

**Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Discharge of the Grass Carp Ad Hoc Committee
May 2019**

The Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (GLP) convened its Grass Carp Ad Hoc Committee in 2016, with a charge to provide a forum for ongoing communication and coordination specific to Grass Carp and to track and advance progress on GLP Grass Carp priorities. Between August 2016 and May 2019, the committee completed work to implement the charge, including:

- Tracking and reporting on activities and the progress of member agencies and other partners in addressing Grass Carp priorities through presentations at committee and GLP meetings, and updating the Grass Carp priorities worksheet (Ongoing)
- Making recommendations to the ANS Task Force to act on Grass Carp priorities (April 2016 and December 2018)
- Compiling and summarizing existing Grass Carp regulations by Great Lakes jurisdiction (February 2019)
- Working with the Council of Great Lakes Fishery Agencies to develop and distribute a letter to states that allow stocking of diploid Grass Carp encouraging changes to their policies that would reduce the risk of introduction and spread (May 2019)
- Developing and distributing a Grass Carp Regulatory Enforcement Questionnaire to assess priorities related to compliance and enforcement of triploid and diploid Grass Carp regulations and potential areas of risk (July 2019)

As of May 2019, the committee determined the GLP Grass Carp priorities were either complete or being addressed through other activities. Based on this, the committee agreed that its initial charge had been met and made a recommendation to the GLP that the committee be discharged in May 2019. As part of closing discussions, the committee identified the following activities that should be continued to maintain progress on Grass Carp management:

- Ongoing coordination of management activities through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission Lake Erie Committee
- Implementation of the *Lake Erie Grass Carp Response Strategy*
- Follow-up with the Council of Great Lakes Fishery Agencies on delivery of and responses to the diploid stocking policy letter
- Ongoing research and development of a rapid ploidy test that is legally defensible and can be used by enforcement officers in the field
- Enhanced communication and outreach on Grass Carp identification, risks and management actions independent of and separate from general invasive carp communications and messaging, coordinated through the ACRCC Communications Work Group

The GLP approved a motion to discharge the Grass Carp Ad Hoc Committee on May 14, 2019.