

## **Integration of Remediation, Restoration and Revitalization Objectives: A Case Study on the Mercury-Impacted South River, Virginia**

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**Background/Objectives.** Historically released mercury (Hg) from a textile manufacturing facility (Site) has accumulated in depositional areas on the banks of the South River, Virginia. Introduction of legacy Hg-impacted soils to the South River through bank erosion is the most significant source of Hg loading to the system. Phase 1 Interim Measures with the objective of reducing or eliminating this source of loading are being conducted stepwise. The strategy is to progress from upstream to downstream for higher loading locations in the first two river miles downstream of the Site. This phase of the program includes stabilization of approximately 6,000 linear feet of eroding riverbanks across several bank management areas (BMAs) with both public and private land ownership.

**Approach/Activities.** The South River is an important socioeconomic resource for the City of Waynesboro and is considered an integral part of the City's revitalization vision and redevelopment plan. In 2001, the City adopted a city-wide Greenway plan that follows the river course. To date, 1.2 miles of the South River Greenway has been constructed and is utilized for a variety of recreation and river access. Portions of the Greenway are collocated with bank areas targeted for remediation. Open communication with multiple stakeholder groups during the remedial design process identified a number of factors that were considered and accommodated in the design of each project. These design modifications were described in a presentation at the previous 2017 Battelle Conference. This update provides the status of the program and relationships that have matured over the past two years, as more complex and broad scale interests associated with the Greenway have been incorporated. The development of remedial designs that balance stakeholder values while accomplishing remedial action objectives is crucial to achieving successful project outcomes for all.

**Results/Lessons Learned.** As each project has been completed, relationships built upon mutual trust with local stakeholders, permitting authorities and the public have continued to grow and influence more efficient and positive outcomes of each successive stage. This presentation will highlight how the completed and on-going South River remedial designs are a key aspect of the local revitalization vision, and incorporate stakeholder preferences associated with the City of Waynesboro Greenway in order to optimize project outcomes.