed Blackbird



Great Egret



Common Moorhen



Scientists found "fine examples of rare and beautiful plants."



Elk sedge



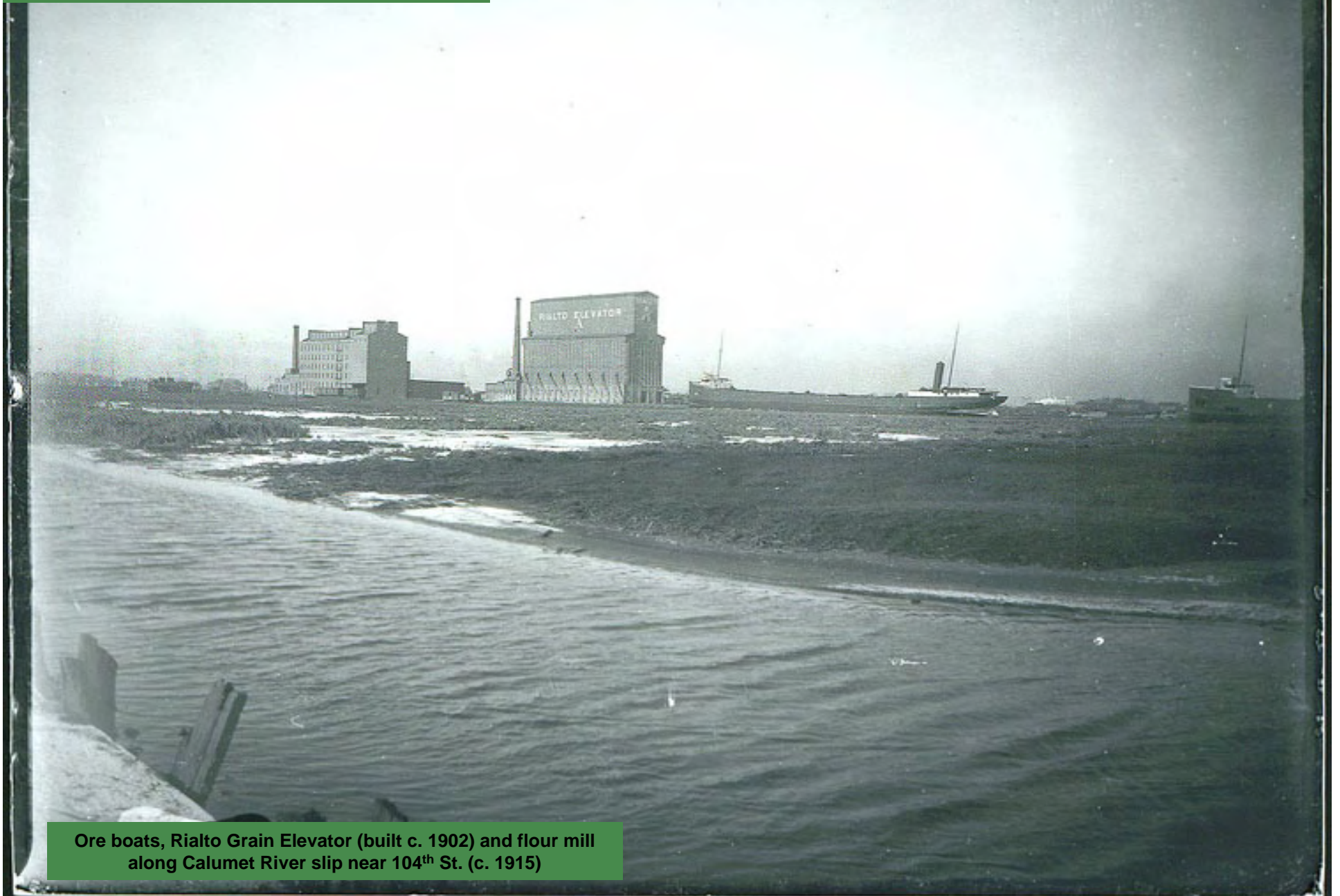
*Golden Sedge*



*Thismia americana*



# Calumet River



Ore boats, Rialto Grain Elevator (built c. 1902) and flour mill along Calumet River slip near 104<sup>th</sup> St. (c. 1915)

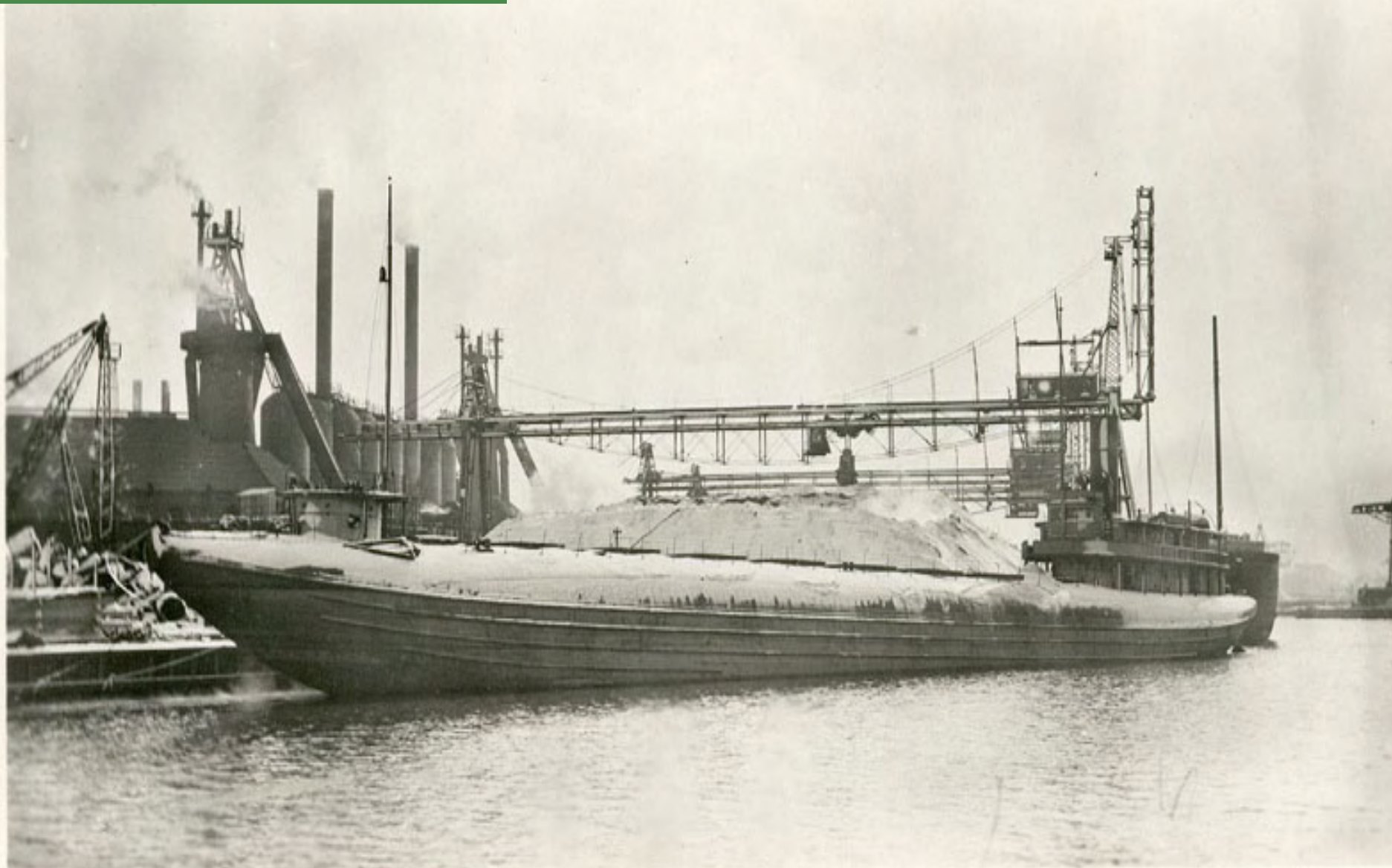
# Calumet River



*Mc* SOUTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: Crib work ready for concrete superstructure, built for the Illinois Steel Company's plant on Calumet River.

