Federal Legislative Update

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2014 Legislative Outlook

• Farm Bill - PASSED
• Sleeping Bear Dunes - PASSED
• WRDA - CONFERENCE
• GLEEEPA
• GLMRIS
• Surface Transportation
• Appropriations – FY14 Done; FY15?
FARM BILL

• Conservation Program: streamline and consolidation
• Ties conservation compliance to crop insurance
• SNAP Program Cuts - $8 Billion
• Signed Feb. 7, 2014
Sleeping Bear Dunes

- S. 23/H.R. 163 – PASSED
- Signed yesterday!
- Wilderness additions: 32,557 acres
- Access to beaches and roads
- Tribal and property rights preserved
- State control of hunting/fishing within national lakeshore
Water Resources Development Act

• S. 601/H.R. 3080 - CONFERENCE
• Great Lakes Navigation System
• Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund
• Streamlined environmental review
• Invasive species
• Project authorization
• Pilot projects

NEMWI Side-by-side
Great Lakes Ecological and Economic Protection Act

• S. 1232/H.R. 2773

• Authorizes:
  – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
  – Great Lakes National Program Office (EPA)
  – Great Lakes Legacy Act (EPA)
  – Federal Interagency Task Force
  – Great Lakes Advisory Board

• Funding authorization: $650 M/$600 M
Great Lakes-Mississippi River Interbasin Study

- Chicago Area Waterway System
- Eight options
- Structural Options: 10-25 years; $7.8-$18.3 B
- New authority needed?
Surface Transportation

• MAP-21 passed 2012; expires September 2014
• Potential aspects
  – Highway Trust Fund
  – PPP’s
  – WIFIA
  – Asian Carp
• Something needs to happen
FY2014

• December Budget Deal removed sequester
• Most budget lines restored from FY2013 cuts
• **Great Lakes Program Funding FY12-14**
  – GLRI: $300 M
  – SRFs: $1,449 M CW / $907 M DW
  – BEACH Grants: $9.5 M
• Army Corps Work Plan – additional funding for dredging around the Great Lakes
FY2015

• POTUS Budget came out March 4
• Regular order?
• HMTF for Great Lakes: $48.4 M (AGLPA)
• GLRI: $275 M
• Asian Carp
  – USGS: $2 M + for Upper Miss and GL
  – FWS: $5.3 M for GL ($7.9 M total)
  – CSSC Dispersal Barrier: $29 M
• State Revolving Funds: Over $500 M decrease
Status

• Done
  – Farm Bill
  – Sleeping Bear Dunes
  – FY14 Approps

• In the works
  – WRDA

• Opportunities
  – GLEEEPA
  – GLMRIS
  – FY15
  – Surface Transportation
Questions