

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

November 14, 2025
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM ET

Attendance

Doug Jensen, *Chair, MN Department of Natural Resources*

Tim Campbell, *Vice Chair, Wisconsin Sea Grant*

Brian Schoenung, *IL DNR*

Debra DiCianna, *Lake Carriers' Commission*

El Lower, *Michigan Sea Grant*

Mike Greer, *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

Matt Nielson, *U.S. Geological Survey*

Katie O'Reilly, *Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant*

Rochelle Sturtevant, *Michigan Sea Grant*

Sara Stahlman, *Pennsylvania Sea Grant*

Aubree Szczepanski, *IN DNR*

Elizabeth Tanner, *WI DNR*

Tory Gabriel, *Ohio Sea Grant*

Mindy Barnett, *IL DNR*

Ashley Elgin, *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory*

Sydney Currier, *Invasive Species Centre*

GLC Staff

Theresa Gruninger

Sam Tank

Autumn McGowan

Nichole Angell

Meeting start-up

- Jensen welcomed committee members and reviewed the agenda. No changes to the agenda were suggested

Review 2025-2028 GLP work plan priorities and next steps for committee work

- The GLP is finalizing the next four-year work plan which identifies priority issues and projects
- The GLP is trying to align work plan priorities with priority topics in the new committee charges and what was brainstormed during the Spring 2025 GLP meeting
- Prior to the Fall GLP Business Meeting, Panel staff is soliciting feedback on the work plan priority topics and stated deliverables

- The work plan deliverables do not have to be completed directly by GLP membership. GLP membership could provide support to an external partner in developing resources or projects to fulfill the objectives and deliverables
- The waterfowl hunting outreach product inventory or index may be the easiest project to address first as a committee
 - The OCC can work on identifying partnerships at a regional and national level (such as Ducks Unlimited, Wildlife Forever) who can be effective messengers of waterfowl outreach products
 - Invasive Species Center has DU contacts through water soldier work
 - The European Frog-bit Collaborative has been engaged in waterfowl hunter outreach and may be a good starting point to build connections and partnerships
 - St Louis River Estuary AIS Technical Team and Headwaters sustainable Partnerships are two good starting points for Minnesota
 - Tim Campbell has been coordinating with University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to gauge interest in leading an interjurisdictional project on this topic
 - Needs greater direction on the social science and outreach parts. It was noted that Greg Hitzroth would probably be happy to share some of the questions he put together with the University of Illinois Social Science Lab for waterfowl hunter survey if it's of interest
 - Sara Stahlman is working with a researcher at Penn State Behrend who is looking at the spread of invasive species via waterfowl, specifically at the spread of freshwater jellyfish and the ability for the species to spread via the feet of waterfowl. Would be a good outreach point at Presque Isle for this information!
- The OCC is to work on identifying and building partnerships at a regional and national level
- One of the work plan priorities for genetic biocontrol is developing education and outreach materials to inform stakeholders about genetic biocontrol concepts and benefits
- Jensen asked if any members have already developed or know of any genetic biocontrol outreach materials
 - There has been a resource released in Florida about genetic biocontrol with mosquitoes
- For genetic biocontrol, even if there are uncertainties in the science or project development is in early stages, there are still benefits to developing outreach materials that socialize the idea and provide some information for a baseline understanding. Postponing outreach on genetic biocontrol could result in misinformation circulating before GLP messaging is available
- The development of genetic biocontrol outreach materials may be a project that engages both the Management Coordination Committee and the Research Coordination Committee
- The outreach materials developed should be in conjunction with ongoing partners and projects, to make messaging more specific rather than general language
 - The OCC should coordinate with Jason Delborne, Mike Smanski and David Fulton (UMN) and a communications specialist to engage in this development
- Genetic biocontrol outreach and communication projects will be left in the work plan as a project for the OCC to coordinate with the other committees

Member updates

- Due to longer than anticipated discussion on the GLP Work Plan, there was limited time for member updates but GLP members can share agency updates at the upcoming GLP Business Meeting in December

Wrap-up and adjourn

- The OCC will aim to schedule a meeting during the second half of January. Theresa will send out a date poll to schedule that soon

Action items

- OCC chairs and GLC Staff: See if the RCC or MCC have any upcoming plans to address genetic biocontrol work in their committees
- Sam: Send a draft of the new 2025-2028 GLP Work Plan that members should review
- Tim: Reach out to UW- Stevens Point researchers about their willingness to engage in a waterfowl IJ project
- Doug: Reach out to Mike Smanski for their interest in engaging in genetic biocontrol messaging