

Meeting of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species

May 7-8, 2013

Holiday Inn & Suites
200 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802
218-722-1202 or 800-477-7089
<http://hiduluth.com>

Agenda

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Lyric Conference Center (Hotel Level 1)

All times are CDT

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| 8:00 a.m. | Registration and continental breakfast | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Welcoming remarks and call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll call and introductions • Agenda review | Luke Skinner , Great Lakes Panel (GLP) Chair,
Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) |
| 8:45 a.m. | GLP Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Dec. 2012 meeting summary • Report on action items from Dec. 2012 meeting • Plans for fall 2013 meeting | Luke Skinner , GLP Chair
Erika Jensen , GLP Coordinator, Great Lakes Commission |
| 9:05 a.m. | Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Report | Mike Hoff , U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| 9:15 a.m. | Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) – Annex 6 Subcommittee Update | Gavin Christie , Fisheries and Oceans Canada, GLWQA Annex 6 Subcommittee Co-Chair
Todd Turner , U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, GLWQA Annex 6 Subcommittee Co-Chair |
| 9:45 a.m. | Committee breakout sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information/Education Committee • Research Coordination Committee • Policy Coordination Committee | <i>Harbor Room(#415)</i>
<i>Lyric Conference Center</i>
<i>Bridge Room (#414)</i> |
| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch <i>(On your own)</i> | |
| 1:30 -5:30 p.m. | Field trip
<i>(Detailed site descriptions and schedule is attached)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Ships Initiative: Land-based ballast water treatment technology testing • Erie Pier: Invasive species control and beneficial use of dredged material • Rice’s Point Landing: Watercraft inspection and decontamination demonstration | |
| <p><i>The bus will begin boarding in front of the hotel at 1:30 p.m. and will depart promptly at 1:45 p.m.</i></p> | | |
| 5:30 p.m. | Reception hosted by the Consulate General of Canada and the Duluth Seaway Port Authority
<i>Lake Ontario Room (Great Lakes Ballroom – Hotel Lower Level)</i> | |

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Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Minnesota Room (Hotel Level 2)

All times are CDT

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| 7:30 a.m. | Continental breakfast | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Agenda review | |
| 8:35 a.m. | Keynote remarks | Minnesota Lieutenant Governor Yvonne Prettner Solon
Tom Landwehr , Commissioner, Minnesota DNR |
| 9:15 a.m. | Funding for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Programs
<i>Refer to attached session description for more information</i> | Moderator: Luke Skinner , GLP Chair
Panelists: Bob Wakeman , Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Sarah LeSage , Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
John Navarro , Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Mike Hoff , U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| 10:15 a.m. | Break | |
| 10:45 a.m. | Funding for AIS Programs (continued)
<i>Refer to attached session description for more information</i> | |
| 11:30 a.m. | Committee reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information/Education Committee• Research Coordination Committee• Policy Coordination Committee | Doug Jensen , Chair, Information/Education Committee
Lindsay Chadderton , Chair, Research Coordination Committee
Bob Wakeman , Chair, Policy Coordination Committee |
| 12:15 p.m. | Public comment | |
| 12:20 p.m. | Emerging issues and announcements | |
| 12:30 p.m. | Adjourn | |

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Field Trip Information

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Site Descriptions

The **Great Ships Initiative (GSI)** has established a land-based research, development and technology evaluation (RDTE) facility in Superior, Wisconsin, to provide intensive testing services to vendors of ballast treatment prospects suitable to Seaway-sized vessels. The research intends to thoroughly test mechanisms and treatment approaches with the ultimate goal being to develop a feasible ship-board application for effective ballast water treatment. The on-site work at the RTDE is largely simulation of a ship's ballast water tanks, and assessment of treatment effectiveness at killing potentially invasive species.

Erie Pier is the confined disposal site for the Duluth- Superior Harbor. It was constructed in 1979 and is now being operated as a Placement and Re-Use Facility or PRF. It receives clean dredged material from the harbor's deep navigation channels, and, if approved by the Corps of Engineers, from privately owned slips around the harbor. Invasive species control, like purple loosestrife, is being addressed. The hope is that all the material deposited at the site in the past and in the future will be recycled into regional construction projects and/or mine reclamation projects so the facility will never become filled, requiring the construction of a new Confined Disposal Facility. The dredged material is hydraulically sorted into coarse material (sand) and fine material (dirt) as it comes onto the property. The sand is 100% consumed by the regional construction industry. The fine material has been accumulating for over 30 years. The harbor's AOC Work Group is developing standards and testing criteria to re-use the fine material in the restoration of 1700 acres of shallow water bays within the harbor, in order eventually to de-list the AOC.

At **Rice's Point Landing**, officials from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) will discuss successes and challenges of the MDNR Watercraft Inspection Program. The program was created in 1992 with the goal of preventing the spread of invasive species within Minnesota through boater education, watercraft inspections and watercraft decontaminations at public water accesses. This program was strengthened in 2011 allowing inspectors and conservations officers to visually and tactilely inspect water-related equipment. MDNR staff will demonstrate how these inspections and decontamination are carried out across Minnesota.

Schedule

- 1:30 p.m. Board bus in front of Holiday Inn
- 1:45 p.m. Depart Holiday Inn for Great Ships Initiative
- 2:15 p.m. **Great Ships Initiative:** Land-based ballast water treatment technology testing
- 3:15 p.m. Depart Great Ships Initiative for Erie Pier
- 3:30 p.m. **Erie Pier:** Invasive species control and beneficial use of dredged material
Duluth Seaway Port Authority
- 4:00 p.m. Depart Erie Pier for Rice Point Landing
- 4:15 p.m. **Rice's Point Landing:** Watercraft inspection and decontamination demonstration
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- 5:15 p.m. Depart Rice's Point Landing for Holiday Inn
- 5:30 p.m. Arrive at Holiday Inn

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Session Description: Funding for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Programs

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Overview

This session was developed in response to the interest expressed by the GLP at the fall 2012 meeting in looking at long-term funding mechanisms for AIS programs and what happens after the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) ends. The session is intended to demonstrate what the Great Lakes states have been able to accomplish with additional funding from the GLRI; review what other funding sources and models are being used by states and others to fund AIS programs recognizing that the GLRI is not a long-term funding source; and explore the role of the federal government in funding, both in the present and in the future.

Format

The session will include a panel of speakers with different perspectives and a moderator who will ask questions and moderate the discussion. The session will begin with an introduction by the moderator and then panelists will each provide remarks. Following the remarks and a break, questions and discussion will take place.

Moderator: Luke Skinner, GLP Chair

Panelists: Bob Wakeman, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Sarah LeSage, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
John Navarro, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Mike Hoff, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Questions for consideration and discussion

Programs with successful and substantial funding (what are lessons learned):

- How is the program funded, and/or what are the funding mechanisms?
- What, if any, are the downsides to these mechanisms?
- How were these funding mechanism established (who or what drove the process)?
- What were impediments to success and how were these overcome?
- What are the threats to continuation?

Programs without a strong funding model outside of the GLRI:

- What are the impediments to advancing a stronger and more sustainable funding model?
- What are potential solutions to overcome these barriers?
- How can the GLP play a role in advancing these solutions?

General:

- What is the federal role in funding AIS programs currently and how might that change in the future?
- What alternative funding sources could be applied to AIS programs?