

## **GLOS Budget Planning and Risk Assessment SUPPLEMENT**

GLOS is primarily funded through the NOAA-IOOS cooperative agreement. A modest amount is also collected through membership dues as outlined in the Blueprint. The funding approach is guided by the principles and planning process outlined in the Blueprint and the related scope of work described in GLOS's proposal to IOOS. Historically, GLOS has received short-term grant funding through NOAA-ROP, NOAA-Coastal Storms, and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding programs. None of these programs are anticipated to provide funding to GLOS in the near future, but GLOS will continue to pursue other funding opportunities as appropriate. The GLOS governing board oversees all funding priorities and decisions.

GLOS follows a business model that is focused on coordinating and managing the end-to-end observing network by passing through as much funding as possible out to the network itself and serving as a broker to strategically leverage the IOOS funding with investments from the local community in ways that address data and information needs related to Great Lakes management and policy making. We do have a desire to mature and formalize this model over the next five years, to more specifically identify practical ways of diversifying our revenue sources; mitigating impacts from funding constraints; and strategically expanding, sustaining, and directing the Great Lakes' observing network towards addressing existing and emerging data and information needs in the Great Lakes region.

In the interim, as that business model matures, GLOS follows the principles described in the Blueprint, page 4, section 1.3, under Strategy to Sustain and Enhance including prioritizing support of activities according to criteria that considers cost sustainability and funding source availability (Blueprint, Figure 1, pg. 5). These concepts and strategies for activity focus and prioritization serve as guiding principles for decision making in the face of funding constraints.

The EA Design Report is also used as a guide to assess funding constraints and associated risks to the observing system. It details the design of the GLOS enterprise architecture, including implementation plans that give a range of funding scenarios and associated funding distributions in Section 9.1, Appendix B: GLOS EA Design Trade Studies; Appendix D: GLOS EA Design Implementation Plan. The Trade Studies appendix assesses the feasibility, performance, affordability, risk, and schedule for alternative representative designs of subareas of the enterprise. The trade studies provide a tool to support selection of a preferred design, including its architecture, operation, and applications. The design document details a series of design drivers that help guide decision making (e.g., Funding flexibility, Financial opportunity, Amenable to opportunistic funding, Amenable to steady funding). The design balances user needs, the states of Great Lakes science, modeling, and observation technology, DMAC needs and capabilities, operation and maintenance, risk assessment and mitigation, as well as business options, including capital and operational life-cycle costs and schedules for construction and implementation risk assessment ([EA report summary, pg. 11](#)).