

## Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species

### **Program Year 1999 Work Plan**

(July 1, 1998 - June 30, 1999)

The activities outlined below were developed in consultation with the three standing committees of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species: Information/Education, Research Coordination and Policy and Legislation. The final work plan was formally adopted by the Panel at its June 10, 1998 meeting. Funding for baseline Panel activities in Program Year 1999 includes support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (via Indiana's portion of Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act monies). Project-specific support from other sources will be secured as well.

A Great Lakes Commission staff member has been appointed to lead each committee, ensuring that all committee tasks are pursued in a timely manner. Each task is presented below, accompanied by designated lead and support staff, and a time line for completion. Some activities will be conducted on an ongoing basis; the schedule for others may vary based on the final schedule for Panel meetings, other associated activities, and staff and budgetary limitations.

For further information, contact Dr. Michael J. Donahue, Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission, 400 Fourth Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103; phone (734) 665-9135, fax (734) 665-4370, e-mail mdonahue@glc.org.

#### **INFORMATION/EDUCATION COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

##### **Task 1: General Committee Support**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss

Kathe Glassner-Shwayder will provide primary support to the committee. This includes the conduct of all logistical and program arrangements for convening committee meetings; assisting the committee chair in the preparation of presentations on committee accomplishments for Panel meetings; and the conduct of related activities consistent with activities outlined within the committee work plan.

##### **Task 2: Preparation of the Panel's newsletter insert, ANS UPDATE**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss  
Lara Slee  
Rita Straith

The Panel's Information/Education (I/E) committee has confirmed that preparation and distribution of the *ANS UPDATE* would continue to be a priority. The format of the insert will remain the same, including four issues annually of a two-page newsletter insert to use in the Great Lakes Commission's *ADVISOR* newsletter and other regional/national newsletters. The insert will continue to educate and inform readers of Great Lakes Panel activities, events, publications and important issues relating to the zebra mussel and other aquatic nuisance species. Committee members recommended that upcoming feature articles should highlight existing ANS control options, given the language in Section 1203 of NISA that charges the Great Lakes Panel with the responsibility to "provide advice to public and private individuals and entities concerning methods of controlling aquatic nuisance species."

Committee activities will include:

- C Provide suggestions regarding feature articles and assist in article writing when appropriate.
  - August 1998, November 1998, February 1999, May 1999\*
- Formal review of feature article topic and content
- C Prepare a report to the Panel on newsletter usage
  - December 1998
- C Expand readership and promote newsletter
  - Ongoing

*\*Exact publication dates may vary depending on the publication schedule of the newsletters in which the Update is being inserted (e.g. Great Lakes Commission Advisor and Freshwater Foundation ANS Digest.)*

**Task 3: Update, Reprint, Disseminate and Promote the ANS Brochure**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss

The *Biological Invasions* brochure has been a highly successful information outreach tool for a wide variety of target audiences. Two printings, totaling approximately 17,000 brochures, have been exhausted and requests for individual and bulk quantities continue to be received. The Committee will coordinate the updating, reprinting and distribution of the brochure. To make the brochure available at the most affordable cost, the third printing will be in the largest quantity possible given projected demand. Panel members and other stakeholders involved in the ANS issue will be surveyed to determine their likely demand for the brochure over the next two years and advanced orders will be taken. Editorial changes to keep the brochure current will also be accepted. Least-cost mailing options for delivering the bulk orders will be utilized. Staff will continue to seek opportunities to promote the brochure's use in ANS-related information/education outreach activities.

Committee activities will include:

- C Survey Panel members and other interested parties to determine their likely demand for the ANS brochure over the next two years and to solicit needed editorial changes to the brochure.
  - June 1998
- C Update and reprint the ANS brochure based on the response to the survey and distribute the bulk quantities.
  - July/August 1998
- C Promote the updated brochure to ANS stakeholders and via ANS-related information/education activities conducted by the Panel and other parties.
  - Ongoing

**Task 4: Promote the ANS Information/Education Inventory and Policy Recommendations and Explore Options for Updating the Inventory**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss

In 1997 the Panel finalized its comprehensive *Inventory of Aquatic Nuisance Species Information and Education Materials Relevant to the Great Lakes Basin* and an associated series of findings and recommendations reflecting the inventory results. A key component of the inventory process is to publicize and promote the inventory and policy statement to the various stakeholders who fund, manage or are otherwise involved in ANS I/E outreach. In addition, the Committee will explore options for updating the inventory, consistent with available resources.

