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## State of Ohio Dredge Fleet Sets Performance Record

December 2016

**OHIO, USA** – The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) recently finished the 2016 dredging season, having removed more than 1 million cubic yards (apprx. 765,000 m<sup>3</sup>) of dredged material from state park lakes and other state properties. The State's dredge fleet consists primarily of Ellicott Model 460SL swinging ladder dredges.

The 1 million cubic yards of sediment is the most that has ever been removed in the history of the state's dredging program.



Ellicott 460SL dredge, "BRUTUS"

ODNR Director, James Zehringer, attributes ODNR's dredging success to the dedicated staff and the strategic use of available resources, which serves to improve boater access and water quality.

*"ODNR remains committed to improving access to Ohio's lakes and understands the vital role healthy waters play in all of Ohio's communities," Zehringer said. "Our comprehensive approach to dredging utilizes personnel and equipment in a manner that helps create safer waterways for boaters while working to provide cleaner lakes for Ohioans."*

### Ellicott Dredges, LLC



1611 Bush St.  
Baltimore, MD 21230

Ph: (410) 545-0232  
U.S. Only: (888) 870-3005

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*Ellicott 460SL Swinging Ladder Dredge, "CHIEF", with 1965 Ellicott dredge, "INDIAN", in the background*

In 2016, ODNR and private groups worked together to excavate and remove sediment from navigable waterways, including Buckeye Lake, Grand Lake St. Marys and Indian Lake. This practice increases navigability and water quality by removing phosphorus-rich sediment and increasing water depth.

ODNR dredgers removed enough material from Ohio's lakes this year to fill 67,431 dump trucks, and if those dump trucks were lined up bumper to bumper, they would stretch 319 miles.



*"CONFLUENCE", another 460SL dredge*

Buckeye Lake had a record year of dredging with 293,228 cubic yards being removed, which beat the 2015 record of 139,000 cubic yards. Grand Lake St. Marys also experienced a record-breaking year for removing dredged material by taking out 405,523 cubic yards of sediment, exceeding the 2015 record of 364,590 cubic yards.

Indian Lake removed 100,054 cubic yards of dredged material, also beating the 2015 record of 90,405 cubic yards. The area will likely see another increase next year, as Indian Lake will add another dredge during the 2017 season, ODNR said.

Other dredging sites included East Harbor, Findley, Lake Loramie and Rocky Fork state parks.

The next dredging season will begin in April 2017.

Source: [ODNR](#)

ELLCOTT DREDGES, LLC | BALTIMORE, MD 21230 | (410) 545-0232 | [SALES@DREDGE.COM](mailto:SALES@DREDGE.COM)

Ellicott Dredges | [kschoepfer@dredge.com](mailto:kschoepfer@dredge.com) | Kelsey Itak | 1611 Bush St. | Baltimore, MD 21230

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