

Preliminary Program

***Restoring the Greatness of our Freshwater Seas!***

**Monday, May 3**

**Opening Reception**

- Join us from 6-8 p.m. in the Ritz Room of the Sheraton Cleveland City Centre Hotel (Sixth Floor) for refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and good conversation.

**Tuesday, May 4**

**Business Session**

7:30 a.m.	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>	East Ballroom (Sixth Floor)
8:30 a.m.	<b>Call to order and opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Welcome to Ohio</li> <li>◆ Roll Call</li> </ul>	<b>Samuel W. Speck</b> , Chair, Great Lakes Commission
8:45 a.m.	<b>"The State of the Great Lakes Commission"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Report of the Chair</li> <li>◆ Report of the President/CEO</li> </ul>	<b>Samuel W. Speck</b>  <b>Dr. Michael J. Donahue</b> , President/Chief Executive Officer
9:15 a.m.	<b>Focus on Key Regional Issues and Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Implementing the Great Lakes Legacy Act: Funding Opportunities for the States</li> <li>◆ Preventing the Introduction of Aquatic Nuisance Species: Status of the Dispersal Barrier Project</li> <li>◆ Water Security: Protecting Our Water Intake and Treatment Infrastructure</li> <li>◆ The proposed U.S. EPA "Sewage Blending" Policy: Rationale and Implications for the Great Lakes</li> <li>◆ Assessing Environmental and Economic Baseline Conditions: The Status of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System Review Study</li> </ul>	<u>Moderator:</u> <b>Samuel W. Speck</b>  <b>David Cowgill</b> , Chief, Technical Assistance and Analysis Branch, Great Lakes National Program Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  <b>Roy Deda</b> , Deputy District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Chicago District  <b>Maggie Rodgers</b> , Water Quality Manager, Cleveland Division of Water  <b>Peter Swenson</b> , Program Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region V  <b>Lt. Col. Thomas H. Magness</b> , Commander, Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
10:45 a.m.	Break	
11:00 a.m.	<b>Policy Positions and Action Items</b> (Members will decide/act on policy statements and resolutions to guide the Commission's future research, policy development and advocacy efforts.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A Five Year Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission</li> <li>◆ Construction and Maintenance of a Permanent Dispersal Barrier in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal</li> <li>◆ Ballast Water Management Needs in Response to the International Maritime Organization Convention</li> <li>◆ Development of Lake Basin Sediment Reduction Goals for the Great Lakes</li> </ul>	<u>Moderator:</u> <b>Rep. Thomas Huntley</b> , Vice Chair, Great Lakes Commission  <b>Dr. Michael J. Donahue</b>  <b>Lt. Gov. Patrick Quinn</b> , Commissioner (IL)  <b>Lt. Gov. Patrick Quinn</b>  (To be confirmed)

- ◆ Protecting Drinking Water Security in the Great Lakes Basin
- ◆ Enhanced Groundwater Monitoring and Research to Inform Management Decisions
- ◆ Navigation Maintenance Dredging in the Great Lakes and Connecting Channels
- ◆ Others

**Gerry Mikol**, Alternate Commissioner (NY)

(To be confirmed)

**Rep. Tom Huntley**, Vice Chair, Great Lakes Commission

Noon

**Luncheon**

Dolder-Hassler Room (Sixth Floor)

**Keynote Speaker**

**Radm. Ronald R. Silva**, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard - Ninth District

1:30 p.m.

**The Great Lakes and Ocean Policy: Giving Our Fresh-water Seas Their Due**

Moderator: **John R. Goss**, Chair, Indiana Delegation and Director, Indiana Department of Natural Resources

- ◆ Featured Project: Building a Great Lakes Observing System
- ◆ The Report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy: Implications and Opportunities for the Great Lakes

**Roger Gauthier**, Program Manager, Data and Information Management, Great Lakes Commission

**Dr. Paul Sandifer**, Member, U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and Chair, Stewardship Subcommittee

Panelists:

- ◆ **Dr. Stephen Brandt**, Director, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- ◆ **Tony MacDonald**, Executive Director, Coastal States Organization
- ◆ **Dr. Jeff Reutter**, Director, Ohio Sea Grant
- ◆ **Dr. Tom Johnson**, Director, Large Lakes Observatory, University of Minnesota - Duluth

3:45 p.m.

Break

4:00 p.m.

**Conversations With Partners**

(Observer agencies and other partners will report out on initiatives and discuss partnership opportunities)

Moderator: **Samuel W. Speck**

4:50 p.m.

**Invitation to 2004 Annual Meeting**

**Bill Carr**, Chair, Ontario Delegation

5:00 p.m.

**Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

(A closing reception follows immediately: Commission meeting attendees will be joined by early arrivals for the "Actions Toward a Sustainable Great Lakes" Conference)

**Samuel W. Speck**  
Fuldheim Room (Lobby Level)

**Wednesday/Thursday, May 5-6**

***Actions Toward a Sustainable Great Lakes Conference***

Co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Buffalo District), and in partnership with over two dozen agencies and organizations, this conference will advance efforts to secure a sustainable future for the binational Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. Current restoration and protection themes will provide a framework for plenary and breakout sessions focusing on actions being taken, unmet needs and strategies to address them.