

## Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Budget Webinar Thursday, April 13, 2017 English: 3:00 CENTRAL/4:00 EASTERN

#### **AGENDA**

3:00 pm CST	Welcome and Housekeeping	Melissa Soline
3:02 pm CST	Background on U.S. Budget & Great Lakes Restoration Initiative	David Ullrich
3:08 pm CST	Update on U.S. Budget & GLRI	David Ullrich
3:15 pm CST	Background Canadian Budget	Simon Belisle
3:20 pm CST	Update on Canadian Budget	Simon Belisle
3:30 pm CST	Cities Initiative Staff Budget Strategy	David Ullrich
3:35 pm CST	Membership Budget Strategy	Andrea Paine
3:45 pm CST	Questions	Melissa Soline
4:00 pm CST	Adjourn	

<sup>\*\*</sup>If you experience technical problems during the webinar, please email <a href="mailto:andrea.paine@glslcities.org">andrea.paine@glslcities.org</a>.

### U.S. Budget

GLRI

**EPA** 

(0.2% of total budget)

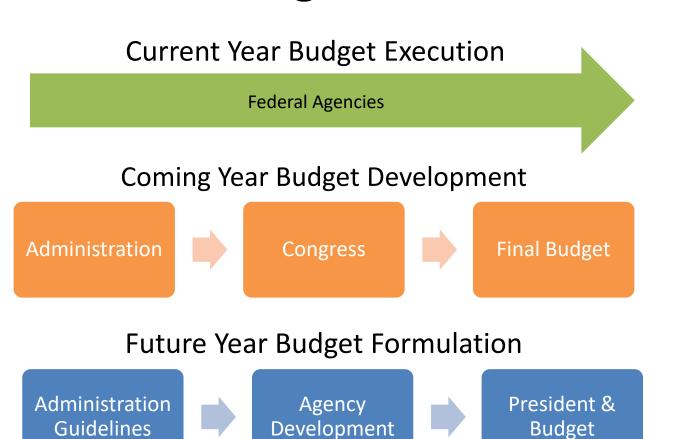
All Discretionary
Spending

Defense Budget

Non-Discretionary Spending (Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid)



#### U.S. Budget Process



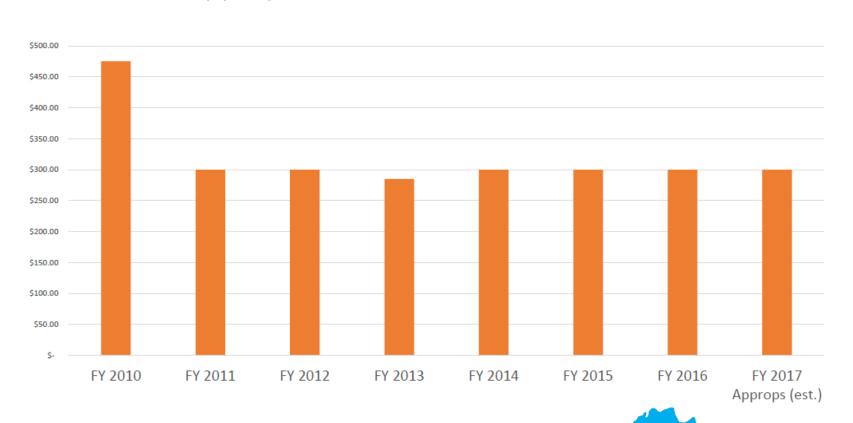


#### History of GLRI

- 2004: President Bush's Executive Order 13340
  - Acknowledges significance of Great Lakes; calls of collaboration
  - Resulted in formatted in Great Lakes Interagency Task Force
- 2005: Great Lakes Regional Collaboration & Strategy
- 2009: President Obama creates GLRI
- Progress:
  - Over 3400 projects funded, 3 U.S. AOCs delisted, 4 U.S. AOC clean-ups completed, 3.5 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment remediated, over 3,800 river miles cleared for fish passage, more than 150,000 acres of wetlands, costal, upland, and island habitat protected, restored, or enhanced
  - Asian Carp stopped in Illinois River for now

