

# GREAT LAKES & MISSISSIPPI RIVER INTERBASIN STUDY

## Feasibility Study Fact Sheet

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

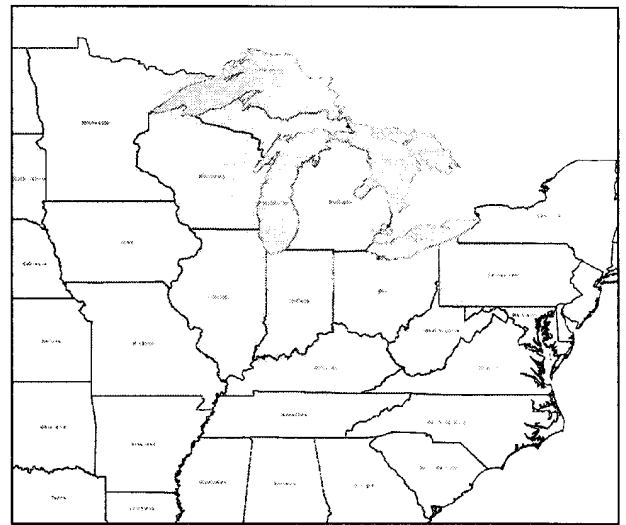
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### Background

The threat of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) impacting current environments, economies, and lifestyles in the regions of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins is significant. Aquatic connections between the basins could provide a conduit for ANS, such as Asian carp, to travel directly to or from the Great Lakes. One such conduit is the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CSSC), a man-made, permanent hydrologic connection between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins that was completed early in the 20th century.

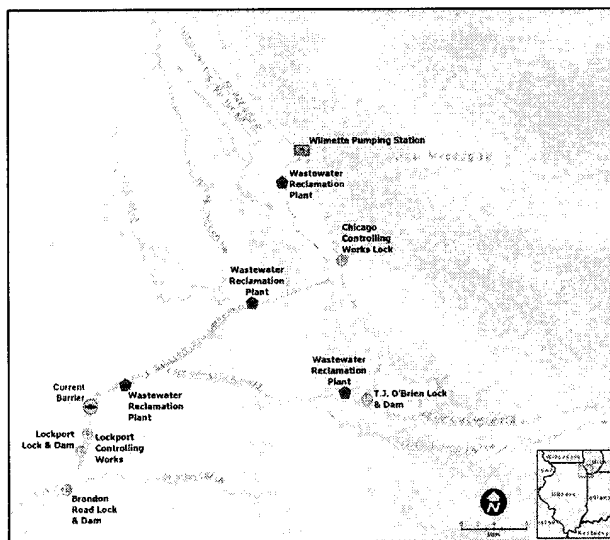
### Project Description

The Great Lakes & Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) is a feasibility study being undertaken by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in collaboration with other Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as nongovernmental entities. The purpose of GLMRIS is to analyze and mitigate the risk of ANS transfer between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basins via aquatic pathways. This mitigation of risk consists of an analysis of ecological separation alternatives, such that the selected alternative prevents non-native species from migrating outside of their natural habitat. The footprint of GLMRIS covers the intersection of the two watersheds, specifically covering the states that border the Great Lakes and Mississippi River. The objectives of GLMRIS include:



GLMRIS Study Area

- 1) identify potential hydraulic pathways that may exist between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basins;
- 2) inventory current and future potential invasive species;
- 3) analyze possible options and technologies to prevent or reduce the risk of ANS transfer; and
- 4) complete a thorough and comprehensive analysis of the gathered data and recommend alternatives to prevent or reduce the risk of ANS transfer between the basins.



Chicago-area Waterways

One focus area of GLMRIS will converge on the potential threat of ANS transiting between the basins using Chicago-area waterways, via the CSSC, and will include the evaluation of long-term measures – including potential hydrologic separation of surface waters – to reduce the risk or prevent the spread of ANS via this system. Other potential pathways will be screened through a risk-based methodology, and will be further addressed via a second focus area. The ultimate intent of GLMRIS will be to address all potential pathways and ANS threats.

