

MEETING RECORD, 51st MEETING COUNCIL OF GREAT LAKES RESEARCH MANAGERS

Crown Plaza Hotel, Detroit Airport

Romulus, Michigan

April 7, 2010

Members Present

Jeff Reutter (U.S. Co-chair)	Ohio Sea Grant College Program; Ohio State University, Research Center, Columbus, OH
John Lawrence (Canadian Co-chair)	Aquatic Ecosystem Management Branch, EC, CCIW, Burlington, ON
Carl Richards	Mid-Continent Ecology Division, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Lab, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Duluth, MN
Chris Marvin	International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)
Chris DeRosa	Alliance for Public Health and Associates, Inc., Acworth, GA
Jan Ciborowski	University of Windsor, Windsor, ON
Joe DePinto	Limnotech, Inc., Ann Arbor, MI
Kurt Newman (for Norm Grannemann)	U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Program, Lansing, MI
Marie Colton	Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, NOAA, Ann Arbor, MI
Paul Horvatin	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, GLNPO, Chicago, IL
Steve Colman	Large Lakes Observatory, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN
Jan Miller	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Great Lakes & Ohio River Division, Chicago, IL
Val Klump	Great Lakes Water Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Milwaukee, WI

Other Invited Attendees

John Nevin	IJC Washington D.C. Liaison
Joel Weiner	IJC Ottawa Liaison
Mr. Mark Burrows	IJC Great Lakes Regional Office, Windsor, ON

Secretary

Introductions - Purpose

U.S. Co-Chair Jeff Reutter welcomed everyone; members introduced themselves, approved the minutes from the previous meeting and reviewed the agenda. Kurt Newman attended for Norm Grannemann, representing the USGS Great Lakes Science Center. Discussion of the status of the review of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement was added to the agenda. Discussion of agency activities and new initiatives for 2010 was extended to the period after lunch. A handout was provided regarding the status of CSMI activities; accordingly, that discussion was abbreviated.

Discussion Summary

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Overview of Current Great Lakes Projects

Jan Miller provided an update regarding USACE projects that are currently underway in the Great Lakes basin. The presentation was intended to provide an overview; however more detailed presentations on any particular project can be arranged at a later date. A copy of the presentation is provided as enclosure 2.

The following points were noted:

- Chicago Sanitary and Ship (CSSC) research is fast moving and therefore not documented as well as it could be. It may be the subject of a September session.
- Work on *interpretation* of e-DNA evidence is proposed for GLRI/ACE work
- Risk and impact analysis
- Predictive methodology is being developed “on the fly”
- Phragmites bio-control is being studied by USACE aquatic plant group with GLRI funding with Cornell University
- Sediment Recycling, exploring possible use of clean sediment for restoration of strip mines. Regulatory issues, evaluation of impacts and effects on plant species being considered.
- Great Lakes Dredging Team is active and planning a late May 2010 meeting in Cleveland - research is being done on “dredging windows;” how they are applied and how consistent the states are in applying protocols.
- Evaluation of Dam Capacities and Sediment Transport. There are 1000's of dams on Great Lakes tributaries that trap sediments and an associated need to evaluate the amount of sediments and consequences.
- Discussed manner in which Canada addresses dredging. In late 1980's the Canadian Federal Government “de-vested” in harbour control and moved more towards Provincial and local control.
- Greater Canadian presence on the Great Lakes Dredging Team should be pursued.
- It is still “early in the game” on organizing the subject USACE projects, so there are now opportunities for collaboration – noted that the Chesapeake Bay and Rhode Island are also doing work on sediment control.
- Need to consider how can U.S./Canadian efforts could be brought together for sharing info.
- Limnotech is under contract with USACE to model sediment loading in Maumee Bay and lower Lake Erie; the CGLRM could possibly use that project as a means to build/promote U.S./Canadian cooperation.
- Research needs - How clean is “clean” dredge material? How are potential health concerns/impacts from sediment being monitored and studied? What are the relative merits and implications of capping vs dredging and what are the implications and efficacy with respect to the intended results?
- Expect \$75M/year for sediment remediation through Legacy Act.

