

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

April 18th, 2018 at 2:00 pm mountain time

Attendees: Stephen Phillips, Leah Elwell, Tammy Davis, Dennis Zabaglo, Elizabeth Brown, Martha Volkoff, Jeff Adams, Nate Owens, Joanne Grady, Sam Chan, and Stephanie Showalter Otts.

Minutes

A) Approval of March minutes - Stephen made motion to approve. Tammy seconds. Minutes are approved unanimously.

B) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates

a) Building Consensus Workgroup Discussion

- a. Legal –Stephanie Showalter Otts- A grant to complete an MOU was written with USFWS with initial completion of 2017. The *Safeguarding the West Initiative* delayed completion on the MOU. NSGLC was put on hold per grantor. NSGLC kept the comparison report updated and released one in April and one in December. Priya Nanjapa (AFWA) and Stephanie are getting the MOU team up and running. An outline of MOU has been initiated and will cover provisions for working across state lines. Could be useful for state-federal partnerships but not the intent. The BC MOU is not one to be applied to the DOI-WGA effort. NSGLC also has funding for 2018 from USFWS to bring together AGs and State Legislative Staffers used to advertise and do outreach on the complete model framework package. The intent was for Fall 2018, in advance of state legislative sessions starting in the new year. Stephanie will share the grant and meeting proposal with WRP Executive Committee and members of the Building Consensus Committee. We need the commitment and subsequent resources to implement BC products and complete QZAP goals and objectives in a consistent fashion across the Western USA.
- b. Sam noted that BC is something that is worth sharing as a process with other policy makers; document process and participants; etc. This is unique, unprecedented, and will resonate with higher level decision makers and agency heads, local leaders, conservation group leaders, etc. Need avenues to share this story. Sam could work with a group to lead the drafting of this document. Sharable yet peer reviewed.
- c. Is there a need in 2018 for a BC workshop with the AIS Coordinators - Elizabeth queried on last WISCE call and there was not much interest for this year, 2019 would be better? Tammy noted that with the success of BC many states programs are growing and staff is busier now.
- d. Field Sampling Protocols - (plankton/shoreline/survey): Elizabeth has CPW staff working on combining and finalizing these documents for finalization on behalf of the committees. What are the next steps for a final review of the combined field protocols document and approval/adoption? Elizabeth will send out to sampling sub-committees,

WISCE, BC and Ex Comm for final round of comments. Where/when does the discussion to set the minimum standard for frequency and quantity of monitoring related to “negative” status happen? Undecided. WRP Tacoma 2018? WISCE? BC 2019? WRP 2019?

- e. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells – No new news.
- f. Reach –Tammy Davis. Once the sampling documents are completed, Elizabeth’s staff at CPW will work on helping Tammy complete this document for additional review. Plan on a lengthy discussion on this topic in May. Elizabeth, Leah and Tammy are meeting to discuss this next week. The Package – What are some ideas for packaging all of the great work done by Building Consensus so that it is easily shared and communicated? Should this be done on its own or in conjunction with QZAP/Phoenix/STW? Is this a BC product package or a quagga zebra management toolkit package? Or do we need both? Who is going to do this and what is the process for review and approval/adoption? The goal is to be done by the end of the calendar year.

C) Coordinating the Coordination

- a. WGA and DOI Partnership
 - i. What is the need/content of an MOU between DOI and WGA? It will be something simple and may be more like a resolution. Consistent implementation across federal and state agencies is what is needed. Some other aspects to states –federal working relationships. One option would be for state to send letter to request NPS to enforce state laws. Position of the Governors that NPS should have authority given to them by Congress to enforce State AIS Laws. DOI feels that there is no barrier and the enforcement should be done via an MOU between States and NPS. Nate suggested that UT enforces state AIS laws at Powell and is invited to do that by the NPS within the Recreation Area without formal state-federal MOU instead it’s mostly communication/coordination/etc.
 - ii. Safeguarding the West – Most of the items will be completed by the end of this year. The intention is to move forward under “QZAP 2.0” in the future.
 - iii. What specifically can DOI do to stop the movement of zebra and quagga mussels in the Western USA? What specifically can WGA do to stop mussel from moving? See NISAW document. How do other agencies get folded into this discussion (e.g. USDA, DOT, ACOE)?
 - iv. Could this be accomplished at the WGA-DOI level? Maybe. Do all states really want this? Commitment to explore perimeter defense idea (WID15 and WID13).
- b. WGA
 - i. The WGA Leadership Forum – look for an outline of the proposed event coming next week that suggests what will take place at the event. It will be in winter 2019.

