

GREAT LAKES ADVISORY BOARD (GLAB) CHARGE QUESTIONS

Overall GLAB theme/charge...Innovation and Outcomes!

Theme 1: Seek Advice and Recommendations on Innovative Strategies to Address Legacy Phosphorus

Background Information: *Legacy phosphorus is defined as phosphorus that is already in the soil and water of the Great Lakes (and tributaries thereto) and that may require different considerations as part of the installation of any new or continuing best management practices to reduce nutrient loads.*

1. Charge Question to GLAB:

Please identify any strategies, using traditional or innovative technologies or methods, to reduce legacy phosphorus within the Lake Erie watershed (and other Great Lakes and tributaries thereto).

Theme 2: Seek Advice and Recommendation on Managing Excess Nutrients

Background Information: *The issue of nutrient (especially phosphorus) loading has been a very significant and public ecosystem health issue in Lake Erie, primarily due to the creation of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) that negatively impact drinking water systems, tourism and other commercial activities in the Great Lakes.*

2. Charge Question to GLAB:

Balancing the need for the continued production of agricultural commodities in the Great Lakes region, the contribution to excess nutrient loading in Lake Erie associated with agricultural production activities, and the need to significantly reduce the extent and duration of HABs on Lake Erie, what innovative actions could reasonably be taken to accelerate the reduction of excess nutrients and HABs or duration of HAB events in Lake Erie? Consider if there are new or different applications of traditional federal funding sources, opportunities to partner with the private sector (including tourism, drinking water systems, and others affected by HABs), or community-driven or market-based approaches to financing water quality improvements.

Theme 3: Seek Advice and Recommendation on GLRI Outreach

Background Information: *Under the GLRI and GLWQA, a number of mechanisms are utilized to inform the general public about activities and efforts underway to improve the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem, including but not limited to, press releases, glri.us; binational.net; asiancarp.gov; annual GLRI Reports to Congress, 5-year LAMPs and annual reports for each Great Lake, triennial Progress Reports of the Parties, triennial State of the Great Lakes Highlight Reports.*

3. Charge Question to GLAB:

How well are EPA and its federal, state and tribal partners communicating the goals, challenges and accomplishments of GLRI? Are there stakeholder groups that could be more effectively communicated with? What additional and/or innovative tools could be used to improve outreach to citizens, elected officials and partners?

Theme 4: Seek Advice and Recommendation on Invasive Species

Background Information: *Invasive species control and prevention continues to be a challenge for the Great Lakes. Perhaps the most visible example are the efforts to control Asian Carp from entering Lake Michigan.*

4. Charge Question to GLAB:

Balancing the need for continued commercial, recreational and other activities on the Great Lakes, what innovative actions could reasonably be taken to accelerate the control of existing invasive species, and what methods or strategies can be deployed to prevent the establishment of future infestations?

Theme 5: Outcome Based Investments in the Great Lakes

Background Information: *This Administration has prioritized outcomes and deliverables from all agency programs. Since its inception in 2010, GLRI has produced measurable results, but are we moving the needle, specifically on AOC delisting, nutrients, invasive species, and habitats.*

5. Charge Question to GLAB:

As we enter the next decade of GLRI funding, what are appropriate annual ecological and community-based outcomes (coupled with appropriate baselines and monitoring) to show that we are making progress in the areas of AOC remediation and delisting, invasive species control and prevention, nutrient reduction, and habitat restoration and protection, such that we can show a good return on investment?

Theme 6: GLRI's Role in the Vitality and Reinvestment of Great Lakes Communities

Background Information: *This Administration has prioritized clean-up, redevelopment and reuse of abandoned, blighted and contaminated properties. There are numerous examples around the Great Lakes where clean-up of waterways is followed by development and economic prosperity. In addition, under President Trump's Executive Order on "[Modernizing America's Water Resource Management and Water Infrastructure](#)" which formally establishes the Water Subcabinet, there are opportunities for even better leveraging of resources and expertise across the Federal family.*

6. Charge Question to GLAB:

How can GLRI projects and funding be further leveraged across Federal agencies and programs, including Opportunity Zones and Brownfields, to maximize environmental and economic benefits to Great Lakes communities?