COMPTE RENDU DE MISSION

RÉUNION SEMI-ANNUELLE DE LA COMMISSION DES GRANDS LACS

INDIANAPOLIS (INDIANA)

14 - 16 MAI 1996

SECRÉTARIAT À LA MISE EN VALEUR DU SAINT-LAURENT

QUÉBEC - JUILLET 1996

CANQ TR SMVSL

COMPTE RENDU DE MISSION

RÉUNION SEMI-ANNUELLE DE LA COMMISSION DES GRANDS LACS

PEÇU

CENTRE DE DOCCHENTATION

14 JAN 1999

TRANSPORTS QUÉBEC

INDIANAPOLIS (INDIANA)

14 - 16 MAI 1996

MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS
DIRECTION DE L'OBSERVATOIRE EN TRANSPORT
SERVICE DE L'INNOVATION ET DE LA DOCUMENTATION
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SECRÉTARIAT À LA MISE EN VALEUR DU SAINT-LAURENT QUÉBEC - JUILLET 1996

CANQ TR SMUSL 113

Notes et remarques

par Léonce Naud

De l'avis du soussigné, il était d'autant plus important que le Québec soit présent lors de la réunion semi-annuelle de la Commission des Grands Lacs que la délégation de Chicago venant de fermer, les Américains auraient pu se demander si Québec délaissait tout intérêt officiel envers le Midwest.

Comme toujours, en plus de permettre le maintien de contacts directs avec des responsables américains des huit États riverains des Grands Lacs, la réunion générale de la Commission donne accès à un ensemble de documents intéressant à la fois le transport maritime, l'environnement, le tourisme, l'exploitation des ressources fauniques, le tout dans des conditions assez analogues aux nôtres.

Tel que mentionné dans un courrier avec la direction États-Unis du ministère des Relations internationales, le soussigné estime qu'il serait souhaitable qu'une réflexion pluri-ministérielle s'intéresse aux intérêts et à la présence du Québec vers l'ouest (Ontario et États riverains des Grands Lacs essentiellement), l'exercice incluant une évaluation des efforts présentement consentis auprès d'organismes tels la Commission mixte internationale, la Commission des Grands Lacs, le Conseil des Gouverneurs des Grands Lacs, etc... Une attention particulière devrait être apportée aux nouvelles technologies de communication (le Secrétariat est déjà présent sur le *Great Lakes Information Network* via Internet) et au rôle transfrontalier et/ou international présentement sous-estimé des O.N.G. et autres associations analogues.

Le maintien d'un partnership entre le gouvernement du Québec et la Commission des Grands Lacs peut aussi prendre la forme d'un stage d'étude/travail d'un Québécois à Ann Arbor, auprès de la Commission. Un tel stage permet d'établir des liens plus profonds et durables que la seule participation épisodique à une réunion et s'avère fort rentable à moyen terme.

Ici comme ailleurs, le gouvernement doit penser non seulement à utiliser et fortifier ce qui fonctionne à l'heure actuelle, mais également à préparer une relève qui assurera une continuité à une présence québécoise dans le Midwest.

Il est suggéré que compte tenu des moyens financiers disponibles pour le maintien des relations officielles Québec - Midwest, une planification souple d'activités, d'événements et de démarches soit élaborée par le ministère des Relations internationales en collaboration avec les ministères et organismes intéressés.

Léonce naud

Léonce Naud, conseiller

Québec, le 24 juillet 1996

P.S.: La réunion annuelle 1996 de la Commission aura lieu à Érié, en Pennsylvanie, les 16 et 17 octobre 1996.

<u>Ci-attaché</u>: documentation en vue de la réunion annuelle de la Commission des Grands lacs à Erié, Pennsylvanie.



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MICHAEL J. DONAHUE, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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MICHAEL D. ZAGATA Commissioner New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation Albany, New York

DONALD C. ANDERSON Director Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources Columbus, Ohio

IRENE BROOKS Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON Wisconsin Dept. of Administration Madison, Wisconsin August 19, 1996

Dear Friend of the Great Lakes:

As chair of Pennsylvania's Delegation to the Great Lakes Commission, I am pleased to invite you to Erie, Pennsylvania on October 15-18 for the Commission's 1996 Annual Meeting and related events. I, and my fellow delegation members, are honored to host this important event in Pennsylvania. We are particularly pleased to note that Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge will be our keynote speaker the evening of October 16. Governor Ridge is the newly appointed chair of the Council of Great Lakes Governors.

A registration form and preliminary program for the Annual Meeting are attached. Please complete and return the latter by <u>Friday</u>, <u>September 27</u> to guarantee a special registration rate. A detailed program will be available next month, and will identify the many policy action items to be addressed during the business session.

The Annual Meeting features a theme that will be of interest to the entire Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Community: "Interstate Partnerships in Water Resources Management: Future Challenges and Opportunities." The ongoing devolution of authority and management responsibility from the federal to state governments will have a profound effect on water and related land resource management. Interstate commissions will have a pivotal role during this transition and on into the future. Senior officials from a number of river basin commissions will be joining us to share their experiences and ideas, and learn from us as well.

This special session will be complemented by a full business session featuring policy issues and action items identified by the membership and other friends of the Commission.

Immediately preceding the Annual Meeting is a meeting of the Great Lakes Dredging Team. Immediately afterwards, the Commission's Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Task Force and the Great Lakes Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts will conduct a field trip and meetings to address land use/water quality issues.

Established in 1955 by interstate compact "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin." These various events will be complemented by ample opportunity for socializing, and a motorcoach tour of the Erie waterfront is planned to introduce attendees to local issues and opportunities of Basinwide interest.

I also invite you to complete and return, by <u>Monday</u>, <u>September 16</u>, the attached agenda item request form. The Great Lakes Commission is a service organization to its member states and the binational Great Lakes Community in general. The Annual Meeting offers an ideal opportunity for regional leaders to discuss critical issues and, where appropriate, seek Commission support. Items can be action or information-oriented and address Basin issues concerning environmental protection, resource management, transportation and/or economic development.

All requests will be considered for inclusion; I encourage you to respond and invite you to direct the completed form (and any questions) to Commission Executive Director Mike Donahue at 313-665-9135.

A detailed meeting program will be sent to you in September. In the interim, please register and submit your agenda items.

I look forward to seeing you in Erie.

Sincerely,

Irene Brooks, Chair

Pennsylvania Delegation to the Great Lakes Commission

Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Resources

Attachments



1996 Annual Meeting And Related Events

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Bel Aire Hotel, Erie, PA October 15-18.1996

Tuesday, October 15

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Great Lakes Dredging Team

Sponsored by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. EPA and Great Lakes

states

Wednesday, October 16

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Great Lakes Dredging Team

(Continued)

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Registration:

1996 Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Commission

1:00 p.m.

Introduction of Commissioners, Observers and Special Guests

Welcome from Hosts

Donald R. Vonnahme, Vice Chair Great Lakes Commission Irene Brooks, Chair, Pennsylvania

Delegation

Moderator:

Bel Aire Hotel

Moderator:

Moderator: Irene Brooks

The Honorable Joyce A. Savocchio, Mayor of Erie, Pennsylvania (invited)

1:30 p.m.

Great Lakes Commission Business Session

Report of the Chair

Report of the Executive Director

Policy Action Items (to be presented in detail in final program)

Adjourn for Erie Waterfront Tour, Reception and Dinner

Board motorcoaches promptly at 4:15

p.m. for waterfront tour

Patrick R. Ralston, Chair

Great Lakes Commission

Donald R. Vonnahme

6:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

Reception and Dinner

Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Tom Ridge, Governor of Pennsylvania

Thursday, October 17

7:30 a.m.

Meeting Registration/Refreshments

8:30 a.m.

Business Session (continued)

Policy Action Items

Federal Legislation/Appropriations Update

Election of Officers

Selection of 1997 Meeting Sites

Informational Reports by Commissioners/Observers/Public

9:30 a.m.

Break

10:00 a.m.

Special Session: Interstate Partnerships in Water Resources Management: Future Challenges and Opportunities

Panel One: An Introduction to Regional Institutions in North America

Panel Two: Regional Institutions in an Era of Evolving Federal/State

Dialogue/Concluding Remarks

2:00 Noon

Great Lakes Commission Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: (to be announced) Remarks by new Chair, Vice Chair

2:00 p.m.

Adjourn Annual Meeting

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Field Trip: Agricultural Nonpoint Pollution Control Practices

Sponsored by: Great Lakes Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Task Force Meeting

Sponsored by the Great Lakes

Commission

Friday, October 18

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Joint Meeting - Great Lakes Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts and Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Task

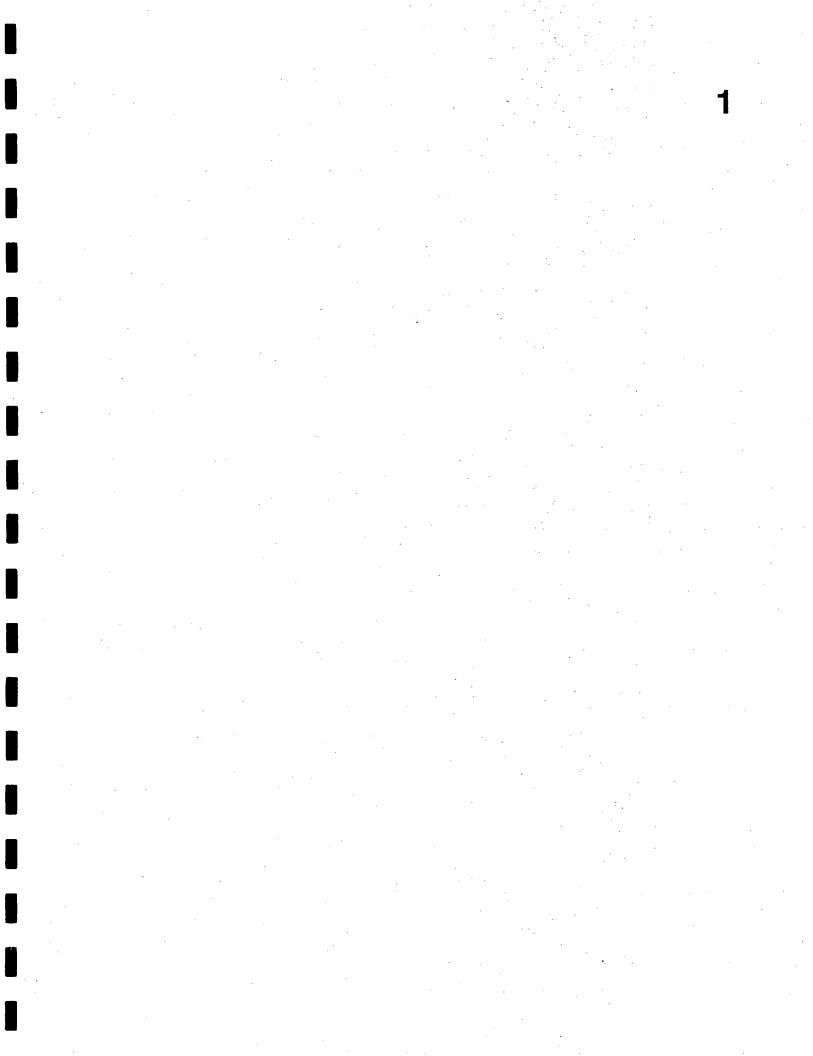
Force of the Great Lakes Commission

Great Lakes Commission and National Association of Conservation **Districts**

DOCUMENTS

Annexe

-	Compte rendu détaillé de la réunion annuelle de la Commission tenue à Québec, en septembre 1996	1
-	Mémo L. Naud - N. Nadeau (MAI - EU)	2
-	"Policy Statement" de la Commission des Grands Lacs sur la Stratégie maritime nationale du Canada	3
-	Frais aux usagers du Saint-Laurent: lettre Ralston / Chrétien et réponse Chrétien / Ralston	4
-	Québec/Great Lakes Commission: lettres Ralston / Normand et réponse Normand / Ralston	. 5
•	Agenda de la réunion d'Indianapolis et liste des participants	6
• .	Rapport annuel 1995: Commission des Grands Lacs	7
-	Fiche-synthèse explicative sur le "National Sea Grant College Program" (sans équivalent au Québec ou au Canada)	8
-	Publications de la Commission	9
-	Liste des membres de la Commission; liste des observateurs et participants à divers comités et groupes de travail	10
	Le Plan stratégique de la Commission	11
Note:	de nombreux documents n'ont pu trouver place dans le pré rapport de mission. Consulter le soussigné pour toute informa additionnelle (643-7788).	



Great Lakes Commission 1995 Annual Meeting

Quebec City, Quebec September 6-8, 1995

Summary Minutes*

- 1) Chair Patrick R. Ralston called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. on September 6. He spoke of binational partnership, and the importance of strong relationships between the member states of the Great Lakes Commission and the Government of Quebec. Given this, he noted that it was most appropriate for the Commission to be in Quebec to celebrate its 40th Anniversary. Speaking in both English and French, he offered all a warm welcome to this special event.
- 2) At the Chair's request, Commission Executive Director Dr. Michael J. Donahue called the role. The following Commissioners and Alternates were in attendance:

Illinois:

Frank Kudrna, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair)

Don Vonnahme, Commissioner (and Vice chair) John Comerio, Alternate (for B. Manning)

Anthony Iannello, Commissioner E. Norman Sims, Commissioner

Indiana:

Patrick R. Ralston, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair and Commission

Chair)

David Herbst, Alternate (for P. Ralston) E. Peter McCarthy, Commissioner

Michigan:

Tracy Mehan, Commissioner Frank D'Itri, Commissioner

Talik D Itil, Colliniasionel

Frank J. Kelley, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair)

A. Michael Leffler, Alternate (for F. Kelley)

Minnesota:

Rep. Thomas Huntley, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair)

Sen. Cal Larson, Commissioner

Sen. Ed Oliver, Alternate (for C. Larson)

Theodore Mellby, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair)

New York:

Gerry Mikol, Alternate (for M. Zagata)

Ohio:

Wayne Warren, Alternate (for D. Anderson)

George Ryan, Commissioner

Pennsylvania:

Irene Brooks, Commissioner (and State Delegation Chair)

Sen. Anthony Andrezeski, Commissioner

Wisconsin:

William Carey, Commissioner

^{*} An asterisk denotes Commission action.

M. Donahue noted that a quorum was present. He then invited all Observers present to introduce themselves. They included John Christian, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Robert Braner, U.S. Park Service; Robert Eddleman, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture; Virgil Frizzell and Daniel Bauer, U.S. Geological Survey; Al Beeton, NOAA-U.S. Dept. of Commerce; Douglas McTavish, International Joint Commission; and Michel Roy, Government of Quebec. Donahue added that several other Observers would be joining the meeting at a later point.

Welcoming remarks were offered by the Honorable Bernard Landry, Quebec Minister of International Affairs. Landry echoed Chair Ralston's remarks, welcoming attendees to Quebec and speaking to the many interests it shares with the states of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. He emphasized the importance of trade between Quebec and the Great Lakes states, noting its extent and continuing growth. He also spoke to the shared U.S./Canada Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System. Landry offered his perspectives on the upcoming referendum concerning Quebec's independence, and concluded by reiterating the importance Quebec places on its relationship with the Great Lakes Commission. Chair Ralston presented him with a commemorative print of the Commission's 40th Anniversary.

Jacques Brassard, Quebec Minister of Environment, then followed with additional welcoming remarks. Brassard complemented Landry's presentation by focusing on the environmental protection and resource management priorities of the Quebec Government. He spoke to initiatives concerning the St. Lawrence River ecosystem, and the importance of continued binational efforts to manage and protect the resource. Brassard was also presented with a commemorative print.

- 4) Chair Ralston read into the record a special proclamation signed by Indiana Governor Evan Bayh congratulating the Commission on its 40th Anniversary and proclaiming September 6, 1995 as "Great Lakes Commission Day."
- M. Donahue and Steve Thorp presented a special slide presentation titled, "A Tribute to the Great Lakes Commission: 40 Years of Service to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Basin." The slide show, assembled from an array of sources, presented a unique, decade-by-decade glimpse of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin, highlighting notable aspects of the Commission's developmental history. This chronology was complemented by an overview of the Basin's physical, economic, demographic, environmental and institutional attributes. Chair Ralston concluded the special tribute by noting Donahue's leadership and remarking that the Great Lakes Commission is at the forefront of regional organizations of its kind.
- Frank J. Kelley, Attorney General of Michigan and Chair of its state's Commission Delegation, was presented with a "Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of his 33 years of service to the organization. The Executive Committee took this action by unanimous and enthusiastic vote, noting Mr. Kelley's role as the Commission's "legal conscience" and as one of the most effective advocates the Great Lakes has ever had. Mr. Kelley received a standing ovation.

In accepting the award, Mr. Kelley stated that he could think of no greater honor than being recognized for his efforts on behalf of the Great Lakes. He highlighted a number of pivotal events in Great Lakes Commission history, and added that the increasing complexity of resource management, along with the need to integrate environmental protection and economic growth goals, spoke to the continuing need for the Commission's services. Kelley shared his perspectives on current pressing issues such as water quantity management/water diversion; water and air quality; and binational relations. He concluded by thanking the Great Lakes Commission for recognizing his efforts.

7) Hugues Morrissette, Director General, St. Lawrence Development Secretariat, moderated a session titled "Showcasing an International Resource: The Use, Management and Protection of the St. Lawrence River." Morrissette's opening remarks centered on a theme of "sustainable development," noting that conflicts over the use, management and protection of the resource must be resolved in favor of an emerging recognition of linkages between environmental protection and economic development goals.

Harvey Mead, Director - General, Quebec Union for the Conservation of Nature, spoke about the environmental movement in general, sharing perceptions drawn from his Quebec, Great Lakes region and global experiences. He observed that governments are losing power as they struggle with problems of debt and an array of social pressures that influence decision making processes. As a consequence, a "civil society" is emerging to pick up "slack." Increasingly, he noted that non-governmental environmental organizations are assuming an integral role as stakeholders in resource management and protection. He offered the St. Lawrence Action Plan process as an example, and also referenced strong stakeholder involvement in the many Remedial Action Plans underway throughout the Great Lakes.

George Arsenault, with the Quebec Ministry of Environment and Wildlife, focused his remarks on the St. Lawrence Action Plan, also known as the St. Lawrence Vision 2000. The Plan has numerous components that include biodiversity, agriculture, community involvement, decision-making, health, protection and restoration. Each component has a "harmonization" committee to address intergovernmental issues. He emphasized that the St. Lawrence Action Plan is not a plan for government alone. Extensive public involvement is being sought, and the river is being divided into multiple zones to facilitate such input. He concluded by noting that the St. Lawrence Action Plan has an emphasis on sustainable development.

Lynn Cleary, Director, St. Lawrence Center of Environment Canada, concluded the panel session with a federal perspective on St. Lawrence Action Plan development and implementation. She focused specifically on the decision making support component of the Plan. Items addressed included federal/provincial coordination; university research; involvement of and communication with the general public; and related matters. With the assistance of a series of slides, she introduced attendees to water quality issues and areas of concern within the river system.

Kathleen Carriere, with Quebec's Ministry of Environment and Wildlife, focused on the protection component of the Plan, which emphasizes reduction of the toxicity of industrial effluents along the St. Lawrence River. Monitoring and impact assessments are important aspects of the protection component. Carriere reviewed component objectives in detail, presenting data and information on specific toxic contaminants of concern, regulatory initiatives, and activities focused at particular sectors of industry. She concluded by highlighting technology development and transfer efforts that support St. Lawrence Action Plan implementation.

Following questions and comments from Commissioners F. Kudrna, T. Mehan, and W. Carey, as well as Observers A. Beeton and J. Christian, Morrissette concluded the special session.

8) Chair Ralston adjourned the meeting for the day, inviting attendees to join him for the St.

Lawrence dinner cruise aboard the "Bateau-mouche," hosted by the Honorable Jacques Leonard,

Ouebec Minister of Transport.

- 9) Chair Ralston reconvened the meeting at approximately 8:30 a.m. on September 7. Welcoming remarks were offered by Michel Roy, Senior Representative at the Quebec Government Office-Chicago, and Quebec's Observer to the Great Lakes Commission. Roy spoke to extensive trade between Quebec and the Great Lakes states, as well as important partnerships for resource protection and management. He expressed his pleasure at serving as Quebec's Observer to the Great Lakes Commission.
- *10) Chair Ralston opened the business session meeting. Upon a motion by Don Vonnahme and a second, the minutes of the 1995 Semiannual Meeting were adopted as presented (March 22-23, Milwaukee, WI).

Chair Ralston presented framed certificates of recognition to two new Commissioners: Tracy Mehan of Michigan, and Irene Brooks of Pennsylvania. He did the same for two new Observers: Robert Eddleman of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S.D.A., and John Christian of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Chair Ralston briefly highlighted discussions for the previous day's Executive Committee meeting, focusing primarily on the new Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission. With the assistance of two Indiana Department of Natural Resources facilitators, the Executive Committee initiated the strategic planning effort that ultimately produced a Commission-approved Strategic Plan.

M. Donahue presented the report of the Executive Director, highlighting current Commission priories, activities and accomplishments; financial status; program development efforts; and a look ahead to 1996. In the Administrative Program area Donahue noted the FY1995 audit has been recently completed, and subsequently approved by the Executive Committee. Total assets are up substantially form the year prior; as is restricted grant income and the market value of investments. The approved budget for FY1996 is \$2.73 million, an increase of approximately 33% over the current year budget. Projected indirect cost recovery reflects an increase of over 20% from the current year. Over two dozen revenue sources (exclusive of state dues) will support 19 distinct projects. A number of proposals are currently under consideration by foundations and federal agencies and will likely lead to additional activity on Commission priorities.

Donahue introduced a number of new Commission projects, including the 1995 Great Lakes Guide to the Policies, Programs and Priorities of the Great Lakes Commission; the Strategic Plan; several fact sheets concerning the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control; the Great Lakes Information Network Tour Guide; a Model State Comprehensive State Management Plan for the Prevention and Control of Aquatic Nuisance Species; and the Advocacy Guide for the 104th Congress.

Donahue then introduced Commission program managers, who reviewed activities in the respective programs over the last several months. Steve Thorp highlighted Transportation and Economic Development Program activities, including development of a brownfields redevelopment/greenfields preservation proposal and related planning grant activity; assistance to the International Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mayors Conference; support to the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference; and Congressional advocacy efforts addressing a second large lock at Sault Ste. Marie, MI; continued operation of the USCG cutter Mackinaw; changes to the Great Lakes confined disposal facility program; rehabilitation of the Chicago River lock; opposition to proposed U.S./Canada border fees; and others.

