

## **Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Organisms in Trade Ad Hoc Committee Charge and Work Plan**

### **I. Background**

Significant concern exists over the risks posed by the trade of live organisms as a vector for aquatic invasive species (AIS) introduction and spread in the Great Lakes. Pathways for organisms in trade (OIT) include the live bait industry, pet and aquarium trade, horticulture and water garden businesses, classroom releases, and live seafood markets, among others. OIT may be introduced for beneficial uses, but over time, some imported plant and animal species have established wild populations and caused harmful impacts. A 2018 review of Great Lakes regional AIS priorities highlighted OIT as a priority pathway for which the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (GLP) could contribute to greater coordination of regional efforts. During the November 2018 GLP meeting, break-out sessions were held to identify specific actions and recommendations to increase coordination across several areas of AIS management, including OIT. Priority actions identified through this exercise align with common regional priorities of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Annex 6, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers AIS Task Force, and the U.S. EPA's Lakewide Action and Management Plans and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan III. At the May 2019 GLP meeting, members decided to establish an Ad Hoc Organisms in Trade Committee to advance this work.

### **II. Charge**

The GLP provides a venue to bring key agencies, groups, and experts together to advance work to prevent AIS introduction and release via the OIT pathway in the Great Lakes region. The purpose of the committee is to coordinate regional OIT initiatives with partners and advance near-term actions to address the OIT pathway. The Ad Hoc Committee will meet periodically via conference call and in-person under the auspices of the GLP. Key activities of the committee will include:

- a. identifying opportunities for OIT industry participation with the GLP
- b. identifying needs, objectives and next steps for an OIT-focused symposium or webinar series, hosted by the GLP and building on past Great Lake Biotic Symposia
- c. prioritizing trade pathways and identifying gaps in knowledge about species in trade
- d. recommending additional species for regulating in trade based on risk assessment and risk tolerance
- e. coordinating with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission Law Enforcement Committee to identify opportunities to increase awareness of AIS among enforcement personnel and support action on AIS violations
- f. identifying resource needs and gaps to inform development of a toolkit for conducting surrender and rehome pet events as part of existing outreach campaigns (i.e., Habitattitude, RIPPLE and Be a Hero)
- g. providing input on OIT related initiatives led by the ANSTF under implementation of the ANSTF Strategic Plan
- h. identifying needs and opportunities for GLP engagement to minimize AIS risks from OIT used in K-12 education

### III. Membership

- Chelsey Blanke, Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources
- Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant/DNR/Extension
- Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy
- Gavin Christie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Paige Filice, Michigan State University Extension
- Eric Fischer, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Greg Hitzroth, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
- Doug Jensen, Minnesota Sea Grant
- Sarah LeSage, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy
- Francine MacDonald, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Cathy McGlynn, New York Department of Environmental Conservation
- Sophie Monfette, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- John Navarro, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources
- Sara Stahlman, Pennsylvania Sea Grant
- Jill Wingfield, Great Lakes Fishery Commission
- Kate Wyman-Grothem, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### IV. Draft Work Plan – updated 1.24.20

Charge Item	Near-term tasks	Notes	Experts to engage
a. Identify opportunities for OIT industry participation with the GLP			
b. Identify needs, objectives and next steps for an OIT-focused symposium or webinar series, hosted by the GLP and building on past Great Lake BIOTIC Symposia.		<p>Ranked as highest priority item by committee members</p> <p>Outcomes can be used to inform other committee work</p> <p>GLSGN pursuing funding opportunity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kellie Sherman, Canadian Council on Invasive Species</li> <li>• Craig Regelbrugge, Senior Vice President, AmericanHort</li> <li>• Scott Hardin, PIJAC (USA)</li> <li>• PIJAC Canada</li> <li>• Paul Zajicek, National Aquaculture Association</li> </ul>
c. Prioritize trade pathways and identifying gaps in knowledge about species in trade		Use symposium to inform this effort	

Charge Item	Near-term tasks	Notes	Experts to engage
d. Recommend additional species for regulating in trade based on risk assessment and risk tolerance		Use symposium to inform this effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rochelle Sturtevant, Michigan Sea Grant Extension</li> <li>• Stephanie Showalter-Otts, National Sea Grant Law Center</li> <li>• Alisha Davidson</li> </ul>
e. Coordinate with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission Law Enforcement Committee to identify opportunities to increase awareness of AIS among enforcement personnel and support action on AIS violations			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brenda Koenig, OMNRF Provincial Enforcement Specialist</li> <li>• Mike Feagan, Michigan Department of Natural Resources</li> </ul>
f. Identify resource needs and gaps to inform development of a toolkit for conducting surrender and rehome pet events as part of existing outreach campaigns (i.e., Habitattitude, RIPPLE and Be a Hero)			
g. Provide input on OIT related initiatives led by the ANSTF under implementation of the ANSTF Strategic Plan			
h. Identify needs and opportunities for GLP engagement to minimize AIS risks from OIT used in K-12 education			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff Ram, Wayne State University</li> <li>• Sam Chan, Oregon Sea Grant</li> </ul>

### Attachments

- ANSTF Strategic Plan – Prevention Committee Draft Work Plan
- GLWQA Annex 6 Subcommittee – Draft Priorities for Science and Action

## **Appendix. Great Lakes Panel Operational Guidance on Ad Hoc Committees**

*Excerpt from the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Guidance for Operations*

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

The Panel may, from time to time, establish ad hoc committees to address specific issues that emerge or assume tasks not covered by the standing committees. Ad hoc committees are established for a specific purpose (e.g., ballast water management policy, funding strategies for Panel operations, nomination of Panel officers) and for a specific period of time. Once the purpose for which the committee was formed has been accomplished, the committee will be disbanded. Ad hoc committees can be instituted by consensus of the Panel. Ad hoc committee membership will be recommended by the Panel and approved by the Panel Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee and may include non-Panel members with specific expertise who are willing and able to serve. Invitations to serve will be made in writing by the Panel administrator. All other provisions pertaining to standing committees are applicable to ad hoc committees.