### Get Involved

The USACE is establishing a Stakeholder Participation Forum that will allow non-governmental organizations to provide direct input to the plan formulation process. Discussion groups will be held to allow the transfer of ideas, information, and comments between the study team and the affected communities. For more details, please visit:

<http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/AsianCarp/GLMRISpg.html>

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – CHICAGO DISTRICT

Dave Wethington, Project Manager, 312-846-5522

David.M.Wethington@usace.army.mil

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# SUMMARY OF THE GLMRIS PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN

OCTOBER 2010

## 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Project Management Plan (PMP) is to serve as the roadmap for the feasibility study process by establishing a framework to define the planning approach, including defining activities to be accomplished, a working schedule and estimated costs; develop a plan for acquiring and delivering a project that meets customer expectations, objectives and needs; establish a robust internal and external communications strategy; define and control the scope of the project; and to define the resources necessary for project success.

## 2.0 SCOPE OF WORK

USACE has identified the following major activities the Study will include:

1. Identifying hydraulic pathways that exist between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins.
2. Inventorying the current and future potential ANS.
3. Analyzing the controls to prevent or reduce the risk of ANS transfer.
4. Analyzing the impacts each control may have on existing waterways users.
5. Recommending a plan to prevent or reduce risk of ANS transfer between the basins, and if necessary, the alternative will include mitigation measures for impacted waterway users.

Focus Area I will address the goal of preventing, or reducing the risk of transfer of ANS via the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS); Focus Area II will consist of a risk-characterization report which seeks to identify other potential connections outside of the CAWS, as well as perform a screening-level assessment of potential ANS which may transfer via these connections.

### 2.1 *PROJECT REQUIREMENTS STATEMENT*

#### *2.1.1 RELATIONSHIP OF GLMRIS TO OTHER USACE STUDIES*

It is important to differentiate between the purpose of GLMRIS and other concurrent studies being undertaken via a related USACE authority. In addition to GLMRIS, USACE has been directed to conduct a study of a range of options or technologies for reducing impacts of hazards that may reduce the efficacy of the Electrical Dispersion Barrier System located on the CSSC. The series of reports generated by this study are hereafter referred to collectively as the Efficacy Study.

## 2.2 SCOPE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Approval of PMP (i.e. scope) changes is envisioned to be the purview of the Executive Steering Group (ESG) as well as the Executive Steering Committee (ESC). The ESG is comprised of Senior USACE Leadership directly responsible for project control. The ESC is to be comprised of a collaborative body of Federal, state and regional government authorities. Further information on the ESG and ESC can be found in Section 5.0.

## 3.0 PLANNING PROCESS

The development of the Feasibility Study will require that the PDT incorporate the use of the USACE 6-Step Planning Process:

1. Specify Problems and Opportunities
2. Inventory and Forecast Conditions
3. Formulate Alternative Plans
4. Evaluate Effects of Alternative Plans
5. Compare Alternative Plans
6. Select Recommended Plan

The PDT/Study Team is composed of seven Product Teams (PTs). They include:

1. Navigation & Economics
2. Hydrology & Hydraulics
3. Natural Resources
4. Communications
5. Technology
6. Environmental Quality
7. Plan Formulation
8. Forward Reconnaissance (Other Pathways)

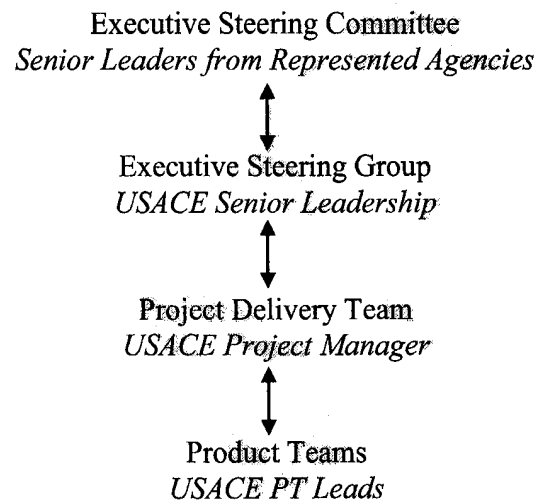
## 4.0 FEASIBILITY STUDY PRODUCTS

The PDT will construct and prepare a Feasibility Report with sufficient detail to support a decision for construction authorization. The Project Delivery Team has identified the goals of this study to be to identify all stakeholders in the plan formulation of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Feasibility Study; to inventory all potential aquatic nuisance species aquatic pathways between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River basins; to identify current and potential future aquatic nuisance species; to analyze appropriate control alternatives in order to protect aquatic ecosystems, fisheries and associated economies, and recreational and commercial economies; recommend controls, additional studies, or legislation based on the analysis of the control alternatives and their respective regulations or impacts to users of the aquatic pathways; and to focus on the prevention of transfer of aquatic nuisance species via the Chicago Area Waterway System. The Study Team will endeavor to satisfy the public's appetite for information by compiling and producing intermediate products, as appropriate.

