



# Advisor

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## Annual meeting brings call for restoration plan

### Keep on message, Commissioners urged

The Great Lakes Commission has seen significant success with its message of ensuring the region's environmental and economic prosperity. Now, Chairman Nat Robinson told the assembled membership and observers at the Commission's annual meeting in Milwaukee, the challenge is to stay focused on that message until the goal is realized.

"Keeping on Message: Ensuring Environmental and Economic Prosperity for the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Region" was the theme of the annual meeting, held Oct. 10-11. That message, Robinson said, has drawn the attention of members of Congress and decisionmakers throughout the region.

"We have spurred conversation about what needs to happen in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region," Robinson said. "What we need to do to is get our partners actively involved and passionately committed to the fact that more needs to be done to preserve and enhance the Great Lakes. This is our mission and we're not going to be shy about committing to it."

He called on the Commission to not only press its goals with the region's stakeholders and Congress, but to seek the involvement of the Bush Administration, including the president himself. "We are thinking big but we are thinking rationally," Robinson said. "We believe we can do it."

Robinson pointed to the Commission's environmental and economic prosperity program, launched in March, as a major factor leading to a request by the Great Lakes Congressional Task Force for development of a Great Lakes Restoration Plan (see related story, page 3).

Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, in welcoming the delegates, outlined some of the ways in which local governments in Wisconsin have taken the initiative in protecting and restoring aquatic systems. He was followed by a special presentation on Wisconsin's Great Lakes programs, including major research efforts by the Wisconsin Aquatic Technology and Environmental Research (WATER) Institute.

Other meeting highlights included the adoption of multiple resolutions on leading public policy issues and a special session on beach closings, which explored suspected causes and various ways to address this emerging, widespread problem.

The business portion of the meeting featured the unanimous re-election of the board leadership, Chairman Robinson and Vice Chair Sam Speck, each to a second one-year term. In other segments, Commission staff gave updates on past, present and upcoming work in their respective program areas. Following the meeting's conclusion, the Great Lakes Dredging Team and Great Lakes Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Task Force met in joint session.

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established in 1955 to promote the  
orderly, integrated and comprehensive  
development, use and conservation of the  
water and related natural resources of the  
Great Lakes basin and St. Lawrence River.*

# Commission News & Views

From the desk of the president/CEO...

## Great Lakes Commission

The Great Lakes Commission is a binational public agency dedicated to the use, management and protection of the water, land and other natural resources of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system. In partnership with the eight Great Lakes states and provinces of Ontario and Québec, the Commission applies sustainable development principles in addressing issues of resource management, environmental protection, transportation and sustainable development. The Commission provides accurate and objective information on public policy issues; an effective forum for developing and coordinating public policy; and a unified, systemwide voice to advocate member interests.

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## Don't read the label

It's interesting to observe how the human mind works. In an effort to understand something complex, we tend to reduce it to a simpler form, package it and label it. Too often, the label we use misrepresents the contents of the package.

This holds true for Great Lakes organizations as well. We're all taught – and profess – to embrace “ecosystemic” thinking. Most of us recognize that “everything is connected to everything else” and that environmental, social, economic and political considerations must all be part of the resource management process. Yet, there remains a cadre of labelers out there who can't help but categorize every organization as an “environmental” group or an “economic” group.

The Great Lakes Commission drives the labelers crazy. We're neither one nor the other – we're both! We

embraced the notion of sustainability 30 years before the term became part of the regional lexicon and we've never departed from that theme. Note, for example, that our legislative priorities are not titled *The Great Lakes Program for Environmental or Economic Prosperity!*

This issue of the *Advisor* features a special insert on the Commission's proud history of leadership on maritime transportation issues. This is a priority focus of our enabling legislation, the Great Lakes Basin Compact, and goes hand in hand with our associated environmental protection, resource management and sustainable development mandates. Mutually inconsistent goals? Not by a long shot. We can't sustain a prosperous economy without a quality environment and well-

managed resource base. And we can't afford the necessary public programs without a strong economy. For evidence, look no further than the impact of the current recession

on our public agencies and programs.

It's time that the larger Great Lakes community fully appreciates the critical role that waterborne transportation has played in our past and will continue to play in our future. I can think of

*“It's time that the larger Great Lakes community fully appreciates the critical role that waterborne transportation has played in our past and will continue to play in our future.”*

no single industry sector that is more willing to engage in regional discussions to tackle the tough issues, irrespective of whether they

are environmental or economic in nature. That willingness is a model that others would do well to emulate.

Without a doubt, the Great Lakes Commission blurs the distinction between environmental and economic prosperity goals. That's a good thing. It's called a “sustainability ethic” and it's where regional governance in the 21st century needs to be. Come join us!



Michael J. Donahue, Ph.D.



