



Great Lakes
Commission
des Grands Lacs

2001 *Annual Report*

*Ensuring
environmental and
economic •
prosperity*

Vision

Our vision is a Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system that offers a prosperous economy, a healthy environment and a high quality of life for its citizens by applying sustainable development principles in the use, management and protection of water, land and other natural resources.

Mission

The Great Lakes Commission is a binational public agency dedicated to the use, management and protection of the water, land and other natural resources of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system. In partnership with the eight Great Lakes states and provinces of Ontario and Québec, the Commission applies sustainable development principles in addressing issues of resource management, environmental protection, transportation and sustainable development. The Commission provides accurate and objective information on public policy issues, an effective forum for developing and coordinating public policy, and a unified, systemwide voice to advocate member interests.

À nos lecteurs Francophones

La Commission des Grands Lacs a traduit pour vous, en collaboration avec le ministère des Relations internationales du Québec, certaines sections choisies de ce rapport annuel de l'année 2001. Vous trouverez ces informations sur le site Internet de la Commission des Grands Lacs, à l'adresse www.glc.org.

To our French-speaking readers

The Great Lakes Commission, in cooperation with Québec's ministère des Relations internationales, has translated selected portions of its 2001 Annual Report for your convenience. You will find the text on the Great Lakes Commission's web site at www.glc.org.

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Celebrating the past, building the future!

*Nathaniel E. Robinson, Chairman of the Board
Great Lakes Commission*

A new millennium and a new century have ushered in a new era of leadership for the Great Lakes Commission! It has been said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Our journey to become an even stronger, more vibrant organization did as well, when Vice Chair Sam Speck and I were elected to the first of two terms on October 16, 2000. Since that time Sam, Immediate Past Chair Irene Brooks, members of the Board of Directors and I have continued on a journey of success.

We promised you bold leadership and we delivered! I am proud to report that this Team has demonstrated effective leadership and achieved measurable results. And with your help we will continue to do so! Make no mistake, this Team has been working diligently for you and the entire Great Lakes Community! Our priority is, and will continue to be, ensuring environmental and economic prosperity for the greatest system of fresh water on the face of the earth, our HOMES – Great Lakes **Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior!**

It is hard to argue with success and, measured by any standard, we were successful over the past year! Our *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity* received tremendous attention, led to a number of significant Congressional actions and helped lay the groundwork for a prospective “Great Lakes Restoration Plan” that will reflect the consensus of the larger Great Lakes Community.

The last 12 months have been the most productive in our 47-year history! We enhanced our advocacy efforts and increased capacity to advance our priorities in Congress and with the Administration. We launched a Great Lakes Endowment and associated “Friends of the Great Lakes” campaign to involve the entire Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Community in supporting our work. We generated the largest budget in Commission history, with an unprecedented number of revenue sources supporting a diverse array of projects consistent with our Strategic Plan.

Additionally, we made organizational enhancements to better position the Commission to remain competitive and influential. For example, the Executive Committee was renamed “Board of Directors,” the Executive Director position became “President/CEO” and the position of “Immediate Past Chair” was established to better use the experience and expertise of former elected officers. We maintained the highest of standards – to be the premier Great Lakes policy research and advocacy organization. Indeed, we have noteworthy successes to celebrate but *from* whom much is given, much is expected! We have only just begun and our work is not yet done! Our best is yet to come!

You, our U.S. and Canadian partners and supporters, have been a major factor in our success. On behalf of a grateful Commission, thank you all for a job exceptionally well done! Let us continue this journey and stay focused, on message and on target! By promoting and ensuring environmental and economic prosperity we will continue to make our HOMES a great place in which to live, work, learn, play and do business.



Nathaniel E. Robinson

Board of Directors



Chairman of the Board
Nathaniel E. Robinson
Wisconsin
Member since 1992



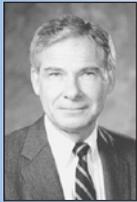
Vice Chair
Samuel W. Speck
Ohio
Member since 1999



Immediate Past Chair
Irene B. Brooks
Pennsylvania
Member since 1995



Dr. Frank L. Kudrna
Illinois
Member since 1978



Hon. Thomas E. Huntley
Minnesota
Member since 1993



Larry D. Macklin
Indiana
Member since 1997



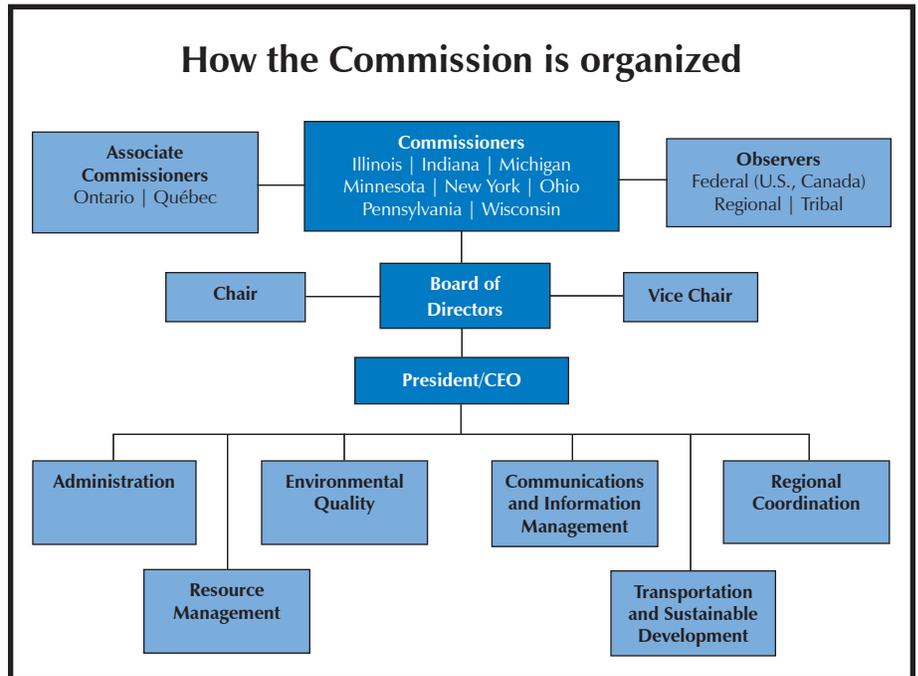
Erin M. Crotty
New York
Succeeded John P. Cahill, 7/01



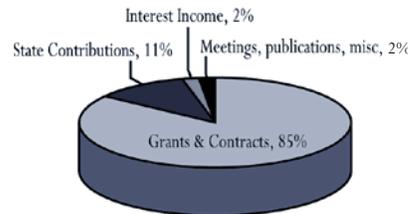
David K. Ladd
Michigan
Succeeded G. Tracy Mehan III, 12/01

About the Great Lakes Commission

The Great Lakes Commission is a nonpartisan, binational compact agency established in state and U.S. federal law and dedicated to promoting a strong economy, healthy environment and high quality of life for the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region and its residents. The Commission is comprised of state legislators, agency officials and governors' appointees from its eight member states. Associate membership for Ontario and Québec was established through the signing of a "Declaration of Partnership." The Commission maintains a formal Observer program involving U.S. and Canadian agencies, tribal authorities, binational agencies and other regional interests. The Commission offices are located in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



Revenues and expenses: FY 2001



Revenues		
Grants and contracts	\$2,871,100	85%
State contributions	360,000	11%
Interest income	84,451	2%
Meetings, publications, misc.	80,930	2%
Total	\$3,396,481	100%

Expenses		
Personnel	\$1,321,711	39%
Grants and contracts	1,610,381	47%
Communications	133,755	4%
Travel	144,708	4%
Office operations	100,339	3%
Program activities	85,567	3%
Total	\$3,396,481	100%

The secret of our success

Dr. Michael J. Donahue, President and CEO

What a great year it was for the Great Lakes Commission! As the pages of this annual report attest, ours is a vibrant, growing organization that, despite varied interests, is focused on a single mission. When it comes to ensuring environmental and economic prosperity for this great region, this is one organization that knows how to make a difference!

