

GREAT LAKES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

**USEPA Region 5, Room 331
77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604
June 4, 2014**

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2013 GLEC MEETING SUMMARY

The June 4, 2014 Great Lakes Executive Committee (GLEC) meeting was opened with welcome and introductory remarks from the GLEC Co-Chairs, Susan Hedman and Michael Goffin.

A list of in-person and webinar attendees (including GLEC members, observers from commissions, industry, non-governmental organizations and others) can be found in Appendix A.

A Summary of the Dec 2013 GLEC meeting was approved with no objections. [The meeting summary will be made available on binational.net.]

Action items from the December 2013 meeting were reviewed and addressed during the meeting.

GLEC CO-CHAIRS PRESENTATION ON LAKE TITICACA

The GLEC Co-Chairs reported on their recent visit to Lake Titicaca, where they were invited to speak about binational models for lake restoration efforts. While in Peru, they described their domestic and binational work to clean up the Great Lakes and discussed opportunities to use similar models to address environmental problems in Lake Titicaca.

ARTICLE 6 NOTIFICATION PROPOSAL

After an overview of existing mechanisms implementing GLWQA Article 6 Sections (a) and (b), a draft approach was presented for implementing Section 6(c) regarding notification "*of planned activities that could lead to a pollution incident or that could have a significant cumulative impact on the Waters of the Great Lakes.*" GLEC members were encouraged to provide feedback by July 3. A revised approach will be presented at the December GLEC. [proposal attached]

BINATIONAL.NET UPDATE

Jennifer McKay and Chris Korleski reported the status of efforts to update *binational.net*, which will be a primary mechanism for providing news and products under the new agreement, as well as opportunities for public input. Discussion focused on how the site could be used as a means for disseminating information and engaging the public. The website will be operational by December 2014.

ANNEX IMPLEMENTATION - UPDATES

Co-Leads for the GLWQA Annexes reported on subcommittee progress in addressing the priorities identified in their workplans, what actions have they have taken to date and the next steps they will be taking, including planned draft products that will be available for public engagement.

- Annex 1. Areas of Concern. Key topics of discussion included domestic action and binational activities in Areas of Concern.
- Annex 2. Lakewide Management. Key topics of discussion included: Lakewide Action and Management Plans; nearshore framework; Lake Ecosystem Objectives; outreach and engagement; continuation of existing lake committees; and the connection between Lake Ecosystem Objectives and Great Lakes indicators.
- Annex 3. Chemicals of Mutual Concern. Key topics of discussion included progress toward the establishment of the first set of Chemicals of Mutual Concern.
- Annex 4. Nutrients. Key topics of discussion included: the development of Phosphorus objectives for Lake Erie; understanding urban, rural and agricultural sources of nutrients; and engaging the public and the agricultural community.
- Annex 5. Discharges from Vessels. Key topics of discussion included: regulations and rules for vessel discharges, ballast water; inspection and enforcement; engagement activities.
- Annex 6. Aquatic Invasive Species. Key topics of discussion included: work on early detection & response; pathway & species risk assessments; AIS management; and outreach & engagement efforts.
- Annex 7. Habitats and Species. Key topics of discussion included: progress on the development of Biodiversity Conservation Strategies and a baseline of habitat and species; relationship to Annex 2.
- Annex 8. Groundwater. Key topics of discussion include progress on the Groundwater Science Report and planned engagement for the report.
- Annex 9. Climate Change Impacts. Key topics of discussion included: climate change science gap analysis and engagement activities; communications with other Annexes.
- Annex 10. Science. Key topics of discussion included: CSMI implementation work; engagement and outreach; and Great Lakes indicators.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

The following GLEC members provided news or updates:

- Environment Canada (Michael Goffin) – noted the Government of Canada’s May 15 2014 announcement of the National Conservation Plan, and the April announcement of a draft Canada-Ontario Agreement available for public comment.
- Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (Jennifer McKay, for Andrew McAlister) – provided an update on the Joint review panel announced public hearings for the Deep Geologic Repository, set to begin on September 9, 2014.

