

MEETING RECORD, 50th MEETING COUNCIL OF GREAT LAKES RESEARCH MANAGERS

IJC Great Lakes Regional Office

Windsor, Ontario

October 6, 2009

U.S. Members Present

Jeff Reutter
(U.S. Co-chair) Ohio Sea Grant College Program; Ohio State University,
Research Center, Columbus, OH

Marie Colton Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, NOAA, Ann Arbor, MI

Paul Horvatin U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, GLNPO

Chris DeRosa Alliance for Public Health and Associates, Inc.

Joe DePinto Limnotech, Inc. Ann Arbor, MI, also representing the International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)

Carl Richards U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Duluth, MN

John Dettmers Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Jim Nicholas U.S. Geological Survey, Lansing, Michigan

Norm Grannemann U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Program

Canadian Members Present

John Lawrence
(Canadian Co-chair) Aquatic Ecosystem Management Branch, EC, CCIW

Donna Kirkwood Geological Survey of Canada, GSC-Quebec, NRC

Jan Ciborowski University of Windsor

Saad Jasim Walkerton Clean Water Centre

Tim Fletcher Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Standards Development Branch

Brian Grantham Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Peterborough, ON

Other Invited Attendees

John Nevin IJC Washington D.C. Liaison

Secretary

Mr. Mark Burrows IJC Great Lakes Regional Office, Windsor, ON

Welcome & Introductions

John Lawrence welcomed everyone; members introduced themselves and reviewed the agenda. There were no changes to the agenda noted. During the introductions, Dr. Chris DeRosa informed the Council that he no longer works for CDC/ATSDR and has formed a new nonprofit organization- Alliance for Public Health and Associates, Inc (ALPHA). The mission of the organization is moving science to service in public health practice policy. Additional details are available on the web at www.alphainchealth.org. After some discussion and recognizing Dr. DeRosa's long history with the CGLRM it was decided that he could greatly assist the Council by continuing his service as a member for the remainder of his term (exp June 2011). When his term expires, if he wishes to continue to serve as an IJC advisor, Dr. DeRosa could then be considered for a position on the science Advisory Board or the Health Professional's Task Force.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) – EPA plans

Paul Horvatin provided a brief update on GLRI which had passed both houses of Congress and was in committee to reach a compromise package. A multi-year version has 5 areas of focus/ leads – Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern, Invasive Species, Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution, Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration, Accountability, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication, and Partnerships.

The following points were noted:

- Toxic Substances and Areas of Concern – includes AOC restoration, legacy act, safe fish consumption, TMDL, nutrients, watersheds input to receiving waters, watersheds input to receiving waters, early warning system (toxics) food web dynamics of toxics (Ted Smith- Binational Toxics Strategy)
- AIS (Jamie Schardt) – Prevention, early detection, surveys (16 fed agencies involved)
- Nearshore Health and Non-Point Source - Will look at nutrients; focus on ports and rivers, beach health
- Habitat & Wildlife – Restoration of native species, birds (migratory patterns), rare/threatened/endangered species, implementing monitoring protocols on wetlands.
- Account/Monitoring – A “catch all” including assessment and evaluation tools (Paul Horvatin is EPA lead). First couple of years will be driving output with a long-term focus on results. This area encompasses the information management aspect of other focus areas. Anticipate a series of mini-workshops for agency personnel – Climate Change, Lidar/Radar, others with dialog to determine direction to proceed. A modeling workshop is being planned (will make sure GLOS modeler is invited) and a science review.
- Climate Change is an overarching/pervasive topic to be addressed in all areas.

It was noted that the Upper Lakes Study gauges/ evaporation sensors will stop once the study is finished. (Action item: Determine where UGL Study data will be archived/stored and if it can be made available for GLOS access and display.)

Most proposed GLRI projects more than allocate all of the available GLRI funds. GLRI will be an opportunity to set benchmarks (assess condition of environment at this point in time). State proposals were more geared towards fewer and larger projects than small projects spread out across 400 tributaries.

Members discussed monitoring of coastal wetlands and how to fund a sustained long term monitoring effort, how documenting/communicating the benefits of GLRI expenditures will be done in order to demonstrate positive outcomes, improvements, and results.

Action plans for GLRI include LaMPs and RAPs as they relate to AOCs. With approximately 40 people at GLNPO it is a challenge to manage such a large project. GLRI funds must be obligated within 2 years.

