

Great Lakes Fishery Commission Model

- Impetus for the formation of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) was the need to control the invasive Sea Lamprey that was impacting fishery resources in all five Great Lakes.
 - Additional needs included improved science to inform fishery management and stronger commitment of partners to cooperative management of interjurisdictional resources.
- The GLFC's sponsorship of sea lamprey control research has resulted in multiple methods of control and the development of an integrated management program.
- Through the GLFC, fishery management agencies in the Great Lakes have collaboratively developed shared management objectives, develop plans to meet those objectives, collect and disseminate data, and coordinate law enforcement for improved management of native species.
- MICRA has lacked a large-scale, basin-wide issue with sufficient political interest and support that could compel state and Federal legislators to agree on the need and act.
 - Similar to the GLFC, a Mississippi River Basin Fishery Commission could be focused on Asian carp (ANS) control, improved science to support fishery management, and collaborative interagency partnerships for management and regulation of interjurisdictional resources.
- Great Lakes Fishery Commission's operational structure could be easily adapted to MICRA's existing sub-basin and committee structure.
- To ensure cross-border collaboration, the responsible management agencies are signatories to '*A Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries*', a non-binding agreement through which fishery agencies commit to cooperation, consensus, strategic planning, and ecosystem-based management.
- The Joint Strategic Plan allows agencies to leverage resources, avoid duplication of effort, develop shared objectives, and exchange valuable data.
- The Joint Strategic Plan is built on four strategies for cooperative fisheries management: consensus, accountability, information sharing and, ecosystem management.

What Would Change?

- Federal and state legislation officially recognizing MICRA as an interstate organization for cooperative fisheries management in the Basin.
- Increased support of federal and state governments, agency administrators, and staff.
- Increased commitment to interagency communication, coordination, and management.
- Increased funding to support management and research needs.
- The existing partnership agreement would not need to be significantly changed, but should be reestablished in the form of a *Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Mississippi River Basin Fisheries*.
- The partnership terms are currently non-binding, and that would not need to change; the proposed Fishery Commission would not supersede any jurisdiction's authority.
- Decision making can remain consensus based, however a formal process for conflict resolution will need to be developed and agreed upon.
- Improved science informing management decisions through increased research and an increased commitment to data sharing and science based decision making.

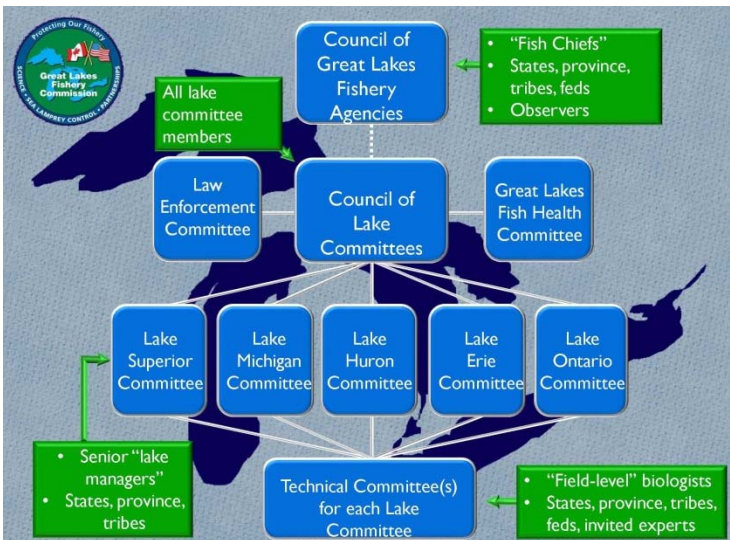
Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Purpose:

- Sea Lamprey Control
- Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management
- Cooperative Research

Management Units = individual lakes / lake committees

- Michigan
- Erie
- Superior
- Ontario
- Huron



Mississippi River Basin Fishery Commission

Purpose:

- Asian carp (AIS) control
- Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management
- Cooperative Research

Management Units = Sub-basin groups / basin committees

- Arkansas/Red river basin
- Missouri River basin
- Lower Mississippi River basin
- Ohio River basin
- Upper Mississippi River basin
- Tennessee/Cumberland river basin

