

Developing strategies for aquatic invasive species early detection in the Great Lakes

Anett Trebitz

Webinar presented July 15, 2013 originating in Chicago, IL

The discussion will be hosted and moderated by Olga Lyandres, PhD, Research Manager at the Alliance for the Great Lakes, a regional nonprofit dedicated to protecting the Great Lakes. The discussion will focus on prevention, early detection, and management strategies for invasive species in the Laurentian Great Lakes.

The roundtable is intended to stimulate collaboration and provide a forum to share ideas about protecting the Great Lakes ecosystems from potential invaders. Hear overviews of several research projects, then join the dialogue about the state of the science, research gaps and potential solutions to the problem of invasive species in ballast water

As part of a webinar round-table discussion of invasive species and ballast water research, Dr. Trebitz will be giving a short overview of the research that she and co-PIs Jack Kelly, Joel Hoffman, and Greg Peterson are conducting in this area. Key findings from the 2005-2007 sampling effort in the invasion-prone Duluth/Superior harbor are that 1) detecting NIS while they are still rare is inherently resource intensive; 2) designs need spatial coverage with variety of habitats and sampling gear, 3) complete counts and taxonomy are needed to fully evaluate performance, 4) optimizing sampling design requires system-specific knowledge, and 5) as-yet undetected NIS are likely out there because most systems have not been examined intensively. These findings are being validated and extended to additional taxonomic groups and additional systems via ongoing research