Committee activities will include:

- C Promote and coordinate distribution of the inventory to ensure the broadest range of stakeholders are made aware of both the resource and the findings and recommendations.
  - Ongoing
- C Develop a one-page advertisement sheet summarizing the purpose, content and availability of the inventory and distribute it to a list of appropriate target audiences.
  - fall 1998
- C Explore options for updating the inventory and determine the most appropriate strategy for doing so.
  - fall 1998
- C As time and resources permit, update the inventory and produce revised hard copy and/or online version.
  - spring 1999

**Task 5: Publicize and Disseminate the Panel's revised I/E strategy**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss

Originally developed in 1993, the Panel's I/E strategy will be revised and updated in 1998 to reflect the results of I/E inventory process and other developments. It will be publicized and disseminated on an ongoing basis to help guide and coordinate ANS I/E efforts in the Great Lakes Basin and beyond.

#### **Task 6: Support for clearinghouse services through the Great Lakes Information Network**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Christine Manninen  
Support: Matt Doss

Communications is the vital element in any successful strategy to address environmental protection. The Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) is a collaborative project of agencies and organizations in the binational Great Lakes region to link data, information and people via the Internet. By providing one place to look for information about the Great Lakes region, GLIN enhances communication and information, thus fostering cooperation in addressing unique environmental and economic challenges, including that posed by aquatic nuisance species. The national ANS Task Force has established a web site to promote its work and provide links to existing ANS web sites at the national/international level. In conjunction with this effort, the Great Lakes Panel, through the Great Lakes Information Network, will help ensure that Great Lakes ANS web sites are identified and linked within GLIN. In addition, materials produced by the Panel as well as other relevant ANS information will be placed online via GLIN (resources permitting).

Committee activities will include the following, subject to the availability of staff and financial support:  
C Identify organizations (government, industry, non-governmental groups) with existing web sites and establish the appropriate linkages to the GLIN-ANS web page.

- *Ongoing*

C Expand and revise, as needed, the GLIN ANS web pages to allow for well-organized, easy access of ANS information among all GLIN partners.

- *Ongoing*

C Conduct GLIN demonstrations for Panel members and other stakeholders involved in ANS work to demonstrate current ANS holdings and encourage new partnerships.

- *Ongoing*

C Maintain and place Great Lakes Panel information online.

- *Ongoing*

#### **Task 7: Review and Promote Guidelines from the ANS Task Force's Recreational Activities Committee**

Guidelines regarding ANS prevention and control strategies are under development by the ANS Task Force's Recreational Activities Committee. Target audiences for these guidelines, among others, include, recreational boaters and anglers, sea plane operators, scuba divers, water fowl hunters, field researchers, etc. Great Lakes Panel involvement in this initiative is identified as being important to the development of effective, feasible and consistent guidelines.

- Coordinate review of guidelines by Great Lakes Panel members for the use of Task Force member(s) responsible for guideline development.
- Promote and disseminate guidelines through appropriate mechanisms, such as feature article(s) in the *ANS Update*, providing online accessibility, and discussion at Great Lakes Panel meetings, as appropriate.

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Matt Doss

### **RESEARCH COORDINATION COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

#### **Task 1: Committee Support**

Lead: Matt Doss  
Support: Mike Donahue

Matt Doss and Mike Donahue will provide primary support to the Research Coordination Committee. Activities include the conduct of all logistical and program arrangements for the convening of committee meetings; assisting the committee chair in the preparation of presentations on committee accomplishments for Panel meetings; and the conduct of related activities consistent with the activities outlined within the committee work plan.

- *Ongoing*

## **Task 2: Enhance inter-regional communication and coordination activities**

In a 1995 policy position, the Panel emphasized the need for a multi-regional approach of prevention and control if the goals of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-646) are to be achieved. The Panel supports the establishment of similar panels throughout the country and will strive to share lessons learned in the Great Lakes, research and technology information, and information/education materials.

Committee activities will include:

a) *Promote the research inventory and associated policy recommendations*

Lead: Matt Doss  
Support: Mike Donahue

Based on its comprehensive inventory of ANS research, the Panel has produced the document *Aquatic Nuisance Species Research Relevant to the Great Lakes Basin* as well as a policy statement titled *Research Guidance for the Prevention and Control of Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Species in the Great Lakes*. A key component of the inventory process is to publicize and promote the research inventory and policy statement to the various stakeholders who fund, manage, apply or are otherwise involved in ANS research. This activity will be conducted on an ongoing basis.

b) *Participate in the Annual International Zebra Mussel and Other Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference*

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Mike Donahue

Panel members and support staff will arrange presentations at the 9<sup>th</sup> *Annual Zebra Mussel and Other Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference* to share the results of the model state ANS legislation and ANS Action projects, other Panel efforts, and general experiences from the Great Lakes Basin.

