

Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordination Council
Meeting via Conference Call – May 19, 2006
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon EDT
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT

Meeting Summary

Participants

Judy Beck, U.S. EPA
Sue Brauer, U.S. EPA
Mark Burrows, International Joint Commission
Gary Casper
Alex da Silva, Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Jon Dettling, Great Lakes Commission
Art Garceau, Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Norm Grannemann, U.S. Geological Survey
John Hummer, Great Lakes Commission
Bob Kavetsky, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Gary Kohlhepp, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Ric Lawson, Great Lakes Commission
Beth Malloy, U.S. EPA
Charlie Peters, U.S. Geological Survey
Mike Ripley, Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority
Julie Sims, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Janet Vail, Grand Valley State University – Annis Water Resources Institute
Glenn Warren, U.S. EPA

Welcome and Introductions (John Hummer, Council support staff, Great Lakes Commission)

Agenda adjustment: first workgroup will be groundwater.

General Items

- Briefing on the National Monitoring Network – opportunities for involvement from LMMCC; tie-in with Great Lakes Regional Collaboration recommendations (Art Garceau, Indiana Department of Environmental Management)

Art presented general info on the NMN. Doesn't believe that this affect Lk MI much. Should be able to attach to the monitoring network. States have a good process. Need to include EC in this somehow. Linked to IOOS.

- What will the pilots do?

AG: staff will coordinate pilots that track a condition in the ocean/Great Lake upstream to see if the source can be defined.

- Why 6-digit HUC scale?

AG: manageable size and number.

CP: 18 HUCs in LM. LM in fact might be a good pilot area.

- How does IOOS fit in?

AG: some areas not covered, but they don't contribute water to the coast. All this grew out of the Ocean report.

RL: GLOS is in formative stages, so there is opportunity to incorporate NMN into planning.

Additional information:

- [NMN Design presentation](#)
- [NMN Design – links to full document](#)
- [NMN presentation given at National Monitoring Conference](#)
- [NMN questions and answers](#)
- [NMN one-pager for NMC program](#)

- Review of the National Monitoring Conference – items of note (John Hummer; Charlie Peters, USGS; Art Garceau)

JH noted some highlights. ~850 attendees. Good mix. Lots of volunteer monitoring folks. Lots of private for-profits. JH/CP presented on Trib project. Pacific NW aquatic monitoring project. Interesting model to look at for comparison. New Eng water control. Network focused on 5 methods.

CP: double the size of last 4. 500 presentations. And lots more. Presentations will be on-line on the NWQMC site.

AG: interesting session on probabilistic monitoring. Missouri group found 4 species of fish they did not previously know about.

- Briefing on review of the GLWQA – general process (Judy Beck, U.S. EPA-GLNPO)

JB – brief intro on the review. LaMP 06 is out and online.

- Research & Monitoring Working Group (Ric Lawson, GLC; Mark Burrows, IJC)
RL: focused on discussion of specificity vs. general process description.
GW: making good progress with weekly calls. Mostly covered clarifications and minor edits to date. Good progress. SOLEC organizers have not been pushing to get specific mention in the agreement.
- Groundwater Working Group (Norm Grannemann, USGS)
Stepped out to call Mark Burrows.
- Special Issues, i.e. land use (Judy Beck)
ANS has been noted as a key issue. Climate change and sustainability as well.
Would invasives include terrestrial?

Are there other groups the LMMCC should be involved in?

* JH will send out a list of who is participating on the different groups.

Workgroups

- Groundwater – [Michigan Groundwater Mapping Project](#) (Norm Grannemann)

Should push monitoring link with the observation system (GLOS).

USGS, Mi – recently completed groundwater map. Lots of detailed info.

MB: Doug Alley June 13-14 mtg on groundwater. See Mark for details. Will also present discussion at SOLEC. 3 workshops. Walkerton groundwater mtg in June as well. Contact Mark or Jim Nicholas.

JH: paper on groundwater monitoring with recommendations including federal role by the National Groundwater Association.

- Wildlife – [Workgroup Update Report](#) (Provided by Rich Greenwood; Bob Kavetsky to brief)

BK: report talks about FWS activities in this area. Coastal program: cooperative agreement in Muskegon AOC MMP. 54 applicants, 26 funded. \$300k.

- Inventory and monitoring of herptiles (Gary Casper, UW-Milwaukee Field Station)
 - Related report: [A Review of the Amphibians and Reptiles of the Lake Superior Watershed](#)

GC: working with NPS. Went through several pages. Inventory linked above. Pilot program with EPA funding to field test monitoring methods. Key indicator for climate change. Working to investigate an effective and affordable method. Collaborations in data sharing? Basinwide trends.

- Air - [Great Lake Air Deposition \(GLAD\) program](#) update (Jon Dettling, GLC)

JD: work with states and EPA to provide funding for AD investigations. 9 new projects. 19 active projects. Several applied within LM. Dioxin and furan monitoring at IADN stations. Through fall 07. U of M investigation on Mercury sourcing along with others. Battelle PCA on IADN data. Fingerprinting chemicals and sourcing. PCB investigation. 2 projects on advanced methods for AD monitoring. Could significantly reduce uncertainty. Newer projects are looking at modeling.