What was the secret of our success in 2001? Eight factors immediately come to mind. It was the **leadership** of Nat Robinson, Sam Speck and the most active Board of Directors in recent memory. It was the **vision** and **commitment** of our state and provincial members. It was the **dedication** and **innovation** of our staff, which yielded the largest budget and most exciting array of projects in our history. It was the **partnership** with our many collaborators, both within and outside government; we couldn't have done it without you! It was our organizational culture that told us to keep on message and **make a difference**.

The eighth "secret of our success" in 2001 was by far the most important, yet is so seldom seen in today's institutions. It's **passion**! We all share it – members, staff and partners. It's passion that drives us to make a difference. It's passion that breeds innovation and creative solutions to long-standing problems. And it's passion that keeps us focused on outcomes, rather than on process alone.

"When it comes to protecting, restoring and managing our lakes, only those with passion need apply."

Some are of the opinion that the Great Lakes Commission always tries to be first out of the gate when it comes to attacking the leading issues of our day. Others say the Commission is forever stretching and testing the limits of its mandate. Still others say the Commission is concerned more about what this region needs rather than what the political process suggests it may get. I say we're guilty on all counts and I'm proud of it!

After all, we're not talking about some marginally significant resource. We're talking about the greatest freshwater system on the face of the earth! When it comes to protecting, restoring and managing our lakes, only those with passion need apply. Come join us as we take on the challenges of 2002!



Michael J. Donahue

The 2001 Annual Report of the Great Lakes Commission is dedicated to the memory of all who lost their lives in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C., as a consequence of the tragic events of September 11. In remembering them, and all who were touched by their loss, let us more fully appreciate the freedoms so often taken for granted. Let us also cherish and cultivate the spirit of partnership that Americans and Canadians have so long enjoyed in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region.

Commissioners and associate members

Illinois

*Frank L. Kudrna, CEO,
Kudrna & Associates. Ltd.

Pam McDonough, Director,
Ill. Dept. of Commerce and
Community Affairs

Anthony G. Ianello, Exec.
Director, Ill. Intern'l Port District

Brent Manning, Director,
Ill. Dept. of Natural Resources

F. Ned Dikmen, Publisher,
Great Lakes Boating Magazine

Alternates

Donald R. Vonnahme, Director,
Office of Water Resources
Ill. Dept. of Natural Resources

Dan Injerd, Manager, Lake Michigan
Management Section, Ill. Dept. of
Natural Resources

Indiana

*Larry D. Macklin, Director, Ind.
Department of Natural Resources

Ray G. Sierra, Vice Chair,
Intn'l Longshoremen's Assn.

Gerry Nannenga, Asst. Business
Manager, NW Ind. District
Council of Carpenters

E. Peter McCarthy, Director, Ind.
Intn'l Port/Burns Harbor at Portage

Lori Kaplan, Commissioner, Ind.
Dept. of Environmental Mgmt.

Alternate

Stephen L. Lucas, Division of
Hearings, Ind. Natural Resources
Commission

Michigan

*David K. Ladd, Director,
Office of the Great Lakes, Mich.
Dept. of Environmental Quality

Frank M. D'Itri, Professor, Institute
of Water Research, Mich. State Univ.

Hon. Walter North, State Senator

Hon. William J. Callahan
State Representative

Hon. Jennifer M. Granholm
Attorney General

Alternate

A. Michael Leffler, Asst. Attorney
General, Natural Resources

Minnesota

*Hon. Thomas Huntley, Ph.D.,
State Representative

Hon. Ann Rest, State Senator

Hon. Cal Larson, State Senator

Hon. George Cassell,
State Representative

J. Mark Ludlow,
Governor's appointee

Alternates

Hon. Edward Oliver,
State Senator

Henry Hanka, Byways Resource
Specialist, National Scenic
Byways Resource Center

New York

*Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner, N.Y.
Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Tom McAuslan,
Port of Oswego Authority

Sean T. Hanna,
Governor's appointee

Carl Touhey,
Governor's appointee

John Francis O'Mara,
Governor's appointee

Alternates

Gerald Mikol, Regional Director,
Region 9, N.Y. Dept. of Environmen-
tal Conservation

Donald E. Zelazny, Great Lakes
Program Coordinator, N.Y.
Dept. of Environmental
Conservation

Ohio

*Samuel W. Speck, Director,
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources

Christopher Jones, Director, Ohio
Environmental Protection Agency

George J. Ryan, President,
Lake Carriers' Association

Hon. Robert A. Gardner,
State Senator

Hon. Rex Damschroder,
State Representative

Alternates

James Hartung, President,
Toledo-Lucas County
Port Authority

J. William Moody, Asst. Director,
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources

Jeffrey Busch, Exec. Director,
Ohio Lake Erie Office

Wayne Warren, Chief, Division of
Real Estate and Land Mgmt., Ohio
Dept. of Natural Resources

Ontario

*Bill Carr, Team Leader, Western
Hemisphere Office of Intn'l Relations
and Protocol, Ministry of Economic
Development and Trade

David de Launay, Director, Lands
and Waters Branch, Ministry of
Natural Resources

Douglas Harper, Director,
Environmental Liaison Office,
Ministry of the Environment

Jim Whitestone, Director,
Transportation Policy Branch,
Ministry of Transportation

Alternates

Paula Thompson, Policy Advisor,
Lands and Natural Heritage Branch,
Ministry of Natural Resources

Rod Taylor, Manager, Freight Office,
Ministry of Transportation

Pennsylvania

*Irene B. Brooks, Exec. Director,
Office for River Basin Cooperation,
Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection

Sandy Smith, President,
Erie Sand Steamship Co.

Hon. Jane Earll, State Senator

Alternate

John Hines, Executive Assistant, Office
for River Basin Cooperation

Québec

*Maurice Boisvert, Québec
Government Representative,
Chicago Delegation

Andre Meloche, Director, Dept. of
Maritime Transportation, Air & Rail;
Ministry of Transportation

Hugues Morrissette, Director General,
St. Lawrence Development
Secretariate, Transportation Dept.

Luc Berthiaume, Director,
Intergovernmental Division,
Environment Dept.

Alternates

Nicole McKinnon, Acting Director,
United States Division, Dept. of
Intn'l Relations

Louise Lapierre, Intergovernmental
Division; Ministry of the
Environment

Jérôme Faivre, Dept. of Maritime
Transportation, Air & Rail

Bernard Marier, St. Lawrence
Development Secretariate

Wisconsin

*Nathaniel E. Robinson, Executive
Assistant, Wis. Technical College
System Board

William Carey, Governor's
appointee

Thomas P. Kell, Governor's
appointee

Alternate

Jeff Schoepke, Governor's Office

*indicates delegation chair

Observers

Dr. Stephen B. Brandt, National Oceanic
and Atmospheric Administration Great
Lakes Environmental Research
Laboratory

Director, U.S. Geological Survey, Great
Lakes Science Center

Charles Ehler, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration,
Office of Ocean and Coastal
Resource Management

Dr. Christopher I. Goddard,
Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Margaret Grant, Council of
Great Lakes Governors

Gary Gulezian, U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency, Great Lakes
National Program Office

Rear Adm. James D. Hull,
U.S. Coast Guard, Ninth District

Gary Jackson, U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Service

Albert Jacquez, U.S. Dept. of
Transportation, St. Lawrence Seaway
Development Corp.

