



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Kristy Meyer
(614) 487-7506 (office)
(614) 638-8948 (cell)
Kristy@TheOEC.org

MEDIA ADVISORY

Teleconference on new government report that offers an ominous forecast for the spread of invasive aquatic species in the Great Lakes

- All of Lake Erie and the shallow water areas of the other four Great Lakes are most vulnerable to invasion by 14 modeled non-indigenous species.
- The Great Lakes ports at greatest risk for invasion by the 14 modeled species from ballast water discharges are Toledo, Ashtabula and Sandusky, OH; Chicago, IL; Gary, IN; Duluth, MN; and Milwaukee and Superior, WI.
- Since early detection is critical in managing for non-indigenous species, these results should help focus monitoring activities on particular species at the most vulnerable Great Lakes ports.
- Renewed call for federal ballast water legislation and what that legislation should look like.

This is yet another wake up call for the urgent need for more immediate and protective action by Federal and State agencies.

Teleconference Details

- WHO:** Kristy Meyer, Director of Agricultural and Clean Water Programs, Ohio Environmental Council
Tom Johengen, Research Scientist for the University of Michigan & NOAA ((734) 741-2203 or johengen@umich.edu)
Rick Graham, President of the Ohio Division of Izaak Walton League of America ((419)465-2283 or rick.graham@ohiostatebuckeyes.com)
- WHAT:** Special briefing for reporters, including a review of the report's findings and a renewed call for action, detailing specific policy recommendations
- WHEN:** 11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 29, 2009
- WHERE/HOW:** Call (847) 944-7661 Passcode: 26544956
- RSVP:** Please RSVP to Kristy@theOEC.org

The mission of the Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) is to secure healthy air, land, and water for all who call Ohio home. The OEC is Ohio's leading advocate for fresh air, clean water, and sustainable land use. The OEC has a 40-year history of innovation, pragmatism, and success. Using legislative initiatives, legal action, scientific principles, and statewide partnerships, the OEC secures a healthier environment for Ohio's families and communities. For more information, visit www.theOEC.org.