- Research - Coordination with Council of Great Lakes Research Managers for new Research Workgroup (Ric Lawson and Mark Burrows)

MB: CGLRM providing forum between researchers and grant managers. Tying to coordinated monitoring schedule. Focusing on Lake Ontario 2008. Fall 06 workshop on foodweb connections in October in Kingston, ON. Another workshop on contaminants. Research coordination strategy. Exchange info to make sure relevant research undertaken. Work with LMMCC in 2009-10 to lead discussion on important issues to address.

JB: the GLFC also has intensive years on each lake.

RL: design next meeting around a research needs workshop?

MB: earlier the better. Important to get some consensus around needs. Help with funding. Tie in to the Sea Grant approach. Some documentation on that at IJC. Will forward to LMMCC.

- Update on Sea Grant Research proposal (Charlie Peters)

CP: LMMCC would coordinate the various coordination efforts. We would observe and make sure monitoring components are included.

JB: we should get all the players together to talk about the various approaches.

* RL: GLC will convene a planning committee to organize a workshop around the next meeting. Contact JH if you want to participate.

VH: I want to participate. * Call before the Great Lakes meeting on June 10.

- Rec Waters - Beaches monitoring update (Alex da Silva, IDEM)

AdS: national beach conference will be in the GL basin. \$206M to LM states for beach act. Imbalance in what states can do with their funding. National is encouraging strategic monitoring based on beach use. IDEM involved in quite a few projects. Monitoring all beaches 4-5 x / week. Pilot site in to survey water use at beaches and correlate with e coli measures. Now allowing some spending outside of beach project area. For example with septic system failures.

JB: beach chapter of LaMP details beach activities fairly thoroughly.

CP: USGS scientists expanding beach science work. Developing strategic plan to focus research. Report on workshop. Will find link.

AdS: meeting on e coli. Will forward info.

- Tribes - Update on the Lake MI Tributary Monitoring Project (Gary Kohlhepp, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; Charlie Peters)

GK: MI samples completed last year. QA now. Sampling ongoing in Grand Cal and Fox through July. MI will have some additional samples. After data QAed, work will need to start on analysis. Interface with Mass Balance folks.

CP: presented at NWQMC. Need to meet to discuss analysis and report.

JB: \$ in budget. Will need to report by October 07 State of Lake.

- ANS - NAISA update; Lake MI LaMP update; GLP activities of note; [ORD Great Lakes Invasive Species Initiative](#) (Mike Ripley, Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority)

MR: lot of agencies that need to be coordinated here to keep on top of new invasions. NAISA legislation is not going anywhere. Chapter on ANS in LaMP with state agencies. Good updates. MI has new program: anglers monitoring network. Simple ways to ID and report to DEQ. Chicago barrier: last minute juggling to fund barrier 1 for another year. O&M is not in place for #2. Duluth did intensive survey of harbor and found NZ mud snails. Could be important approach for hot spots in MI. FWS in Ashland surveyed Little Bay de Noc for Ruffe and found not getting beyond the bay.

- Fisheries - [Monitoring or assessments of primarily fish populations in Lake Michigan](#) (provided by Brad Eggold, Southern Lake Michigan Fisheries Supervisor, WDNR)

JH summarized the assessment and below article.

- [Article on monitoring and researching Lake Sturgeon as a key indicator of ecosystem health](#)
- Land Use - Lake Michigan Watershed Academy update; SOLEC land use indicators work group (Judy Beck)

Beth Malloy is chairing SOLEC workgroup on Land Use indicators. Chapter 12 of LaMP has fact sheet on watersheds with land use trend data for first time. Other LaMPs do not have this info. Biodiversity comes from TNC. List watershed plans as well.

- Open Lake - GLACS program update - Lake Guardian monitoring (Glenn Warren, U.S. EPA-GLNPO)

GW: sampled twice in 05. Also 04. Results soon on 04. 05 PCB samples. Those results in 3-4 months. Not in LM this year.

- Wetlands - [Consortium](#) update (Ric Lawson); [Marsh Monitoring Program](#) – Fox River and Muskegon Lake AOCs (John Hummer)

RL and JH provided updates. MMP: 5 sessions last year. 6 this year. Good participation. Muskegon and Fox in LM basin. Muskegon getting additional funds to continue program. Small group in Fox. Monitoring on-going now.

Concluding Items

- Establish timeframe for next LMMCC meeting – in conjunction with SOLEC, Nov. 1-3, Milwaukee, WI

Flesh out research workshop idea first and plan time. LM session will focus on critical pollutants. JB will send draft SOLEC agenda.

* JH will organize conf call.

CP: Lake MI proposal for a NMN pilot. Do not have a process yet.

* Contact JH if interested in NMN pilot.

June 8 meeting @ Shed Aquarium on Great Lakes – outreach and education. Part of Oceans plan.

- Review action items
 - Staff to follow-up with Art Garceau, Chuck Spooner on possible NMN involvement.
 - o Contact JH if interested in a Lake MI NMN pilot.
 - Vicky Harris to report back to Research Workgroup on Sea Grant education and outreach meeting with any news on GLRRIN.
 - Staff to arrange call(s) with Research Workgroup to discuss possible LMMCC involvement with GLRRIN.
 - Staff to arrange for GLRRIN discussion at fall meeting, possibly in conjunction with SOLEC.