

# Great Lakes Restoration Initiative



**Cameron Davis**  
**Senior Advisor to the Administrator**  
**March 5, 2013**  
**Washington, D.C.**



# The Action Plan

FY2010 – FY2014

## Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan



February 21, 2010

White House Council on Environmental Quality  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
U.S. Department of State  
U.S. Department of the Army  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

“The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, as it is called, is a truly bipartisan and binational enterprise, involving leaders and groups from eight states, innumerable communities, the two major U.S. political parties...The 30 million people who live in this region make it a major political battleground. In an age of rampant distrust, I can't think of a better way to show that government can work. “

David Broder, Washington Post  
February 25, 2010

# The Results – Toxics

- ▶ Since 2010, the number of Beneficial Use Impairments has more than doubled from 12 to 33 at the end of 2012.



# The Results – Invasive Species

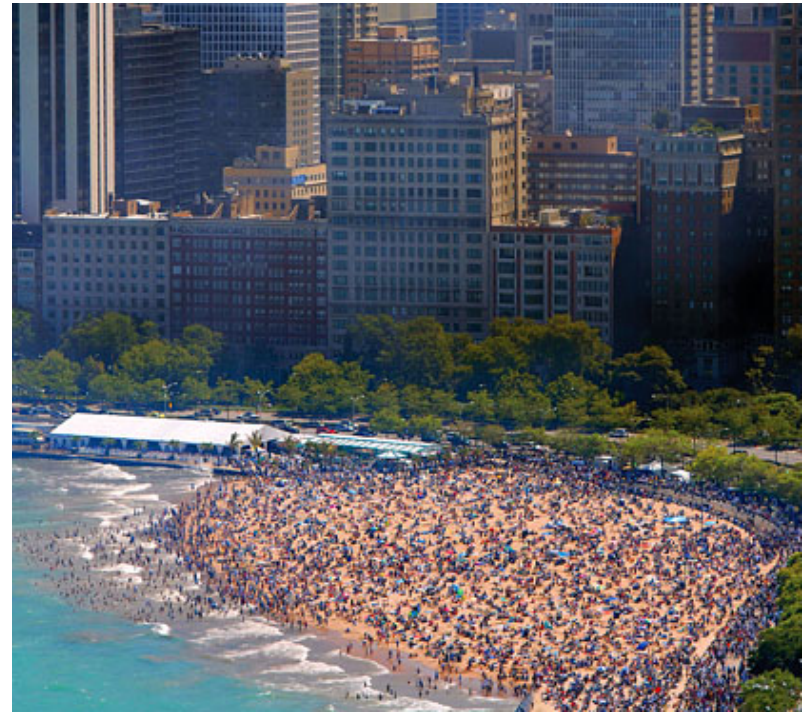
- ▶ With more than 180 invasive species already having entered the Great Lakes, the GLRI is control what's already in, and prevent what's still outside from coming in.





# The Results – Nearshore Health

- ▶ Swimming bans and advisories are have been at a five-year low at Chicago's beaches due in part to clean beach practices supported in part by GLRI.



Destination360.com

# The Results – Habitat

- ▶ The GLRI is bringing back habitat and species that will make the region more resilient ecologically and economically.



# The Results – Accountability



**Great Lakes RESTORATION**

*"We're committed to creating a new standard of care that will leave the Great Lakes better for the next generation."*

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### Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is the largest investment in the Great Lakes in two decades. A task force of 11 federal agencies developed an action plan to implement the initiative. This action plan covers fiscal years 2010 through 2014 and addresses five urgent issues:

1. Cleaning up toxics and areas of concern;
2. Combating invasive species;
3. Promoting nearshore health by protecting watersheds from polluted run-off;
4. Restoring wetlands and other habitats; and
5. Tracking progress and working with strategic partners.

With input from citizens, three key priorities will guide restoration for 2012 and 2013:

- Cleaning up Areas of Concern,
- Reducing nutrients entering the Lakes, and
- Preventing the introduction of new invasive species.

[Read the Action Plan](#)



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### Find a GLRI Project

Use the map below to find GLRI project information. Or, see a [list of all GLRI projects](#).  
(Note: the points on the map show the actual location of the project and/or the location of the entity managing the project.)

Enter a location (such as area of concern or watershed) or a project name in the search box. Select a year and click Search to query.