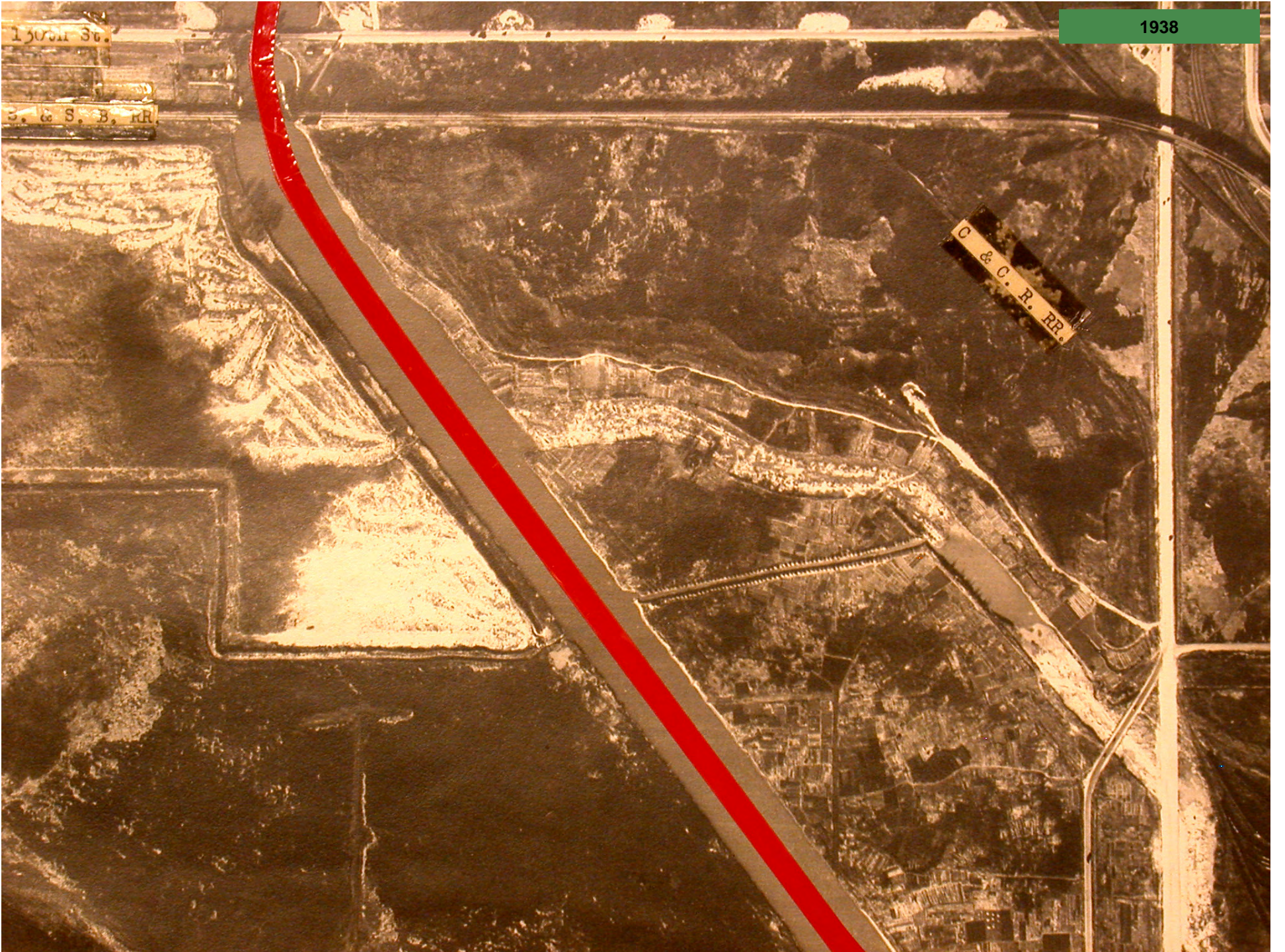
US Steel – Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company  
construction- ready for concrete (c. 1912)

# Calumet River



Whaleback lake boat unloading  
at Federal Furnace (c. 1913)

1938



# Lake Calumet

Brochure – Calumet Waterway Celebration (1935)



## Industries Located Near Lake Calumet

- 1—Illinois Steel Co.
- 2—Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co.
- 3—Material Service Corp. Dock
- 4—Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.
- 5—Danham Towing Co. Tug Base
- 6—South Chicago Coal & Dock Co.
- 7—Construction Material Co. Dock
- 8—Calumet Ship & Dock Co. Yard
- 9—R. I. Elevators, cap. 4,000,000 bu.
- 10—Lake Sand Co.
- 11—John Mohr & Sons Steel Plant
- 12—Pollak Steel Co.
- 13—Norris Elevator, cap. 2,250,000 bu.
- 14—Commonwealth Edison Co.
- 15—Chicago Shipbuilding Co.
- 16—Calumet Elev., cap. 3,000,000 bu.
- 17—C. E. & Q. R. R. Dock House
- 18—J. Rosenbaum Elev., 2,200,000 bu.
- 19—American Sand & Gravel Co.
- 20—Ter. & Trans. Corp. Dock House
- 21—Rialto Elevator, 164th St.
- 22—Star & Crescent Milling Co.
- 23—Marblehead Lime Co.
- 24—Keystone Elev., cap. 6,500,000 bu.
- 25—Washburn-Crosby Flour Mill
- 26—C. E. I. & P. Ry. Dock House
- 27—Lonsdale Elevator, cap. 900,000 bu.
- 28—Wisconsin Steel Co.
- 29—International Harvester Co.
- 30—Federal Furnace Co.
- 31—By-Products Coke Co.
- 32—Commonwealth Edison Co.
- 33—American Maize Products Co.
- 34—Valley Mould & Iron Corp.
- 35—Interstate Iron & Steel Co.
- 36—General Chemical Co.
- 37—C. & N. W. Ry. Terminal Elev., 4,470,000 bu.
- 38—Ford Motor Co.
- 39—Ryan Car Co.
- 40—Western Steel Car & Foundry Co.
- 41—Acme Steel Co.
- 42—International Harvester Co.
- 43—Carter White Lead Works
- 44—Griffin Wheel Co.
- 45—Sherwin-Williams Co.
- 46—Pullman Co.
- 47—Nickel Plate Yards
- 48—Burnside I. C. R. R. Shops
- 49—American Manganese Steel Co.
- 50—Zerozone Co.

THE STORY OF  
CHICAGO REGIONAL PORT DISTRICT  
PORT OF CHICAGO  
**LAKE CALUMET HARBOR**  
MID-AMERICA WATER-RAIL-TRUCK LINK WITH THE WORLD

*"A City Within a City"*

Brochure (1961)



# Calumet River



Mouth of the Calumet River – Calumet Park, Youngstown Steel; bottom left is South Slip of US Steel (1960s)