Action Items for CGLRM:

- (Secretary) – Draft Terms of Reference for CGLRM Sediment Research Sub-Committee.
- John Lawrence and Chris Marvin agreed to designate staff from EC for sub-committee. (completed 5/11/2010) Michael Zarull (Michael.Zarull@ec.gc.ca, (905) 336-4783) and Ian Droppo (Ian.Droppo@ec.gc.ca, (905) 336-4701).
- Paul Horvatin will inquire if an EPA representative can be assigned/participate with subcommittee.
- Subcommittee - investigate U.S./Canadian participation with the dredging team and provide recommendations. Report to CGLRM at next meeting. Sub-Committee members: Ciborowski, Reutter, DePinto, Miller, Burrows plus EC reps Zarull & Droppo.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Status Report

Paul Horvatin provided a status report on GLRI progress. 5 areas of focus– 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:

- GLRI – 475M appropriated and a large portion has moved to agencies for their own Requests For Proposals (RFPs).
- There were many outstanding proposals received in response to the GLNPO RFP.
- Response to RFP received for the \$247M remaining after funds to agencies: received 1000 proposals that amounted to approx \$1 Billion
- GLNPO will be notifying “winning” proposals, “fast tracking” 2010 field season work
- Need to have dollars obligated by end of September
- Discussed, planned vs appropriated funding
- Continuing resolution = ½ of previous year budget/month would include 475 received in 2009-10
- Anticipating 300M for next year (starts 1 October 2010) however there are some legislative proposals that would increase that amount to 2010 level.
- GLNPO budget “zeroed out” (included in GLRI)
- Legacy Act funding is also included in GLRI (requires non-Fed \$ 35% match)
- Managing OPS/accountability Systems being built
- The 5 GLRI focus areas will continue long term as part of 5 year action plan
- Keeping ongoing dialogue with participating agencies to ensure that duplicate projects are not funded.
- Competition advocate,” GAO Audits and other measures in place to ensure fairness
- GLNPO will announce all projects that are funded
- It would be good to give losing proposals feedback and to encourage collaboration, however there are privacy issues and concerns with regard to proprietary rights that inhibit direct discussion of competing proposals.
- 600-800 persons participated in each webinar

Roundtable Discussion of New Initiatives for 2010 and Opportunities for Collaboration

The following points were noted:

- The GLRI has served as an organizational focus & has helped improve collaboration
- Need to see Marine Spatial Planning Research & Development with respect to energy development/multi-use planning in the Great Lakes as well as in coastal areas.
- Impacts of engineering projects on the turbulent dynamics of an open, large body of water. Removing energy from the system. Is there background work to indicate the disruption is “significant”? (not seeing studies)

- Looking abroad – informing the Commission on emerging research and concerns – reporting to commissioners – raising issues and urging IJC to make it a priority and transmit concerns to governments
- Increasing Council's visibility
- Discussed “scoping” exercises of the past and mission overlap with SAB
- Discussed one-on-one meeting with Commissioner separate from the Semi-Annual “roundtable” (last done in late 90's)
- Discussed GLRO Operations and Advisory Committee – representation
- Action Items – pursue direct discussion with Commissioners; report to Commissioners with preliminary work and recommendations.
- Synthesis of cross-cutting, multidisciplinary problems.
- Discussed advice vs actionable/executable recommendations, operational vs strategic policy – identifying strategic research needs vs “scoping”
- Research Strategy = Forums and facilitation
- Discussed Lake superior Meeting - Carl Richards, Jeff Gunderson and Liz LaPlant, 2010 May Conference is a GLRRIN funded event
- Opportunity to “piggy back” sampling/research on Jack Kelly's project sampling for 2011. Plans to sample nearshore areas with tow fish, coordinated with nearshore spatial data.
- TRIAXIS – Both the Large Lake Observatory and EPA Duluth have towed arrays, this is in addition to the TRIAXIS array used by the EPA on the Lake Guardian.

