

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday January 14, 2016; 10 am MDT

Attended by: John Wullschleger, Dennis Zabaglo, Mark Sytsma, Elizabeth Brown, Beth Bear, and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) A discussion on Ex Comm participation and intent to look at the bylaws to ensure there is adequate guidance on Ex Comm member replacement, timing and protocol etc. The group agreed that waiting until the Annual Meeting to replace any positions on Ex Comm would be best. Also, securing a quorum does not seem to be an issue at this time.
- B) Approval of Previous Call Minutes - Leah Elwell – Elizabeth moves to approve. Dennis seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- C) Coordinating the coordination update – Elizabeth-
 - a. Western Division American Fisheries Society, AIS symposia – Reno March 21-24, 2016- Dennis has been working with Karen Vargas (NV). To date the abstract for the session was accepted. He is willing to hear any ideas for presentations etc. There is no travel support for presenters. Tom McMahon (AZ) volunteered to chair a portion of the session.
 - b. Clean Drain Dry update – Trademark has been transferred to Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; Overall Ex Comm is pleased that there was a group that was able to step in on behalf of WRP; further this is reflective of some of the strong relationships that exist. The trademark is valid for 5 years. What will be the fate of the trademark after that time? To our knowledge that dialog within AFWA has not taken place. Pat Conzemius with Wildlife Forever (WF) has a new brochure and does want to work with western partners. Elizabeth will forward WF information. John mentioned that the WRP was criticized for voicing our concern but it did have a positive effect.
 - c. Commercial boat hauler list with NPS – John and Elizabeth are still looking into this.
 - d. Sampling lab standard group/discussion – Elizabeth and other key partners will shoot for a call in February
 - e. WRP sent a letter to request the presence of Kami Silverwood (AZ) at the Building Consensus workshop.
 - f. Reduce Risk from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC, Scott Cameron) has created a workgroup to examine the Farm Bill as a source of funding for invasive species. There is a large portion of funding in the Farm Bill that is related to conservation. The Farm Bill is up for renewal in 1.5 years. They are looking at possible direct funding for things like inspections, and forest pest control. Stephen and Elizabeth will represent WRP on this committee.
 - g. Colorado River Fish Council met last week to speak about AIS. Mark Sturm (NPS) and John attended the meeting. Idea is to coordinate more closely on prevention between NPS managing entities and states. How it will proceed or function is not clear yet. They

will meet again in the spring, and it may become a regular event. There is variation in the AIS knowledge of state fish chiefs and boating administrators; however these efforts are helping to elevate this knowledge. Is this an area for future BC inreach committee to focus on? Another topic that was discussed at the meeting was the specific “pull the plug” regulation.

- h. Beth Bear – Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Chair Mark Fowden (also WY Game and Fish, Fish Chief) inquired if there was agreement on 3 or 4 regulations among AIS state coordinators to share that with him, or other things that they can agree on or act on. The group agreed that this could be discussed at the upcoming Building Consensus workshop in Denver next month.
- D) Legislation update - Stephen Phillips – not available to make the call/update.
- E) MRBP meeting/ANSTF Spring meeting – Tom Woolf, Idaho Department of Agriculture recently presented information to the Mississippi River Basin Panel on prevention coordination with Midwest, particularly as it relates to commercially hauled boats. There may be an additional opportunity to present and share similar ideas at the Great Lakes Panel meeting the day prior to the ANSTF Spring meeting in Traverse City MI.
- F) National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Several western entities will travel to DC to participate in hill visits. That dialog is being coordinated with a 1 pager hill briefing among many western partners. Meetings will be set up with different representatives. The quagga listing will not be pushed as in the past hill visits. The following are priorities for hill visit discussions; Water Resource Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) to appropriate the allocation; State plan money has doubled; so now should there has been a logical shift to focus on panel support to a minimum of \$60K (\$120K total), a smaller ask but critical; Mandatory inspection on federal waters; and the National EDRR program framework.
- G) Update the WRP priorities document.....Leah will pull out the previous and see if we can update with 2016 priorities.
- H) Tahoe minutes review – Leah provided the draft minutes from Tahoe. The Ex Comm will review prior to release to the general membership.
- I) May Ex Comm call reschedule –Several Ex Comm members and Leah have a conflict for the regularly scheduled May Ex Comm. Group agreed to move to Wednesday May 18th at 10 am Mountain time.
- J) Future WRP Annual Meeting proposals. Leah has received a 2018 proposal from Allen Pleus (WA) for Seattle. James Dominguez (NM) has expressed interest but not submitted a proposal. Another strategy might be to consider location and approach host?? 2017 would also be the year that WRP was to host the ANSTF in the spring. Something to talk about for the all member call. Where to go on the coast? San Diego, Monterey.....La Hoya?
- K) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Annual Meeting 2016 Committee– Beth; The planning committee has met this month and agenda discussion is underway. Topics like invasive fish as a session have been proposed. Field trip is being explored. Workshop or continuing education on the morning of Tuesday is being discussed. Leah will begin to solicit some industry