## 5.0 WORK & MANAGEMENT COORDINATION

USACE leadership from LRD as well as MVD will form an executive-level oversight committee known as the Executive Steering Group (ESG). The ESG body is ultimately responsible for providing control guidance toward study implementation within the USACE organization. Macro-level study guidance shall be the responsibility of the Executive Steering Committee (ESC), which is to be comprised of a collaborative body of Federal, state, and regional governmental authorities.

### 5.1 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION



#### 5.1.1 EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Membership to the ESC will be requested of the following Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

The ESC is also anticipated to include a variety of bi-national commissions, state agencies, and regional governmental authorities. Some examples include:

- International Joint Commission (IJC)

- Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC)
- State Departments of Natural Resources (State DNRs)
- The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC)

The ESC will help guide the overall study by i) maintaining a working knowledge of the feasibility study; ii) assisting in resolving emerging policy issues; iii) ensuring that evolving study results and policies are consistent and coordinated; iv) directing the study management team; and v) rating decisions made by the study management team.

#### 5.1.2 *PROJECT DELIVERY TEAM, PRODUCT TEAMS, AND EXECUTIVE STEERING GROUP*

The Project Delivery Team (PDT) is the staff-level team who is responsible for the daily implementation of GLMRIS. The PDT will consist of a matrix of Product Teams (PT), focused on the research and implementation of specific disciplines.

#### 5.1.3 *ADVISORY TEAMS*

In addition to the ESC several advisory and review teams will be formed to provide input and direction to GLMRIS. Two such examples would be Stakeholder Participation Forums and an Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) Team.

### 5.2 *WORK BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE*

Due to the magnitude of information which has been identified as necessary to appropriately address the requirements of this Feasibility Study, the WBS is presented separately in Appendix 2. The WBS concentrates primarily on Focus Area I – the CAWS-focused study – in order to present tasks, schedules, and costs in a logical, easily comprehensible manner. A WBS for Focus Area 2 (other pathways) will be developed as the scope of the study is refined.

### 5.3 *SCHEDULE & MILESTONES*

This Feasibility Report will be prepared in accordance with the guidance contained in the Planning Guidance Notebook, ER 1105-2-100, 22 April 2000, and will present recommendations for Federal action. Upon approval by Headquarters, USACE and Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, these recommendations will be passed to Congress to support a project authorization decision. The schedule for GLMRIS Focus Area I activities can be found at the conclusion of the WBS. The schedule assumes that commensurate funding for this study is provided and required resources are available to effectively accomplish this study.

## 6.0 ASSUMPTIONS

The current schedule with completion of the Feasibility Study in 2015 assumes a capability funding stream for GLMRIS Focus Area I. The total amount for GLMRIS Focus Area 1 is approximately \$15M.

## 8.0 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The primary method of implementing quality control during a Feasibility Study is to employ external peer review

### 8.2 *FUNDING REQUIREMENTS - PLANNING COST DATA (page 18)*

The GLMRIS is fully funded by the Federal government, so the annual USACE budget process will serve as the primary source of funding for this Feasibility Study.

## 11.0 CHANGE MANAGEMENT

The change-approving official is determined by the magnitude of the proposed change. If the change has a minimal impact in schedule or budget – defined by less than one month's deviation in schedule or less than 5% of product cost – the Project Manager will be responsible for making the decision. Larger-impact changes (i.e. >1 month time; >5% of Product budget) will be submitted to the ESG/ESC for review and recommendation.

## 12.0 COMMUNICATIONS

### 12.2 *COMMUNICATION RESPONSIBILITIES*

APPENDIX 1: TEAM ARCHITECTURE & PRODUCT TEAM ROSTER

APPENDIX 2: WORK BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE

APPENDIX 3: STUDY FACT SHEET

APPENDIX 4: IMPLEMENTATION/VTC GUIDANCE

APPENDIX 5: DOCUMENT HISTORY

APPENDIX 6: PUBLIC COMMUNICATION PLAN

APPENDIX 7: QUALITY CONTROL PLAN