

Great Lakes Habitat Restoration

You Can Do It



We Can Help

Priority Issues of Governors



Water use/diversion



Coastal Health



Habitat and species



Toxic Contaminants



Indicators/information



Nonpoint pollution



Contaminated sediments



Invasive species



Sustainable Development

Great Lakes Regional Collaboration

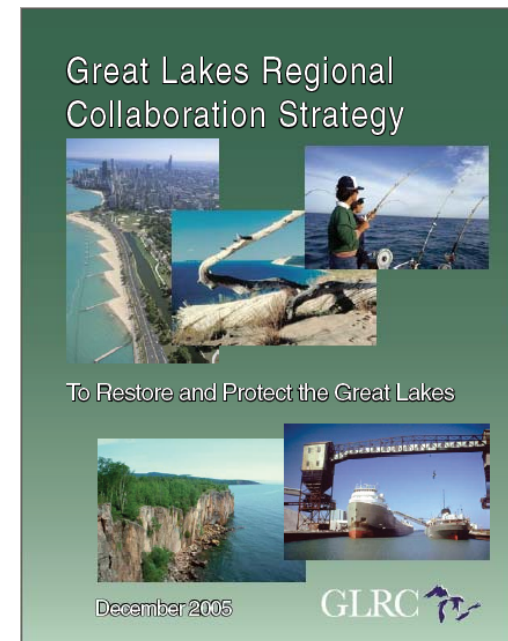
- created under Executive Order 13340 signed by President in 2004
- partnership of federal, state, city, and tribal governments
- developed Strategy for Protection and Restoration of Great Lakes





Strategy

- developed in one year by over 1,200 people working in eight teams aligned with priority issues set by Governors of eight states
- recommendations included specific goals and cost estimates





Habitat & Species Recommendations

- increase stocking of native fish species
- re-establish lake sturgeon in 5 areas
- restore/protect 550,000 acres wetlands
- achieve 1.54 million breeding pairs of waterfowl
- restore fishery access and riverine habitat in 10 tributaries
- restore/protect 10,000 acres of priority coastal/upland habitat per year



Habitat & Species Recommendations

- \$20M annually to increase stocking of native fish species
- \$188M annually to restore/protect wetlands
- \$40M annually for restore/protect riverine habitat and fishery access
- \$40M annually to restore/protect coastal and related upland habitat

Habitat & Species Funding Options

- National federal programs
- Regional federal programs
- State wildlife programs
- Nongovernmental grant programs
- Land trusts





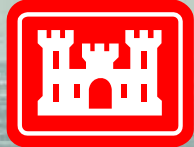
Habitat & Species Analysis

- Multiple strategies and plans for Great Lakes fish & wildlife habitat
 - Great Lakes Fishery Convention
 - NAWMP Great Lakes Joint Venture
 - TNC Binational Blueprint
 - Remedial Action Plans at AOCs
- Diverse national and regional funding programs



Habitat & Species Accomplishments

- Collaboration of federal agency grant programs under NFWF
- Reauthorization of two regional habitat restoration programs
 - Great Lakes Fish & Wildlife Protection Act
 - Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration
- Wetlands restoration tracking
- Great Lakes Habitat Initiative



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative

Why ?

- Difficult for stakeholders and elected officials to visualize the Habitat/Species goals of the Strategy
- Difficult to sort through the number and diversity of habitat funding programs
- Difficult to maintain awareness of all potential habitat projects in any area

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative

What ?

- \$1M, 2-year effort initiated in 2006
- Purpose: to help implement the Habitat/Species chapter of the GLRC Strategy
- Approach: Identify site-specific habitat restoration projects that can be implemented under existing funding programs

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative

Who ?

Council of Great Lakes
Governors

Ducks Unlimited Inc.

Great Lakes Commission

Great Lakes Fishery
Commission

Great Lakes Indian Fish
and Wildlife Commission

Great Lakes and St.
Lawrence Cites Initiative

Healing Our Waters
Coalition

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

The Nature Conservancy

U.S. EPA, Great Lakes
National Program Office

U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers

U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Service

Wisconsin Department of
Natural Resources

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative

How ?

Four products:

1. Inventory of habitat funding programs
2. Database of potential habitat restoration and conservation projects
3. Lexicon of project characterization criteria
4. Agency/organization implementation plans

Great Lakes Habitat Initiative Funding Program Inventory

- Inventory of 140 federal, state, and nongovernmental programs that can provide funding for habitat projects in the Great Lakes Basin
- Identify program managers, types of activities or projects funded, program goals, requirements, cost sharing, etc.
- Being made web-accessible for queries

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Projects Database

- Database of potential habitat conservation and restoration projects in the Great Lakes Basin
- Information on 200 projects entered online by agencies and stakeholders
- Project location, habitat type, partners, status, implementation costs, etc.
- Available for web-based queries

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Characterization Criteria

- Lexicon on criteria used to compare projects and features based on their ecological, social, and economic value or benefits
- Intended to be objective assessments

Example: **Scarcity** - The scarcity of the habitat (terrestrial and aquatic) to be restored refers to the current abundance of the habitat in relation to pre-settlement conditions. This attribute is based on trend information and relative abundance of the habitat within its natural range. This attribute is designed to identify habitats with exceptional regional or national scarcity...

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Who Can Use ?

- Anyone with web-access
- Project proponents looking for information on funding programs
- Groups looking for habitat restoration projects in their region
- Elected officials looking for projects in their jurisdiction
- Individuals looking for guidance on how to characterize habitat projects for grant proposals

www.GLHI.org

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Examples ?

- Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership search for projects near member facilities
- USACE screening projects for potential funding under GLFER and Estuary Habitat Restoration programs
- EPA search for potential projects for mitigation funding at Muskegon County, MI

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So What ?

- Help visualize Habitat goals of GLRC Strategy as site-specific projects
- Facilitate connections between projects, partners, and funding programs
- Increase recognition of critical funding programs to elected officials

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Status

- Web improvements to funding program and projects databases completed
- Second round of State and Tribal workshops being conducted
- Final report completed and available on GLHI website

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Moving Forward

- USACE has secured funding to sustain and update GLHI products
- GLHI Steering Committee to continue as GLRC Subcommittee focused on Habitat/Species chapter implementation
- Seeking input on other tools or approaches to support Habitat/Species restoration goals



Questions ?