



**GREAT LAKES REGIONAL COLLABORATION
NOVEMBER 27, 2007 FOLLOW-UP STAKEHOLDER CALL SUMMARY**

1. Call Participants: The following individuals participated in the call:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Gary Gulezian, Vicki Thomas, Macara Lousberg, Tony Kizlauskas

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Charlie Wooley

Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission: Jim Zorn and Reggie Cadotte

Great Lakes Congressional Delegation: Jonathon Levy (Congressman Emanuel's office), Matt Reiffer (Congressman Ehlers' Office)

Governors: Chuck Ledin and Kim Walz (Wisconsin), Pete Johnson (Council of Great Lakes Governors), Vicki Deisner (Ohio Department of Natural Resources),

Mayors: David Ullrich (Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative)

Stakeholders and Other Organizations: Jennifer Nalbone (Great Lakes United), Kristy Meyer (The Ohio Environmental Council), Cameron Davis (Alliance for the Great Lakes), David Brakhage and Gildo Tori, (Ducks Unlimited), Lois Morrison (The Nature Conservancy), Grenetta Thomassey (Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council), Chris Grubb (Healing Our Waters Coalition)

Call Facilitator (Contractor): Tom Looby (EMA Inc.)

Note-taker (Contractor): Maggie Clary (IEc)

2. Purpose of Call: The purpose of the call was to engage in a conversation with stakeholders about three key areas needing further attention following the October 2, 2007 GLRC meeting and to identify some key steps to go forward with:

- Communication/ Transparency.
- Tracking Progress.
- Building Collaboration/ GLRC Strategy Implementation.

3. Discussion.

A. Improving Communications and Increasing Transparency: Following is a brief summary of the some of the suggestions offered:

- Distribute/formulate a draft Communication Plan from the GLRC Subcommittee and seek input on it.
- Add outside observers to the GLRC Executive Committee and Subcommittee.

- Enhance the GLRC Website by making it more current and use it as an ongoing communication vehicle to keep citizens apprised of activities and progress.
- Post agendas and minutes/summaries of the GLRC Executive Committee meetings/calls on the Website.
- Create a listserv for distribution of GLRC information.
- Continue these periodic calls with stakeholders.

B. Tracking and Assessing Progress: Following is a brief summary of the some of the suggestions offered:

- Formulate a clear Great Lakes Implementation Plan linked directly to the GLRC Strategy.
- Define who is responsible for what by when in the Implementation Plan.
- Develop an accountability and tracking system for measuring progress.

C. Building Collaboration: Following is a brief summary of the some of the suggestions offered:

- Bring NGOs more directly into the process.
- Conduct annual meetings of the GLRC.
- Add outside observers to the GLRC Executive Committee and Subcommittee.
- Hold implementation working sessions around the Region.

D. Other: .Following is a brief summary of the some of the suggestions offered:

- There needs to be a regional governance capacity to manage the overall ongoing Great Lakes implementation efforts.
- Continuation of local project or regional, topical collaboration initiatives should continue and be highlighted more.
- Need broad scale implementation mechanisms.
- Engage in Great Lakes Day at the Nation's Capitol in February, 2008.

4. Next Steps: The following next steps were identified:

- GLNPO will arrange for a summary of the call to be developed and will share it with participants.
- The GLRC Subcommittee will brief the Executive Committee on the ideas offered by the stakeholders.
- Continue these calls for the Subcommittee to engage with stakeholders.
- A 2008 GLRC annual meeting should be scheduled.