

Executive Director's Report

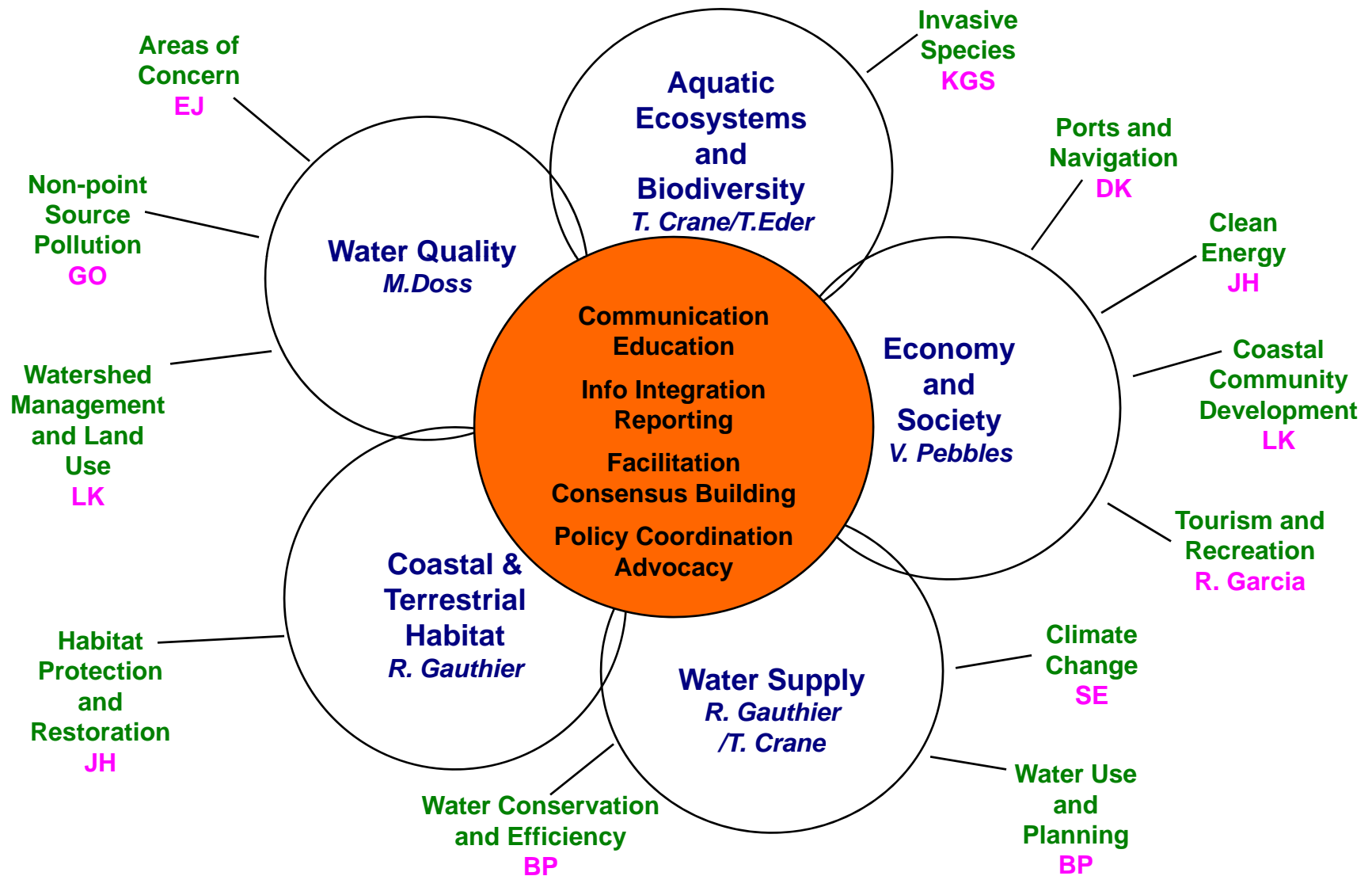
October 6, 2008



2008 Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Commission • October 6-7 • Québec