## Restoration plan takes center stage

No single item of business at the Great Lakes Commission's Annual Meeting received more attention than the need to develop a Great Lakes Restoration Plan. Such a plan, which would address the comprehensive needs of the entire ecosystem, was called for by the Congressional Great Lakes Task Force last March.

Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution calling for the Commission and the Council of Great Lakes Governors to work together to develop such a plan in concert with other interested parties around the region. A special session also examined the strategic plans of various Great Lakes public agencies, elements of which could be incorporated into a comprehensive plan for the region.

Chairman Nat Robinson said the Commission had the opportunity to play a key role in getting the plan underway. "Your action today on this proposed resolution sends a clear message that the Commission definitely wants this to happen and is willing to play a proper role and provide the resources to make sure this happens," he told the assembly.

To emphasize the plan's importance, other Commission leaders jointly took the floor with Robinson to present the resolution. Vice Chair

Sam Speck and Immediate Past Chair Irene Brooks, along with Frank Kudrna, chair of the Illinois Delegation and the most senior Commissioner, took turns in introducing the resolution and summarizing the importance and urgency of the issue.

Such a plan would give Congress a legislative blueprint to address the comprehensive needs of an entire major ecosystem, much as it did with the Everglades Restoration Plan, which calls for \$7.8 billion in coordinated programs over 20 years.

In the special session, representatives of the U.S. EPA-Great Lakes National Program Office, U.S. Geological Survey, Council of Great Lakes Governors and Great Lakes Fishery Commission all shared their ideas on a comprehensive restoration plan initiative.

Contact: Mike Donahue, [mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org).



*From left, Richard Grigg, president/CEO of Wisconsin Electric - Wisconsin Gas Co.; Sam Speck, Commission vice chair; and George Kuper, president/CEO of the Council of Great Lakes Industries confer following Grigg's keynote address outlining industry perspectives on Annex 2001 at October's annual meeting.*

## Additional policy actions from the Milwaukee meeting

In addition to measures calling for the development of a Great Lakes Restoration Plan, Commissioners unanimously approved six other resolutions addressing critical Great Lakes issues at October's annual meeting.

### **Steel Trade and the Great Lakes Region:**

Recognizes that a high level of steel imports has resulted in job losses and many other problems for the steel sector and iron ore mining industry. Urges the federal government to adopt an aggressive strategy to combat steel trade problems. Notes that 65 percent of U.S. steel production takes place in the Great Lakes region and calls for a comprehensive,

enforceable and effective multilateral steel agreement that would eliminate all subsidies and other unfair trade practices and market distortions in the steel sector. Urges an active strategy to enhance export opportunities and an affirmative role in resolving the Third World debt crisis.

### **Updating Great Lakes Commission's Modal Shift Study:**

Directs staff to update the Commission's 1993 Modal Shift Study, which identified significant environmental, energy and safety advantages of waterborne transportation over hauling commodities by rail or truck. Recognizes that commodity flows, tonnages,

### **Québec Delegation to host Semiannual Meeting**

*Make arrangements now to attend the Great Lakes Commission 2002 Semiannual Meeting and related events May 6-8 at the spectacular Le Chateau Frontenac hotel in Québec City, Québec. This stately hotel stands above historic Old Quebec and permits easy walking access to all of the wonderful sites and experiences that Old Québec has to offer.*

*Contact: Mike Donahue, [mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org).*

Continued on page 4

# Annual Meeting Highlights

## Wisconsin governor proclaims Great Lakes Commission Week

In commemoration of the Great Lakes Commission's Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin Gov. Scott McCallum proclaimed Oct.

7-13 to be "Great Lakes Commission Week" in his state.

"The Great Lakes are a precious state resource and I will continue to work toward environmental and economic prosperity for the Great Lakes region," McCallum said, calling the Commission a valued partner in the effort to protect the lakes.

Lt. Gov. Margaret Farrow announced the proclamation to Commission members and friends during a keynote address at the Domes,

Milwaukee's spectacular horticultural center.

Drawing on her own sense of Great Lakes stewardship, Farrow said that the key to a brighter future depends on two factors: vision and a proactive approach.

"About the time we think we're getting a handle on some of these issues with our water and our basin, another one comes along that we had no idea of," she said. "Look ahead to the horizon, so we're not catching up. Get ahead of issues, so we're not scraping the next zebra mussels off our intake pipes."

Following Farrow's address, longtime Commissioner Bill Carey of Wisconsin was awarded the Commission's Outstanding Service Award by Chairman Nat Robinson for Carey's efforts on behalf of the Commission.

For the full text of Gov. McCallum's announcement, visit [www.glc.org/announce/01/10-01GLCweek.html](http://www.glc.org/announce/01/10-01GLCweek.html).