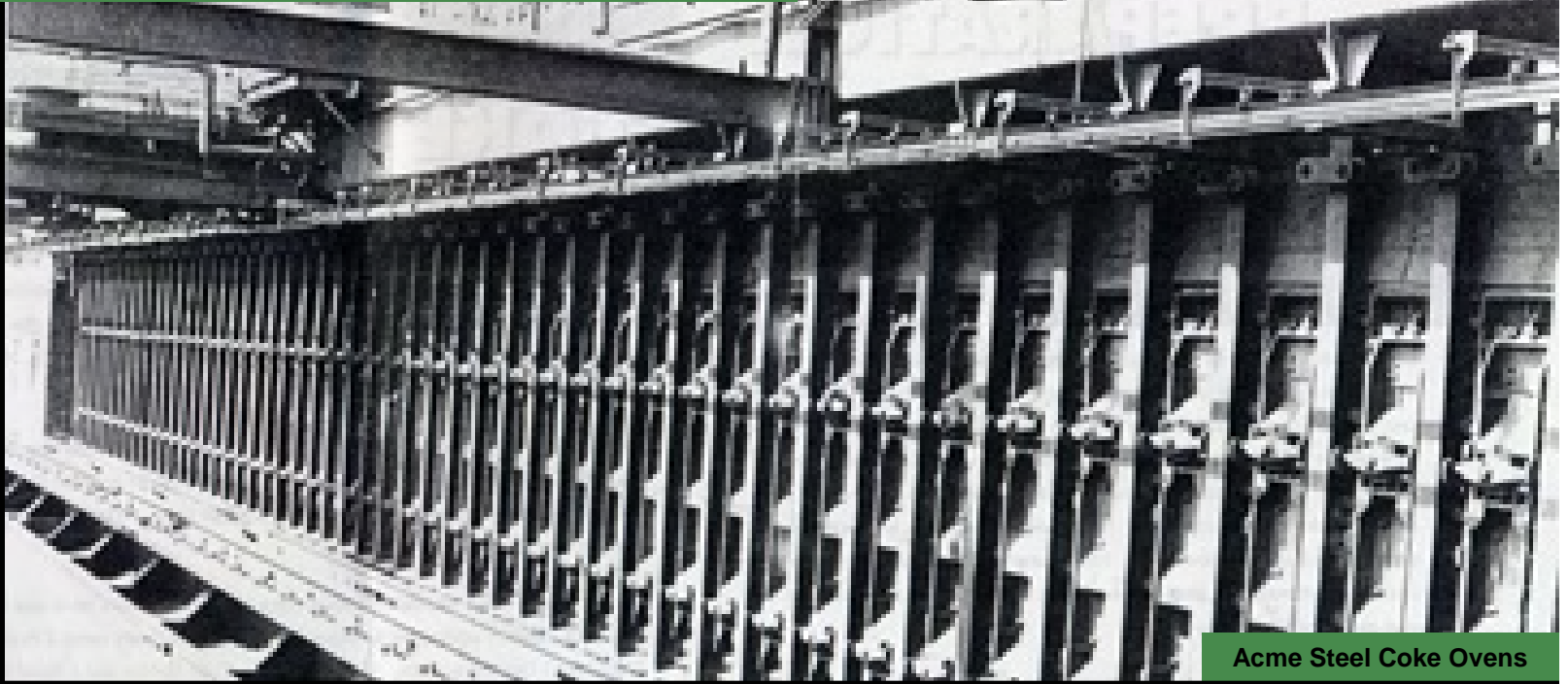
# Railroads



Acme Steel, Riverdale  
Plymouth No. 3 Locomotive  
(late 1930s)

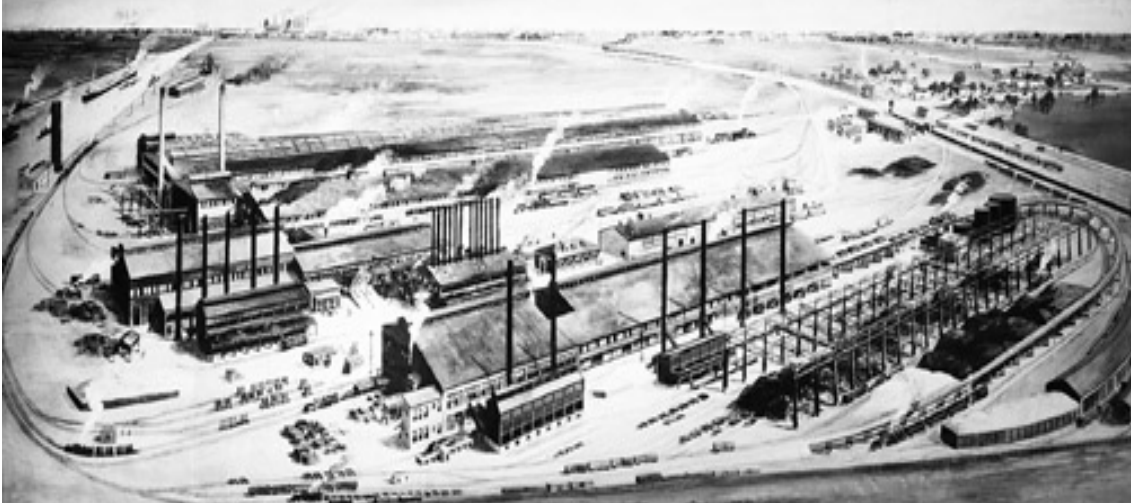
# Industry: Steel

1875  
to  
1992

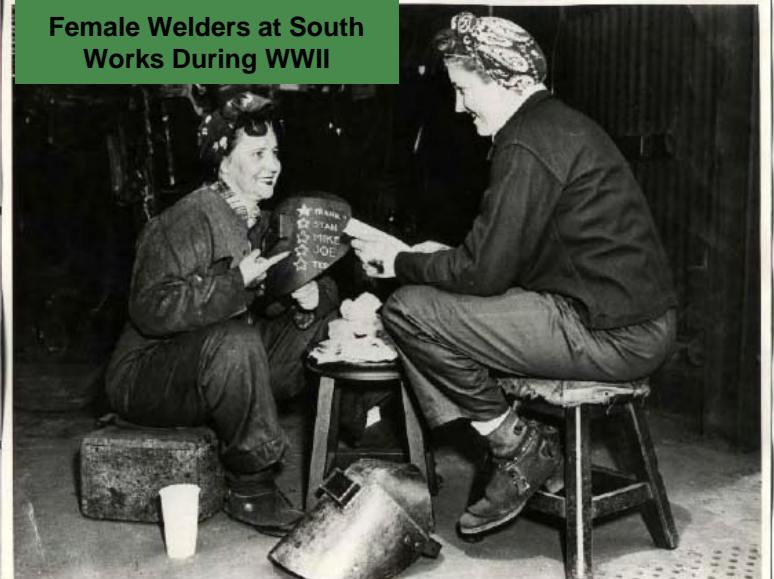


Acme Steel Coke Ovens

Republic Steel (built 1876)  
Avenue O & Calumet River



Female Welders at South  
Works During WWII



# Industry: Steel



Acme Steel – Interlake Iron  
(1930s – 1950s)

# Industry: Steel



Acme Steel

PUSHING COKE FROM AN OVEN

# Community

- Polish
- Irish
- Yugoslavian
- Czechoslovakian
- Swedish
- Serbians
- Slovenians
- Italian
- German
- Croatian
- Austrian
- Mexican (~1926)
- African American (post WWII)

St Archangel Michael  
Serbian Orthodox Church



100<sup>th</sup> Street Train  
Station c. 1900

106<sup>th</sup> and Torrence



# Community: Today

“Southeast Chicago is a place of neighborhoods. They are shaped by ethnicity, social class and by a physical presence that has always implied industrial might.”

– Rod Sellers and Dominick A. Pacyga  
*Chicago's Southeast Side*

South Chicago  
South Deering  
East Side  
Hegewisch  
Pullman



# Filling of Wetlands





# Filling of Wetlands



Chicago West Pullman & Southern  
Slag Train (January 1975)

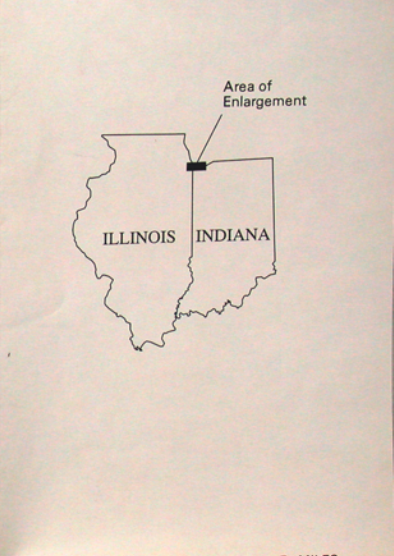
# Fill Materials of the Calumet Region



## EXPLANATION

### TYPE OF FILL DEPOSITS

- Industrial waste
- Natural material (includes sand and clay)
- Steel industry waste
- Dredging spoil
- Biological sludge
- Ash and cinders
- Construction debris
- Municipal solid waste





Wisconsin Steel: Boom (1875) and Bust (1982)



US Steel South Works: Heyday (early 1900s) and Today

## 200,000 jobs lost

“[Let’s] talk about the shuttered mills that once provided a decent life for men and women of every race. “ – Presidential candidate Barack Obama, March 18, 2008

