Federal Legislative Update

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2015 Legislative Outlook

• GLEEPA vs GLRI Bill
• Invasive Species
• Nutrients / Algal Blooms
• Transportation
• Budget / Appropriations / Sequestration
GLEEPA vs GLRI Bill

- S. 504
- 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: $475 M; to FY2020

- H.R. 223
- Authorizes:
  - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Funding authorization: $300 M; to FY2020
- Passed House in 2014
Invasive Species

• Defending our Great Lakes Act - S. 589 / H.R. 1135
  – Brandon Rd Lock & Dam south of Chicago
  – One-way prevention
  – Construction authorized

• Vessel Incidental Discharge Act – S. 373
  – US Coast Guard full oversight of ballast discharge
  – EPA consults
  – No Clean Water Act jurisdiction ➔ no state permits
Algal Blooms and Nutrients

• Toledo “Do Not Drink” – August 2014
• Drinking Water Protection Act – H.R. 212
  – Strategic Plan
  – Information Coordination
  – Report to Congress w/in 90 days
• Nutrient Trading
• NOAA Integrated Assessment and Strategic Plan – June and Fall 2015
Surface Transportation

• Short-term patches since expiration Sept 2014
• Potential aspects
  – Highway Trust Fund
  – P3’s
  – Asian Carp
• Possibilities: Gas tax; mileage; devolution
• Another short-term patch?
FY2015

• CrOmnibus
  – GLRI $300 m
  – Level funding SRFs
  – LIHEAP & CDBG: slight

• Army Corps Work Plan
  – Additional dredging/maintenance funding
  – Nearly 2x funding for dispersal barrier construction
FY2016 – Request and Approps

• POTUS Budget came out on time
• HMTF for Great Lakes: $48.2 M (AGLPA)
• GLRI: $250 M
• Invasive Species
  – USGS: $2.5 M
  – FWS: $3.2 M
  – CSSC Dispersal Barrier: $28 M
• State Revolving Funds: CW  DW  

NEMWI Tracking
FY2016 – Budget / Sequestration

• Sequestration coming back
• Budget negotiations
  – Need topline numbers
  – Defense vs. Other discretionary
• Expect negotiations over Easter/Passover recess to work out something
What’s next?

• Approps
  – Support letters being sent in – see Hill Happenings for full list
  – Budget Hearings ongoing – need a budget resolution
  – Expect bills to move quickly

• In the works
  – Invasive species
  – Algal bloom/nutrients
  – GLRI – what will pass

• Opportunities
  – Surface Transportation
Questions
Great Lakes Ecosystem Protection Act

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Congress</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Senate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111th</td>
<td>H.R. 4755 – Ehlers; 42 co-sponsors</td>
<td>S. 3073 – Levin; 10 co-sponsors</td>
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<td>112th</td>
<td>No bill introduced</td>
<td>S. 3588 – Levin and Kirk; 7 co-sponsors</td>
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| 113th    | H.R. 2773 – Joyce, Levin, Slaughter, 23 co-sponsors  
H.R. 5764 – GLRI @ $300 M; passed House by voice | S. 1232 – Levin and Kirk; 7 co-sponsors     
H.R. 5764 not considered |
| 114th    | H.R. 223 – Joyce, Levin, Slaughter; GLRI @ $300 M; 31 co-sponsors | S. 504 – Baldwin, Kirk, Stabenow; GLRI + at $475 M; 10 co-sponsors |