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GLMRIS

Comment ID: GLMRIS50572

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Comment Submitted:

This letter is to express my concern at the current progress of the GLMRIS study mandated by congress in 2007.

- FOUR years is plenty of time to analyse the data and make decisions to PREVENT the invasion of invasive species into the Great Lakes from the Chicago waterways.
- Great Lakes have already suffered greatly from the Zebra Mussels and the Sea Lamprey as well as other invasive species. The eco-balance of the lakes has been permanently and negatively changed from these invasions.
- The Asian Carp not only threatens the eco system, it GUARENTEES a breakdown of the tourist trade in all neighboring states. The economic fallout from the passage of the ASAIN CARP into the Great Lakes is enormous! Boating, Fishing, Skiing, Swimming, Waterside parks, are all activities that generate tourist dollars. (Who is going to take a boat in waters with fish that attack you??) In addition the equipment and vehicles used in these activities would also be devastated.
- THIS IS A NO BRAINER. WE MUST KEEP THE CARP OUT OF THE GREAT LAKES. NO, not "reduce the risk" on invasion. PREVENT invasion! Just as you cannot be a little bit pregnant, you cannot be a little bit invaded! Once they cross the line, there is no turning back.
- We cannot afford to waste time creating studies that duplicate work already done by reputable groups and agencies. This is a waste of time and money. Time is short, we need to act ASAP.
- Not only are the great lakes at risk, the invasive species can travel both ways. America's waterways must be protected. There must be ways to transport goods that does not guarantee right of passage for invasive species . We are AMERICANS. There is certainly enough creative talent available to solve this problem without any more delay.
- The members of the Army Corps of Engineers assigned to this should be individuals who have a special interest in the Lakes. Not those who want to extend the length of the study so that they are insured of a job. Their few jobs, could cost Michigan and each of the neighboring states thousands of jobs! Salaries and cost of the work by the members of the Corp of Engineers should be analyzed by their superiors. Deadlines should be shortened and enforced.
- Physical separation is the only feasible option on the table. Recent years have seen floods, tsunami's, earthquakes, hurricanes, that devastate whole areas and destroy ecosystems and economies. This is one devastation that is preventable. Physical separation should happen ASAP, to prevent the invasion of the ASAIN CARP, and the destruction of the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,