# Industry: Today

60% of Chicago's Industrial Space



# Industry Today

Years in Business 1 – 133 years  
Average number of years in Calumet: 39

## Jobs

Under 50 – 57%  
Between 51-200 – 25%  
Over 200 – 18%

## Use of Space

Under 60,000 sq ft – 50%  
Over 60,000 sq ft – 50%

## Annual Revenue

Over \$10 million – 52%  
Under \$10 million – 48%

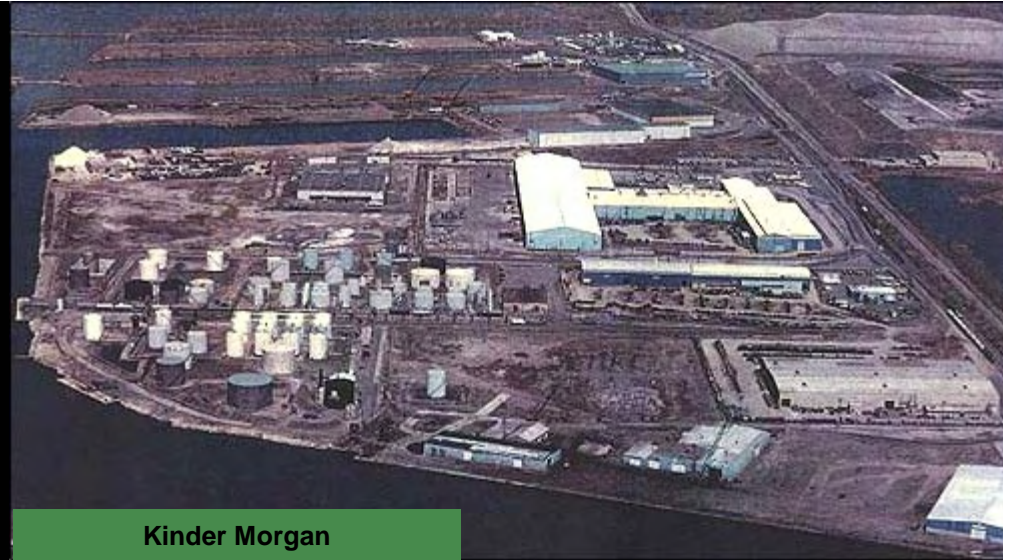
## Markets They Service

Local – 21%  
Regional – 44%  
National and  
International – 35%  
(Exporting 7%)

# Industry Today

Ford Motor Company  
Diamond Coring  
Paket Corporation  
Raffin Construction  
Holcim  
Cargill  
Beemsterboer  
Cullen Electric  
Naylor Pipe  
Mittal Steel  
Sherwin Williams  
Waste Management  
Park National Bank  
ADE, Inc.  
CSX  
Kinder Morgan  
...and many more

Emphasis on Greening



# Nature Today: Challenges



- Slag, Dredge Spoils
- Hydrology
- Contamination
- Invasive species
- Nuisance species
- Dumping, off-roading

# Nature Today: Opportunities

- Large, ecologically significant wetlands
- Habitat for 40% of state-listed flora/fauna
- 11 sites in INAI
- 2004 Audubon Society IBA
- Urban setting
- Interpretive opportunities







## Biodiversity Blitz 2002

Taxonomic Group	Number of Species
Algae	83
Protozoa	18
Soil Invertebrates	35
Fungi	152
Lichens	25
Sac Fungi	18
Bryophytes, Ferns & Allies	44
Vascular Plants	709
Spiders	40
Mites	84
Zooplankton	8
Crustacea	14
Aquatic Insects	66
True Bugs	35
Leaf Hoppers	72
Beetles	350
Ants, Bees & Wasps	122
Butterflies & Moths	163
Ectoparasites	5
Molluscs	42
Fishes	33
Amphibians & Reptiles	9
Birds	110
Mammals	20
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,257</b>