- Conservation Ontario (Bonnie Fox) – announced the development of a web based tool to connect local watersheds with the Great Lakes.
- USEPA (Susan Hedman) – noted the announcement of rules to regulate carbon emissions from power plants to reduce CO2 by 30%, and that the proposed GLRI Action Plan II (2015-2019FY) was released for public review.
- USFWS (Charlie Wooley) – noted that the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee was releasing its 2014 monitoring and response plan and eDNA monitoring program.
- US Army Corps of Engineers (Jan Miller) – noted that the Great Lakes Mississippi Interbasin Study was released for review earlier this year.
- USEPA Region 2 (Joan Matthews) – provided updates on the Lake Erie no discharge zone for 84 miles of shoreline, EPA's support for Plan 2014 to regulate water levels Lake Ontario, coastal wetland monitoring program, the Lake Ontario Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Rochester AOC move toward delisting in 2016, and next steps for LAMPs.
- Michigan (Jon Allan) – provided a report back from the Council for Great Lakes Governors and Premiers Mutual Aid agreement for invasive species work, pending Michigan Water Strategy, university research into power of water in Michigan economy.
- Great Lakes St. Lawrence River Cities Initiative (Simon Belisle) – provided an update on the Municipal Adaptation and Resiliency Service, Asian carp and invasive species work, the April 4 meeting with Canadian Ministers of Environment and Natural Resources and the new U.S. Ambassador from U.S. to Ottawa.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

Comments were provided from the following Commission representatives:

- Lana Pollack (IJC) – provided an update on the reorganization of the Water Quality and Science Advisory Boards, the Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority Report, and the pending recommendation for a new regulation plan at Moses Saunders dam.
- Roger Knight (Great Lakes Fishery Commission) – provided an update on the Commission's participation in GLWQA annexes, collaboration on grass carp risk assessment, the invasive species table top exercise, the Mutual Aid agreement, GLFC's Council of Lake Committees' guidance for establishing Environmental Objectives that support Fish Community Objectives for the lakes, and the Summit engagement process between commissions and Parties.
- Tim Eder (Great Lakes Commission) – noted the issue of nonpoint runoff from rural lands and the Farm Bill, Asian carp and the Chicago Area Waterways System, and the Blue Accounting presentation to Governors.

OBSERVER COMMENTS

Michael Goffin welcomed the Great Lakes Policy Research Network as a new observer to GLEC.

Comments were provided from the following Observer Organizations:

- Great Lakes Policy Research Network (Carolyn Johns) – provided an update on their Great Lakes policy research, and invited GLEC members to participate in a survey on policy network analysis to be distributed June 9, 2014.

- Green Chemistry Network (Lin Kaatz Chary) and the Canadian Environmental Law Association - discussed the reduction of toxic chemicals through safer alternatives in the Great Lakes region and provided recommendations for implementation of Annex 3.
- Council of Great Lakes Industries (Dale Phenicie) – discussed the management of chemicals and nutrients and compatibility with national and state processes; the need for openness and transparency; the GLWQA notification process, and progress on the development of Great Lakes indicators.

ACTION ITEMS

- GLEC members to provide comments on GLWQA Article 6c notification proposal to the GLEC Secretariat (Chris Korleski, Jennifer McKay) no later than July 3. Notification team to present final process at December 2014 GLEC.
- GLEC Secretariat to target making binational.net website live by December 2014 GLEC.
- GLEC Secretariat to distribute Annex co-lead presentations to GLEC distribution list and meeting participants.
- Secretariat to send out quarterly climate outlooks to GLEC members.
- GLEC members to send comments on indicators to Annex 10 co-leads.

