

DRAFT WORKING AGENDA

**U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE GREAT LAKES BASIN ECOSYSTEM TEAM
&
U.S. EPA GREAT LAKES NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE**

**GREAT LAKES ISLANDS CONSERVATION
COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION & GREAT LAKES GAP WORKSHOP
December 10, 1 p.m CT - December 12, 2002, 12:30 p.m. CT
Club Quarters - 111 West Adams Street
CHICAGO**

(Revised November 30)

Tuesday, December 10

WORKSHOP KICKOFF - Leslie Tewinkel, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, USFWS Region 3
Regional Office, Chair GLBET Islands Committee

1:00 - 1:15 **Workshop Logistics, Introductions**

Leslie TeWinkel; Rich Greenwood, USFWS GLBET Team Leader and Liaison to
USEPA GLNPO; and Karen Rodriguez, USEPA GLNPO

1:15 - 1:30 **Overview of GLBET Island Committee Activities & Workshop Focus**

Leslie TeWinkel

1:30 - 2:15 **Significance and Priorities of Great Lakes Islands Conservation**

Karen Vigmostad, Great Lakes Policy Analyst, Northeast-Midwest Institute

**OVERVIEW OF STATE OF GREAT LAKES ISLANDS/COASTAL HABITAT
INFORMATION & GIS**

Chris Castiglione, GIS Specialist, USFWS Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources
Office, Chair GLBET GIS/DSS Committee; information materials on each of these
provided to participants prior to workshop; hands on demonstrations to be available

2:15 - 2:20 **Introduction to the Session and Background for GIS within the Great Lakes
Basin** - Chris Castiglione

2:20 - 2:30 **Summary of Great Lakes Basin Wide Island/other GIS data and Information
Gaps from the GLBET GIS/DSS Committee and Great Lakes Commission** -
Chris Castiglione

2:30 - 2:45 **Mapping Sensitive Habitats on Great Lakes Islands with Multispectral
Satellite Imagery** - Kurt Kowalski, USGS, Great Lakes Science Center

2:45 - 3:00 **GLBET GIS/DSS Demonstration and Opportunities, Needs, and Priorities
for Improving/Utilizing** - Jason Rohweder, USGS, Upper Midwest Science
Center

3:00 - 3:20 Break

INTRODUCTION TO PROPOSED GREAT LAKES AQUATIC & COASTAL GAP -

Jim McKenna, Ecologist, USGS Great Lakes Science Center, Tunison Laboratory
of Aquatic Science

3:20 - 3:25 **Introduction to Aquatic GAP Analysis and the Great Lakes Coastal GAP
Pilot Project** - Jim McKenna

- 3:25 - 3:55 **Coastal Conditions and Processes of Great Lakes Coastline and Nearshore Habitat** - Robin Davison-Arnott, Professor, University of Guelph
- 3:55 - 4:25 **Hydrology of Great Lakes Coasts and Its Influence on Aquatic Habitats** - Norman Grannemann, Hydrogeologist, USGS, Lansing, Michigan
- 4:25 - 4:55 **Wetland Habitats and Processes of the Great Lakes** - James Meeker, Associate Professor of Natural Resources and Biology, Northland College
- 4:55 - 5:20 **Use of Nearshore and Coastal Habitats by Great Lakes Fishes** - Jaci Savino, Research Fishery Biologist, USGS Great Lakes Science Center; and James E. McKenna, Jr.

Wednesday, December 11

RANKING & HABITAT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS FOR GREAT LAKES

ISLANDS Leslie TeWinkel

- 8:00 - 8:30 **The Great Lakes Ecoregion Planning: Identifying Critical Conservation Areas** - Dave Ewert, Director of Conservation Science; and Michele DePhillip, Aquatic Ecologist, Great Lakes Program, The Nature Conservancy
- 8:30 - 9:00 **Prioritization of Waterbird Colony Sites for Conservation in the U.S. Great Lakes** - Francie Cuthbert, Professor, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota
- 9:00 - 9:30 **Development of a Database for Ranking Islands in the Gulf of Maine** - Lois Winter, Conservation Biologist/Outreach Specialist, Gulf of Maine Coastal Program, USFWS
- 9:30 - 10:00 **Ranking and Classifying Islands in Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge** - Patti Morrison, Biologist, Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge
- 10:00 - 10:20 Break

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 3

- 10:00 - 1200 **Club Quarters, 111 West Adams**
Facilitated Discussion: Components of a Great Lakes Islands Ranking System
- Leslie TeWinkel
- 10:00 - 3:00 **U.S. EPA Building 77 West Jackson, Third Floor, Room 325**
Great Lakes Aquatic and Coastal GAP - Jim McKenna
Discussion among participants of coastal issues pertinent to aquatic GAP analysis with two primary goals: 1) identification of appropriate databases for coastal and nearshore conditions and their availability, 2) initial development of a coastal habitat classification framework for use in GAP analysis, specifically, identification of variables most likely to have significant influence over aquatic organisms, particularly (but not limited to) fish.
- 10:00 - 5:00 **U.S. EPA Building 77 West Jackson, Third Floor, Room 330**
Great Lakes Island Conservation: Creating Public Awareness and Support - Fred Caslick, USFWS; and L. Darryl Armstrong, Armstrong and Associates