Tom Crane updated the Commissioners on Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program activities, including the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control; activities of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force; development of the Great Lakes Area Computerized Inventory for Emergency Response; area contingency planning; Great Lakes Water Use Data Base; aquatic nuisance species prevention and control; pollution prevention; and support to the Michigan Statewide Public Advisory Council for Areas of Concern.

Carol Ratza summarized Communications and Information Management Program activities including the Great Lakes Toxic Air Emissions Inventory Project; Great Lakes Information Network development and application; the ADVISOR newsletter; and related program initiatives.

Donahue presented Regional Coordination Program highlights including implementation of the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin; the Strategic Planning effort; a planning grant investigation for a Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Environmental Education Clearinghouse and Teacher Training Center; and Congressional advocacy efforts based on the Commission-approved legislative and appropriations priorities.

Donahue concluded with his goals for 1996, which include maintenance, enhancement and "institutionalization" of Congressional advocacy efforts; strengthened binational partnerships; and developing additional, creative means of capitalizing on the Commission's unique intergovernmental characteristics to further organizational goals as stated in the new Strategic Plan.

Member states then had an opportunity to report on items of interest. W. Warren noted that the Lake Erie Lakewide Management Plan development process was underway; he added that Ohio would soon submit its coastal management program plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement to NOAA. In Indiana, Chair Ralston noted that efforts to secure a federally-approved coastal management program are meeting some local opposition, and a mediation effort is underway. Also, the Indiana DNR has recently released a Lake Michigan Water Resource Report providing data on an array of environmental and economic data. Indiana and its neighboring states have reached agreement on a Lake Michigan perch harvest that will protect the fishery. Finally, he reported that Indiana has recently passed one of the toughest boating laws in the country in response to increases in accidents in recent years.

Several Observer agencies had comments as well. Marc Gaden, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, informed the Commission of prospective cutbacks in U.S. and Canadian support for sea lamprey control efforts and fishery research. He thanked the Commission for its continued support of, and advocacy for Fishery Commission activities. He also announced that the Fishery Commission is enhancing its communications efforts and now has a newsletter and a World Wide Web site under development.

J. Christian updated the Commission on reorganization efforts within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Anticipated budget impacts are expected to substantially reduce endangered species protection activities. Also, the future of the National Biological Service office in Ann Arbor, MI is in question, and various research efforts (including lamprecide regulation) are in jeopardy. He concluded by noting that the Eurasian ruffe, previously confined to Duluth-Superior Harbor has been found in northern Lake Huron. This aquatic nuisance species has potentially significant implications for native species such as the yellow perch.

- A. Beeton, of NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, thanked the Commission for support of its appropriations needs. He noted that the research community needs to do a much better job of outreach in "getting its message across." He added that the Great Lakes Information Network has been an effective tool in this regard.
- D. McTavish also congratulated the Great Lakes Commission on its 40th Anniversary. He announced that the International Joint Commission would hold its biennial meeting in Duluth, MN later in the year, and briefly summarized IJC priorities. Several of them, such as contaminated sediments and aquatic nuisance species, are shared with the Great Lakes Commission.
- D. Bauer thanked the Commission for support of USGS efforts, noting that Commission advocacy has helped secure a brighter future for the agency. In additional to an essentially level-funded budget, enhanced support is possible for the National Water Quality Assessment Program. He presented a fact sheet that reviews USGS activities in the Great Lakes Basin. Finally, he read a statement from USGS headquarters announcing the agency's endorsement of the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin.
- R. Eddleman thanked the Commission for its continuing support of USDA activities in the Great Lakes Basin. He briefly introduced the Commission to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service), speaking to downsizing and reorganization activities. He also discussed the 1992 National Resources Inventory, noting positive trends in water quality due to improved land use management and, in particular, agricultural practices. He concluded with an introduction to "whole farm planning."
- *13) Chair Ralston introduced the "Policy Actions and Information Items" portion of the program. Allegra Cangelosi, Northeast Midwest Institute, offered an overview of Great Lakes programs and the U.S. federal budget. She handed out a synopsis of current developments in Congress and addressed the status of appropriations within the Great Lakes-related programs of U.S. EPA; NOAA (including GLERL and Sea Grant), U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; National Biological Service; and others. She also spoke to various bills up for reauthorization, including the Farm Bill, the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, and the Clean Water Act.
 - M. Donahue followed with an update on the Commission's Congressional advocacy efforts. Following questions from D. Vonnahme and F. Kudrna and subsequent discussions among the Commissioners, it was agreed that the Commission would continue to work closely with the Northeast-Midwest Institute to coordinate advocacy efforts within the timelines presented in A. Cangelosi's remarks.
- *14) D. Vonnahme and M. Leffler jointly presented an update on the current status of the Lake Michigan Diversion at Chicago. In late 1993, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers informed the parties to the original Supreme Court litigation that changes in accounting procedures, coupled with high leakages through lakefront structures under the Corps' jurisdiction, resulted in diversions in excess of prescribed limits. Illinois questioned this, and subsequently proposed an amendment to the federal Water Resources Development Act (Section 1142(a)) that would ensure a more accurate reflection of the amount of the diversion. Congress did not act on that legislation.

Michigan has expressed concern regarding this issue via its governor's office and the Attorney General's office. The two states are presently considering various options to resolve differing views including alternative dispute resolution and the possibility of reopening the lawsuit before the U.S. Supreme Court. Dialogue is continuing, and all Great Lakes states and provinces have been provided an opportunity to join the discussion.

Leffler indicated that the Great Lakes states and relevant federal agencies have agreed to engage in a six month long, non-binding mediation process to resolve differences. The Great Lakes states and the Dept. of Justice will be requested to fund the mediation process.

- D. Vonnahme then introduced a draft policy statement urging the Congress to provide the Corps of Engineers with the legislative authority and funding needed to rehabilitate the Chicago River Lock and nearby walls for the purpose of addressing leakage problems. The statement was moved by the Illinois Delegation, seconded by the Michigan Delegation, and adopted unanimously.
- *15) W. Warren introduced a draft resolution that calls for a review of the 1985 Great Lakes Charter in terms of implementation process, implementation issues/problems, and prospective revisions. It recognizes that concerns have been raised about the prior notice and consultation process, and that further attention needs to be given to Great Lakes Regional Water Use Data Base in terms of software upgrading, process and means to enhance use.
 - Warren noted that the Executive Committee has discussed an alternate approach that would retain the spirit of the resolution. He moved that the Commission chair be asked to send a letter to the Council of Great Lakes Governors that incorporates the points raised in the resolution. The letter would be approved by the Executive Committee prior to its transmittal. W. Carey offered a second. Following a question of clarification from T. Mehan, the motion was unanimously approved.
- *16) T. Mehan introduced an updated policy position on confined disposal facility legislation and recreational harbor dredging. Recommendations within include enhanced advocacy efforts; full support and involvement in the U.S. EPA contaminated sediments strategy process; a Congressional hearing on recreational harbor dredging needs; and a policy coordination process for the Great Lakes states. Mehan moved for adoption, a second was offered by D. Vonnahme.
 - A. Andrezeski, G. Ryan, W. Warren, F. Kudrna and several others engaged in a discussion concerning recreational harbor dredging and its priority vis-a-vis commercial harbor dredging. It was agreed that such issues would be addressed during the 1996 workshop called for in the position statement.
 - F. Kudrna suggested that recommendation #2 under "Recreational Harbor Dredging Issue Update" be amended to ensure that the workshop would address commercial as well as recreational harbor dredging issues. The suggestion was accepted as a friendly amendment and the motion (as amended) subsequently was adopted unanimously.
- *17) The Honorable Stan Keyes, Chair of the Standing Committee on Transport, House of Commons, presented recommendations from a National Marine Strategy report. The objective was to "identify key competitive challenges; define essential federal roles and services; develop options to reduce subsidies and examine commercialization; obtain regional views on priorities, issues

and solutions; and try to encourage a consensus on solutions, future directions, and development of a comprehensive national marine strategy." The Great Lakes Commission, through its executive director, provided testimony during the process.

- F. Kudrna lead the ensuing discussion, beginning by congratulating the Canadian government on its leadership in undertaking this study. Kudrna introduced a draft Commission response to the report that addresses the topics of cabotage; the port sector; the Seaway; Canadian Coast Guard; and recreational boating. Kudrna moved for adoption and a second was offered.
- P. McCarthy recommended that the second bullet under "port sector" be omitted on the basis that it is redundant with a previous agenda item action on recreational harbor dredging. G. Ryan seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.
- G. Ryan moved that the third bullet under "The Seaway" be deleted given that it is not a position, but a statement of probability. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- G. Ryan further moved that the "Recreational Boating" section be dropped, given that our extant policies relate to U.S. recreational boating, and the Commission should not be commenting on Canadian policy on this matter. W. Warren seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- P. McCarthy moved that the third bulleted item under "The Seaway" should be amended to say "support the study of an incentive-based shipbuilding program..." G. Ryan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Commission then unanimously approved the policy position, as amended above.

- 18) Chair Ralston then adjourned the meeting for lunch, during which "Person of the Year" awards from the Maritime Forum were presented to Michele Cortright, Publisher of Seaway Review, and Denise Verreault, President of Verreault Navigation.
- *19) Orlando Cabrera-Rivera, a Wisconsin member of the Commission's Emissions Inventory Steering Committee, updated the Commission on progress with the toxic air emissions inventory process. He introduced a draft resolution that applauds the continuing commitment of state air quality directors to the project; supports annual compilation of state and provincial data; and calls for a 1996 conference to identify regional priorities in inventory development; enhance binational dialogue; and enhance use of emissions data for public policy decision making.
 - Chair Ralston called for consideration of the resolution. N. Sims recommended that the final "resolved" clause be amended to replace the phrase "...to ensure" with "to encourage." The resolution, as amended, was then moved, seconded and unanimously approved.
- D. Vonnahme moderated a special session titled "International Partnerships for North America's Water Resources." Thomas Baldini, Chair of the U.S. Section of the International Joint Commission, introduced the Commission to the origin, objectives, procedures and current priorities of the organization. He focused on responsibilities under the U.S./Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, which include assessment of, and reporting to the U.S. and Canadian governments on their progress under the Agreement. He characterized initiatives under the Agreement as an intergovernmental partnership, and voiced concerns about prospective federal budget cuts among this partnership that will compromise progress and, hence, the resource itself.

John N. Bernal, U.S. Commissioner of the International Boundary and Waters Commission, spoke to that organization's responsibilities and authorities along the U.S./Mexico boundary. Over its long history, he explained, the Commission's responsibilities have expanded from boundary demarcation to a broad array of environmental issues, including flood control, salinity control, water and air quality, and others. In addition to conflict resolution and planning/policy development, the Commission also has design, construction and operation responsibilities for infrastructure.

Janine Feretti, a director of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, was the final speaker. Based in Montreal, the Commission was established through a side agreement to the North American Free Trade Agreement. In existence for approximately one year, it is responsible for addressing trade-related environmental issues between and among the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Commission responsibilities include research, monitoring, coordination, dispute resolution and advisory services. Goals include 1) promotion of sustainable development on a continental basis; 2) promotion and enhancement of environmental protection; 3) enhanced compliance with, and enforcement of environmental laws; and 4) promoting the environmental goals and objectives of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

A number of questions and comments followed by Commissioners and other attendees, focusing on the individual responsibilities of these international organizations; similarities and differences; areas of potential cooperation; and others.

- *21) Robert Brander, U.S. National Park Service, requested Great Lakes Commission endorsement of a proposed Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin Regional Air Quality Partnership. He explained that the Canada-U.S. Air Quality Agreement requires bi-lateral cooperation on transboundary air pollution issues. An International Air Issues Workshop endorsed the notion of regional partnerships, and several are being organized. The partnership, he stated, would be consistent with the Commission's current work in this area, and with a number of provisions in the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. The partnership would involve U.S. and Canadian federal, state and provincial agencies, and entail planning, monitoring, research, coordination, and preparation of consensus positions on issues, among others.
 - D. Vonnahme moved to endorse the partnership proposal; the motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.
- Clifford Lincoln, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment, presented a keynote speech titled "Managing the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin: Perspectives from the Canadian Parliament." Lincoln expressed Canadian appreciation for the binational forum and leadership provided by the Great Lakes Commission, referencing in particular the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. Lincoln reviewed the institutional infrastructure for binational cooperation, describing it as a "remarkable partnership." He reviewed various environmental issues both in Canada and basin-wide, and also spoke to the importance of government/industry/university partnerships that offer "limitless" opportunities in advancing environmental protection and economic development goals. At the conclusion of his remarks, Lincoln was presented with a framed print commemorating the Commission's 40th Anniversary.
- *23) Dr. Virgil Frizzell updated the Commission on continuing efforts to develop and apply the Internet-based Great Lakes Information Network to the data/information/decision-making needs of the Great Lakes Basin. He introduced a draft resolution calling on the Commission to seek formal endorsement of the Great Lakes Information Network by the Council of Great Lakes Governors as a means to assist the Great Lakes states with data and information sharing on

decision-making needs. It also calls for the convening of a binational conference in 1996 to showcase the Great Lakes Information Network and explore future applications.

G. Ryan applauded the initiative, but noted that the Great Lakes Information Network is oriented largely to environmental matters, and the maritime/economic area needs to be enhanced. Frizzell and C. Ratza explained that efforts to address this are underway. They reviewed the current status of such data presently online and presented plans for enhancement. N. Sims recommended that the Great Lakes Information Network be demand-driven to ensure that it is responsive to current and potential users. Donahue agreed with these comments and indicated that they would be considered during Great Lakes Information Network development efforts. He added that a large scale, multi-year proposal to the Ameritech Foundation is in process and would have an economic data emphasis.

Adoption of the resolution was moved by W. Carey, seconded by N. Sims, and subsequently adopted unianimously.

- *24) F. Kudrna presented the report of an ad hoc Nominating Committee for Commission officers. He moved the nomination of P. Ralston and D. Vonnahme for second year terms. The motion was seconded by the Ohio Delegation, and unanimously adopted. Chair Ralston thanked the Commission for its support and indicated that it was an honor to serve the organization.
- Chair Ralston adjourned the business session for the day, inviting all attendees to a reception hosted by Jean Paul L'Allier of Quebec City. Brief remarks at the reception were made by Jean Rene, Director of International Organizations and International Events with the Government of Quebec; Richard Gaudreau, Chairman of the St. Lawrence Economic Development Council; and P. Ralston.
- *26) Chair Ralston called the Commission to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. on September 8. J. Christian, Commission Observer from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, introduced the Commission to a Memorandum of Understanding between his agencies, Great Lakes states and tribal authorities. The objective is to "facilitate cooperation and communication between the parties concerning fish and wildlife resources in the Great Lakes Basin." It was developed under the authority, in part, of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990.

Christian noted that four Great Lakes state had signed the MOU to date (IL, MN, WI, PA) and four are considering it (OH, MI, IN, NY). Commission members asked several questions of clarification, and agreed to take the MOU under consideration in their respective states.

W. Carey moderated a special symposium titled "Managing Our Freshwater Resources: A Global Perspective." Michael Schrey, Director of the Port of Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, presented an overview of western Europe and its maritime transportation infrastructure. He described the extensive array of rivers and channels used for such commerce, and emphasized the growing environmental awareness and concerns that are shaping current efforts to manage its water resources. Dr. Paul Georgescu, Professor at Simon-Bolivar University, Venezuela, described a project to achieve a united waterways system to link the countries of the western hemisphere. He described the extensive river system of South America, and the economic benefits to be realized if the major rivers were connected to the present commercial navigation. Ashok Subramanian, a specialist in water resource management and institutions with the World Bank, reviewed that institution's role in large-scale initiatives throughout the world to develop

the economic potential of water resources, waterways and other infrastructure; protect environmental attributes and ensure sustainable use; and establish effective institutional arrangements. A number of questions and comments followed.

Dr. Richard Liroff, Senior Program Officer with the World Wildlife Fund, offered a closing keynote titled, "A Prospectus for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System: Applying an Ecosystem Approach to Management." Drawing from his experiences in both the Great Lakes and Europe, Liroff focused on lessons learned in the areas of public participation and community-based organizing. He followed this with a discussion of two emerging areas of concern in the Great Lakes Basin: endocrine-disrupting chemicals and the environmental effects of pesticides. He congratulated the Great Lakes Commission on its past and present contributions, and challenged the organization and its member states to embrace these and other environmental challenges.

- *28) W. Carey offered a motion to honor, by resolution, Hughes Morrissette of Quebec's St.

 Lawrence Development Secretariat. Morrissette and his staff primarily Leonce Naud had been instrumental in organizing the 40th Anniversary Meeting. The motion was seconded by numerous Commissioners and adopted unanimously.
- H. Morrissette and P. Ralston offered closing remarks, again speaking to the growing partnership and good will between the Great Lakes Commission and the Government of Quebec.

 Morrissette noted that the Quebec Government regards the Commission as a primary point of contact for information on all issues affecting the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system and involving Quebec/Great Lakes state regulations.

Chair Ralston announced the special tour events for the following two days. By acclamation of the membership, he adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.,

Michael J. Corchie

Executive Director

MJD/cew



MÉMO À: Monsieur Normand Nadeau

Direction États-Unis

DE: Léonce Naud, conseiller

Secrétariat à la mise en valeur du Saint-Laurent

OBJET: présence du Québec auprès de la Commission des

Grands Lacs

DATE: 9 juillet 1996

«La connaissance objective que les Américains peuvent avoir du Québec passe également par les rapports nouveaux que nous avons pu établir - avec les gouvernements des États grâce à nos délégations... ainsi qu'aux remarquables efforts déployés par les responsables du Projet Saint-Laurent auprès des États membres de la Commission des Grands Lacs.»

Jacques-Yvan Morin Le Devoir, 28 mars 1984

En dépit de moyens financiers extrêmement modestes, quelques représentants du Québec assurent une présence active auprès de la Commission des Grands Lacs depuis au moins vingt ans. Récemment, à l'occasion de la célébration à Québec du 40^e anniversaire de sa mise sur pied (1955-1995), la Commission a reconnu publiquement le rôle de leadership, de support et d'assistance joué par le Secrétariat à la mise en valeur du Saint-Laurent dans le maintien et le renforcement de la coopération entre le Québec et les États américains des Grands Lacs.

Selon le ministère des Affaires internationales, le Québec fait «un effort soutenu depuis quelque temps pour être plus actif dans les travaux de la Commission. C'est un organisme de coopération régionale avec les États-Unis que nous favorisons, comme la Conférence des Gouverneurs de la Nouvelle-Angleterre et des Premiers ministres de l'Est du Canada.» (Jean-Marc-Blondeau, Direction États-Unis, Ministère des Affaires internationales, 19 octobre 1994)

La Commission des Grands Lacs constitue sans aucun doute une des meilleures portes d'entrée de tout le Midwest auprès des milieux politiques et économiques de cette région des États-Unis. Ce réseau donne également accès à de nombreuses instances fédérales américaines (U.S. Corps of Engineers, Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Seaway Corporation, Coastal Management Programs, Council of Great Lakes Governors, Northeast-Midwest Institute, etc.). À l'instigation du Secrétariat, la Commission des Grands Lacs tient occasionnellement réunions ou congrès au Québec, telle la réunion annuelle de septembre dernier dans la Capitale.

Enfin, la décision prise à l'effet de fermer la Délégation du Québec à Chicago ajoute à l'importance que le Québec reste présent - fut-ce ponctuellement - dans les milieux concernés par le transport maritime, l'environnement et la question des niveaux d'eau des Grands Lacs et du Saint-Laurent. Le volume des échanges commerciaux entre le Québec et les états du Midwest le justifie amplement.

Quelques suggestions

- Suite au courrier Ralston-Normand (26 juin 1996), le Québec pourra exprimer son intérêt à ce que la Commission sollicite auprès de Washington un amendement à sa charte constitutive pour rendre légalement possible une participation provinciale éventuelle à titre de membre votant. (Ce type de démarche peut prendre plusieurs années avant d'aboutir).
- Le Québec pourra réaffirmer son intérêt envers l'existence et les travaux de la Commission des Grands Lacs. Cet intérêt peut se traduire par l'assurance d'une présence régulière de délégués québécois à l'occasion de la réunion semi-annuelle et annuelle de cet organisme.

Déjà, la Commission «is looking forward to a continued and strengthened partnership with Quebec» (P. Ralston).

Le partnership peut aussi prendre la forme de stages études/travail auprès de la Commission, d'une durée d'un mois ou deux, à Ann Arbor, par un délégué québécois. De tels stages - incluant parfois un cours d'anglais avancé - permettent d'établir des liens plus profonds et durables que la seule participation épisodique à une réunion et s'avèrent forts rentables à long terme.

lci comme ailleurs, on doit d'ores et déjà penser non seulement à fortifier ce qui existe, mais également à préparer une relève qui assurera une continuité à la présence québécoise dans le Midwest.

Il serait de plus souhaitable qu'une réflexion pluri-ministérielle s'intéresse aux intérêts et à la présence du Québec vers l'ouest (Ontario et États riverains des Grands Lacs essentiellement), incluant une évaluation des efforts présentement consentis auprès d'organismes tels la Commission mixte internationale (C.M.I.), la Commission des Grands Lacs, le Council of Great Lakes Governors, etc. Une attention particulière devrait être apportée aux nouvelles technologies de communications (v.g. présence québécoise sur le Great Lakes Information Network...) et au rôle transfrontalier présentement sous-estimé des O.N.G. et autres associations analogues.

Enfin, suggérons que si des moyens financiers deviennent disponibles pour maintenir ou accroître les relations Québec - Midwest, une planification souple d'activités, d'événements et de démarches soit élaborée par le MAI en collaboration avec les organismes intéressés.

Lione Hand

Léonce Naud Conseiller

c.c. Monsieur Hugues Morrissette Directeur général

Great Lakes Commission Policy Statement * Comments on A National Marine Strategy House of Commons, Standing Committee on Transport

On April 6, 1995, the Great Lakes Commission, at the invitation of the Canadian Parliament's Standing Committee on Transport, submitted written testimony that addressed several St. Lawrence Seaway issues. In May, the Committee submitted its report, A National Marine Strategy, to the House of Commons. This report has launched a major effort by the government of Canada to address marine sector challenges and future opportunities. The following policy position identifies five selected issues addressed in the report, each organized with a background paragraph followed by relevant points of Commission policy in response.