## **Task 3: Update and maintain the ANS Research Inventory**

Lead: Matt Doss  
Support: Mike Donahue

The Panel is coordinating its ANS research inventory effort with the International Joint Commission (IJC). The Panel-produced ANS survey form has been mailed out by the IJC together with the latter's general research form. Both forms have been put online. This cooperative process allows the Panel to continue an annual ANS research inventory with dramatically reduced expenditure of resources. Tentative plans call for the electronic version of the ANS research inventory to be updated on an annual basis, with a hard copy report produced biennially.

Committee activities will include:

C Review the 1998 inventory results and coordinate posting of information online and other activities to promote and/or utilize the data.

- *fall 1998*

C Review survey form and revise as needed.

- *January 1999*

C Distribute survey form to researchers in conjunction with the IJC mailing.

- February 1999
- C Provide electronic version of survey form via GLIN in conjunction with the IJC.
- February 1999
- C QA/QC survey results and add to existing database.
- May 1999
- C Update inventory online.
- July 1999
- C Report summary of research inventory in the *ADVISOR*, *ANS UPDATE* and other targeted newsletters.
- summer 1999

**Task 4: Ballast Water Management Research Workshop and Research Agenda**

Lead: Matt Doss  
Support: Mike Donahue

The Panel will sponsor a workshop to discuss research on preventing the spread of aquatic nuisance species through ballast water and to establish a three-to-five-year plan for prevention oriented research on the issue. Workshop participants will include a select group of researchers, resource managers, industry representatives and policy makers who are active in the field of ballast water management. The group will convene for up to two days of detailed, focused discussions on the state of knowledge on ballast water management as it relates to ANS prevention and control. The outcome will be a series of specific recommendations for ballast water research priorities. A workshop proceedings report will summarize the discussions and resulting research agenda and a summary article will be offered for publication in a Great Lakes related journal.

Committee activities will include:

- C Identify workshop purpose and goals, structure, potential participants and related details.
- June 1998
- C Convene planning group of committee members and other interested parties to finalize workshop participants list, workshop format, date, time and place and other details.
- July 1998
- C Distribute invitations to workshop participants and finalize agenda and logistical details.
- August 1998
- C Convene workshop, facilitate discussions and coordinate related onsite arrangements.
- November 1998
- C Coordinate follow-up activities and draft summary report and research agenda.
- December 1998/January 1999
- C Disseminate the summary report and promote the ballast water research agenda
- Ongoing

**POLICY AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

**Task 1: Committee Support**

Lead: Mike Donahue  
Support: Matt Doss

Mike Donahue and Matt Doss will provide primary support to the Policy and Legislation Committee. Activities include the conduct of all logistical and program arrangements for the convening of committee meetings; assisting the committee chair in the preparation of presentations on committee accomplishments for Panel meetings; and the conduct of related activities consistent with the activities outlined within the committee work plan.

- Ongoing

**Task 2: Development and Implementation of Panel Policy Statements**

Lead: Mike Donahue  
Support: Matt Doss

Continue to develop and implement new and existing policy statements addressing research and management needs and priorities and legislative and budget needs and priorities.

Committee activities include:

- C Provide program support for agencies/organizations involved in implementing ANS program pursuant to the National Invasive Species Act.
  - *Ongoing*
- C Examine ANS budget needs and priorities for the FY1999 federal funding cycle and make this information available to interested parties.
  - *April 1999*

**Task 3: Support for implementation of and funding for the National Invasive Species Act (NISA)**

Lead: Mike Donahue  
Support: Matt Doss

Committee activities include:

- C Assist the Task Force and other interested parties in assembling data and information documenting the need for adequate funding and programmatic support for the Act, accomplishments to date, and budget needs for the Great Lakes region.
  - *Ongoing, as needed*

**Task 4: Promoting the development and implementation of ANS state management plans**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Mike Donahue

The Great Lakes Panel completed an ANS State model plan in December 1995. The plan was successful in advancing efforts in Michigan and Ohio to develop an ANS state management plan, and is being consulted in other states where plan development is underway. The Great Lakes Commission will provide services to other Great Lakes states for technical and funding support. In addition, the Panel will disseminate the model plan to other regions of the country that are impacted by nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species.

