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**DEVELOPING A STATE WATER WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM BASED ON BIOLOGICAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE**

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**ABSTRACT:** In 2005, the Michigan Legislature created the Michigan Water Withdrawal Advisory Council and charged the Council with developing and recommending a water withdrawal management and regulatory program that would meet the States anticipated obligations under the proposed Great Lakes St. Lawrence River Water Resources Compact. The result was one of the first regulatory programs to base withdrawal thresholds on the modeled response of biological communities.