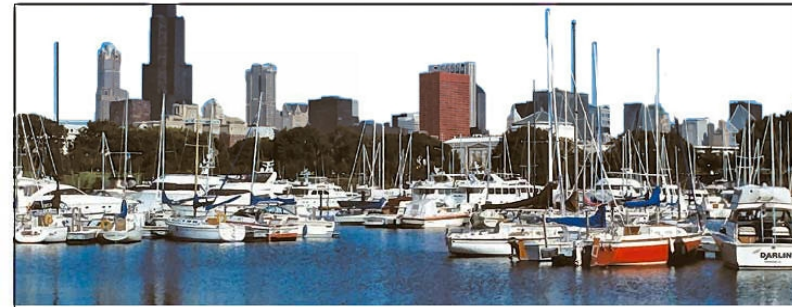


In center circle – **CORE FUNCTIONS** (goals of strategic plan)
 In surrounding circles – **PROGRAM AREAS** with Program Leaders
 Outermost text – **INITIATIVES** with Initiative Team Leaders (initials)



Core Function – Communication/Education

\$15 Billion in Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Spending – Local Governments



Local Investment in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence

February 2008

Prepared by the Great Lakes Commission
For the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Supported by the Joyce Foundation



Core Function – Communication/Education

- *GLIN*
 - 1.6 million unique users / year
 - 5 % increase / month
- *Legislative Priorities*
www.glin.net/legislativepriorities
- *Maps*
 - *Habitat*
 - *Air*



Air Deposition of Toxic Substances

- Fish Consumption Advisories - All States – Provinces
- Mercury, dioxins, and PCBs enter via atmosphere
- Human health impacts are serious: EPA has estimated that over 400,000 children are born each year in the US to mothers whose mercury level exceeds those believed to cause harm.
- Priority in regional initiatives.....

Core Function – Information Integration, Reporting

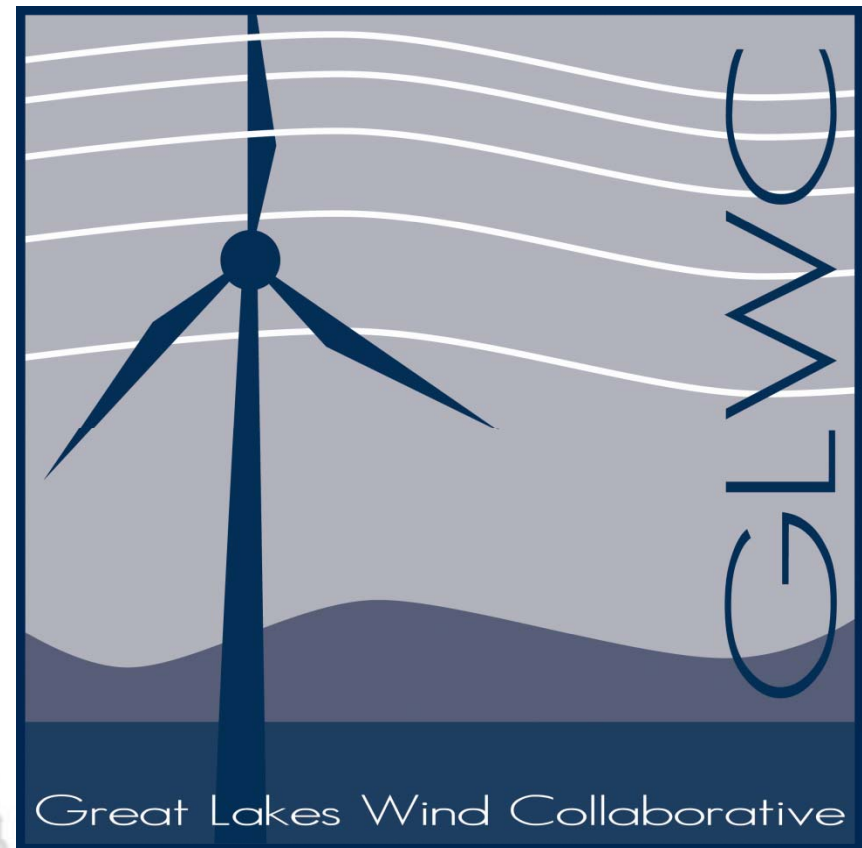
GLAD Program has supported . . .

