

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

February 20, 2017 at 1:30 am mountain time

Attended by: Jeff Adams, Tammy Davis, Mark Sytsma, Stephen Phillips, Elizabeth Brown and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of January minutes - Leah Elwell. Minutes will be approved in March.
- B) Ex Comm Vacancy Plan – Tom McMahon retired as of Feb 8th from Arizona Fish and Game and has stepped down from Ex Comm. Elizabeth suggested that Ex Comm solicits candidates now and do an electronic vote . Results could be announced on the Mid-Year Teleconference. This position would be filled until 2018. Tammy moved to fill the vacancy as soon as possible, Stephen seconded. All approved, motion carried. Leah will make an announcement ASAP.
- C) Coordinating the coordination update - Elizabeth Brown
 - a. WDAFS – May 22-25 2017, Missoula (Leah) – The symposium proposal on AIS has been accepted; still working to populate the speaker list but have majority secured. Only Stephen plans to attend?
 - b. WAFWA Summer Meeting – July 6-11 in Vail CO – Elizabeth will plan to attend; and she will be helping to draft the agenda because the CO Park and Wildlife deputy director is the current chair. At the Building Consensus meeting in April, participants could talk about items to bring to that summer gathering.
 - c. ISAC – The week of March 13th they have a teleconference to discuss work products of several of task teams including; Federal-Tribal relations and Federal – State relations. Western folks serving: Blaine Parker and Susan Ellis. The resulting white papers would likely be brought to the July 18-20 meeting in DC for approval.
 - d. PNWER – They are accepting agenda items for their summer meeting in July in Portland. Kate Wilson of Alberta is the co-chair.
 - e. Western Governors Association – Last July updated their policy resolution on AIS as a priority (5th revision). One priority identified is a west-wide inventory tool for agencies; standardize data collection, protocols, standards, linking with national mapping for the purpose of awareness. The WGA AIS staff is Bill Whitacre. He is creating an advisory group to develop a scope of work and will hold a summit. Discussion on the financial/work force effort needed for such a project and how is this tied into ISAC? Ex Comm will help identify a WRP member to track this effort. Leah and Elizabeth will sit in on the first call which is Feb 21 at 12:30 pm.
 - f. AFWA meeting – in Spokane next month. Stephen could consider going if there was a need.
- D) Legislation update – Stephen Philips
 - a. NISAW – The last week of February a team will do hill visits: Nate Owens, Bill Tweit, Dennis Zabaglo, Elizabeth and Stephen. There is so much uncertainty with the current presidential situation. They will be meeting with Scott Cameron, acting assistant secretary for Department of Interior water and science (USGS and BOR). New

administrations want to work on new ideas, so we need to protect some of our current programs (e.g. QZAP, lower Columbia River).

- b. It is 50/50 for omnibus or CR for 2018. "Commercial" VIDA information will be pushed.
 - c. Some "anti" aquaculture bills, NPDES permits related to spraying near water bill (under FIFRA).
 - d. National Governors Assoc will be meeting in DC that same week.
- E) WRP Website – Leah is working directly with Linda Beck, USFWS R1 AIS coordinator. They are updating as well as tidying up the whole package. Elwell mentioned the platform issue and suspect it will be discussed at a future date.
- F) Mid-Year Teleconference agenda - compile a history of the recommendations that could be shared. Include on next Ex Comm agenda a discussion to create a process to for recommendations. Get comments to Leah in 1 week.
- G) Financial update – ISAN fully drained the USFWS "hold-over" funds of \$1,306.72. Elwell will provide a final report soon to complete that contract requirement. The balance of the WRP savings account is \$13,210.
- H) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. Annual Meeting 2017 Committee – Leah; She is securing sponsorships with CA State Lands Commission and CA Fish and Wildlife. The agenda team has met twice and have a rough agenda started. Presenters will submit a google form for the agenda team to consider.
 - b. ANSTF Meeting Spring 2017 – Dennis Zabaglo and Leah; The current WRP agenda items include coastal and inland sessions.
 - c. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady – The AIS coordinators will meet in April for a workshop in Albuquerque.
 - i. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells; Stephen was on the last call. The group is in the process of discussion of technical information and compiling protocols information. This information may be circulated soon.
 - ii. Legal – Stephanie Showalter Ott is completing a gap analysis on boat inspection legislation by April.
 - iii. Inreach – Tammy Davis – had to postpone their last call; there may be opportunities in the future to work together with legal and inreach.
 - iv. Outreach – report from Chair Beth Bear – Leah provided information from ISAN participation. There was limited participation from WRP members on the last call in early February. Bob Wiltshire has been asked to send a written explanation of non-motorized program because of overlap with committee interest to better understand current ongoing efforts. They will schedule another committee call with robust participation to discuss the future direction of committee. Committee needs to decide if they want to continue their own whitewater guide outreach, and if not determine what they would work on. Discussion on "what is the role of the Ex Comm" in setting the course for committees and workgroups. Elizabeth suggested that a charter would be

