



23-5: Resolution to Support the Progress of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project

WHEREAS, the GLLC has long supported efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Great Lakes states to prevent the spread of invasive carp in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the control and prevention of aquatic invasive species is a core policy area of the GLLC; and

WHEREAS, the impact of invasive carp on the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region's people, ecosystem, and economy would be devastating, particularly to the fishing industry and recreational boating; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is positioned to begin the construction phase of the first increment of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project in the near term, which would use layered technologies to prevent the movement of invasive carp from the Illinois Waterway into the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois and the State of Michigan appropriated sufficient funds to cover the non-federal cost share and U.S. federal appropriations have been secured to cover initial phases; and

WHEREAS, the USACE and State of Illinois must sign a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) to unlock federal funding provided by recent U.S. federal appropriations, as well as avoid project disruptions; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State of Illinois and USACE should sign the PPA for the construction of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project, while actively exploring all possible arrangements to avoid disruption in federally-supported efforts to prevent invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the GLLC agree to work within their respective Great Lakes states and provinces to educate colleagues about the status of the Brandon Road Interbasin project and the importance of continued support of federal and state action; and further be it

RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed to: Governor J.B. Pritzker of Illinois, USACE leadership, and the Great Lakes Task Force and relevant committees in the U.S. Congress.

Adopted at the GLLC 2023 Annual Meeting on September 9, 2023