# Education



# Recreation



# Volunteers

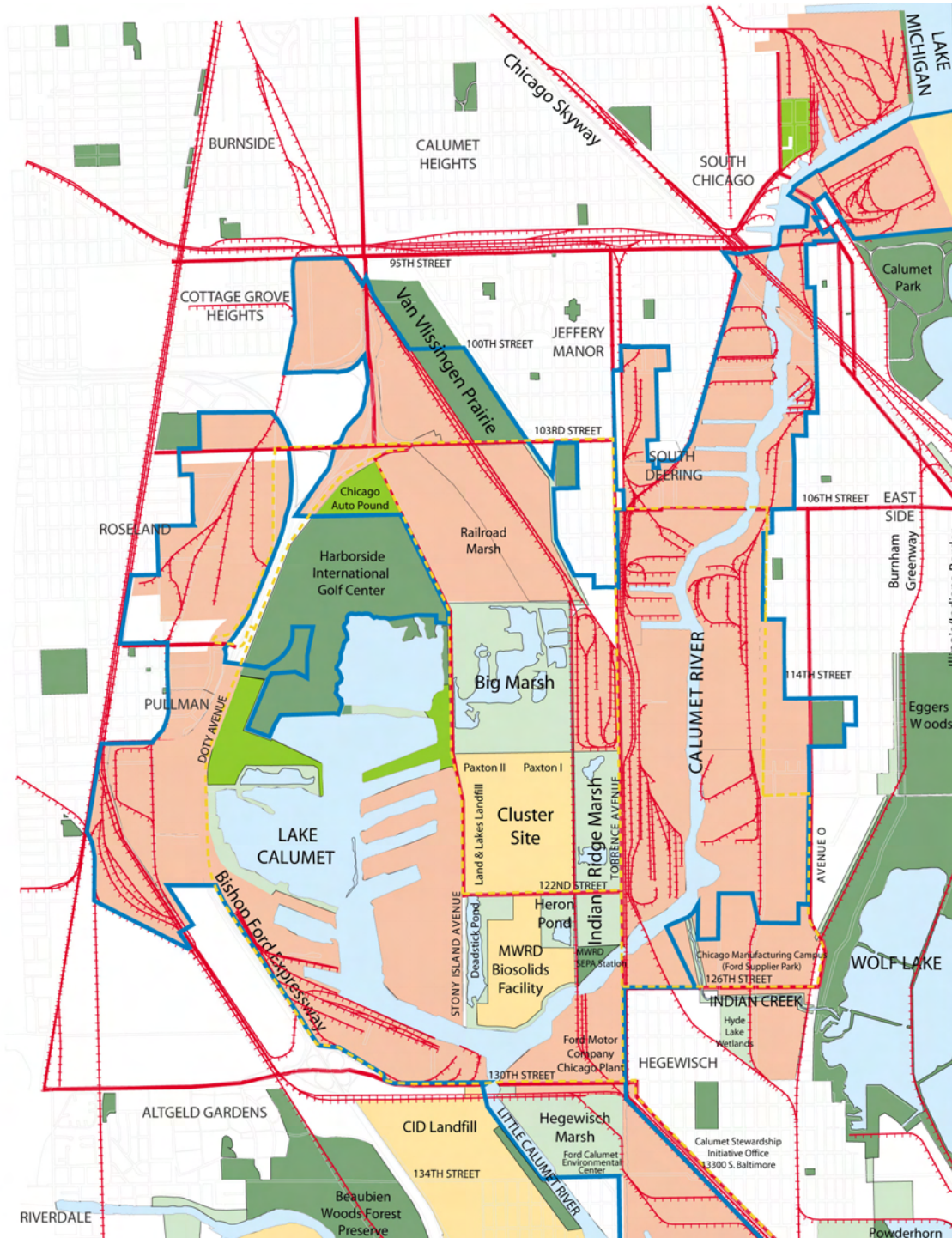


# Research



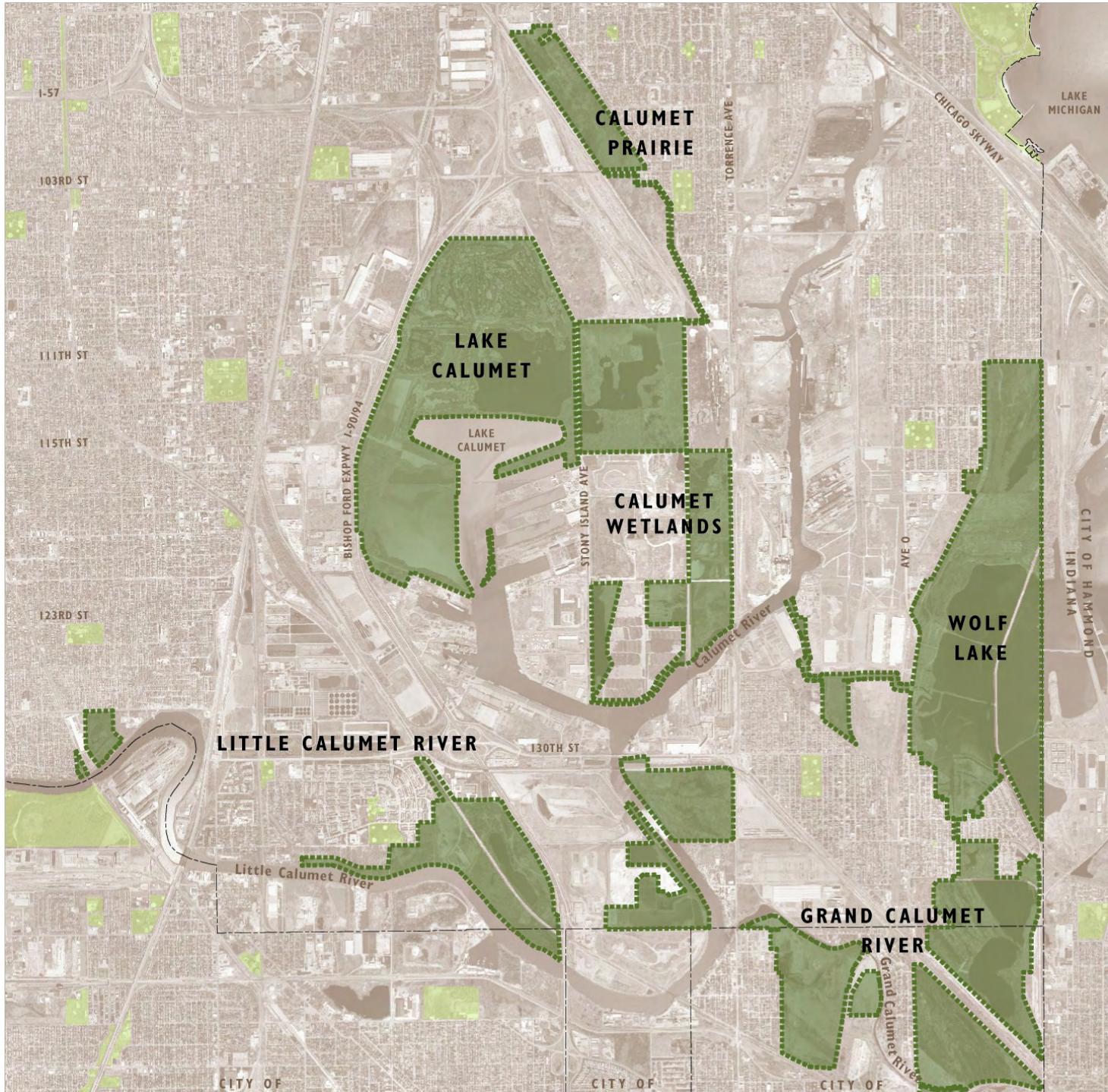
**No Small Plans**

# Calumet Area Land Use Plan





# Calumet Open Space Reserve



# Calumet Initiative Partners

**ACADEMIA:** Chicago State University, DePaul University, Governor's State University, Illinois Institute of Technology, Loyola University, Michigan State University, Northwestern University, Notre Dame, Purdue University, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

**LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT:** Chicago Department of Environment, Chicago Department of Planning and Development, Chicago Department of Business and Information Systems, Chicago Park District, Alderman John Pope (10<sup>th</sup> Ward, Chicago), Alderman Anthony Beale (9<sup>th</sup> Ward, Chicago), Alderman William Beavers (7<sup>th</sup> Ward, Chicago), City of Hammond, Indiana, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois International Port District Authority, Illinois Natural History Survey, Illinois State Geological Survey, Illinois State Water Survey, Illinois Waste Management Research Center, Indiana Department of Environmental Quality, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, Cook County Dept of Office Technology

**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:** Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant; Urban Resources Partnership, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Department of Agriculture Forest Service North Central Research Station, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, US National Park Service, US Natural Resources Conservation Service

**ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MUSEUMS:** Bird Conservation Network, Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago Audubon Society, Chicago Ornithological Society, Chicago Wilderness, Field Museum of Natural History, Friends of the Chicago River, Grand Calumet Task Force, Illinois Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, Openlands Project, Shedd Aquarium

**LOCAL RESIDENT-LED ORGANIZATIONS:** Calumet Ecological Park Association, Calumet Heritage Partnership, Hammond Parks Foundation, Hegewisch Chamber of Commerce, Historic Pullman Foundation, Lake Calumet Ecosystem Partnership, Ridge Historical Society, Southeast Environmental Task Force, Wolf Lake Bi-State Gatherings

**INDUSTRY:** Acme Steel, Calumet Area Industrial Commission, Ford Motor Company, Southeast Chicago Development Commission, USA/Waste Management Corp

**CHICAGO AREA CONSULTING FIRMS:** V3 Consultants, Envirocom, Kudrna & Associates, TAMS Consultants, The Wetlands Initiative, Wolff Clements and Associates, Jacobs-Ryan Associates, Applied Ecological Services

**FOUNDATIONS:** Chicago's Environmental Fund, Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Institute of Nature and Culture, Nature, Polis and Ethics

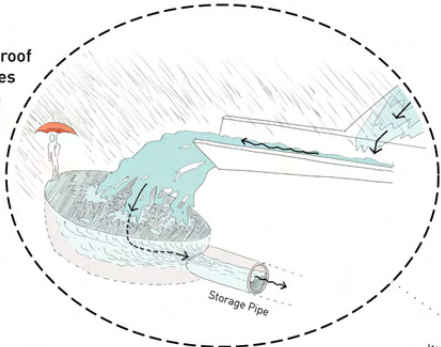


SGA V01302008

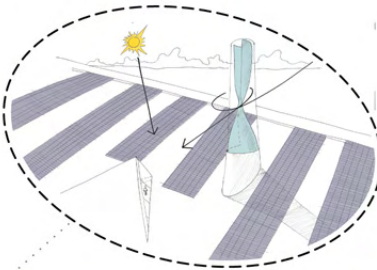




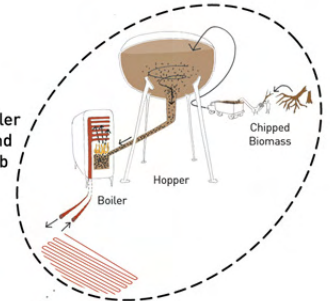
Bisected roof trough guides rain water to gravel drains and connecting storage pipe



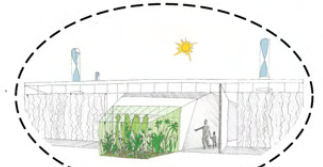
Wind turbines and solar PV on roof produce electricity