Dr. Gail Krantzberg,
International Joint Commission,
Great Lakes Regional Office

Patricia Leavenworth, U.S. Department
of Agriculture Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Tony MacDonald, Coastal States
Organization

Jan Miller, U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers, Great Lakes and
Ohio River Division

Joseph Newberg, National
Association of Conservation Districts,
Great Lakes Committee

Jim Nicholas, U.S. Geological Survey,
Water Resources Division

Dr. Jack Mattice, Great Lakes Sea
Grant Network

Sheila Tooze, Canadian Embassy

Mike Ripley, Chippewa – Ottawa
Resource Authority

Gary Vequist, National Park Service,
Midwest Region

Patrick L. Wilkey, U.S. Dept. of
Energy, Center for Environmental
Restoration Systems

Administration

Our goal

To enhance the Commission's leadership role in regional coordination, policy development and advocacy through efficient, cost-effective and responsive service to its members and the larger Great Lakes - St. Lawrence community



Commission leadership gathers to debate policy and set priorities for the coming year at a Board of Directors' meeting. From left are Gerald Mikol, New York (representing Erin Crotty); Jim Bredin, Michigan (representing David Ladd); Tom Huntley, Minnesota; Immediate Past Chair Irene Brooks, Pennsylvania; Chairman Nat Robinson, Wisconsin; Vice Chair Sam Speck, Ohio; Mike Donahue, president/CEO; Steve Lucas, Indiana (representing Larry Macklin); and Frank Kudrna, Illinois. Photo: Kirk Haverkamp

What we do

The Commission's ability to "make a difference" is founded on an efficient and effective administrative structure that supports its critical functions of coordination, policy development and advocacy. An experienced and highly professional administrative team is responsible for coordinating all aspects of revenue generation, financial management and reporting, meeting planning and conduct, organizational publicity, and member support services. Under the leadership of the Board of Directors, the efforts of this team – and the entire staff – have resulted in a vibrant, growing organization with streamlined administrative procedures that quickly move initiatives from concept to reality.

What we've accomplished

Ensured continued, strong leadership by re-electing Nathaniel E. Robinson and Samuel W. Speck to second terms as chairman and vice chair, respectively • Advanced theme of "Ensuring Environmental and Economic Prosperity" to define Commission's goals • Fostered continued organizational growth and effectiveness by expanding the staff and restructuring titles and responsibilities • Approved the largest budget in Commission history with an unprecedented number of revenue sources • Enhanced the Commission's revenue base by establishing the "Great Lakes Endowment," enabling friends and partners to provide their support • Ensured a positive "return on investment" for all member jurisdictions, as grants, contracts and pass-through funds to members far exceeded annual dues

What's ahead in 2002

Stay on message with comprehensive strategic plan • Revise organizational structure to accommodate growth and expanded program activity • Broaden financial base through full implementation of "Great Lakes Endowment" initiative • Secure larger scale, multi-year grants to address member priorities • Strengthen binational focus and enhance Ontario and Quebec roles • Lay groundwork for a new, multi-agency facility to co-locate Commission and other Great Lakes-related public agencies in Ann Arbor, Michigan

Resource Management

Our goal

To promote the informed use, management and protection of the water, land, air and natural resources of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System



Protecting and preserving our natural resources, such as coastal wetlands, is a priority of the Great Lakes Commission and its member states and provinces. Photo: Ontario Tourism.

What we do

The Resource Management Program is all about partnerships and innovation in safeguarding the water and related natural resources of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region. Working through the Great Lakes Commission, member states and provinces bring together various sectors of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence community to identify issues, address problems and promote sound public policy. Our job is to establish priorities, conduct research, develop policy and effect changes through information, education, technical assistance and advocacy. Major focus areas include basinwide issues of water withdrawal, consumptive use and diversion; soil erosion, sedimentation and nonpoint source pollution; oil and hazardous material spills; and aquatic nuisance species prevention and control.

What we've accomplished

Developed a decision support framework to address water withdrawals and use issues • Allocated more than \$500,000 for innovative watershed-based erosion and sediment control practices under the Great Lakes Basin Program • Promoted sound watershed management practices through a series of tributary modeling workshops • Built partnerships among managers, scientists and vessel operators through the fifth annual Great Lakes science vessel coordination workshop • Conducted a successful regional symposium that led to recommendations for reauthorizing the National Invasive Species Act of 1996

What's ahead in 2002

Develop a rapid response plan for aquatic nuisance species • Celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species • Release the final report on the development of a Great Lakes water resources management decision support system • Begin work on a water resources management plan for Isle Royale National Park • Promote conservation measures through demonstration and specific projects under the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control • Promote sound land-use practices and watershed-based decisionmaking under the Watershed Planning and Training and Great Lakes Tributary Modeling projects • Complete Geographic Information System (GIS) map products supporting oil spill protection and preparedness

Environmental Quality

Our goal

To restore and maintain a healthy environment by promoting the clean-up of contaminated sites, protecting high-quality areas and ensuring a strong foundation of scientific research and monitoring

What we do

The Environmental Quality Program promotes efforts to restore and maintain ecosystem quality in the Great Lakes and their tributaries. This includes support for Lakewide Management Plans (LaMPs) as well as Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) in the 42 Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs). We work closely with agency staff and stakeholders who are guiding cleanup efforts at the local level. Through a number of distinct yet related projects, we exchange information, provide technical assistance, promote funding opportunities, and facilitate dialogue among the diverse entities dedicated to protecting and enhancing the Great Lakes ecosystem. In addition, we are facilitating a binational management process for Lake St. Clair to ensure that this valuable shared resource receives the attention it deserves.

What's ahead in 2002

Advocate for increased federal and state support for the AOCs • Build capacity among RAP groups and coordinate support for AOC cleanup efforts • Assess, coordinate and disseminate ecosystem monitoring programs and data • Develop a comprehensive management plan for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River • Establish a binational Lake St. Clair management initiative and convene a “State of Lake St. Clair” conference



The Commission's leadership role in promoting environmental protection, cleanup and monitoring means a high quality of life for Great Lakes residents and visitors. Photo: Thomas A. Schneider

What we've accomplished

Supported restoration efforts in Michigan's 14 Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs) through a legislative briefing and training workshops • Increased capacity among local public advisory councils to implement Remedial Action Plans in the AOCs • Assisted in the development and public review of delisting guidelines for the U.S. AOCs • Advanced lakewide management efforts through information, education and outreach • Initiated a comprehensive management plan for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River • Coordinated and showcased environmental monitoring programs in the Lake Michigan basin • Assessed monitoring programs in the upper Great Lakes connecting channels

Transportation and Sustainable Development

Our goal

To promote sustainable, water resource-based economic activity and the use, development and maintenance of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence transportation system

What we do

The Great Lakes binational economy is this program area's core interest, driving research, analysis and policy development. Its guiding theme is sustainable development, which recognizes the interdependence of the regional economy and environment. With that as a starting point, this program works with public and private entities on a variety of projects to ensure prosperity and a high quality of life for the residents of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. Many of this program area's efforts address commercial and recreational waterborne transportation, which are fundamentally linked to the informed use and management of our water resources. Other development issues with a potential impact on Great Lakes water quality are addressed as well.

