

MEMO

To: Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, Members and Interested Parties

Fr: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder, Senior Project Manager

Da: March 14, 2007

Re: AIS Tri-Meeting Forum: May 8-11, 2007 at the Tom Ridge Center in Erie, Penn.

A series of three related AIS meetings will be held May 8-11, 2007 at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center in Erie, Penn. This three part forum will include the ANS Task Force (ANSTF) meeting, the Regional Summit on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) State Management Planning (SMP) and a meeting of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species. In referring you to the following schedule, we encourage your participation in all three of these interrelated meetings.

May 8 (Tuesday): 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	ANSTF Meeting
May 9 (Wednesday): 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	AIS State Management Plan Regional Summit (as part of the ANS Task Force Meeting and GLP Meeting)
May 10 (Thursday): 8:00 am - 12:00 noon	ANSTF Meeting and GLP Meeting
May 10 (Thursday): 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	GLP Meeting
May 11 (Friday): 8 am - 12:00 noon	GLP Meeting

This forum is being organized as an opportunity for members of the Great Lakes Panel and ANS Task Force along with other AIS stakeholders to convene and learn about progress as well as challenges on AIS state management planning. The ultimate goal is to encourage collaboration among all parties in advancing state management planning on AIS prevention and control in the Great Lakes region.

The agendas for each of these meeting will be circulated electronically later this month and will also be made available at www.glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet.

- **ACTION ITEM:** In preparation for the Great Lakes Panel meeting, we request that Panel members submit agenda items to Kathe Glassner-Shwayder (shwayder@glc.org) by Friday, March 23.

Meeting Logistics

Meeting Site:

Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle, Erie, Pennsylvania

Room 112

301 Peninsula Drive, Erie PA 16505

Phone: 814-833-7424

Websites: www.trecpi.org/ or www.discoverpi.com/

Lodging

Please note that hotel availability in Erie is somewhat constrained for Monday, May 7th because of a large convention that has been scheduled over the weekend of May 5-6. Therefore, we recommend that attendees planning to arrive on Monday, May 7th stay at the Residence Inn while those planning to arrive on Tuesday May 8th stay at the Clarion Bel-Aire. For your convenience, blocks of rooms have been reserved at both of these hotels, as listed below, under the "Great Lakes Commission." Although you are encouraged to stay at these suggested hotels for logistical reasons, there are numerous other hotels available in the greater Erie area.

Suggested hotel for arrivals on Monday, May 7th

- **Residence Inn Erie by Marriot**; 15 minutes/ 6.5 miles from the Tom Ridge Center
 - Address: 8061 Peach St., Erie, PA 16509
 - Phone: 814-864-2500; 1-800-331-3131
 - Rate: \$89/night
 - Block of **60** rooms being held from Monday, May 7 through Thursday May 10 under "Great Lakes Commission" with rooms held at the quoted rate until April 8, 2007.
 - *Shuttle transportation is available to and from the Residence Inn and the Tom Ridge Center*
 - Complimentary warm breakfast and cocktail reception
 - Website: www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/eriri-residence-inn-erie/

Suggested hotel for arrivals on Tuesday May 8th

- **Bel-Aire Clarion**, Approx. 2 blocks from the Tom Ridge Center
 - Address: 2800 West 8th St., Erie, PA 16505
 - Phone: 814-833-1116 or 1-800-888-8781
 - Rate: \$77/night
 - Block of **60** Rooms being held from Tuesday, May 8 through Thursday May 10 under "Great Lakes Commission" with rooms held until April 8, 2007.
 - Website: www.clarionhotel-erie.com

Nearby Airports

- Erie International Airport Tom Ridge Field; 10 minutes away www.erieairport.org/
- Buffalo Niagara International Airport; 1 hour 50 minutes/ 105 miles away <http://www.buffaloairport.com/>
- Cleveland Hopkins International Airport; 2 hours/ 114 miles away <http://www.clevelandairport.com/>

For additional meeting information, please contact Panel staff at the Great Lakes Commission by phone at 734-971-9135 or email: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder (shwayder@glc.org) or Erika Jensen (ejensen@glc.org). We would like to recognize our co-sponsors for this AIS forum which include Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection represented by Jim Grazio (jagrazio@state.pa.us) and the ANS Task Force represented by Scott Newsahm (Scott_Newsham@fws.gov). We look forward to seeing you all in May!