



MI Great Lakes Plan:

*Our Path to Protect, Restore, and Sustain
Michigan's Natural Treasures*



Office of the Great Lakes
MI Department of Environmental Quality

www.michigan.gov/deqgreatlakes

Overview

- Background
 - Moving forward with Michigan's Vision
 - Integration with GLRI
 - Funding challenges and opportunities
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Background of MI-Great Lakes Plan

- The GLRC Strategy reflects the efforts needed throughout the Great Lakes Basin.
- The MI-Great Lakes Plan provides specific direction to address the recommendations of the GLRC and to take further steps to address the specific needs within Michigan.
- The MI-Great Lakes Plan stresses that the health of the Great Lakes is dependent on the health of the waters that feed the lakes, and the near-shore areas that buffer the lakes.

Keys to Success of MI-Great Lakes Plan

- Involve diverse stakeholders and develop a process where Michigan stakeholders can all work together collectively and collaboratively towards protecting and restoring the Great Lakes.
- Builds upon the tremendous investment of time, passion, and money this state, local units of government, tribes, and other partners have made to protect, restore, and remediate the forces that continue to threaten the health of the Great Lakes.

...The health of the people of Michigan, our economy, and our quality of life depends on clean water and productive land that is sustainable far into the future.




Economic Benefit and Opportunities

Studies indicate Michigan's Great Lakes provide:

- 823,000 jobs that represent nearly 25 percent of Michigan's payroll. (33% increase in coastal tourism related jobs 2000-2007. MI Sea Grant)
- Potential in economic growth based around new specialized industries related to water technologies, wind energy production, pollution remediation, and eco-tourism.
- Water-related technology sector worth \$500 billion annually, and approximately 22,000 jobs that could be generated for every \$1 billion invested in water conservation programs (Alliance for the Great Lakes).

Plan Content

For each priority area the Plan includes recommendations for:

- Congressional actions
 - Michigan legislative actions
 - Opportunities for increased collaboration
 - Significant new funding
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MI-GL Plan Recommendations

- Restoring and delisting Michigan's 14 AOCs.
- Protecting human health associated with fish consumption advisories and harmful algal blooms.
- Restoring beaches by controlling pollutants.
- Preventing introduction of AIS.
- Updating old and deteriorating infrastructure.
- Ensuring effective stormwater management.
- Implementing land use planning tools.
- Increasing public access to lakes and streams.
- Protecting and restoring critical fish and wildlife habitat.

Priority Areas

The eight restoration priority areas are:

- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Habitat/Species
- Coastal Health
- Areas of Concern/Sediments
- Nonpoint Source
- Toxic Pollutant
- Indicators and Information
- Sustainable Development (including sustainable energy and assuring a strong economy)


Public's Perspective

- Michigan citizens and organizations agree that we must be firmly committed to the Great Lakes environmental and economic importance, adopt sustainable development policies that protect our water resources, and act to take advantage of the unique, long-term economic opportunities and responsibilities provided to the Great Lakes state.

Michigan's Opportunities under GLRI

- Building capacity
- Increasing collaboration with stakeholders
- Committing to efficient use of resources
- Implementing sustainable protection and restoration programs

Moving Forward with Michigan's Vision

- Federal Priorities, January 2009
 - Identifying Michigan Near-Term Priorities, March 2009
 - Securing funding under ARRA, \$695 Million
 - GLRI funding priorities
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Challenges and Opportunities

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- Overlapping Categories
- Bundling Applications
- Non-federal Match Requirements
- Project Selection Criteria
- Funding for Grant Administration
- Accountability and Reporting Requirements
- State Participation

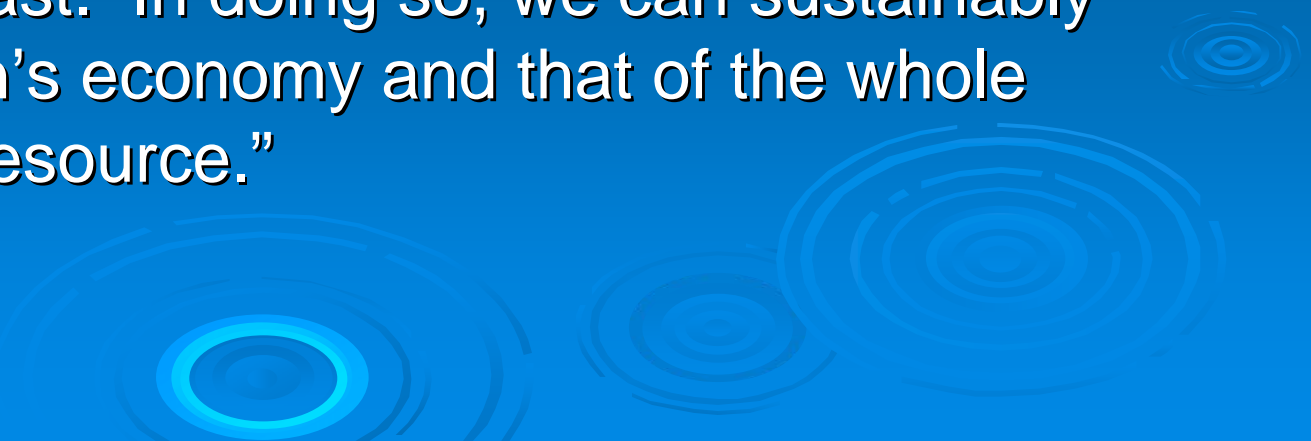
Multi-Year Action Plan

- Defining restoration
- Achieving restoration and protection
- Incorporating of State Priorities and Plans
- Completing the Multi-Year Plan

As stated by Lt. Governor John Cherry -

“Our responsibility is to protect, clean and enjoy these waters and teach the world how to smartly manage a finite and increasingly valuable global resource.

Our opportunity is to capitalize on Michigan’s location at the center of North America’s freshwater coast. In doing so, we can sustainably grow Michigan’s economy and that of the whole Great Lakes resource.”



Contact

For more information visit
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