

Priority Statements for the NOAA RFA

- **Research**

Research to analyze and forecast potential changes in ballast water sources and aquatic invasive species risk to the Great Lakes based on projected trends in global trade patterns over the next 20 years; research to profile and characterize the risk to the Great Lakes associated with aquatic organisms-in-trade pathways and high-risk species. For the full list of Great Lakes Panel priorities and additional details please refer to the following document posted online at:

<http://glc.org/ans/documents/GLPResearchPriorities2007.pdf> .

- **Information/Education**

Information and Education (I/E) priorities of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species can be found at www.glc.org/ans/pdf/I-EPriorities4-12-05.pdf. At the current time, the committee recommends a pathway-based focus on (1) developing educational tools and products to disseminate prevention messages and best management practices, (2) providing risk assessment based training concerning interrupting pathways of introduction and spread, and/or (3) systematically designing marketing strategies that identify and utilize information on economic, environmental, human health and societal impacts. To leverage benefits of existing programming, priority should be given to programs which (1) implement national campaigns (e.g., HAACP, Habitattitude, Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!) on the regional or local level, (2) scale successful local and/or regional programs (e.g., MN Sea Grant's Water Gardening project) to the regional and/or national level, and/or (3) extend successful initiatives to new pathways (e.g., extension of Habitattitude to biological supply houses, extension of HAACP to plants in trade). All projects should include funding for strong formative and summative evaluation components which incorporate measurable objectives, target stakeholders to identify successful elements, and identify types of I/E activities and materials that are considered most effective in promoting practices that advance AIS prevention and control.