



VALUATION OF THE GREAT LAKES FISHERIES AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM SERVICES VIRTUAL WORKSHOP - AGENDA

April 12-14, 2021

Workshop Context and Purpose

Great Lakes commercial and recreational fisheries are socially, culturally, and economically significant components of the region. The economic value of these fisheries has been estimated to be more than \$7 billion annually. However, there is a perception that Great Lakes' fisheries are undervalued and underappreciated by key stakeholders. Many also believe that there is a lack of fundamental data and knowledge on how these fisheries impact peoples' lives and livelihoods. Furthermore, there is a lack of appreciation for the value of broader ecosystem services provided by fish and different types of aquatic habitat. These natural systems are essential for maintaining water quality, shoreline protection, biodiversity and many other factors that influence the overall health of the Great Lakes and the quality of life of those that depend on them for economic, social, cultural, and recreational benefits. The lack of appreciation for these resources can partly be seen by declining budgets of state, provincial and federal fisheries management programs, and the loss of aquatic habitat throughout the Great Lakes basin.

The body of research that contributes to comprehensive socio-economic assessments of Great Lakes fisheries and aquatic ecosystem services is sparse, even if we look back 30 years or more. The research that has been done has focused on specific restoration activities, the impact of invasive species, changes in nutrient inputs, recreational fishing activities and potential changes in fishery management strategies. However, there has been:

- No synthesis of these studies to identify gaps,
- No proactive effort to prioritize the research and data needed to quantify various dimensions of Great Lakes fisheries more accurately, and
- Minimal research on how to improve the ability to communicate this information more effectively to key audiences.

To better understand the value and appreciation of Great Lakes fisheries, a coordinated and collaborative research effort focused on filling the most critical information gaps on the socio-economic value of these fisheries is needed. Such research will help shape a more accurate, complete and compelling narrative about how these fisheries relate to the region's ecology, communities, and people's lives and livelihoods.



WORKSHOP PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together experts to help identify the major gaps in knowledge about socio-cultural factors and values that are critical for improving understanding of socio-economic impacts of Great Lakes fisheries and Great Lakes aquatic ecosystems, as well as to identify the research methods needed to fill these gaps.

The workshop will take a holistic approach by considering the core values and concerns of key stakeholders as well as involving experts in fisheries and aquatic ecosystem services valuation in such discussions. Specifically, the workshop objectives are to:

- Identify core values and concerns of key stakeholders
- Align on a general framework for assessing gaps and priorities in socio-economic research
- Align on socio-economic research gaps and priorities
- Develop a common understanding of the appropriate research methods for filling those gaps
- Align on immediate and long-term actions for most effectively addressing research gaps and priorities



WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The outcomes of this workshop will bring attention among legislators/policy makers, funding agencies, researchers, resource managers and other stakeholders to the need for research to fill key research gaps. Specifically, the workshop outcomes will generate:

- A revised literature review and framework for assessing socio-economic research gaps
- A prioritization of the research areas that should be funded
- Identified best methodological practices for filling these gaps and practical next steps to fill research gaps

Together, this information will enhance understanding of the social and economic values of fisheries and the ecosystems in which they exist, thereby enhancing ecosystem management and informing public and private investments.



WORKSHOP PREPARATION

To prepare for this session, participants are invited to reflect on the discussion prompts in the agenda presented below.

Additional resources are available through the workshop website (<https://greatlakesworkshop.wixsite.com/valuation>) and all participants are invited to spend a bit of time in advance reviewing this material.



NEED ASSISTANCE?

- If you have any questions about the workshop, its objectives or purpose, or the registration process, please contact the Stratos team via email: Guy Tenkouano (cc: Isha Mistry) at gtenkouano@stratos-sts.com (cc: imistry@stratos-sts.com).

This workshop is brought to you through a collaborative effort, with support from many organizations including: Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and Michigan Sea Grant, as well as in-kind contributions provided by the International Joint Commission (IJC), University of Guelph, Council of Great Lakes Region, and Michigan Tech University.