Three Wisconsinites who are proud that their state hosted the 2001 Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting: Commissioner Bill Carey, Lt. Gov. Margaret Farrow and Chairman Nat Robinson.

### International Aquatic Invasive Species Conference

February 26-28 2002  
Arlington, Virginia

### Freshwater Spills Symposium

March 19-21 2002  
Cleveland, Ohio

### Great Lakes Commission Semi-annual Meeting

May 6-8, 2002  
Québec City, Québec

mark your calendar

## Policy Actions *(continued from page 3)*

and fuel/emissions technology have changed in the past decade and that road congestion is a growing problem.

**Advancing Commission/Congressional Linkages Through Regional Tours and Events:** Notes the success of the 2001 Great Lakes Congressional Tour in strengthening relations with Great Lakes Congressional Delegation staff and calls for similar tours and other regional events.

**Reauthorization of the National Invasive Species Act (NISA):** Endorses a set of principles to guide the upcoming reauthorization of the 1996 NISA. Calls for careful consideration of recommendations developed by the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species regarding implementation, research and monitoring, ballast water, education and outreach, and non-ballast prevention and control.

**Implementation of the Information/Education Strategy for Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Prevention and Control:** Endorses the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Information/Education Strategy and encourages the Commission's member jurisdictions, Observer agencies and others to employ it in their own prevention and control efforts.

**Advancing Brownfield Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection:** Reflects the culmination of more than two years of staff research that identified measures to promote brownfields redevelopment, greenfields protection and links between the two. Calls upon member jurisdictions to embrace and implement these measures where feasible.

Contact: Mike Donahue, [mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org). For the complete text of each resolution, see [www.glc.org/about/resolutions/resOct00.html](http://www.glc.org/about/resolutions/resOct00.html)



## Ladd, Crotty join Board of Directors

The Great Lakes Commission welcomes two new members of its Board of Directors, along with several other new Commissioners, Associates and Alternates.

David K. Ladd is the new chair of the Michigan Delegation by virtue of his appointment in October as director of that state's Office of the Great Lakes. Also, Erin Crotty, commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), was recently appointed chair of the New York Delegation.

As the respective heads of their state delegations, the two new Commissioners serve on the Commission's Board of Directors.

Ladd was previously an environmental policy adviser to Michigan Gov. John Engler. He replaces Keith Harrison, who served as Office of the Great Lakes director on an interim basis following last spring's departure of Tracy Mehan for a position with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Crotty was appointed in March as commissioner of the DEC. She was formerly director of state and local government relations for Plug Power of Latham, N.Y.

Other recent appointments are State Sen. Ann Rest as a Minnesota Commissioner and Donald Zelazny as an Alternate Commissioner from

New York. Rest, a certified public accountant, is serving her first term as senator after 16 years as a state representative. Zelazny is Great Lakes programs coordinator for the New York DEC; he was previously an environmental protection and public affairs officer for the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve.

Also, three new Associate Commissioners and Alternates recently joined the Québec Delegation. Andre Meloche, director of the Department of Maritime Transportation, Air and Rail in the Québec Ministry of Transportation, was appointed an Associate Commissioner. Newly appointed as Alternates are Jérôme Faivre of the Department of Maritime Transportation, Air and Rail; and Bernard Marier, of the St. Lawrence Développement Secretariat in the Québec Department of Transportation.



*The Commission's Board of Directors met at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor Dec. 6-7 to plan policy and strategy for the coming year. From left are Gerald Mikol, New York (representing Erin Crotty); Jim Bredin, Michigan (representing David Ladd); Tom Huntley, Minnesota: Immediate Past Chair Irene Brooks, Pennsylvania; Chairman Nat Robinson, Wisconsin; Vice Chair Sam Speck, Ohio; Mike Donahue, president/CEO; Steve Lucas, Indiana (representing Larry Macklin); and Frank Kudrna, Illinois.*

## Workshop looks at ecological impacts of water withdrawals

Three dozen U.S. and Canadian experts, representing a dozen disciplines, are helping the Great Lakes Commission define the "essential questions" that must be asked – and answered – to assess the ecological impacts of water withdrawal. The experts convened Nov. 13-14 in Ann Arbor, Mich., at a Commission-hosted workshop supported by the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

Part of the Water Resources Management Decision Support System (WRMDSS) project, The workshop built upon an earlier effort sponsored by Environment Canada as a component of its own water resources management initiative.

The main focus was on formulating a series of questions and information needs for use in assessing the potential ecological effects of various water withdrawal and diversion scenarios. The recent Annex to the Great Lakes Charter calls for such a system to be used in regulating consumptive uses of Great Lakes water.

Information collected at the workshop, including the experts' opinions and advice, will be published in a proceeding document and placed on the project's web site, [www.glc.org/waterquantity/wrmdss/](http://www.glc.org/waterquantity/wrmdss/)

Contact: Tom Crane, [tcrane@glc.org](mailto:tcrane@glc.org).

