



LE MÉRIDIDIEN WASHINGTON, D.C., THE MADISON • 1177 15TH ST NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20005

Draft Agenda: February 20, 2025

ALL TIMES EASTERN

Tuesday, March 4 – Semiannual Meeting		
10:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Roundtable on the Great Lakes Priorities <i>Invitation Only</i> Meeting Room: Potomac Invitees: Great Lakes Commissioners, State and Provincial Federal Affairs/DC Liaisons	
Great Lakes Commission Semiannual Meeting <i>Open to all</i> Meeting Room: Potomac		
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet Montpelier Room	
1:00 p.m.	Call to order and roll call	Mary Mertz, Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Chair, and Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
1:15 p.m.	Welcoming Remarks (TBA)	
1:35 p.m.	Business of the Great Lakes Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approval of agenda • Approval of minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual Meeting – Oct. 9-11, 2024 • Report of the Chair • Presentation of resolutions and action items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resolutions Review Committee Report ○ Observer requests • Standing Committee on Climate Resiliency 	Mary Mertz, GLC Chair
2:05 p.m.	Introduction to proposed GLC Observers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Great Lakes Ports Association • St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation 	
2:25 p.m.	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Overview	Branko Kerkez, University of Michigan
2:50 p.m.	Break	

3:10 p.m.	<p>AI Applications for the Great Lakes Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimizing marine shipping • MusselFinder and benthic mapping • HyFi and intelligent stormwater management • Great Lakes AI Lab <p>Moderated discussion with speakers</p>	<p>CSL Group Pete Esselman, U.S. Geological Survey Branko Kerkez Dani Jones, CIGLR</p> <p>Moderator: Dave Rankin, Great Lakes Protection Fund</p>
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn for the day	
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	<p>Reception Constitution Room Co-Hosted by the Government of Québec</p>	
Wednesday, March 5 – Semiannual Meeting		
<p>Great Lakes Commission Semiannual Meeting <i>Open to all</i> Meeting Room: Potomac</p>		
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast and networking Montpelier Room	
8:30 a.m.	Call to order	Mary Mertz, GLC Chair
8:35 a.m.	Executive Director’s Report	Erika Jensen, GLC Executive Director
8:50 a.m.	<p>Sustainability and environmental considerations related to AI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable solutions for data centers and AI: Positioning the Great Lakes region in the new economy • Data centers in Virginia 	<p>Rachel Havrelock, University of Illinois Chicago</p> <p>TBA, Weldon Cooper School of Public Policy at the University of Virginia</p>
9:40 a.m.	Break	
10:00 a.m.	<p>New technologies and innovations in the water sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFFF takeback program • Cleveland Water Alliance • Great Lakes ReNEW • Great Lakes gener8tor <p>Moderated discussion with speakers</p>	<p>Anne Vogel, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Bryan Stubbs, Cleveland Water Alliance Aliana Harkness, Great Lakes ReNEW Soham Balal, gener8tor Sustainability</p> <p>Moderator: Elizabeth Cisar, The Joyce Foundation</p>
11:35 a.m.	<p>Business of the Great Lakes Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolutions and action items 	
11:55 a.m.	Invitation to GLC Annual Meeting	Minnesota Delegation
12:00 p.m.	Closing remarks and adjournment	Mary Mertz, GLC Chair

Afternoon	Congressional office visits <i>Scheduled independently</i> Capitol Hill
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Great Lakes Day Reception at the Embassy of Canada <i>By Invitation</i> Location: 501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Hosted by the Embassy of Canada and the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition
Thursday, March 6 – Great Lakes Day	
Great Lakes Day Congressional Breakfast Reception <i>Open to all</i> Location: 325 Russell Senate Office Building (Kennedy Caucus Room)	
8:30 a.m.	Continental breakfast and networking
Welcoming remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erika Jensen, Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission 	
Introduction of members of the Great Lakes Congressional Delegation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eric Brown, Senior Advisor for External Relations, Great Lakes Commission • Alex Eastman, Great Lakes Program Manager, Northeast Midwest Institute 	
Remarks from members of the Great Lakes Congressional Delegation	
10:00 a.m.	Closing remarks and adjourn
Congressional office visits <i>Scheduled independently</i> Capitol Hill	