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

CONTINUATION OF CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS - 2

- 1:00 - 3:00 **Great Lakes Aquatic and Coastal GAP**
- 1:00 - 5:00 **Creating Public Awareness and Support**

MODELS OF CONSERVATION STRATEGIES FOR GREAT LAKES ISLANDS -

- Karen Vigmostad
- 1:00 - 1:25 **Conservation Plan and Strategies for Western Lake Erie Islands** - Kendra Cipollini and Kay Carlson (or Staff), The Nature Conservancy Northeast Ohio Program
- 1:25 - 1:50 **The Process and Partnerships of Island Conservation in the Gulf of Maine** - Lois Winter, Conservation Biologist/Outreach Specialist, Gulf of Maine Coastal Program, USFWS
- 1:50 - 2:15 **Restoration of the Cat Island Chain in Lower Green Bay** - Janet Smith, USFWS Green Bay Field Office; and Vicky Harris, University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute are coordinating this presentation
- 2:15 - 2:40 **Conservation Initiatives in Les Chenaux Islands Area of Michigan's Upper Peninsula** - Dave Ewert, Director of Conservation Science, Great Lakes Program, The Nature Conservancy
- 2:40 - 3:00 Break
- 3:00 - 3:45 **Government & Partner Involvement in Great Lakes Island Conservation in Canada, Including Case Studies of Manitoulin Islands and Georgian Bay** - John Riley, Director of Conservation Science & Stewardship; Alan Stacey, Land Securement Officer; Wendy Cooper, Stewardship Officer, Nature Conservancy of Canada;

Presentation: Thousand Islands of Lake Ontario (tentative - Thursday morning?)

- 3:45 - 5:00 **FACILITATED SESSION: Characteristics of a Model for Conserving Great Lakes Islands at the Landscape & Local Levels** - Karen Vigmostad and Leslie TeWinkel

Thursday, December 12

GREAT LAKES GIS/DSS - Chris Castiglione

- 8:00 - 8:40 **Improving the Utility of the Great Lakes GIS/DSS** - Chris Castiglione & Jason Roweder
- 8:40 - 9:00 **Moving GIS/DSS Into the Policy and Management Arena: facilitated discussion**

DEVELOPING A COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR GREAT LAKES ISLAND

CONSERVATION - Fred Caslick, L. Darryl Armstrong

- 9:00 - 9:30 Communication Plan Breakout Group's Report Out, recommendations

9:30 - 9:45 **Break**

USFWS & PARTNERS ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES IN GREAT LAKES ISLAND & COASTAL CONSERVATION - Leslie TeWinkel

9:45 - 11:40

- **USFWS Great Lakes Coastal Program** - Bob Kavetsky or Craig Czarnecki, USFWS
- **Great Lakes Islands SOLEC Indicator: goals and actions** - Rich Greenwood, USFWS
- **SOLEC Islands Biodiversity Investment Areas** - Karen Rodriguez, GLNPO
- **Identifying Significant Great Lakes Habitat Areas** - John Perrecone, USEPA

- **National Park Service Great Lakes Islands Assessment and Conservation - NPS**
Representative(s): Steve Cinnamon, Steve Yancho, Joan Elias
- **Others?**

11:30 - 11:45 **Discussion and Questions on Presentations**

FACILITATED WORKSHOP RECAP; HIGHLIGHTS SUMMARY, AND IDENTIFYING NEXT STEPS - Leslie TeWinkel, Karen Vigmostad, and Megan Sullivan
11:45 - 12:30

ADJOURN
12:30

ISLANDS WORKSHOP PRODUCTS

- 1) **Framework for a model strategy for conservation of Great Lakes islands at both landscape and local levels(including draft GLBET Great Lakes Islands Survey Protocols)**
- 2) **An island conservation ranking/prioritization system**
- 3) **Updating, revision of SOLEC Islands Indicator, including a listing/inventory of Great Lakes Islands currently under conservation protection through inclusion in NWR's, or other means; islands known to be in need of priority conservation efforts**
- 4) **Inventory the databases available for island conservation - concurrence on action plan for repository/access of this information; Preliminary Guidelines for development of a classification system for nearshore coastal habitats of the Great Lakes and inventory of the databases available for coastal GAP analysis**
- 5) **Plan to improve the utility of the DSS - including demonstration of DSS, hands on opportunities provided, follow up training and utilization opportunities identified**
- 6) **Development of a communications campaign/plan for Great Lakes island conservation as a product and/or development of a network of communications specialists**