

Sara



GREAT LAKES UNITED

TO: Great Lakes United  
Board of Directors

FROM: Phil Weller *PW*

RE: Board Meeting  
January 14 - 15, 1990  
Racine, Wisconsin

DATE: December 8, 1989

Enclosed are reservation cards for the Holiday Inn, 3700 Northwestern Avenue, Racine for the Board meeting January 14 - 15, 1990. If you prefer, use the Holiday Inn toll-free number, 1-800-HOLIDAY. Room rates per night are \$45.00/single (\$49.45 including the 9% tax) or \$51.00/double (\$56.04 9% tax). The motel's telephone number is (414) 637-9311. The motel will not hold the block of rooms after January 4, 1990 so please make your reservation as soon as possible.

Directions:

If you are driving, take Highway I-94, Highway 20 East, then turn left on Highway 31; and right on County Road MM.

If you are flying in, the motel has a free van service from Milwaukee airport (They must be notified of flight times in advance; PLEASE CALL THE GLU OFFICE so we can coordinate trips to the airport.) There is bus transportation from the Chicago airport -- get off at the Colony Inn, Highway 20 and the I-94, and then the Holiday Inn van will pick you up at the Colony Inn.

Bill Neuhaus has reserved the Racine Labor Center for a forum on the Great Lakes on Saturday, January 14. The forum will be preceded by a buffet luncheon for GLU's Wisconsin organizational and individual members, allied groups and friends in order to meet informally with the GLU board. The forum will be open to the public and media.

The meeting agenda will follow later this month. Please let our office know as soon as possible if you will be attending the meeting.

P. S. The office is scheduled to move into our permanent home, Cassety Hall on December 18. Best wishes for the Holidays.

*"An international organization dedicated to conserving and protecting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River"*

State University College at Buffalo, Cassety Hall • 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222  
(716) 886-0142

Canadian Address: P.O. Box 548 Station A • Windsor, Ontario N9A 6M6



**GREAT LAKES UNITED**

November 22, 1989

Mr. Ron Shimizu  
Environment Canada  
55 St. Clair Avenue, East  
Seventh Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1M2

Ms. Carol Finch  
Great Lakes National  
Program Office  
US EPA Region V  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604

RE: Draft Canada/United States Framework for Lakewide  
Management Plans for Critical Pollutants

Dear Ms. Finch and Mr. Shimizu:

The following comments have been prepared in response to the request of the parties for quick review and commentary on the document Draft Canada/United States Framework for Lakewide Management for Critical Pollutants.

Great Lakes United strongly supports the need for the development of Lakewide Management Plans as outlined in the 1987 Protocol revising the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1978 (GLWQA). These plans should provide a necessary framework for achieving and evaluating the progress made towards the goal of restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.

Great Lakes United recognizes that the Framework for Lakewide Management Plans, as it is currently written, restricts the Plans to a focus on toxic chemicals and critical pollutants in particular. As you are aware, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement calls for an ecosystem approach to management of the lakes. An ecosystem approach necessitates that issues such as toxic chemical pollution cannot be dealt with in isolation from other issues. It is therefore imperative that the introduction to the Framework of the Plans state clearly the importance and necessity of ensuring the compatibility and coordination of the critical pollutants plans with other lakewide efforts embodied in the Agreement and activities such as the Lake Plans of the Fishery Commission. To ensure that the critical pollutant plans

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are not confused with overall ecosystem management plans, it may be necessary to rename them as Lakewide Critical Pollutant Plans. This would ensure a public perception that these plans are only one component of an overall Lakewide Management Plan.

As we discussed at the workshop in Toronto on November 17, it is imperative that it be stated in the introduction to the document that the Critical Pollutant Plans are a framework for understanding, evaluating and promoting additional effort towards achieving the GLWQA's goal of zero discharge of persistent toxic substances. As the document is currently written, it implies a retreat from that goal. In particular, GLU is extremely concerned that, throughout the document, the implied goal of the Plans is to achieve specific water quality objectives as specified by the Agreement. (See Page 2, paragraph 3 and Page 5, item F.) The objectives of the GLWQA are only interim goals towards virtual elimination of persistent toxic substances. The Critical Pollutants plans must therefore strongly reinforce the ultimate goal and not imply a weakened commitment to achieving that goal.

