

# **Executive Director's Report**

Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting

Cleveland, Ohio

September 10, 2012

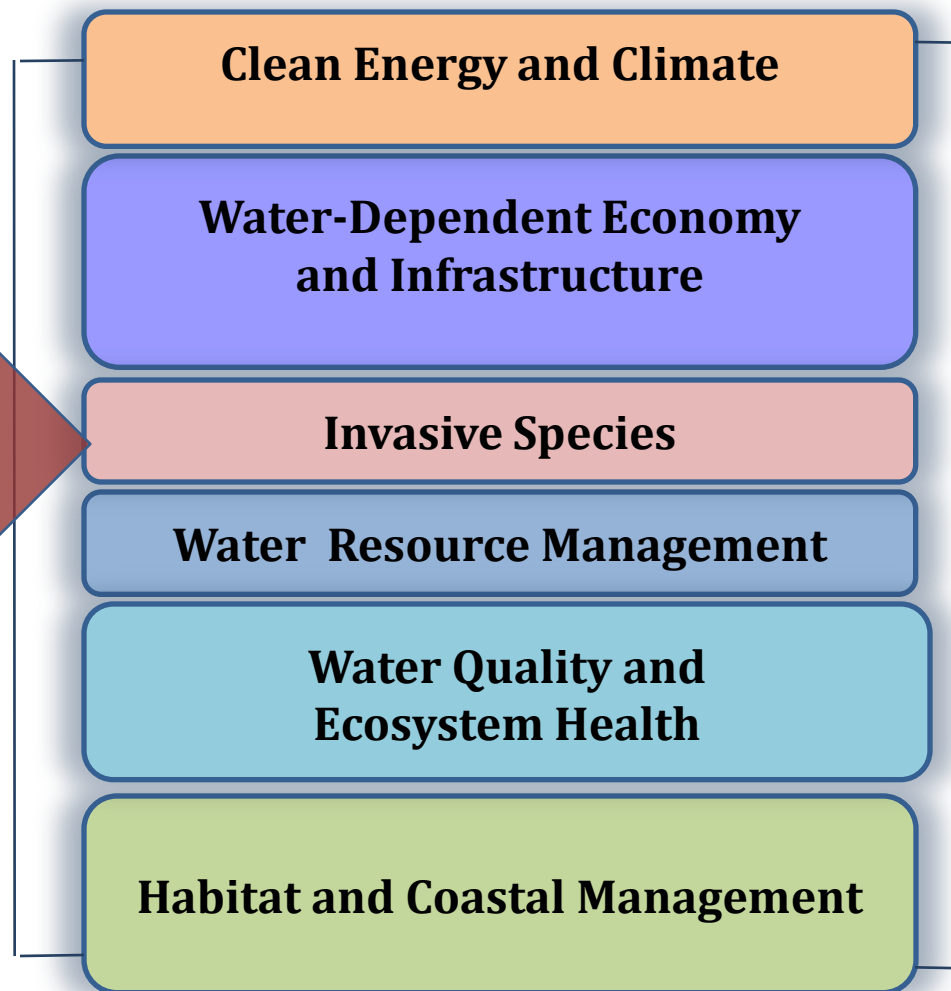
# Strategic Plan

## Core Services



# Workplan

## Program Areas



# Task Force Reports

## Phosphorus and Non-Point Pollution

- 2010 Action Item – Issue Brief
- 2011 Task Force
- 2012 Report, resolution

## Emergency Preparedness and Response

- 2010 Enbridge and BP Gulf spills
- 2011 Task Force
- 2012 – Report, resolution

# Aquatic Invasive Species

- Internet sales – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant

- Phragmites



- Asian carp & Chicago waterways



**What:** Regional, interactive, communication strategy: technology transfer, information sharing, & network building

**Goals:** Engage the community  
Reduce redundancy  
Link science and management  
Facilitate adaptive management

**Status:** 2 year project  
\$85,000 USGS-GLRI; \$15,000 DU

### Regional Participation:

>250 - introductory webinar  
>140 - online survey  
>100 - management webinar

### Next Steps:

Form Advisory Committee  
Expand web and social networks  
Conduct quarterly webinar series

# RESTORING THE NATURAL DIVIDE

SEPARATING THE  
GREAT LAKES AND  
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASINS  
IN THE CHICAGO AREA  
WATERWAY SYSTEM

[www.glc.org/caws](http://www.glc.org/caws)

JANUARY 2012 // GREAT LAKES COMMISSION  
GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE



# Separation Alternatives

Down River



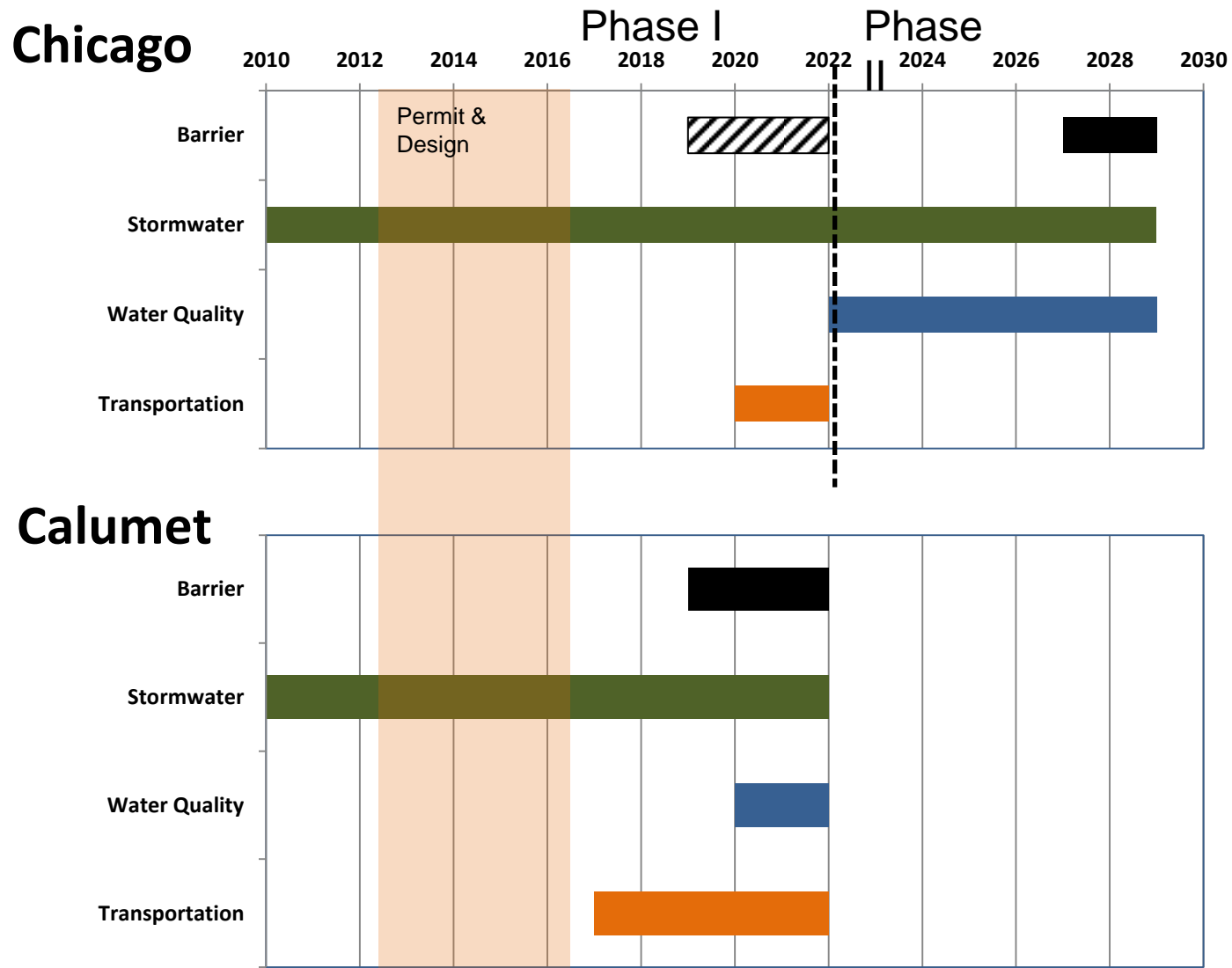
Mid-System



Near Lake



# Mid-System Alternative Timeline



# Chicago and Carp - Next Steps & New Developments

- Canadian risk assessment
- Advisory Committee
- Technical investigation – Interim solutions
- Corps study – GLMRIS – New timeline
- Lake Erie??

# Policy Coordination & Advocacy

- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Farm Bill
- Dredging and Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund

# Policy Coordination & Advocacy

- **Farm Bill – 2012**

- Passed Senate, stalled in House
- Funding cuts, fiscal constraints
- Conservation title
  - Largest source of federal conservation dollars
- Regional programs reformed

# Farm Bill 2012 – Regional Programs

## Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

- Total projects – 458
- GLRI projects – 29
- Funding from GLRI - \$10.1 million
- Pounds of P pollution prevented -  
1.6 million pounds
- Tons of soil erosion prevented –1.65 million tons

## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

- \$250 million per year
- 3 Pots:
  - National competition
  - States
  - Critical conservation areas

# Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- Mid-way through 5-year, \$2.2 billion program
- Over \$1 billion appropriated to date - \$300 for FY '13
- Nearly 700 place-based projects in FY '10 and '11
- Strong Congressional and stakeholder support
- Three key priorities for 2012 and 2013:
  - clean up AOCs;
  - reduce nutrient inputs;
  - prevent new invasive species introductions

# Place-Based GLRI Projects

*(Not including multi-state projects. FY 2010 and 2011 only)*

State	Restoration Projects	GLRI Funding
IL	50	\$48 million
IN	29	\$12 million
MI	264	\$112 million
MN	34	\$10 million
NY	77	\$30 million
OH	79	\$47 million
PA	12	\$4 million
WI	130	\$69 million

# GLC Recommendations on GLRI

- Strong program, progressing well
- Improving efficiency:
  - Sustain coordination with the states
  - Maintain noncompetitive funding
  - Support larger-scale, multi-year restoration projects
  - Coordinate, consolidate and streamline RFPs
  - Improve QAPP process and GLAS system
  - Balance near-term priorities with long-term needs
  - Target priority watersheds

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