

MEMO

To: Meeting Participants: Joint Meeting of the ANS Task Force and Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species & Great Lakes Panel Members/Interested Parties

Fr: Kathe Glassner Shwayder, Great Lakes Commission Senior Project Manager & Great Lakes Panel Administrator

Da: May 3, 2007

Re: Final Draft Agenda and Meeting Materials on the ANS State Management Plan Session

Greetings All!

We are looking forward to seeing all of you who will be in Erie next week for the joint meeting of the ANS Task Force and the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species. Attached and online (<http://glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>) you will find the final draft agenda for this joint meeting including the full day session on ANS State Management Plans (SMP). Please note that ANS Task Force members have received the ANSTF portion of the meeting agenda, including the ANS SMP materials, earlier this week.

As part of this meeting packet, there is a list of break-out questions for the ANS State Management Plan (SMP) session on Wednesday, May 9, 2007. All those attending this portion of the meeting are encouraged to review these questions beforehand and discuss them with your colleagues as possible. The questions will be used to guide open-ended discussion in small groups following the morning plenary sessions. At this time, I also would like to direct you to the supporting website (<http://glc.org/ans/initiatives.html#advance>) for the ANS-SMP session, providing background material on SMP developments in the Great Lakes region as related to activities for the project, *A Collaborative Approach to Advance Implementation of State Management Plans for the Prevention and Control of Aquatic Nuisance Species in the Great Lakes Region*. Under this project, funded by the National Sea Grant College Program, Great Lakes Commission staff have worked in collaboration with state officials and the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network to conduct workshops in six Great Lakes states to help advance development and/or implementation of the ANS/AIS state management plans. Posted on the project website are agendas and proceedings summaries for each of the state-specific SMP workshops conducted in the region over the past two years. Additional materials are available from some of the workshops, including announcements and presentations that were given at the workshops. Also posted is the draft of a state management planning Briefing Paper, last updated in 2005, which will be updated and finalized based on discussions during the upcoming SMP session, as well as the outcomes of all state-specific workshops. The final version of the Briefing Paper, summarizing the collection of work under this project, including progress of state management planning in the Great Lakes region, will be available on the website summer 2007.

One final item for Great Lakes Panel members: If you have not done so already, please send me (shwayder@glc.org) or Erika Jensen (ejensen@glc.org) your programmatic update for inclusion in Panel meeting materials.

Feel free to contact either Erika or me by email or phone (734-971-9135) should you have further questions on the upcoming ANS meetings which promise to be a very productive forum. Travel safely!