



The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI): A Driver for the Region's Prosperity through Economic, Environmental, and Societal Revitalization

September 19, 2019

- Matt McKenna, Director, the Great Lakes Washington Program
- Matt Doss, Policy Director, The Great Lakes Commission
- Dr. John Hartig, Great Lakes Science-Policy Advisor, International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)
- Alexis Lopez-Cepero, Water Policy Fellow, the Healing Our Waters Great Lakes Coalition

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

- Built upon the foundation of the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy, GLRI answered a challenge of the governors of the Great Lakes states.
- GLRI is guided by an Action Plan, the Federal agencies of the GLRI's Regional Working Group coordinate to select the best combination of programs, projects, and activities to achieve GLRI goals.
- First implemented through the FY 2010 Interior and Continuing Appropriations Act.
- In December of 2016, Congress amended Clean Water Act Section 118, to include authorization of the GLRI in the amount of \$300 million annually for fiscal years 2017 through 2021 and the direction to address five priority areas.
- Federal agencies do the work of the GLRI guided by five-year Action Plans, developed with input from states, tribes, local governments, universities, business and others:
 - GLRI Action Plan 1 (2010-2014)
 - GLRI Action Plan 2 (2015-2019)
 - GLRI Action Plan 3 (2020-2024) – *currently a draft*

Five Focus Areas

- Toxic substances and Areas of Concern;
- Invasive species like Asian carp;
- Nearshore health and nonpoint source pollution;
- Habitat and wildlife protection and restoration; and
- Accountability, monitoring, evaluation, communication, and partnerships.

Historical GLRI Funding

Fiscal Year	GLRI Funding Level
FY 2010	\$475 million
FY 2011	\$300 million
FY 2012	\$300 million
FY 2013	\$284 million
FY 2014	\$300 million
FY 2015	\$300 million
FY 2016	\$300 million
FY 2017	\$300 million
FY 2018	\$300 million
FY 2019	\$300 million
FY 2020 House	\$320 million
FY 2020 Senate	n/a

GLRI Funding by Agency (as of September 2019)

Agency	# of Projects	Funding Amount
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	11	\$13,813,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs	439	\$53,921,409
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	6	\$4,045,662
DOT Federal Highway Administration	12	\$6,705,858
DOT Maritime Administration	10	\$18,114,781
Environmental Protection Agency*	1128	\$989,986,018
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	306	\$220,304,726
National Park Service	140	\$43,633,275
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	825	\$320,612,751
U.S. Coast Guard	54	\$15,818,026
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	1179	\$358,783,136
U.S. Geological Survey	254	\$171,972,406
USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	58	\$11,889,357
USDA Forest Service	138	\$81,550,555
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	298	\$169,772,093
TOTAL	4,858	\$2,480,923,053

*This amount includes funding provided to states, tribes and other governmental entities, as well as funding for Great Lakes Legacy Act work.

