



**Committee of Advisors
to the
Great Lakes Fishery Commission**



Resolution #1: Annex 2001 to the Great Lakes Charter

Whereas the Council of Great Lakes Governors has published Annex 2001 to the Great Lakes Charter (of 1985), and

Whereas the issues of water diversions will become more pressing as populations increase and the potential scenarios from the impacts of global warming play out, and

Whereas the Annex 2001 provides a good starting point for the future, but falls short in some important areas, therefore

Be it resolved that the U.S. Advisors for Lake Ontario urge that the Great Lakes Fishery Commission advise the Council of Governors, the Government of Canada, and the Governments of Ontario and Quebec to:

- 1) Expand Annex 2001 to include Canadian participation, negotiating differences as required. The Great Lakes are a resource which must be managed as a whole in order to withstand legal scrutiny.
- 2) Remove the one million gallon per day exclusion, as the cumulative effect of this exclusion could be significant.
- 3) Mandate all future diversions within the basin be evaluated on a cumulative effect rather than on individual request.
- 4) Place a moratorium on all diversions until a joint U.S. / Canada set of standards are developed.
- 5) Set specific water conservation targets for the Great Lakes Basin (as an example, a 1% reduction in consumptive use by 2005).
- 6) Annex 2001 should take an ecosystem approach to water related proposals so that the impact to the entire aquatic ecosystem can be evaluated. Loss of habitat, spawning grounds, etc. may prove more powerful arguments in trade litigation than simply consumptive use of water by itself.
- 7) Strengthen the definition of waters of the Great Lakes Basin to be inclusive of all ground waters within the watershed.

Submitted by Ed Sander, U.S. Advisor, Lake Ontario

Resolution 01-01

Not passed (vote 6-5-01) Yes: 2 No: rest

The opinions expressed here are those of the independent committee of advisors and not necessarily those of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. The Committee of Advisors consists of both U.S. and Canadian representatives, from First Nation, commercial, recreational, academic, agency, and public fishery interests in the Great Lakes Basin. Advisors provide advice to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; U.S. advisors are nominated by the State Governors, and appointed by the commission. Canadian advisors are nominated by the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and appointed by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.