### Apply now for Great Lakes Commission - Sea Grant Fellowship

Eligible graduate or professional degree program students may now apply for the 2002 Great Lakes Commission - Sea Grant Fellowship. The fellow will work at the Great Lakes Commission offices in Ann Arbor, Mich., and contribute to and benefit from research coordination and policy analysis activities. The one-year appointment begins in spring 2002. The application deadline is Feb. 22, 2002. For more information, contact your local Sea Grant program or Mike Donahue, [mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org) or visit [www.glc.org/about/scholarships/scholarships.html](http://www.glc.org/about/scholarships/scholarships.html)

# Commission Briefs

## New grants help Commission advance *Great Lakes Program* goals

Great Lakes restoration and management efforts are taking a major step forward, thanks to \$3.14 million in new funding for Great Lakes Commission programs and projects related to the seven goals of the *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*. They include:

**Cleaning up toxic hot spots:** A Lake St. Clair Management Plan will be developed to identify and address pollution problems. Also, support for cleanup efforts at Areas of Concern in Michigan and regionwide will be enhanced.

**Shutting the door on invasive species:** A rapid response plan will be developed to ensure early detection of, and targeted response to, new introductions.

**Controlling nonpoint source pollution:** Several large-scale projects are directed at reducing pollution inputs from multiple pathways, including urban and agricultural runoff, and air deposition.

**Restoring and conserving wetlands and critical coastal habitat:** Continuing a binational effort with 31 partner agencies and organizations, a comprehensive wetlands monitoring program will be established. Also, a “Beachcast” project will provide real-time information on beach closures and water quality problems.

**Strengthening our decision support capability:** Surface and groundwater resources and biological features of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system will be inventoried. Also, an “environmental windows” project will identify environmentally sound dredging practices.

**Ensuring the sustainable use of our water resources:** A partnership with the U.S. National Park Service will yield a water resources management plan for Isle Royale National Park. Also, an inventory and analysis of regional and agency-specific restoration plans will assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other regional partners with strategic planning efforts.

**Enhancing the commercial and recreational value of our waterways:** The importance of recreational boating to the regional economy will be documented and associated dredging and infrastructure needs will be identified. Also, the value of the maritime transportation compared to land-based modes of transportation will be assessed.

Support for these initiatives is provided by numerous U.S. federal agencies. Augmenting this support are funds from various foundations, state agencies and private sector sources.

Contact: Mike Donahue, [mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org).



Milwaukee's Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, a.k.a. “The Domes,” provided a unique and verdant setting for the annual meeting dinner.

## GLIN, Great Lakes Radio Consortium form Daily News partnership

### Great Lakes Daily News

Canadian native groups pressed to export water  
[On-ship system to eliminate invasive species](#)  
[more...](#)



The Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) Daily News service has formed a partnership with the Great Lakes Radio Consortium (GLRC). Since late September, GLIN and GLRC have jointly produced and marketed the Daily News service through a set of shared University of Michigan interns.

“We are pleased to partner with the Great Lakes Commission via GLIN on this exciting, new collaboration,” said Dale Willman, GLRC managing editor. “The GLIN Daily News services are immensely useful to the Great Lakes regional community and we hope to broaden their reach even more.”

The new arrangement broadens the exposure of the GLIN Daily News service while ensuring the initiative's sustainability. GLRC reaches an estimated 36 million public radio listeners annually with a weekly news feed of high-quality environmental stories. It operates out of the Michigan Radio studios in Ann Arbor.

GLIN Daily News is an online “clipping service” supported by several Great Lakes agencies. Each day, it surveys more than 50 newspapers and other news sources for regional stories with an environmental or economic emphasis for online posting and e-mail distribution. See [www.great-lakes.net/news/](http://www.great-lakes.net/news/). Contact: Christine Manninen, [manninen@glc.org](mailto:manninen@glc.org).

## Lake St. Clair management plan moves forward

U.S. and Canadian officials met Nov. 19 in Mt. Clemens, Mich., to lay the groundwork for a comprehensive binational management plan for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River. Authorized in U.S. federal legislation, the management plan is being developed by the Great Lakes Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in collaboration with an array of federal, state, provincial regional, local and tribal/First Nation governments.

The Lake St. Clair Project Management Team and its broad-based Advisory Committee developed goals for the planning effort and identified critical issues to be addressed in the

plan. Participants voiced strong support for the management plan initiative, calling for an action-oriented document that will elevate the profile of Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River at the U.S. and Canadian federal level.

Congressman David Bonior (D-MI), sponsor of the management plan legislation, addressed the participants and called for an “achievable and manageable plan of action – not just another study.” Noting that Lake St. Clair is too often the “poor, neglected cousin of the five big lakes,” he called for national and international attention to the lake’s needs.