Cabotage - Although the Committee raised the issue of waiving requirements of the Jones Act for the Great Lakes/Seaway system in discussion, there is no formal recommendation. However, the Committee did state that an "open waters" arrangement has merit especially in light of the new "open skies" agreement between U.S. and Canada whereby landing and takeoff restrictions are gradually being eliminated for commercial air transport.

Commission Position:

- The Great Lakes Commission position on cabotage is clear and unequivocal: cabotage laws must remain the foundation of U.S. maritime policy on the Great Lakes and existing U.S. cabotage laws must be supported. This position has been long-standing and was recently reaffirmed by our member states. U.S. cabotage laws ensure that U.S.-constructed vessels are built to the world's highest safety standards and are operated in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard rules and regulations intended to protect both life and the environment. We believe that exemption of cabotage laws on the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence system will not enhance the flow of goods and people through the system or between the two countries.
- The United States has addressed the cabotage issue with respect to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System. Trade negotiators, during development of the U.S. Canada Free Trade Agreement, expressly exempted the maritime sector from the Agreement. We support the U.S. government's position.

Port Sector - The existing Canadian port system with its three distinct categories, all with different mandates and operating rules, is much different from that which exists in the U.S. part of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. A National Marine Strategy includes several recommendations that would dramatically restructure the existing system and also, over time, would reduce federal responsibilities and costs. The proposed reclassifying of Canadian ports into commercial and non-commercial based upon financial self-sufficiency will result in divestiture to provinces, municipalities and/or the private sector of the non-commercial ports including places described as "public harbors". Closure is another possibility.

^{*} This policy statement was adopted by the Great Lakes Commission at its 1995 Annual Meeting in Quebec City, Quebec September 7, 1995.

For these places, the ending of a federal connection will raise many issues including continuation of harbor/channel maintenance. The "financial self-sufficiency" criterion is similar to U.S. federal proposals to establish a commercial tonnage or contribution to Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund threshold as a means of prioritizing dredging activity.

Commission Position:

• The Great Lakes Commission supports a strong and continuing U.S. federal role in the maintenance of federally-authorized harbors and navigation channels.

The Seaway - A National Marine Strategy recognizes that the status quo for Canadian Seaway operation is unacceptable—that increasing costs cannot be met with higher tolls. In order to preserve financial self-sufficiency, the report puts the emphasis on cost containment and reduction. Therefore, the report recommends "commercialization" of the Seaway by abolishing the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority and establishment of a public/private not-for-profit binational corporation which would be responsible for daily operations including ongoing routine maintenance. Responsibility for non-marine assets such as bridges and tunnels would be shifted to other government agencies. A Board of Directors would include representatives from both the U.S. and Canadian federal governments as well as industry and users of the system. The two federal governments would be responsible for long-term capital costs for major maintenance and infrastructure. The committee also recommended that once commercialization of the Canadian sector of the Seaway has been achieved, Canada should open discussions with the U.S. on creation of the binational agency to operate the Seaway, eliminate all tolls and establish a more equitable sharing of Seaway costs. Another recommendation concerns an incentive-based Canadian shipbuilding and refitting program for Seaway-sized vessels.

Commission Position:

- With respect to the proposed not-for-profit binational agency to operate the Seaway, the Great Lakes Commission believes that the matter of merging or otherwise integrating Seaway agency activities warrants investigation for the purpose of reducing administrative and other operation redundancies and costs. The St. Lawrence Seaway, as a joint undertaking of Canada and the United States, has a unique binational status. The Commission has advocated in testimony before this and other Parliamentary committees that a comprehensive review of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway competitiveness be undertaken. The Commission believes that such a review should also be a joint undertaking of the U.S. and Canadian federal governments and should result in a binational strategic Seaway plan. Among other issues, this process should address the feasibility and desirability of creating a binational agency for future administration and operation of the Seaway locks and other infrastructure.
- With respect to tolls, the Commission has long been supportive of total tolls elimination. We believe a nationwide uniform cost recovery method similar to the one in the U.S. whereby Seaway operation costs are covered from a user fee-based trust fund would be appropriate for Canada to consider. We acknowledge that the Committee endorses the concept of a "national levy for all marine traffic" to support Coast Guard services but no linkage with Seaway costs is made.
- The Commission supports the study of incentive-based shipbuilding program for new Seawaysized ships but does not have a position on the potential application to the refitting of existing

ships. If reflagging of ships is part of this approach, then the Commission's strong support for U.S. cabotage laws may militate against support for this element of the Committee's recommendation. Also, the requirement of all work (construction and refitting) to be done in Canadian shipyards would not be possible for U.S. flag vessels nor reasonable for ships of third nations.

• The Great Lakes Commission proposes to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec that, along with the Commission, they cosponsor a St. Lawrence Seaway Forum to be held in 1996. The Seaway Forum would be focused on the Standing Committee on Transport's recommendations pertaining to the St. Lawrence Seaway with particular emphasis on the concept of creating a binational agency to operate the Seaway. A primary purpose of the Seaway Forum would be to facilitate discussion among industry and system users about current and prospective changes in Seaway operations and also promote consultation with officials from both Canada and the U.S. This proposed action is consistent with the Declaration of Indiana's consultative process framework.

Canadian Coast Guard - The Committee focused on Coast Guard budget issues and recognized the need to institute a nationwide cost recovery program for selected Coast Guard services such as aids to navigation and particular dredging activities. Search and rescue services would not be subject to cost recovery. Cost recovery for icebreaking services is quite controversial and, according to the Committee, should only be implemented if fair cost allocation (only costs attributable to commercial users) is possible.

Commission Position:

- The Great Lakes Commission is opposed to any cost recovery for U.S. Great Lakes ice-breaking services. The existing level of coordinated U.S. and Canada Coast Guard operations on the Great Lakes, particularly for icebreaking and spill response, could be complicated if aspects of cost recovery apply to Canadian operations.
- The Commission has no position on the matter of general Coast Guard cost recovery, but insists that proposals for any such U.S. user fees should be subjected to an independent and comprehensive impact analysis.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL J. DONAHUE, PH.D.



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Established in 1955 by interstate compact "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin." May 3, 1996

His Excellency Raymond Chrétien Ambassador to the United States Embassy of Canada 501 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ambassador:

The Great Lakes Commission is concerned about the prospective implementation of marine service fees to recover a portion of operation costs incurred by the Canadian Coast Guard. These fees will affect U.S. Great Lakes shipping interests and will have a negative impact on U.S./Canada trade. Our eight member states, acting through the Commission, urge the Government of Canada to defer implementation of such proposed fees so that thorough consultation with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence maritime industry on both sides of the border as well as with state/provincial governments can take place.

The Great Lakes states have a major stake in U.S.-Canada trade. More than half of U.S.-Canada annual trade or approximately \$150 billion originates in or is destined for a Great Lakes state. This trade relationship between the two countries is the largest in the world and each country is each other's largest trading partner. The national economies of our countries are linked together by way of a common border, substantial sector-specific integration and the diversity and strength of trade flows. The proposed marine service fees will impinge on the vitality of these economic linkages between our two countries and may disrupt parts of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence regional economy.

Our concern about these fees and their effect on trade is further heightened because they run counter to the trend of ending trade barriers between our two countries. Recent trade agreements have aimed at phasing out tariff barriers and harmonizing regulations so as to enhance trade flows. For example, the successful "open skies" negotiations have opened up air travel between the two countries and the 1995 signing of the Canada/U.S. Accord on Our Shared Border is facilitating land transportation connections. These efforts are being undertaken to improve trade flows not hinder them. With the Great Lakes states strategically positioned to take advantage of improving U.S. Canada trade, or on the other hand, being particularly disadvantaged by trade problems, we, as a region, are concerned about these maritime sector developments.

The Great Lakes Commission has had past opportunities to address proposals for Canadian maritime cost recovery. In 1986, we were invited by the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications to address Bill C-75. In 1994, we were also invited by Parliament's St. Lawrence Seaway Subcommittee to address Seaway issues and related maritime cost recovery matters. In both instances, the Commission acknowledged the Canadian government's budgetary concerns. We took these opportunities to describe the U.S. approach to maritime cost recovery based on a nationwide, uniform cargo value fee that not only supports federal expenditures for operation and maintenance costs of the deep draft system but also absorbed U.S. Seaway tolls, thereby eliminating them. The basic structure of the cost recovery plan was equitable when implemented in 1987 but fees have grown considerably since then, and we are now determined that they be rolled back.

We understand that the proposed Canadian fees will be applied to vessels operating between U.S. ports and Canadian ports. For example, a cargo of grain bound from Toledo to a lower St. Lawrence River export terminal would incur a fee of \$9000 during the fourth year of implementation. This could translate into a one to two cent per bushel cost, which in terms of international grain trade, could make these shipments uncompetitive. Of course, these fees apply to vessels that visit Canadian ports and that represents another indirect effect on U.S. trade. Container and other U.S. shipments that are trucked or moved by rail to Canadian ports would also be affected, possibly damaging U.S. regional trade opportunities.

We urge you to consult with your government on this matter as it may affect the competitiveness of U.S. and Canada trade between our two countries and with the rest of the world. The Great Lakes Commission is a signatory to the *Declaration of Indiana*, a maritime agreement among many Great Lakes-St. Lawrence maritime interest organizations. This landmark agreement sets forth ten principles which all signatories support. One of those principles states "Full consultation and cooperation between Canada and United States at the Federal and State/Provincial levels on all maritime matters relating to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway is required." We also adknowledge that the Ottawa-based Chamber of Maritime Commerce has been actively reviewing the Coast Guard cost recovry plan and is also a *Declaration* signatory. In the spirit of the *Declaration of Indiana*, we ask you to address our concerns regarding prospective implementation of marine service fees.

Sincerely,

Patrick R. Ralston,

Chairman



DECLARATION OF INDIANA



-A MARITIME AGREEMENT FOR THE GREAT LAKES-ST LAWRENCE SYSTEM-

The parties gathered at Merriliville, Indiana, on May 15, 1991, representing the broad spectrum of maritime interests in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River region, do hereby agree on the following Principles for the region's maritime system and will work collectively and individually for their implementation.

PRINCIPLES

A strong and healthy Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Maritime System is a necessary foundation for the economic well-being of the region both in Canada and the United States.

Full consultation and cooperation between Canada and the United States at the Federal and State/Provincial levels on all maritime matters relating to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway is required.

Competitiveness of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence maritime transport in world trade and vis-a-vis competing transportation systems and regions must be given priority.

Marketing the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Maritime System is an essential trade development activity.

Policies, laws, regulations or practices which unfairly discriminate against the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region must be actively opposed.

Emphasis on containment of costs and reduction or elimination of tolls, fees or other levies relating to Great Lakes-St. Lawrence maritime commerce is necessary for the System's future.

Operation by government authorities of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Maritime System must maximize opportunities for maritime commerce.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence maritime infrastructure must be maintained and modernized on a continuing basis.

The commercial maritime industry recognizes its role as a partner in environmental protection and will support and maintain high environmental, conservation and safety principles.

The U.S. and Canadian Federal governments, in full consultation with Provinces, States and private industry, should join in long-range planning and policy development for the future of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Maritime System in the 21st Century.



Canadian Embassy

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501 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

July 10, 1996

Mr. Patrick R. Ralston Chairman Executive Committee Great Lakes Commission 400 - 4 Street Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103-4816

Dear Mr. Ralston,

Thank you for your letter of May 3 outlining your concerns about Canada's marine service fee. I regret the delay in responding, due in part to ongoing developments as described below.

As you may be aware, on May 9 the Honourable Fred Mifflin, Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, announced the final details of the marine service fee, implementation of which began on June 1. The fee is based on the principle that those who benefit directly from publicly-funded marine navigation services should contribute to the costs of those services. However, the fee represents, on average, only 11 per cent of the actual cost of the service being provided to industry by the Canadian Coast Guard and only four per cent of the total port charges paid by the marine shipping industry.

The final fee structure resulted from an extensive process of consultation that began in early 1995 in which over 800 individuals and organizations participated, the majority of whom supported the underlying principles of the fee. Both the Standing Committee on Transport (in February - March 1995) and subsequently the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans (in April 1996) conducted public hearings across Canada on the proposed fee. The Marine Advisory Board, comprised of individuals representing a cross-section of marine interests across Canada advising the Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard, was also extensively involved in the consultations. As on past issues affecting the region, the views of the Great Lakes Commission would have been a welcome addition to these consultations.

I fully appreciate your concern about the potential impact of the marine service fee on our important bilateral trade relationship, particularly in the Great Lakes region.

Accordingly, the final structure of the fee included several features intended to reflect the unique nature of commercial shipping activity and services provided in the region. A separate fee structure (one of three) has been established for the Central and Laurentian Region covering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence river. This fee is 14 cents per tonne of cargo loaded and unloaded at ports with a cap of 50,000 tonnes (vs. a fee of 17.6 cents per tonne for the Atlantic region). Bulk cargo that is carried in two or more vessels in order to reach their final destination, without intermediate processing, pays only once; for instance, grain shipped from Chicago destined for overseas markets loaded onto another vessel in Montreal. Although calculated on the basis of the cargo, payment of the fee is the direct responsibility of the carrier and not the shipper.

The U.S. approach to maritime cost recovery based on a nationwide, uniform cargo value fee was one of the options proposed to industry during the consultation process. This option was not acceptable to industry, however.

I also wish to note that, at least initially, the fee is not being charged to vessels that are transiting Canadian waters to or from U.S. ports that do not stop at a Canadian port enroute. Further discussions with U.S. authorities are planned for an arrangement that would continue this exemption in return for Canada remaining exempt from certain existing maritime charges in the U.S.

An independent assessment completed in 1996 concluded that the marine shipping industry could absorb the cost of the fee without significant difficulty. A second comprehensive economic impact study is being undertaken in collaboration with the Marine Advisory Board. This study, scheduled for completion in early fall, will review the cumulative impact of cost-recovery and efficiency measures on the marine sector including the marine services fee, private sector pollution response fees, removal of Coast Guard services from dredging, port privatization, commercialization of the St. Lawrence Seaway, and changes to pilotage. It will also assess the impact of the fee on Canada - U.S. trade. The results of this study will be helpful in determining whether any adjustments may be required to ensure that the marine service fee remains fair and equitable.

I trust that the foregoing addresses your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to have further information about the marine service fee.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Christian

Raymond Chrétien Ambassador



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NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON Wisconsin Dept. of Administration Madison. Wisconsin

Established in 1955 by interstate compact "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin." June 26, 1996

Mr. Robert Normand
Deputy Prime Minister
International Affairs Department
525 Blvd. Rene Levesque East, 4e
Quebec, Quebec G1R 5R9

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES INTERNATIONALES

3 JUIL, 1996

DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES AMÉRIQUES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL J. DONAHUE, Ph.D.

Dear Mr. Normand:

On behalf of the eight member states of the Great Lakes Commission, I am pleased to inform you of our prospective interest in extending full Commission membership to the Government of Quebec. We have enjoyed and benefitted tremendously from Quebec's (non-voting) Observer status for the past several years and, in the spirit of true binational partnership, believe that Member status will best serve the individual and collective interests of all Great Lakes jurisdictions in public policy areas of shared interest.

For your benefit, a brief summary of the mandate and programs of the Great Lakes Commission is presented below, accompanied by an explanation of our interest in full membership for Quebec. I welcome your serious consideration of this opportunity, and would be honored by an indication of Quebec's prospective interest.

The Great Lakes Commission is an interstate compact agency, founded in state and federal law, with a mandate to "promote the orderly, integrated, and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin." The Commission pursues this function through information sharing among Great Lakes jurisdictions; public policy research and development; advocacy and promotion of Great Lakes Basin issues; and provision of advice and technical assistance to Great Lakes Basin jurisdictions. The Great Lakes Commission has no regulatory role and its policy statements are not legally binding for the membership; its strength is in its forum for inter-governmental coordination and consensus building, and its reputation for providing technically sound and objective advice and assistance to its membership. Its area of interest is broad and includes any multi-jurisdictional issues and opportunities associated with Great Lakes environmental protection, resource management, transportation and economic development.

Each of our member states appoints up to five Commissioners, who are typically either senior state agency officials, state legislators, or governor's appointees. The Commission meets formally twice a year to establish priorities, coordinate Basin-wide activities, act on policy matters, and provide oversight to Commission staff based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The staff consists of approximately 24 professionals who operate on a \$2.9 million budget (U.S.) drawn from modest membership dues and, primarily, from government and foundation grants and contracts. The enclosed 1995 Annual Report presents a concise overview of all Commission functions, organizational structure, and the several dozen Basin programs and projects presently underway. It is included in an information packet that provides additional relevant information.

The Great Lakes Commission's interests and resources have grown substantially during the 1990's and the great majority of programs and projects have assumed a binational focus with extensive participation by Canadian federal and provincial personnel. To acknowledge this, a formal Observer program was established in 1991 and, since that time, Quebec representation (non-voting) on all tasks forces and at all Commission meetings has been welcomed. Given that the Commission tends to operate largely by consensus, the non-voting status has not been a major impediment to participation, and Quebec has been welcomed as a partner in the Commission's deliberations. To celebrate and formalize this partnership and, in recognition of the need for a truly binational, ecosystem-based approach to problems and opportunities, the membership recently agreed that full membership for Quebec and Ontario warranted serious discussion.

We believe that Quebec membership would offer immediate and substantial benefits to the Great Lakes region in general, and to Quebec in particular. It would formalize and enhance what has historically been a productive working relationship on an array of shared issues. It would formally recognize a true provincial/state partnership as stewards of the resource. It would also allow access to an experienced professional staff well acquainted with binational issues, and to a forum for information exchange and that involves all levels of government, tribal authorities, private sector interests and citizen organizations throughout the binational Great Lakes Basin. Finally, this partnership would raise the binational standing of the Commission and, in so doing, enhance its ability to effectively provide advice and technical assistance on issues of shared interest and agreement. I might add that each member state receives an outstanding "return on investment"; its modest annual dues are far outweighed by grant and contract funds that the Commission accesses and distributes directly to its members.

I note that our Commission has met on several occasions in Quebec at the kind invitation of your government. It is significant that the Commission selected Quebec City for its 40th Anniversary Celebration last year.

We fully recognize that Quebec membership will necessitate some structural and operational adjustments to the Commission, as there may be some domestic issues and other matters that would not be conducive to deliberation and action by the entire membership. Importantly, the Commission has historically (and very successfully) focused on areas of binational consensus where opportunities for partnership lead to mutual benefits.

At this time, we would value an expression of Quebec's interest in having an option to join the Great Lakes Commission as a full member. This would allow us to pursue an amendment to our federal enabling legislation (PL 90-419, Great Lakes Basin Compact) which presently does not provide for provincial membership. (Each state has legislation that already provides for provincial membership, but federal legislation is needed as well.) The amendment, of course, would not require Quebec membership, but would simply extend the offer. An opportunity to discuss and possibly pursue membership could then follow without obligation or the need for a firm timeline.

The Executive Committee of the Great Lakes Commission, comprised of delegation chairs from each member jurisdiction, is meeting on August 1 to discuss this and other policy matters. We would be honored by a response prior to that date and, in the interim, would be pleased to informally discuss this invitation and provide further information. If desired, I would be further pleased to assemble a small delegation of senior Commission officials to meet with you, and other Quebec officials at a convenient time and location.

I very much appreciate your consideration of this opportunity and, speaking for the entire membership, look forward to a continued and strengthened partnership with Quebec.

Sincere

Patrick, R. Ralston

Chair

PRR/ris

cc: R. Saint-Germain

. R. Pelit



Le sous-ministre

Québec July 18, 1996

Monsieur Patrick R. Ralston Chair Great Lakes Commission The Argus II Building 400 Fourth St. Ann Arbour, Michigan 48103-4816

Dear Mr. Ralston,

Thank you for your letter of June 20th concerning the possibility of the Quebec Government becoming a full member of the Great Lakes Commission.

After discussing the matter with my officials, I am pleased to say that we would indeed be interested in having an option to join the Commission.

With this in mind, I have asked the relevant Government agencies to consider increasing their already respectable level of participation in the works of the Commission, thereby enabling us to make a considered decision when the time comes.

Lastly, allow me, on behalf of my colleagues, to thank you for the kind words you expressed with regard to Quebec's past involvement in the Commission's deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Normand

Deputy Minister

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Le sous-ministre

Québec, le 18 juillet 1996

Monsieur Patrick R. Ralston Président Commission des Grands Lacs The Argus II Building 400 Fourth St. Ann Arbour, Michigan 48103-4816

Monsieur le Président,

L'invitation que vous avez récemment adressée au gouvernement du Québec de modifier son statut d'observateur auprès de votre Commission en celui de membre avec droit de vote a été reçue avec honneur.

Il me fait donc plaisir de vous confirmer l'intérêt du gouvernement pour une éventuelle élévation de son statut auprès de votre Commission.

Dans ce sens et dans l'immédiat, un accroissement de la participation du Québec aux travaux de votre Commission sera suggéré aux ministères et organismes concernés et, ainsi, une évaluation détaillée sera effectuée de cette opportunité que vous nous avez gentiment présentée.

Vos bons mots à l'égard de la participation passée du Québec aux activités de votre organisation ont aussi été appréciés et répercutés auprès des artisans de cette coopération.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Robert Normand

1996 JUL 2 2

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1996 SEMIANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREAT LAKES COMMISSION

PRELIMINARY AGENDA Wednesday, May 15

10:00 a.m.

Registration and Refreshments

Foyer, Room 137

1:00 p.m.

Call to Order Introduction of Commissioners, Observers and Special Guests

Welcome from Hosts

Opening Remarks

Great Lakes Activities and Other Priorities:

Maritime Administration

Great Lakes Commission

Patrick R. Ralston, Chair

2:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m.