Year: All Search

Search Results for: : All Grants  
Results found: [1516](#) | Current view: 1476 | [Clear Results](#)

[Search results on map](#) | [Search results as a list](#)



**Focus areas**

- ☒ Cleaning up toxics
- ☒ Combating invasive species
- ☒ Promoting nearshore health
- ☒ Restoring wetlands and other habitats
- ☒ Tracking progress and working with strategic partners
- ☒ Multiple Focus Areas

### Highlights

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [II](#)



**EPA Awards 21 Grants to Combat Invasive Species in the Great Lakes Basin**

EPA announced 21 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants totaling nearly \$8 million for projects to combat invasive species in the Great Lakes basin. "These EPA grants will prevent the spread of invasive species, increase the accuracy of early detection techniques, and control non-native flora and fauna that have invaded the Great Lakes basin," said Susan Hedman, Great Lakes National Program Manager / Region 5 Administrator.

[More details>>](#)

### GLRI Task Force

- Council on Environmental Quality
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Interior
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency

[See the full list >>](#)



# The Results – Accountability



**Great Lakes  
RESTORATION**

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## GLRI Projects

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative — the product of a long history of bipartisan, multi-sector, community-based support — is showing real results. The GLRI is focused on the most significant ecosystem problems in the Great Lakes, which are identified in the [GLRI Action Plan](#). The Action Plan identifies five major focus areas:

- Focus Area 1: Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern** — includes pollution prevention and cleanup of the most polluted areas in the Great Lakes
- Focus Area 2: Invasive Species** — includes instituting a "zero tolerance policy" toward new invasions, including preventing the establishment of self-sustaining populations of invasive species such as Asian carp
- Focus Area 3: Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution** — includes a targeted geographic focus on high-priority watersheds and polluted runoff reductions from urban, suburban and agricultural sources
- Focus Area 4: Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration** — includes bringing wetlands and other habitat back to life, and the first comprehensive assessment of the entire 530,000 acres of Great Lakes coastal wetlands to target restoration and protection efforts using the best science
- Focus Area 5: Accountability, Education, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication and Partnerships** — includes the implementation of goal- and results-based accountability measures, learning initiatives, outreach and strategic partnerships

The GLRI is being implemented by a partnership of federal agencies in cooperation with states, tribes, municipalities, universities and other organizations.

### GLRI Task Force

**Council on Environmental Quality**

**Department of Agriculture**  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Forest Service  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Department of Commerce**  
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

**Department of Defense**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Department of Health and Human Services**  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

**Department of Homeland Security**  
U.S. Coast Guard

**Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**Department of the Interior**  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Fish & Wildlife Service  
Geological Survey  
National Park Service

**Department of State**

**Department of Transportation**  
Federal Highway Administration  
Maritime Administration

**Environmental Protection Agency**

### Project Information by Agency (2010-2012)

Summary information about GLRI project funding from funds appropriated in fiscal years 2010, 2011 and 2012 is available in this table. Click on the individual agency names for more detailed information.

Agency	Projects	Funding
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	5	\$9,895,661
Bureau of Indian Affairs	102	\$12,706,339
DOT Federal Highway Administration	8	\$4,768,202
DOT Maritime Administration	4	\$9,140,927
Environmental Protection Agency*	501	\$386,646,774*
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	110	\$63,500,050
National Park Service	31	\$18,697,303
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	237	\$109,568,600
U.S. Coast Guard	19	\$8,922,327
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	374	\$149,684,806
U.S. Geological Survey	75	\$50,580,158
USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	13	\$3,655,492
USDA Forest Service	37	\$31,065,697
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	18	\$75,065,402
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,534</b>	<b>\$933,897,738</b>

\*This amount includes funding provided to states, tribes and other governmental entities, as well as funding for Great Lakes Legacy Act work.

\*\*Information from these agencies will be added soon.



# The Accountability

Science Advisory Board

“The SAB supports the premise that there is enough known about the issues confronting the Great Lakes, as well as the underlying causes and potential remedies, to take action, and agrees that the Action Plan 40 identifies the important actions that should be undertaken.”

# The Results – Toxics



# The Resources

- Reports to Congress, including full report on results, coming soon.
- Great Lakes Advisory Board
- <http://glri.us>