Contact: Matt Doss, [mdoss@glc.org](mailto:mdoss@glc.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?

Lake St. Clair is among the most productive sportfishing grounds in the Great Lakes. Only 26 miles long and 24 miles wide, it nonetheless accounts for one-third of the entire Great Lakes sportfishing catch each year, a total of 1.5 million fish. Source: *Lake St. Clair – Its Current State and Future Prospects*. See [www.great-lakes.net/lakes/stclairReport/summary\\_00.pdf](http://www.great-lakes.net/lakes/stclairReport/summary_00.pdf).

## Donahue appointed to Corps’ Environmental Advisory Board

Dr. Michael J. Donahue, president/CEO of the Great Lakes Commission, has been appointed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Environmental Advisory Board. This prestigious panel of seven environmental experts advises the Corps’ chief of engineers (Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers) on national policy directions and environmentally sustainable solutions to

engineering and economic challenges.

The Environmental Advisory Board was established in 1970 to ensure access to independent advice as part of the National Environmental Policy Act. Members are selected on the basis of their expert knowledge and experience, and diversity in scientific disciplines and geographic focus is sought.

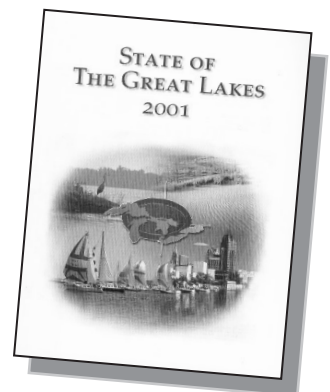
## Lake Michigan research and monitoring needs highlighted

Two events focusing on monitoring and research capabilities and needs in the Lake Michigan basin were held Nov. 8 in Muskegon, Mich. The first – “Lake Michigan: State of the Lake 2001” – highlighted findings from the recently released *State of the Great Lakes 2001* ecological status report issued by U.S. EPA and Environment Canada.

Facilitated by Grand Valley State University, the conference featured sessions on aquatic nuisance species, fisheries, the Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study, coastal watershed restoration, and monitoring and assessment, including a presentation by Commission staff on monitoring coordination. A special session on recreational water quality led to the formation of a group to

coordinate beach monitoring.

Following the conference, the Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council held its fall meeting at the newly opened Lake Michigan Center. The council is coordinating efforts to develop a basinwide strategic monitoring plan, with staff support from the Commission thanks to U.S. EPA funding. Commitments were made to examine ways to better link Michigan, Wisconsin and the U.S. Geological Survey surface water monitoring systems. Planning documents have been drafted for fisheries, groundwater, land use, open lake, tributaries, wetlands and wildlife workgroups. To participate, contact Ric Lawson, [rlawson@glc.org](mailto:rlawson@glc.org).



Lake Michigan experts discussed findings from the *State of the Great Lakes 2001* report, available online at [www.binational.net](http://www.binational.net)

## Congress supports *Great Lakes Program* priorities

The Great Lakes Commission, in cooperation with its many partners, has worked hard to advance priorities embodied in its *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*. In this past congressional session, funding for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control reached an all-time high. Great Lakes navigation needs moved forward with appropriations to begin construction of a new Soo Lock and conduct a Corps of Engineers reconnaissance study of navigation system infrastructure. Also, decision support tools will be upgraded for resource management, thanks to new initiatives like the Great Lakes Water Level Monitoring Network.

Highlights of these and selected other spending measures enacted this year include:

- **Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control:** \$1.25 million for demonstration and technical assistance projects that improve water quality and land use.

- **Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA):** \$15 million nationally, with an equitable share for Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grants, to provide for contaminated site cleanup, stormwater controls, wetland restoration, buffer/greenway acquisition, related pollution control

and coastal restoration activities.

- **Great Lakes Water Level Monitoring Network:** \$2.045 million to provide vessel operators, resource managers and scientists with instant access to data from 49 upgraded water level stations.

- **Great Lakes Navigational System (WRDA - Sec. 456):** \$500,000 to complete a study of potential improvements to the Great Lakes navigation system infrastructure.

- **Great Lakes Sediment Management Program (WRDA - Sec. 516):** \$1 million to reduce nonpoint source pollution by developing and applying sediment transport models to priority tributaries.

- **New Soo Lock Engineering and Construction:** \$3 million toward construction of a new large lock.

All of the above measures have been signed into law by the president.

"This past session of Congress saw some real progress in addressing our regional priorities," said Chairman Nat Robinson. "We look forward to working with our congressional leadership to build upon these successes."

For details of these and other 2002 federal appropriations bills, see <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/approp/appover.html>. Contact: Jon MacDonagh-Dumler, [jonmacd@glc.org](mailto:jonmacd@glc.org).