GREAT LAKES COMMISSION BUSINESS

SESSION Report of the Chair

Adopt Minutes, 1995 Annual Meeting (See Attachment, Program Section)

Welcome to new Commissioners and

Executive Committee Reports

 Report of the Executive Director
 Presentation of 1995 Annual Report Se Handout)

Recent Products/Current Priorities (See handouts and Attachment #1, "Information Section)

Introduction to Draft 1996-97 Work Plan Attachment #1, "Action" Section)

3) Panel Session: Current Issues in Great Lakes Coastal Management (See Attachment #2, "Information" Section)

Joan B. Yim, Deputy Administrator, Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

Patrick R. Ralston

Dr. Michael J. Donahue, Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission

Moderator: Nathaniel E. Robinson, Chair, Wisconsin Delegation PANEL: Jeffrey Benoit, Director, Office of Coastal Resources Management, National Office of Atmospheric Administration Wayne Warren, Alternate Commissioner, Ohio Delegation and Michael Colvin, Administrator, Coastal Management Section, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (invited) Stephen Lucas, Director, Division of Hearings, Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Dawn Deady, Lake Michigan Coastal Coordinator, Indiana Department of Natural Resources



3:30 p.m.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

To consider amendments to Policy Positions Document, review draft 1996-97 Work Plan, and discuss/act on related policy issues (See Attachment #2, "Action" Section)

Resource Management and Environmental Quality

- Session Chair: Wayne Warren, Member, Ohio Delegation
- Staff support: Tom Crane
- Guest Speaker: Bob Burris, Great Lakes Coordinator, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Transportation and Economic Development

- Session Chair: Pete McCarthy, Member, Indiana Delegation
- Staff Support: Steve Thorp
- Guest Speakers: Col. Randolph Buck, Commander and Bill Willis, Chief Construction Operations, Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Communications and Information Management

- Session Chair: Irene Brooks, Chair, Pennsylvania Delegation
- Staff support: Carol Ratza
- Guest Speaker: Brad Bradley, Network Manager Access Indiana

Regional Coordination #

- Session Chair: Patrick Ralston, Member, Indiana Delegation
- Staff support: Michael Donahue
- Guest Speaker: Mike McCabe, Director, Midwestern Office, Council of State Governments

Adjourn for Reception and Dinner: Dolphin

Gallery, Indianapolis Zoo

Thursday, May 16

Meeting Registration/Refreshments

GREAT LAKES COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION: Policy Actions and Information Items (Contd.)

Great Lakes Programs and the Federal Budget (See Attachment #2, "Information" Section)

ACTIONS:

- Status report: U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament
- Perspectives from Federal Agency Observers

Michael J. Donahue

Room 226

Room 232

Room 13

Board motor coaches at promptly 6:00 pm. for transit to Indianapolis Zoo

Foyer, Room 137

Moderator: Donald R. Vonnahme, Vice-chair, Great Lakes Commission

Allegra Cangelosi, Senior Policy Analyst, Northeast Midwest Institute Representative, Canadian Federal Government (to be confirmed)

All Observers -

5:00 p.m.

7:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m.



GREAT LAKES COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION: Policy Actions and Information Items (Contd.)

- Review and Approval of Policy Position: "Legislative and Appropriation Priorities for the 104th Congress, Second Session" (See Attachment #3, "Action" Section)
- Presentation of Advocacy Strategy
- Great Lakes Commission Policy Positions and Emerging Priorities

ACTIONS:

- Program Committee Reports
- Amend/Approve Policy Positions Document (See Attachment #2, "Action" Section)
- Amend/Approve Draft 1996-97 Work Plan (See Attachment #1, "Action" Section)

Break

3) Panel Session:
Brownfields: Redevelopment/GreenfieldPreservation: Issues and Opportunities In the Great Lakes Basin (See Attachment #4,
"Information Section)

oon Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Evan Bayh, Governor of Indiana (invited)

GREAT LAKES COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

4) Special Panel Session: An Introduction to the National Sea Grant College Program: A Great Lakes Focus (See Attachment #5 "Information" Section) Michael J. Donahue

Moderator: Patrick R. Ralston

Session Chairs, Program Committees

Moderator: E. Norman Sims, Jr.,
Member, Illinois Delegation
PANEL:
Mary Beth Tuohy, Brownfields
Program Manager, Region 5, U.S. Envir.
Protection Agency
Greta Hawvermale, Deputy
Commissioner: IN Dept. of Envir.
Management:
Stephen Colantino, Special Assistant to
Manager, Bureau of Land, IL EPA

Presidents Room

Moderator: Dr. Frank Kudrna, Chair, IL Delegation and Member, National Sea Grant Advisory Panel PANEL: Dr. Ronald Baird, Director, National

Sea Grant College Program
Dr. Michael McDonald, Chair, Great
Lakes Sea Grant Network and Director,
Minnesota Sea Grant

Dr. Phil Pope, Director, Illinois/Indiana Sea Grant

12:00 Noon

10:15 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

1:15 p.m.



GREAT LAKES COMMISSION BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

5) Great Lakes Dredging and Confined Disposal Facilities (See Attachment #6, "Information" Section)

Dan Injerd, Alternate Commissioner, Illinois Delegation and Member, Great Lakes Dredging and Disposal Options Task Force, and Jan Miller, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, North Central Division and Member, Great Lakes Regional Dredging Team

Guest Speaker: Werner Braun, Vice-

Council of Great Lakes Industries and

chair, Reasonable Use Committee,

Issues Manager, Dow Chemical

ACTIONS:

- Task Force/Great Lakes Regional Dredging Team Reports
- Discuss/Approve Policy Actions
- 6) Implementing Recommendations of the Presidents' Council on Sustainable Development A Partnership Opportunity with the Council of Great Lakes Industries (See Attachment #4, "Action" Section)

ACTION:

- Review/Approve Proposed Project
- 7) Canadian Coast Guard Cost Recovery (See Attachment #5, "Action" Section).

ACTION:

- Presentation of Executive Committee Action
- 8) Feasibility of Near Shore Reef Construction

ACTION:

- Information Item: Discussion of Great Lakes
 State Activities
- 9) Other Policy Actions/Information Items
- 10) Announcement of 1996 Annual Meeting: Date, Location and Theme

Closing Remarks and Adjourn

All Members, Observers

Irene Brooks, Chair, Pennsylvania Delegation

Patrick R. Ralston

Frank Kudrna, Chair, Illinois Delegation

John Comerio, Alternate Commissioner, Illinois Delegation Patrick Ralston

4:30 p.m.

Great Lakes Commission 1996 Semiannual Meeting and Related Events Attendee List

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1995 Annual Report

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1955 • 40 Years of Service • 1995

Commission Overview

The Great Lakes Commission is an interstate compact agency composed of governor-appointed or legislatively mandated representatives of the eight Great Lakes states. Established by joint legislative action of the Great Lakes states in 1955 and granted congressional consent in 1968, the Great Lakes Commission seeks "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin." (Article 1, Great Lakes Basin Compact.)

Objectives associated with this overall goal, as stated in the compact, include

- To plan for the welfare and development of the water resources of the basin as a whole, as well as for those portions of the basin that may have problems of special concern;
- To make it possible for the states of the basin and their people to derive the maximum benefit from utilization of public works, in the form of navigational aids or otherwise, which may exist or may be constructed from time to time;
- To advise in securing and maintaining a proper balance among industrial, recreational and other legitimate uses of the water resources of the basin; and
- To establish and maintain an intergovernmental agency to the end that the purpose of this compact may be accomplished more effectively.

The Commission pursues this broad mandate via three principal functions: 1) information sharing among the Great Lakes states; 2) coordination of state positions on issues of regional concern; and 3) advocacy of those positions on which the states agree. The Commission addresses a range of issues involving environmental protection, resource management, transportation and economic development. A committee and task force structure, in which Commissioners and Advisors from all states participate, is the vehicle for identifying and developing issues, and subsequently recommending the adoption of positions by the full membership. Federal, provincial, regional and tribal government Observers participate, but do not vote, in all Commission activities.

The Great Lakes Commission is the only Great Lakes organization with a statutory mandate to represent the collective views of the eight Great Lakes states. As such, the Commission's structure, program and staffing arrangements are determined by, and accountable to, its member states. The Commission is based in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Organizational Chart Commissioners Observers State Ililnois * Indiana * Michigan Minnesota * New York hio * Pennsylvania * Wisconsir Federal (U.S. & Canada), Provincial, Regional, Tribal Advisors Executive Chair Vice Chair Committee **Executive Director Program Areas** Communications Transportation Regional Management & & Economic Development & Information Management Environmental

Mission: The Great Lakes Commission, an eight-state compact agency founded in state and federal law and dedicated to the use, management and protection of the water, land and other natural resources of the Great Lakes Basin, provides leadership in the implementation of principles of sustainable development throughout the Basin. In partnership with the Great Lakes states, the Commission addresses issues of resource management, environmental protection, transportation and economic development by serving as an accurate and objective source of information; an effective forum for the development and coordination of public policy; and an active and committed advocate of Basin interests.

> —Strategic Plan Adopted October 1995

Great Lakes Commission

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Chair's Report



The Great
Lakes Basin
Compact was
a monumental
legislative
achievement
four decades
ago...and is
even more
relevant today.

A vision for the 21st century

By Patrick R. Ralston

The Great Lakes Commission turned 40 this year, but we do not decry the onset of middle age. This compact agency, with its unique binational focus, has a rich tradition and its best years still to come. As we gathered this past fall in Québec City to celebrate our 40th anniversary, we reflected on our past and dedicated ourselves to build upon our past successes to shape an even brighter future.

And what strides we have made. The *Great Lakes Basin Compact* was a monumental legislative achievement four decades ago. And today, with overwhelming public support for protection of the environment and our precious natural resources, the compact is even more relevant.

"Our vision is a Great Lakes Basin that offers a strong and growing economy, a healthy environment and a high quality of life for its citizens by applying principles of sustainable development in the use, management and protection of its water, land and other natural resources."

These words, our vision, embody the spirit of our partnership and are printed boldly in the Commission's *Strategic Plan*. The plan was adopted by our eight member states in 1995 and presented formally to the public at our annual meeting. The *Strategic Plan* defines our mission, laying out goals and objectives for our programs: administration, resource management and environmental quality, transportation and economic development, communications and information management, and regional coordination.

The Strategic Plan, one of our finest achievements during the year, is related closely to the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin, drafted and signed in 1994. Support for the principles of the charter continues to grow, with the number of charter signatories now exceeding 160.

The annual meeting was not held in Québec by accident. It was a clear effort to acknowledge and strengthen the partnership between the eight Great Lakes states, the Canadian federal government, and the provinces of Québec and Ontario. I look forward to a day when the provinces might become official voting members of the Commission.

It was my great honor at the annual meeting to present Frank Kelley with the Commission's Lifetime Achievement Award. With 33 years of distinguished service, Frank is our longest serving member. He was instrumental in the formation and development of the Commission, and remains one of the Commission's greatest advocates.

Frank reminds us of our obligation to protect and prevent damage to the environment, and our commitment to turn over to the next generation natural resources that are increased in value. We salute Frank's wisdom and his leadership.

As you turn the pages of this annual report on our 40th year of service to the Great Lakes region and its people, you'll note that the Commission's tasks have solid foundations in two documents—one, 40 years old and no worse for wear—and another, brand new and recommitting us to the work at hand.

Commissioners—1995

Illinois

Donald Vonnahme, Director, Office of Water Resources, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources (Commission Vice Chair)

Frank Kudrna, President, Kudrna & Associates, Ltd. (Delegation Chair)

Anthony Ianello, Executive Director, Illinois International Port District

Brent Manning, Director, Ilinois Dept. of Natural Resources

E. Norman Sims, Jr., Deputy Director, Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Community Affairs

Alternates

John Comerio, Deputy Director, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources

Dan Injerd, Chief, Lake Michigan Management Section, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources

Indiana

Patrick Ralston, Director, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources (Commission Chair and Delegation Chair)

E. Peter McCarthy, Port Director, Burns International Harbor

Gerry Nannenga, Assistant Business Manager, N.W. Indiana District Council of Carpenters

Kathy Prosser, Commissioner, Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management

Ray Sierra, Vice President, International Longshoremen's Association

Alternate

David Herbst, Deputy Director, Bureau of Water and Resource Regulation, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources

Michigan

Hon. Frank Kelley, Attorney General (Delegation Chair)

Hon. Connie Binsfeld, Lieutenant Governor (Through 4/95)

Frank D'Itri, Institute of Water Research, Michigan State University

G. Tracy Mehan III, Director, Office of the Great Lakes, Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality

Hon. Tracey Yokich, State Representative

Alternates

A. Michael Leffler, Assistant Attorney General Stanley Steinborn, Chief Assistant Attorney General

Dan Stouffer, Administrative Assistant, Office of Lt. Governor

Minnesota

Hon. Thomas Huntley, State Representative (Delegation Chair)

Hon. Cal Larson, State Senator

Theodore Mellby, Governor's Appointee

Hon. Mary Murphy, State Representative

Hon. Steve Novak, State Senator

Alternate

Henry Hanka, Executive Director, Arrowhead Regional Development Commission

Hon. Edward Oliver, State Senator

New York

Michael Zagata, Commissioner, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation (Delegation Chair)

Joan Gipp, Governor's Appointee

Langdon Marsh, Commissioner, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation (Through 7/95)

Henry Williams, Commissioner, New York State Public Service Commission

Alternate

Gerald Mikol, Research Scientist, Policy Analysis Division, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Ohio

Donald Anderson, Director, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (Delegation Chair)

Jeffrey Busch, Executive Director, Ohio Lake Erie Office

George Ryan, President, Lake Carriers' Association

Don Schregardus, Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Through 3/95)

Hon. Ronald Suster, State Representative

Alternates

James Hartung, President, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

Wayne Warren, Chief, Division of Real Estate and Land Management, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources

Pennsylvania

Irene Brooks, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection (Delegation Chair)

Hon. Anthony Andrezeski, State Senator

Joseph Hoffman, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water Supply and Community Health, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Resources (Through 6/95)

Sidney Smith, President, Erie Sand Steamship Company

Wisconsin

Nathaniel E. Robinson, Administrator, Division of Energy and Intergovernmental Relations, Dept. of Administration (Delegation Chair)

William Carey, Governor's Appointee

David Kluesner, Policy Advisor, Governor's Office (Through 8/95)

Observers (Federal, Provincial, Regional and Tribal)—1995

Daniel Bauer, U.S. Geological Survey

Alfred Beeton, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, NOAA

Al Behm, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Jean-Marc Blondeau, U.S. Bureau, Ministry of International Affairs, Province of Québec

Carolyn Bohan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Through 8/95)

Bernard Bouchor, Chippewa/Ottawa Treaty Fishery Management Authority

Robert Burris, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service

John Christian, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Barbara Coyne, U.S. Office of International Affairs, Province of Ontario

Capt. Thomas Daley, Ninth Coast Guard District

Robert Eddleman, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Virgil Frizzell, U.S. Geological Survey (Through 8/95)

Christopher Goddard, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Chris Grundler, Great Lakes National Program Office, U.S. EPA

Dan Kimball, Water Resources Division, National Park Service

Gail McDonald, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp., U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Douglas McTavish, Great Lakes Regional Office, International Joint Commission

Stanford Parris, St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp., U.S. Dept. of Transportation (Through 4/95)

Lorraine Ratnik, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (Alternate)

Jeffrey Reutter, Ohio Sea Grant College Program

Michel Roy, Québec Government

Sheila Tooze, Canadian Embassy

William Vorus, Great Lakes Sea Grant Network (Through 2/95)

Cristena Yeutter, Council of Great Lakes Governors

Executive Director's Report

Our 40th anniversary year brought us a vision and a strategic plan that will very ably serve the Great Lakes states, and all basin residents, as we approach the 21st century.

Advocacy Great Lakes Guide: Policy Posttons Document Policy Research and Development Work Plan Declaration of Indiana maritime agreement Strategic Plan Financial Policies Bylaws Personnel Policies

A Foundation for Progress: The Organizational and Policy Infrastructure of the Great Lakes Commission

A foundation for progress

By Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.

ven the most casual observer of Great Lakes Basin governance will recognize that a time of pronounced change is upon us. The historical approach, which some would characterize as "top-down, command and control, and government driven," is giving way to a "bottom-up, partnership-based, inclusive" approach.

Federal/state relationships are being redefined. Governments at all levels are "reinventing" themselves. Time-honored federal financing mechanisms for public programs are giving way, in the name of deficit reduction, to more creative and often more complex arrangements. The Great Lakes states are assuming—both singly and collectively—an unprecedented level of self-determination in the use, management and protection of the Great Lakes. In brief, it's not business as usual any more.

Transition of any kind is comprised of one part uncertainty and one part opportunity. An institution's ability to embrace the latter can be the difference between merely surviving, or thriving, in the 1990s.

The Great Lakes states, through the Great Lakes Commission, have chosen the latter. Under the leadership of Chair Patrick Ralston, a strategic planning initiative has produced the kind of vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategic actions needed to seize the opportunities associated with times of change. The Strategic Plan has strengthened the Commission's "foundation for progress," and will ensure that the Great Lakes Basin Compact is interpreted and applied to meet the needs of its membership in the 1990s and beyond.

Thanks to this well-defined infrastructure and the dedication of its membership, 1995 was a great year for the Great Lakes Commission. As the pages of this annual report indicate, it was a year of growth in terms of budget, revenue streams, programs, services and impact.

Members experienced a sound "return on investment" for the money, time and effort they directed to regional priorities of the Commission. New partnerships were forged with the public and private sectors. Relations with the federal and provincial governments of Canada moved to a new level. Advocacy efforts—in both Washington, D.C., and Ottawa—were unprecedented in scope. And, most importantly, programs and projects measurably advanced the collective environmental protection, resource management and economic development goals of member states.

Times of change can, and should, bring out the best in regional, multijurisdictional institutions like the Great Lakes Commission. Our 40th anniversary year brought us a vision and a strategic plan that will very ably serve the Great Lakes states, and all basin residents, as we approach the 21st century.

I've had the privilege of serving as executive director for one of the Commission's four decades of service to the Great Lakes states. With a "foundation for progress" in place, backed by a dedicated membership and staff, I can't help but approach the challenges of 1996 with enthusiasm and great expectations.

Administration Program

Goal

To enhance the Commission's leadership role in regional coordination, policy development and advocacy through efficient, costeffective and responsive service to member states.

Overview

Administration Program efforts in 1995 met with notable success both internally (e.g., staff support, revenue growth) and externally (e.g., member services, partnership-based initiatives). A multiyear growth trend accelerated for restricted grant revenues, funding sources, projects and services, as several dozen projects were pursued by the Commission's 24-member staff and numerous contractors. Furthermore, every state experienced a positive return on investment, as state dues leveraged a record number of federal grants and foundation funds. More than a third of the total budget was returned to member states in the form of grants and contracts. Guiding this effort was a strategic planning initiative led by Chair Patrick Ralston and the executive committee. A fiveyear blueprint to lead the Commission into the next century, the Strategic Plan presents Administration Program objectives in the areas of staff development, financial growth and stability, regional leadership, and a partnership-based institutional infrastructure.

1995 Highlights

Financial Stability and Controlled Growth

A total budget of \$2.05 million, consisting of 21 percent general operating funds and 79 percent restricted funds, financed Commission operations in FY1995.

Fiscal management policies developed by the executive committee paid off, with total assets increasing 41 percent and restricted fund revenues up 51 percent from the previous fiscal year. The Commission's investment strategy was assessed and redirected, and the market value of investments, which rose 11 percent over the previous year, is expected to show further improvement.

The Commission entered FY1996 with a budget of \$2.73 million, a 34 percent increase over FY1995. Restricted fund revenues are projected to increase by 41 percent, and indirect cost recovery by 21 percent.

Return on Investment for Member States

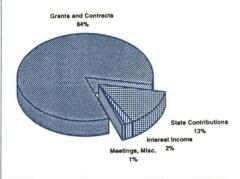
1995 saw an unprecedented level of pass-through funds to member states and their various

governmental units—a level far exceeding state dues payments. More than 60 grants, contracts and memoranda of understanding were executed, firmly establishing the Commission as a grant-giving as well as grant-receiving institution.

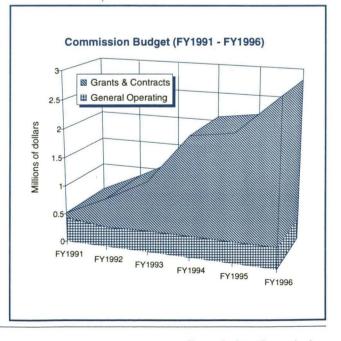
The Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control has 59 active projects. Also,

Revenues —FY1995*		
Grants and Contracts	\$	1,776,171
State Contributions	\$	286,650
Interest Income	\$	40,932
Meetings, Misc.	\$	17,584
Total	\$	2,121,337

* Revenues over expenses are placed in a reserve fund for contingencies and future use.



through the U.S. EPA-supported air emissions inventory work, substantial grants were provided to states for staff and computer equipment. Return on investment was quantified and presented in state-specific reports that accompanied state dues invoices and correspondence to governors and state legislators.



Expenses — FY1995			
Personnel	\$	709,581	
Contract Services	\$	930,990	
Communications	\$	138,934	
Travel	\$	67,145	
Office Operations	\$	129,104	
Program Activities, Misc.	\$	55,249	
Total	\$	2,031,003	



Diverse Revenue Streams

The Commission enjoyed outstanding success in matching member priorities with funding opportunities. During 1995, 22 revenue sources were accessed exclusive of state dues—a 38 percent increase over 1994. Of these sources, at least 17 will continue through or beyond FY1996.

Complementing appropriations received from member states were grants and contracts from the following: Ameritech Foundation; Council of Great Lakes Governors' Biomass Program; Great Lakes Protection Fund; Interiurisdictional Fisheries Act; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications Infrastructure Administration; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 5, Great Lakes National Program Office, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Headquarters); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: International Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mayors' Conference; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Waste Reduction Institute for Training and Research; Erie County Environmental Education Institute; and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Great Lakes Guide

Released at Great Lakes Day in Washington, this first-ever reference guide is a single source for a wealth of information. The centerpiece is the Commission's policy positions statement, covering environmental protection, resource management, transportation, economic development, communications and related areas. The *Great Lakes Guide*, which enjoyed broad distribution in 1995, will be updated annually.

Strategic Plan

A yearlong effort led by Chair Patrick Ralston yielded the Commission's first strategic plan, a blueprint to guide the organization into the 21st century. A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission is comprised of vision and mission statements, program goals, objectives and strategic actions. The entire community of Great Lakes interests contributed to its development, demonstrating the open, inclusive process that has become the hallmark of Commission operations.

Staff Development

Skill enhancement at the staff level was a priority in 1995. Computer upgrades (hardware and software) were accompanied by in-house training on database management, desktop publishing, Internet access and Great Lakes Information Network usage.

