



Great Lakes Restoration: Five Lakes – One Voice

Regional Priorities for the Great Lakes

March 2007

The Great Lakes region is united in support of critical, near-term priorities to restore and protect the Great Lakes. These are consistent with the priorities of the governors of the Great Lakes states, are endorsed by the mayors of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and reflect recommendations from the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes. We urge Congress to implement these specific actions to address urgent threats and implement high-value restoration opportunities:

- **Stop Aquatic Invasive Species:** Pass the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act and House and Senate legislation (H.R. 553 and S. 336) that authorize construction and maintenance of the Asian carp barrier to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful aquatic invasive species – such as the Asian carp – and appropriate \$20.2 million to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to control sea lamprey and manage fishery resources.
- **Clean Up Toxic Sediments:** Appropriate \$54 million for the Great Lakes Legacy Act to clean up contaminated sediments and restore Great Lakes “toxic hot spots.”
- **Restore Great Lakes Wetlands:** Appropriate \$28.5 million to partner with the states in restoring 200,000 acres of valuable Great Lakes wetlands and \$16 million for the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act.
- **Protect Water Quality:** Appropriate \$1.35 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) to update sewerage systems, safeguard drinking water and protect coastal health in the Great Lakes. Reauthorize the CWSRF in order to provide additional funding in future years.
- **Enact Great Lakes Restoration Legislation:** Authorize recommendations from the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration restoration strategy and fund coordinated implementation actions.

***We are united as a region in asking for
congressional support for these near-term Great Lakes priorities.***

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