The Critical Pollutants Plans are a framework for evaluating pollution control efforts, and it is necessary that biological endpoints be incorporated into the Plans. The reproductive success of fish and wildlife and tissue concentrations of chemicals must form a major portion of the basis for evaluation and action. As it is currently written, the Framework does not place sufficient emphasis on biological measurements.

The Lakewide Critical Pollutants Plan must incorporate and be a basis for evaluating Remedial Action Plan (RAP) programs. The development of Critical Pollutant Plans must include information on the programs and strategies devised to address local area toxic chemical problems and be a basis for evaluating the impact of those Plans on the overall lake. Communication and cooperation in the development of RAPs and Critical Pollutants Plans is a necessity. A description of how RAPs and Lakewide Critical Pollutants Plans are to mesh should be incorporated into the Framework.

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GLU strongly supports the recommendations in Section VI of the Framework for a variety of mechanisms to incorporate public involvement and input. We feel it is necessary, however, to further define this input and to clarify the key decision points in the process which require public input.

GLU suggests that the development of the Plans be seen as a three-phase process with key decision points at the end of each phase.

#### Phase 1: Investigation

The information collection phase should involve Steps A, B and C (Pages 4 - 5). At the end of this phase, a broad effort to receive public feedback on the information and the designation of critical pollutants must be made.

#### Phase 2: Development of Draft Plan

This would include Steps D - F (Page 5). At the conclusion of this phase, a draft plan would be prepared and circulated for public comment.

#### Phase 3: Implementation Stage

This would include Steps G and H (Page 5). The final plan would be prepared, and implementation responsibilities would be assigned. Again, this is a critical decision point which requires broad public input.

In addition to the three stages listed above, it seems imperative that the Critical Pollutants Plan be constantly evaluated and revised based on surveillance and monitoring. A yearly progress report and evaluation with full public input is necessary.

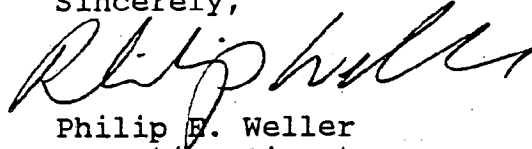
Based on the frustration we feel in seeing permit and development decisions made without recognition of the GLWQA, we would recommend that in each year's annual report, permits given by the agencies in that lake basin should be included as an appendix and the toxic contaminant loads they permit should be summarized in the main text.

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Finally, we wish to convey our concern that, while we support the overall framework outlined for Lakewide Critical Pollutants Plans, we are extremely concerned that adequate personnel and financial resources are not now available to develop and implement the plans. Failure to provide sufficient resources to develop and implement these plans will undermine public confidence and support for the plans. Resources for developing and implementing RAPs are already inadequate; and, if these plans only serve to stretch existing resources further, then the overall clean-up effort in the Great Lakes will be further compromised.

It is imperative that sufficient resources be provided for staff to work on developing these plans and that sufficient resources are available to facilitate effective public input.

Sincerely,



Philip B. Weller  
Executive Director

PW/hld  
cc: GLU Board of Directors

Sept. 23, 1989

Dear Great Lakes United,

Thank you for all the great work your organization has done to preserve our Great Lakes and our St. Lawrence River.

I live on the St. Lawrence River and I love it here. I want this special area to be preserved for my three children. I know you are working hard for such a goal.

Good luck at the meeting with the International Joint Commission. I wish I could attend but family and work prohibits me. I know it will be a success for all of us.

I hope I will be able to give more money for your organization but for now all I can do is talk of all your great work.

Thank you again,  
Tamarac Quinn

RECEIVED SEP 25 1989

Box 251

1000 Island Park, NY 13692

**The Association of Wetland Managers, Inc.**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**  
for an International Symposium  
**WETLANDS OF THE GREAT LAKES**  
**STATUS OF THE SCIENCE BASE;**  
**PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS AND NEEDS**

**Location:** Niagara Falls, New York. We have selected a waterfront location on the Niagara River between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario because of its beauty (yes, it is still beautiful, come see for yourself) and because Niagara Falls can be conveniently reached by car for attendees from many of the Great Lakes states and Ontario. It is approximately 20 minutes from the Buffalo airport and 1 1/2 hours from Toronto.

