



U.S. Coast Guard Great Lakes Pilotage Program

Harbor Safety Committee Conference

27 August 2014



Program Mission



- Ensure safe, reliable and efficient pilotage service to foreign trade vessels navigating the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River and
- Establish fair and reasonable rates pilots may charge for their services giving due consideration to the public interest.



Background

- All US Pilotage is Regulated by the State, except
- Great Lakes Pilotage Act of 1960 requires USCG oversight as per
 - 46 USC 9301 - 9308
 - 46 CFR 401 - 404



Background (cont'd)

- Shared Responsibility with Canada
 - Memorandum of Arrangements/ Understanding (MOA/MOU)
- Navigation Season – approx 9 months (closed for winter season)

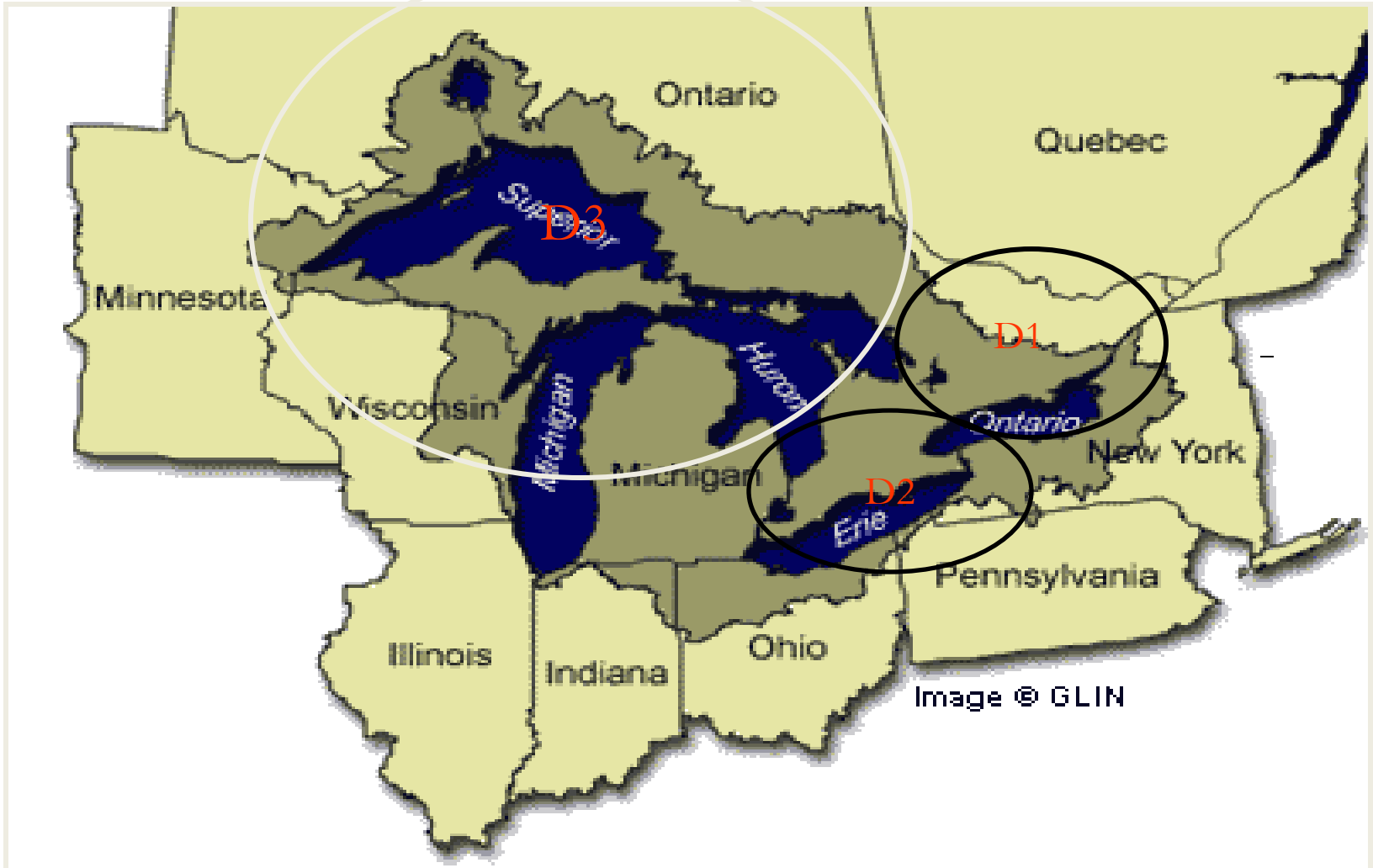


Great Lakes Pilot Associations

- Pilotage is provided by 3 Independent Pilot Associations
- Associations are responsible for their own operations including:
 - Pilot compensation
 - Infrastructure such as docks, pilot boats, offices
 - Dispatching services
 - Billing and invoicing
 - Professional development and training



Overview





USCG Responsibilities



- Issue rates pilots may charge for their services
- Approve work rules such as dispatch procedures, rest and rotation, etc.
- License mariners as Great Lakes registered pilots
- Approve applicant pilots and pilot training plans



USCG

Responsibilities (cont'd)

- Provide Regulatory Oversight
 - Approve/Certify Pools
 - Adjudicate Billing Disputes
 - Enforce Regulations
 - Commence Registrations Suspension and Revocation Proceedings
 - Impose Civil Penalties



Pilotage Rates

- Rates are published by March 1st of each year through a public rulemaking process
 - 46 USC 9303(f)
 - 46 CFR Part 404
- Rates reimburse pilots for necessary expenses and pilot compensation



Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee



- Federal Advisory Committee
 - “The Secretary shall, whenever practicable, consult with the Committee before taking any significant actions relating to Great Lakes Pilotage.” 46 USC 9307(d)(1)
- Seven Members
 - Pilot Association Presidents (3)
 - Vessel Operators that contract for pilotage services
 - Ports
 - Shippers
 - Impartial Member
 - Unanimously Recommended by Committee



Questions & Discussion