



# Great Lakes Dredging Team

## Great Lakes Waterways Conference

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# Great Lakes Dredging Team

## Briefing Overview

- Who is the GL Dredging Team?
  - Objectives
  - Membership
  - Structure
- Current Issues
- Priorities
- Strategy
- Take Away Message



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Charter Objectives**

The GLDT is a partnership of federal and state agencies and industry representatives created to:

- Assure timely and cost effective dredging of harbors and channels, while meeting regional environmental goals
- Facilitate resolution of dredging issues common to the Great Lakes region
- Promote implementation of 18 recommendations of 1994 interagency report on dredging process
- Facilitate stakeholder communication



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Membership**

USACE	New York
USEPA	Pennsylvania
MARAD	Ohio
USFWS	Indiana
NRCS	Illinois
NOAA	Michigan
Coast Guard	Wisconsin
GL Commission	Minnesota
NEMWI	LCA



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Structure**

- Each state to have two representatives (one from environmental and one commerce)
- Co-chairs from federal and state members to serve 2-year terms
- Permanent legislative committee composed of non-federal GLDT members
- Manage using consensus-based approach



# Great Lakes Dredging Team

## Current Issues

- Disposal of dredged material
  - Methods
  - Limited CDF capacity
- Funding for dredging
  - Recreational harbors totally unfunded
  - Commercial harbors remain underfunded
  - Increase in FY 15 and 16 federal budgets for GLNS O&M
  - States want more involvement in maritime transpo system
- GLRI funding for Areas of Concern cleanup
  - Delisting requires eliminating the dredging restriction BUI
  - Opportunities for creative disposal and beneficial use



# Great Lakes Dredging Team Priorities

- Regulatory inconsistencies among States
  - Achieving consistent dredging windows
  - Reviewing state policies on open water placement to identify inconsistencies and enhance project decision making
- Beneficial use of dredged material
  - Developing local markets for dredged material through an effective outreach strategy
  - Resolving any remaining policy and regulatory obstacles
- Role in Areas of Concern cleanup
  - Celebrate successful linkages between navigation and environmental dredging and build more of them
  - Support elimination of dredging restriction BUI



# Great Lakes Dredging Team Strategy

- Products
  - GL Open Water Disposal Decision Process
  - GL Policy on Environmental Windows
  - Support Beneficial Use Applications
- Outreach/Communications
  - Watershed stakeholders
  - Legislative influence
  - Funding
- Innovation/Creative Investment
  - R&D gaps
  - Innovation Teams - all interested sectors





# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Take Away Message**

- Dredging Team provides a forum primarily for federal and state government agencies to **collaborate** on matters that are vital to the restoration of the Great Lakes as well as continued sustainable development
- Balance of members with economic and environmental viewpoints is essential
- Near-term conditions have created a sense of urgency and an opportunity to accomplish many of our priorities, if we can act quickly





# Great Lakes Dredging Team Background

- 1994 - Dept of Transportation led Interagency Working Group on the Dredging Process
- Working Group recommends formation of National and Regional Dredging Teams to coordinate federal actions and policies relating to dredging
- National dredging team established in 1995 with Corps, USEPA, MARAD, Interior, and NOAA is still active and chaired by EPA





# Great Lakes Dredging Team Background

- 1996 – USACE and EPA stood up the Regional Dredging Team for the Great Lakes at the same time the Great Lakes Dredged Material Testing & Evaluation Manual was being completed
- Unlike the National Dredging Team, the Great Lakes Regional Dredging Team is composed of both Federal and State members
- The Dredging Committee under the Great Lakes Commission was integrated into the GLDT
- First co-chairs of Great Lakes Dredging Team are Roy Deda (USACE-NCD) and Chuck Ledin (Wisconsin DNR)



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Charter Objectives**

- Contribute to the national goal of assuring that the dredging of U.S. harbors and channels is conducted in a timely and cost effective manner while meeting environmental protection, restoration, and enhancement goals
- Facilitate the resolution of dredging issues common to the Great Lakes region among the participating local, state, tribal and federal agencies



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Charter Objectives**

- Promote implementation of the relevant portions of the recommendations of the interagency report on the dredging process
- Facilitate effective communications and decision-making among federal and state agencies represented on the Dredging Team and between the Team and key stakeholders in the dredging process.



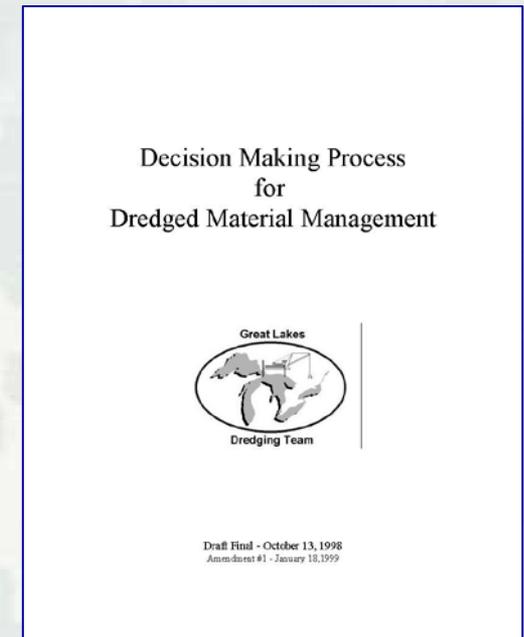
# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Initial Priorities (1996)**