sponsorship requests. Some requests may be to Bionovelus, American Casting, and possibly the data group that is developing the inspection/boat app.

- b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Leah- The planning committee has been developing the upcoming February 2-3, 2016 workshop for Denver; Model regulations will be a important part of the agenda for the workshop.
 - i. WIDT Workgroup – Elizabeth – Stephen, Dee Davis and Elizabeth met recently to discuss the upcoming training season. The training calendar is up on westernais.org. There are some very minor changes to the curriculum to broaden and improve. Dee will do a trainer training in the spring and the fall. No meetings for the committee are scheduled. If something comes out of Building Consensus in February at that time they will reassess if the committee should reconvene. Otherwise the committee will not meet until the summer.
 - ii. Legal – The writing team to the model regulation effort will hold a call to discuss draft materials and collect feedback over the next two weeks.
 - iii. Data Sharing – Elizabeth – They are finalizing the programming, and will get feedback in February at the BC workshop. One final webinar will take place with NPS and Manitoba.
 - iv. Regional Defense – Stephen – no report
 - v. Outreach – Beth – The committee had a call this week. They are discussing where to house information for the boating industry in a central location – the magic website? The committee is working through outreach needs with the use of community-based social marketed techniques. They are focused whitewater rafting guides. Elizabeth may assign someone from her staff to serve on this committee.
- c. Coastal Committee –report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – At the workshop in December we decided to proceed with a white paper on biofouling in advance of a management plan. Stephen, Lisa, Robyn and she had a telcon to discuss next steps. Lisa will work on prepping a draft of the white paper by early March. They will hold another CC workshop to discuss the draft paper on March 29 in Sacramento after the Pacific Ballast Water Group Meeting. She communicated to the CC about the decision to proceed with the white paper. She didn't receive any comments in response. The Pacific Ballast Water Group meeting, which isn't necessarily tied to the WRP CC but involves a lot of the same people, will be held on March 28-29 in Sacramento. Stephen has reserved a hotel room block. The agenda is still under development.
- d. Membership Committee– Leah has initiated a doodle poll to get the committee members together in February.

L) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Ballast Discharge – TBD
- b. QZAP – Stephen - On February 4th David Britton, USFWS, will host a discussion to prioritize funding for the upcoming year related to QZAP immediately following the BC workshop.

- c. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth; no update;
- d. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis; they are getting ready to have the first meeting to draft the charge of the committee. It will be at the end of the month. Members of the Committee are Glenn Dolphin (Oregon Marine Board), Joanne Grady (FWS), Meg Modley (Lake Champlain Basin Program), Michele Trembley (Naturesource), Mark Lewindowski, Susan Pasko (ANSTF Ex Sec). Gene Seagle (NPS) asked to see if he could serve on the committee, but first needs to better understand the level of participation that may be required. He may be able to serve.
- e. NISAW –Tom McMahon – no report

M) Announcements – ALL;

John will serve on the re-engaged ANSTF Economic Subcommittee which is meeting next week. It is unclear what other western folks are serving on the committee.

Mark provided additional suggestions for WRP Annual meeting locations; Elkhorn Slough or Monterey, CA

Elizabeth – It would be great to have a calendar with all of the committee meetings to see when other meetings were taking place and to minimize duplicate scheduling.