

**TO:** Members and Interested Parties, Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species  
**FR:** Kathe Glassner-Shwayder, Great Lakes Panel Coordinator  
**RE:** Joint ANS Panel Meeting & Great Lakes Panel Updates  
**DA:** May 9, 2008

**Joint Meeting of the Great Lakes Panel (GLP) & Mississippi River Basin Panel (MRBP)**

On behalf of the Executive Committees of the GLP and MRBP ANS Panels, I am pleased to provide the preliminary agenda and other related information for the upcoming joint ANS Panel meeting. We will be convening June 17-19, 2008 in Milwaukee Wisconsin at the DoubleTree Hotel, located at 611 West Wisconsin Avenue, in downtown Milwaukee (53203).

- **Accommodations:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the DoubleTree under "Joint ANS Panels" at a room rate of \$93.00/night plus tax. To assist in making your travel arrangements, the DoubleTree has provided us a personalized meeting website where you can find logistical information and reserve your accommodations: <http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/MKECCDT-USF-20080617/index.jhtml>. The hotel staff suggests use of this website in making reservations. However, if you choose to reserve your room by phone, please call the DoubleTree Hotel front desk at 414-273-2950. In making a phone reservation, it is preferable to ask for Katherine or Katrina, available Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm (Eastern). If they are not available when you call, it is important that you mention that you are attending a convention under the name "Joint ANS Panel" with the code of USF. **Reservations must be made under this convention name by May 27 to ensure the room rate of \$93.00/night plus tax.**
- **Agenda:** The preliminary agenda, as attached, has been developed jointly by the GLP and MRBP Executive Committees. Please recognize that this agenda is preliminary and is subject to change. An important goal of this meeting is to provide a forum that will facilitate further communication and coordination among members of both ANS Panels given the shared issues of concern existing within these interconnected watersheds. During the first day and a half of the meeting (Tues., June 17 – Wed., June 18), the GLP and MRBP will convene to discuss common priority issues. On the afternoon of the second day (Wed., June 18), each ANS Panel will meet separately to address Panel-specific issues. ***A feature of the meeting will be joint committee break-out sessions to facilitate coordinated work on issues of common concern between the committees.*** Committee chairs will be working together to develop agendas for these break-out sessions. Please note that GLP Committees will have additional time on Wednesday to meet independently from the MRBP Committees.

Activities are also being planned to provide further opportunities for networking and socializing among meeting participants. A reception will be held Tuesday, June 17 evening at the hotel, as a social event bringing meeting participants from both ANS Panels together. Meeting field trips are being planned for Thursday, June 19. The overall program for this joint ANS Panel meeting is being structured to provide time for interaction and networking between members from both regions.

- **Field Trips:** On Thursday morning, a two hour cruise on Lake Michigan will be offered on the Denis Sullivan clipper ship for \$45/person. Also offered on Thursday will be a tour of Discovery World (\$10/person) which is a Great Lakes educational facility recently built along the Milwaukee lakefront. **If you would like to sign-up for these events, you will need to do so by MAY 23. Please refer to the attached registration form for more information.**
- **Recreation:** For baseball fans out there, you will have the chance to watch the Milwaukee Brewers play the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday evening, June 18 at 7:05 pm (refer to DoubleTree website above). If you are interested in attending the game, please plan on handling your ticket purchase and logistics on your own.
- **Registration:** Members from both Panels are asked to register for the joint meeting using the attached registration form, or online through the Great Lakes Panel Meeting website at <http://www.glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet> (available soon). **The deadline for meeting registration**

**is Friday, May 30, 2008.** **Note:** The deadline for making hotel reservations under the meeting rate is May 27; the deadline for sign-up for field trips is May 23.

- **Meeting Sponsorship:** We are pleased to acknowledge the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and the U.S. Forest Service Eastern Regional Office as co-sponsors for this event.

Please contact Kathe Glassner-Shwayder ([shwayder@glc.org](mailto:shwayder@glc.org)) if you have questions or need further information on the meeting.

### ***Great Lakes Panel Updates***

#### **Fall 2007 Meeting Summary**

A summary of the Great Lakes Panel fall meeting held November 28-29, 2007 in Ypsilanti, Mich., is available on the Panel website <http://glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>. Please review the document for approval at the joint meeting in June. You may contact Erika Jensen ([ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org)) with any comments you may have in reviewing the summary.

#### **Panel Member Updates**

We ask that each Panel member (i.e., regular, alternate and at-large) submit a brief written programmatic update (1 paragraph) on AIS activities of their agency or organization by **Friday, May 30, 2008** so that staff may make them available in advance of the joint meeting in June. The updates will also be included in the meeting materials. Areas you may consider covering in your programmatic update include project status (successes, challenges, concerns) examples of interagency and/or multijurisdictional collaboration, and/or legislative updates. You may reference updates from the last meeting on the Panel website: <http://glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>. **Please submit your updates (by Friday, May 30) to Erika Jensen, [ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org).**

- **State/provincial representatives:** Please note that this call for member updates is separate from the one you received from Erika in March regarding the *ANS Update* newsletter. If you would like staff to use the same update for the meeting, or you would simply like to make a few revisions, please let Erika know.

#### **Panel Elections**

As you know, 2008 is an election year for the Great Lakes Panel. In the next few days, Panel members will be receiving a ballot to vote for Panel officers, Committee Chairs and new at-large members. Staff has been working with an ad-hoc Nominating Committee over the past several weeks to develop this ballot. Panel members will be expected to fill out the ballot and return to Erika Jensen via fax (734-971-9150) or email ([ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org)) by **June 9, 2008**. Election results will be announced electronically prior to the Milwaukee meeting in June. New Panel officers, Committee Chairs, and at-large members will be installed at the meeting. **Please be on the look out for this communication over the next few days.**

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