Lunch Break

Roundtable Discussion of New Initiatives for 2010 and Opportunities for Collaboration (Continued)

- Discussed personnel changes at NOAA-GLERL; searching for a Deputy Director
- Kurt Newman discussed USGS projects funded by GLRI-
- 25 GLRI projects (25.5M dollars) will be providing funding to support LaMPs. The USGS/EPA inter-agency agreement has good summary of specific projects. For more information contact knewman@usgs.gov, (734) 214-7257.
- USGS Porter lab – Chestertown, IN is a strong resource on beach health issue.
- Environment Canada activities– John Lawrence – CSMI: Lake Superior planning phase is going well – will request more information from LaMPs in future. Vi Richardson and Glen Warren are coordinating CSMI logistics. CSMI will include connecting waters, so Lake Ontario CSMI events will include the St. Lawrence Seaway. 2010 is the intensive year on Lake Michigan, CSMI steering committee and coordinators are working with 3 Sea Grant offices to provide support.
- The research vessel Limnos was one month late out of dry dock, but now has a new power plant and a 10 to 15 year service life extension. This is very important because a 150 ft vessel with an 8 draft is hard to come by. New vessels suggested as replacements by the Canadian Coast Guard are not as well suited for shallow water operations and researchers would prefer to keep the Limnos or a vessel with the same capabilities. Researchers very much appreciate the opportunities to “piggy back” research on the Lake Guardian and Limnos.
- The next IAGLR conference will be held in Toronto 3rd week of May– growing every year.
- Jan Ciborowski reported on a comprehensive benthic study with COSEE; Limnos – last done in 2004 doing again this year in May.
- **Action Item:** The CGLRM should plan an annual news release regarding research vessel operations, describe what activities are planned on all lakes and opportunities for “piggyback” research.

- Education program - Live video feeds from Lake Guardian @ 15K/day x 7 days = cost of COSEE Education Science Teacher Program. Multiplier effect with teacher training
- Those using the Limnos should be aware that the ship is a search and rescue vessel that can be diverted from its research mission when needed in an emergency.

Research Inventory Widget demonstration, tracking research projects and future work on research inventory.

- Mark Burrows provided a brief demonstration of the web page “widget” developed for the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Research Inventory (ri.ijc.org). This represents a product that can easily be copied to web pages and provides quick access to the data in the research inventory. Proposed plans to update and improve the research inventory were discussed. The Council approved plans to hire a Co-Op student from the University of Windsor for the summer for the purpose of redeveloping the research inventory in Drupal (Drupal.org), an open source software package that will provide much greater flexibility and control of content on the site. This will enable the research inventory to quickly adapt to anticipated changes to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and the requirements to track research associated with those changes.

Great Lakes Regional Research Information Network (GLRRIN) Update

- Jeff Reutter provided discussed the history, development and progress of the GLRRIN project. Proposals were submitted to support CSMI and LaMPs, to coordinate events on each lake equally. The objective is to have CGLRM/GLRRIN provide support for the LaMP managers and help carry out activities that the LaMPs coordinate and prioritize.
- There is a need to get “traction” with Lake Committees by including them in the CSMI planning and synthesis workshops
- **Action Items:** CGLRM Secretary - Bring GLRRIN and CSMI to the attention of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and describe the activity to participants in future discussions between IJC and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. All members - in contacts with GLFC promote collaboration with CSMI.
- Members discussed basin-wide “topical” issues and the need to exchange information about common issues between lakes. The purpose of the GLRRIN Regional Team – is to assist in this cross-lake exchange of information. CSMI activities to summarize results and provide synthesis reports also aid in this effort.

