



2805 South Industrial Hwy  
Suite #100  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-6791

Chair: Mike Conlin, Illinois DNR  
Vice-Chair: James Grazio, Pennsylvania DEP

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

Fr: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder, Great Lakes Panel Administrator

Re: Joint Meeting of the Great Lakes Panel and ANS Task Force, Featuring Session on ANS State Management Planning (May 8-11, 2007 in Erie, Penn.)

Da: April 30, 2007

Greetings!

Preparations continue for the joint meeting of the Great Lakes Panel and the ANS Task Force, featuring a session on ANS State Management Planning. This series of meetings will be held during the period of May 8 -11 at the Tom Ridge Center in Erie, Pennsylvania. Please note the updated version of the agenda which is attached and also available online on the Panel website (<http://glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>). We will continue to notify you of updates to the agenda as well as availability of meeting materials through out the week (April 30 to May 4). In particular, we will be providing more details on the ANS state management plan session to include questions guiding break out session discussion. For today, we ask that you review the following list of meeting-related items.

**Registration:** Interest in this meeting has been strong with close to 60 people registered to date with more expected. There is still time to register if you have not done so already. We do ask that you register as soon as possible. This can be done either with the attached registration form to be sent to Erika Jensen (email: [ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org); fax: 734-971-9150) or online through the Great Lakes Panel Meeting website at <http://www.glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>. We encourage you to try out our new online registration option.

**Panel Member Updates:** We are trying out a different approach to Panel updates at the meeting with written updates to be submitted prior to the meeting. We request that each Panel member (i.e., regular, alternate and at-large) submit a brief written programmatic update (1-2 paragraphs) on ANS/AIS activities of their agency/organization **by EOB Thursday, May 3**, if you have not done so already. Areas you may consider covering in your programmatic update include project status (successes, challenges, concerns) examples of interagency and/or multijurisdictional collaboration, and/or legislative updates. These updates will be compiled and distributed with other materials in the meeting packets. We are trying this approach of written updates instead of the "round robin" session that has occurred during past Panel meetings in an effort to save time during Panel meetings while still making the information available in a timely fashion to Panel members and interested parties. The key for success will be for each of you to submit your brief update prior to the meeting, as requested, so staff can compile and share at the Panel meeting. These updates will also be included in the meeting summary.

**Great Lakes Aquatic Invasions booklet:** As you may know, the final version of the *Great Lakes Aquatic Invasions* booklet is back from the printer and ready for circulation! Check it out on the Panel

website at <http://glc.org/ans/aquatic-invasions/>. Our thanks to all of you on the Panel participating in the development of this outreach tool which will be used in continued, long-term efforts to raise awareness of and understanding for the AIS issue, particularly among state and federal legislators. We would like to acknowledge the U.S. EPA, Great Lakes National Program Office as the primary funding source for this project with supplemental support from USDA Forest Service, Eastern Division.

**Booklet Order Form:** Attached is an order form for Panel members and interested parties to fill out based on interest in receiving up to 50 complimentary copies of the recently completed and published, *Great Lakes Aquatic Invasions* booklet. Please submit your request with the attached form by **May 31, 2007**, including the number you would like and a method for delivery/receipt. If you would like to receive your booklets at the May meeting, please return the completed form by **Thursday, May 3 EOB** to allow sufficient processing time. We will keep you posted on further availability of the AIS booklets after this first phase of dissemination.

**Operational Guidance & December (2006) Meeting Summary:** The following Panel documents are available for your review: the final version of the Operational Guidance document and the meeting summary from last December's Panel meeting. Both documents are posted on the Panel meeting website at <http://www.glc.org/ans/panel.html#glpmeet>. It is important to note that the Operational Guidance document has been finalized and will be put into use at our upcoming meeting. Final changes made to the document were based on comments at the December Panel meeting, lessons learned from work on the Asian Carp barrier letter submitted to the ANS Task Force in January, and decisions made by the Panel Executive Committee during a March 24 conference call. In your review of the Operational Guidance, please note substantive revisions were made primarily to Section J: Making Recommendations to the ANS Task Force and Guidelines on Advocacy with small changes made throughout the document.

Thank you in advance for your action on these items. As always, please contact me ([shwayder@glc.org](mailto:shwayder@glc.org)) or Erika Jensen ([ejensen@glc.org](mailto:ejensen@glc.org)) if you have further questions and/or comments. We look forward to seeing you next week in Erie!