



Great Lakes  
RESTORATION



**2015 Areas of Concern Conference**  
**March 11-12, 2015**  
**University of Toledo, Student Union**

**Day One: Wednesday, March 11**

**8:30 am to 9:30 am Registration and Light Refreshments (all times are Eastern Daylight time)**

**Morning Plenary: Ingman Room**

**9:30 am Welcoming Remarks**

- Patrick Lawrence, Chair, Department of Geography and Planning, University of Toledo
- Shannon Nabors, Northwest District Office Chief, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**9:45 am AOC Program Update**

- Chris Korleski, Director, U.S. EPA--Great Lakes National Program Office

**10:15 am Interactive Polling Session:** This session will use interactive devices to poll the audience on key issues and concerns in the implementation of the AOC program.

- Mary Bohling, Michigan Sea Grant, Facilitator

**11:00 am Break**

**11:15 am AOC Showcase Example**

- **Lessons Learned in Delisting Deer and White Lake AOCs**
  - Moderator: Marc Tuchman, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
  - Panel Members:
    - John Riley, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes
    - Mark Loomis, U.S. EPA--GLNPO

### **11:40 am Planning and Budgeting for AOC Success**

- **Federal perspective:** How do the federal GLRI agencies work with the State AOC programs to fund projects that will lead to the completion of all management actions and removal of Beneficial Use Impairments?
  - Marc Tuchman, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
- **State perspective:** What are the limitations or state issues that make it difficult to develop a set of management actions leading to removing BUIs and Delisting AOCs?
  - Amy Jo Klei, OEPA, AOC Program

### **12:15 pm Buffet Lunch, Student Union Auditorium, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**

### **1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Breakout Sessions A**

#### **Session 1: Unique Challenges and Solutions for Making Progress with Mega-AOCs, Room 2582**

- Moderator: Amy Jo Klei, Ohio EPA, AOC Program
- Panel Members:
  - Jen Tewkesbury, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes
  - Cherie Blair, OEPA, Maumee River AOC
  - Nelson French, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, St. Louis River AOC

#### **Session 2: Life After Delisting: Planning for the Future of Your AOC, Room 2591**

- Moderator: Rick Hobrila, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes
- Panel Members:
  - Tanya Cabala, White Lake AOC
  - Mike Mack, White Lake AOC

#### **Session 3: Healthy and Sustainable AOC Communities: Remediation to Restoration to Revitalization, Room 2584**

- Moderators: Marc Tuchman, U.S. EPA--GLNPO and Matt Doss, Great Lakes Commission
- Panel Members:
  - Jane Harrison, Wisconsin Sea Grant
  - Anne M. Vaara, Clinton River AOC
  - Joel Hoffman, US EPA, Office of Research and Development, Duluth, MN

### **3:00 pm to 3:30 pm Break**

### **3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Breakout Sessions B**

**Session 4: Getting to Management Actions at AOCs—Challenges and Successes, Room 2584**

- Moderator: Ted Smith, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
- Panel Members:
  - Kendra Axness, WDNR, Office of Great Lakes
  - Rick Hobrla, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes
  - Gerry Pratt, AOC Program, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

**Session 5: BUI Discussion and Analysis: Bird and Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems, Room 2951**

- Moderator: Lisa Williams, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Panel Members:
  - Dr. Keith Grasman, Biology Department, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
  - Roger Eberhardt, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes

**Session 6: Implementing Habitat Restoration Projects to Achieve Restoration Targets for Habitat BUIs, Room 2582**

- Moderator, John Perrecone, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
- Panel Members:
  - Heather Braun, GLC
  - Tony Friona, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**5:00 pm Adjourn**

**Day Two: Thursday, March 12**

**8:00 am Reconvene and Light Refreshments**

**8:30 am**

- **Status of the Updated Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Ingman Room**
  - Moderator: Wendy Carney, Deputy Director, U.S. EPA--GLNPO

**9:00 am to 10:30 am Breakout Sessions C**

**Session 7: Tour of the Ottawa River GLRI Habitat Restoration Project -- University of Toledo Campus, Room 2582**

- Moderator/Tour Leader: Patrick Lawrence, University of Toledo

**Session 8: Areas of Concern in Recovery, Room 2584**

- Moderator: Wendy Carney, U.S. EPA--GLNPO

**Session 9: BUI Discussion and Analysis: Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae, Room 2951**

- Moderator: Elizabeth Hinchey-Malloy, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
- Panel Members:
  - Kendra Axness, WDNR, Office of Great Lakes
  - Roger Eberhardt, MDEQ, Office of the Great Lakes
  - Amy Jo Klei, OEPA, AOC Program

**10:30 am Break**

**Plenary Session, Ingman Room**

**10:45 am**

- **Hazardous Algal Blooms in Toledo and the Great Lakes**
  - Moderator: Patrick Lawrence, University of Toledo

**11:05 am**

- **Outreach and Communication in the AOC Program**
  - Moderator: Caitie McCoy, IL/IN Sea Grant
  - Panel Members:
    - Amy Mucha, U.S. EPA--GLNPO
    - Michelle Bruneau, Michigan Department of Community Health
    - Julia Noordyk, Wisconsin Sea Grant, Lower Fox River AOC
    - Kris Patterson, Partners for Clean Streams, Maumee River AOC
    - Susan Mihalo, The Nature Conservancy, Grand Calumet River AOC

**11:40 am AOC Program Question and Answer Forum**

- Marc Tuchman, U.S. EPA--GLNPO, Facilitator

**12:15 pm Wrap-up, Immediate Evaluation via Interactive Poll and Follow-up Actions**

- John Perrecone, U.S. EPA--GLNPO

**12:30 pm Adjourn**

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**We would like to thank the following organizations who have helped make this conference a success:**

