

A light blue map of the Great Lakes region is centered on a dark blue background. The map shows the outlines of the five Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. The text is overlaid on this map.

Rapid Response to Aquatic Invasive Species

Lower Great Lakes Ballast Water Workshop

March 13-14, 2008

Tom Ridge Environmental Center, Erie, Pennsylvania, USA



ALS in the Great Lakes

- **Great Lakes is a gateway into the waterways in the heartland of America.**
- **Greater attention and resources from national legislation:**
 - **Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (NANPCA)**
 - **National Invasive Species Act of 1996 (NISA)**
 - **Executive Order 13112 of 1999 establishing the National Invasive Species Council.**



Rapid Response Analysis

- **“Review of Systems for Early Detection and Rapid Response” by Jim Worrall, USDA Forest Service for the National Invasive Species Council, 2002.**
 - Oil Spills
 - Center for Disease Control
 - Interagency Fire Management
 - APHIS Veterinary Services (animal disease)
 - ... draft framework for noxious and exotic weeds.



The Ideal...

The Ideal:

- Clear Organization, Authority, and Responsibility
- Adequate Funding
- Detailed planning of response organizations and arrangements in advance.



...and then, The Reality

- Many Potential Species
- Many Possible Control Methods: Chemical, Physical, Biological.
- Many Potential Location/Jurisdictions: State, Federal, Tribal, Local

**...Hundreds of possible events
to plan for!**

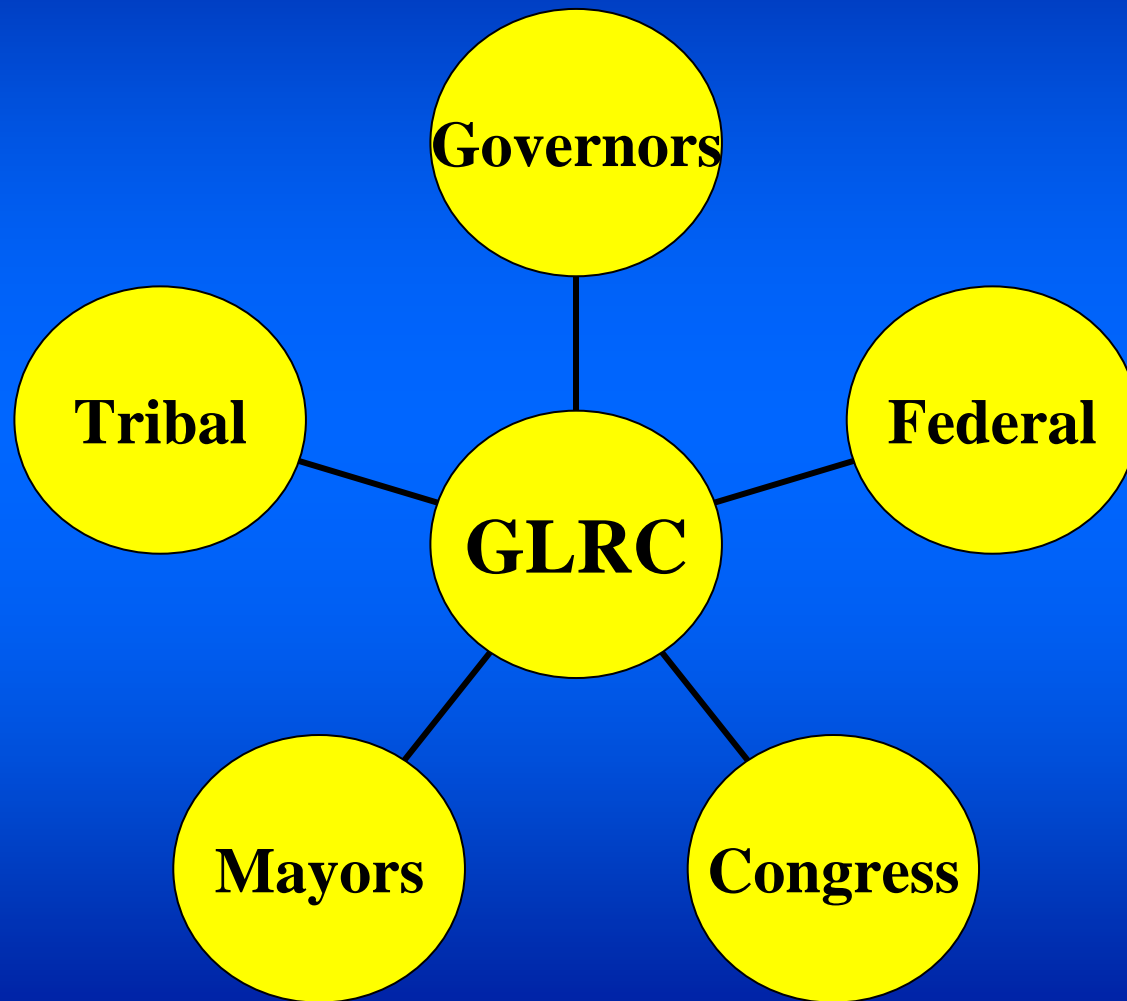


Great Lakes Regional Collaboration

- Developed GLRC “Strategy” during 2004-2005.
 - Great Lakes Governors’ Priorities used as a starting point.
- Issue Area Teams:
- *Aquatic Invasive Species*
 - Nonpoint Source
 - Habitat/Species
 - Toxic Pollutants
 - Coastal Health
 - Indicators and Information
 - Areas of Concern
 - Sustainable Development



