**Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species**

**Grass Carp Ad Hoc Committee**

**Charge and Membership**

**February 2016**

1. **Background**

Preventing the introduction and spread of Grass Carp in the Great Lakes region continues to be a high priority for the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (GLP). In April 2015, the GLP approved its *Grass Carp Priorities for the Great Lakes* document. Through this document, the GLP recommends that action be taken to prevent further introduction, spread and establishment of Grass Carp to protect environmental, recreational and economic sustainability within the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin. The GLP statement of priorities serves as a resource to guide agencies and funding entities, and to empower stakeholders to take action and support efforts that address priority research, policy, information and education needs related to Grass Carp. At the October 2015 GLP meeting, GLP members met to discuss the status of Grass Carp in the basin, as well as review the status of GLP priorities and identify agencies that could take (or are taking) action on specific priorities. As an outcome of that meeting, the GLP decided to establish an Ad Hoc Grass Carp Committee to continue and advance this work.

1. **Charge**

The purpose of the committee is to provide a forum for ongoing communication and coordination specific to Grass Carp and to track and advance progress on GLP Grass Carp priorities. These priorities will serve as the organizing framework for committee work. The Ad Hoc Committee will meet periodically via conference call and in-person under the auspices of the GLP. The committee and its members will

* Track and report on activities and the progress of member agencies and other partners in addressing Grass Carp priorities
* Assist with coordinating member and partner agency activities related to Grass Carp priorities, including providing information and related support and identifying next steps
* Identify emerging needs and issues not reflected in the current priorities and identify opportunities to address them
* Develop recommendations to the ANS Task Force on priorities or other issues that require additional involvement or support from ANS Task Force members
* Communicate with GLP standing committees on Grass Carp priorities and needs related to information and education, policy and research coordination
1. **Membership**

Chair: John Navarro, Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Division of Wildlife

Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy

Greg Conover, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Becky Cudmore, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Nick Froehner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Tory Gabriel, Ohio Sea Grant

Steve Hensler, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Seth Herbst, Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Fisheries

Kevin Irons, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Patrick Kocovsky, U.S. Geological Survey

Nick Popoff, Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Fisheries Division

Chris Weeks, North Central Regional Aquaculture Center, Michigan State University Extension

Jill Wingfield, Great Lakes Fishery Commission

**Appendix. Great Lakes Panel Operational Guidance on Ad Hoc Committees**

*Excerpt from the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Guidance for Operations*

## Ad Hoc Committees

The Panel may, from time to time, establish ad hoc committees to address specific issues that emerge or assume tasks not covered by the standing committees. Ad hoc committees are established for a specific purpose (e.g., ballast water management policy, funding strategies for Panel operations, nomination of Panel officers) and for a specific period of time. Once the purpose for which the committee was formed has been accomplished, the committee will be disbanded. Ad hoc committees can be instituted by consensus of the Panel. Ad hoc committee membership will be recommended by the Panel and approved by the Panel Chair in consultation with the Executive Committee, and may include non-Panel members with specific expertise who are willing and able to serve. Invitations to serve will be made in writing by the Panel administrator. All other provisions pertaining to standing committees are applicable to ad hoc committees.