- Direct \$\$ to state air agencies - \$160,000/year
- Inventorying emissions – **consistent data**
- Measuring health impacts
- Monitoring deposition of mercury, dioxins and many other compounds
- Researching, modeling the movement of chemicals
- Chemicals of emerging concern
- \$3.5 million in research projects over 4 years

Core Function – Facilitation, Consensus Building

Great Lakes Wind Collaborative

- Forum for dialogue, exchange and consensus building
- Facilitate sustainable wind power development
- Multi-stakeholder structure and leadership in place
- *GLC Clean Energy Initiative*
- Production Tax Credit resolution



20% Wind by 2030 for the Great Lakes Region



Former brownfield on the Buffalo River is home to Steel Winds, the largest urban wind farm in the United States. 8 turbines -- enough pollution-free electricity annually to power more than 7,000 homes.

Economic Development Benefits <i>(in \$ millions)</i>	
construction period jobs	.18
operations jobs	.29
lifetime jobs	.76
land and lease payments (\$/yr)	156.2
property tax payments (\$/yr)	639.4
construction period economic output	21,286
operations economic output	2,888
lifetime economic output	79,052

Environmental Benefits <i>(cumulative reductions: 2008-2030)</i>	
water savings	616,601 gallons
CO2 emissions reductions	1.260 million tons

Core Function – Policy Coordination & Advocacy

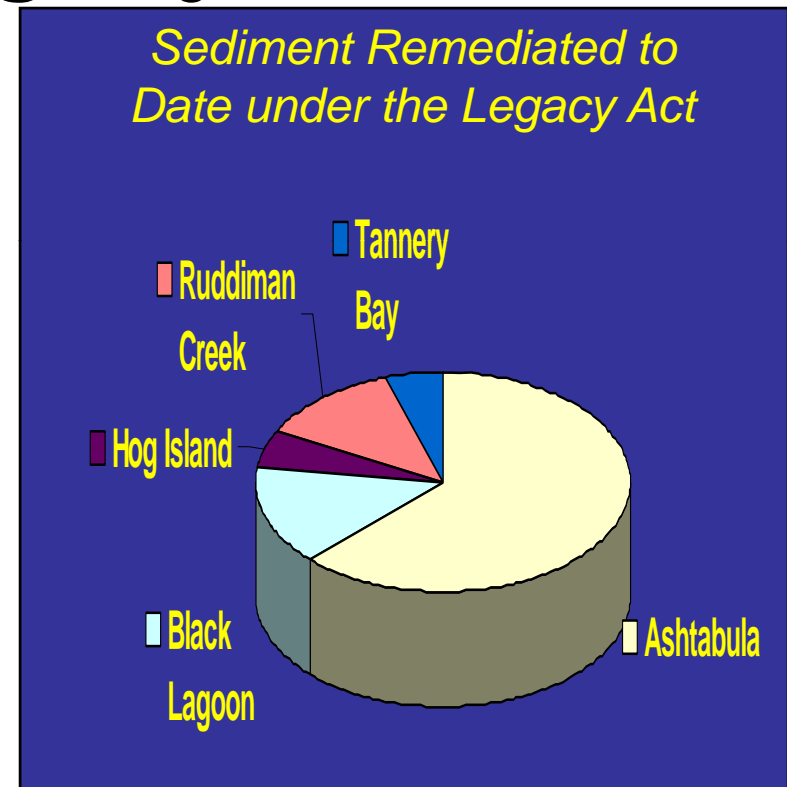
Great Lakes Legislation

- Great Lakes Day
- Water Resources Compact
- WRDA – Carp barrier, Soo lock
- Farm Bill: Soil Erosion – Sediment Program – tied to GLRC
- Legacy Act
- Ballast



