



Overview



- The GLWQA and the 2006-2007 Agreement Review
- Status of Negotiations to Date
- Opportunities for Input

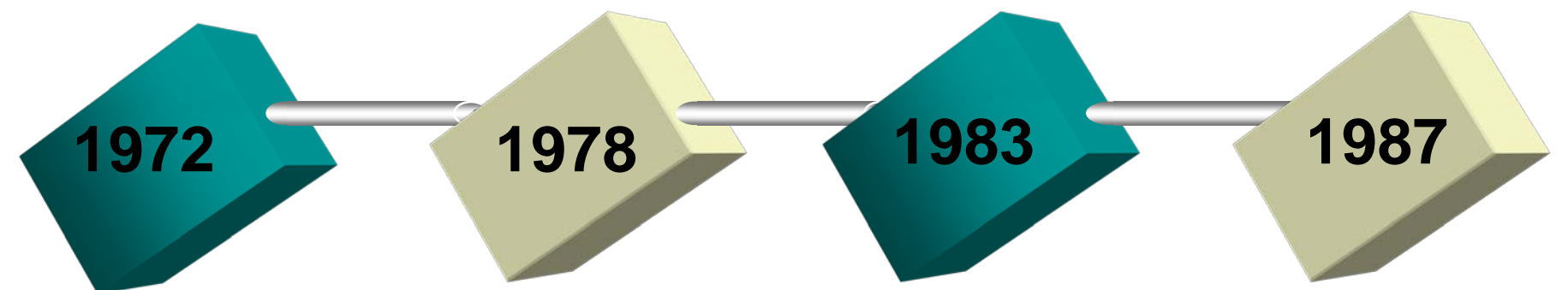


The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement

- Agreement to “restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.”
- Commits the two countries to implement programs that manage nutrients and reduce toxic chemicals released by municipal, industrial, agriculture, forestry, and shipping activities.
- Establishes our Areas of Concern and Lakewide management programs.
- Has guided environmental protection efforts for the last 38 years.



Previous Agreement Updates



Reduce Phosphorus Loading

Reduction of visible pollution

Persistent Toxic Substances

Ecosystem Approach to management

(Phosphorus Supplement)

Updated Phosphorus reduction targets

Remedial Action Plans for Areas of Concern

Lakewide Management Plans



Agreement Review

- **IJC Pre-Review Activities (2004 – 2005)**
 - Public education sessions (14 sessions; 4100 participants)
 - Report: “Synthesis of Public Comment”
 - Web Dialog (270 participants)
- **Agreement Review (2006 – 2007):**
 - Over 350 participants
 - Nine binational review working groups conducted an extensive review of the Agreement
 - Co-chaired bi-nationally, with representation from federal, provincial, state and municipal governments, Aboriginal groups, non-government organizations, industry, academia, and the interested public.
 - 2007 Synthesis: Agreement Review Committee Report



2006-7 Agreement Review: Findings

- The purpose of the Agreement remains valid
- Many provisions are outdated
- **Some pressing issues/emerging threats are not addressed (e.g. Aquatic Invasive Species).**
- The roles of other orders of government and the public are not clear
- Treatment of accountability is weak



Special Issues Working Group

- **GENERAL COMMENTS RECEIVED:**

- *AIS are one of the leading threats to biodiversity and cause many beneficial use impairments.*
- *AIS are being introduced to the Great Lakes through a variety of pathways including, but not limited to, shipping.*
- *Consideration needs to be given to the threat of introduction via other pathways such as canals, diversions, aquarium and water garden trade, recreational boating, live bait and live food trade.*
- *There is no binational approach to address the issue.*
- *Enforcement will not be possible under the Agreement and separate legislation will be needed.*
- *The GLWQA can serve as the organizing vehicle for the issue of AIS and provide overarching legitimacy to the issue.*



Special Issues Working Group

- **Recommendations**

1. *A new Annex to the Agreement should be created to address invasive species by establishing clear goals and accountability mechanisms.*
2. *Annex 11 should be amended to include AIS surveillance and monitoring.*
3. *The Agreement should take into account the goals, milestones, and specific recommendations included in the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy and its Aquatic Invasive Species appendix*



Negotiation Announcement

- The 2006-2007 Review of the GLWQA as a multi-year effort with U.S., Canada, and the Great Lakes stakeholders, has established a solid foundation to be culminated with the formal negotiation process



Secretary of State Clinton & Foreign
Affairs Minister Cannon
June 13, 2009



GLWQA Negotiations (1)

- Preparatory phase to lay the groundwork for negotiations
- Negotiations began on January 27, 2010
- Negotiations between the two federal governments:



Environment Canada
Foreign Affairs and
International Trade
Canada



Environmental
Protection Agency
Department of State

- Tentative goal of completing negotiations by Dec. 2010



GLWQA Negotiations (2)

- Issues for Negotiation:

Governance	Science Coordination
Nutrients	Aquatic Invasive Species
Toxic Substances	Habitats and Species
Ship-source Pollution	Climate Change Impacts

- Phased approach to negotiation:
 - Phase 1 – Governance
 - Phase 2 – Other Issues
 - Phase 3 – Synthesis and Drafting



Stakeholder Input and Engagement

- Wealth of input from Agreement Review
- Domestic engagement mechanisms
- Binational engagement mechanisms
 - Website: www.binational.net
 - Series of webinars scheduled to begin in May
 - Public forums



Work to Date

- First negotiating session held January 27th, 2010
 - Process for Negotiation
 - Begin work on Governance
- Second session held April 8th, 2010.
 - Work began on other specific issues such as nutrients, toxic substances, ship-source pollution, science coordination, **aquatic invasive species**, habitats and species, and climate change impacts.
 - Governance not concluded, to be informed by issue specific discussions.
 - Working toward directions, elements and suggested approaches for amendments to the Agreement.
- Third session to take place Summer 2010.



Upcoming Opportunities for Input

- **Binational**
 - Six week public comment period in early May.
 - In addition, targeted webinar sessions on major Agreement issues, including one for Aquatic Invasive Species.
 - Possible elements and approaches under consideration will be presented for feedback. Advice received on different approaches will inform subsequent negotiations.
- **Domestic**
 - Canadian Domestic Consultation Process
 - U.S. Domestic Consultation through “U.S. Policy Meeting” and Public Session: May 18-19, Toledo, Ohio.

A satellite image of the Great Lakes region in North America, showing the five large lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario) and the surrounding land. The water is dark blue, and the land is green. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in yellow, bold, serif font in the center of the image.

THANK YOU

The Great Lakes from Satellite Aqua - September 17, 2002