helpful to help define what a committee will do and what it will work on. It gives direction and focus. Ex Comm should be involved but not micro-manage. Discussion on what is the purpose of this committee: to fill the outreach of QZAP/BC or all of WRP objectives? Outreach work has been getting done “outside” of committee (hauler outreach, inspection rack card). Threats to the west revision would need a larger perspective. It was suggested there could be a need for both types of committees and different people that could work on both. Agenda time in NM will look directly at what is the need for BC outreach.

- v. Sampling Protocol – report from Chair Karen Vargas; she is in the process of creating a draft document that compiles current dreissenid protocols.
 - d. Coastal Committee – Tammy – CASLC did a nice job on the biofouling white paper, which was distributed to the committee and they are now re-editing. The committee will talk next steps for planning potentially at the Pacific Ballast Water meeting in mid-April. The VIDA issue is hanging over heads. Preemptions would hinder things in regards with the biofouling management planning. Interjurisdictional planning will be complicated.
 - e. Membership Committee – Leah; will meet later this week to discuss changes to the bylaws and membership positions.
- I) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. Education and Outreach – Elizabeth- They had a call recently to discuss implementation of their AIS guidelines. Susan will do a poll prior to the ANSTF meeting in May – how are the rec guideline, classroom and water garden docs being evaluated and used. What help is needed to help implement. This discussion should help drive the committee’s next steps. (Encourage WRP members during the Mid-Year Teleconference to take survey).
 - b. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis and Joanne – held a meeting a couple weeks ago. They currently have a subcommittee on decontamination that has been talking about evaluating WID protocols.
 - c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger – not present.
 - d. QZAP – Stephen – The QZAP grant will continue to be run out of the Albuquerque office; next step is Joanne will talk with Britton replacement (Barak Shemai). Barak wants to begin the RFP process as soon as possible. The WRP message has been to keep funds in the Lower Colorado for containment programs. It would be good to have QZAP discussion at the BC meeting in Albuquerque.
 - e. NISAW – Dennis and Stephen - see above.
- J) Announcements – ALL
- a. Elizabeth – She sent the letter to the anchor manufacturer. They have agreed to include Clean Drain Dry language in their production materials etc. They have asked for WRP to review before they finalize. Dee Davis is involved in this effort.
 - b. AWFA – national conservations needs grant – two proposals came in from members. Lisa DeBruckeyre took the lead on one, Pat Conzemius (Wildlife Forever) to the lead on

the other. They ended up meshing the proposals together (with the help of Priya, Kim Bogenschutes, and Bill Hyatt).

- c. Mark - Western Aquatic Plant Management Society – Coeur d'Alene in March.
- d. Elizabeth will be taking maternity leave July- Sept.
- e. Next call: March 9th 10:30 mountain time.