What's ahead in 2002

Update modal shift study comparing advantages of waterborne transportation to land-based forms • Initiate Great Lakes recreational boating study and survey of economic benefits • Continue efforts to secure funding for nonfederal share of new Soo Lock • Advocate water resources appropriations and legislation, in particular those related to dredging and navigation • Develop a regional process for establishing environmental windows for dredging operations • Continue to work with Great Lakes states in implementing "strategic actions" from land-use report • Undertake survey and liaison with marine community in support of a modal shift/ballast water control study



The Great Lakes Commission has long been a leading advocate for maritime transportation and its attendant regional benefits. Commission efforts in 2001 helped secure federal and state appropriations for a second large lock at the Soo that will enhance system reliability. Photo: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

What we've accomplished

Completed major land-use report, *Linking Brownfields Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection for Sustainable Development*

- Successfully advocated for an initial federal construction appropriation for a new Soo Lock
- Completed project on promoting beneficial use of dredged material as a remedy to disposal problems
- Organized a Recreational Boating and Dredging Symposium to examine the need to maintain recreational harbors and channels
- Began study of "environmental windows," ecologically optimal times for dredging

Communications and Information Management

Our goal

To promote informed public policy by applying communications and information management technology to the environmental protection, resource management, transportation and sustainable development needs of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system



The BeachCast system, now being developed by the Commission, will help beachgoers obtain up-to-date information on beach safety and will aid in developing better techniques for monitoring health risks. Photo: Arnold W. Ehram.

What we do

The Communications and Information Management Program facilitates the collection and distribution of information related to the protection and sustainable use of the natural resources of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. We work with our partners in the region to develop new communications products and tools, such as web sites, databases, computer servers and data exchanges. We also inform and advise through traditional means such as publications, newsletters and press releases. Furthermore, we foster professional exchanges that bring together experts in a wide range of fields from both the region and the world. Our flagship product is the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN), an online resource providing access to a vast reserve of Great Lakes material and links, averaging 3.5 million hits per month in 2001.

What we've accomplished

GLIN named "Outstanding Great Lakes Cultural Web Site" • Updated Great Lakes Regional Air Toxics Inventory released • Began development of BeachCast online monitoring system • Human Health and the Great Lakes, an online information resource, added to GLIN • Developed online hydrometeorological directory • Improved Regional Air Pollutant Inventory Development System (RAPIDS) software • GLIN Daily News partnership established with Great Lakes Radio Consortium • Searchable Funding and Grants Guide added to GLIN • New GLIN section created for Great Lakes Circle Tour

What's ahead in 2002

Redesign and update Commission web site and display materials • Release Regional Air Toxics Inventory that covers more than twice as many pollutants as current version • Create online regional clearinghouse to facilitate data reporting and access through the Internet • Administer North American fellowship program that focuses on invasive species • Post daily beach monitoring reports of selected Great Lakes metro areas through BeachCast • Draft a coordinated coastal wetlands monitoring plan with the Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Consortium and conduct a classified inventory of coastal wetlands

Regional Coordination

Our goal

To strengthen the collective Great Lakes management effort by providing regional leadership, generating consensus on regional priorities among diverse interests and building partnerships for decisive regional action

What we do

The Regional Coordination Program carries out the Commission's duty to act as the region's advocate, a responsibility spelled out in state and U.S. federal law via the Great Lakes Basin Compact. We build consensus among member states on policy issues and present those recommendations to Congress and the Administration. Program activities include coalition-building within the larger Great Lakes-St. Lawrence community and ensuring that lines of communication remain open among community members.

What's ahead in 2002

Advocate Great Lakes Program priorities to enhance environmental and economic prosperity • Refine congressional advocacy efforts to maximize legislative and appropriations achievements • Develop effective partnerships through congressional liaison and province-level initiatives • Support regional and international opportunities that promote our vision • Work toward development of a comprehensive, consensus-based Great Lakes Restoration Plan



Co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Commission, the 2001 Great Lakes Congressional Tour brought key staff to Michigan for an introduction to critical region-wide issues and opportunities. Photo: Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory.

What we've accomplished

Successfully advocated for priorities identified in *The Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity* through targeted communications with key congressional leadership • Co-hosted the Great Lakes Congressional Tour, which introduced key congressional staff to major issues facing the Great Lakes • Helped lay the groundwork for the development of a consensus-based Great Lakes Restoration Plan to address the region's environmental issues in a comprehensive manner • Provided objective, applied policy research through testimony before congressional hearings on aquatic nuisance species and environmental cleanup, and consultation on conservation legislation



Restoring the Greatness

Cleaning up toxic hot spots

Shutting the door on invasive species

Controlling nonpoint source pollution

Restoring and conserving wetlands and critical coastal habitat

Ensuring the sustainable use of our water resources

Strengthening our decision support capability

Enhancing the commercial and recreational value of our waterways

What we're doing to ensure environmental and economic prosperity for the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region

In 2001 the Great Lakes Commission carefully assessed the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence system and its restoration needs. Our members identified seven major themes – identified at upper left – which became the basis for *The Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*, a blueprint for securing a clean environment, a strong economy and a high quality of life for all who live, work or play in this great region.

The vision, goals and strategic actions embodied in the Great Lakes Program provided the framework for our congressional advocacy efforts and guided our work in the region. The last 12 months saw intense activity in each of our program areas, with literally dozens of projects directed at one or more of these seven themes. These included scientific and technical analyses, policy research, economic studies, planning, consensus-building, curriculum development, public information/education, media events and advocacy. All contributed to a single goal – “Restoring the Greatness!”

At the Great Lakes Commission, we recognize that restoration is all about partnerships. It's about working together – within and outside government – to make a difference. The following pages outline some of the major programs that we, along with our partners, have been engaged in this past year in support of these seven themes.

2001: Selected highlights

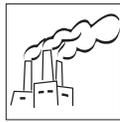
Nat Robinson (WI) and Sam Speck (OH) were re-elected to second terms as chairman and vice chair, respectively.

Frank Kudrna, Illinois' Delegation Chair, was presented with the Commission's prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award."

Two new Board members joined the Commission in 2001: Erin Crotty (NY) and David Ladd (MI). New delegation chairs Bill Carr (Ontario) and Maurice Boisvert (Québec) were also appointed.

Dr. Michael J. Donahue, President/CEO of the Great Lakes Commission, was appointed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Environmental Advisory Board and reappointed U.S. chairman of the Science Advisory Board, International Joint Commission.

The Commission's Regional Coordination Program was enhanced by the addition of a new full-time position for congressional liaison and advocacy work.



Cleaning up toxic hot spots

Goal: Restore and maintain beneficial uses in each of the 31 U.S. and binational Areas of Concern (AOC), with a special emphasis on remediation of contaminated sediment.

Contaminated sediment is a persistent source of toxic pollution to the Great Lakes, at least partially responsible for 11 of 14 beneficial use impairments identified in the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The following Commission projects promoted the remediation of such sites and helped prevent the creation of new ones.

Promoting cleanup in Areas of Concern (AOCs)

In an effort to clean up the most polluted areas in the Great Lakes, the Commission has expanded its support for Areas of Concern (AOC) and Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) programs established by the United States and Canada under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. With funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and from the U.S. Environment Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) and Region V Water Division, the Commission assists local groups in developing and implementing remedial action plans for the 42 toxic hot spots designated as AOCs in the U.S. and Canada.

The Commission supports the Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC) for Michigan's AOC Program, which pursues a wide array of communications, advocacy and training activities. The Commission also administers funding support to local public advisory councils in Michigan's AOCs and assists in the preparation of remedial action plans. See www.glc.org/aoc.html.

