

Healing Our Waters® — Great Lakes Coalition



A closer look at the Coalition

- National Wildlife Federation and National Parks Conservation Association are permanent co-chairs
- Over 100 Coalition member groups
- National groups
 - American Rivers
 - Audubon
 - Ducks Unlimited
 - Environment America
 - Sierra Club



A closer look at the Coalition

- Regional groups
 - Alliance for the Great Lakes
 - Freshwater Future
 - Great Lakes United
- State / provincial and local groups
- Non-traditional groups
 - Brookfield Zoo
 - County Executives of America
 - Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
 - John G. Shedd Aquarium
 - League of Women Voters



Goals

- Healing Our Waters ("HOW") – Great Lakes Coalition
 - Two fundamental tasks:
 - 1) Get a strong Great Lakes restoration plan in place (GLRC Strategy)
 - 2) Conduct a campaign that persuades state and federal governments to implement the plan through sound policies and substantially increased funding

Activities

- Partner with and fund coalition members in several GL states to advance our goals
- Assist ~100 advocates in attending annual Great Lakes Day in Washington, D.C.
- Host annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference
- Other media, public outreach, and advocacy work



Progress

- Fostered increased unity among various Great Lakes stakeholders
- HOW increasingly seen as *the* go-to group for Members of Congress on Great Lakes issues
- GL Restoration Pledge of \$5 Billion from President-elect Obama
- Successful reauthorizations of GLFWRA, GL Legacy Act

HOW and the GLHI



- Working to secure more funding for programs that fund on the ground Great Lakes restoration projects
- Partnering with agencies: help us help you

HOW 2009 Priorities - Authorizations

- New Great Lakes Restoration legislation (under development)
- Clean Water Restoration Act
- Invasive Species legislation
- Great Lakes Legacy Act
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund

HOW FY2010 Priorities - Appropriations

- Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (\$16m)
- Great Lakes Legacy Act (\$54m)
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (\$490.1m for GL states)
- Great Lakes Fishery Ecosystem Restoration Act (\$10m)

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