### Request for Proposals: Soil erosion and sediment control

Proposals are now being accepted for FY 2002 demonstration grants under the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. Up to \$550,000 is available for grants in the areas of 1) program and technical assistance; 2) demonstration projects; 3) information and education; and 4) emerging issues.

Priority consideration will be given to one-year proposals. Applicants are encouraged to limit requests to \$25,000 or less.

Applications are available online at [www.glc.org/basin/RFP.html](http://www.glc.org/basin/RFP.html) or by contacting the Great Lakes Commission. The application deadline is Jan. 16, 2002.

Contact: Tom Crane, [tcrane@glc.org](mailto:tcrane@glc.org).

## Robinson applauds NY environmental group

Reaching out to a key ally, Commission Chairman Nat Robinson recently praised the efforts of an organization that has done much to promote the environmental and economic prosperity of the Great Lakes region.

Addressing October's annual meeting of the Center for Environmental Information (CEI), Robinson noted that the Rochester, N.Y., organization and the Commission share a common mandate.

"You have relentlessly pursued your mission: to advance public understanding; to serve as a communication link among scientists, educators, decisionmakers and the public; and to advocate for informed action," Robinson told

the assembled group. "I and my colleagues on the Great Lakes Commission applaud CEI and its many supporters for your commitment to a healthy and sustainable future."

Outlining the seven goals of the Commission's *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*, he called for the two groups to work together to "Restore the Greatness" of the lakes.

CEI is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1974 as a clearinghouse for environmental information and education in the New York State/Lake Ontario region. For more information, visit [www.rochesterenvironment.org/](http://www.rochesterenvironment.org/).



## Are new steel import controls needed?

**Barry Solarz, Vice President, Tax and Trade, American Iron and Steel Institute**

An independent U.S. government commission, in a series of 6-0 votes, has unanimously determined that America's steel industry has suffered serious injury due to imports. With 30 percent of U.S. steelmaking capacity in bankruptcy, the national interest requires a strong tariff remedy.

Our nation's steel industry has taken giant strides to restructure and modernize since 1980. We have eliminated 60 million tons of obsolete capacity, reduced employment by two-thirds, more than tripled labor productivity and invested over \$60 billion in modernization.

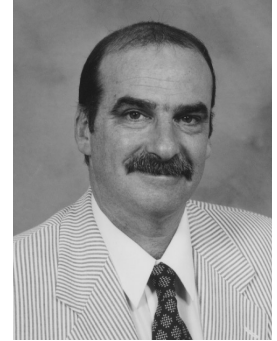
Yet today we are engulfed by a global steel crisis. A strong tariff remedy will allow our industry to recover and invest in new steel products, processes and markets. This is in the long-term interest of steel customers in the Great Lakes region. It is also critical to U.S. national security, including our national economic and infrastructure security.

At the root of the steel crisis are pervasive

unfair trade practices and massive excess world steel capacity. President Bush has an important multilateral initiative to reduce excess global steel capacity and address steel market-distorting practices worldwide. A strong steel tariff remedy will help address the root causes of the crisis. It will send a clear message to foreign governments and to less efficient offshore producers that, instead of dumping their excess steel in the U.S. market, it is time to address their own long-term structural problems.

This is not a debate between "free trade" and "protectionism." Public support for new initiatives to liberalize trade is fast eroding. The essential elements of a successful free trade agenda include support for rules-based trade, the restoration of market forces and countering serious import injury. Trade that is free and fair benefits the Great Lakes economy. A strong steel tariff remedy will help restore public support for free trade.

**POINT**  
POINT



**Dan Ikenson, Trade Policy Analyst, Cato Institute**

New steel import restraints are beyond unnecessary; they threaten the economic interests of the Great Lakes region.

You would be hard pressed to find an industry more heavily subsidized and protected than the U.S. steel industry has been for the past three decades. Since 1969, foreign steel has been curtailed under a string of protectionist instruments. Concurrently, the industry has been propped up artificially by billions of dollars in government subsidization. That largesse is the cause of the industry's woes, not the solution.

The ascendancy of domestic mini-mills, more efficient and less labor-intensive firms, has posed the single greatest threat to the integrated mills. But mini-mills are immune from trade restrictions and, ironically, the data show that these firms have proliferated under cover of import restraints, hastening the demise of the integrated sector.

In its relentless pursuit of self-determined enti-

tlement, the steel industry has subverted some major economic interests. Chief among them are steel-using industries, like automobile, appliance and construction materials manufacturers, who are forced to endure higher input prices. These industries employ 40 times the number employed in steel production and are ubiquitous in the Great Lakes region.