Giving our "sixth" Great Lake its due

In a major new initiative with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Commission is working with a binational coalition of agencies and organizations to develop a comprehensive management plan for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River. This congressionally authorized plan will evaluate environmental stresses, develop recommendations to restore and protect the lake and river, and integrate U.S. and Canadian management efforts for these vital, shared resources. See www.glc.org/stclair

Keeping the public informed . . . and the pressure on!

The Commission, with support from U.S. EPA-GLNPO, updated its web site summarizing the 26 U.S. AOCs and developed new web pages for the five binational AOCs that straddle the U.S.-Canada border, providing the public with ready access to AOC information. See www.epa.gov/glnpo/aoc

Improving spill prevention and response

To aid in contingency planning for oil and hazardous material spills in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence system, the Commission collects data on environmentally, economically and culturally sensitive areas and cross-references it with information on potential spill sources. In partnership with U.S. EPA Region V and the U.S. Coast Guard, the Commission uses this information to create geographic information system (GIS) databases and maps for use by emergency planners and responders. See www.glc.org/conting/conting.html



Shutting the door on invasive species

Goal: Restore and protect the ecological and environmental health of the Great Lakes by preventing the introduction of new invasive species and limiting the spread of established ones.

Aquatic nuisance species represent a growing and potentially devastating threat to the economy and environment of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region. Successful prevention and control demand a binational, systemwide approach such as that provided by the Commission-staffed Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, with support from the U.S. EPA-GLNPO, NOAA, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Working with our governors and premiers to fight ANS

The Commission-staffed Great Lakes Panel played a major role in developing and promoting the adoption of *A Great Lakes Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Aquatic Nuisance Species*, signed by the eight governors and two premiers of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. The Action Plan features a shared set of principles to guide state and provincial prevention and control efforts. See www.glc.org/ans/7-01GLactionplan.pdf

Forging consensus on ballast management

A Policy Statement on Ballast Water Management, a series of recommendations to improve the effectiveness of U.S. and Canadian ballast water regulations and guidelines, was adopted by the Great Lakes Panel. Developed in consultation with the larger user community, the policy statement identifies gaps in current ballast management policy and suggests ways to address them. See www.glc.org/ans/3-16-bwmpolicyposition.pdf

Helping shape federal legislation

With the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 up for reauthorization in 2002, the Great Lakes Panel convened a regional symposium to develop recommendations for the new legislation. The symposium brought together leading ANS experts and a wide range of stakeholders to examine progress made under the current legislation and identify unmet needs.

Responding to new threats

The Great Lakes Panel began development of a rapid response plan to more effectively address ANS invasions in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system. The goal is to ensure a prompt and coordinated response to new invasions by establishing eradication and control procedures that can be immediately implemented when a new invasive species is discovered.

The Commission revised its organizational structure to accommodate growth and expanded scope, establishing the positions of president/CEO and immediate past chair, and renaming its main policy body as the Board of Directors.

The *Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*, the Commission's legislative and appropriations priorities for addressing key Great Lakes issues, was presented to the Congress, with seven themes for Great Lakes restoration highlighted.

A successful 2001 Great Lakes Congressional Tour, co-sponsored by the Commission, strengthened relations with key congressional staff and resulted in a commitment for continued sponsorship of the tour and similar future events.

"Great Lakes Day in Washington," co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Commission, offered members of Congress and regional leaders an opportunity to share and collaborate on priorities and plans.



Controlling nonpoint source pollution

The award-winning Great Lakes Information Network averaged 3.5 million hits per month in 2001.

The Commission began to lay the framework for a decision support system for Great Lakes water management. This effort, backed by the Great Lakes Protection Fund, supports Annex 2001 of the Great Lakes Charter, signed by the governors and premiers.

The *Great Lakes Action Plan*, a landmark agreement for the prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species, was signed by all Great Lakes governors and premiers. The initiative was led by the Commission and the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species.

With the 1996 National Invasive Species Act up for reauthorization in 2002, the Commission endorsed a set of principles to guide the process and urged that specific recommendations of the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species be consulted in drafting the new legislation.

Goal: Improve Great Lakes water quality and economic productivity by controlling nonpoint source pollution from water, land and air pathways.

Nonpoint, or diffuse, source pollution is the leading source of contaminants to the Great Lakes, with pathways that include urban and agricultural runoff, erosion, and air deposition. Commission projects provide scientific and technical assistance to efforts to control this type of pollution and support “on the ground” initiatives that yield measureable benefits.

Tracking airborne pollution

Researchers, decisionmakers, media and others with an interest in Great Lakes air quality have a clearer picture of air pollution in the region, thanks to a pair of emissions inventories the Commission completed in 2001 with U.S. EPA support. The updates to the Great Lakes Regional Air Toxic Emissions Inventory assembled two years’ annual data collected by the eight Great Lakes states and the province of Ontario into a single resource categorizing 82 toxic air contaminants. Commission staff also updated the project’s software – known as the Regional Air Pollutant Inventory Development System (RAPIDS) – to be compatible with U.S. EPA standards for use in a national inventory. See www.glc.org/air/air3.html

Reducing pollution from urban and agricultural runoff

The Commission-managed Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control coordinates public efforts to protect and improve Great Lakes water quality through technical assistance, demonstrations and information/education projects. Funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service, it features a grant program that supports innovative erosion and sediment control activities; a quarterly newsletter highlighting programs, projects and erosion control/water quality news; and a web site detailing completed projects and providing the means for sharing technical information throughout the basin. See www.glc.org/basin

Developing tributary models to reduce sedimentation

The Commission’s Tributary Monitoring Program coordinates the development and application of mathematical models that depict sediment transport in Great Lakes tributaries. These models will help state and local resource agencies evaluate strategies for soil conservation and nonpoint source pollution prevention in tributary watersheds. Efforts in 2001 on this U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-funded initiative included a special focus on New York’s Buffalo River and a survey of Great Lakes states to identify modeling priorities.



Restoring and conserving wetlands and critical coastal habitat

Goal: Restore 100,000 acres of wetlands and critical coastal habitat while protecting existing, high-quality fish and wildlife habitat in the Great Lakes basin.

Wetlands and coastal marshes provide critical habitat for Great Lakes fish and wildlife, help store and cycle nutrients, prevent erosion of soils and shorelines, and provide a tremendous recreational value to the region. Commission projects in 2001 focused on key restoration and conservation priorities.

Improving the health of coastal wetlands

Coastal wetlands play a critical role in the Great Lakes ecosystem, yet little basinwide data is available to assess their ecological health. To address this shortcoming, the Commission convened a consortium of scientists and policymakers to expand the coastal wetland monitoring and reporting capabilities of the United States and Canada. The consortium, with U.S. EPA support, developed a coastal wetlands classification system and the Commission awarded \$300,000 in grants for field testing. The Commission also initiated the compilation of a basinwide coastal wetlands inventory. See www.glc.org/monitoring/wetlands/

Looking at “environmental windows”

The Commission, working through the Great Lakes Dredging Team, is helping to establish a regional process for determining environmental windows, periods of time when dredging and disposal activities can be conducted with the least effect on biological resources. This project involves setting priorities, identifying vulnerable stages in a specie’s life cycle, conducting field and laboratory tests, and assessing how changes in dredging operations affect a given biological resource.

Taking a watershed approach to resource management

The Commission is leading a public-private initiative to provide community-based watershed professionals in Ohio with the tools needed for comprehensive watershed planning. Sponsored by Ohio EPA, a series of two-day workshops focused on developing and sustaining a successful watershed management plan, including how to obtain funding and technical expertise, develop a successful organizational structure, and communicate the importance of watershed planning at the local level. See www.glc.org/watershed

Restoring and preserving our land resources

The Great Lakes Commission promoted sustainable land-use priorities via a two-year study, supported by the C.S. Mott Foundation, that identified 32 strategic actions for encouraging brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection. A web site provides a gateway to further information. See www.glc.org/bridges

Endorsing the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species’ Information/Education Strategy, the Commission called upon member jurisdictions to employ it in their own prevention and control efforts.