Biomass boiler heats water and radiant slab

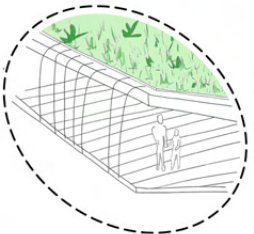


Municipal Water Service

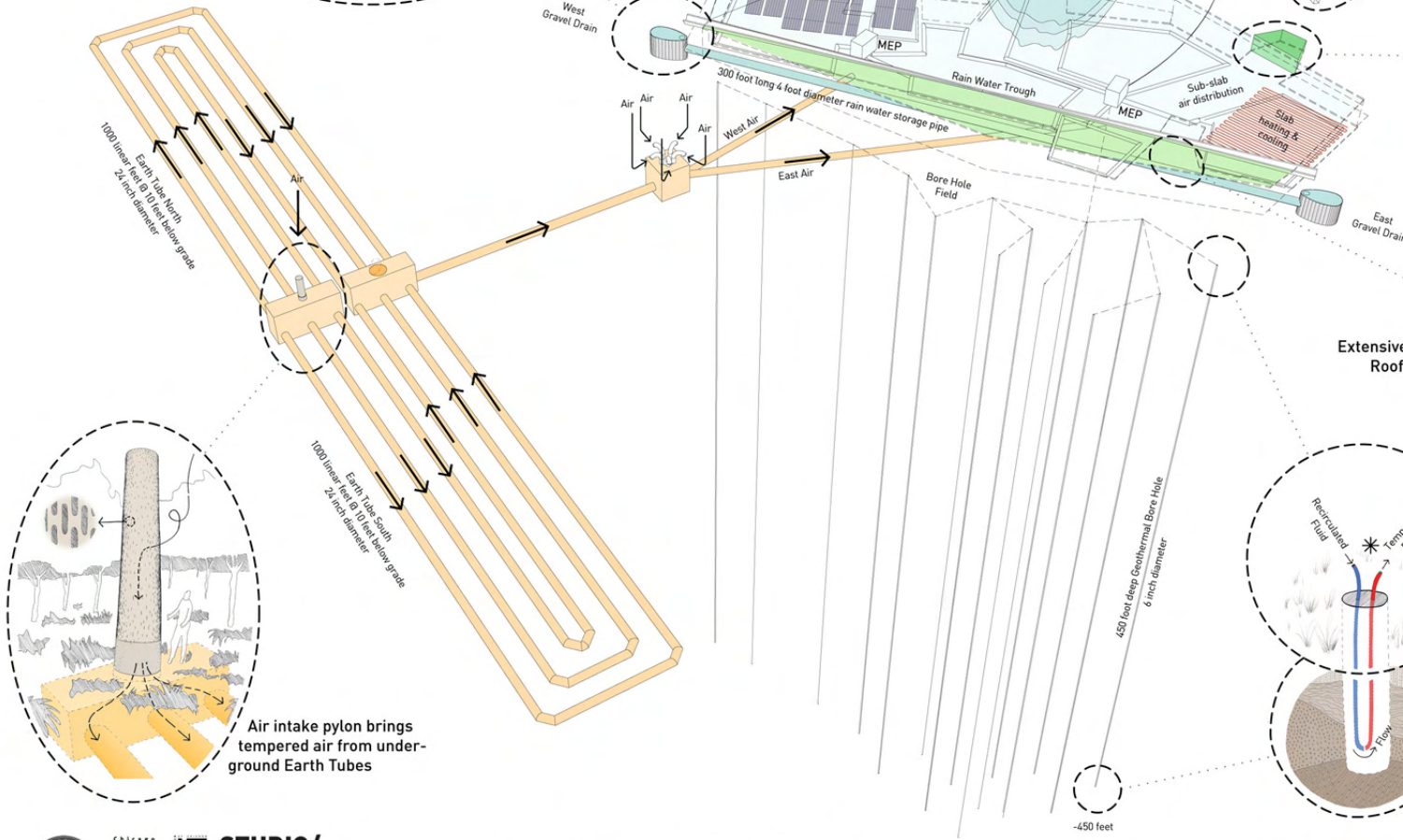
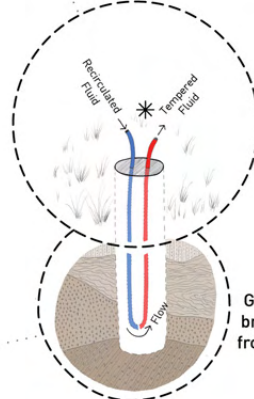


Vertical-Flow Wetland

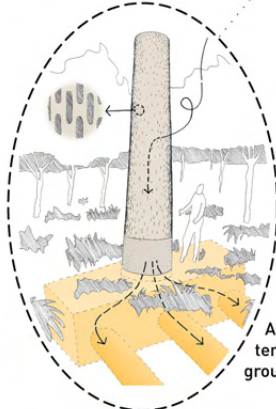
Extensive Green Roof System



Geothermal piping brings tempered fluid from deep bore holes



Air intake pylon brings tempered air from underground Earth Tubes

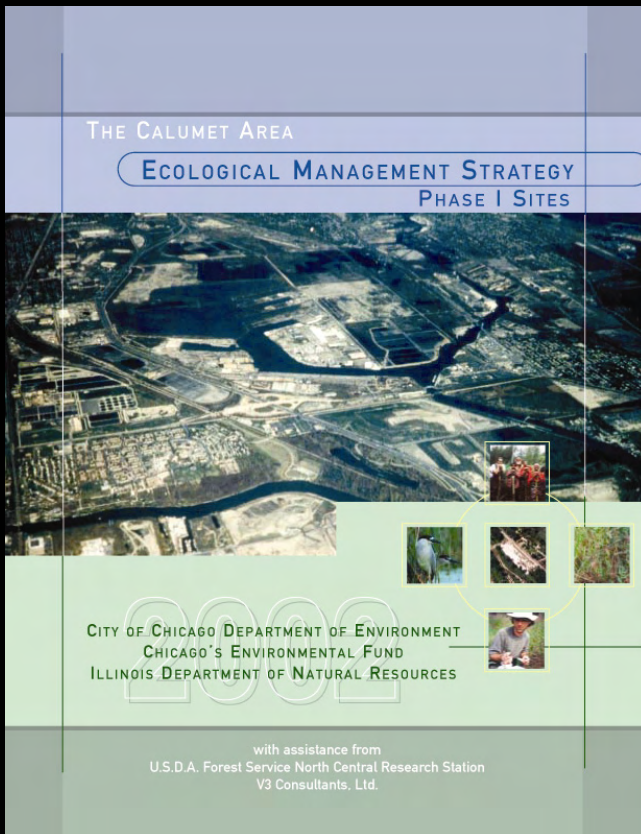


**STUDIO/  
GANG  
/ARCHITECTS**

# FORD CALUMET ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

# HOW IT WORKS

# Calumet Area Ecological Management Strategy



- Preserve
- Improve
- Create

Chicago Department of Environment  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Chicago's Environmental Fund  
with assistance from  
USDA Forest Service North Central Research Station  
V3 Consultants and Jacobs/Ryan Associations

# Calumet Hydrologic Master Plan

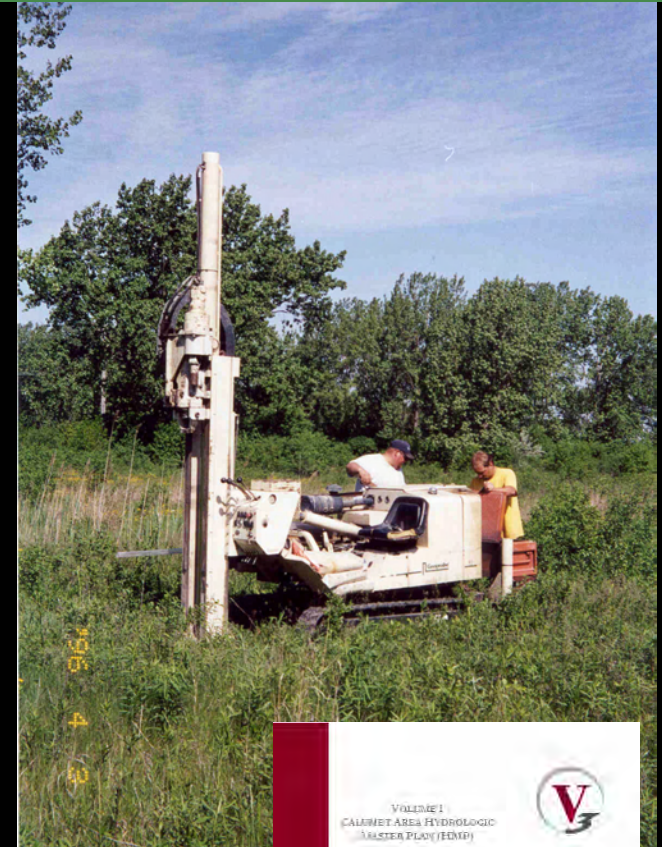
**Timeline:** Released September 2006

**Funding:** IDNR C2000 program, City of Chicago, Chicago Specialties Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP), US Dept of Housing and Urban Development

**Advisors:** George Roadcap (ISWS) and Michael Miller (ISGS)

**Sites:** Indian Ridge Marsh, Heron Pond, Deadstick Pond, Big Marsh, Lake Calumet, Conservation Area, Pullman Creek; later additions include Hegewisch Marsh and Van Vlissingen Prairie

**Goal:** To assess the hydrology of the region, connections between sites, status of water control structures, bathymetry of wetlands and topography of the area. To test general water quality at some sites (pH, DO, turbidity, etc.) Recommendations are provided.



