

2019 GREAT LAKES Coastal Wetlands Symposium

Maumee Bay • Oregon, Ohio • September 19-20



Hosted By

AUDUBON GREAT LAKES

THE GREAT LAKES COASTAL
ASSEMBLY

GREAT LAKES COMMISSION



September 19 - 20, 2019 - Oregon, Ohio

2019 Coastal Wetland Symposium

SUMMARY

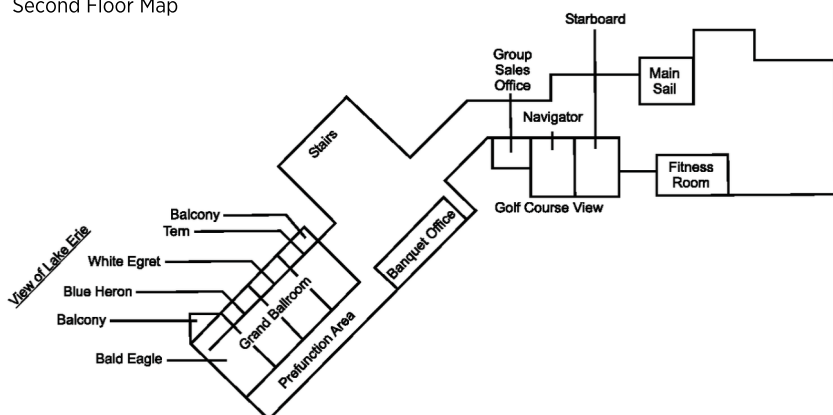
Audubon Great Lakes, in partnership with the Great Lakes Coastal Assembly and Great Lakes Commission, proudly present the first Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Symposium, an event for conservation practitioners, scientists, and coastal wetland stakeholders.

Over two days, participants will explore the state of our coastal wetlands in the face of a rapidly changing climate, discuss current topics related to coastal wetlands management, and provide input on the restoration of high-priority sites in the Western Lake Erie Basin.

Thank you to the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Wildlife Conservation Society, and our other sponsors for making this event possible.

Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center Map

Second Floor Map



Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, September 18

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Registration Open

Thursday, September 18

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration & Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Morning Presentations
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch and Presentations
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Field Trips
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Symposium Group Dinner

Friday, September 19

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Registration & Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Morning Presentations
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Track 1 Breakouts
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Track 2 Breakouts
5:00 p.m. Closing Remarks

Join the Wetlands Conversation!

Tweet at us

#greatlakeswetlands

On Twitter: @Audubon_GL

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Speaker List

Mary Mertz

Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources



Mary Mertz took over as Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) earlier this year after being appointed by Governor Mike DeWine. She previously served as Ohio's first Assistant Attorney General and has extensive legal experience in both the public and private sectors. An avid sailor and outdoors enthusiast, Mertz is passionate about preserving and protecting Ohio's natural wonders.

The Honorable Wade Kapszukiewicz

Mayor of the City of Toledo

Thursday Plenary Speakers

Nat Miller - Director of Conservation and Acting Executive Director, Audubon Great Lakes

Christie Deloria - Midwest Region Coastal Program Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Eric Ellis - Project Manager, Great Lakes Commission

The Honorable Wade Kapszukiewicz - Mayor of the City of Toledo

Drew Gronewold - Associate Professor, University of Michigan

Dennis Albert - Assistant Professor, Oregon State University

Matthew Cooper - Assistant Professor, Northland College

Chad Wilsey - Interim Chief Scientist & VP of Conservation Science, National Audubon Society

Greg Mayne - Great Lakes Program Officer, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Daniel Rokitnicki-Wojcik - Landscape Assessment Officer, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Friday Plenary Speakers

Jason Hill - Director of Conservation Programs, Ducks Unlimited

Michelle Selzer - Lake Coordinator, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Mary Mertz - Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Scudder Mackey - Chief, Office of Coastal Management, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Dave Sherman - Wetland Habitat Coordinator, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Kristi Arend - Research Coordinator/ Fisheries Biologist, Old Woman Creek, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

T. Kevin O'Donnell - Physical Scientist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Tony Friona - Engineer Research and Development Center Liaison to the Great Lakes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Full Symposium Schedule

Wednesday, September 18

Time		Location
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	Prefunction Area

Thursday, September 19

Time		Location
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Exhibitor, Poster Setup and Breakfast	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Registration and Information Desk Open	Prefunction Area
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Plenary Session	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Welcome: The Honorable Mayor Kapszukiewicz Mayor of the City of Toledo	
8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Hydrology of the Great Lakes - Drew Gronewold	
9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Ecology of the Great Lakes - Dennis Albert	
9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program Results - Matthew Cooper and Don Uzarski	
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	15-minute break	
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Climate Change and Birds in the Great Lakes - Chad Wilsey	
11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Assessing and Enhancing the Resilience of Coastal Wetlands - Greg Mayne and Daniel Rokitnicki-Wojcik	
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and Lightning Round Presentations - Society of Wetland Scientists	
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Field Trips to Wetland Sites	Hotel Lobby
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	1 Hour Break	
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	BBQ Dinner	Maumee Bay Event Tent