Urging more funding for ballast water monitoring and research, the Commission called for the establishment of region-wide ballast water criteria and the application of new technologies to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species.

The Commission called upon the U.S. federal government to adopt an aggressive strategy to boost steel exports and reduce unfair and illegal competition from abroad. A high level of steel imports has resulted in significant job losses and other problems for the U.S. steel industry.

Thanks to the advocacy efforts of the Commission and its partners, Congress appropriated funds for expanding and upgrading the lakes’ water level gauges network.



Ensuring the sustainable use of our water resources

The Commission successfully lobbied Congress to appropriate initial funds for construction of a new Soo Lock, a longtime goal of the Commission.

As the nonfederal sponsor of the Soo Lock project, the Commission worked with member states to arrange funding for their agreed-upon contributions; three states appropriated their shares in 2001.

The Commission called for elimination of the U.S. Harbor Maintenance Tax, noting that it discourages the use of waterborne transportation in favor of more polluting alternatives, and diverts cargo from Great Lakes ports.

The Commission embarked on a new Great Lakes Modal Shift Study to document the pollutant emissions, energy and safety characteristics of waterborne, rail and over-the-road transportation modes.

The Commission urged member states to make beneficial use of dredged material a policy priority, noting significant advances in technology and risk assessment.

Goal: Ensure the sustainable use and management of Great Lakes water resources to protect environmental quality and accommodate water-based economic activity in the Great Lakes states.

The environmental and economic prosperity of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence region is fundamentally dependent on abundant quantities of high quality water. Informed management decisions require adequate monitoring, data analysis and assessments. Commission projects to ensure sustainable use ranged from the local to the global, and from data analysis to scientific exchange.

Establishing environmental monitoring programs

The Commission, in partnership with U.S. EPA-GLNPO, promotes the development of coordinated monitoring networks to ensure that high-quality, timely information is available to policymakers, researchers and the public. This includes providing staff support for the Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council, which helps coordinate efforts among ecosystem monitoring groups and is developing guidance for interjurisdictional monitoring efforts. The Commission also is developing the Lake Michigan Online Monitoring Database, a map-based inventory of monitoring programs that will ensure that monitoring information is readily accessible and will help identify gaps in current monitoring efforts. Also in 2001, the Commission convened a binational forum to identify monitoring needs for AOCs in the upper Great Lakes connecting channels (the Detroit, St. Clair and St. Mary's rivers). See www.glc.org/monitoring

Thinking globally and acting regionally

The Baltic Sea region and the Great Lakes face many of the same problems. The Commission's Great Lakes - Baltic Fellows Exchange Program builds professional relationships among researchers and policymakers from the two regions, promoting the exchange of information and ideas for improving water quality. In May, Commission staff participated in a regional ANS workshop in Denmark, while several Baltic researchers were awarded fellowships, via U.S. EPA, to come to North America to attend workshops, meet with officials and address an international conference on aquatic nuisance species.

Making the connection: environmental and human health

The newest section of the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN), *Human Health and the Great Lakes*, is an online storehouse of in-depth human health information specifically related to each of the Great Lakes. Extensively cross-linked to more information on the Web and funded by U.S. EPA, this Commission-designed web site covers such diverse areas as drinking water, beach conditions, fish consumption advisories, air quality and various other topics affecting human health. See www.glin.net/humanhealth/



Strengthening our decision support capability

Goal: Meet domestic and international Great Lakes commitments through adequate funding for, and the efficient and targeted operation of, federally funded management and research agencies.

The management of Great Lakes water and related land and air resources is a shared responsibility that demands a partnership approach. It also requires access to the “tools of the trade” – research, monitoring and data analysis procedures that support sound public policy decisions. The Great Lakes Commission was at the forefront of such efforts in 2001.

Ensuring informed water resource management decisions

With demands for fresh water expected to increase significantly in the coming decades, a top Commission priority is developing the framework for a water resource management decision support system for the Great Lakes. A two-year project supporting the efforts of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence governors and premiers (under Annex 2001 of the Great Lakes Charter), this initiative will yield recommendations for a management regime to address water withdrawal, consumptive use, diversion and related issues. Supported by the Great Lakes Protection Fund, this project will help establish a framework for timely and well-informed public policy decisions. See www.glc.org/waterquantity/wrmdss/

Working with Congress

The Commission works closely with Congress to advance the region’s legislative, policy, program and appropriations needs. The centerpiece of these efforts is *The Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity*, an advocacy strategy built around the seven themes outlined on page 13 of this report. This strategy involves coordinated efforts among Commission members and partner agencies and organizations to secure much-needed federal appropriations and legislative initiatives. The Commission co-sponsors the annual Great Lakes Congressional Breakfast, which promotes dialog between the region’s leadership and congressional delegation, and also co-sponsored the inaugural Great Lakes Congressional Tour, which introduced key congressional staff to major issues facing the Great Lakes and presented a unified regional voice on research needs and associated priorities.

Making effective use of information technology

The Commission’s Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) strengthened its position as the region’s preeminent site for data, information and breaking news on Great Lakes-St. Lawrence issues, averaging more than 3.5 million “hits” a month in 2001. GLIN was honored as “Web Site of the Year,” by Michigan State University’s Center for Great Lakes Culture, while a partnership formed with the Great Lakes Radio Consortium to produce and market GLIN’s Daily News service brought in a wider audience. A Great Lakes funding and grants guide, featuring a fully searchable database of several hundred grant, fellowship and scholarship sources, was also added to GLIN. See www.glin.net

After more than two years of staff research, a report on brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection was released and the Commission urged its member jurisdictions to implement its recommendations where feasible.

Calling for a stronger federal commitment to programs that reward voluntary land stewardship practices, the Commission urged Congress to reauthorize elements of the 1996 Farm Bill that enhance soil erosion and sediment control.

The Commission urged Congress to reaffirm the federal commitment to resolving pollution problems in the 31 U.S. and binational Areas of Concern, noting that funding is needed for large-scale remediation activities.

The Commission called upon Congress and federal agencies to maintain adequate resources for monitoring programs that support vital environmental protection and resource management efforts in the Great Lakes basin.



Enhancing the commercial and recreational value of our waterways

The Commission called for the development of a comprehensive binational water quality monitoring system to protect public health and promote commercial and recreational uses along the St. Clair – Detroit River binational corridor.

Applauding the efforts of the binational State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) to develop indicators for coastal Great Lakes wetlands, the Commission urged member jurisdictions to take an active role in developing monitoring programs and called on Congress to provide adequate funding.

The Commission urged U.S. federal authorities to simplify rules and procedures that deter recreational boats from crossing the U.S./Canadian border, noting that cumbersome and inconsistent border entry rules deter Canadian boaters from visiting U.S. harbors.

A binational consortium of wetlands experts was convened by the Commission to assess wetlands health and develop indicators.

Goal: Maximize the commercial and recreational value of Great Lakes waterways and other coastal areas by repairing/replacing critical infrastructure and implementing programs for sustainable use.

Great Lakes waterborne transportation is the foundation upon which the U.S. and Canadian regional and national manufacturing economies were built. It has also been shown to have significant advantages over rail and over-the-road options in terms of pollutant emissions, energy efficiency and safety. Commission projects address policy and infrastructure needs for both commercial and recreational waterway uses.

