

SAVE THE DATE!

Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop II: *Proposed Projects to Advance Management of Organisms in Trade*

December 3- 4, 2008

Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest (Michigan)

Concern has been growing in the Great Lakes region regarding the invasion risks posed by pathways associated with live organisms in trade (OIT), such as the aquarium, aquaculture, horticulture, live bait and live food fish trades. In response, the Great Lakes Commission, with funding from the Great Lakes Protection Fund, planned two workshops under the project "*Building a Framework to Advance Aquatic Nuisance Species Management of Organisms in Trade in the Great Lakes Region.*" The goal of the project is to identify and advance efforts to reduce the risk of aquatic invasive species introduction and spread resulting from the trade of live organisms in the Great Lakes region.

The initial workshop (Workshop I) was held June 10-11, 2008 in Romulus, Mich., convening representatives from industry, state agencies, environmental groups, and others in efforts to build a stronger understanding of OIT pathways (see <http://glc.org/ans/initiatives#oit> for more information). Outcomes from Workshop I, coupled with staff research, provided the basis for a set of project ideas designed to advance OIT management efforts. The focus of the second workshop (Workshop II) is to conduct a dialogue on how these ideas can be further developed as viable projects to reduce risks associated with specific OIT pathways.

Workshop II is scheduled for December 3- 4, 2008 at the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti Marriott at Eagle Crest in Ypsilanti, Michigan, beginning 1:30PM (EST) on Wednesday, December 3 and concluding at 12:00PM on Thursday, December 4. *This event is scheduled to immediately follow the fall meeting of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species which will be held December 2-3, 2008.*

We encourage you to attend Workshop II. A draft agenda and additional details, including project ideas to be discussed, will be posted online (<http://glc.org/ans/initiatives#oit>) as they become available. Your participation in this workshop will be extremely valuable as we look to further develop and prioritize these project ideas.

Please contact Kathe Glassner Shwayder (734-971-9135, shwayder@glc.org) or Erika Jensen (734-971-9135, ejensen@glc.org) at the Great Lakes Commission with any questions.