

## GAO Report on Great Lakes

Government Accountability Office, *Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Improved Data Collection and Reporting Would Enhance Oversight*, Report to the Chairman, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives, GAO-15-526, June 2015.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-526>

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) seeks to address issues such as water quality contamination and nonnative, or “invasive,” species that threaten the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. A Task Force of 11 federal agencies, chaired by the EPA Administrator, oversees the GLRI. Task Force agencies conduct work themselves or through agreements with nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, or other entities.

Among other things, GAO recommended in its draft report that EPA determine if it should continue using the Great Lakes Accountability System (GLAS) or acquire a different system and ensure that the agency develops guidance for entering data and establishes data quality control activities. EPA took action to address these recommendations as GAO completed its work. GAO reviewed the actions taken and determined that the recommendations had been addressed. As a result, GAO removed the recommendations.