

Binational Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Forum
May 12 – 14, 2026
Buffalo, NY
Agenda

Day 1: May 12
All times Eastern

Northeast and Great Lakes joint priorities

1:30 – 4:45 p.m.

1:30 p.m. **Welcome and introductory remarks**

- Overview of special topic

Doug Jensen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

1:40 p.m. **Landing Blitz**

- Great Lakes AIS Landing Blitz
- Northeast AIS Landing Blitz

Theresa Gruninger, Great Lakes Commission (GLC)
Michele L. Tremblay, Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel & **Ian Pfingsten**, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

2:20 p.m. **Spiny water flea**

- Great Lakes
- Northeast

Donn Branstrator, Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center
Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program

3:00 p.m. **Round goby**

- Western New York
- Northeast

Corey Krabbenhoft, University at Buffalo
Matt Neilson, USGS
Jim Carlton, Williams College

3:40 p.m. **Updates on Marine ANS**

4:00 p.m. **Connecticut River hydrilla**

Ben Sperry, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - ERDC

4:20 p.m. **Invasive Species Database Program**

John Marino, New York Natural Heritage Program

4:35 p.m. **Lake Champlain Basin-focused portal**

Matt Neilson, USGS

4:45 p.m. **Closing**

Group Dinner

Resurgence Brewing Company
55 Chicago St, Buffalo, NY 14204
6:00 p.m.

Day 2: May 13

All times Eastern

Plenary Session: Outreach/Communication

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. **Welcome and introductory remarks**

- Overview of special topic

Doug Jensen, Minnesota DNR

9:20 a.m. **Consumptive Solutions/ Branding**

- Green Crab: Problem to Plate
- Invasive Carp: Copi

Mary Parks, Greencrab.org
Brian Schoenung, Illinois DNR

10:00 a.m. **Engaging through influencers**

- Wisconsin gardening
- Ontario anglers

Liz Tanner, Wisconsin DNR
Lauren Rogers, Invasive Species Centre

10:40 a.m. **Novel OIT Outreach**

- Life Release Program
- GLDIATR

Henry Freundlich, New York Department of
Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
Autumn McGowan, GLC

11:20 p.m. **Pet surrender events/ pet rehoming**

- J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue
- Facilitated group discussion

John Moyles, J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue

12:00 – 1:15 p.m. – Lunch on your own

Field Trip

Erie Canal Boat Tour

Meeting location: Niawanda Park, 43.016283, -78.891777

25-minute drive from venue

1:15 – 5:00 p.m.

Day 3: May 14

All times Eastern

Plenary Session: Local AIS Partnerships

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. **Welcome and introductory remarks**
Overview of special topic

Mike Langendorf, Chippewa Ottawa
Resource Authority (CORA)

9:10 a.m. **AIS Programmatic Analysis**

Sam Tank, GLC

9:20 a.m. **Michigan & CISMA Partnership**

Christine Baugher, Michigan DNR & **Billy Keiper**, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) & **Audrey Minninga**, Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network

9:40 a.m. **New York & PRISM Partnership**

Sam Beck-Andersen, Finger Lakes Institute
& **Cathy McGlynn**, NYSDEC

10:00 a.m. **Wisconsin & Local Partnership**

Amy Kretlow & Jamie Vandenlangenberg,
Wisconsin DNR & **Zach Stewart**, Bayfield
County

10:20 a.m. **Ontario & Conservation District Partnership**

Francine MacDonald, Ontario Ministry of
Natural Resources & **Kevin Money**, Essex
Region Conservation Authority

10:40 a.m. **Minnesota & County Partnership**

Doug Jensen, Minnesota DNR & **Bill Grantges**, Itasca County

11:00 a.m. **Facilitated panel discussion**

Mike Langendorf, CORA

12:00 p.m. **Closing remarks**

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.: Lunch on your own

Special Session: Hydrilla Response

1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. **Welcome and introductory remarks**
Overview of special topic

Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature
Conservancy (TNC)

1:35 p.m. **AIS Programmatic Analysis**

Sam Tank, GLC

1:50 p.m. **Ohio**

John Navarro, Ohio DNR

2:10 p.m. **New York**

Lindsay Yoder, NYSDEC

2:30 p.m. **Michigan**

Billy Keiper, Michigan EGLE

2:50 p.m. **Ontario**

Rebecca Rooney, University of Waterloo

3:10 p.m. **Illinois**

Claire Snyder, Illinois DNR

3:30 p.m. **Facilitated Q&A**

Lindsay Chadderton, TNC

4:00 p.m. **Closing remarks**