U.S. exporters, particularly those of chemical products, also are major victims of a steel-centric trade policy. Foreign governments have begun mimicking the U.S. antidumping law and U.S. chemical exporters have been the most frequently targeted. Chemicals comprised a greater percentage of export value from Great Lakes states than any other product in 2000.

New steel restraints will only raise the costs to consuming industries and further threaten prospects of exporters – particularly chemical exporters. These are both adverse consequences for the Great Lakes economy.

*counterpoint*  
counterpoint



## Federal ban on Great Lakes directional drilling

### 2001 Annual Meeting Resolutions

[www.glc.org/about/resolutions/resOct00.html](http://www.glc.org/about/resolutions/resOct00.html)

### GLIN Daily News

[www.great-lakes.net/news](http://www.great-lakes.net/news)

### Water Resources Management Decision Support System

[www.glc.org/waterquantity/wrmdss](http://www.glc.org/waterquantity/wrmdss)

### Request for Proposals: Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

[www.glc.org/basin/rfp.html](http://www.glc.org/basin/rfp.html)

### Lake St. Clair – Its Current State and Future Prospects

[www.great-lakes.net/lakes/stclairReport/summary\\_00.pdf](http://www.great-lakes.net/lakes/stclairReport/summary_00.pdf)

### State of the Great Lakes 2001

[www.binational.net](http://www.binational.net)

### Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council

[wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc](http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc)

### Great Lakes Commission Sea Grant Fellowship

[www.glc.org/about/scholarships/scholarships.html](http://www.glc.org/about/scholarships/scholarships.html)

### Legal Institute of the Great Lakes

<http://law.utoledo.edu/LIGL>

### American Iron and Steel Institute

[www.steel.org](http://www.steel.org)

### The Cato Institute

[www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org)

### Center for Environmental Information

[www.rochesterenvironment.org](http://www.rochesterenvironment.org)

### 2002 Federal Appropriations

<http://thomas.loc.gov/home/approp/appover.html>

Stepping into the middle of a contentious regional issue, Congress acted in November to ban oil and gas drilling under the Great Lakes for at least two years.

The measure, which was signed into law by President Bush, places a two-year moratorium on new drilling. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources had recently begun taking

applications for new drilling permits.

The new law was prompted by recent proposals to drill for oil and gas under lakes Michigan and Huron from onshore wellheads angling under the lakes. Seven such wells, which predate the law and a recently expired state moratorium on new ones, are presently in operation.

## IJC forum advances water quality efforts

The International Joint Commission's (IJC) Public Forum on Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Quality brought more than 300 regional officials and concerned citizens to Montreal, Québec on Oct. 19-20. Workshops and presentations focused on issues that included the security of drinking water supplies, potential impacts of changing energy policies, sustainable navigation, community health and the need to regain lost momentum in programs to restore water quality.

"We came here to energize the communities of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence in order to help them work with governments to carry

out the objectives of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement," said Thomas Baldini, chair of the U.S. Section of the IJC. "I think people from these communities helped energize each other and us."

Victoria Pebbles, a Commission project manager, discussed the work of the Great Lakes Dredging Team during a well attended session. Commission President/CEO Dr. Mike Donahue also was on hand in his capacity as U.S. chair of the IJC's Science Advisory Board to assist with priority setting.

For transcripts of the forum, visit the IJC web site at [www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org).

## The Last Word (continued from page 12)

appropriations priorities. I'm pleased to report that progress is now being made. A dialogue has begun, and will help ensure that Commission priorities – and those of all regional interests – are considered as a governors-led, consensus-based restoration plan is developed. Make no doubt about it, a unified Great Lakes regional plan will happen and, when it does, this unprecedented development will be yet another monumental step toward protecting, enhancing and preserving the environmental and economic prosperity of our HOMES!

We are confident of success, but confidence alone is not enough. It is going to take unrelenting commitment, unswerving devotion, unorthodox thinking and bold action! If we want to

achieve greatness, then, we've got to think big ideas and act accordingly! We, as a Great Lakes community, know what we *should* do and we know what we *need* to do. Let's take care of our HOMES – Lakes Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior – the largest body of fresh water on earth. Let's not squander these next 12 months! Let's not forfeit this golden opportunity! Let's do it for our HOMES!



**NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON**

Chairman of the Board  
Great Lakes Commission

## At last! Congress funds new Soo Lock construction

Congress has approved initial funding for construction of a new Soo Lock, meaning the long-awaited project can at last begin.

In early November, Congress appropriated \$3 million toward the project, including \$1.5 million to begin actual construction. Work on the new lock could begin by fall 2002.

The Great Lakes states of Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania have appropriated \$5 million for their share of the project. The other five Great Lakes states also have agreed to contribute a share of the cost. The Great Lakes Commission has been a vocal advocate for the project and is serving as the non-federal sponsor on behalf of its members.