Ensuring reliable navigation

The Great Lakes Commission led regional efforts that secured the first congressional appropriation for a new Soo Lock. The project, a Commission goal since the 1980s, will give the Soo a second lock capable of handling the largest modern freighters, greatly enhancing system capacity and ensuring reliability in the event one lock is disabled. As the project's nonfederal sponsor, the Commission is working with the Great Lakes states to secure appropriations for the nonfederal share of the project; Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania finalized their appropriations in 2001, while the other states have committed to provide funds. See www.glc.org/docs/soo.html

Finding beneficial uses for dredged material

Dredging is essential for maintaining shipping channels and harbors, though environmental concerns, public perceptions and cost can make disposal of the resulting material a challenge. The Commission-supported Great Lakes Dredging Team identified state priorities for a regulatory framework that would allow safe and beneficial uses of dredged material. A set of 18 recommendations for achieving that goal was published, as was a beneficial use overview designed for community decision-makers. See www.glc.org/dredging

Showcasing recreational boating

The Commission has a longstanding interest in recreational boating through regional research and advocacy on such issues as adequate federal funding for U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue stations and small-boat harbor maintenance. In 2001 the Commission began a major study, supported by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, of the economic impact of recreational boating and organized a regional symposium which addressed the economic implications of reduced federal dredging budgets at a time of low Great Lakes water levels.

Promoting healthier beaches

Beach closings due to bacterial contamination have become a significant health issue in recent years and compromise the recreational value of the resource. The Commission is working with U.S. EPA-GLNPO to develop a pilot system, called BeachCast, which will provide real-time information on beach conditions, advisories and precautions over the Internet. It also supports research into more timely and reliable methods of determining bacteria levels. See www.glc.org/monitoring/beaches

Commission staff

President/CEO

Michael J. Donahue (mdonahue@glc.org) is the Commission's president and chief executive officer, with responsibilities in areas of administration, strategic planning, program development, and federal/congressional and state/provincial relations. He manages the Administration and Regional Coordination programs and serves as an ex-officio member of all task forces and committees. Donahue also is an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan and a lecturer in law at the University of Toledo. Among other appointments, he serves as U.S. chairman of the Science Advisory Board of the International Joint Commission and on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board.

Administration

Manager, Financial Operations

Ron Hasselbring (ronh@glc.org) handles banking transactions, payroll, accounts receivable and payable, financial reports for general operating funds and outside grants and contracts, audits, and staff benefits.

Manager, Support Services

Rita J. Straith (rstraith@glc.org) serves as the office manager, assists with project production, and oversees support service staff and tasks.

Administrative Assistant

Pat Gable (pegable@glc.org) assists with support services and handles requests for publications and information.

Database Administrator

Marilyn Ratliff (mratliff@glc.org) manages the Commission's mailing lists and assists staff with database-related activities.

Program managers

Thomas Crane (tcrane@glc.org) manages the Resource Management Program. He oversees all activities in the program and serves in a project management role for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, the Water Resources Management Decision Support System for the Great Lakes, and the Great Lakes Tributary Modeling projects.

Matthew Doss (mdoss@glc.org) manages the Environmental Quality Program. He manages the Commission's support for Great Lakes Remedial Action Plans and Lakewide Management Plans, as well as the Lake St. Clair/St. Clair River management plan initiative and associated projects.

Stephen Thorp (sthorp@glc.org) manages the Transportation and Sustainable Development Program, and is responsible for transportation and economic issues research and policy analysis at the Commission. He works closely with the Great Lakes Dredging Team and heads the Commission's effort for a new Soo Lock.

Julie Wagemakers (juliew@glc.org) manages the Communications and Information Management Program. She oversees staff support for numerous projects, including the wetlands consortium, Great Lakes Information Network, Great Lakes GIS Online, Baltic Fellows Program and Great Lakes Regional Air Toxic Emissions Inventory.

Project managers

Katherine Glassner-Shwayder (shwayder@glc.org) manages the Commission's suite of aquatic nuisance species-related projects, oversees and coordinates the Commission's staff support to the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, and is the staff lead to the Panel in the areas of policy development and information/education. She serves as editor of the panel's newsletter, the *ANS Update*.

Commission staff,
front row from left:
Al Ballert, Pat Gable,
Victoria Pebbles,
Elizabeth Moore, Hao
Zhuang, Christine
Manninen, Rita Straith,
Julie Wagemakers,
Kirk Haverkamp, Matt
Doss, Derek Moy, Jon
Colman; back row:
Amy Morrow, Steve
Thorp, John Hummer,
Jon MacDonagh-
Dumler, Sarah Whitney,
Mike Donahue, Tom
Rayburn, Tom Crane,
Richard Garcia, Ron
Hasselbring, Mike
Schneider, Ric Lawson,
Stuart Eddy. Not pic-
tured: Dan Blake, Karl
Geil, Kathe Glassner-
Shwayder, Marilyn
Ratliff, Jennifer Read.
Photo: David Brenner.



Commission staff (cont'd)

Ric Lawson (rlawson@glc.org) manages the Commission's monitoring coordination projects, including the Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council and the Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Consortium, and associated projects.

Jon MacDonagh-Dumler (jonmacd@glc.org) provides management support for the Regional Coordination Program, which develops and advocates recommendations on laws, policies and programs to promote environmental and economic prosperity in the Great Lakes region.

Christine Manninen (manninen@glc.org) leads development of the Great Lakes Information Network and related web projects, and serves as managing editor of the Advisor newsletter and the Commission's web site.

Victoria Pebbles (vpebbles@glc.org) assists in transportation and sustainable development issues research and policy analysis, focusing primarily on land use, brownfields redevelopment and farmland protection. She managed the Commission's Beneficial Use (of dredged material) project, completed in 2001, and supports the Great Lakes Dredging Team.

Thomas Rayburn (through 12/01) managed the Commission's Area Contingency Planning Project, co-managed the Water Resources Management Decision Support System and Freshwater Spills Information Clearinghouse projects. He also provided support to the Great Lakes Spill Protection Initiative.

Program specialists

Sara Ashley (through 7/01) assisted with development of the Great Lakes Information Network, including TEACH Great Lakes, and was webmaster of the Commission's web site.

Jonathon Colman (jcolman@glc.org) maintains and updates the Great Lakes Information Network web site and is webmaster for Human Health and the Great Lakes, TEACH Great Lakes, and the Commission's web site. He also assists with layout and graphic design of the Commission's newsletters and other publications.

Stuart Eddy (seddy@glc.org) focuses on Commission GIS activities, in particular the Great Lakes GIS Online project. He also provides technical support for Commission computer systems.

Richard Garcia (rgarcia@glc.org) manages the Area Contingency Planning project (since 12/01) and is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the collection of data, creation of databases and GIS applications that support the development of digital map products on environmentally and economically sensitive areas under the project.

Karl Geil (kgeil@glc.org) is webmaster of the Freshwater Spills Information Clearinghouse. He also provides staff support to the Area Contingency Planning project and supports activities pertaining to the collection of data and application of a GIS to develop databases and digital map products on environmentally and economically sensitive areas.

Kirk Haverkamp (kirkh@glc.org) is editor of the Advisor newsletter. He also assists in writing, designing and editing other Commission publications and maintains the Great Lakes Information Network online calendar.

John Hummer (jhummer@glc.org) works on projects addressing the Great Lakes Areas of Concern, Lakewide Management Plans and ecosystem monitoring.

Derek Moy (dmoy@glc.org) works on the Great Lakes Regional Air Toxic Emissions Inventory and assists with the Great Lakes GIS Online

project and Beaches Environmental Assessment, Closure and Health Program. He also provides technical support for Commission computer systems.

