

**Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species
Fall Meeting: December 2-3, 2008**

Action/Decision Items & Recommendations

Great Lakes Panel

- **Action Item for Great Lakes Panel (GLP) Committees:** Continue work in developing committee workplans to lay the ground work for a GLP strategic plan that will strengthen communication and coordination on regional initiatives.
- **Action Item for ExCom** (with assistance from staff): Invite a representative of the Great Lakes Regional Coordination (GLRC) to the next GLP meeting (spring 2009) to provide an overview of recent/ongoing GLRC AIS initiatives that will help identify opportunities for collaboration.
- **Action Item for GLP Members:** Prepare programmatic updates for online submission on GLP wiki. The wiki is organized around committee priorities to enable evaluation of progress in achieving these priorities.
- **Action Item for ExCom** (based on GLP survey results): Work with GLP staff and Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Executive Director in exploring options for alternative and/or supplemental GLP funding.
- **Action Item for ExCom** (based on GLP survey results): Work with GLP staff and GLC Executive Director to clarify and improve coordination of GLP and GLC activities.

Information/Education Committee

- **Action Item for Staff and GLP State Representatives:** Continue with distribution of the *Great Lakes Aquatic Invasions* booklet targeting newly-elected local, state and federal officials and legislators.
- **Action Item for the Information/Education Committee:** Distribute Committee priorities documents to funding agencies, pending revision of the Research Coordination Committee priorities document.

Research Coordination Committee

- **Action Item for the Research Coordination Committee:** A Panel policy position statement will be drafted to address professional responsibilities/ethics in reporting new AIS discoveries.
- **Action Item for the Research Coordination Committee:** Update Priorities Document and forward to the Information/Education Committee for distribution to funding agencies (see above). During the update process, priorities for risk assessment will be addressed.
- **Decision Item:** The prohibited/regulated species list is to be forwarded to the Policy Coordination Committee to determine how to communicate the need for regulatory consistency among the Great Lakes states.

Policy Coordination Committee

- **Recommendation to ExCom:** Finalize the funding letter (in conjunction with the Mississippi River Basin Panel ExCom) to promote increased funding for operation of the Regional ANS Panels and implementation of state management plans. Upon consensus of the 6 regional panels, the letter will be sent to the ANS Task Force as a recommendation in the February/March timeframe. *(To be included as part of this process is a statement*

on strategic actions justifying the need for increased funding. This statement will be submitted either in conjunction with the letter or at a later date.)

- **Recommendation to GLP Chair:** On behalf of the GLP, resubmit the ballast water recommendation (made to the ANSTF in February 2008) with a new cover letter advising members to address the urgent need for effective national regulations to prevent the discharge of organisms from vessels declaring ballast and no ballast on board. In resubmission, the ongoing relevance of the recommendation will be emphasized for the new Administration and newly appointed ANSTF co-chairs and members.
- **Action Item for Staff:** Create an organizational schematic that would provide a visual representation of member agencies, organizations and entities participating on the GLP, including the Panel's relationship to the ANS Task Force.
- **Decision Item:** The Policy Coordination Committee will take initiative in addressing the rapid response issue as a priority, by considering ways the GLP can contribute to advancing an integrated/coordinated regional framework for rapid response in the Great Lakes region.