VOLUME I  
CALUMET AREA HYDROLOGIC  
MASTER PLAN (HMP)



CALUMET AREA  
City of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

PREPARED FOR:  
CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
30 NORTH LA SALLE STREET - SUITE 2000  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

PREPARED BY:  
V3 COMPANIES, L.P.  
132 NORTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602  
© 12.219.1996

FUNDING PROVIDED BY:  
CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES C2000 PROGRAM  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
AND A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT WITH CHICAGO SPECIALTIES

MARCH 21, 2006



# Calumet Hydrologic Master Plan

Structure #	Functional	Adjustable	Adequate Discharge Capacity	Blockage Potential	Improvement Recommendations	EOPCC*	Priority
#1 – Deadstick Pond Outlet	Y	Y	Y	Low	Clear outfall channel and stabilize with rip-rap	\$8,500	
#2 – Heron Pond Outlet	N/A	N/A	Y	Low	Construct concrete weir	\$15,600	Y
#3 –IRM North Outlet	Y	N	Y	High	Inspect Culvert	\$2,500	Y
					Rehabilitate 24" culvert: Cured-in-Place Liner.....	\$31,500	Y
					or Pull in Place 20" HDPE	\$47,500	
					Replace manhole with water level control structure	\$9,500	Y
					Install beaver leveler	\$2,500	
#5 – Big Marsh Outlet	Y	Y	N	High	Construct secondary outlet	\$27,000	Y
#7 – Coke Plant to IRM North	Y	N	Y	Low	None	N/A	
#8 – Railroad Marsh to Big Marsh	Y	N	Y	Low	None	N/A	
#14 – Coke Plant to Big Marsh	Y	N	Y	Low	None	N/A	
#15 – Conservation Area Outlet	Y	Y	N	Low	Rip-rap stabilization	\$3,800	
					Construct secondary outlet	\$14,000	Y
#17 –IRM South Outlet	N/A	N/A	Y	Low	Construct concrete weir	\$15,600	Y

Table: Control Structure Assessment Summary.

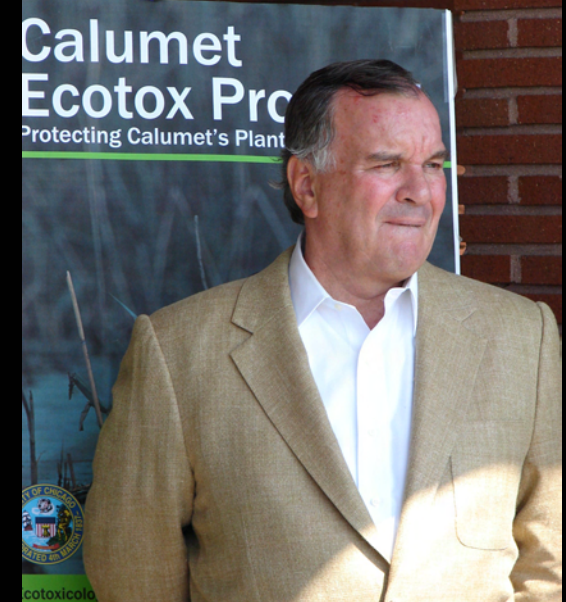
\*Costs do not include engineering design or permitting fees.

# Calumet Ecotox Protocol

*Protecting Calumet's Plants and Animals*

Multi-agency effort to create ecotoxicological standards for Calumet open space plans

- Chicago Department of Environment
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Illinois Natural History Survey
- Chicago Park District
- Forest Preserve District of Cook County
- Waste Management and Research Center



# Calumet Ecotox Protocol

*Protecting Calumet's Plants and Animals*

- Technical and Management teams
- Establishes threshold, benchmark and background screening levels for soil, sediment and surface water
- Completed October 2006

## REMEDIATION

**BENCHMARK**

*in between*

**THRESHOLD**

Evaluate site-specific conditions to determine remediation approach

**NO IMPACT**





Date of Aerial Photos: 2006

© Copyright 2007 City of Chicago

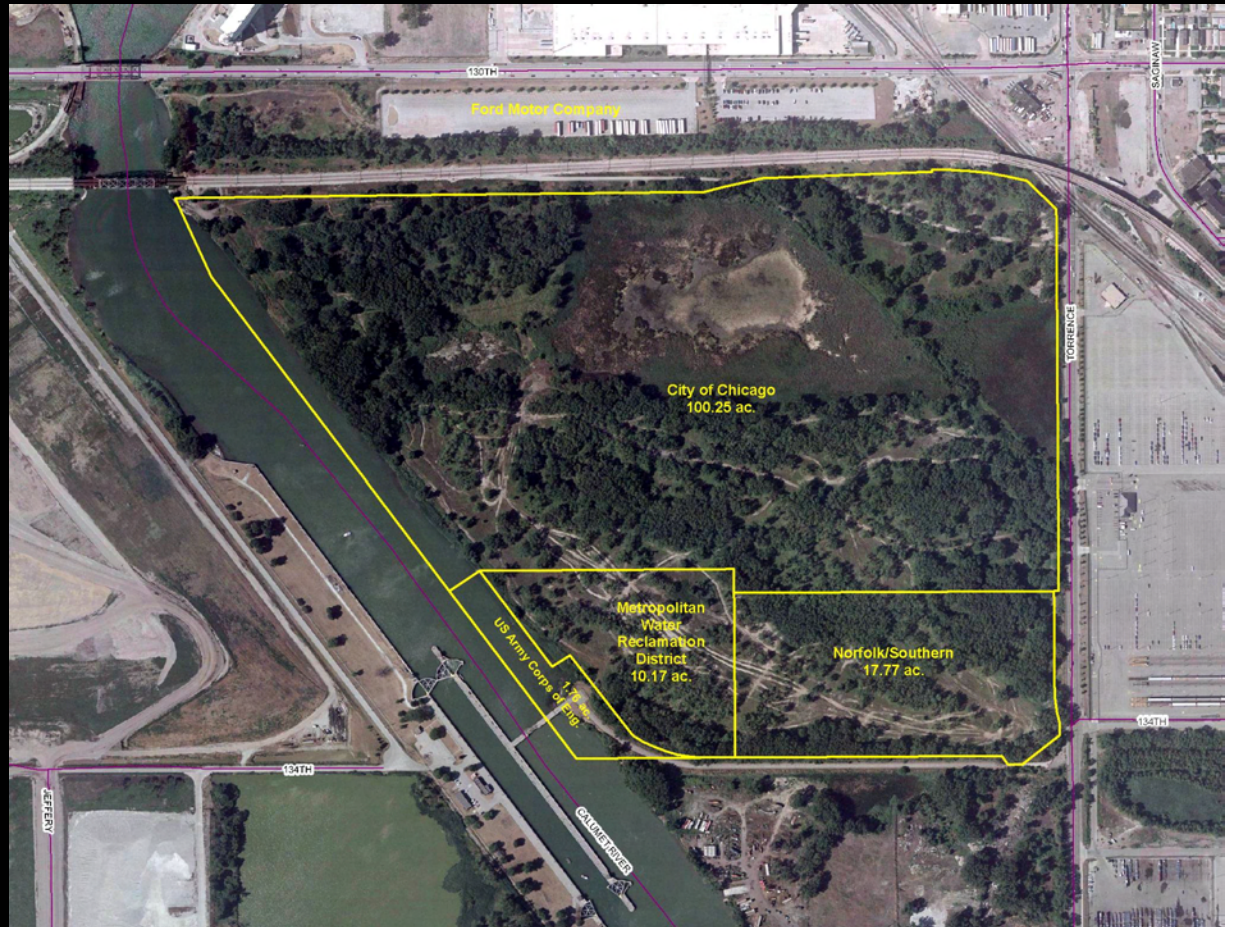
North

## Site Planning Process

- 1) Review sampling data
- 2) Meet with community, government agencies and other partners to assess future use ideas (iterative) and regulatory requirements
- 3) Involve Calumet Ecotox Technical Team to assess need for additional sampling and bioavailability (iterative)
- 4) Evaluate whether any areas of site require removal of soil or fill
- 5) Restoration costs are often high due to sampling and remediation needs
- 6) Due to high cost of topsoil, evaluate potential use of biosolids or Peoria sediments as soil supplements
- 7) Obtain approvals for restoration plan and finalize costs
- 8) Finalize funding strategy
- 9) Conduct restoration / remediation
- 10) Transfer parcel for long-term ownership and management