Jennifer Read (jread@glc.org) supports the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, serves as editor of the Basin Program's newsletter, *Keeping it on the Land*, and is the staff-lead to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Great Lakes Committee.

Michael Schneider (michaels@glc.org) provides assistance to the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, supports the NACD Great Lakes Committee and assists with collecting and mapping economically and environmentally sensitive data for the Area Contingency Planning project.

Courtney Shosh (through 3/01) served as editor of the Advisor newsletter. She also assisted in writing, designing and editing other Commission publications and maintaining the Commission's web site and the Great Lakes Information Network.

Sarah Whitney (swhitney@glc.org) provides staff support to the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species, coordinates the preparation of the newsletter *ANS Update* and is the staff lead to the Panel's Research Committee. She co-manages the Ohio Watershed Planning Training Project and the Great Lakes Tributary Modeling project, and provides additional assistance to the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.

Hao Zhuang (hzhuang@glc.org), a web database programmer, assists with design and implementation of applications for the Great Lakes Information Network and related projects.

Research associates

Dan Blake (dblake@glc.org) gathers data on the distribution, abundance and interaction of Great Lakes water resources as part of the effort to develop a Water Resources Management Decision Support System for the Great Lakes. He is working with the Water Withdrawal and Use Technical Subcommittee on the preparation of a report on state/provincial water use and conservation programs.

Chase Huntley (through 5/01) supported the Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species with economic and policy analysis, focusing on ballast water management.

Amy Morrow (amorrow@glc.org) provides assistance to the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment control and coordinates the preparation of the Great Lakes Basin Program's newsletter *Keeping it on the Land*.

Director of Research, emeritus

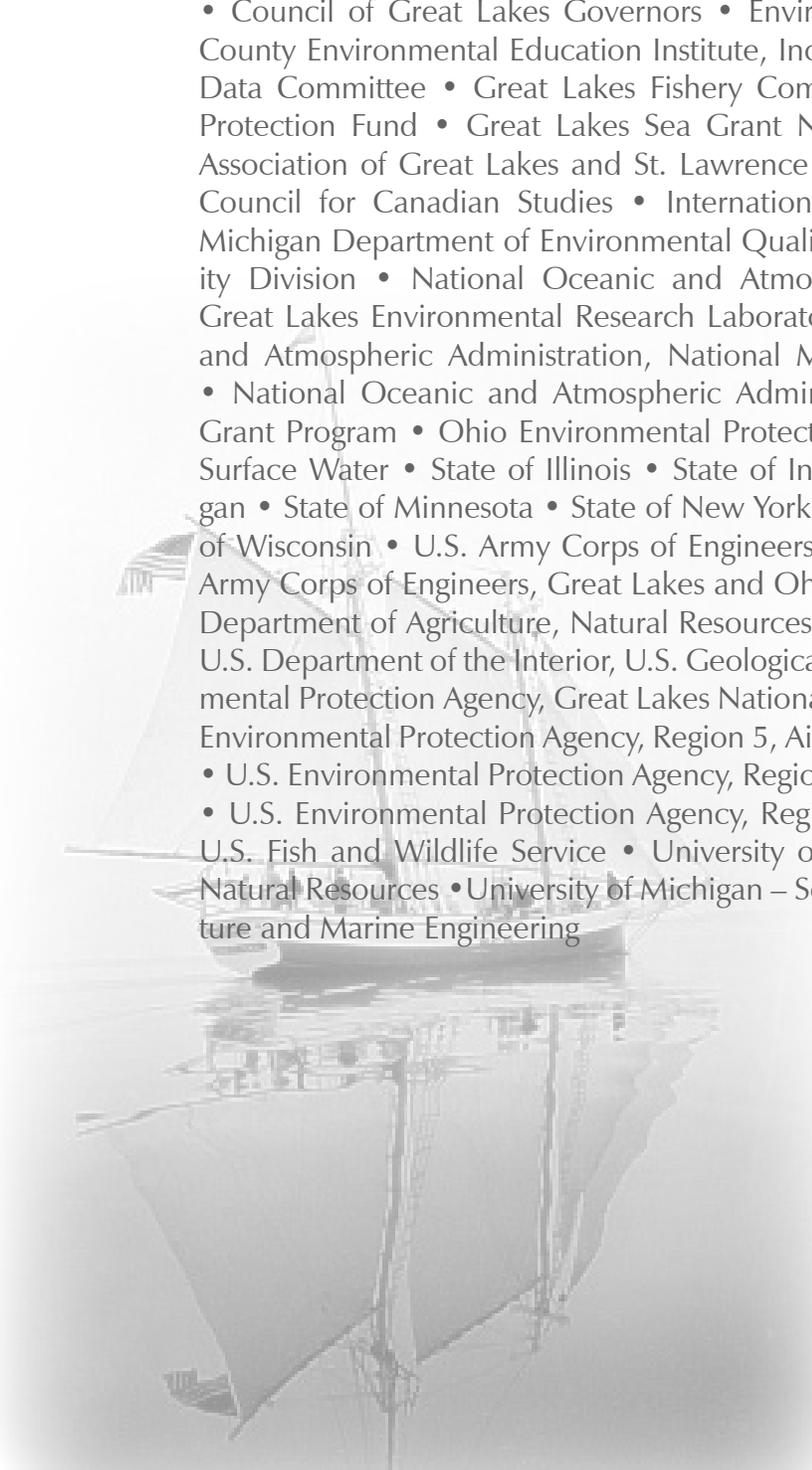
Albert G. Ballert (aballert@glc.org) joined the Commission in 1956, a few months after its formation. He authors the Great Lakes Research Checklist, a bibliography of current Great Lakes-related publications. Other research activities include assembling data and reporting on Great Lakes-overseas vessel traffic; ports of call; and the traffic flow of coal, iron ore and grain on the Great Lakes.

Commission-Sea Grant fellows

Lisa Koch (through 1/01), served as the first Great Lakes Commission-Sea Grant Fellow, providing scientific and policy analysis services to multiple projects.

Elizabeth Moore (emoore@glc.org) is the 2001-02 Great Lakes Commission-Sea Grant Fellow, working on the Lake St. Clair Management Initiative, the Statewide Public Advisory Council for Michigan's Areas of Concern Program and the Ohio Watershed Planning Training Project.

Thanks to our funders



Charles Stewart Mott Foundation • Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Council of Great Lakes Governors • Environment Canada • Erie County Environmental Education Institute, Inc. • Federal Geographic Data Committee • Great Lakes Fishery Commission • Great Lakes Protection Fund • Great Lakes Sea Grant Network • International Association of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Mayors • International Council for Canadian Studies • International Joint Commission • Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Surface Water Quality Division • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Sea Grant Program • Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Surface Water • State of Illinois • State of Indiana • State of Michigan • State of Minnesota • State of New York • State of Ohio • State of Wisconsin • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division • U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service • U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Great Lakes National Program Office • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Air and Radiation Division • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Superfund Division • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Water Division • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service • University of Michigan – School of Natural Resources • University of Michigan – School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

The sailing vessels pictured throughout this publication were among the dozens that participated in the 2001 Great Lakes Tall Ship Challenge tour of Great Lakes ports. Page two, schooner Highlander Sea, Halifax, Nova Scotia; page 6, schooner Pride of Baltimore II, Baltimore, Md.; page 13, barquentine Concordia, Bahamas; page 23, schooner Madeline, Traverse City, Mich.; back cover, the U.S. Brig Niagara, Erie, Pa. All photos courtesy Tall Ships Newswire except U.S. Brig Niagara courtesy Commonwealth Media Services.



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