A “crosswalk” between GLRI and IJC multi-board collaborative work group reports would be helpful. IJC reports (drafts) influenced the GLRI action plans, but a final comparison of GLRI implementation vs IJC recommendations should be done.

FWS and EPA will be doing some joint RFPs (60 day deadline) once the GLRI RFP is published. Funds must go through grant offices at each agency, while keeping “overhead” and red-tape to a minimum.

Outcome of April 29-30, 2009 Lake Superior CSMI Workshop and Research coordination between CSMI intensive years

Carl Richards gave a quick review of the April 29-30 Lake Superior CSMI planning workshop; addressed it from the standpoint of host and observer.

- Need to spend more time on invitee list but overall very good.
- Approximately 75 to 100 participants
- Discussed how outputs incorporate with other events
- Consensus building as the Lake Committees move toward the intensive year
- Also talked about GLRI planning
- Minnesota Sea Grant represented both Lake Superior GLRRIN as well as LaMP interests.

Members discussed what the CGLRM can do to assist the collaborative process. A motion was made to seek IJC funding on a recurring basis

Action Item (Council Secretary) – Annual request \$15K/workshop as a standing part of the CGLRM budget. Make plans to sponsor a Spring 2010 Lake Huron planning workshop.

Members discussed the concept of synthesis meetings, reports and communicating results to managers. Comments noted:

- GLRRIN should be used as a networking tool to communicate the synthesis report.
- Synthesis should look at the questions asked during the planning session at the start of the CSMI cycle and see if goals were met.
- It would be useful to have resource managers “in the room” so they understand how long it takes to get meaningful results from the process.
- Planning → Synthesis → Reporting out
- The process of synthesis includes informal discussions between researchers to decide what trends are significant.
- It needs to engage managers and emphasize assimilation i.e. answering the “So what?” question.
- During the time in between intensive field years, managers should be looking at alignment with missions/strategic plans, how ongoing activities fit together, science coordination, “Intramural” vs external use and how to communicate lessons learned.
- Examine how this activity fits with the Research Inventory.
- Look beyond the binational context; how do lessons learned inform developing nations and leadership/coming to grips with ecosystem challenges that are global concerns.
- Emphasize things that “work” vs. things that don’t “work.”
- Synthesis should provide IJC with exposure to outside groups, like the Ontario Water Works Association; International Water Works Association
- CGLRM role could be to act as a “catalyst” for others to synthesize information
- Synthesis of information might be an “opportunistic” exercise and not something that could be done on an annual basis
- A “Research to Applications” Task Force involved users in the research proposal process and might be a good model
- “Planning “ Workshop = directions for intensive year ;“Synthesis Workshop” = talk about results
- “synthesis” should not be a simple summary (collection) of what researchers did during the intensive field year
 - It should look at the questions and information needs identified during the first year of the CSMI cycle and describe how their work collectively answered those questions. Emphasis should be on the collective effort.
 - How does it affect lake management, water quality objectives and fishery management at the state/province level?
- Regional LaMP managers and GLRRIN coordination team could be doing actual synthesis reports

Action item (Council Secretary) – 2010 Synthesis Report/Workshop for Lake Ontario: Talk to Lake Ontario LaMP managers to see if they would like to organize an event.

- Greg Boyer is the lead for the New York Great Lakes Research Consortium and can assist as well as Jim Ammerman – Director of New York Sea Grant, Gary Sprules – University of Toronto, Jim Johnson, USGS and Bruce Morrison who

are all part of the Lake Ontario GLRRIN coordination team.

Jim Dianna has replaced Don Scavia as Director of Michigan Sea Grant, and can assist with Lake Huron planning workshop.

Members discussed funding needs for CSMI workshops and decided to request \$40,000 per year for 2 CSMI events – planning and synthesis. Additional discussion regarding membership is summarized in the following section reflecting decisions and action items.

Upcoming Events/Activities

Members discussed the following events:

- GLRRIN – November 3-4, 2009 meeting at the USEPA Great Lakes National Program Office in Chicago, 1:00 pm Nov. 3 to noon, Nov. 4th.
- GLRI two way video conference planned to discuss collaborative proposals; Washington, DC workshop
- Limno Tech – working on modeling inventory for GLOS, Generic DB + purpose, characteristics, interacting with new GLOS modeling assessment center.
- Council of Great Lakes Governors with TNC (Dennis LeGraff) is working on a list of tools including models.
- January 12th Science Vessel Coordination Workshop
- Fall Semi-Annual Meeting& Priority discussion

Date/Location of Next Meeting

Decided to target next meeting on or about April 13-14, 2010.