Renegotiation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA)

John Lawrence, Chris Marvin and Paul Horvatin led a discussion about the GLWQA renegotiation process.

- Each nation has principal negotiators as well as a Can/US lead for each issue. Each issue has a team associated with it and each team is developing “negotiating charges”. Once binational charges are developed, each team will move ahead. Hope to have work done by Dec. 31, 2010.
- John Lawrence and Paul Horvatin are two team leads – will hold webinars for public input.
- The Agreement Review Committee (ARC) report and IJC report were factored in the process.

Other Business

- Discussed the proposed development of offshore Wind Farms in the Great Lakes, and associated research needs that would impact the approval of sites for wind farms.
- Lack of data regarding effects on lake dynamics - surface water temperature, flow, energy and other impacts (benthos, fish hatchery). Information required in advance of broader study of the ecosystem impacts.

- Government should require such data as a condition of approval.
- Need to discuss proposed letter with John Gannon, WQB secretary about associated activities by other groups/boards.
- GLIN – Re: underwater turbines
- Alternative energy development
- **Action Item:** Task the CGLRM Co-Op student (Jennifer Gordon) with researching knowledge gaps, uncertainty, investigate “Great Lakes Wind Collaborative” activities and summarize jurisdictional activities. Develop a letter to Commissioners expressing concern regarding the need for the parties to develop more information on this issue and concern about insufficient data, and an apparent “disconnect between science and policy.”
- The next Biennial Meeting could include a discussion about wind energy science gaps.
- Request one hour face-to-face meeting at next semi-Annual for the CGLRM and Commission to discuss this issue and other CGLRM activities.

<u>Summary of Action Items</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
• (Secretary) – Draft Terms of Reference for CGLRM Sediment Research Sub-Committee.	M. Burrows
• John Lawrence and Chris Marvin agreed to designate staff from EC for sub-committee. (completed 5/11/2010) Michael Zarull (Michael.Zarull@ec.gc.ca, (905) 336-4783) and Ian Droppo (Ian.Droppo@ec.gc.ca, (905) 336-4701).	J. Lawrence, C. Marvin
• Inquire if an EPA representative can be assigned/participate with subcommittee.	P. Horvatin
• Sub-Committee members: investigate U.S./Canadian participation with the dredging team and provide recommendations. Report to CGLRM at next meeting.	J. Ciborowski, J. Reutter, J. DePinto, J. Miller, M. Burrows plus EC reps M. Zarull & I. Droppo.
• The CGLRM should plan an annual news release regarding research vessel operations, describe what activities are planned on all lakes and opportunities for “piggyback” research.	All CGLRM Members
• CGLRM Secretary - Bring GLRRIN and CSMI to the attention of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and describe the activity to participants in future	M. Burrows
• Assign the CGLRM Co-Op student (Jennifer Gordon) with researching knowledge gaps, uncertainty, investigate “Great Lakes Wind Collaborative” activities and summarize jurisdictional activities. Develop a letter to Commissioners expressing concern regarding the need for the parties to develop more information on this issue and concern about insufficient data, and an apparent “disconnect between science and policy.”	M. Burrows

Date/Location of Next Meeting(s)

The next commission meeting is scheduled on 19-22 Oct in Ottawa with the Great Lakes Round table Co-Chair discussion with the Commissioners on Thursday October 21. Members decided to request separate time slot for CGLRM meeting with the IJC Commissioners and agreed to a proposed a face-to-face meeting on October 20, 2010, in Ottawa in conjunction with the IJC Semi-Annual Meeting.

