

**Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Research Coordination Committee Meeting**

September 15, 2025

1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Attendance

Lindsay Chadderton, *Chair, The Nature Conservancy*
Andrew Tucker, *The Nature Conservancy*
Mindy Barnett, *Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR)*
Justin Bopp, *Michigan DNR*
Brook Schreyer, *Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters*
Debra DiCianna, *Lake Carriers' Association*
Eric Fischer, *Indiana DNR*
Jesica Goldsmit, *Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs*
Doug Jensen, *Minnesota DNR*
Kurt Kowalski, *U.S. Geological Survey*
Amy Kretlow, *Wisconsin DNR*
Matt Neilson, *U.S. Geological Survey*
Nick Phelps, *Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center*
Matt Pawlowski, *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Mike Greer, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
Brian Schoenung, *Illinois DNR*
Aubree Szczepanski, *Indiana DNR*
Kate Wyman-Grothem, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
Ceci Weibert, *Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy*

GLC Staff

Theresa Gruninger
Sam Tank
Autumn McGowan
Nichole Angell
Lydia Crane

Action Items

Chair

- Lindsay and Theresa will revise the charge to incorporate the feedback proposed during the meeting

Members

- Provide any agenda suggestions for the next committee meeting

Meeting start-up

- Chadderton reviewed the agenda

RCC Charge Review

- Charges are expected to be reviewed and updated every four years
- Jensen suggested that as an addition to the priority “Promote and facilitate research into the spread of ANS through novel recreational pathways,” to include additional social science to increase understanding of motivations and behaviors of pathway participants
- Neilson suggested an additional priority to “Promote and facilitate research into the potential economic impact of critical or emerging ANS, introduction pathways, and management actions”
- A suggestion was made to include the role of committee members in taking an active role in project development and moving objectives forward as appropriate
- Kretlow provided a motion to approve the charge subject to final edit by Gruninger and Chadderton, Barnett seconded. 14 in favor, none against, motion is carried

Update on the Control of Established Species project

- The control of established species is TNC, GLC, MAISRC, and GLC contractor Alisha Davidson
- Currently the project team are working through species habitat scenarios following the feedback received from the RCC and natural resource managers
 - The top six species selected are rusty crayfish, round goby, red swamp crayfish, ruffe, common carp, and spiny water flea
 - A final number of scenarios has not yet been determined
- A final set of species habitat priorities will be presented as part of a session during the fall GLP meeting
- The decision support tool being developed to prioritize research avenues for control tool development for species in those habitats has been meeting with Mike Colvin on the similar tool being developed for the Invasive Mussel Collaborative. The IMC tool is being adapted to the broader range of species that this project focuses on
- The project scheduled to end in September 2026
- A couple of draft manuscripts are in development that summarize the early work done by Davidson on what is available for control tools
- Greer will share internal flowcharts on hydrilla response and harmful algal blooms as references for how others are approaching the problem

New AIS control metrics and GLC Insights

- The RCC and OCC have previously discussed the need to document and map response efforts over the past ten years and more and make these publicly available as a resource and set of case studies
- GLC is working on a webpage, Insights, to have different highlights for policy makers to look at what work is being done and supported at the Commission

- On this page, GLC staff have the idea to summarize all the regional AIS detection, control, and response efforts into a visual, high-level dashboard that can be shown to decisionmakers and policymakers
- This product is not available yet, but is being drafted by GLC and will require RCC input as the project progresses
- Insights would be a GLC hosted website, and the priority is that the page is publicly available and easy to access. GLC will keep it updated and have full control over the content
- This project has relevance to Focus Area 2 reporting and control of species
- The goals are to promote success stories, shift the paradigm that control of AIS is not possible once a species is established, and to document where AIS managers are making progress
- The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force also identified having readily available examples of successful eradication stories as a need
- Part of this project will likely need to navigate or reconcile the variable definitions of eradication, response, and control
 - Criteria may need to be identified so that state eradication successes can be incorporated despite some varying definitions
 - This work may connect to the watch list efforts of the MCC as it relates to not only documenting watchlist species
- The timeframe for projects included largely follows GLRI, as there are fewer projects and successes before it launched in 2010
- GLANSIS does have capacity to document eradications, though it does not receive a lot of eradication data
- Committee members agreed that the inclusion of long-term management and control efforts is equally important to including eradication cases

Wrap-up and adjourn

- The next committee meeting is November 12, 1:00-2:30 pm ET