

Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council

LMMCC Meeting – Fall 2015

October 28, 2015

Grand Traverse Resort

Acme, MI

Proceedings

Participants-IN-PERSON:

Alexander Kahatayec, SUNY, Buffalo State
Amanda Grimm, Michigan Tech University
Ashley Snyder, Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Beth Hinchey Malloy, U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office
Bopi Biddanda, Grand Valley State University – Annis Water Resources Institute
Caroline Keson, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Chris Otto, National Park Service – Sleeping Bear Dunes
Dave Clapp, Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Heather Triezenberg, Michigan Sea Grant/MSU
Janet Vail, Grand Valley State University – Annis Water Resources Institute
Jen Bruce, U.S. Geological Survey – Wisconsin Water Science Center
Jennifer Miller, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Chicago District
Jon Hortness, U.S. Geological Survey – Illinois Water Science Center
John Matousek, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Jory Jonas, Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Knut Mehlev, SUNY, Buffalo State
Lisa Reynolds Fogarty, U.S. Geological Survey – Michigan Water Science Center
Mike Molnar, Indiana Department of Natural Resources LMCP
Paris Collingsworth, IL-IN Sea Grant, U.S. EPA GLNPO Liaison
Paul Horvatin, U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office
Ralph Haefner, U.S. Geological Survey
Rick Hobrla, MDEQ, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes
Rick Kane, FLOW
Russell Kreis, U.S. EPA-ORD
Steve Greb, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Great Lakes Commission Staff:

Matt Doss
John Hummer, Contractor

Participants-via conference call

Kathy Koch, LimnoTech & GLOS

Welcome and introductions; review of meeting agenda – Lisa Reynolds Fogarty, LMMCC co-chair, USGS Michigan Water Science Center

Lisa Fogarty opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. All participants introduced themselves. Lisa reviewed the agenda; no changes were made.

Nominations for second LMMCC co-chair/elect for two-year term – Steve Greb, co-chair, WDNR

Lisa's two-year term as co-chair expired as of this meeting. Steve indicated Lisa was interested in serving another term. He opened the floor for additional nominations. None were offered. He asked for a show of hands to elect Lisa for another two-year term. By consensus, Lisa was elected for another term. Thank you, Lisa!

LMMCC Charter revision: Results of questionnaire and recommendations for updating – John Hummer, Contractor, Great Lakes Commission

- John reviewed results of a questionnaire sent out asking for input on the current LMMCC Charter. Most respondents were still satisfied with the original LMMCC objectives stated in the Charter.
- A slight majority of respondents (58%) would prefer membership as stipulated in the Charter with specific terms for each member organization versus open-ended/come and go as you please. However, meeting participants preferred the latter, with a more flexible membership and softer language in the Charter.
- If workgroups were staffed, the top three choices are 1) Shallow Nearshore; 2) River/Stream Mainstems; and 3) Medium Nearshore. Close fourth and fifth were Tributaries and Offshore. Meeting participants thought that workgroups should be broader in the context of LAMP Partnership workgroups.
- Nearly three quarters of respondents prefer one in-person meeting per year and one conference call/webinar versus two in-person meetings or two conference call meetings.
- Meeting participants felt that, due to the importance of the Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI), it should be included in the Charter somehow with its connection to the LAMP
- A few respondents volunteered to be part of a workgroup to update the Charter.

Lake Michigan Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) Partnership Work Group: Update? – Beth Hinchey Malloy, Lake Michigan Manager, U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office

Beth presented a number of key points on where the Lake Michigan LAMP Partnership stands.

- Lake Michigan Partnership work is guided by the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.
- Annex 2, the Lakewide Management annex, and Annex 10, the Science annex are both key annexes for the work of the LMMCC. Beth reviewed Lakewide Management Commitment under Annex 2 and emphasized the importance of public engagement as a key principle of the GLWQA.
 - More opportunities to guide management. (Specific action steps included.)
 - Enhanced access to better information. (Specific action steps included.)
 - Fostering stewardship. (Specific action steps included.)
- Under the new GLWQA, Lake Michigan will have an updated LAMP released in 2019 developed by the Lake Michigan Partnership. As well, the Lake Michigan Partnership determines the CSMI priorities.
 - Also, each LAMP will have an annual update related that highlights Partnership progress in meeting LAMP Objectives.
 - And we are required to report on progress toward implementation Annex 2 every three years through the Progress Report of the Parties that is developed in advance of the Great Lakes Public Forum.
- Annex 2 Governance and Management Structure: Great Lakes Executive Committee→Annex 2 Subcommittee→Lake Michigan Partnership
- Lake Michigan Partnership: Management Committee→Work Group→Work Group Subcommittees (Opportunity for participation by LMMCC members.) LMMCC workgroups should be connected to workgroups coming out of the LAMP.
- Lake Michigan Partnership Work Group proposed subcommittees: Outreach & Engagement, Species & Habitat, Chemical/Pollutants, and Sustainability