Summary of Decisions and Action Items

“Crosswalk “ between GLRI and IJC multi-board work group reports should be done – this would include a final comparison of implementation versus IJC recommendations.

Seek funding on a recurring basis for CSMI related activities; Council secretary to request \$15k per planning workshop – anticipate Spring 2010 Lake Huron Planning Workshop

Request funding for Synthesis workshop for Lake Ontario and contact Lake Ontario LaMP managers - 20K +5K for report. Total - \$40K per year for two workshops

Draft letter to Commission addressing role and plans.

Draft letter to Lake Ontario LaMP Managers and GLRRIN; invite them to hold a synthesis workshop with “hands on” managers and researchers.

Create standing item for discussion – What can the CGLRM do for you and what can you do for the CGLRM

Draft letters to organizations that provide members to the CGLRM – Summarize main goals of CGLRM and thank the agencies for allowing members to participate.

Follow up letter to Commissioners regarding CSMI roles and recommendations for 2009-2011 IJC priority work group projects.

Membership – move ahead with nominations for Norm Granneman and Greg Boyer. Seek Agriculture research representatives from both the U.S. and Canada.

Saad Jasim will recommend an energy research nominee

Designate Vice/Deputy Co-Chairs

Chris DeRosa will remain on CGLRM until end of term and IJC staff will investigate lateral transfer to HPTF or SAB as options.

Investigate why members fail to show for meetings and what we can do better. – Co-Chairs

Science Vessel Coordination – Organize January 12, 2010 workshop - Discuss what's available and what ships will be needed in coming years. Work informally with managers on ship acquisitions.

Research Inventory – Request funding for feasibility study to propose improvements utilizing new technology such as web services and partner with database managers from agencies.

Next Meeting: (Proposed) April 13-14th, 2010

Enclosures: (1) Council Meeting Agenda, October 6, 2009

Enclosure (1) to CGLRM meeting record

AGENDA

50th CGLRM Meeting, October 6, 2009
International Joint Commission Great Lakes Regional Office
100 Ouellette Ave, 8th Floor Conference Room
Windsor, Ontario

8:30	Sign in/Coffee-Doughnuts	All
9:00	Welcome & Introductions	John Lawrence & Jeff Reutter
	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) – EPA plans Discussion of GLRI projects proposed by member organizations	Paul Horvatin All
	CSMI (Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative); Roles and Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of science needs/opportunities for collaboration – CGLRM sponsored workshops;• Facilitation and synthesis;• Integration of science activities in connecting channels with lakes in CSMI cycle;	John Lawrence & Paul Horvatin
	Outcome of April 29-30, 2009 Lake Superior CSMI Workshop	Carl Richards
	Research coordination between CSMI intensive years	Jeff Reutter
	Round Table Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can the CGLRM help member organization?• How can member organizations help the CGLRM?	John Lawrence & Jeff Reutter All
Noon	Working Lunch	
	Membership Discuss list of research facilities, departures and nominees; Designation of deputy co-chairs	Jeff Reutter All
	Upcoming Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great Lakes Regional Research Information Network (GLRRIN) meeting, November 3-4, 2009, GLNPO, Chicago, IL• Integrated Modeling and Analysis to Support the Management and Restoration of Large Aquatic Ecosystems, January 20-21, 2010	Jeff Reutter Joe DePinto

	Status of Ongoing CGLRM Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Inventory- http://RI.ijc.org; • Science Vessel Coordination – www.CanAmGlass.org • IJC Response to CGLRM regarding VHS Workshop Report 	Mark Burrows
	2009-2011 Priority Cycle – Proposed Activities/Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Current Proposals from Spring Semi-annual Meeting • Binational Coordination of Great Lakes activities Involvement in efforts such as: Census of Marine Life, Barcode of Life Initiative (BOLI), and the Canadian Centre for DNA Bar-coding 	Mark Burrows All
5:00 PM	Date/Location of Next Meeting - Adjourn	Jeff Reutter & John Lawrence