Great Lakes Legacy Act

- Clean up Areas of Concern
- \$126 million appropriated to date;
\$35 million – FY '09
- 6 projects completed, removing
800,000 cubic yards of
contaminated sediments
- 1 cleanup and 7 assessment
projects underway; 6 cleanup
projects under development
- Legacy Act reauthorized for two
years with policy improvements,
but level funding



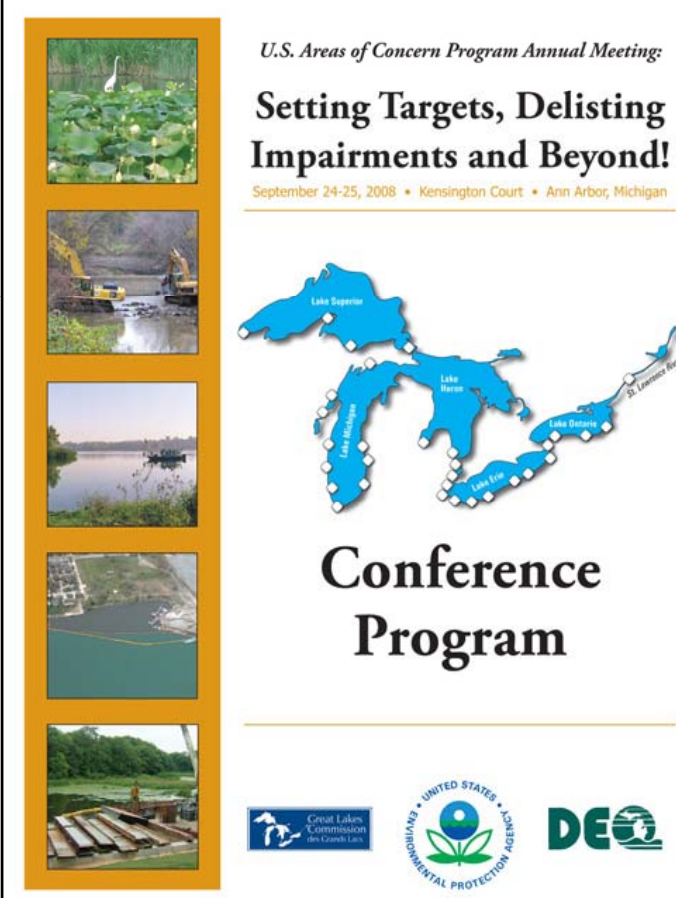
Black Lagoon, Detroit River, Michigan



2008 Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Commission • October 6-7 • Québec

Annual Conference for the U.S. Areas of Concern Program

- Sponsored by U.S. EPA, GLC and Michigan DEQ
- Sept. 24-25, 2008, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 150 federal, state and local AOC participants from all 8 states
- ~35 speakers
- Focus on setting targets and delisting impairments
- First-ever compendium of delisting targets



U.S. Areas of Concern Program Annual Meeting:
Setting Targets, Delisting Impairments and Beyond!
September 24-25, 2008 • Kensington Court • Ann Arbor, Michigan

Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
St. Lawrence River

Conference Program

Great Lakes Commission
UNITED STATES • ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DEQ

Work Plan Initiative – Aquatic Invasive Species

- *Ballast Water*
- *Microbes*
- *Organisms in Trade*



Rusty Crayfish.

Work Plan Initiative – Non-Point Source Pollution

- *Soil Erosion and Sediment Program*
- *GLAD – Air Toxics*
- *Climate Change*
- *Biofuels*
- *Flooding*





New Home?

- USGS Great Lakes Science Center
- Great Lakes Fishery Commission
- Others??

