



GREAT
LAKES
DREDGING
TEAM



2023 GLDT ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

Great Lakes Commission Update



General Update

- ❖ **New Five-Year Strategic Plan (adopted 2023)**
- ❖ **Congressional Appropriation to support GLC Priorities**
- ❖ **Action Plan for a Resilient Great Lakes Basin**
- ❖ **Small Harbors and Coastal Communities Committee**
- ❖ **Environmental Windows**



Strategic Plan

❖ Resilient Great Lakes Basin

- ✓ Coastal Resilience; Science Planning and Coordination

❖ Clean and Safe Water

❖ Sustainable and Equitable Water Use

❖ Safe and Reliable Waterways

- ✓ Navigation/Maritime Transportation; Recreation/Tourism; Dredging

❖ Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems



FY 2023 Congressional Appropriation

- ❖ **First direct appropriation to the GLC**
 - ✓ Will help build staff capacity to implement strategic plan priorities

- ❖ **Work Plan calls for:**
 - ✓ Expanded work in maritime transportation; hiring a maritime project manager
 - ✓ Expanded work in resiliency; implementing the Climate Resilience Action Plan; hiring a resilience project manager
 - ✓ Expanding partnerships; hiring a tribal/indigenous peoples liaison



Climate Resilience Action Plan

- ❖ **Adopted by the GLC in 2022**
- ❖ **Includes short-term, mid-term and long-term actions and desired outcomes for four goals**
- ❖ **Goals include:**
 - ✓ Healthy and sustainable communities
 - ✓ Safe and resilient buildings and infrastructure
 - ✓ Healthy and adaptive ecosystems
 - ✓ Ecosystem and public services that support a healthy economy



Small Harbors & Coastal Communities Committee

❖ Formed by the GLC in 2021 to:

- ✓ Identify needs and priorities for small harbors and coastal communities and issue a report to the GLC
- ✓ Update GLC policy in these areas

❖ Report to be presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting in Ohio

❖ Report includes high level findings/actions for:

- ✓ Dredging and sediment management
- ✓ Harbor infrastructure maintenance, repair and safety
- ✓ Sustainable coastal communities



Environmental Windows for Dredging

- ❖ **Completed multi-year project on science-based strategies for dredging windows in Lake Michigan in 2021**
- ❖ **Outcomes included:**
 - ✓ Full-day virtual symposium and a half-day state workshop in April 2021
 - ✓ Proceedings of the symposium and workshop
 - ✓ Bibliography of research
 - ✓ Documentation of state priorities and needs (through the workshop)
 - ✓ Findings and next steps
- ❖ **Phase two effort desired:**
 - ✓ Expand participation to involve all Great Lakes states and dredgers
 - ✓ Identify funding partners



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Questions?

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