

# GREAT LAKES HABITAT INITIATIVE



## BACKGROUND



### EXECUTIVE ORDER

On 18 May 04, President Bush signed Executive Order (EO) 13340. The EO established the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force, composed of Secretaries from the Departments of State, Army, Agriculture, Commerce, HUD, Homeland Security, Interior, Transportation, the Administrator of the EPA and the Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality.

### REGIONAL COLLABORATION

The EO designated the resource issues of the Great Lakes as nationally significant and defined a federal policy to support local and regional efforts to restore and protect the Great Lakes ecosystem through the establishment of Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC).



### HABITAT PLANS AND STRATEGIES

The initial goal of the GLRC was to develop a Strategy for the Protection and Restoration of the Great Lakes within one year. The GLRC developed the Strategy through Teams for the following eight priority issues identified by the Great Lakes Governors and Mayors:

- Coastal Health
- Invasive Species
- Indicators/Information
- Non-point source pollution
- Habitat/Species
- Toxic Contaminants
- Contaminated Sediments/AOCs
- Sustainable Development



## CORPS OF ENGINEERS WATERSHED/REGIONAL MANAGEMENT STUDY AUTHORITY PRODUCTS



### FUNDING PROGRAMS

A Summary of information about existing governmental and non-governmental funding programs that apply to Great Lakes habitat protection and restoration.

### PROJECTS LIST

A compilation of information from existing inventories of wetlands and coastal habitat and existing habitat priority setting efforts.

### PERFORMANCE METRICS

Development of regional ecological performance measures for prioritization of actions.

### PRIORITIZATION OF ACTIONS

Utilizing adopted performance measures and integration of priority actions into a comprehensive implementation plan with cost and schedule information.



## PARTNERSHIPS



### PROJECT DELIVERY TEAM (PDT)

In order to reflect the interdisciplinary and multi-jurisdictional scope of this investigation, the PDT will include representatives from the Corps of Engineers and other partner agencies and organizations. Other agencies and organizations that have expressed interest in participating include, but are not limited to: USFWS, NRCS, USEPA, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Great Lakes Commission, The Nature Conservancy, and Ducks Unlimited.

### STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee, consisting of representatives from the Corps of Engineers and partner agencies and organizations, was formed to provide direct oversight of the Project Delivery Team. The Steering Committee will be chaired by the Deputy Commander of LRD for Great Lakes Matters (Commander, Chicago District) and include the Commanders of the Buffalo and Detroit Districts and LRD Chief of Planning and Policy. Several, but not all, of the partner agencies are represented below.