Full Symposium Schedule

Friday, September 20

Time		Location
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Registration and Information Desk Open	Prefunction Area
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
7:15 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Society of Wetland Scientists North Central Chapter Meeting	Mainsail
8:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	Plenary Session	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	Field Trip Reflections - Jason Hill	
8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Great Lakes Coastal Assembly & Blue Accounting: Tracking Progress toward Coastal Wetland Restoration Goals in the Great Lakes Basin - Michelle Selzer	
9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Collaboration Panel: Aligning Targets for Tracking Progress Across State and International Boundaries - Moderator: Eric Ellis	
9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	15 Minute Break	
10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.	Launch of H2Ohio - Mary Mertz, Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources	
10:20 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	Implementation of a Coastal Wetland Landscape Conservation Design in Ohio - Scudder Mackey	
10:50 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.	Stakeholder Connections to Ohio's Coastal Wetlands - Dave Sherman	
11:10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Coastal Wetland Functionalist with Respect to Nutrient Reduction - Kristi Arend	
11:30 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	Great Lakes Restoration Action Plan III - Kevin O'Donnell	
11:50 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	Engineering with Nature on the Great Lakes Tony Friona	
12:10 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	20 Minute Break	
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Track Breakouts Part 1	White Egret & Tern
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	30 Minute Snack Break	Bald Eagle & Blue Heron
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Track Breakouts Part 2	White Egret & Tern

Track Breakout Schedule

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Track Breakouts

White Egret Track Part 1: Landscape Conservation - From Design to Action

Landscape Conservation Design for Saginaw Bay - Western Lake Erie

Christie Deloria, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Saginaw Bay to Western Lake Erie -Ecosystem Service Valuation and Mapping

Lou Nadeau, Eastern Research Group

St. Clair - Detroit River System Initiative's Coastal Wetlands Priority Objective Assessment

Michelle Selzer, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Coastal Wetland Restoration Assessment

Kurt Kowalski, U.S. Geological Survey

Conservation Opportunities on Great Lakes Islands

Matt Preisser, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Tern Track Part 1: Conservation Addressing System Change

Changing Paradigm in Coastal Wetland Bird Conservation

Greg Soulliere, Upper Mississippi / Great Lakes Joint Venture

Spatial Priorities for Great Lakes Marsh Bird Conservation

Nicole Mitchel, National Audubon Society

Waterbird Use in Coastal Wetlands

John Simpson and Brendan Shirkley, Winous Point

Migratory Stopover Habitat in Coastal Areas

Mark Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory

Black Tern Conservation in the Great Lakes

Stephanie Beilke, Audubon Great Lakes

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Track Breakouts

White Egret Track Part 2: Watershed Improvements for Water, People and Wildlife

Recruitment Strategies to Diversify your Stewardship Community

Teri Valenzuela, Audubon Great Lakes

Benefits, Tradeoffs, and Challenges of Wetland Connectivity

Matt Kovach, The Nature Conservancy

Great Lakes Wildlife Restoration Funds

Jeff Finn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Collaborating with Communities on Coastal Planning and Restoration Efforts

Alicia Beattie, Chargin Watershed Partners

Engaging Diverse Communities in Natural Resources

Refugio Mariscal, Audubon Great Lakes

Tern Track Part 2: Restoration Best Practices

The Great Black Swamp Restoration

Christina Kuchle, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Best Management Practices for Working with and Restoring Reptile and Amphibian Habitat in Coastal Wetlands

Dave Misfund, Herpetological Resource Management

Sault Tribe's Collaborative Approach to Invasive Species Management in the St. Marys River

Dani Fegan, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Natural Resources Department

Mentor Marsh: History, Tragedy, Recovery

David Kriska, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Living Shoreline Solutions

Scott Bartkowski, Living Shoreline Solutions

Field Trip Information

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Field Trip 1 - Penn 7 Wetland Site, Maumee Bay River

Located on the Maumee River in the City of Toledo, the Penn 7 site is a former confined disposal facility now being improved to provide coastal wetland habitat. Join to discuss urban wetland restoration, beneficial use of dredged sediment, and specific wetland restoration design options to ensure long term healthy habitat for fish and other wildlife communities.

Field Trip 2 - Howard Marsh Habitat Restoration

Howard Marsh is one of the largest coastal wetland restoration projects on the Great Lakes. Join to examine strategies and partnerships with local communities effective in protecting shoreline wildlife. This trip will also include an option to extend for a birding opportunity.

Field Trip 3 - Kitty Todd and Irwin Prairie Nature Preserve

From a farm field to wet prairie, the 1,000-acre restoration project is part of 1,300 acres of extensive wetland habitat. Join to discuss the unique approaches to wetland restoration such as wetland and vernal pool habitats to benefit amphibians and reptiles, in addition to facing challenges of wetland restoration adjacent to residential and industry development.

