

## MEMO

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

**Fr:** Kathe Glassner Shwayder, Panel Administrator

**Re:** Great Lakes Panel Fall Meeting

**Da:** September 17, 2007

**Upcoming Great Lakes Panel Meeting:** Planning is underway for the fall meeting of the Great Lakes Panel scheduled for Nov. 28-29, 2007 in Ann Arbor, Mich. Please note that the venue for this meeting has been moved to a new site located at the Marriott Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti at Eagle Crest ([www.annarbormarriott.com](http://www.annarbormarriott.com)). Accommodations are available at the Marriott at a price of \$86 per day plus tax under the designated Great Lakes Commission block. ***The cut-off date for reservations at this rate is Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2007.*** Reservations can be made directly by calling 734-487-2000 or 1-800-228-9290.

The Panel meeting will begin at 10:00 am (EDT) on Wednesday, Nov. 28 and adjourn on Thursday, Nov. 29 at 12:30 pm (EDT). Staff are in the process of developing the preliminary agenda, so please let us know of topics that you would like to see covered either during plenary or committee break out sessions. If you have questions and/or need additional information, please contact me or Erika Jensen by email ([shwayder@glc.org](mailto:shwayder@glc.org) or [ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org)) or by phone at: 734-971-9135.

**Meeting Proceedings:** A summary of the Great Lakes Panel meeting, held in conjunction with the ANS Task Force meeting (May 8-11, 2007 in Erie, Penn.), is available on the Panel website: (<http://glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>). The ANS Task Force meeting minutes are available on the ANSTF website at: [http://www.anstaskforce.gov/Minutes/ANSTF\\_Spring\\_2007\\_Minutes.pdf](http://www.anstaskforce.gov/Minutes/ANSTF_Spring_2007_Minutes.pdf). The special session featured at this joint meeting, *Aquatic Nuisance Species State Management Planning: Great Lakes Regional Perspectives*, has been summarized as a separate document, available on the aforementioned Great Lakes Panel website as well as the SMP project website (<http://glc.org/ans/documents/ANSTF-SMP-Session-May9-07-Summary-FNL-Jul30-07.pdf> )

**Action:** Please contact me ([shwayder@glc.org](mailto:shwayder@glc.org)) by Friday, October 12, 2007 with any comments you may have in reviewing the summary documents of the Great Lakes Panel meeting, including the ANS SMP session.

**Aquatic Nuisance Species State Management Plan Project:** With completion of the aquatic nuisance species (ANS) state management plan (SMP) project, the website (<http://glc.org/ans/initiatives.html#advance>) has been updated to provide documentation of activities associated with the grant, *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, the Great Lakes Commission (funded by the NOAA National Sea Grant Program) has worked in collaboration with the Great Lakes Sea Grant

Network and state Natural Resource agencies to facilitate and advance aquatic nuisance species SMP development and implementation in the Great Lakes region. Toward this end, state-specific workshops were conducted in six Great Lakes states to aid in the SMP process. The objectives of the workshops, depending on status of state management planning in the state, have allowed states to move forward in the process by identifying strengths, successes, gaps, needs and means to overcome obstacles to ensure full and effective plan development and implementation. Workshops were completed in Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Outcomes from all state-specific workshops and the progress of state management planning in the Great Lakes region was presented May 9, 2007, as part of the SMP special session of the joint meeting of the ANS Task Force and Great Lakes Panel at the Tom Ridge Center in Erie, Pennsylvania (discussed above). Agendas, presentations, summaries and other materials are posted on this website for each workshop as well as the final SMP project session.

**Staff Changes:** Two staff changes have occurred since the May Panel meeting. Erika Jensen, the 2006-2007 Great Lakes Commission-Sea Grant Fellow, has transitioned to a new position at the Commission as Program Specialist. In this role, she will continue her work in support of the Panel and other AIS Commission initiatives. Éve-Marie Morrisette has joined the Commission staff as an intern in cooperation with the Government of Quebec. As part of her internship, Éve-Marie will be providing additional support for the Panel. She obtained a masters degree in biology from Laval University in Québec. Éve-Marie has also worked with a team responsible for the monitoring and management of AIS in order to improve brook trout fishing quality in wildlife refuges.

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