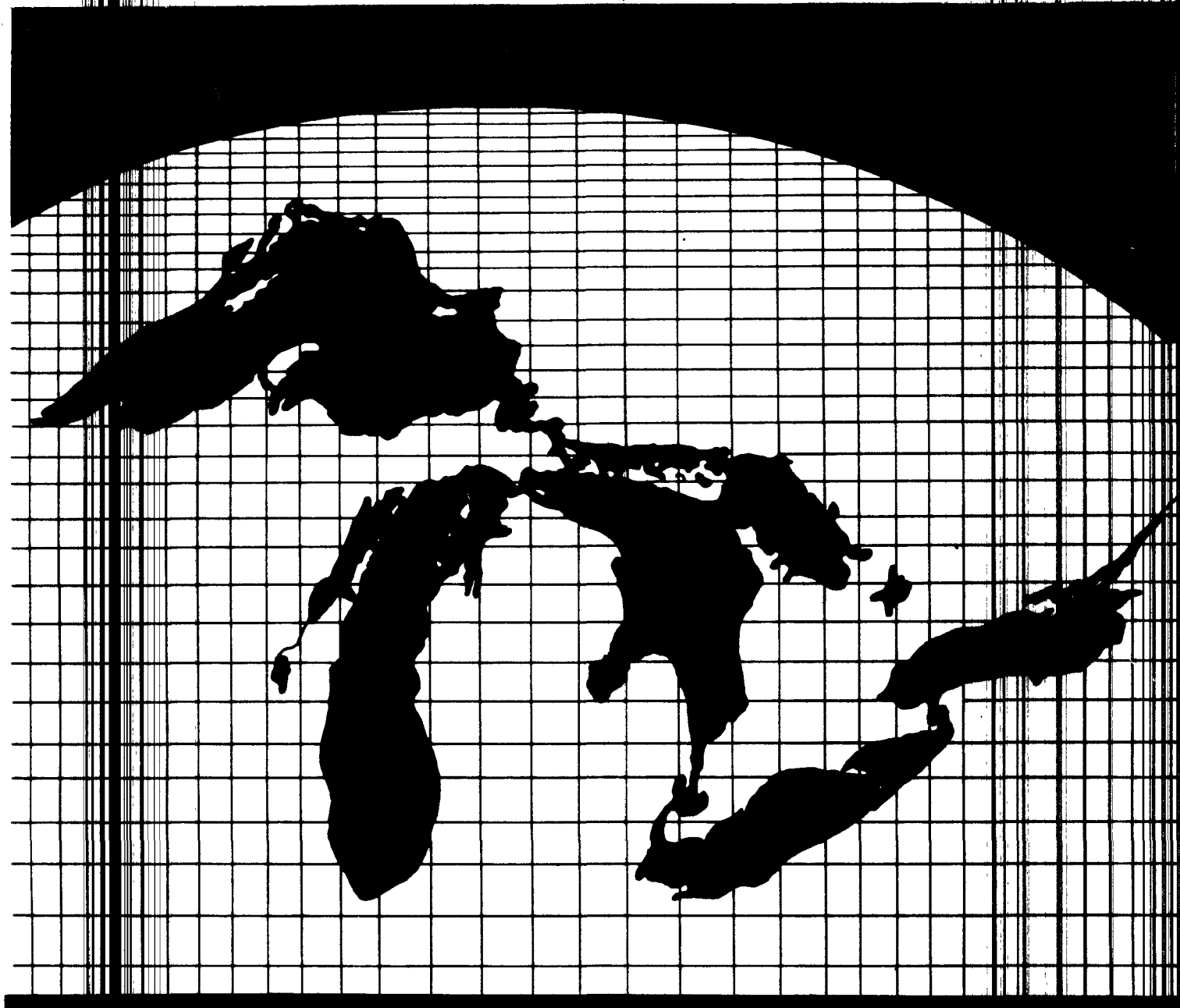


# Great Lakes National Program Office

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ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR PERIOD-ENDING

NOVEMBER 10, 1987

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

CAROL FINCH, ACTING DIRECTOR

Society of Military Engineers Focusses on the Great Lakes

At the Great Lakes Regional Conference of the Society of Military Engineers (SAME) meeting in Buffalo, NY on October 21-23rd, Carol Finch, GLNPO Acting Director, spoke of "Federal Perspectives" at the session on "Revitalization of the Great Lakes/Lakefronts: Water Quality Impacts." The formal talk included reference to past problems and situations and the laws and scientific efforts needed to control them, and on the current concern with toxics and loadings from multi-media sources. Future cooperative endeavors were discussed with the Corps of Engineers audience concerning requirements of the Clean Water Act of 1987.