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

The next Great Lakes Executive Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 4, 2014 in Toronto. *[It was later scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2014.]*

June 4, 2014 GLEC MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Canadian Organization
1. Sophie Bernier	Environment Canada
2. Dave Burden	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
3. Neal Burnham	Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
4. Matthew Child	International Joint Commission
5. Gavin Christie	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
6. Colleen Duke	Consulate General of Canada in Chicago
7. Dilhari Fernando	Invasive Species Centre
8. Vincenza Galatone	Environment Canada
9. John Gee	Environment Canada
10. Mike Goffin	Environment Canada
11. Susan Humphrey	Environment Canada
12. John Jackson	Great Lakes Binational Citizen Activist
13. Carolyn Johns	Ryerson University & Great Lakes Policy Research Network
14. Jennifer Keyes	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
15. Gail Kranztberg	McMaster University
16. John Lawrence	Environment Canada
17. Wendy Leger	Environment Canada
18. Camille Mageau	International Joint Commission – Canadian Section
19. Eric Marquis	Québec Government Office in Chicago
20. John Marsden	Environment Canada
21. Catherine Masson	
22. Jennifer McKay	Environment Canada
23. Brian Nixon	Ontario Ministry of the Environment
24. Dan Pujdak	Chiefs of Ontario
25. Terry Quinney	Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
26. Michael Stephenson	Transport Canada, Ontario Region
27. Carla Torchia	Environment Canada
28. Gordon Walker	International Joint Commission
29. Cindy Warwick	International Joint Commission – Canadian Section

30. Chris Wiley	Transport Canada
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Name	U.S. Organization
1. Jon Allan	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
2. Jennifer Boehme	International Joint Commission Great Lakes Regional Office
3. Joel Brammeier	Alliance for the Great Lakes
4. Kathryn Buckner	Council of Great Lakes Industries
5. Craig Butler	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
6. Wendy Carney	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
7. Lin Kaatz Chary	Green Chemistry Network
8. Cam Davis	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
9. Jennifer Day	U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
10. Dave Dempsey	International Joint Commission
11. Thomas W. Easterly	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
12. Tim Eder	Great Lakes Commission
13. Phyllis Ellin	U.S. National Park Service
14. Lucas Evans	Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa
15. Mark Elster	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
16. Stephen Galarneau	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
17. Karl Gebhardt	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
18. Norman Grannemann	U.S. Geological Survey
19. John Haugland	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
20. Susan Hedman	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
21. Tinka Hyde	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
22. Michael Hoff	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
23. Mark Johnson	U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
24. Doug Kluck	NOAA
25. Roger Knight	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
26. Chris Korleski	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
27. Bob Lambe	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
28. Deborah Lee	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
29. Lynn Lewis	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
30. Kimberly Majerus	US Dept. of Transportation FHWA

31. Jan Miller	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
32. Richard Moy	International Joint Commission
33. Sonny Myers	1854 Treaty Authority
34. Dale Phenicie	Council of Great Lakes Industries
35. Lana Pollack	International Joint Commission
36. Carl Richards	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
37. James Schardt	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
38. Vic Serveiss	International Joint Commission
39. John Linc Stine	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
40. Lorne Thomas	U.S. Coast Guard
41. Todd Turner	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
42. Simon Belisle	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
43. Jennifer Vanator	Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
44. Mike Weimer	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Region 3
45. Charlie Wooley	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
46. Dan Wyant	Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
47. Paul Youngstrum	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services

Webinar Participants

Jackie	Adams
Seth	Ausubel
Sean	Backus
Sophie	Bernier
Sandy	Bihn
Michel	Boivin
David	Cowgill
Tina	Davis
Diane	de Beaumont
Fe	de Leon
Great Lakes	Executive Committee
Jerome	Faivre
Pamela	Finlayson
Mark	Fisher
Bonnie	Fox
Carolyn	Johns
Scott	Kalafatis
Maxine	Kingston
Sally	Kniffen

Gail	Krantzberg
Ash	Kumar
Hugh	Langley
Elaine	MacDonald
Andrew	McAllister
Kelly	McGee
Elizabeth	Murphy
Dawn	Nelson
Todd	Nettesheim
James	Nowlan
T. Kevin	O'Donnell
Linda	Robertson
Lisa	Sealock
Julie	Simard
Ana	Sirviente
Mary-Ann	Spicer
Nancy	Stadler-Salt
Dawn	Sucee
Brian	Tucker
Dale	Van Stempvoort
Jane	Wallace
J	Wilson
Louise	Wise
Santina	Wortman
Don	Zelazny