

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 26, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs
127 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Judd Gregg
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations
and Related Programs
127 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Inouye, Vice Chairman Cochran, Chairman Leahy, and Ranking Member Gregg:

As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2011 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we respectfully submit the following appropriations requests, as described below.

Great Lakes Fishery Commission -- \$22.2 million Ann Arbor, MI

We request \$22.2 million for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission for sea lamprey control throughout the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes fisheries are worth over \$7 billion to our region in addition to a recreational boating industry valued at \$16 billion. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is responsible for maximizing the sustained productivity of fish stocks in the region. Additional funding in Fiscal Year 2011 is needed in order for the Commission to simply achieve its core mission under the Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries. The money would principally fund sea lamprey non-chemical alternative control development and implementation, as well as the assessment and treatment of in-lake larval lamprey populations.

International Joint Commission -- \$8.5 million Washington, D.C.

We request \$8.5 million for the International Joint Commission (IJC) so that the IJC may continue work on the Upper Great Lakes study to evaluate the impacts of water levels and flow regulation in the Upper Great Lakes. This funding will also provide for additional modeling, an unexpected cost, based on changing water levels which were not planned for when the study began. The IJC helps the U.S. and Canadian governments manage the waters that lie along, or flow across, the border between the United States and Canada. The Upper Great Lakes study and additional modeling will address topics such as determining the factors that affect water levels and flows, developing and testing potential new regulation plans, and assessing the impacts of these potential plans on the ecosystem and human interests.

We appreciate your consideration of these requests. If you have any questions about these requests, please do not hesitate to contact either of us, or have your staff contact Joy Mulinex (Sen. Levin) at 224-1211 or Patricia Readinger (Sen. Stabenow) at 202-224-4822.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



Carl Levin
United States Senator

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested, consistent with the requirement of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin

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Debbie Stabenow