Wisconsin’s agencies and organizations received almost $30 million in grants for the first year of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – a federal basin-wide effort to restore and protect the Great Lakes.

A Vital Economic Asset
The Great Lakes have had profound effects on our environment, culture, and quality of life. They have fueled our economic growth in the past and – if properly restored and protected – will help us revitalize our economy in the future.

Lake Michigan and Lake Superior provide:
- Sport fishing opportunities for more than 250,000 anglers, bringing $252 million to lakeshore communities annually.
- The foundation for a $3 billion tourism industry in lakeshore counties.
- Water vital for manufacturing.
- Harbors and marinas that support a $9.4 billion per year recreational boating industry.
- A maritime transportation network linking the heartland to markets throughout the world. (More than $7 billion worth of cargo passes through Wisconsin’s ports annually.)

Wisconsin’s Plan
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) – together with local communities, tribes, businesses, industry, and non-governmental organizations – developed the Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy. The Strategy details Wisconsin’s plans for the protection and restoration of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. Issues outlined in the Strategy parallel the Council of Great Lakes Governors’ Priorities for the Great Lakes. GLRI funds will help Wisconsin address these priorities on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

Economic Benefits of Restoration
Restoring the Great Lakes will bring great benefits to our state. Work done under the GLRI will create jobs, stimulate economic development, and improve freshwater resources and shoreline communities. A study conducted by the Brookings Institution found that fully implementing the regional collaboration strategy will generate $80-$100 billion in short and long term benefits, including:
- $6.5-$11.8 billion in benefits from tourism, fishing and recreation.
- $50-$125 million in reduced costs to municipalities.
- $12-$19 billion in increased property values in degraded shoreline areas.

Great Expectations
Thanks to the hard work and dedication of hundreds of people across the state, a wide array of Great Lakes projects are now under way. These important projects will remove barriers to fish spawning areas, restore beneficial uses in Wisconsin’s five Areas of Concern, reduce harmful algal blooms, make beaches safer, restore and protect critical habitat, reduce contamination from non-point sources, address emerging contaminants of concern, monitor the health of the Great Lakes and their tributaries, and help people learn about these priceless resources and the issues they face.

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is a great down payment on a truly historic effort. Through it, we can work together to protect and restore the most significant fresh water resource on Earth – our Great Lakes!
## Wisconsin Projects for 2010-2011

### Toxics and Areas of Concern - 8 projects
1. Sheboygan AOC Pathway to Delisting Habitat BUI's Survey and Assessment; WDNR; $202,000.
2. Environmental Capping of Renard Island; Brown County Port and Solid Waste Department; $2 M.
3. Enhancing Wisconsin’s Fish Advisory Program: Emerging Chemicals, Angler Awareness, Exposure, Health Status, Outreach; WI Department of Health $1.8 M.
4. Monitoring to Address 9 of 11 BIs - Milwaukee Estuary AOC; Ozaukee County; $491,000.
5. Explore and Restore: Catalyzing Delisting via Advisory Teams; UW-Extension; $836,000.
6. NWRPC Toxic Waste Collection, Education and Mapping Project; Northwest Regional Planning Commission; $1 million.
7. Mercury Testing & Updating Tribal Walleye Consumption Advice; Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission; $458,000.
8. Contaminants of Emerging Concern Product Stewardship Initiative; UW-Extension, Milwaukee; $808,000.

### Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration - 15 projects
1. Barrens Habitat Restoration for Endangered /Threatened Species in Fox River Watershed; WDNR; $109,000.
2. Ashland/Chequamegon Bay Shoreland Restoration Project; WDNR; $222,000.
3. Cat Island Chain Restoration Project; Brown County; $1.5 M.
4. West Shore of Green Bay Northern Pike Habitat Project; Brown County Land and Water Conservation Department; $396,000.
5. HIPEE, Habitat Improvement Project in the Estuary Environment in the Milwaukee River AOC; Groundwork Milwaukee; $140,000.
6. Kinnickinnic River Habitat Restoration Project; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $1.6 M.
7. Menomonee River Area of Concern Fish Passage; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $1.1 M.
8. West Shore of Green Bay Northern Pike Habitat Project; Oconto County Land Conservation Division; $489,000.
9. Enhancing Ecologic Productivity of Milwaukee Estuary AOC Watersheds; Ozaukee County; $1.5 M.
10. Clearing a Path: Revitalizing Lake Michigan's Sturgeon; River Alliance of Wisconsin, Inc.; $1.5 M.
11. Integrated Stream & Wetland Restoration: Lower Green Bay-Fox River AOC; The Nature Conservancy; $1.3 M.
12. Habitat Protection and Restoration of the Milwaukee River Estuary AOC; Urban Ecology Center; $953,000.
13. Winigar Pond Invasive Species Removal at the Mouth of the Peshtigo River; Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; $658,000.
14. Pike River Wetland and Fish Habitat Restoration; Village of Mount Pleasant; $200,000.
15. Chequamegon Bay Area Partnership Habitat Restoration Project; Northland College; $251,000.

### Invasive Species - 4 projects
1. Remove Phragmites & Lyme Grass From WI Lake Michigan; WDNR; $806,000.
2. WI Partnerships for Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention – Prevention, Education and Monitoring; WDNR; $998,000.
3. Risk Assessment of Invasive Species to Tribal Resources; Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission; $142,000.
4. Development of Optics to Quantify Organisms in Ballast Water; UW-Milwaukee Great Lakes Water Institute; $379,000.

### Nearshore Health and Non-Point Source – 20 projects
1. Expanded Beach "Nowcast" Monitoring Across WI; WDNR; $250,000.
2. Lake Michigan Sanitary Beach Surveys in Northeast Wisconsin; Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission; $772,000.
3. Baird Creek Riparian Protection Project; Brown County Land and Water Conservation Department; $377,000.
4. Implementation of PMPs at Beaches to Improve Water Quality; Door County Soil and Water Conservation Department; $250,000.
5. Egg Harbor Beach and Boat Trailer Parking Lot Improvements; Village of Egg Harbor; $275,000.
6. Develop Multiple TMDLs for the Milwaukee Estuary AOC; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $226,000.
7. Develop Multiple TMDLs for the Milwaukee River Watershed; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $350,000.
8. Develop Multiple TMDLs for the Menomonee River Watershed; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $170,000.
9. Develop Multiple TMDLS for the Kinnickinnic River Watershed; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $133,000.
10. Chequamegon Bay Area Partnership Beach Sanitary Surveys Project; Northland College; $192,000.
11. Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Septic System Project; Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa; $366,000.
12. Shorewood Atwater Beach - Sewage Contamination Prevention; Village of Shorewood; $250,000.
13. Sanitary Surveys of High Risk WI Beaches:Southern WI (1); UW-Oshkosh; $250,000.
14. Sanitary Surveys of High Risk WI Beaches:Southern WI (2); UW-Oshkosh; $250,000.
16. Pennoyer Beach Outfall Infiltration Basin; City of Kenosha; $300,000.
17. Installation of Barnyard Runoff Controls in Manitowoc County; Manitowoc County; $525,000.
18. Water Quality Subsurface Gravel Wetland; Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District; $200,000.
19. Establishment of Regional Rapid Method Testing Facilities in WI; UW-Oshkosh; $250,000.
20. Development of a Beach Safety Outreach Program for WI; Wisconsin Department of Health; $300,000.

### Evaluation, Monitoring and Partnerships – 4 projects
1. Lake Superior Binational Forum LaMP Implementation and Outreach; Lake Superior Binational Forum; $145,000.
2. Great Lakes Earth Partnership; UW Board of Regents/UW Arboretum; $867,000.
3. Innovations to Improve Stormwater Treatment; UW-Madison; $412,000.
4. Implementing WI DNR’s Lake Superior Nearshore Monitoring Plan; UW-Superior, Lake Superior Research Institute; $972,000.

### Grand Total: 51 projects funded through EPA GLNPO: $29.9 M.

* An additional 14 projects received approximately $1.2 million in funding from other federal agencies (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).