Committee activities include:

- C Provide technical assistance to states on plan development.
- C Support implementation of the state plans, consistent with provisions of the National Invasive Species Act.
- C Provide interstate coordination between and among the states during plan implementation.
- C Disseminate model plan via GLIN and conference presentations.

**Task 5: Develop an "Action Plan" for ANS prevention and control**

Lead: Mike Donahue  
Support: Matt Doss

The Great Lakes Commission has received U.S. EPA grant support to develop, under the Panel's auspices, an "Action Plan for Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control." Using the Panel as a basis for discussion and plan coordination, the project is developing an overarching regional policy agreement, or "Action Plan," to better facilitate prompt, multi-jurisdictional action on prevention and control. Plan elements will include, among others, formal acknowledgment of the ANS infestation problem; a commitment to interjurisdictional cooperation in prevention and control; provisions for a public/private sector partnership to assist in implementing effective prevention and control programs; and presentation of specific action commitments (e.g., decision making process for chemical/non-

chemical treatments). As envisioned, the Action Plan could be signed by the Great Lakes governors and their provincial counterparts, or by designated senior agency officials.

Project activities began in the fall of 1997 and are expected to continue through FY 1999. Basic work elements associated with the initiative (and a preliminary schedule for their completion) are as follows:

- C Action Plan research and drafting, including project scoping; establishment of institutional infrastructure; Action Plan research; and document drafting.  
- *October 1997 through July 1998*
- C Consensus building and Action Plan approval by drafting committee and Panel;  
- *fall 1998*
- C External plan review and revision; presentation to state/provincial governments for signing.  
- *spring 1999*
- C Action Plan signing, dissemination and implementation, including public dissemination; consultation with the ANS community; and implementing and institutionalizing the Action Plan.  
- *Ongoing*

**Task 6: Development of model state ANS legislation**

Lead: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Support: Mike Donahue

and resource managers and will be intended to educate the public and government officials on the ANS issue in general and the costs and benefits of prevention and control efforts and opportunities for intergovernmental and public/private sector collaboration to meet associated goals. The documentary will be produced by Information Television (ITV) as an episode in its Cutting Edge Technology series. The project methodology calls for extensive consultation with Panel members in the design, production and distribution of the documentary. Tentative work elements are as follows:

- C Project initiation and scoping.  
- *October 1998*
- C Documentary design, scripting and initial Panel review.  
- *December 1999*
- C Documentary production.  
- *February 1999*
- C Panel and external review, finalize documentary.  
- *June 1999*
- C Promote, publicize and distribute documentary.  
- *Summer/fall 1999*

## **GENERAL PANEL SUPPORT**

### **Task 1: Support for the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species**

Lead: Matt Doss  
Support: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Mike Donahue  
Tom Crane

Matt Doss will be the primary contact for general Panel support including coordination among - and responsiveness to - Panel members; maintaining diverse regional Panel membership; the conduct of logistical and program arrangements for the convening of two to three Panel meetings; the conduct of related activities consistent with provisions in the National Invasive Species Act; and all financial reporting requirements.

Activities include:

- C Conduct of two Panel meetings  
- *fall 1998, spring 1999*
- C Prepare financial and program reports for NOAA, FWS and other grants.
- C General support to the Panel

### **Task 2: Advisory services to the national Task Force on Aquatic Nuisance Species**

Lead: Mike Donahue  
Support: Kathe Glassner-Shwayder

The ANS Task Force has oversight and primary coordination responsibilities for federal programs called for in P.L. 101-646. The Act states that the Panel is to "assist the Task Force in coordinating federal ANS program activities in the Great Lakes." The assistance of the Great Lakes Panel is vital since the Panel has coordination responsibility for all other (i.e., non-federal) programs.

Activities will include regular communications with national Task Force staff and members, attendance at national Task Force meetings, presentations to the Task Force on Panel activities and coordinating regional comments on Task Force reports.

### **Task 3: Preparation of an annual report**

Support: Matt Doss  
Kathe Glassner-Shwayder  
Lara Slee

Section 1203 of P.L. 101-646 requires the preparation of an annual report. The report will contain background information on the Panel (i.e., structure, membership and funding), 1998 accomplishments relative to the Act's six objectives, policy positions, Panel initiatives for 1999 and program updates from Panel members.  
- *summer 1999*