

GREAT LAKES SMALL HARBORS COALITION

**2015 SHALLOW DRAFT STAKEHOLDERS MEETING
MARCH 11, 2015**

HARBOR MAINTENANCE CRISIS CONTINUES

- **98 of 112 Small Harbors**
- **No funding for 2015 or 2016**
- **48 Need dredging**

HARBOR MAINTENANCE – WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- HMT – 20 Years and \$10 Billion misappropriated!
- 1985 HMT initiated for 50% co-pay
- 1990's HMT tripled to pay 100%
- Then cut out shallow draft and low-use commercial

Our Attempted “Fix” – 2014 Water Resource and Redevelopment Act (WRRDA)

- Passed 412-4 in House, 91-7 in Senate
- Budget/Fund G.L.’s as single, interconnected system of navigation
- Increase funding from \$0.9 bil. (2012) to \$1.8 bil. by 2025
- Fund \$1.2 bil. (67% of HMT) in 2015
- G.L.’s to get 10% of increases
- USACE to maintain all harbors

So, Where is WRRDA?

- Congress appropriated \$100 million less for 2015
- President's 2016 Budget is much less
- Corps received \$200 million more than 2012
- Shallow drafts & low use commercial still not a priority
- Remember, only \$20 million annually for our 112 harbors

GLSHC – Our Competitive Advantages

- 5 million grass-roots citizens
- Voices and Votes
- 112 Communities contributing over \$5.5 bil. economic impact
- Over 60,000 jobs
- Represented in D.C. by 16 Senators & 118 Representatives

GLSHC – Our Disadvantages

- Contribute little to HMT
- Ad hoc, no funding, no staff, no “lobbyist”
- D.C. has forgotten HMT was to fund all harbors
- Senators/Representatives/Governors/Corps need constant reminding
- Little support compared to environmental issues

We Need to Use Our Competitive Advantages!

- Be much more proactive in making our voices heard
- Need each harbor community to calculate economic effect of harbor closing
- Every harbor needs to strengthen their Corps “fact sheet”
- Need much more aggressive communication/publicity
- Without formal org. & funding, I need active volunteers from each state
- Help develop communication formats soliciting ongoing attention from Fed. & State Senators/Representatives, Governors, G.L.’s Congressional Task Forces, Council of G.L.’s Governors, Great Lakes Commission, etc.

In Short, I Am Asking for Volunteers From Every State to Help Plan and Communicate Our Cause

- Proactive, passionate people who won't stand by as our harbors and safety of citizens are endangered
- Volunteers who will raise whatever “crowd noise” necessary to accomplish our mission

Who Will Do This, If Not Us?

- Who among you will volunteer or find volunteers?
- Contact me at cmay08@charter.net
- **“I need your help to help you!”**