The new lock will replace two narrower ones built more than 80 years ago. Presently, only one lock at the complex at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is wide enough for the 1,000-foot freighters that form the backbone of the Great Lakes shipping fleet, placing the system at risk in the event of a malfunction. Contact: Steve Thorp, [sthorp@glc.org](mailto:sthorp@glc.org).



Photo: U.S. EPA - Great Lakes National Program Office

## Conference looks at Great Lakes water management challenges

A conference exploring the issues surrounding the use of Great Lakes water – including the debate over federal or state/provincial control – was held Nov. 2-3 in Toledo, Ohio.

Approximately 300 people attended the event, “The National Water Crisis: A Great Lakes Response,” sponsored by the University of Toledo’s Legal Institute of the Great Lakes. Panel topics included federal power and the growing influence of the Sun Belt, regulating water diversions, the economics of clean water and lessons from existing interstate compacts.

Speakers included Ohio Gov. Robert Taft; U.S. Sen. George Voinovich of Ohio; Great Lakes Commission Vice Chair Sam Speck, in his role as Director of the Ohio Department of Natural

Resources; and Commission President/CEO Dr. Mike Donahue.

Speck discussed the creation of the Water Management Working Group, which the Great Lakes governors have directed to develop the legal instrument by which water management decisions will be made. Donahue addressed some of the technical issues involved in creating such an instrument, including data and information requirements, institutional structure and operational characteristics.

The Commission is developing a water resources decision support system, with financing from the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

The Legal Institute of the Great Lakes web site is at <http://law.utoledo.edu/LIGL/>.

### Save trees and money!

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## Great Lakes Calendar

### International Aquatic Invasive Species Conference

February 26-28, 2002

Arlington, Virginia

Contact: Elizabeth Muckle-Jeffs, 800-868-8776  
or [profledge@renc.igs.net](mailto:profledge@renc.igs.net)

### Freshwater Spills Symposium

March 19-21, 2002

Cleveland, Ohio

Contact: Sheila Calovich, 312-353-1505 or  
[oilinfo@epa.gov](mailto:oilinfo@epa.gov)

### Canadian Pollution Prevention Roundtable

April 25-26, 2002

Québec City, Québec

Contact: Sue McKinlay, 519-337-3425  
or [sue@c2p2online.com](mailto:sue@c2p2online.com)

### Great Lakes Commission Semiannual Meeting

May 6-8, 2002

Québec City, Québec

Contact: Mike Donahue, 734-665-9135 or  
[mdonahue@glc.org](mailto:mdonahue@glc.org)

Further details and a more extensive calendar are available online via the Great Lakes Information Network ([www.great-lakes.net](http://www.great-lakes.net)). If you have an event you’d like us to include, please contact Kirk Haverkamp at 734-665-9135 or [kirkh@glc.org](mailto:kirkh@glc.org).

# The Last Word

## A call to action:

## Let's take care of our HOMES!

By Nathaniel E. Robinson, Chairman, Great Lakes Commission



This time next year, we will have a new Congress, new leaders in some of our statehouses and new faces among our friends, supporters and partners. In large measure, the education/advocacy process must start anew. We have only a year to work with our current cadre of partners to get things done. Therefore, it is time for us come together, get busy and really take care of our HOMES!

In spite of all that is happening in our nation and in Washington, I believe that much can still be done during the next 12 months to ensure environmental and economic prosperity for the Great Lakes, our HOMES! In spite of these trying times, we can and will achieve even greater success for the Great Lakes and our quality of life if we all work together. With the Commission's *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity* as our guide, let's direct and focus our energy to achieve a big, bold finish as the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress concludes its work. By raising our voices and staying on message, we can help ensure that the second session of this Congress embraces even more of the 39 initiatives contained in our Great Lakes Program. But, it's not going to happen unless we work harder, smarter and collectively to make it happen!

We, of the Great Lakes community, must also work together to develop a Great Lakes Restoration Plan for our HOMES. Ten months ago, members of the Congressional Great Lakes Task Force asked our governors to coordinate development of a comprehensive plan on which to base legislative and

Continued on page 10



## Where in the Great Lakes?

Guess the location pictured in this Great Lakes-St. Lawrence photo, and you could win a prize! Send your guess via e-mail to [kirkh@glc.org](mailto:kirkh@glc.org) along with your name, address and daytime phone number (or call Kirk Haverkamp at 734-665-9135). All correct responses received by Feb. 1 will be entered into a drawing. The winner will receive his/her choice of a Great Lakes Commission t-shirt or a \$10 credit toward the purchase of a Commission publication.



The subject of last issue's "Where in the Great Lakes?" photo was the Raspberry Island lighthouse in Wisconsin's Apostle Islands National Lakeshore on Lake Superior. The contest winner was Phil Keillor of Madison, Wisc. Thank you to all who participated!

  
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