Field Trip 4 - Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge **Field Trip Full**

Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this 10,296 acre site is made up of wetland, forest, shrubland, grassland and sedge habitat. Join to discuss the high-water management best practices; management of diked systems; data on bird, vegetation, and aquatic communities; and diversity of wetland types and management scenarios.

Field Trip 5 - Erie Marsh Preserve

A 956-acre project, Erie Marsh encompasses a series of impoundments that can be managed for a diverse matrix of wetland types. These include mud flats, emergent marsh, and open water fish habitat. In 2014, a new fish passage structure was opened, establishing a hydrologic connection to Lake Erie after 60 years of separation. Join to discuss the tracking and monitoring of fish and herpetofauna species and the improvement of habitat and biodiversity at the site.

Title Sponsors



Wildlife Conservation Society



DORIS DUKE
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Climate Adaptation Fund

The Wildlife Conservation Society's Climate Adaptation Fund provides grant awards to conservation non-profits across the United States to catalyze innovative, science-driven projects responding to the impacts of climate change on wildlife and people.

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and child well-being, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties.



Audubon | GREAT LAKES

A regional office of the National Audubon Society, Audubon Great Lakes manages conservation work throughout the region to protect and improve habitat critical for birds during their migration and nesting cycles. Audubon Great Lakes builds networks of volunteers and advocates for the natural environment. Within the National Audubon Society's network, Audubon Great Lakes is viewed as a leader in building communities of citizen scientists and conservationists that take the lead in advocating for and managing the ecosystems that birds need to thrive.

Platinum Sponsor



Blue Accounting

People, agencies and businesses across two countries, eight states and two provinces are working to protect, restore and sustainably use the Great Lakes. To be efficient and effective, regional decision-makers need to collaborate to identify shared goals, coordinate their actions and report collectively on progress. Blue Accounting provides a framework for solving these challenges of regional collaboration, coordination and accountability. We're proud to support the Great Lakes Coastal Assembly in developing a holistic strategy for managing coastal wetlands.

Gold Sponsors



Ducks Unlimited is a non-profit conservation organization supported by a volunteer and member base made up of waterfowlers and other conservation enthusiasts. Our conservation programs consist of direct habitat conservation, public policy efforts, and sound science that drive our singleness of purpose to conserve, restore and manage wetlands and associated upland habitat for North America's waterfowl.



The Great Lakes Commission is an interstate compact agency established under state and U.S. federal law and dedicated to promoting a strong economy, healthy environment and high quality of life for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region and its residents. The Commission consists of governors' appointees, state legislators, and agency officials from its eight member states. Associate membership for Ontario and Québec was established through the signing of a "Declaration of Partnership."

Gold Sponsors



ODNR's Old Woman Creek National Estuary Research Reserve at the DeWine Center for Coastal Wetland Studies represents a partnership between the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and the state of Ohio. Its mission is to cultivate knowledge and actions that benefit Great Lakes coastal ecosystems through research, training, and education

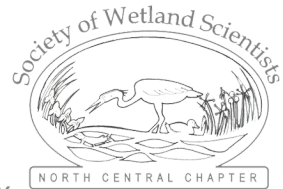


ODNR's Ohio Coastal Management Program implements a networked approach to protect and restore coastal resources along Ohio's 312-mile coast. These efforts focus on the management of sand resources, wetland creation, habitat restoration, water quality, community planning, public access, and other initiatives through a variety of partnerships.

Silver Sponsors



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
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Additional Support



Thank You for Attending

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A special thanks goes out to the Planning Committee for helping coordinate the inaugural symposium

Committee Co-Chairs:

Nat Miller, Acting Executive Director and Director of Conservation, Upper Mississippi Flyway, Audubon Great Lakes
Eric Ellis, Project Manager, Great Lakes Commission

Committee Members:

John Coluccy, Director of Conservation Planning, Ducks Unlimited
Christie Deloria, Coastal Program Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jillian Estrada, Habitat Restoration Program Specialist, Great Lakes Commission
Lynn Garrity, Lake Erie Program Administrator, Ohio Lake Erie Commission
Cherie Hagen, Wetland Team Leader, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Christina Hargiss, President, North Central Chapter of Society of Wetland Scientists
Jason Hill, Director of Conservation Programs, Ducks Unlimited
Janice Kerns, Ph.D., Research Unit Supervisor, Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Old Women Creek National Estuary Research Reserve
Chris May, Director of Protecting Land and Water, The Nature Conservancy
T. Kevin O'Donnell, Ph.D., Great Lakes National Program Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Doug Pearsall, Senior Conservation Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
Michelle Selzer, Lake Coordinator, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
Greg Soulliere, Regional Science Coordinator, Upper Mississippi River / Great Lakes Joint Venture
Cindy Sherwood, Project Manager, Delaney Meeting and Event Management
Marnie Urso, Policy Director, Audubon Great Lakes
Izabela Grobelna, Chapter Network Associate, Audubon Great Lakes
Daniel Wear, Development Associate, National Audubon Society

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