Banquet speaker, the Honorable Henry J. Nowak of the 31st District, N.Y., Congress of the United States, directed his remarks to the 1986 Water Resources Development Act, but took time to speak of GLNPO. He has been a major supporter for Great Lakes and the National Program Office, especially during recent Congressional appropriation hearings.

Contact Person: Carol Finch      353-2117

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## RESEARCH AND SURVEILLANCE STAFF

WAYNE WILLFORD, CHIEF

### Great Lakes Fishery Commission/Habitat Advisory Board

On October 27-28, 1987 Wayne Willford attended a meeting the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Habitat Advisory Board in Windsor, Ontario where the major topics of discussion were artificial reefs and the review of Remedial Action Plans. A Task Force has been formed and assigned the responsibility of developing a policy statement on the construction of artificial reefs in the Great Lakes. A management structure was established and responsibility assigned for handling the anticipated surge of Remedial Action Plans that will be coming to the Fishery Commission for review.

Contact Person: Wayne Willford 353-1369

### Atmospheric Deposition of Toxics to the Great Lakes

Two talks were given by Wayne Willford on atmospheric deposition. The first was at the Air Toxics Conference in Grand Rapids, MI on October 8th and the second was at the Atmospheric Conference in Chicago on November 4th. The subject of each presentation was a summary of existing knowledge about the relationship of atmospheric deposition to total loadings of toxics to the Great Lakes. GLNPO's planned sampling network was presented as an improved way of measuring the toxic inputs that come from atmospheric deposition.

Contact Person: Wayne Willford 353-1369

### International Joint Commission's Surveillance Work Group

On October 1-2, 1987 Wayne Willford attended a meeting of the surveillance Work Group that had as the major agenda a self-review of work group performance. With Surveillance Plans currently in place for each of the Great Lakes, except Lake Superior, considerable concern exists regarding the rate of implementation of the Plans by the responsible Agencies and the effectiveness of reporting on those portions of the Plans that have been implemented. It was decided that the Work Group will emphasize to the Water Quality Board of the IJC the tracking of implementation. Current Work Group and Subcommittee/Task Force structures will also be reviewed with the goal of streamlining the structure and the effectiveness of report preparation.

Contact Person: Wayne Willford 353-1369

### Lake Ontario Toxics Management Plan

As a follow-up to the Niagara River Action Plan, the four principal parties, led by Region II, are in the process of preparing a Toxics Management Plan for Lake Ontario. Participation in this activity was requested by GLNPO, and Wayne Willford is representing this Office on the Lake Ontario Toxics Committee which has the responsibility for drafting the plan.

Meetings were attended on October 7-9 in Toronto and October 22-23 in Albany, N.Y. as part of the drafting process. As presently structured, the Plan calls for a phased process employing existing standards for the immediate action phase; development and application of more stringent criteria and standards for the second, midterm phase; and ultimately an ecosystem approach with integrity indicators and objectives as the long-term phase. Use of a mass balance approach in estimating loadings to the lake is also called for, similar to that being applied under the Lake Michigan Toxics Strategy.

Contact Person: Wayne Willford 353-1369

### National Atmospheric Deposition Program Technical Committee Meets

The National Atmospheric Deposition Program's (NADP) Technical Committee met in Minneapolis, MN on November 2-5, 1987. While attending the Conference, Ed Klappenbach attended subcommittee No. 2 (on QA/QC). Discussion of combining with the Siting Subcommittee led to a vote to merge the two committees. A new Scope of Responsibility will be drafted and mailed to members for comments before the end of 1987.

Dr. Lennart Granat of the University of Stockholm presented a talk on "Results of Atmospheric Deposition Measurements in Europe," with special reference to Sweden. Sweden operates a dense network of 35 units (18 wet only, and 17 bulk sample collectors). The use of paired units was suggested as a QA/QC check.

Patricia Irving of the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program (NAPAP) described the developing Global Trend Network.

Contact Person: Ed Klappenbach 353-1378

### Pesticide Exposure Assessment Workshop

Sarah Pavlovic attended a workshop on the subject of "Pesticide Exposure Assessment in Surface Waters" organized by the Water Quality Laboratory at Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio, October 28-29. The workshop was intended as an agency/university/industry research communication and planning conference. Attendees represented Federal and State pesticide regulation, water quality management and agricultural agencies, pesticide manufacturers, and five universities, many from Ohio and the Lake Erie Basin, but including attendees from as far away as EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs in Washington, D.C., USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Tifton, GA, and Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Guelph.