# Hegewisch Marsh

- Owned by City of Chicago, MWRD lease
- 130 acres
- State-endangered bird nesting habitat
- IDNR slated to be owner of 100-acre parcel
- Ford Calumet Environmental Center
- Relatively clean site
- Fill – dredge spoils, no soil needed
- Undergoing restoration



# Van Vlissingen Prairie

- Land acquired via donation from Belt Railroad in 2001
- Wetland mitigation
- Future owner: TBD
- 131.6 acres
- State-endangered plant habitat
- Extensive areas of fill (7 to 10 feet deep)
- Estimated restoration without biosolids or Peoria sediments: \$9M
- Site plans at 60%

Van Vlissingen Prairie/Marian R. Byrnes Natural Area



# Indian Ridge Marsh North and South

- Owned by City of Chicago
- 152.8 acres
- Future owner: TBD
- State-endangered bird nesting habitat
- USACE WRDA Section 1135 Program
- Design is at 50%, to be complete Spring 2009
- \$5M provided by Corps; \$1.25 match by City
- Isolated contamination issues
- Extensive areas of dredge spoils and fill
- Opportunity to use biosolids or Peoria sediments





# Heron Pond

- Owned by City of Chicago
- 35.7 acres
- State-endangered bird nesting habitat
- Former gun club
- 30 acres of wetlands, 5.7 acres of upland
- Future owner: TBD
- Potential site for O'Hare Mitigation (\$2.1 million for sampling, site plans and construction)
- Site plan and sampling will determine whether could use biosolids or Peoria sediments



# Hyde Lake Wetlands

- Owned by City of Chicago
- Future owner: TBD
- 28 acres
- Potential site for O'Hare Mitigation (\$2.1 million for sampling, site plans and construction)
- Site plan and sampling will determine whether could use biosolids or Peoria sediments



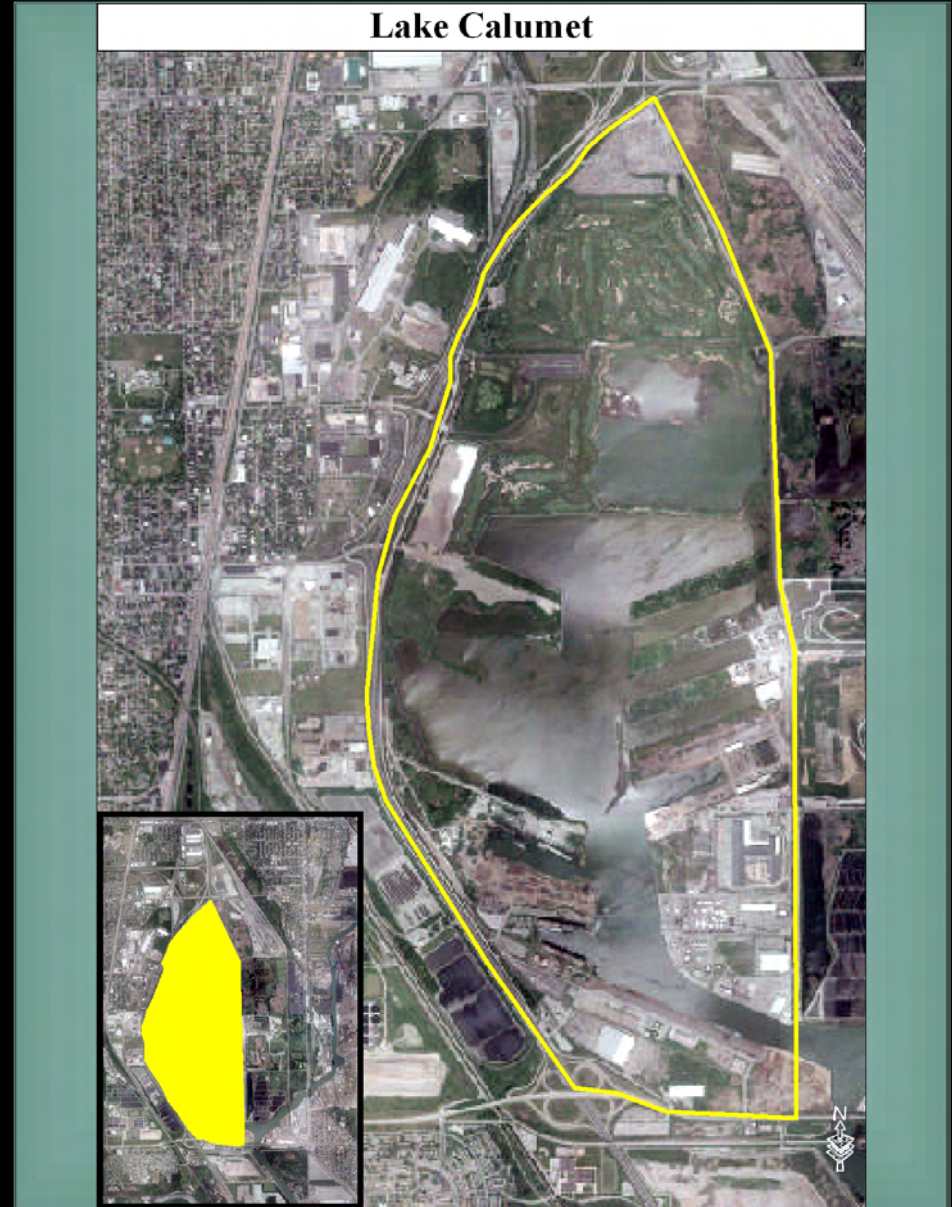
# Deadstick Pond

- Owned by MWRD
- Roughly 40 acres
- USACE permit regulates water level at the site
- Valuable bird habitat – especially shorebirds
- Audubon and others interested in bird viewing platform on Stony Island
- No need for biosolids or Peoria sediments



# Lake Calumet

- Owned / managed by Illinois International Port District
- Roughly 400 acres
- Conservation Area – mitigation
- West Shore of interest for habitat
- Access for large ships
- Unlikely need for biosolids or Peoria sediments



# Big Marsh

- Owned by City of Chicago
- State-endangered bird habitat
- Future owner: TBD
- 298 acres, 87 acres open water, 68 acres common reed, 126 acres of upland fill
- Extensive areas of fill, particularly slag
- Opportunity to use biosolids or Peoria sediments



# Cluster Site

- Ownership unclear
- Proposed for listing on Superfund's National Priority List
- Extensive contamination
- Surface water runoff will be routed to Big Marsh (with optional diversion to Indian Ridge)
- Roughly 200 acres
- Significant opportunity to use biosolids or Peoria sediments as landfill cap for enormous cost savings



- Sites difficult to restore
- Remediation and restoration are expensive
- To date, IDNR, FPDCC, CPD have not been able to accept management of sites due to budget and staff issues (and planning for all sites is not yet complete)
- Need to minimize costs of restoration while protecting ecological and human health receptors
- Goal: balance ecological needs with these realities



**Nicole Kamins**  
**312-744-5959**  
**[nkamins@cityofchicago.org](mailto:nkamins@cityofchicago.org)**