

Assessing Progress Role of the IJC

**Dr. Gail Krantzberg
Great Lakes Regional Office
International Joint Commission
Windsor/Ottawa/Washington**

Annex 2, section 3

→ Designation of Areas of Concern.

↙ The Parties, in cooperation with State and Provincial Governments and the Commission, shall designate geographic Areas of Concern. The Commission, in its evaluation role, shall review progress in addressing AOCs and recommend additional AOCs for designation by each Party

The Parties designate



IJC reviews
progress,
recommends
new AOCs



Annex 2, section 4 (c)

- The Parties shall cooperate with State and Provincial Governments to classify Areas of Concern by their stage of restoration progressing
 - from the definition of the problems and causes (Stage 1),
 - through the selection of remedial measures, (Stage 2)
 - *to the implementation of remedial programs, the monitoring of recovery, and,*
 - when identified beneficial uses are no longer impaired and the area restored, the removal of its designation as an Area of Concern (Stage 3).

Classify by stage...

- the implementation of remedial programs, the monitoring of recovery
- when was the last time you evaluated the degree to which beneficial uses were improving as a result of RAP implementation?



**Need to
Track
Incremental
Progress**

Annex 2, section 4 (d)

→ The Remedial Action Plans shall be submitted to the *Commission for review and comment* at three stages:

- (i) when a definition of the problem has been completed (Stage 1);
- (ii) when remedial and regulatory measures are selected (Stage 2) and
- (iii) when monitoring indicates that identified beneficial uses have been restored (Stage 3)

The IJC Reviews and Comments at Three Stages

Annex 2, section 7

- The Parties shall report, by December 31, 1988, and biennially thereafter, to the Commission on the progress in developing and implementing the Remedial Action Plans ... and in restoring beneficial uses.
- Information from these reports shall be included in the Commission's biennial report

**biennial
reporting on
progress is
sporadic**

11th Biennial Report
Great Lakes Water Quality

The
Challenge
to Restore
and Protect
the Largest
Body of
Fresh Water
in the
World

September 2002



International
Joint
Commission

Canada
and
United States

Delisting Areas of Concern

→ The Agreement is silent

→ proposed text

↙ The Parties, in cooperation with State and Provincial Governments and the Commission, shall delist geographic Areas of Concern when the beneficial uses have been restored as per **locally defined delisting criteria**, where these criteria are **consistent with the laws, policies, and objectives** of the Parties and Jurisdictions. **The Commission** in consultation with the Parties and jurisdictions **shall participate** in recommending Areas of Concern for delisting

The Parties Delist

If you cannot measure it you cannot manage it

- Understand where we came from**
- Determine where we are**
- Decide where we are going**
- Recognize when we get there**

An aerial photograph of the Great Lakes basin, including Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario. The image is overlaid with a color scheme where land is primarily red and water is primarily blue. The lakes are shown in black, representing a lack of data or a specific color choice. The text "Make the lakes Great" is positioned in the upper right corner.

Make the lakes Great

www.ijc.org; krantzbergg@windsor.ijc.org