

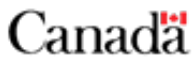


A unified voice for the Great Lakes  
states and provinces



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District

- ### Great Lakes Governance
- 2 Federal Governments
  - 140+ Tribes and First Nations
  - 3 Regional Commissions
  - 8 States and 2 Provinces
  - Local units of government



# Great Lakes Basin Compact of 1955

## Article I

1. To promote the orderly, integrated, and comprehensive development, use, and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin
1. To plan for the welfare and development of the water resources of the Basin as a whole as well as for those portions of the Basin which may have problems of special concern.
1. To make it possible for the states of the Basin and their people to derive the maximum benefit from utilization of publicworks, in the form of navigational aids or otherwise, which may exist or which may be constructed from time to time.
1. To advise in securing and maintaining a proper balance among industrial, commercial, agricultural, water supply, residential, recreational, and other legitimate uses of the water resources of the Basin.

“... an intergovernmental agency...”



# Great Lakes Basin Compact of 1955

## GLBC Article VI:

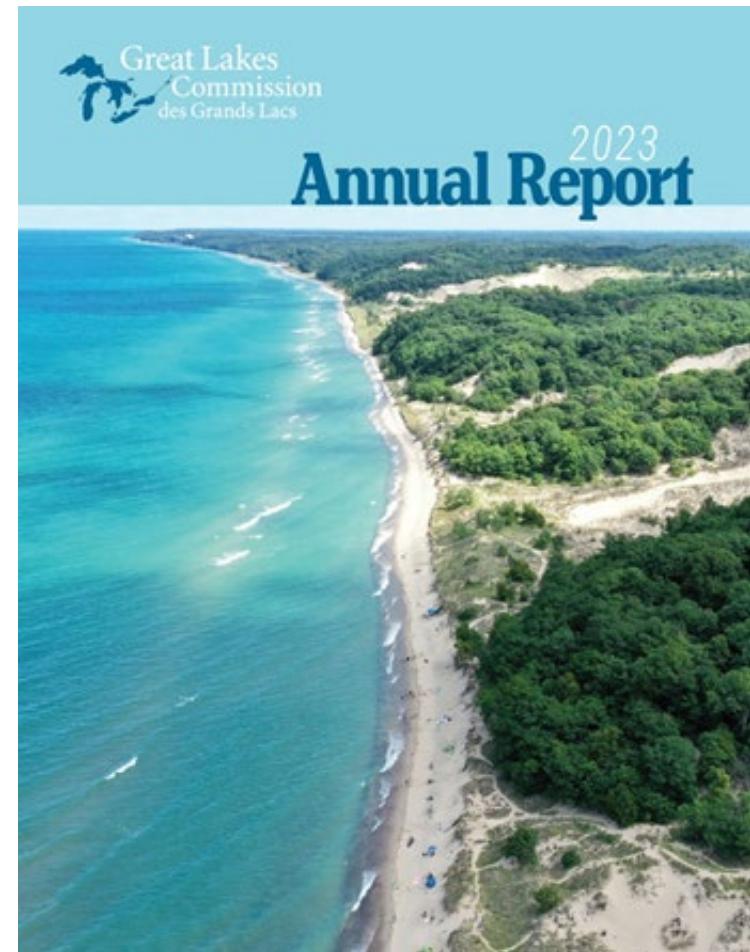
*The Commission shall have power to:*

- Collect, correlate, interpret, and report on data
- Recommend methods, policies, laws, ordinances, regulations, agreements
- Prepare and publish reports

## GLBC Article VII:

*Each party state agrees to consider the action the Commission recommends in respect to...*

- lake levels, pollution, erosion, flooding, navigation, fishing, hydroelectric power, diversions, and more





## Commissioners:

3-5 from each of the  
10 states & provinces

## Board of Directors:

1 from each state / province  
delegation



**Chair: Mary Mertz**

*Director, Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources*

**Vice Chair: Tim Bruno**

*Interstate Waters Office, Pennsylvania  
Department of Environmental Protection*

**Professional Staff (21)**



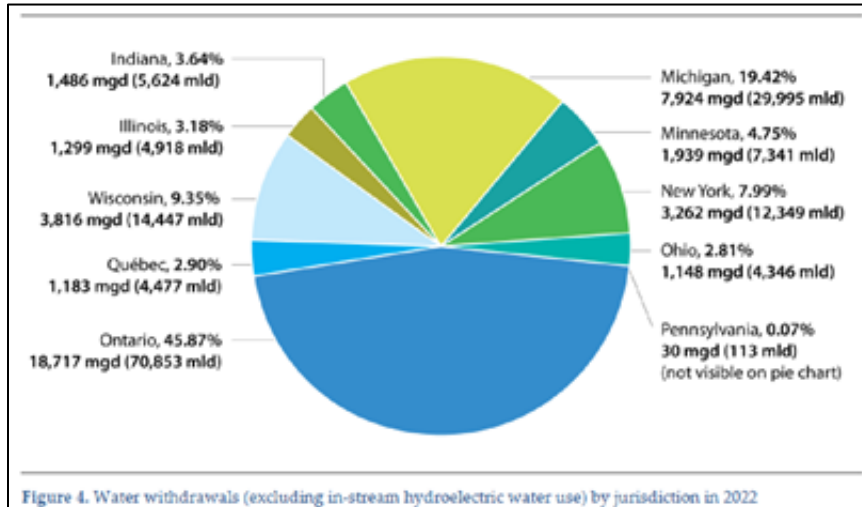
# A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission



## Goals

- Resilient Great Lakes Basin
- Clean and Safe Water
- Sustainable and Equitable Water Use
- Safe and Reliable Waterways
- Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems

# A Strategic Plan for the Great Lakes Commission



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Communications and Outreach

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Information Management and Delivery

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Facilitation and Consensus Building

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Policy Coordination and Advocacy

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Regional Project Management

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# Resilient Great Lakes Basin



This action plan is organized around four primary goals that will drive activities to make the Great Lakes basin more resilient to the impacts of climate change:

1. Individuals and communities are healthy, thriving, and adapted to the effects of changing conditions and climate-related stressors.
2. Buildings and infrastructure are safe and can withstand the effects of changing conditions and climate-related stressors.
3. Ecosystems are healthy throughout the Great Lakes basin and adapting to changing conditions and climate-related stressors.
4. Environmental and public services support economic activity and building resiliency.



**1. “COMMUNITY”**



**2.  
“INFRASTRUCTURE”**



**3.  
“ECOSYSTEMS”**



**4. “ECONOMY”**



# Safe and Reliable Waterways



# Binational Commissions of the Great Lakes Region



Boundary Waters Treaty (1909)

Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (1972; 2012)

[ijc.org](http://ijc.org)



Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries (1954)

Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries (1981)

[glfc.org](http://glfc.org)



Great Lakes Basin Compact (1955)

Declaration of Partnership (1999)

[glc.org](http://glc.org)

Recommendations to Governments;  
Deliver Basin Focused Products/Services;  
Actions Support Regional Environmental Health and Economic Prosperity

# Tri-Commission MOU

- Decadal science plan
- Science vessel coordination
- Engaging with political and agency leaders
- Developing opportunities to attract new talent in the field of Great Lakes basin collaborative science and policy
- Other projects of mutual interest



# Thank you!

[www.glc.org](http://www.glc.org) | [facebook.com/greatlakescommission](https://facebook.com/greatlakescommission) | [@glcommission](https://twitter.com/glcommission)