Next teleconference: May 11, 2010 at 11 AM Eastern 10 AM Central time, tentatively every 2nd Tuesday of the month from then on.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4 pm

Enclosures:

- (1) Council Meeting Agenda, April 7, 2010
- (2) Copy of presentation slides from Jan Miller, USACE

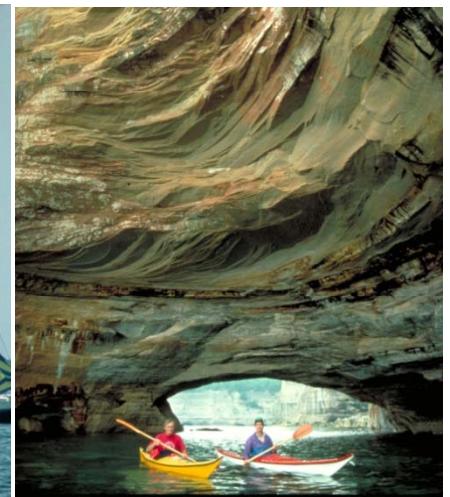
Agenda
51st Meeting of
Council of Great Lakes Research Managers
April 7, 2010
Crown Plaza Hotel, Detroit Airport

Time	Item	Topic	Lead
9:30 am	1	Welcome, housekeeping items	Jeff Reutter
	2	Introductions	
	3	Approval of Agenda	
	4	Approval of Oct 6 th , 2009 Meeting Record	Jeff Reutter
10:00	5	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Overview of Current Great Lakes Projects	Jan Miller
10:20	6	Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Status Report	Paul Horvatin
10:40	7	Roundtable Discussion of New Initiatives for 2010 and Opportunities for Collaboration	All
Lunch			
	8	Research Inventory Widget demonstration, tracking research projects and future work on research inventory.	Mark Burrows
	9	GLRRIN Update	Jeff Reutter
	10	Renegotiation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA)	John Lawrence
	11	Plans for 2010 for Lake Huron CSMI Information Needs Identification planning workshop for 2012 intensive year field year	All
	12	Plans for 2010 Lake Ontario Synthesis workshop	All
	13	New Business	
	14	Next Meeting	
5:00 pm	15	Adjourn	

Overview of Research and Demonstrations



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Studies and Demos

- Quick introduction to some planned and ongoing studies or demonstrations in the Great Lakes region or funded through GLRI
- Opportunity for more detailed briefing by principals at future CGLRM conference call or meeting





CSSC Dispersal Barrier and Interbasin Transfer Study

- Electric barrier system
 - Operating experience and design improvements
 - Performance and safety testing
- Other barrier technologies
 - Acoustic, lights, etc
- Monitoring techniques
 - eDNA
- Predictive methodologies
 - Risk and impact analysis





Phragmites Biocontrol

- Objectives

- Evaluate feasibility of selected biocontrol agents currently under review in the U.S. for use on *Phragmites australis*
- Investigate the applicability and effectiveness of new herbicides recently approved by the USEPA for aquatic environments against *Phragmites australis*
- Document the distribution of native and introduced *Phragmites* haplotypes in the Great Lakes region and assess the role of microbial communities on *Phragmites* invasion and suppression.

- Principals

- Bernd Blossey, Cornell University
- Al Cofrancesco, USACE ERDC





Sediment Recycling

Duluth Mineland Demonstration

- Objectives
 - Demonstrate ability to use sediments with low levels of contaminants for reclamation of strip mine lands in northern Minnesota
 - Evaluate costs and operational parameters for large-scale application
 - Evaluate survival and growth of selected plant species
- POC
 - David Bowman, USACE, Detroit District





Sediment Remediation

East Chicago, IN Demonstration

- Objectives
 - Pilot-scale demonstration of partial dredging and reactive capping and remedial alternative
 - Project location on side channel of Grand Calumet River, IN
 - Integrate benthic habitat restoration into cap design
 - Monitor isolation of contaminants and recovery of benthos
- POC
 - Kirsten Buczak, USACE, Chicago District





Sediment Transport

Evaluation of Dam Capacities

- Objectives
 - Evaluate the remaining sediment storage capacity in dams on Great Lakes tributaries
 - Evaluate impacts of diminishing storage capacity on future sediment loadings to the Lakes
- POC
 - Jim Selegean, USACE, Detroit District

