Hosted By

AUDUBON GREAT LAKES

THE GREAT LAKES COASTAL ASSEMBLY

GREAT LAKES COMMISSION
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
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
On Facebook: @AudubonGreatLakes
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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>Prefunction Area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday, September 19**

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

**Friday, September 20**

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

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 an monitoring of fish and herpetofauna species and the improvement of habitat and biodiversity at the site.
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.

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.
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.

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

Additional Support
Thank You for Attending

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

Join the Wetlands Conversation!
Tweet at us
#greatlakeswetlands
On Twitter: @Audubon_GL
On Facebook: @AudubonGreatLakes