

Lake Michigan Forum Bi-Weekly News



1. Next Forum Conference Call

The LM Forum will have a conference call on Tuesday, January 15 at 1 pm CST (2 pm EST). To call in, dial (303) 664-6026 and enter room #5516693.

2. Next Forum Meeting

The next Lake Michigan Forum meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois on Monday, February 11 and Tuesday, February 12th. The meeting will start in the afternoon on the 11th and continue into the 12th. Agenda details and materials will be provided at a later date.

3. Comment on the LaMP Revision

There is still time to make comments on the LaMP revisions. The EPA would like additional input on the sustainability and beach chapters, plus input on whether certain chapters should be expanded and contracted and where forum members would like to see additional emphasis. The LaMP revisions are released on Earth Day in April, so your opportunity to comment on the revisions is ending.

4. News and Notes from around the Basin

Further water level decline predicted—The Army Corps of Engineers office in Detroit has predicted that water levels in Lake Michigan could decline six inches more than the normal seasonal decline this winter because of decreased precipitation and increased evaporation. Source: Leelanau Enterprise (12/19)

Loophole may let in more lake invaders—A loophole in proposed federal ballast water legislation, designed to protect the Great Lakes from invasive species, could sink the proposal, leaving the door open to continued invasions. Source: The Grand Rapids Press (12/16)

NOAA lauds Great Lakes' lab growth—Groundbreaking will be held today for a facility that will double the size of NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich. Source: The Ann Arbor News (12/17)

COMMENTARY: Then again, perhaps BP's refinery plans aren't so bad—According to an independent analysis, BP's plan for a \$3.6 billion upgrade of its northwest Indiana refinery will not muck up Lake Michigan. Source: Chicago Tribune (12/17)

Dunes battle pits millionaire, preservationists—Environmentalists are fighting plans by the billionaire co-owner of the NBA's Seattle SuperSonics to build a neighborhood in undeveloped dunes near the resort village of Saugatuck on Lake Michigan. Source: The Grand Rapids Press (12/16)

Don't forget to visit the website for more information:

www.lkmichiganforum.org

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