### History of GLRI

#### GLRI Appropriations Since 2010 - Over \$2 Billion

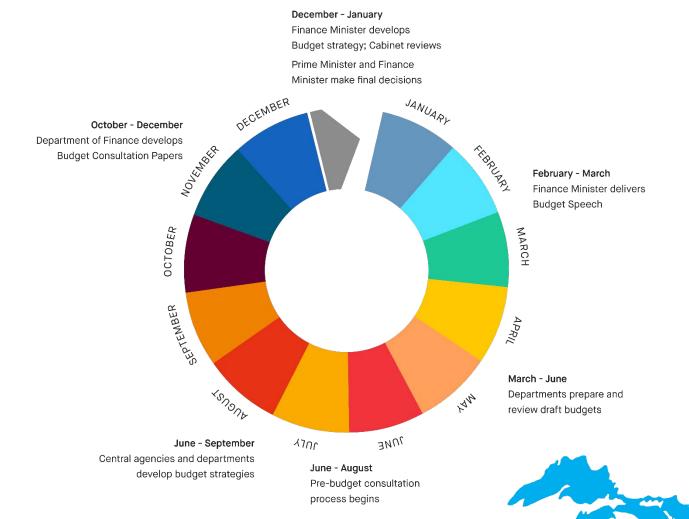


#### Updates on U.S. Budget and GLRI

- Dec. 2016: GLRI authorized at \$300 M annually for 5 years
- 3/16: Trump Administration Budget eliminates GLRI for FY2018
  - "The Budget returns the responsibility for funding local environmental efforts and programs to State and local entities."
  - EPA budget cut by 31%; NOAA cut by 16%, elimination of Sea Grant
- 3/29: Trump Admin. proposes \$50 million cut to FY2017 GLRI
- Congress speaks out against proposed GLRI cuts:
  - 3/16: 12 members of Congress spoke in opposition to cuts at Great Lakes Days Congressional Breakfast.
  - 3/30: 63 U.S. Representatives send letter to House appropriators requesting full \$300 million for GLRI.
- 4/7: Congressional Recess



#### Canadian Budget Process



#### Canadian Budget Process

- February-March: Budget presented to Parliament
  - House of Commons adopts Interim Supply (3/12<sup>th</sup> of expenditure budget) and reviews expenditure budget
- April: Start of fiscal year
- June: House of Commons adopts Budget
  - Canadian Government currently holds majority of House of Common seats.
  - Members of governing party obliged to vote in favor of Budget.
  - Adopted without modification.



### History of Canadian GLSL Investment

• Funding delivered through separate initiatives.

Funding	Amount
St. Lawrence Action Plan Funding	\$9.8 million
Great Lakes Action Plan Funding for Areas of Concern	\$8 million
Lake Simcoe-Georgian Bay Clean-Up Fund	\$5.8 million
Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring	\$4 million
Great Lakes Nutrients Initiative	\$4 million
DFO Asian Carp Program	\$3.5 million
TOTAL	~ \$35 million



#### Updates on Canadian Budget

- 3/22: 2017 Federal Budget Released
  - \$43.8 M over 5 years to Fisheries and Oceans Canada for invasive species
    - Increase in annual funding by ~\$5 million
  - \$70.5 M over 5 years to Environment and Climate Change Canada to protect Canada's freshwater resources (includes Great Lakes and Lake Winnipeg)
  - Still lacks single Great Lakes Line item
- Quebec Budget: \$2 M in FY2017 budget for St. Lawrence
- Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Collaborative Initiative In Development
  - Partnership with Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Freshwater Future & Council of the Great Lakes Region to develop a strategy for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence restoration funding.
  - Formation of subcommittee on Canadian Interparliamentary Group.
    - March 2016: 12-member IPG delegation goes to D.C. Meets with Great Lakes Task Force.
  - Basis for future Canadian budgets.



#### Staff Budget Strategy

- Develop materials for membership to engage with issue.
- Develop budget resolution for 2017 Annual Meeting
- Coordinate with other Great Lake-St. Lawrence organization to develop a collaborative strategy.
  - Sign on to America's Great Waters Coalition letter to appropriators.
- Develop video to showcase work of municipalities and GLRI.
  - Showcase work in Sheboygan, Waukegan, and Milwaukee.
  - Will premiere at 2017 Annual Meeting and Conference.



#### Membership Strategy

- Materials: Model resolution, model op-ed/letter of support, talking points, state-based talking points for U.S. members
- Reach out to Congress people, MPs, MPPs and other mayors through all platforms (phone, mail, social media).
- Send letter of support to elected state, provincial, federal elected officials and to your local newspaper's editor.
- Show support for Great Lakes funding on social media and during speaking engagements.
- Introduce resolutions of support to your City Councils.
  - Six member city resolutions passed since beginning of March.



#### Messaging

- Stress the value of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin
  - Drinking water for over 48 million people
  - 84% of North America's surface fresh water
  - \$5.8 trillion economy; 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in world if region were considered one country
- Illustrate the success of GLRI
  - 2-to-1 return on investment
  - Creating jobs and revitalizing struggling communities.
- Emphasize the consequences of lost funding
  - Invasion of Asian Carp, increased risks to drinking water (harmful algal blooms), work on U.S. Areas of Concern stops, slows economic recovery of region, fewer wetlands restored, offices closed and staff laid off, etc.
- Encourage continued investment in GLRI at \$300 million



# Questions?

Please raise your hand and your question will be answered.