- ii. Biosecurity Initiative will hold many workshops across the states to highlight a number of species/issues on AIS. One confirmed workshop in Montana on November 14th. Possibly in Utah in September/October. Possibly one final one in Hawaii in December. One thing discussed was having multi-state meeting. Possibly CA/NV. Possibly CO.
 - c. WAFWA - June 12-17, 2018 in Eugene, OR
 - d. AFWA – September 9-12, 2018 in Tampa, FL
 - e. NISC / ISAC - No news.
 - f. PNWER – Stephen – July 25, 2018 in Spokane, WA
 - g. 100th Meridian Initiative Columbia River Basin – June 5-7, 2018
 - h. UMISC/NAISMA – October 15, 2018 in Rochester, MN
 - i. eDNA monitoring state efforts – Martha Volkoff/Leah Elwell– Montana held a eDNA science panel this week. Leah was facilitating at the event and reported that the need for standardized protocol related to eDNA is clear. We can have Tom Woolf report back to WISCE and/or WRP ExComm. Tom indicated that further discussion is needed and this may need to be a later phase of the sampling/monitoring committees.
- B) Nate suggested that WRP Ex Comm needs to develop a bigger picture WRP roadmap and prioritization so we aren't reactionary and spinning our wheels. How much effort should be placed on DOI/WGA effort versus other things that we could be working on?
- C) QZAP – What is the process by which we can evaluate QZAP and determine what QZAP 2.0 looks like? This could be its own future work session discussion.
- D) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates (continued)
- a. Annual Meeting 2018 – Leah
 - i. Need to build in opportunities for WGA, DOI, BOR, NSGLC to report out in the agenda. Leah will share agenda during May call to be sure the agenda is capturing needs adequately.
 - b. Coastal Committee –Tammy – The committee met face-to-face met last week. Committee is working on developing a mission and clear objectives. Hawaii (Jules) has money for the development of BMP for commercial and recreational boats and infrastructure to prevent AIS movement. Possibly host a meeting for BMP development.
 - c. Membership Committee – Leah – no new information
 - d. Outreach – report from Allison Zach. Update provided in all panel call last week. No new news.
 - e. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination Committee – Elizabeth
 - i. Committee doodle poll is out for next meeting. We invited three parties from the seaplane community to join us. Bruce Hinds - WA, National Seaplane Pilots Association AIS Committee Chair. Peter Gross - MT Seaplane Pilots Trainer. Karl Higgins - ICON Aircraft manufactures
 - f. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – report from Robert Walters. They are currently developing a spec sheet for decontamination units.

- E) Letters
 - a. NISAW Summary, including thank you letter – These are going out this week.
 - b. Letter to AZ Fish and Game about Havasu – We are not going to be sending this letter anymore at the request of AZ. They will let us know if they need our help.
- F) Legislation update – Stephen Philips
 - a. VIDA is not moving forward right now but it will continue in the future. They got 56 votes but needed 60.
 - b. Appropriations bill. Flowering rush money possibly coming to the West.
 - c. WRDA is being included in Appropriations bill.
- G) WRP Website update – Leah – There are some issues with the website, which might be indicative of the aging website platform.
- H) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – no new information
 - b. Recreational Boating Committee and ABYC Technical Information Report – Dennis – no new information
 - c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger – no new information
 - d. QZAP – Stephen – The QZAP grant announcement is out.