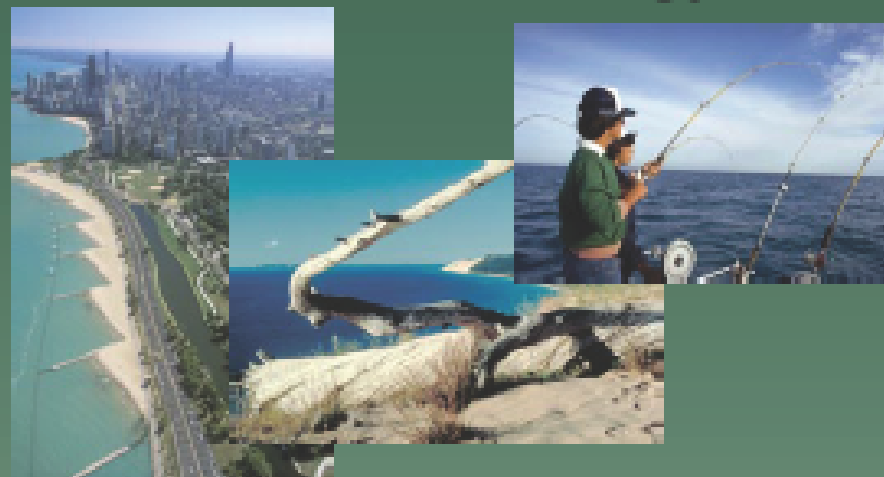
Great Lakes Regional Collaboration







Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy



To Restore and Protect the Great Lakes



December 2005

GLRC 



Aquatic Invasive Species

- Pass comprehensive federal AIS legislation;
- Prevent AIS through ballast water;
- Stop invasions via canals and waterways;
- Restrict trade in live organisms;
- Establish rapid response and management; and
- Education and outreach.





Recommendation

“Establish an interagency, Great Lakes Federal Rapid Response Team, that will conduct activities on federal lands, and in other locations with State, Tribal, and local cooperation.”



Federal Agency Commitment

“The Federal Interagency Task Force will explore creating a Rapid Response Subcommittee under the Regional Working Group to serve as a central point of contact for information and activities related to invasive species rapid response efforts.”



FAISRR Subcommittee

- **FAISRR (“Phaser”) developed Points of Contacts within each Federal Agency to coordinate rapid response efforts.**
- **Recognized that some species-specific and location-specific exist and are the preferred contingency plans.**
- **Outlined a Communication Protocol to address situations without such plans.**



GLRC Initiative

- **On March 2, 2007, the GLRC Executive Committee endorsed the formation of an Aquatic Invasive Species Rapid Response Initiative**
- **Multiple sectors of government: Federal, State, Tribe, Mayor/Cities, Congress.**
- **Refined: Points of Contact, Communication Protocol, and plans for a Mock Exercise**



Lessons Learned

- ***Still Learning!* Exercise this Spring to test the working of the Communication Protocol.**
- **Species-specific (e.g. Asian Carp, *Hydrilla*) and location-specific (e.g., National Forest/Park) rapid response contingency plans provide the greatest level of preparation for a potential response effort.**
- **Current agency organizational and fiscal resources do not allow for the development of rapid response plans for all possible events.**



Niche for Communication Protocols

- **Promotes early and consistent communication between agencies during a Rapid Response assessment and implementation.**
- **Requires leadership of “Jurisdictional Authority” – other agencies follow authority’s lead.**
- **Foundation for development of more detailed planning efforts.**



Binational Rapid Response?

International Joint Commission's (IJC)
Water Quality Board and Science Advisory
Board developing:

“Binational Aquatic Invasive Species Rapid Response Policy Framework”

- *Spring/Early Summer 2008*
- *Staff Contact: Mark Burrows (IJC)*



The National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2007 (NAISA)

(via North-East Midwest Institute, nemw.org)

Section 302: Rapid Response

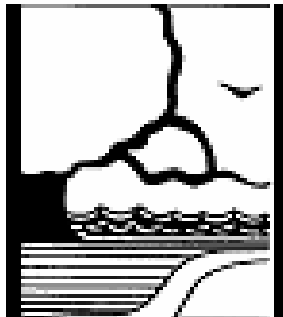
- **Rapid Response Fund to provide grants to states and regions to implement approved rapid response contingency strategies.**

Authorization of Appropriations - \$27.5 million

- **\$25M to Secretary of Interior - Rapid Response Fund**
- **\$1M - Model State and Regional Rapid Response Contingency Strategies**
- **\$1,5M to NISC (\$0.5M to NOAA and \$1M to FWS) - Federal Rapid Response Teams**



Most Agencies Ready to Help



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way - Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2004

RESULTS OF BURNHAM HARBOR

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. - In a joint effort by the Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Chicago, a total of 10 fish were caught during electrofishing and net sampling surveys of fish in Burnham Harbor. A large muskie was caught by a shore angler on Oct. 9. The sampling