Program development responsibilities—including fundraising, project budgeting, personnel hiring and management—were increasingly assumed by program and project managers. Such development paid off in the form of motivated and increasingly experienced project teams.

Selected Accomplishments

Approved a five-year Strategic Plan, featuring five program goals, 24 objectives and 95 strategic actions

Developed a Great Lakes Guide to Policies, Priorities and Programs of the Great Lakes Commission; a ready reference source for member states and constituents

Prepared return on investment analyses to quantify benefits of programs and services to individual member states

Broadened revenue stream to 22 sources exclusive of state dues; restricted fund revenues increased 51 percent and total assets increased 41 percent from the previous year

Provided administrative support to 24 task forces, panels, committees and ad hoc groups, including Commission program committees

Implemented a yearlong 40th anniversary celebration, featuring an organizational retrospective at the Commission's annual meeting in Québec City

A Look to the Future

In 1995, the Great Lakes Commission marked its 40th anniversary in two ways: by celebrating its past and preparing for its future. The challenges will be many. New directions and philosophies in Congress are emerging. Government downsizing and restructuring is pervasive, and relationships are being redefined at the federal/ state, U.S./Canada and public/ private sector levels. The Commission will meet these challenges, thanks to an Administration Program that approaches the new year with unprecedented financial and staff resources, and a Strategic Plan to ensure that member state priorities are targeted.

Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program

Goal

To promote the informed use, development and protection of Great Lakes Basin water, land and other natural resources through regional coordination, policy development, advocacy, data/information management and dissemination, and education and outreach.

Overview

Service and support to member states and clients describe the focus of the Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program in 1995. Projects related to soil erosion and sediment control; emergency planning and response for oil and hazardous materials spills; aquatic nuisance species (ANS) prevention and control: and the Remedial Action Plan process have become ongoing multifaceted programs. Data and information management, regional education programs, partnership and coalition building, and promotion of cooperative agreements and funding opportunities for Great Lakes interests were among the top priorities for staff, as identified in the Strategic Plan. New partnerships were established in several areas including oil spill protection, Great Lakes agriculture, and ANS prevention and control. Working aggressively to bring federal dollars back to the region, the Commission was able to increase funding over FY1995 levels for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control and ANS related activities at a time of significant federal cutbacks to environmental programs throughout the binational region.

1995 Highlights

ANS Prevention and Control

During 1995 the Commission-staffed Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) operated under a new structure, with three committees (information/education, research coordination, and policy and legislation) formed to implement panel priorities. These priorities included enhancing inter-regional communication and coordination, ensuring comprehensive federal legislation, providing a consistent and effective message on prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species, identifying research needs through the development and analysis of a comprehensive research inventory, and maintaining the visibility of aquatic nuisance species as a critical regional and national issue.

A nine-point policy position was developed on ways to strengthen the ANS federal legislation (P.L.101-646) as it undergoes reauthorization.

A workshop held in May, Aquatic Nuisance Species and Coastal Management Programs: Toward a Regional Strategy in the Great Lakes Basin, provided a forum for ANS specialists



Lt. Katherine Weathers, assistant chief of the Marine Port and Environmental Safety Branch of the U.S. Coast Guard, fields questions at the regional ANS workshop. Also shown is Dr. James Carlton, director of maritime studies at Williams College.

and Great Lakes state coastal managers to discuss ANS issues and their merging philosophies.

The primary outcome of the workshop was a comprehensive Model State Management Plan for ANS prevention and control that has since been used by Ohio, Minnesota and Michigan in the development of their state plans.

The panel also drafted and distributed model language directed at boaters, to prevent the spread of zebra mussels; and four editions of ANS Update, a two-page newsletter insert on ANS news and research.

Emergency Preparedness: Oil and Hazardous Materials Spills

Commission staff assisted U.S. EPA Region 5 in updating the area contingency plan, as called for under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. The ACP includes information on environmentally and economically sensitive areas within the Great Lakes Basin. The ACP, along with the Regional Contingency Plan, is now available online via the Great Lakes Information Network.

Staff also helped develop the U.S. EPA Southeastern Michigan Subarea Contingency Plan, the first in a series of more detailed sub-area contingency plans in the basin. Designed to promote more effective planning for and response to spills, the plan covers all or part of eight counties within a watershed in southeastern Michigan.

By year's end, staff began assisting U.S. EPA Region 5 with enhancing the contingency plans for the Milwaukee and Duluth sub-areas through the production of maps that include data such as environmentally sensitive areas, water intakes and potential spill sources.

Staff also developed a special report for the ADVISOR, which brought attention to the issue of spills in the Great Lakes Basin.



Great Lakes Basin Program

In its five-year history, the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control has awarded \$3.7 million for demonstrations and special projects under the competitive grants component of the program. In 1995, 22 projects from all eight Great Lakes states shared more than \$212,000 in available funds.

In keeping with the Strategic Plan, the Basin Program continues to increase community and political awareness, demonstrate successful control practices, and build partnerships that will have a positive, long-term impact.

Under the information and education component, the Commission completed Basin Program fact sheets for environmental groups and Remedial Action Plan communities. In addition, comprehensive Basin Program information, including background on the 59 projects funded to date, is now online via GLIN.

In its five-year history, the program has saved 429,609 tons of soil, 323 tons of phosphorus and 343 tons of nitrogen. More than 130,000 acres are undergoing some form of erosion and sediment control, and program funds have leveraged an additional \$1.47 million from other sources.

The program is supported by U.S. Department of Agriculture funds and administered through a memorandum of understanding with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and U.S. EPA.

Statewide Public Advisory Council

Promoting local leadership for Remedial Action Plans was a prominent theme for the Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC) for Michigan Areas of Concern. For the second year, the Commission supported council activities, including coordination of the SPAC's public involvement demonstration grant program. In 1995, this program provided more than \$20,000 in grants to local non-profit organizations in six AOCs.

Commission staff also organized the SPAC's fifth annual Michigan Citizens' Conference and helped the SPAC prepare a long-term Strategic Plan and Statewide Public Awareness Campaign. SPAC, comprised of citizens representing each of Michigan's 14 AOCs, was established in 1991 to provide advice and input to Michigan's AOC program. Commission support has enhanced interaction between the SPAC and similar groups throughout the basin.

Selected Accomplishments

Awarded grants for 22 projects focusing on soil erosion and sediment control under the federal-state Great Lakes Basin Program. Grants were made to eight states, totaling more than \$212,000

Expanded the Great Lakes Spill Protection Initiative through a partnership with the Emergency Preparedness Task Force, the Council of Great Lakes Governors and the region's major petroleum companies

Coordinated the fifth annual Michigan Citizens' Conference on Great Lakes Arcas of Concern

Convened a spills experts workshop to prioritize state and federal spill preparedness and response needs

Coordinated a regional ANS workshop and developed a comprehensive Model State Management Plan for ANS prevention and control

Secured \$350,000 for the Great Lakes Basin Program, a 40 percent increase over FY1995 levels, via an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

A Look to the Future

Maintaining the highest level of support and services, while creating new partnerships and expanding existing ones, is the goal for the Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program in 1996. Work is expected to commence on a Great Lakes watershed management network and will expand in the area of Great Lakes agriculture. Coalition building, advocacy, information dissemination and outreach activities are planned throughout the year at regional conferences and via the Great Lakes Information Network.

1995 Annual Report Page 9

Transportation and Economic Development Program

Goal

To promote sustainable, resourcebased economic activity and the use, development and maintenance of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system.

Overview

In 1995, the Transportation and Economic Development Program continued its traditional efforts in support of regional economic development and promotion of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system, as emphasized in the Strategic Plan. Land-use issues and, in particular, concerns about the impact of sprawling urban development, have become a major focus for the program, along with commercial navigation concerns. During the year, a new Canadian maritime policy was announced in Ottawa, which promises changes in seaway and port operations. In the United States, significant developments in federal dredging policy will likely be felt at the state and local level. A continuing challenge has been the area of congressional advocacy. Advocacy of Great Lakes shipping and regional economic needs must compete with myriad other congressional issues and policy priorities. Successful advocacy is enhanced by strategies that are practical to implement, carry an array of benefits and have broad support. Congressional advocacy, including testimony and targeted correspondence, is an integral part of the program's mission.

1995 Highlights

Great Lakes Day in Washington

On March 8 the Commis-

sion organized two events in Washington that involved advocacy and information sharing with members of Congress and federal agency representatives.

The centerpiece of this year's effort was a Great Lakes Congressional Breakfast on Capitol Hill, co-sponsored by the Commission and the Northeast-Midwest Institute. The breakfast, a longstanding annual tradition, was expanded beyond its past maritime emphasis and focused on an array of legislative, appropriations and policy priorities of the Great Lakes states. As with past breakfasts, the event gave members of Congress and their staffs an opportunity to exchange ideas with key public and private sector leaders.

Following the breakfast, a Great Lakes issues briefing featured presentations on many issues of priority interest to the Commission, including the importance of maintaining federally funded Great Lakes research. Directors and senior staff from three dozen state, regional and federal Great Lakes agencies and organizations were present to speak with congressional staff.

Brownfields Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection

"Brownfields" and their redevelopment is a major issue in the Great Lakes Basin. The region contains thousands of these former industrial sites where once-thriving manufacturing operations have now become blighted areas of neglect and, in many cases, sources of continuing pollution.

These problem places, particularly in central urban areas within the Great Lakes Basin, have thwarted ef-

forts at redevelopment because of cleanup costs and lingering uncertainty over liability issues. As a result, development migrates to undeveloped, outlying areas known as "greenfields."

In June, the Great Lakes Protection Fund awarded the Commission a planning grant to assess the potential for cooperation and coordination among the Great Lakes states, provinces and major metropolitan areas in undertaking brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection.

As part of the project, more than 30 experts from the eight Great Lakes states, Ontario and Québec gathered in August to discuss the merits of a regional strategy.

After reviewing workshop results, Commission staff designed a follow-up project involving three major tasks: 1) research and identification of case studies; 2) development of policy recommendations for local and state/provincial agencies; and 3) development of a regional brownfields online network. In 1996, staff will be seeking funding support for these initiatives.

Mayors' Conference Secretariat

The International Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mayors' Conference celebrated its eighth year with its annual meeting in June.

Mayors in attendance committed themselves to developing the Great Lakes Circle Tour online via the Great Lakes Information Network, and a "Code of Environmental Ethics" resolution was offered as a logical follow-up for St. Lawrence communities in support of the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin.

The 1995 meeting in Hamilton, Ontario, was the third under the conference's new administrative structure, an incorporated association with a dues-paying membership and an elected board of directors.

The Commission acts as the U.S. coordinator in a contract support role to the conference secretariat, the St. Lawrence Economic Development Council (SODES) based in Québec.

State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC)

Preparation for SOLEC '96 began during the fall of 1995. This major con-

ference, to be held November 6-8, 1996, in Windsor, Ontario, is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Environment Canada.

SOLEC, a biennial event in support of U.S. and Canadian efforts under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, is designed to promote better decisionmaking through improved availability of information on the condition of the living components of the Great Lakes system and the stresses that affect them.

For SOLEC '96 the sponsoring agencies have again invited the Commission to have substantial involvement. Transportation and Economic Development Program staff, along with the Commission's executive director, have been appointed to the conference steering committee and are co-lead authors of a land use paper with Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Soo Lock Funding

The Commission, in cooperation with other Great Lakes maritime interests, devised a successful advocacy strategy for a \$200,000 appropriation to continue planning, engineering and design for a new, large Soo lock.

The Soo Locks complex at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is a vital port of



The 1,000-foot *Stewart J. Cort* passing through the Poe Lock at the Soo. Photo credit: Al Ballert

the Great Lakes transportation system. Since the 19th century more than 8 billion tons of cargo have passed through the locks. This commodity movement, which is now dominated by iron ore, low sulfur, western coal and grain, underpins much of the Great Lakes Basin manufacturing sector.

The Commission and the region's maritime community fully support the need for a second large lock to replace two old, obsolete locks. A new lock would ensure the continued low-cost, energy-efficient movement of commodities and promote growth in the region's economy.

The appropriation, as approved by Congress, will allow completion of a new cost estimate for the lock and support a cost-benefit assessment for the project.

Agricultural Profile

Transportation and Economic Development Program staff prepared an overview section for a draft Great Lakes Basin Agricultural Profile report.

This section focuses on production attributes and other structural characteristics such as acreage trends and farm numbers. Data were derived from the three most recent U.S. and Canadian agriculture censuses.

Selected Accomplishments

Convened a regional workshop in support of a cooperative approach among basin jurisdictions for brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection

Successfully advocated a congressional appropriation to continue Corps of Engineers planning and design for a new Soo lock

Acted as U.S. coordinator for the International Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mayors' Conference

Researched and prepared overview section of Great Lakes Basin Agricultural Profile report

Organized a Washington, D.C., consultative session between federal agency officials and Great Lakes maritime interests as called for in the Declaration of Indiana

Began coordination and research for a SOLEC '96 land use paper

A Look to the Future

The Transportation and Economic Development Program will continue to focus on issues and projects that exemplify the linkage between economy and environment. The SOLEC '96 land use paper, Agricultural Profile report and brownfields redevelopment initiatives are key examples. A dredging forum is planned in conjunction with the Commission's semiannual meeting to address regional issues and strategies to deal with them. Maritime issues advocacy and coordination in 1996 will focus on equitable funding for new confined disposal facilities for dredged material, a Water Resources Development Act provision addressing a revised cost-share formula for a new Soo Lock, and a Seaway Forum planned for late 1996 or early 1997.

Communications and Information Management Program

Goal

To promote informed public policy by developing communications and information management technology and programs for use and application by member states and all basin interests.

Overview

Communication is the key to successfully implementing an ecosystem approach to resource management in the Great Lakes Basin. The Communications and Information Management Program builds bridges between scientists, technical experts, managers, policymakers, private sector interests, and the general public for the good of the Great Lakes and those who live and work within the region. The program's strategic plan for the next five years builds on strengths in 1995: 1) timely, accurate and objective information sharing; 2) a state-of-the-art public information infrastructure; 3) a decision support system for policy research and development; and 4) prompt and efficient publication and promotion of the Commission's policies, reports and products. The program specializes in bringing high technology resources to bear on our collective efforts to address the region's most pressing and complex issues. The program's name was expanded this year to reflect these information management priorities.

1995 Highlights

Regional Emissions Inventory of Toxic Air Contaminants

With Commission support, the states of Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin completed the Southwest Lake Michigan Pilot Study, an inventory of toxic air emissions from area sources in the Chicago, Milwaukee and Gary urban areas.

The successful pilot study, the first multistate inventory of its kind, was a necessary precursor to a full eight-state inventory which began in late 1995. Pilot states used and tested the Regional Air Pollutant Inventory Development System software and Air Toxics Emissions Inventory Protocol, both developed by the project team. Funding was provided by the U.S. EPA and the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

The Southwest Lake Michigan project focused on compiling information on small, typically unregulated sources of toxic air contaminants identified as being potentially harmful to the Great Lakes ecosystem or human health.

These sources include many traditionally unregulated sites with small gas-, coal- or oil-fired boilers; asphalt and concrete plants; industries dealing with primary metals (including zinc, aluminum and iron) or secondary metals (primarily used in the processing of refined metals); cultured marble companies; woodburning stoves and fireplaces; nonroad engines; and generally, any facility with an incinerator.

In late 1995, U.S. EPA Region 5 provided an additional \$900,000 to the Commission to expand the regional inventory effort to include mobile sources of the toxics of concern.

The ADVISOR

Now in its ninth year of publication, the ADVISOR continues to be the Commission's voice in the region,



providing regular updates on Commission policy positions and programs, regional events and binational Great Lakes issues.

In 1995, guest editorials were contributed by regional leaders including Govs. Tommy Thompson (WI) and John Engler (MI). Indepth articles focused on oil spill prevention and response, toxic air emissions, land use and the *Ecosystem Charter's* one-year year anniversary.

The newsletter's no-cost policy and online version available via GLIN underscore the Commission's dedication to informing and advising the region's policymakers, opinion leaders and citizens in general.

Great Lakes Information Clearinghouse

Commission staff respond to hundreds of inquiries from researchers, students, educators, reporters and interested citizens on a myriad of issues relating to the Great Lakes. This year saw a marked increase in the number of inquiries received via GLIN, al-

lowing staff to quickly respond via e-mail. Inquiries from outside North America hit an all-time high in 1995, with the Internet opening up the Commission's work to researchers and policymakers from around the world. Hard copies of Commission and other Great Lakes-related materials were still in demand; staff collected and mailed brochures, reports, photographs, statistics and more from around the region.

Great Lakes Information Network

The Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) is a cooperative venture of diverse Great Lakes agencies and organizations in the public and private sectors. The Commission encourages GLIN partners to ensure access to data and information needed for decisionmaking purposes, as well as adhere to common research protocols and standards.

In 1995, GLIN moved from concept to application, with completion of a GLIN pilot project funded by the Ameritech Foundation. Thanks to that grant, the hard work of GLIN partners, and subsequent grants from the U.S. government, the cornerstone of electronic connectivity is in place, as well as the institutional infrastructure needed to operate and maintain it.

New partners continued to join this Internet-based network, and organizations throughout the world looked to GLIN as a model for online regional cooperation. GLIN demonstrations were a popular highlight at dozens of locations across the region, including the IJC's biennial meeting in Duluth, Minn.

By October, transactions on the GLIN core server topped 100,000 per month. More important than volume, however, was the place GLIN gained on the desks of decision-makers. With federal program and appro-

priation news changing every day, glin-announce@great-lakes.net, the popular regional list server, became the place for the region to learn of the latest developments on Capitol Hill.

In late 1995, the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office awarded the Commission a \$189,000 grant to continue GLIN development.

In keeping with the Commission's strategic vision, GLIN has become a decision-support tool for those who make, implement or otherwise influence public policy in the region.

1995 Selected Publications

Great Lakes Commission staff members were primary or contributing authors of numerous publications, reports, papers and articles including, among many others

- A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission
- Great Lakes Guide: Policies, Priorities and Programs of the Great Lakes Commission, 1995
- The Southwest Lake Michigan Pilot Study Final Report: Developing an Inventory of Toxic Air Emissions from Area Sources in the Chicago, Milwaukee and Gary Urban Areas, 1993
- From Concept to Application: A Great Lakes Information Network for Economic and Environmental Decisionmaking (Pilot Project Final Report)
- A Model Comprehensive State Management Plan for the Prevention and Control of Aquatic Nuisance Species
- Great Lakes Information Network Tour Guide
- Annual Report of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
- A new GLIN brochure

Also, in honor of the Commission's 40th anniversary, staff designed a commemorative print of an early map of the Great Lakes (see photo on back cover).

Selected Accomplishments

Completed first multistate toxic air emissions inventory

GLIN hailed as a model for regional information sharing by the Organization of American States and United Nations

Received \$900,000 for enhancement of regional toxic air emissions project

Secured an additional \$224,000 in GLIN funding

Provided RAPIDS core data model to state air agencies for use in data management efforts, saving major development costs for states

Publicized Commission policy positions and responded to hundreds of inquiries and information requests

A Look to the Future

The Commission will continue to promote informed public policy by coordinating and contributing to development of databases, online geograpic information systems and other applications that inform the region in a timely, accurate and cost-efficient manner. Planning for an online regional Geographic Information System began in late 1995 and will continue. In April 1996, the second regional GLIN conference will unite diverse interests to outline needs and plan the future of online information sharing. In the fall, GLIN will play a key role at the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference. The region's air agencies will complete the first regional toxic air emissions inventory in late 1996 and move toward incorporating a companion inventory for mobile sources.

Regional Coordination Program

Goal

To strengthen the collective Great Lakes management effort by providing regional leadership, generating consensus on regional priorities among diverse interests and building partnerships for decisive regional action.

Overview

The Great Lakes Commission ardently supports and pursues partnership-based research, policy development and advocacy efforts, as called for in the Strategic Plan. It recognizes that such partnerships, in this time of increasing complexity and uncertainty, are more than marriages of convenience; they are marriages of necessity. Throughout 1995, the Commission creatively forged coalitions of like-minded interests to pool institutional resources, secure "leading edge" expertise and mount a formidable campaign to advance the region's legislative, program, policy and appropriations priorities. The Commission also distinguished itself as a catalyst and convener that promotes and profiles points of consensus rather than the differences—between those who make or influence public policy in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. The resounding success of a grand experiment in regional coordination, the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin, exemplified this role. This, and many other examples, are highlighted in this summary.

1995 Highlights

Outreach Program Adds National, International Focus

An aggressive outreach program was

maintained throughout 1995, with Commission staff sponsoring, speaking at or otherwise participating in well over 100 events associated with member state priorities.

In a notable departure from years past, this outreach was not largely confined to basin boundaries or Washington, D.C. Commission expertise was sought by many forums, including the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (U.S./Mexico/Canada), the Organi-

zation of American States and the United Nations. Thanks to the Ecosystem Charter and its global exposure via the Internet-based Great Lakes Information Network, the Commission further benefited—and benefited from—emerging relationships with multijurisdictional institutions worldwide.

40th Anniversary Celebration

The Great Lakes Commission took a look back and a step forward in celebrating its 40th anniversary in 1995.

With a Québec City location symbolizing the Commission's binational focus, more than 125 members, Observers and other friends took part in three days of policy deliberations and festivities to mark the occasion.

Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley was on hand to accept a Lifetime Achievement Award as the Commission's longest serving delegate. A 40-year retrospective, a special presentation highlighting four decades of challenges and accomplishments, was appropriately followed by the public release of a strategic plan to lead the Commission into the 21st century.



Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley (center) flanked by Commission Chair Patrick Ralston (left) and Vice Chair Don Vonnahme at the Commission's annual meeting in Québec City. Kelley was honored with the Commission's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his 33 years as a member and Michigan Delegation chair.

Congressional Advocacy Strategy

An intensive collaborative effort of members and Observers yielded a policy position of unprecedented detail, outlining the Commission's legislative and appropriations priorities for the 104th Congress. The statement provided the basis for a targeted communications strategy involving issue-specific letters, personal communications and testimony.

Coupled with the capable leadership and influence of its many partners, the Commission worked diligently to safeguard and maintain critical federally funded research and management programs.

An Expanding Commission Family

Almost 400 individuals, at least half of them state personnel, were part of the Commission's "extended family"

in 1995. The Commission maintained 24 task forces, panels and committees on various issues. Representation was geographically broad and diverse, reflecting viewpoints from varied Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin interests.

