



For Immediate Release  
June 11, 2014

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## **GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION HONORS JENNIFER NALBONE FOR STEADFAST ADVOCACY TO PROTECT THE GREAT LAKES**

*Nalbone, of Buffalo, New York, is recognized as a leader in efforts to develop and deliver strong science-based recommendations to a variety of forums.*

**ANN ARBOR, MI** — The Great Lakes Fishery Commission last week presented Ms. Jennifer Nalbone, former Vice-Chair of the Committee of Advisors of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, with the C.D. “Buzz” Besadny Award for fostering Great Lakes partnerships. The award, which the Commission presents annually, recognized Ms. Nalbone for her outstanding work to combat invasive species, to restore biodiversity, to support the health of the Great Lakes fishery, and for steadfast leadership to the United States Committee of Advisors. Currently, Ms. Nalbone is an Environmental Scientist for the New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman.

“One of the greatest threats to the integrity of the Great Lakes is the introduction on non-native species through vectors such as ballast water discharge and the live trade industry. Addressing these vectors requires extensive knowledge about emerging science; state, provincial and federal regulations; industry practices; complex technologies; and the ever-evolving political landscape,” said Commission Vice-Chair David Ullrich, Director of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

“For more than a decade, Ms. Nalbone served as the Navigation and Invasive Species Program Director at Great Lakes United, a bi-national coalition focused on environmental protection in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basins,” Ullrich continued. “Her position at GLU, coupled with her appointment as New York State’s public-at-large advisor for Lake Erie, provided the perfect platform for her to successfully advocate for the health of the Great Lakes. As a regional expert on Great Lakes ecological systems and sustainable navigation, she has been a leader in applying pressure on governments and industries to identify best practices and technologies, develop legislation, and implement regulations to prevent further introductions of invasive species.”

Ullrich continued: “Ms. Nalbone understands the value of integrating science and policy and she has a remarkable ability to work effectively with people holding all varieties of opinions. She is a consensus-builder, is able to make allies out of opponents, and always works for the public interest. She consistently demonstrates a careful consideration of the best available science and all available information in formulating positions, and progressive and analytical thinking as it pertains to regional policies, management and development. She is widely respected by like-minded people and dissenters as a driving force for reason, science, and good policy in the Great Lakes region.”

Ullrich continued: “Ms. Nalbone has used her role as New York’s public-at-large advisor on the U.S. Committee of Advisors to effectively educate members of the committee and the Commission on emerging issues of concern; collaborate with government agencies, environmental organizations, industries,

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academic institutions and others to understand the issues; and advocate for swift and effective responses to address potential threats. Educate – Collaborate – Advocate: a simple description for the way Ms. Nalbone approaches her work and gets results.”

“Ms. Nalbone is unwavering in her determination and has served as a strong leader on a number of critical issues,” Ullrich concluded. “Her peers have great respect for her energy, intellect, grasp of emerging science, and willingness to seek solutions to pressing issues.”

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*The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is an international organization established by the United States and Canada through the 1954 Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries. The Commission has the responsibility to support fisheries research, control the invasive sea lamprey in the Great Lakes, and facilitate implementation of A Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries, a provincial, state, and tribal fisheries management agreement.*



Great Lakes Fishery Commission vice-chair David Ullrich (right) presents Ms. Jennifer Nalbone with the 2014 C.D. Buzz Besadny Award for Fostering Great Lakes Partnerships. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission presented the award to Ms. Nalbone on June 3, 2014, during its annual meeting, held in Chicago, Illinois. Photo: T. Lawrence.