DAY 1: MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021 (12:00 – 4:00 PM)

Time (ET)	Activity
11:50 am – 12:00 pm	<p>Logging in</p> <p><i>Participants may sign in as early as 11:50am to join the workshop. A few minutes may be required to allow for downloading the Zoom application. Stratos will be on hand during this time in case you encounter any technical difficulties. Please do not hesitate to contact Stratos directly at gtenkouano@stratos-sts.com or 819-209-0309 for technical support.</i></p>
Session 1: Welcome and Introduction	
12:00 – 12:15 pm	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks • Review of meeting agenda and objectives • Participant orientation and introductions
Session 2: Setting the Stage and Great Lakes Context	
12:15 pm – 12:45 pm	<p>Incorporating the Value of Ecosystems into Natural Resource Decisions</p> <p><i>Presenter: Lydia Olander, Duke University</i></p>
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm	<p>Value of the Great Lakes from Local Coastal Community and Indigenous Perspectives</p> <p><i>Presenters: Amanda Holmes, Fishtown Preservation Society Seth Moore, 1854 Treaty Authority Matt Demille, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters</i></p>
1:45 pm – 2:15 pm	<p>Current State of Knowledge, Gaps, and Challenges in Valuation of Great Lakes Fisheries</p> <p><i>Presenter: William (Bill) Taylor, Michigan State University</i></p>
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	BREAK
2:25 pm – 3:45 pm	Panel Discussion with Session 2 Presenters
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Wrap up and Day 2 Agenda Overview

DAY 2: TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 (8:45 – 3:45 PM)

Time (ET)	Activity
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Sign-in / Small group networking / Coffee connections
9:00 am – 9:15 am	Welcome, Recap of Day 1 and Overview of Day 2
Session 3: Preparing to Advance the Conversation	
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Summary of Pre-Workshop Survey and Annotated Bibliography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results from pre-workshop survey, literature review and gap analysis • Plenary discussion
10:15 am – 10:20 am	SHORT BREAK
Session 4: Identifying Research Gaps and Priorities Breakout Group Discussions	
10:20 am – 11:30 am	Identification of Socio-economic Research Gaps and Priorities: Concurrent Breakout Discussions and Reporting Back <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group discussion to help identify and prioritize audiences, messages, data and research gaps / research questions
Session 5: Socio-economic Research Methods	
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Socio-economic Research Methods <i>Presenter:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Valuation Methods: Vic Adamowicz, University of Alberta
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	LUNCH BREAK
12:45 pm – 1:15 pm	Socio-economic Research Methods (continued) <i>Presenter:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociocultural/Ecosystem Service Valuation Methods: Bonnie Keeler, University of Minnesota
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm	Case Studies and Practical Tools <i>Presenters:</i> Rob Southwick , Southwick and Associates Patrick Lloyd-Smith , University of Saskatchewan Lisa Colburn , National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	BREAK
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Panel Discussion with Session 5 Presenters
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Wrap up and Review of Day 3

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 (8:45AM – 12:00PM)

Time ET	Activity
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Sign-in / Small group networking / Coffee connections
9:00 am – 9:05 am	Welcome, Overview and Recap of Days 1 and 2
9:05 am – 9:45 am	<p>Opening Remarks <i>Presenters:</i> Cameron Davis, VP at GEI Consultants; Commissioner of the Chicago Metropolitan Water Reclamation Project</p> <p>Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre; Co-Chair of Great Lakes Task Force</p>
<p>Session 6: Identifying Next Steps and Recommendations Breakout Group Discussions</p>	
9:45 am – 10:45 am (including a short break)	<p>Create Set of Recommendations for Short- and Long-term Next Steps: Concurrent Breakout Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussion on initial recommendations for how to assist the Great Lakes fisheries research and management community to come together to increase investment in and collaborate around addressing the highest priority socio-economic research gaps for the Great Lakes to increase the understanding and ability to measure and communicate the value of Great Lakes fisheries and aquatic ecosystem services to key audiences
10:45 am – 11:15 am	Breakout Group Reporting Back and Plenary Synthesis
<p>Session 7: Aligning on Priority Recommendations</p>	
11:15 am – 11:45 am	Alignment and Plenary Discussion on Priority Recommendations
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	Wrap Up and Closing Remarks