Contributing to the Collective Effort

Consistent with their commitment to serve and assist other Great Lakes-St. Lawrence agencies and organizations, Commission officers and staff dedicated time and expertise to putting the concept of partnership into practice.

Staff served on the International Joint Commission's Science Advisory Board and on the boards or committees of the Great Lakes Program at SUNY-Buffalo, Michigan and Illinois/Indiana Sea Gant Programs, Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund, Michigan section of the American Water Resources Association, Binational Great Lakes Climate Change Program, State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference, Michigan State University's Institute for Water Research, National Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Northeast-Midwest Institute's Great Lakes Roundtable series, and many, many others.

Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin

In the 12 months following its October 1994 release, support for the charter continued to gain momentum, with signatories topping the 160 mark by the end of 1995.

A one-year anniversary assessment found dozens of examples—both regionally and globally—of how signatories have used the charter for a wide range of information/education, coordination and advocacy activities, from rewriting mission statements to developing new strategic plans based on charter principles.

Initially supported by the Joyce Foundation, *Ecosystem Charter* implementation is an ongoing Commission activity. The charter will be updated over time to reflect the latest developments in adopting an ecosystem approach to management, and to expand its growing list of signatories.



tection Fund support, the Great Lakes Commission is developing an agricultural profile for the basin in cooperation with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Michigan State University, the University of Guelph and the World Wildlife Fund.

The Commission laid the groundwork for an Agriculture Summit, to be held April 23-24, 1996, at Michigan State University. The summit will focus on the economic and environmental implications of agriculture in the Great Lakes Basin, and yield research and policy recommendations.

Bringing the Great Lakes Into the Classroom

Recognizing the importance of an informed citizenry, the Commission has long supported efforts to promote education on Great Lakes issues.

To further this goal, Commission staff completed a detailed implementation plan for a proposed Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Environmental Education Clearinghouse and Teacher Training Center.

Led by the Frie County Environmental Education Institute, of Buffalo, N.Y., and supported by the Great Lakes Protection Fund, the study identified numerous partnership opportunities for the Great Lakes Commission.

Selected Accomplishments

Initiated and aggressively pursued a congressional advocacy strategy

Introduced Commission research findings and policy recommendations to regional, national and international audiences via telecommunications technology and sponsorship of/participation at more than 100 events

Through 24 committees, task forces and panels, brought the expertise of more than 400 individuals, including 200 state personnel, to bear on member state priorities

Secured more than 160 signatories to the Ecosystem Charter, and documented its use regionally and internationally as an information/ education, coordination and advocacy tool

Celebrated 40 years of service and released a strategic plan, providing guidance into the 21st century

A Look to the Future

Great Lakes states will be challenged on all fronts in 1996—by changing congressional priorities, government restructuring, an evolving federal/state relationship, the globalization of environmental and economic issues, and the increasing challenge of translating into action principles of sustainable development and an ecosystem approach to management. The Commission will provide a constant in this sea of change through key events, coordinative documents, and discrete projects. In 1996, member state priorities will be further addressed with new initiatives to highlight land use/water quality linkages, inter-regional cooperation and coordination, and further development of an international profile for products and services.

-A 40-year retrospective-



he year 1995 marked the 40th anniversary of the Great Lakes Commission, established in 1955 via state and federal law through the Great Lakes Basin Compact. In celebration of this milestone, we'd like to take a step back in time and outline how and why the Commission was founded and the issues that have faced the Great Lakes Basin community over the last four decades.

In the 1950s, as plans for the St. Lawrence Seaway progressed and development of Great Lakes' resources accelerated, the need for an interstate agreement for use and conservation of the waters of the Great Lakes became increas-

ingly apparent. At the time, no regional institution existed to provide ecosystembased coordination, policy development and advocacy services for the eight Great Lakes states.

During this period, several of the Great Lakes states discussed this unmet need at Midwestern District meetings of the Council of State Governments. Because the district included some Great Lakes states and excluded others, a desire was expressed to explore alternate coordinative mechanisms. Michigan led the effort, developing the interstate compact idea and enacting legislation in 1954 that authorized the governor to enter into a compact with the other Great Lakes states and provinces.

The Compact envisioned a regional organization with broad fact-finding and investigatory powers. The organization, to be called the Great Lakes Commission, would have the power to consider all problems relating to the water and land resources of the Great Lakes and to recommend programs and policies to U.S. and Canadian federal, state and provincial governments.

The Compact became effective on July 1, 1955, upon ratification by legislatures in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Pennsylvania gave its approval in 1956, followed by New York in 1960 and Ohio in 1963.

As the Commission sought Compact ratification in all the Great Lakes states, an effort also was launched to obtain U.S. congressional recognition via consent legislation. Under the U.S. Constitution, congressional approval is required for interstate compacts where a formal mechanism to engage in international relations is involved. (As enacted in the states, the Compact provided for full provincial membership.)

The consent process moved forward slowly; the U.S. departments of State and Justice voiced their opposition, questioning the desirability of a new and unique organization that established a formal state/provincial relationship outside of traditional, federally based U.S.-Canadian procedures. The consent legislation was finally enacted into law on July 24, 1968, after the provincial membership provisions present in the state legislation were set aside.

In recent years, the Commission has embraced a true binational, ecosystem-based focus, thanks to an Observer program involving provincial governments, U.S. and Canadian federal agencies, regional organizations and tribal representation. The inclusive nature of its programs, priority-setting and advocacy initiatives is a centerpiece of the collective Commission effort.

Throughout the last four decades, the Great Lakes Commission has succeeded in effecting solutions, influencing public policy and providing substantive support for a wide variety of Great Lakes programs. In the years ahead, as the Compact first mandated in 1955, the Commission will continue "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin."

1950s · 1960s · 1970s · 1980s · 1990s

Following passage of the *Great Lakes Basin Compact* in 1955, the Great Lakes Commission held its first meeting on Dec. 12 of that same year in Chicago. The states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin were members, with Ohio, Pennsylvania and the Canadian government acting in an Observer capacity.

Michigan Attorney General Thomas Kavanagh was elected Commission chair, and Marvin Fast became the first executive director. Offices were established on the University of Chicago campus and later moved to the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbon.

During the remainder of the decade, the Commission continued to seek Compact ratification in all Great Lakes states, and an effort was launched to obtain U.S. congressional recognition via consent legislation. The Commission also lent its support to amendments to the federal Water Pollution Control Act, implementation of a U.S.-Canada convention on Great Lakes fisheries, binational supervision of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence pilotage, port authority legislation and development, and lake level studies by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

This photo depicts vessels at a pre-modern seaway lock in 1957. After decades of negotiation and debate, the U.S. Congress passed legislation in 1954 to jointly build with Canada a new seaway lock sys-

tem and accompanying hydroelectric project. Touted as the world's largest engineering project to date, more than 210 million cubic



yards of earth were removed during excavation work. The modern St. Lawrence Seaway, stretching more than 3,200 kilometers from the lakehead ports to the Atlantic, was dedicated June 26, 1959. Photo credit: Al Ballert



The Mackinac Bridge, one of the world's most beautiful bridges, is shown here under construction in 1957. Prior to its completion, a million people were crossing the Mackinac Straits on ferries every year. At five miles in length, it is the longest suspension bridge in the world. Photo credit: Al Ballert

Lampricides (then called larvicides) were first used to control growing populations of sea lamprey, shown here attached to a trout. Lampreys first appeared in Lake Erie



in
1921,
arriving
via the
Welland
Canal,
and
rapidly
colonized all
of the

upper Great Lakes, with especially large infestations in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Photo credit: Great Lakes Fishery Commission



Here is the famous Edmund Fitzgerald on the Detroit River in 1973. The Fitzgerald was launched in Detroit in 1958 and, at the time, was the largest vessel built for Great Lakes operations. Its first cargo, 20,000 tons of taconite pellets was loaded at Silver Bay, Minn. The freighter went down Nov. 10, 1975, in Lake Superior with all 29 crewmen. Photo credit: Al Ballert

1950s • **1960s** • 1970s • 1980s • 1990s

The 1960s was a decade of ups and downs in the Great Lakes. Commercial fishing catches dropped dramatically, and alewife populations boomed. Trout and salmon stocking was increased. Water levels dropped to record lows, while concern over water quality began to rise.

In 1969, the Poe Lock at the Soo was completed. With the largest capacity of the four locks, it took six years to build and is the only lock ever constructed between two operating locks.

The Commission amended its bylaws to broaden its scope to include waterbased recreation, shoreline use, wildlife and U.S.-Canada relations. New York officially joined the Commission in 1960, followed by Ohio in 1963. Col. Leonard Goodsel was appointed executive director in 1965.

After a long-fought battle, President Lyndon Johnson signed the congressional consent legislation on July 24, 1968.

In the years to follow, Commission work centered on controlling sewage and waste disposal from vessels, promoting the creation of federal river basin commissions, participating in lake level and other IJC reference studies, and focusing congressional attention on water quality and quantity issues. The Commission also affirmed its opposition to seaway tolls on the U.S. side and advocated interstate consistency in water quality standards.

Record low water levels were recorded throughout the Great Lakes system in the mid-1960s, with implica-



tions for waterbased recreation, commerce, wildlife habitat and coastal processes. Levels began to rise in the late 1960s, reaching all-time highs in the mid-1980s.



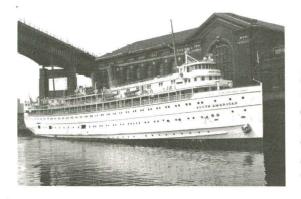


Water quality and quantity were leading public policy issues in the 1960s. A 1967 Supreme Court decree set a limit on the Lake Michigan diversion at Chicago (shown above). Photo credits (top to bottom): Al Ballert, David

> Staats, Great Lakes Basin Commission

As predator fish declined, the alewife, a nonindigenous forage fish, multiplied and then died off in the millions in the mid-1960s. Here, dead alewives litter a Lake Michigan shoreline. Photo credit: Michigan Department of Natural Resources





Here is one of the most recognizable Great Lakes cruise ships, the South American, at Buffalo, N.Y., in 1963. This vessel and her sister ship, the North American, were operated by the Georgian Bay Line from 1913 to 1967 when both ships were retired from service. The growing popularity of travel by car, coupled with escalating insurance costs and fire safety requirements, combined to seal their fates. Photo credit: Al Ballert

1950s • 1960s • **1970s** • 1980s • 1990s

Clean Water Act implementation, point and nonpoint source pollution and extending the Great Lakes shipping season were among the many issues of interest to the Commission in the 1970s.

The Commission voiced opposition to the Talmadge Amendment, which would reallocate federal construction grant funds, and urged uniform standards for commercial and recreational watercraft regarding the designation of "no discharge" waters. Debate continued over lake levels and what is considered the "ordinary" high water mark.

The Commission celebrated its 20th anniversary with a commitment to pursue provincial involvement, the result of a U.S./Canadian joint session at the 1975 semiannual meeting in Toronto. James Fish was appointed executive director, following the death of Col. Goodsel in 1977.

Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination of Great Lakes fish prompted the Commission to urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ban the production and use of PCBs. The Commission also

called for substantial federal investments in municipal sewage treatment plant construction, as pollution problems led to periodic beach closings in many basin locations. The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, signed in 1972 and revised in 1978, committed Canada and the United States to specific actions to protect and enhance water quality. Photo credit: Al Ballert



The Great Lakes Commission celebrated 20 years of service in 1975. Shown here is a reception held on board the Robinson Bay, a Seaway Development Corporation vessel at Massena, N.Y. Photo credit: Al Ballert



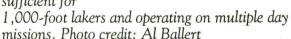
Great Lakes Basin experienced above average precipitation in 13 of the years between 1970 and 1985, which contributed to the record high water levels of 1986. Photo credits:

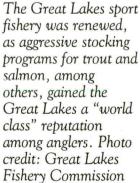
Great Lakes Basin Commission



The Mackinaw, the flagship of the U.S. Coast Guard's regional icebreaking fleet, is shown here escorting a vessel through Lake St. Clair into the

St. Clair River. The 290-foot icebreaker is the only Great Lakes-stationed U.S. Coast Guard vessel capable of breaking heavy ice to establish a track sufficient for







1950s • 1960s • 1970s • **1980s** • 1990s

Great Lakes diversion and consumptive use, soil erosion and sedimentation, and dredging were just some of the issues that topped the Commission agenda in the 1980s. A second large lock was proposed for the Soo, and tremendous growth was seen in international trade, primarily in the automobile, steel and grain markets.

The Commission's fourth executive director, Michael Donahue, was appointed in 1987, promptly initiating a new organizational structure by establishing two program areas: natural resources management, and transportation and economic development. He also established an Observer program for provinces, U.S. and Canadian governments, regional organizations and tribal authorities, and began to secure outside grants and contracts to expand program activities.

Development of the Great Lakes Circle Tour, Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database and a Statistical Profile of the Regional Economy (in collaboration with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago) were among the Commission's many achievements.

In addition to support for implementation of the Coastal Zone Management Act and a seaway construction debt elimination plan, the Commission helped establish the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Mayors' Conference, which provides mayors and representatives of 650 waterfront communities a forum for discussion and cooperation.

The governors of the Great Lakes states declared their shared intention to manage and protect the water re-

sources of the Great Lakes Basin by signing the Great Lakes Toxic Substances Control Agreement in 1986. Toxic contaminants enter the Great Lakes Basin through a variety of pathways including direct industrial discharges and nonpoint sources, such as atmospheric deposition.





Experts ranked the 1988 drought as one of the three worst in U.S. history. It caught the Great Lakes region by surprise, causing millions

of dollars in losses and damages to agriculture, recreation and other sectors of the economy.



The Great Lakes
Circle Tour, a
6,500-mile designated scenic road
system around the
Great Lakes, was established by the states
and provinces under
the leadership of the
Great Lakes
Commission. The
natural beauty of the
Great Lakes shore,

coupled with good highway access and proximity of population centers, have promoted recreation and tourism-related travel in the region. Shown here is the Chicago skyline on Lake Michigan, just one stop on the tour. Photo credit: Wm. Recktenald, Chicago Department of Tourism



Zebra mussels invaded the Great Lakes, clogging water-intake systems of power plants, municipal water supply facilities, and the cooling systems of boat engines. The financial costs of this invasion are staggering, with municipalities, industry and Great Lakes recreation suffering tens of millions of dollars in damage annually. Zebra mussels multiply rapidly and attach themselves to an array of surfaces, including native mussels, as shown here. Photo credit: Detroit Edison

1950s • 1960s • 1970s • 1980s • **1990s**

The current decade has brought many innovations to Great Lakes Basin management, thanks in part to the ongoing efforts of the Great Lakes Commission. The Internet-based Great Lakes Information Network offers untold potential as a decision-support tool.

A partnership-based approach and a binational focus has added new dimensions to Commission programs. Innovative projects are moving concepts—like sustainable development and the ecosystem approach—from theory to application. And regional initiatives of the 1990s, such as the Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin and the Declaration of Indiana maritime agreement, offer a framework for a new era of ecosystem-based policy development and collaboration.

Over its 40-year history, the Commission's greatest asset has been its members, the men and women who have reached across political boundaries, contributing their time and expertise for the common good.

The success of the past year, and the promise of future years, lies largely in the hands of state delegation members and, in particular, the Commission's Executive Committee.

Meet these leaders, who will guide the Commission toward the 21st century.



Controlling soil erosion and sedimentation is a critical factor in protecting the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin. The Commission's

Great Lakes Basin Program is a model for the 1990s: a federal/state partnership with local implementation and quantifiable environmental and economic benefits. The erosion shown here is caused by vertical farming and poor crop rotation. Photo credit: U.S. Department of Agriculture



The 1990s are characterized by fundamental shifts in federal/state relations, as well as government restructuring and downsizing. The Laurentian, a University of Michigan research vessel, shown here is one component of a vital federal/state/university partnership for Great Lakes research. Photo credit: University of Michigan

1995 Executive Committee



Chair
Patrick R. Ralston

Director, Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Member since 1989.



Irene B. Brooks

Special Assistant to the Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection. Member since 1995.



Frank L. Kudrna

Governor's Appointee. President, Kudrna & Associates. Member since 1978.



Vice Chair Donald R. Vonnahme

Director, Office of Water Resources, Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Member since 1983.



Hon. Thomas E. Huntley

Minnesota State Representative. Member since 1993.



Nathaniel E. Robinson

Administrator, Division of Energy and Intergovernmental Relations, Wisconsin Department of Administration. Member since 1992.



Donald C. Anderson

Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Member since 1995.



Hon. Frank J. Kelley

Michigan Attorney General. Member since 1961.



Michael D. Zagata

Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Member since 1995.

1995 Annual Report

Commission Staff



Front (l. to r.): Al Ballert, Carol Ratza, Tom Crane, Michael Donahue, Cappy Bilakos, Steve Thorp. Row 2: Lisa Rives, Christine Manninen, Jim Nicita, Dulcey Simpkins, Victoria Pebbles, Celeste Whiting, Rita Straith, Marilyn Ratliff. Row 3. Lori Reynolds, Paula McIntyre, Matt Doss, Mike Conley, Laura Beer, Kathe Glassner-Shwayder. Not pictured: Bonnie Bouman, Mike Hyslop, Elizabeth Krug, Matt Mistor.

Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D., Executive Director

Donahue is the Commission's chief executive officer, with responsibilities in the areas of administration, program development and oversight, and federal/congressional and state relations. Appointed in 1987, he previously held planning and management positions with The Center for the Great Lakes (director, U.S. office) and the Great Lakes Basin Commission (state liaison). Donahue is an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan and co-chair of the Canada-U.S. Inter-university Seminar on the Great Lakes. He has authored more than 100 professional papers, journal articles and book chapters on resource policy and institutional design and analysis issues. He currently serves as U.S. chair of the Science Advisory Board of the International Joint Commission, and has been a member of the board of directors of more than a dozen regional organizations and associations. Donahue holds a doctorate in urban, technological and environmental planning from the University of Michigan. (mdonahue@glc.org)

Program Managers

Thomas R. Crane Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Crane joined the Commission in 1986 and has more than 13 years of Great Lakes research/policy experience. Previous work includes positions with the Great Lakes Basin Commission, NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory and four years of NGO experience in Virginia and Missouri. He is involved with several professional associations, including the American Water Resources Association, of which he serves on the board of the state section. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan. (tcrane@glc.org)

Carol A. Ratza Communications and Information Management, GLIN Director

Ratza has been with the Commission since 1986. In addition to overseeing all communications and public relations functions of the Commission, Ratza manages two projects that establish the region as a leader in using the latest in computer networking and database technology: the Regional Toxic Air Emissions Inventory project and the Great Lakes Information Network. She has both a master's degree in public administration and a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Michigan. (cratza@glc.org)

Stephen J. Thorp

Transportation and Economic Development

Since 1982, Thorp has been responsible for transportation and economic issues research and policy analysis. Previously, he was a transportation planner with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and also held positions in regional and city planning. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Minnesota. Thorp is a member of the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund Technical Advisory Board. (sthorp@glc.org)

Project Managers

Laura Beer, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Beer is responsible for the contingency planning work of the Commission, focusing primarily on emergency preparedness and response to oil and hazardous materials spills in the Great Lakes Basin. She has a bachelor's degree in resource development from Michigan State University. (lbeer@glc.org)

Kathe Glassner-Shwayder, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Glassner-Shwayder provides staff support to the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, with a focus on the panel's information/education program. Her previous work includes positions as a Sea Grant extension agent, secondary science teacher and naturalist for the National Park Service. Glassner-Shwayder has a master's degree in water resources management from the University of Wisconsin and a bachelor's degree in biology from Oberlin College. (shwayder@glc.org)

Paula D. McIntyre, Communications and Information Management

McIntyre is responsible for the overall design and content of the Great Lakes Information Network, working closely with partners to develop regional solutions to information needs. She also serves as managing editor of the ADVISOR, in addition to managing other communications services. She has a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan. (mcintyre@glc.org)

Lori Reynolds, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Reynolds is a project team member for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, and provides staff support for the the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species and the Michigan Statewide Public Advisory Council. Reynolds comes to the Commission from Ontario, Canada, where she worked with Environment Canada, Great Lakes Environment Office. She has a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from the University of Waterloo. (Ireynold@glc.org)

Program Specialists

Bonnie Bouman, Communications and Information Management

Bouman was responsible for running the Great Lakes Information Clearinghouse and providing support to the Great Lakes Information Network until leaving the Commission in December. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

Mike Conley, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Conley is the Commission's Geographic Information Systems (GIS), cartography and technical data collection specialist, providing GIS, mapping and data management support for the emergency preparedness, contingency planning and regional toxic air emissions projects. Previously a GIS specialist at the Planning and Zoning Center in Lansing, Mich., he holds master's and bachelor's degrees in geography from Michigan State University. (mconley@glc.org)

Matthew Doss, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Doss supports the Statewide Public Advisory Council for Michigan's Areas of Concern Program, the regional toxic air emissions inventory and the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species. Previously, Doss worked for a member of Congress in Washington, D.C., and for a private environmental consulting firm in San Francisco. He has a bachelor's degree in political science and history from Kalamazoo College. (mdoss@glc.org)

Mike D. Hyslop, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Hyslop was responsible for the contingency planning project's computer mapping component and GLIN support until leaving the Commission in March to take a job as a GIS analyst at Michigan Technological University's School of Forestry.

Christine Manninen, Communications and Information Management

Manninen is in charge of producing the Commission's newsletter, the *ADVISOR*. Prior to joining the Commission, Manninen worked in corporate communications at Consumers Power Company. She has a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Michigan Technological University and will earn a master's in journalism from Michigan State University in 1996. (manninen@glc.org)

James J. Nicita, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Nicita works on the Agricultural Profile and the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control projects. Previously, he held positions at the Office of the Washtenaw County (Michigan) Drain Commissioner and the University of Michigan, where he helped design a Great Lakes ecosystems framework policy exercise for the International Joint Commission. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California-Berkeley and a master's in urban planning from the University of Michigan. (inicita@glc.org)

Victoria Pebbles, Regional Coordination

Pebbles assists in regional coordination efforts, including continued support for the *Ecosystem Charter, c*ongressional liaison activities and brownfields-related projects. Her experience includes positions with several congressional offices, the U.S. EPA and the Coastal States Organization. She holds a master's degree in natural resources from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's in environmental studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz. (pebbles@glc.org)

Lisa E. Rives, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Rives assists in the collection, mapping and management of economically and environmentally sensitive data as related to emergency preparedness and response to oil and hazardous materials spills in the basin. She has a bachelor's degree in resource ecology and management from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment. (Irives@glc.org)

Director of Research, Emeritus

Albert G. Ballert, Ph.D.