Presentations focused on modeling and monitoring efforts to evaluate pesticide exposure via surface waters. These included reports on four projects funded by GLNPO:

- 1) Heidelberg College (D. Baker) monitoring of pesticide concentrations and loads in Lake Erie tributaries,
- 2) ODNR (D. Kush, E. Crawford) development and implementation of tillage tracking methods to assess the extent of conservation tillage adoption,
- 3) OSU (A. Waldron) detailed survey of pesticide use patterns, land use characteristics and cropping practices, and
- 4) OSU (T. Logan) experimental plot study of pesticide transport into tile drainage systems and ground water.

Topics of discussion included the potential for use and misuse of models in exposure assessment, the availability and accessibility of input data, the role of monitoring data and the importance of sound analytical programs. A summary of the workshop presentations and subsequent discussions is being prepared by Heidelberg College, and will be available in the near future.

Contact person: Sarah Pavlovic 353-0123

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING STAFF

ROBERT D. TOLPA, ACTING CHIEF

### Six-Party Meeting with St. Lawrence River Indian Tribe

On October 14, 1987 Robert Beltran travelled to the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation near Massena, New York to attend a meeting of U.S.EPA-GLNPO, Environment Canada, the Akwesasne Tribal Council, New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and Quebec Ministry of the Environment. The meeting was convened by the Tribal Council to establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the various jurisdictions in preparing the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for the St. Lawrence River Area of Concern (AOC).

Because this AOC sits at the border of the United States and Canada, and because jurisdiction is shared by the St. Regis Mohawks, New York State and the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, this promises to be an exceptionally interesting and unique RAP development process.

The position taken by GLNPO and New York State is that the lead, on the U.S. side, must be taken by the State of New York. Canada and Ontario have assumed a similar position for the Canadian side, with Ontario sharing its lead with Environment Canada. The Akwesasne Tribal Council contends that it, having international jurisdiction overlapping that of all other parties, should have the lead on a single RAP for the AOC. The Canadians invited New York to join them in preparing a single RAP. New York prefers to develop a separate plan for the U. S. side, however, the Tribal Council presented a formal position paper that went on to ask a number of questions of each of the Governments. We are presently drafting a formal response to the Tribal Council. The meeting was recessed to reconvene on December 1, 1987.

A detailed trip report is available.

Contact Person: Robert Beltran                      353-0826

### EPA/NACD Nonpoint Source Conference Meets

Ralph Christensen participated in the joint EPA/NACD Nonpoint Source Conference held October 6-7, 1987 at the Quality Inn Motel in Chicago. He presented a discussion on Great Lakes National Program Office Initiatives and Annex III of the U.S./Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The discussion included a brief description of the demonstration projects, the U.S. Phosphorus Level Reduction Plan, Area of Concern Remedial Action Plans and tracking initiatives undertaken by GLNPO.

Contact Person: Ralph Christensen                      353-3545

### Tri-State Water Quality Workshop Steering Committee Meets

A Tri-State water quality workshop steering committee meeting was held October 15, 1987 in Defiance, Ohio. Ralph Christensen attended this meeting, along with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Soil and Water Conservation District, University Extension and Conservation Technology Information Center representatives. The group sought to set up a one-day training workshop for managers of agricultural agencies and farm managers. The title of the workshop will be, "Continuing Challenges in Water Quality." The workshop will be held in Perrysburg, Ohio on March 8, 1988.

Contact Person: Ralph Christensen                      353-3545

### British Visit to GLNPO

Mr. Frank Kendall, Regional Director of the Department of the Environment, and Mr. John Tavore, Chairman of the Mersey Basin Campaign of Great Britain, visited the GLNPO October 22, 1987 to be briefed on activities of this Office. Presentations were made on agricultural nonpoint sources, surveillance and monitoring, areas of concern remedial action plans, and the relationship of GLNPO to Canada under the U.S./Canadian Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. These two gentlemen discussed their water quality program for the Mersey River Basin clean-up campaign, and left a brochure regarding their efforts.

Contact Person: Ralph Christensen                      353-3545





REMEDIAL PROGRAMS STAFF

VACYS SAULYS, CHIEF

Water Quality Board's Program Committee Meets

Meeting in Windsor, Ontario on October 27-28, the Water Quality Program Committee began scoping the future of the Water Quality Board. Vacys Saulys represented Carol Finch as EPA Co-Chair of the Committee as discussion centered on potential commitments that arise out of the amended Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Types of activities and future foci of activities were projected.

Copies of the Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) for the Manistique River, Torch Lake, Muskegon Lake, and the Raisin River were presented. Deer Lake and White River RAPs are expected momentarily. Public participation was reviewed for the areas concerned.

