

Terms of Reference

For the

Lake Michigan Technical Committee

Committee Name: Lake Michigan Technical Committee (LMTC)

Membership and Participation:

Chairman: A chairman may be selected from any LMTC member agency. A chairman will be expected to serve a minimum term of two years. At the expiration of the term of service, the Lake Michigan Committee (LMC) will appoint a new chairman, or reappoint the existing chairman to another two-year term. If there are no volunteers among LMTC members to serve as chairman, or consensus cannot be achieved within the LMC for a particular candidate, the agency that is currently chairing the LMC will provide a chairman for the LMTC. However, if the agency chairing the LMC does not have a qualified staff person available to chair the LMTC, the vice-chair of the LMC will provide a chairman, or the LMC may select a chairman from outside the member agencies. This selection process is intended to distribute the workload among all participating agencies, while at the same time providing an opportunity to individuals and agencies to serve as the chair of the LMTC.

Member agencies:

A maximum of two representatives from the following State fishery management agencies;

- * Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- * Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- * Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- * Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

A single representative from each of the following five Tribal governments that are party to the 2000 Consent Decree (*U.S. v Michigan*);

- * Bay Mills Indian Community
- * Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
- * Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
- * Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- * Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

A single representative from the following agencies and research organizations;

- * USFWS Fishery Resource Office – Green Bay
- * USFWS Sea Lamprey Control
- * USGS Great Lakes Science Center

Resource Persons: The LMC or the LMTC chairman may invite any interested individuals with needed expertise to attend meetings and participate in LMTC activities.

Agency and member commitments: To ensure accomplishment of Lake Committee objectives and assignments, agencies are encouraged to commit appropriate personnel and resources to LMTC activities in their annual agency work plans. All members and resource persons are expected to participate in LMTC assignments in an equitable manner, and in a manner conducive to their expertise and their agency's interest in a particular issue.

Function and Scope: The LMTC shall conduct work assignments as requested and prioritized by the Lake Michigan Committee. The LMC will consult with the LMTC to establish and maintain clear work objectives, prioritize tasks, and establish a product-reporting format. The LMTC may also identify a need to invite resource persons or establish a specialized Task Group to address an issue(s) that requires attention beyond the scope of normal LMTC activities. The LMTC may also form internal “working groups” (ad hoc or permanent sub-committees) as the members deem necessary to fulfill their ongoing, technical advisory responsibilities.

Consensus: Consistent with the Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries, the LMTC shall operate under a consensus format. In this regard, there is no formal voting mechanism. The LMTC is encouraged to work toward consensus, but if consensus cannot be achieved, the LMTC shall present the varying opinions or positions to the LMC for resolution.

Frequency of Meetings: The LMTC is encouraged to meet at least twice annually. More frequent meetings or conference calls may be needed to address issues that require urgent and/or timely action.

Approved and Adopted by the Lake Michigan Committee, October 17, 2005

Replaces Terms of Reference for the LMTC adopted April 15, 1992

Jim Dexter, Chairman