- Promote more consistency among State dredging policies and regulations
- Recognize and enhance the linkages between navigation and environmental dredging
- Champion for advancing beneficial use of dredged material as alternative to open water disposal



# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Accomplishments**

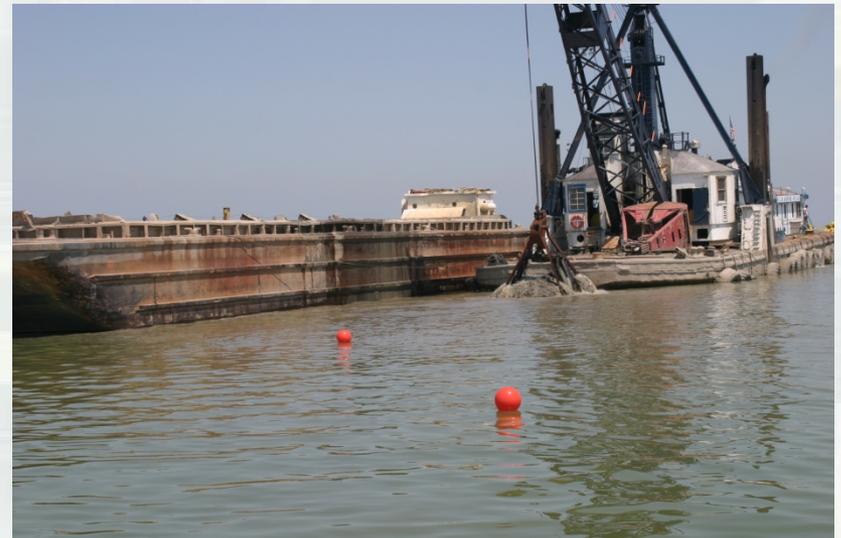
- Promote greater understanding and consistency in decision making practices and policies
  - White paper on dredged disposal decision making process (1998/9)
  - Inventory of state regulations
  - Coordination on specific DMMPs
  - Testing & evaluation workshops





# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Accomplishments**

- Promote greater understanding and consistency in decision making practices and policies
  - Inventory of state dredging windows and rationales
  - Field evaluations on impacts of dredging on priority fish species





# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Accomplishments**

- Enhanced collaboration between navigation dredging and remedial dredging
  - Assessment & Remediation of Contaminated Sediments (ARCS)
  - Superfund/NRDA
  - Great Lakes Legacy Act

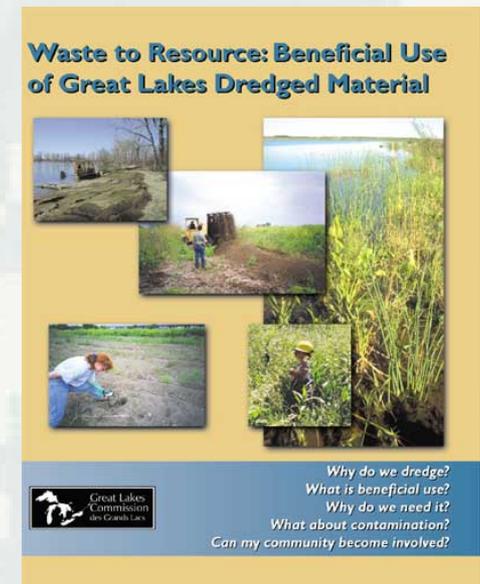






# Great Lakes Dredging Team Accomplishments

- Promoting beneficial use of dredged material
  - Public workshops and symposia
  - State framework for upland disposal testing
  - Interactive website with local marketing opportunities
  - Educational media





# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Accomplishments**

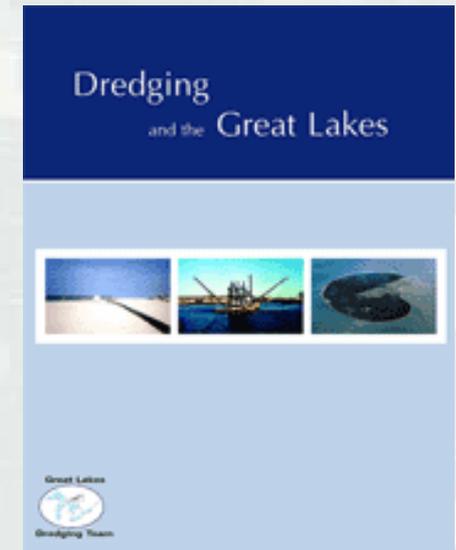
- Innovative technologies
  - Presentations and site visits to new and emerging technologies for dredging and sediment management





# Great Lakes Dredging Team **Accomplishments**

- Outreach and Communications
  - Symposia and workshops
  - Dredging Team Website
  - Educational materials



[www.glc.org/dredging/](http://www.glc.org/dredging/)