Contact Person: Vacys Saulys      353-3544

U.S. / U.S.S.R. Scientific Exchange Symposium

From October 19-21, 1987, Larry Fink attended the 15th U.S. / U.S.S.R. Scientific Exchange Symposium in Athens, GA and presented a paper entitled, "A Screening Model for Tributyl Tin Criteria." The purpose of the paper was to analyze U.S.EPA's proposed restrictions on the use of tributyl tin (TBT) compounds in paint formulations applied to boat hulls to prevent the growth of encrusting organisms such as barnacles and algae. The focus of this analysis was Lake St. Clair, where there are enough boat slips on the Michigan side alone to accommodate 14,334 recreational vessels.

Mr. Fink concluded that the proposal to virtually eliminate the use of TBT anti-foulant paints on recreational vessels was sound. The proposed limit on the rate of release of TBT from commercial vessels, of 4 ug/cm<sup>2</sup>-day also appears well founded, but the 168 ug/cm<sup>2</sup>-day initial release rate needs to be further evaluated over the next two years, along with additional toxicity and bioaccumulation studies. The presentation was simultaneously translated into Russian for the benefit of the attendees from the Soviet Union. Excellent questions followed the presentation.

Contact Person: Larry Fink      353-0117

### Thirteenth Meeting of U.S./Japanese Experts On Sediment Management

Anthony Kizlauskas was an official U.S. delegate to the 13th Meeting of U.S./Japanese Experts on Management of Bottom Sediments Containing Toxic Substances. The meeting was held in Baltimore, Maryland on November 3-5, 1987. This series of meetings is convened under an official government-sponsored scientific exchange program between the two countries. Mr. Kizlauskas presented a paper on how the U.S. and Canada were dealing with the contaminated sediment problem through the IJC. Two dozen technical papers were given, equally split between the delegates of the two countries.

The Japanese are clearly ahead of the U.S. in the active remediation of contaminated bottom sediment problems. Their government has undertaken a number of large scale remedial efforts, including the infamous Minamata Bay, which was severely contaminated by mercury. They are also actively reclaiming degraded areas to make them into wildlife or recreation areas. There are a number of reasons for this leadership role, the most important one being institutional in the Japanese approach to pollution control, which is different than the U.S. approach. Industry is very strong politically in Japan. Therefore, the Japanese environment agencies are not able to enforce stringent point-source control measures. Instead, the government funds clean-ups of the impacts of the point-source discharges, i.e., the contaminated sediments in the rivers, harbors, and bays. The U.S. papers more often dealt with navigational dredging and side-benefits to remediation of contaminated sediments, although there were a few U.S. papers, including Mr. Kizlauskas', on contaminated sediment initiatives outside the context of navigational dredging.

The U.S. is clearly ahead in the concern over and understanding of toxic substances. This is in part because the Japanese still have such gross sediment pollution with conventional pollutants (COD, total volatile solids, nutrients) to deal with that they have not yet addressed the more subtle impacts of toxics. The highest level of sewage treatment in Japan is typically secondary (sand filtration). Therefore, most of their monitoring efforts are on conventional pollutants. The remedial efforts that address the conventional pollutants, of course, also remediate toxics, but there was little evidence of emphasis on research or monitoring on toxics.

These differences made the scientific exchange that resulted from this conference mutually very beneficial, since both countries had something to both learn from and contribute to the other. A proceedings of the conference will be published in early 1988.

Contact Person: Anthony Kizlauskas, 353-3576

### U.S./U.S.S.R. Planning and Review Group Meets

The annual Program Planning and Review Meeting of the U.S./U.S.S.R. Working Group 02.02.10 on Cooperation in the Areas of Water Pollution Prevention was held on October 14-19, 1987 in Athens, Georgia. It was hosted by Dr. Rose Russo, the Director of the U.S. EPA Athens Environmental Research Laboratory and Project 02.02.12 Leader. Mr. Valdas Adamkus, the United States Chairman of the Workgroup, and Vacys J. Saulys, our Project 02.02.11 Leader, participated in the session. Dr. David Beasley of Purdue University assisted in reaching agreement of an agricultural surface runoff experimental program designed to support improvement in the ANSWERS model.

The three Soviet scientists from Project 02.02.11 visited USDA's Southern Piedmont Conservation Resource Center in Watkinsville, GA where they investigated the surface runoff sampling instrumentation at two test watersheds. Information was exchanged on ongoing activities within the three projects. The U.S.S.R. appears to be planning a major reorganization of its environmental agencies, more along the lines of U.S. EPA - within the constraints of its political/economic systems. The next meeting of the workgroup was tentatively scheduled for August, 1988 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Contact Person: Vacys Saulys                      353-3544