**Date:** May 16-19, 1990

**Need for Symposium:** Interest in the protection and management of Great Lakes wetlands has increased dramatically in the last five years in both the U.S. and Canada due to the growing international recognition of the importance of these wetlands to fisheries, water quality, rare and endangered species, aesthetic values, and other values. During this period, sport fishing and recreational uses of the Great Lakes have increased at nearly exponential rates. Although increasingly recognized as valuable, there are threats to these wetlands from hydrologic modifications such as stabilization of water levels, from pollution, and from shoreline development. A careful examination is needed of: the values and functions of Great Lakes wetlands; losses of such wetlands that have already occurred; threats to such wetlands from potential stabilization of lake levels, pollution or other sources; the status of protection and management efforts at all levels of government; and additional protection and restoration needs. This international symposium will address these issues. It will build upon past symposia and workshops dealing with Great Lakes wetlands which have focused almost entirely upon science issues.

**Goals of Symposium:**

1. Determine the status of scientific knowledge concerning the characteristics, functions, losses, management needs, and restoration/creation potential for Great Lakes wetlands.
2. Determine the status of wetland protection/management alternatives and evaluate losses, threats, and problems at federal, state, and local levels.
3. Make recommendations for strengthened wetland protection and management in the U.S. and Canada.
4. Encourage and facilitate cooperative private, local, state, national and international protection efforts.

**Audience:** The symposium will be for scientists, governmental officials, representatives of nonprofits, planners, and interested individuals.

**Format:** The symposium will consist of a plenary session (first day, afternoon of third day), workshops (second morning and morning of third day), Field trips will be held on May 19.

**Program Chairman:** Jon Kusler, Executive Director  
The Association of Wetland Managers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2463  
Berne, New York 12023-9746  
518-872-1804

**Co-Chairman:** Richard Smardon, Co-Director  
Great Lakes Research Consortium  
IEPP, SUNY ESF

214 Baker Laboratory  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13210  
315-470-6816

**Cooperating Parties:** The Association of Wetland Managers will be primarily responsible for organization and conduct of the symposium. Other cooperating organizations will include (note, additional cooperating parties will be added):

**SUNY (Syracuse) Coll. of Envir. Sc. & For.  
Great Lakes United  
The Environmental Law Institute  
Wisconsin Wetlands Association  
Great Lakes Research Consortium  
Center for the Great Lakes  
Environment Canada  
New York Dept. of Envir. Cons.  
Federation of Ontario Naturalists  
Tipp of The Mitt Watershed Council**

**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Lake Michigan Federation  
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
National Audubon Society  
Sierra Club, Coastal Committee  
Wildlife Habitat Canada  
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources  
Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources**

**Participants:** An estimated 70–80 speakers and 200 additional participants. The symposium will be open to all interested individuals.

**Proceedings:** A professionally edited proceedings will be prepared and distributed to all attendees approximately six months after the symposium. It will also be made more generally available to the public. It will consist of approximately 75 science and policy papers.

**Call for Papers:** Individuals interested in presenting a paper should submit a brief (200 to 300 words) abstract by January 3, 1990 to Jon Kusler at the Association of Wetland Managers (address listed above) containing the following information:

- Name, position, address, and telephone number
- Proposed title of the presentation and description of the topic including study experience
- Brief description of what has been learned that may be of broadscale interest.

Notification as to acceptance will be provided by January 20, 1990. Final papers should be 12–14 double-spaced pages in length and submitted at the symposium. More detailed specifications for papers will be submitted upon request.