Ballert joined the Commission in 1956, a few months after its formation. He authors the *Great Lakes Research Checklist*, a bibliography of current Great Lakes-related publications. Other research activities include assembling data and reporting on Great Lakes overseas vessel traffic and ports of call, and the traffic flow of coal, iron ore and grain on the Great Lakes. His files include current data on Great Lakes water levels and precipitation. Ballert received a doctorate from the University of Chicago and a master's from Syracuse University, both in geography. (aballert@glc.org)

Administrative Staff

Cappy Bilakos, Financial Officer

Bilakos handles banking transactions, payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable, financial reports for general operating funds and outside grants and contracts, audit, travel and meeting arrangements, and staff benefits. She has served in various positions with the Commission, drawing on an extensive background in private business management. She has a bachelor of science degree. (cbilakos@glc.org)

Marilyn Ratliff, Database Administrator

Ratliff oversees and manages the Commission's databases, configuring them for the greatest possible flexibility and accuracy. She taught school for several years, and held various administrative and training positions prior to joining the Commission in 1990. She has two bachelor's degrees, one in music and one in secondary education. (mratliff@glc.org)

Rita J. Straith, Support Services Manager

Straith serves as the officer manager, assists with project production, and oversees support service staff and tasks. She previously served as an administrative secretary, managing a staff of five in an educational setting, and has spent several years in management in private business. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in human resources. (rstraith@glc.org)

Celeste Ellis Whiting, Administrative Assistant

Whiting provides comprehensive office support to Commission staff and assists in the design and population of GLIN. She has held positions as a legal librarian, reporter and publicity coordinator. Whiting has a master's degree in library and information science and a bachelor's degree in music history from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. (cwhite@glc.org)

Research Associates

Elizabeth Krug, Regional Coordination

Krug helped write the 1995 ANS annual report during a fall internship with the Commission. She is a senior in resource management at the University of Michigan.

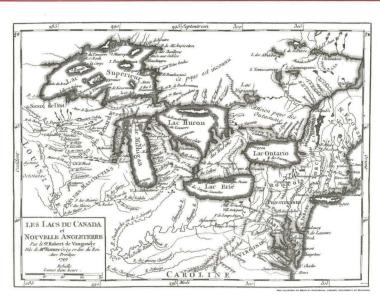
Matt Mistor, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Mistor did field work over the summer for the area contingency planning project. He has a bachelor's degree in resource development from Michigan State University and plans to pursue a master's in urban planning at Ohio State University.

Dulcey Simpkins, Resource Management and Environmental Quality

Simpkins, a 1995 Sussman grant recipient, is working with the Emergency Preparedness Task Force to review state preparedness and response programs, and develop recommendations regarding state needs and priorities. She holds a master's degree from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment and is currently pursuing a doctorate at U-M in political science. (dlciltr@umich.edu)

Commemorative maps available



GREAT LAKES COMMISSION

Established "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin."

1955 • Celebrating 40 Years of Service • 1995

Great Lakes Commission members, Observers and partners have been presented with a commemorative map (shown at left) in honor of the Commission's 40th anniversary.

The original hand-drawn map, Les Lacs du Canada et Nouvelle Angleterre (The Lakes of Canada and New England), is held in the archives of the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. The map was created in 1749 by Gilles Robert de Vaugondy.

Additional copies of the print are available for \$15 (postage paid). Quantities are limited. To order, contact the Commission at 313-665-9135; glc@great-lakes.net.

Photo credits from cover: (Clockwise from upper left) Split Rock Lighthouse, Jerry Bielicki; Soo Locks, Al Ballert; Chimney bluffs, New York Department of Commerce; Toronto, Ontario Ministry of Transport; Chicago skyline, Wm. Recktenald, Chicago Department of Tourism.



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GREAT LAKES COMMISSION SEMI ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 1996

SUMMARY BRIEF ON

THE NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

The National Sea Grant College Program is a nationwide network of 29 Sea Grant colleges and institutions with over 300 participating universities and organizations in coastal and Great Lakes States. Sea Grant was established by an act of Congress in 1966 to provide for better understanding and utilization of ocean and Great Lakes resources and environments through programs based in our nation's universities. Each year Sea Grant addresses marine science and management issues of local, regional and national importance by drawing on the talents of over 3,000 scientists, engineers, educators, students and outreach experts nationwide.

Sea Grant has been virtually the only source of funding in the United States for activities in marine policy, and has been a major contributor for the fields of marine aquaculture, coastal and estuarine research, marine fisheries management, seafood safety, marine biotechnology, marine engineering, and marine technology development. Sea Grant combines research, education and advisory services into coherent, integrated approaches for the solution of coastal environmental and commercial problems. It has supported students at all levels of the educational system and has been a major factor in educating a significant portion of marine and Great Lakes scientists who now hold research and policy positions across the United States. Sea Grant supports a unique mechanism for assessing user needs through its local marine advisory service network.

Sea Grant's focus is the sustainable development of the nation's coastal and Great Lakes regions and their resources. To achieve this objective, Sea Grant conducts programs in commercial fisheries, aquaculture, coastal recreation and tourism, biotechnology, seafood safety, coastal process and hazard reduction, ocean engineering and environment quality. Sea Grant's programs are interdisciplinary, involving the natural and social sciences as well as education and outreach. Sea Grant is housed administratively in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) an agency of the Department of Commerce.

FUNDING

SEA GRANT BUDGET (\$MILLIONS)

FY93	<u>FY94</u>	<u>FY95</u>	<u>FY96</u>
45.0	44.1	54.3	53.3

The budget numbers include the Sea Grant base program and specific congressional appropriations for studies such as nonindigenous species, oyster disease, and the National Coastal Resource Research and Development Institute.

UNIVERSITY INVOLVEMENT AND ROLE

Sea Grant is a university program. Except for a small staff in the federal office, major participants in Sea Grant are from colleges and universities. There is usually one Sea Grant college in each coastal or Great Lakes state.

SEA GRANT'S GREAT LAKES PROGRAMS

NOAA maintains six Sea Grant institutional programs in Great Lakes states. These include Indiana/Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin. The federal outlay for maintaining the core programs at these institutions is about \$5.3 million. Not included in these figures are special research funds for specific projects such as nonindigenous

species and state matching funds. The Sea Grant act requires that a state match at least one third of the federal allocation. About 15% of the total annual allocation for Sea Grant programmatic funding then is expended in the Great Lakes region. Generally 50% or more of that allocation is invested in research initiatives directed toward local problems and priorities.

CURRENT INITIATIVES IN THE GREAT LAKES

Over the years Sea Grant has invested millions of dollars in literally hundreds of educational, economic development, research and outreach activities directed toward Great Lakes issues. To do justice to this investment is beyond the scope of this brief. You are directed to the Sea Grant College in each individual state for an overview of their programs.

There are listed below a number of projects and current initiatives that will give you only a sense of Sea Grant's many and varied contributions to sustainable utilization of Great Lakes resources:

- 1) bacterial and viral contamination in lake waters of northwest Indiana.
- 2) market research for yellow perch aquaculture.
- 3) potential impacts of the introduced ruffe fish on benthic and pelagic ecosystems in the Great Lakes.
- 4) zebra mussel projects:
 - a) conference entitled, "Zebra mussels: lessons learned in the Great Lakes"
- b) zebra mussel outreach program: a continuing program of the Great Lakes Sea Grant network
 - c) use of GIS systems to model spread of zebra mussels
- 5) development of a heat flux sensor for Great Lakes climate prediction
- 6) Sixth International Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference
- 7) studies of olfaction in sea lamprey, a potential mechanism for control
- 8) PCB accumulation in Lake Michigan coho salmon
- 9) biogeochemical control of phosphorous cycling and primary production in Lake Michigan
- 10) Lake Erie environmental teacher education
- 11) herbicide loadings and their effects on Lake Erie
- 12) studies of Great Lakes fish consumption by minority groups in urban areas of Wisconsin

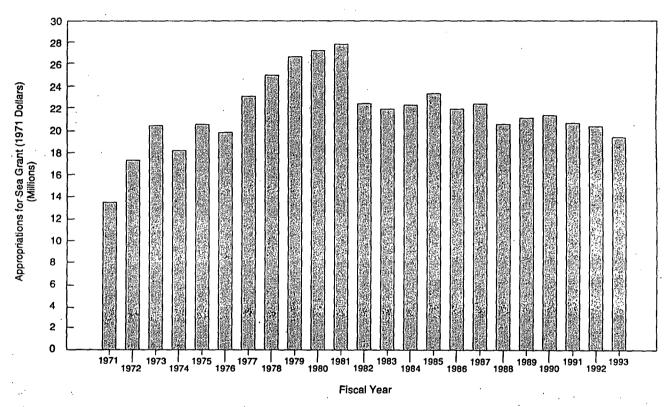
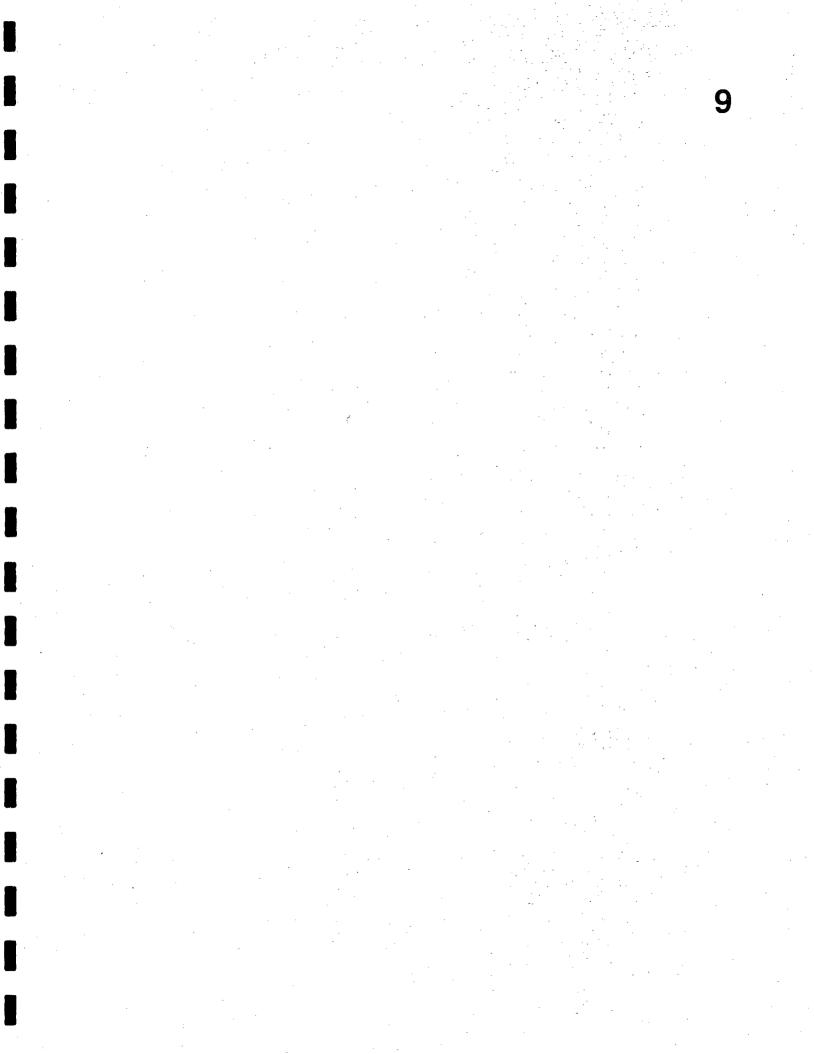


FIGURE 2 Congressional appropriations for the National Sea Grant College Program from FY1971 to FY1993, adjusted for inflation (1971 dollars).





PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

The Great Lakes Commission keeps the region informed with these publications and more, through its Great Lakes Information Clearinghouse.

Most of the Commission's publications are now available online GLIN, the Great Lakes Information Network.

(http://www.great-lakes.net:2200/partners/GLC/glchome.html or gopher.great-lakes.net at port 2200).

To order, fill in the form and send it to the Great Lakes Commission. Thank you for your interest in the world's greatest freshwater resource, the Great Lakes.

JANUARY 1996

Title/Description	Price	Quantity	Sub Total
REGIONAL AGREEMENTS		· : ·	
Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin This goodfaith agreement presents commonly held ecosystem principles drawn from existing laws, treaties, agreements and policies in the Great Lakes region. Thanks to the work of a region-wide drafting committee, a grant from the Joyce Foundation and the leadership of the Great Lakes Commission, the charter provides a shared vision for ecosystem management in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin. An addendum features a complete list of signatories and their associated statements. Packet includes an explanatory question-and-answer sheet along with a signatory response form. October 1994.	Free		
Declaration of Indiana A maritime agreement for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System. Diverse maritime organizations from Canada and the U.S. have adopted a landmark position statement regarding the future of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System. The declaration features ten principles and an associated action agenda, annually updated, to demonstrate the unity of Great Lakes St. Lawrence maritime interests. May 1991.	Free		
BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS			
The Southwest Lake Michigan Pilot Study: Developing an Inventory of Toxic Air Emissions from Area Sources in the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Gary Urban Areas, 1993 This 300-page book contains the first multistate inventory of toxic air emissions compiled in the United States. The 12-county study of small point and area sources for 49 toxic compounds was compiled by the air divisions of three states: Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. This effort represents a unique milestone in the continuing effort to quantify and manage the toxic air emissions which impact the waters of the Great Lakes Basin. The book also documents development of the inventory software, the Regional Air Pollutant Inventory Development System (RAPIDS), and quality control/quality assurance measures undertaken in the effort. The inventory project was funded by U.S. EPA Region 5, under the auspices of Clean Air Act sections 112(c), (k), and (m), and serves as a precursor to full eight state inventory efforts slated for 1996 and beyond. December 1995.	\$27.00		
Great Lakes Information Network Tour Guide The Great Lakes Information Network Tour Guide is a 90 page book that guides you through Great Lakes-related WWW information supplied by GLIN partners; teaches you how to access other GLIN services, including E-mail lists and calendars of events; and provides guidelines on getting connected to the Internet, configuring your computer and more. September 1995.	\$7.00		
Great Lakes Guide: Policies, Priorities and Programs of the Great Lakes Commission 1995 This guide presents the Commission's policy positions; identifies the priorities that guide Commission actions; and describes the programs that pursue those priorities through information sharing, coordination and advocacy. March 1995.	\$10.00		
Teaching About Soil Erosion and Sedimentation in the Classroom -a K-12 Curriculum Materials Guide Soil erosion, sedimentation and related water quality issues are the focus of this guide to curriculum materials for grades K-12. Compiled by Dr. Roseanne Fortner of Ohio State University and funded through the Commission's Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force, the guide is an easy-to-use summary of more than 50 different classroom-ready materials, including price and availability information. September 1994.	\$2.00		
Air Toxic Emissions Inventory Protocol for the Great Lakes Commission Responding to the governors' Great Lakes Toxic Substances Control Agreement, the air agencies of the eight Great Lakes states have developed a common protocol to follow when inventorying sources of air emissions of 49 toxic chemicals recognized as most deleterious to the Great Lakes. The protocol presents straightforward instructions on locating sources, associating emissions with industrial processes, estimation procedures, quality control tests and methods to upload data to a regional inventory. Protocol design was funded by U.S. EPA Region V. June 1994.	\$35.00		

Title/Description	Price	Quantity	Sub Total
A Guidebook to Groundwater Resources and Education Opportunities in the Great Lakes Region This concise yet comprehensive guidebook examines physical and environmental characteristics of groundwater, current protection programs, educational needs and opportunities, listings of education materials, and points of contact for further information throughout the binational Great Lakes region. Published with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. April 1993.	\$10.00		
Opportunities for Elected Officials: Improving Great Lakes Water Quality by Preventing and Controlling Erosion and Sedimentation .	Free		
These fact sheets quantify and address the problems caused by soil erosion and sedimentation, describe how erosion and sedimentation affect each state and indicate the pivotal role of legislators in combating the problem. Funding from the Great Lakes Basin Program enabled Commission staff to prepare these regional inserts to Keeping It on the Land. Choose an overview for federal, state and local officials; one specific to your Great Lakes state (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania or Wisconsin); or a complete set. April 1994.		•	
Groundwater Education Strategy This document lays out a framework to promote groundwater education programs in the region. Developed by the Groundwater Education Task Force. April 1993.	Free		,
Liquid Asset: Great Lakes Water Quality and Industry Needs This report addresses the importance of water to the Great Lakes economy, focusing on water quality issues as they relate to industry use of fresh water. Five profiles of specific industrial uses of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence water indicate Great Lakes water quality offers a locational advantage. As a promotional tool for business expansion, retention and recruitment at a time when water reallocation has gripped water-short areas of the country, this booklet encourages the water-rich Great Lakes region to promote its natural resource and tap its potential for economic revitalization. October 1992.	\$5.00		
Keeping It on the Land! Improving Great Lakes Water Quality by Controlling Soil Erosion and Sedimentation This booklet highlights soil erosion and sedimentation problems in the Great Lakes Basin, examines their environmental and economic implications, reviews current programs, and identifies agencies and organizations that can provide advice and assistance. The booklet provides information on the Great Lakes Basin Program, a federal/state initiative with the specific goal of protecting and improving Great Lakes water quality by controlling erosion and sedimentation. Of interest to farmers, shoreline property owners, public officials and all citizens concerned with protecting the basin's precious water and land resources. For additional state-specific information see Opportunities for Elected Officials: Improving Great Lakes Water Quality by Preventing and Controlling Erosion and Sedimentation (page 1). Published with funding from U.S. EPA Region V. August 1992.	First copy free, additional \$1.00 each		
Shaping the Great Lakes Economy Proceedings from Shaping the Great Lakes Economy conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana. October 1992.	Free		
The Great Lakes Economy: Looking North and South Twenty-two regional analysts contributed to this volume, which presents a contemporary portrait of the region through information and analysis. Fifteen chapters cover the Great Lakes economy, resources, industry, population and labor force, energy issues, development policy and more. Plenty of maps, graphs and charts illustrate the wealth of facts in this informative book published in cooperation with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. April 1990.	\$10.00		
Proceedings of the Great Lakes Water Level Forecasting and Statistics Symposium More than 30 papers and accompanying discussions were compiled from the May 17-18, 1990 water levels symposium cosponsored with NOAA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. U.S., Canadian and Soviet experts assess the strengths and weaknesses of water level forecasting techniques, discuss how policymakers and resource managers can best respond to the public, and explore innovative approaches for developing and communicating statistics that will best serve the wide range of user groups in the Great Lakes Basin. November 1990.	\$5.00		
A Guidebook to Drought Planning, Management and Water Level Changes in the Great Lakes Of interest to all shoreline and basin residents. This ready reference guide on drought and related impacts answers 50 commonly asked questions about water level changes and lists federal, state and provincial contacts for drought assistance, water levels and emergency response programs. April 1990.	\$2.00		
Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation in the Great Lakes States: A Statistical Profile This portrait of the Great Lakes region showcases the diverse and growing travel and outdoor recreation sectors. Includes a series of short case study profiles, tables and maps. March 1989.	\$5.00	·	

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Title/Description	Price	Quantity	Sub Total
REPORTS			
Annual Report of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species The report is a product of the panel's information and education strategy, designed to keep citizens, agencies, legislators and resource managers in the Great Lakes region informed about aquatic nuisance species (ANS) issues. The report is an overview of current initiatives and accomplishments of the panel, which was convened by the Great Lakes Commission under P.L. 101-646 to address ANS issues in the Great Lakes basin. It includes panel policy positions, an information and education strategy, recommendations on funding and program issues, and program updates from entities working on ANS. Covers the period of August 1993-August 1994. January 1995.	\$3.00		
Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) Annual Report Follow the first year's progress of the fast-growing Internet-based computer network linking agencies and organizations across the binational Great Lakes region. This report to the GLIN funder, the Ameritech Foundation, will be useful to those interested in including a GLIN component in short-and long-term business plans, funding proposals and budgets. Includes background, goals, list of participating agencies, efforts-to-date and budget. December 1994.	\$6.00		
A Changing Great Lakes Economy: Economic and Environmental Linkages This paper, authored by the Commission's Steve Thorp and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's David Allardice, was presented at the first State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC), hosted by U.S. EPA and Environment Canada. The paper addresses ecosystem management and sustainability issues while presenting history and a snapshot of the Great Lakes region's economy. October 1994.	Free		
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Commerce: Safety, Energy and Environmental Implications of Modal Shifts Planes, trains, or automobiles? In the Great Lakes region, quite possibly the answer is ship. This study explores movement scenarios for several commodity flows chosen to represent a range of products and raw materials moving through the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system. Factors such as energy use, emissions and other environment and safety issues are compared between transport types. June 1993.	Free		
Steel and the Great Lakes States: A Policy Statement for the Region Position statements and implementation procedures for state and federal policy on trade, adjustment assistance, tax and investment, research, environmental regulation and interstate cooperation. September 1989.	\$1.00		
Great Lakes Research Checklist This bibliographic resource for an interdisciplinary readership highlights recent articles, reports and books related to the Great Lakes and adjacent areas. The Commission's Director of Research Emeritus, Dr. Albert G. Ballert, has compiled regular editions of this checklist since 1959. Biannual. Subscription available.	Free		
BROCHURES			
Great Lakes Commission This illustrated brochure gives an overview of the Commission's mission, history, membership and services. October 1993.	Free		
NEWSLETTERS			• .
The ADVISOR Join the thousands in the binational Great Lakes region who rely on the Great Lakes Commission's newsletter for news and views from around the lakes. Articles include updates on Commission policy positions and initiatives, point-counterpoints, federal legislation concerning the region and editorials from key managers, policymakers and researchers. Includes ANS Update , a quarterly newsletter. Occasional special inserts cover topics such as soil erosion, aquatic nuisance species and pollution prevention. Bi-monthly. Subscription available.	Free		
ANS Update This quarterly newsletter is a service of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species. The purpose of this newsletter is to educate and inform readers of Great Lakes Panel activities and important issues relating to aquatic nuisance species in the Great Lakes Basin. Single copy only, no subscription available.	Free		

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Title/Description	Price	Quantity	Sub Total
The Great Lakes, a Great Place! To Live to Work to Visit! This informational brochure lists a variety of statistics which exemplify the Great Lakes region's excellence in high quality-of-life, including education, recreation, business, transportation, housing and cost of living. September 1990.	\$1.00		
Michigan Areas of Concern NEWS This biannual newsletter is a publication of the Michigan Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC). It reaches out to concerned citizens, elected officials, agency staff and other interested parties participating in the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) process in Michigan's fourteen Areas of Concern (AOCs). It provides general information on the RAP process in each AOC, the SPAC grant program and the SPAC Annual Citizens Conference, as well as information updates on Michigan's 14 AOCs. Biannual. Subscription available	Free		
THE GREAT LAKES COMMISSION - BACKGROUND			
A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission A statement of vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategic actions to guide the work of the Great Lakes Commission through the year 2000. September 1995.	Free		
Great Lakes Basin Compact The Great Lakes Commission is the only organization in the region with a statutory mandate to represent the eight Great Lakes states on a variety of environmental and economic issues. The compact, created through the collective legislative action of member states and later granted congressional consent through P.L. 90-419, establishes areas of responsibility for the Great Lakes Commission. This copy includes state and federal legislative history. 1955, 1968.	Free		
Great Lakes Commission By-Laws The rules and regulations for the conduct of business of the Great Lakes Commission as established by the Great Lakes Basin Compact Article IV, Section K. December 1962.	Free		
The Great Lakes Commission The March 1991 issue of the Seaway Review Magazine featured a four-page article authored by GLC Executive Director Michael Donahue, commemorating the Commission's 35th anniversary. The article highlights the Commission's role in promoting the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system. March 1991.	Free		
Great Lakes Commission Workplan, 1994-1996 This document, reflecting a two year timeline presents the current and projected status of Great Lakes Commission projects. Five program areas are included: Administration, Resource Management and Environmental Quality, Transportation and Economic Development, Communications and Information Management, and Regional Coordination. Within each area, projects are categorized as either new or continuing priorities. Note that the Workplan reflects formal program and project priorities, and should be viewed as a thorough yet not comprehensive overview of staff efforts. Biennial.	Free		
TOTALS			

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- 7) Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
- 8) Great Lakes Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Task Force
- 9) Great Lakes Spill Protection Initiative
- 10) Great Lakes Toxic Air Emissions Inventory Peer Review Committee
- 11) Regional Inventory of Air Toxics Contaminants Steering Committee
- 12) Soo Lock Funding Alternatives Task Force
- 13) Task Force on Emergency Preparedness
- 14) U.S./Canada Border Crossings Project Advisory Committee
- 15) U.S. Coast Guard Funding Task Force
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A statement of vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategic actions to guide the work of the Great Lakes Commission through the year 2000



Adopted by the Commission's eight member states in 1995



Established in 1955 by interstate compact "to promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin."