- Lake Michigan Partnership current activities: Management Committee has quarterly calls; Work Group has bi-weekly calls. The Work Group is revising its workplan and the 2015 annual LAMP report is in final review.
- Near--future activities: 2016: Develop/finalize subcommittee workplans and assemble Lake Ecosystem Objectives (LEO) development teams. 2018: 2020 CSMI priority setting workshop and begin to draft LAMP 2019.

CSMI: 2015 Lake Michigan Intensive Year – review and next steps/reporting – Paul Horvatin, U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office

- Paul reviewed the objective and the “why” of CSMI, participating organizations and programs, background, role of partners, and four themes (including 18 science areas) of CSMI: Human Health, Ecosystem Health, Sustainable Use, and Hazards and Environmental Prediction.
 - Science questions/priorities – two-step process: 1) Open Session – a “listening” session/determine what is achievable; 2) Go back to managers for acceptance and tweaking if necessary.
- Reviewed the 5-Lake Rotational Cycle – opportunity for LMMCC to participate in the process.
- Improved binational coordination of monitoring achieves: 1) greater awareness, 2) optimization of programs, 3) improved reporting, and 4) efficiencies.
- Reviewed Lake Michigan 2010 CSMI programs and identified needs.
- Reviewed sampling design: Pelagic study; Lake Guardian sampling; additional GLNPO monitoring.
- Lessons learned from Lake Ontario food web study can be applied to Lake Michigan and other lakes.
- Reviewed 2015 Lake Michigan tributary PCB monitoring objectives, sites, and early results.
- Great Lakes Fish Monitoring and Surveillance Program – completed one cycle of a bioaccumulation assessment of the food web in each of the lakes, following the CSMI rotation. Data still in process.
- U.S. EPA-ORD CSMI participation
 - Distribution, abundance and movement of nutrients and biota across a nearshore-offshore gradient.
 - Characterize food web across nearshore to offshore gradient.
 - Nearshore water quality effects from tributary loading.
- Reviewed Lake Michigan Food Web Study.
- Reporting: Goes out to federal and state agencies, academia; assessed by LAMPs and SOLEC teams.
- Results of 2015 sampling will be presented at:
 - EPA GLNPO – January-February, 2016.
 - 59th International Association of Great Lakes Research conference – June 2016.
 - International Society of Limnology meeting – July 2016.
- Data: greatlakesmonitoring.org: NOAA buoy data, STORET data, states/tribal data – linked to Science in the Great Lakes (SiGL) Mapper.

2015 Lake Michigan Inventory – John Hummer, Contractor, Great Lakes Commission

John reviewed:

- Purpose of inventory and information collected.
- Key categories/results from inventory:
 - Funding for monitoring programs.
 - Program/project duration and project activity status.
 - Project objectives per category.
 - Resource components where monitoring took place.
 - Media monitored.
 - Sampling period when monitoring was conducted.
 - Sampling frequency of the monitoring.
 - Parameters sampled by category: biological; chemical; physical; microbiological; and Toxicological.
 - Sampling platform (including equipment used).
 - Sharing of inventory data with USGS Science in the Great Lakes (SiGL) Mapper.
 - Project outcomes:

- Increased stakeholder participation in the LAMP.
- Collaborative monitoring.
- Data sharing and coordination.
- Strengthened dissemination of information on monitoring of various resource components and locations.
- Identifies projects that provide monitoring backbone for implementation of priority restoration and protection efforts – *determined by monitoring data*.
- More informed and improved management of monitoring programs and resources.
- Inventory will be posted on LMMCC website.

Discussion and Wrap-Up

- Data: CSMI and other data – where does it all go and reside; who maintains it over time? It's a problem.
 - Opportunity for LMMCC to address data housing for future decision making. GLOS involvement.
 - Annex 10 has a U.S./Canada effort on data management and information sharing.
- Lake Michigan Outreach and Education/Engagement Meeting
 - Developing LEOs in early 2016 for Lake Michigan.
 - Development of a Nearshore Framework within three years
 - No Lake Michigan Forum – what now?
- Lisa/John will be in touch with volunteers on LMMCC Charter update.