Accepted speakers will need to submit their papers at the symposium or within one month after the symposium

**Topics to be Addressed:**

- The extent, location, vegetation types, and other characteristics of Great Lakes wetlands and their hydrologic, soil, nutrient and other long term and short term requirements including relationship to climate changes,
- Functions and values of Great Lakes wetlands with special emphasis upon fisheries, waterfowl, water quality, rare and endangered species, recreational and aesthetic values; and, the evaluation and assessment of these functions,
- Losses and problems with regard to Great Lakes wetlands including outright destruction, toxic contamination, sedimentation, invasion by exotics, etc.,
- The relationship of Great Lakes wetlands to watershed management and shoreline processes (e.g., erosion, barrier islands migration),
- The hydrologic requirements of Great Lakes wetlands including the importance of fluctuating water levels.
- The use of international agreements and cooperative projects to better protect Great Lakes wetlands including (but not limited to) the I.J.C., North American Waterfowl Plan, RAMSAR, etc.
- Status of private (landowner, land trust) local, state, provincial, national wetland protection programs in the U.S. and Canada and what is needed to strengthen these efforts,
- Status of mapping efforts, boundary definition procedures, GIS systems,
- Wetland restoration and creation as they relate to Great Lakes wetlands including restoration in "remedial action areas", standards for restoration and creation, relationship of restoration/creation to no net loss and net gain,
- Incentives and techniques for meshing protection with sustainable development, flood control, other development with wetlands,
- Priority needs and opportunities for involving and educating the public (films, slide shows, handbooks, workshops),
- Legal issues (e.g., public trust, the taking issue); avoiding legal problems,
- Priority management-oriented research needs,
- Other?

**Symposium Registration:** Registration will be \$85 for speakers, \$115 for Association of Wetland Managers members, and \$125 for nonmembers.

**Hotel and Travel:** All speakers and participants will be responsible for their own hotel reservations and travel arrangements. The symposium will be held at the Days Inn at Niagara Falls (Formerly the Hotel Niagara). This is a fine old hotel that has recently been renovated. It overlooks the Niagara River and Goat Island and is about 3 blocks from the Falls. Room rates will be \$50 single and \$55 double (plus tax). There is free parking. Limosine service (for \$8) is available to the Buffalo airport. The train station is a \$3 cab ride away. The hotel telephone is 716-285-9321. Our group will be "wetlands."





**GREAT LAKES UNITED**

November 13, 1989

Commissioner Gordon Durnil, U. S. Chair  
International Joint Commission  
2001 "S" Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20440

Dear Commissioner Durnil:

Great Lakes United thanks you for providing the public with the opportunity to address you at your biennial meeting in Hamilton.

We are sure that the overwhelming outpouring of citizen testimony clearly conveyed to you the deep concern of the residents of the Great Lakes Basin. The testimony also reflected the depth of understanding of the issues the public has and their ability to bring forward creative and practical solutions.

The extent of public participation at the biennial meeting showed the public's desire to work with the Commission. We are pleased to hear the Commissioners also express their desire to work more closely with the public.

We believe that it is essential for the IJC to act quickly so as not to lose the momentum that has been created by the biennial meeting. We recommend the following as part of the immediate followup:

- \* A letter to all biennial meeting attendees committing the IJC to specific followup.
- \* Preparation and distribution of a summary report of the biennial meeting.
- \* Convening a public workshop to work out the mechanisms for more effectively involving the public as advisors to the IJC. We will soon contact you with a more specific list of suggestions for such mechanisms.

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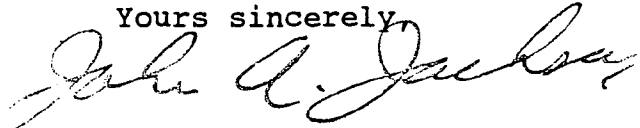


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We believe that more informal opportunities for discussion between the Commission and the public is essential. This will inevitably result in our arriving at better solutions to the problems in the Great Lakes. With this objective in mind, we ask for a meeting with the Commission to discuss followup to the biennial meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Jackson".

John Jackson, President

cc: Commissioner Donald L. Totten

Same letter sent to E. Davie Fulton, Acting Canadian Chair



**GREAT LAKES UNITED**

November 10, 1989

The Honorable Dennis M. Hertel  
U. S. House of Representatives  
2442 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hertel:

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution in support of reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act. This resolution was passed by delegates to Great Lakes United's annual meeting in Owen Sound, Ontario on May 7, 1989.

Great Lakes United is a bi-national coalition of sportsmen, union, business, academic and community organizations dedicated to the protection and proper management of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

We are providing a copy of this resolution for your consideration during discussion of reauthorization of this act.

If you require any additional information regarding this resolution or Great Lakes United, please call me.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Weller  
Executive Director

PW/hld  
Enclosure

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