A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE Great Lakes Commission







he Great Lakes Commission, an eight state compact agency founded in state and federal law and dedicated to the use. management and protection of the water, land and other natural resources of the Great Lakes Basin, provides leadership in the implementation of principles of sustainable development throughout the Basin. In partnership with the Great Lakes states, the Commission addresses issues of resource management, environmental protection, transportation and economic development by serving as an accurate and objective source of information; an effective forum for the development and coordination of public policy; and an active and committed advocate of Basin interests.

ur vision is a Great Lakes Basin that offers a strong and growing economy, a healthy environment and a high quality of life for its citizens by applying principles of sustainable development in the use, management and protection of its water, land and other natural resources.

Administration Program Goal: To enhance the Commission's leadership role in regional coordination, policy development and advocacy

through efficient, cost effective and responsive service to member states.

Objectives
A staff of competent professionals with the skills

required to address the Commission's mandate and all associated program and project requirements.

A long-term, reliable funding base to provide the organizational growth and stability required to meet current priorities and accommodate emerging ones.

Innovative and aggressive program development activities to enhance financial status and exhibit regional leadership in priority areas.

An organizational infrastructure that promotes the active involvement of member states, Observer agencies and other Great Lakes-St. Lawrence partners in Commission programs and projects.

Inter-organizational partnerships that enhance Commission programs and services, and leverage support from other sources.

A strategic plan for regional leadership to guide organizational efforts over the short and long term.

Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program

Goal: To promote the informed use, development and protection of Great Lakes Basin water, land and other natural resources through regional coordination, policy development, advocacy, data/information management and dissemination, and education and outreach.

Objectives

A coordinated regional approach to the development and implementation of public policies, laws, programs and agreements that influence the use, development and protection of Basin resources.

An information management system providing the data and information needed for informed public policy decisions on Basin issues.

Strong and growing resource management and environmental partnerships with public agencies and nongovernmental organizations that share Commission positions and priorities.

Regional information and education programs that increase public awareness and involvement regarding Great Lakes issues.

A regional grants management program that accesses and targets federal funds to priority issues/areas identified by member states.

Transportation and Economic Development Program

Goal: To promote sustainable, resource-based economic activity and the use, development and maintenance of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system.

jectives

The incorporation of sustainable development principles into current efforts and future models for economic activity.

Strong and growing commercial navigation on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.

A strong and growing economy that benefits from the unique advantages associated with the natural resource, geographic and economic attributes of the Great Lakes Basin.

Expanded partnerships within the Basin's transportation and economic development community to advance the development and implementation of sound public policy on issues of shared concern.

Communications and Information Management Program

Goal: To promote informed public policy by developing communications and information management technology and programs for use and application by member states and all Basin interests.

Objectives

Timely, accurate and objective Great Lakes-related information accessible by member states and all interested parties.

A state-of-the-art public information infrastructure that promotes an active and informed citizenry through electronic communications technology and conventional means.

A decision support system for policy research and development that offers data collection, storage and analysis services.

A mechanism for the prompt and efficient development, publication and promotion of Great Lakes Commission policy positions, reports and related products.

Regional Coordination Program

Goal: To strengthen the collective Great Lakes management effort by providing regional leadership, generating consensus on regional priorities among diverse interests and building partnerships for decisive regional action.

bjectives

Strong linkages between the research, policy and management communities to promote informed public policy decisionmaking.

A forum for member states that provides open dialogue and decisionmaking on critical regional issues with input from all interested parties.

Policies, position statements and management principles that provide guidance in implementing an ecosystem approach to Great Lakes management.

Support for both new and established organizations that share common goals and priorities with the Great Lakes Commission.

A unified regional voice on critical public policy issues associated with resource management, environmental protection, transportation and economic development. he Great Lakes Commission is an eight-state compact agency that guides, protects and advances the common interests of its membership in areas of regional environmental quality, resource management, transportation and economic develop-

The Commission was established in the 1950s when some farsighted individuals recognized the growing need for an interstate agreement on the use and conservation of the waters of the Great Lakes.

The origin of the Great Lakes Basin Compact can be traced to the Midwestern District meetings of the Council of State Governments. Michigan led the effort, enacting legislation in 1954 that authorized the governor to enter into a compact with the other Great Lakes states and provinces.

The Compact envisioned a regional organization

with broad fact-finding and investigatory powers.
The organization, later to be called the Great Lakes
Commission, would have the power to consider all
problems relating to the water and land resources of
the Great Lakes and to recommend programs and
policies to U. S. and Canadian federal, state and
provincial governments.

The Compact became effective on July 1, 1955, upon ratification by Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Pennsylvania gave its approval in 1956, followed by New York in 1960 and Ohio in 1963.

As the Commission sought Compact ratification in all the Great Lakes states, an effort was launched to obtain U. S. congressional recognition via consent legislation. Under the U. S. Constitution, congres-

sional approval is required for interstate compacts.

These efforts moved forward in the mid-1960s, as the Commission and members of Congress further explored the issues and developed mutually accept-

able draft legislation. Congress subsequently passed the consent legislation into law on July 24, 1968.

long-standing and growing relationships with Canada's federal and provincial governments. Although planning, policy development and advocacy feature an interstate perspective, they continue to be binational in scope. The Commission's relationship with Canadian policymakers is more extensive now than at any time in the past.

The Commission's history also includes informal, ver

Throughout the last four decades, the Great Lakes Commission has succeeded in effecting solutions, influencing legislation and providing substantial support for a wide variety of Great Lakes matters. In the years ahead, the Commission will continue to promote the informed use, development and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin.

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A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission

Administration Program

Goal: To enhance the Commission's leadership role in regional coordination, policy development and advocacy through efficient, cost effective and responsive service to member states.

Objective: A staff of competent professionals with the skills required to address the Commission's mandate and all associated program and project requirements.

Strategic Actions

- Promote staff retention through a competitive compensation and benefits program, opportunities for promotion, training, and challenging responsibilities that respond to both organizational goals and employee interests.
- Maintain an appropriate balance between permanent and limited-term employees to ensure that coordination/policy development/advocacy functions are maintained while pursuing other project-specific activities.
- Maintain updated Commission-approved personnel policies that clarify employee roles, responsibilities and working arrangements.
- Pursue a team-oriented approach to all programs and projects to bring a diversity of backgrounds and expertise to bear on priority issues.
- Pursue creative arrangements with universities and public and private sector agencies and organizations to secure temporary or long-term assistance with programs and projects.

Objective: A long-term, reliable funding base to provide the organizational growth and stability required to meet current priorities and accommodate emerging ones.

Strategic Actions

- Encourage timely payment of annual state dues and at a level commensurate with organizational priorities.
- Aggressively pursue outside funding (grants and contracts from public agencies, foundations and private sector interests) consistent with stated organizational priorities and with an emphasis on larger scale, multiyear support.
- Where feasible and appropriate, seek federal legislative authorization and line item funding for programs benefiting member states.
- Develop and implement a creative financing strategy that seeks longerterm reliable funding from multiple sources including, but not limited to, annual state dues, federal appropriations, foundation grants, private sector grants and contracts, donations, meeting/publications receipts and endowments.
- Design and implement an investment strategy that maximizes interest income with minimal risk to principal.
- Maintain flexibility in budgeting and staffing arrangements to accommodate fluctuations in financial status without compromising service to members.

Objective: Innovative and aggressive program development activities to enhance financial status and exhibit regional leadership in priority areas.

Strategic Actions

Cultivate and pursue relationships with an array of prospective funding sources that support the priorities of the Commission.

- Maintain adequate staff expertise and time for ongoing program
- Establish internal and external mechanisms to identify, evaluate and pursue current issues consistent with Commission priorities.
- Develop and maintain an anticipatory function to ensure Commission leadership in addressing "cutting edge" issues.
- Utilize Commission members, Observers, task forces and others in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence community to identify and pursue program development opportunities, including collaborative ventures with like-minded organizations.

Objective: An organizational infrastructure that promotes the active involvement of member states, Observer agencies and other Great Lakes-St. Lawrence partners in Commission programs and projects.

Strategic Actions

- Formalize and expand the membership, role and activity of program committees as a means to enhance direct Commissioner involvement in Commission functions.
- For all appropriate projects, establish and support regional task forces, advisory/steering committees and other groups to secure input from a diverse array of interests in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence community.
- Pursue designation of an alternate for all Commissioners to ensure strong representation from every member state in all Commission functions.
- Expand the role and activity levels for Observer agencies and consider new designations as a means to enhance broad Basinwide participation in Commission functions.
- Enhance the binational focus of the Commission by exploring and pursuing opportunities for Canadian federal and provincial participation, including the possibility of provincial membership.
- Further enhance the binational focus of the Commission by exploring and pursuing opportunities for supporting and enhancing the ecosystem management activities of the International Joint Commission and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

Objective: Inter-organizational partnerships that enhance Commission programs and services, and leverage support from other sources.

Strategic Actions

- Form partnerships with organizations, where appropriate, to both access and contribute additional expertise, staff capacity and other resources that will advance shared interests.
- Form coalitions with like-minded organizations, as appropriate, to enhance efficiency and effectiveness with advocacy efforts.
- Monitor the collective Great Lakes-St. Lawrence management effort, identify gaps and opportunities, and pursue means to address them via Commission programs and services, or recommendations to other agencies and organizations.

Objective: A strategic plan for regional leadership to guide organizational efforts over the short and long term.

Strategic Actions

- Develop, adopt, implement and periodically update a strategic plan consisting of a vision, mission, goals, objectives and strategic actions.
- Establish internal and external evaluation procedures to measure organizational performance and progress and make necessary adjustments.
- Prepare and regularly update a detailed two-year work plan to guide project-specific staff activity.

Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program

Goal: To promote the informed use, development and protection of Great Lakes Basin water, land and other natural resources through regional coordination, policy development, advocacy, data/information management and dissemination, and education and outreach.

Objective: A coordinated regional approach to the development and implementation of public policies, laws, programs and agreements that influence the use, development and protection of Basin resources.

Strategic Actions

- Develop and implement Great Lakes-specific programs to address unique Basin needs (e.g., Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control).
- Assist member states in fulfilling regional requirements of federal resource management and environmental protection legislation.
- Identify and address inconsistencies and gaps in Great Lakes-related state, regional, federal and binational programs.
- Work with member states to develop state-specific and regional models that integrate resource management and conservation principles into policies and programs, (e.g., pollution prevention, drought management, water conservation).
- Provide leadership in the implementation of Basin agreements, treaties and compacts.

Objective: An information management system providing the data and information needed for informed public policy decisions on Basin issues.

Strategic Actions

- House, operate and maintain Great Lakes databases as a decision support system for policymakers (e.g., Great Lakes Regional Water Use Database).
- Maintain, expand and update Great Lakes components of regional and national databases required under federal law.
- Coordinate the development and use of new Great Lakes databases.
- House, operate and maintain a Great Lakes Geographic Information System and database.

Objective: Strong and growing resource management and environmental partnerships with public agencies and non-governmental organizations that share Commission positions and priorities.

Strategic Actions

- Provide staff support to the array of multijurisdictional committees and task forces needed to develop and advocate Commission policies.
- Strengthen and pursue partnerships with other Great Lakes agencies and organizations with compatible goals.
- Serve on federal, state, provincial and binational task forces and committees where such participation can advance the interests of the Great Lakes Commission and its member states.
- Expand opportunities for Commission involvement and leadership on emerging areas of priority interest (e.g., Great Lakes Areas of Concern, watershed planning and management, wetlands conservation, water quantity management).

Objective: Regional information and education programs that increase public awareness and involvement regarding Great Lakes issues.

Strategic Actions

- Develop and use electronic communications capabilities (e.g., Great Lakes Information Network, Internet) to ensure broad distribution of information/education materials.
- Publish project-specific materials and newsletter inserts to inform readers of important Great Lakes activities, events, publications and other issues relating to the Resource Management and Environmental Quality Program.
- Develop and implement issue-specific regional information/education strategies pertaining to resource management and environmental quality issues of interest to the member states (e.g., soil erosion and sediment control, groundwater protection, aquatic nuisance species prevention and control).
- Maintain and enhance a Basinwide network of classroom and nonformal educators for information dissemination purposes.

Objective: A regional grants management program that accesses and targets federal funds to priority issues/areas identified by member states.

Strategic Actions

- Administer and manage resource management and environmental quality-related demonstration grants programs for member states.
- Manage and coordinate activities of diverse project team partners performing specialized tasks on Commission-led projects.
- Participate in cooperative agreements with federal, regional or provincial agencies working on resource management and environmental quality-related projects.

Transportation and Economic Development Program

Goal: To promote sustainable, resource-based economic activity and the use, development and maintenance of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system.

Objective: The incorporation of sustainable development principles into current efforts and future models for economic activity.

Strategic Actions

- Establish and promote a consensus-based definition of sustainable development and associated principles and guidelines for application by public and private sector interests.
- Identify and inventory case studies of successful sustainable development practices in a variety of business and industry settings.
- Encourage education programs that promote sustainable development
- Strengthen the Basin's foundation for economic growth by advocating public policies that improve access to technology, offer a competitive environment and embrace principles of sustainable development.
- Demonstrate the interrelatedness of economic development and environmental protection goals, and the importance of a well-managed resource to a growing and sustainable economy.

Objective: Strong and growing commercial navigation on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.

ateric Actions

- Develop and advocate positions on U. S. and Canadian policies, programs and legislation that reflect the priorities and consensus views of the Great Lakes Commission and its member states.
- Provide a forum to promote Basinwide consistency in the development, interpretation and application of all public policies, programs, laws and regulations pertaining to commercial navigation on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system.
- Develop the full potential of the commercial navigation system by advocating adequate icebreaking services, confined disposal facility and dredging programs and infrastructure improvements, such as a second large lock at Sault Ste. Marie, MI.
- Identify and pursue means to expedite federal projects by resolving cost-share issues and facilitating agreement and action between federal agencies and member states.

Objective: A strong and growing economy that benefits from the unique advantages associated with the natural resource, geographic and economic attributes of the Great Lakes Basin.

rategic Actions

- Promote waterborne transportation as a lower-cost, less polluting and less energy consuming form of goods movement.
- Promote water-based tourism and recreation as an economic development tool through the Great Lakes Circle Tour and other initiatives.
- Advocate federal and state policies that support and facilitate Great Lakes states trade with Canada and in other international markets.

- Identify and publicize the Basin's economic, environmental, natural resource and quality of life attributes as a means to promote business/industry recruitment, retention and expansion.
- **Objective:** Expanded partnerships within the Basin's transportation and economic development community to advance the development and implementation of sound public policy on issues of shared concern.

Strategic Actions

- Provide support to the array of multijurisdictional committees and task forces needed to develop and advocate Commission policies.
- Strengthen and pursue partnerships with other Great Lakes organizations with compatible goals.
- Serve on federal, state, provincial and binational task forces and committees where such participation can advance the collective interests of the Great Lakes states.
- Expand opportunities for Commission involvement and leadership on emerging areas of priority interest.

Communications and Information Management Program

Goal: To promote informed public policy by developing communications and information management technology and programs for use and application by member states and all Basin interests.

Objective: Timely, accurate and objective Great Lakes-related information accessible by member states and all interested parties.

Strategic Actions

- Coordinate and contribute to the development of databases that permit broad access to comprehensive and consistent Basinwide data and information.
- Develop, promote and pursue outreach programs for public information/education purposes.
- Maintain a speakers bureau and related services to inform and educate the Basin citizenry and to strengthen its interaction with Basin researchers, policymakers, managers and other interests.

Objective: A state-of-the-art public information infrastructure that promotes an active and informed citizenry through electronic communications technology and conventional means.

Strategic Actions

- Maintain and develop the Internet-based Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) infrastructure, and explore new applications for public information and education.
- Through demonstration and training, promote the use and application of GLIN and other communications technology within member states and the Great Lakes community in general.

Objective: A decision support system for policy research and development that offers data collection, storage and analysis services.

Strategic Actions

- Provide technical support to other Commission programs and member state activities.
- Facilitate Basinwide acceptance and use of common information sharing and research protocols and standards.
- Provide policymakers with easy, user-friendly access to data and information needed for decisionmaking purposes.
 Identity data gaps that compromise informed policymaking, and

promote action to address these unmet needs.

Objective: A mechanism for the prompt and efficient development, publication and promotion of Great Lakes Commission policy positions, reports and related products.

Strategic Actions

- Publish and distribute, in both print and electronic format, Commission reports, newsletters, brochures, policy documents, meeting announcements and other matters.
- Maintain and expand a Great Lakes Information Clearinghouse, providing a response and referral service for all Great Lakes-related inquiries.
- Provide technical support to all other Commission programs in the areas of writing, editing, publicity, marketing, database management and related services.

Regional Coordination Program

Goal: To strengthen the collective Great Lakes management effort by providing regional leadership, generating consensus on regional priorities among diverse interests and building partnerships for decisive regional action.

Objective: Strong linkages between the research, policy and management communities to promote informed public policy decisionmaking.

Strategic Actions

- Support the development and use of a research inventory as a
- Develop a consensus-based process to prioritize research needs on the basis of critical resource policy and management issues.
- Inform all relevant funding entities (e.g., public agencies, private foundations, corporate giving programs) of resource policy and management priorities and encourage programming that addresses these priorities.
- Establish technology transfer as a primary goal in all Commission coordination and communication efforts (e.g., Commission meetings, Advisor, Great Lakes Information Network).

Objective: A forum for member states that provides open dialogue and decisionmaking on critical regional issues with input from all interested parties.

Strategic Actions

Encourage strong representation and participation from the community of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence interests in Commission meetings, task force and committee activities, policy position deliberations and related functions.

- Through the Commission's Observer program and other means, strengthen binational, multijurisdictional involvement in Commission programs and activities.
- Sponsor, or otherwise participate in, periodic "summit" meetings of regional agencies for the purpose of information sharing, coordination, issue prioritization and collective action.

Pursue issue-specific projects where exchange of information and

viewpoints can enlighten public policy debate, and assist member states in policymaking responsibilities.

Objective: Policies, position statements and management principles that provide guidance in implementing an ecosystem

Strategic Actions

Maintain, add, update and broadly disseminate the Commission's policy positions document and encourage its use as a reference guide in legislative, program development and policymaking activity.

approach to Great Lakes management.

- Through the Commission's Observer program and other means, strengthen binational, multijurisdictional involvement in Commission programs.
- Promote continued development, endorsement, distribution and use of the *Ecosystem Charter for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Basin* for the purposes of information/education, coordination and advocacy.
- Promote endorsement, distribution and use of the *Declaration of Indiana* maritime agreement, and its associated action agenda, as a means to demonstrate unity of purpose in advocacy activities.

Objective: Support for both new and established organizations that share common goals and priorities with the Great Lakes Commission.

Strategic Actions

- Where mutually beneficial, provide secretariat and other support services to organizations and organizational activities that share Commission goals and priorities.
- Promote and support development of new organizations that can provide a collective voice for important sectors of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence community.
- Encourage the appointment of Commission members and staff to leadership roles in regional/national associations, commissions and other organizations that share Commission goals and priorities.

Objective: A unified regional voice on critical public policy issues associated with resource management, environmental protection, transportation and economic development.

Strategic Actions

- Maintain a strong presence in Washington, D.C., using issue briefings, congressional hearings and other special events as a means to present a unified regional voice to legislators and other policymakers.
- Provide advisory services and policy recommendations to clients within the region, including governors; legislators; federal, provincial, and state agencies; and the larger community of policymakers and opinion leaders.
- Maintain a strong outreach program to the media and the general public as a means of sharing information on member state interests and policy positions.

