

## **Western Regional Panel**

### **Draft Conference Call Agenda**

Thursday, April 12, 2012

**Participants: Executive Committee Members: Karen McDowell (chair), Bob McMahon, Tom McMahon, Stephen Phillips, Larry Dalton, John Wullschleger, Diane Cooper Coordinator: Joanne Grady**

#### **1) Annual Meeting Update - Larry**

Meeting may be at Hilton hotel in Salt Lake City, awaiting final hotel contract. Room rate will be \$90 + tax; free wifi everywhere; UT will be funding breaks and continental breakfast and lunch on first day. Larry will get info to Dave Britton for hotel information on WRP webpage.

Agenda – we have more suggestions than we have room. Larry will be getting committee together to weed through ideas. We should block out time for subject ideas.

#### **2) GAO Audit Update - Karen**

The GAO audit was closed. There won't be any more interviews.

#### **3) Threats to the West Brochure – Karen**

Brochures are printed and delivered. Thanks to everyone who worked on it. Should have folks who are printing their own, tell us how many they printed. Joanne to send follow-up email to folks who placed orders to ensure they received them.

#### **4) NISAW/Hill Visits Follow-Up– Stephen/Tom**

Some attendees (Ted Thayer and Julie Reagan of Tahoe) went back to Washington for a briefing to discuss funding for future years for state plans, Lake Mead and other issues. Fair number of Congressional staffers attended (CA, WA, OR & NV). The group meets again next week, so we'll know more then.

#### **5) Ballast Tanks Letter and Update – Elizabeth/Stephen**

Ted Thayer put together conference call with watercraft manufacturers and watersports folks. They had a great conversation. One of the manufacturers designed a filtering system based on information exchanged during call. Stephen passed first round for funding to BPA Tech Innovation Fund with Univ of Reno to test system at Lake Mead. Manufacturer to build 30 test units to send to Lake Mead.

#### **6) WRP Coordinator RFP– Joanne**

Plan moving forward is to work with existing committee to screen applicants. ExCom approved latest draft RFP to post for competition.

#### **7) WRP Letter to States Re Funding– Kevin**

We need to wrap it up. ExCom approves as written. Karen will send out to membership on Monday. Any additional edits need to go to Karen before then.

**8) ANSTF Letter – Karen**

Susan Mangin drafted letter to NISC based on WRP recommendation in October meeting. ExCom members generally agreed with letter with a couple of minor edits. Group to get comments to Karen by COB Monday; these will be compiled and returned to Susan.

**9) WRP Recommendations for May ANSTF meeting – Joanne/Karen**

ExCom members approved the list of recommendations as drafted. Larry Dalton will be representing WRP at this meeting.

**10) Assistant Attorney General Workshop – Joanne**

Committee moving towards a workshop in Aug/Sept in Phoenix to address legal components of boat movements. Invitees will include state and federal Assistant Attorney Generals, Law Enforcement Supervisors and AIS Coordinators. Funding to support workshop will come from National Sea Grant Law Center, NSG and USFWS. Group meets next Tuesday at 11:30 am MT to work on development

**11) Committee reporting update – Karen**

Karen working on template. We have some question about how to count folks working on ANSTF work groups and WRP representation.

**12) Other News**

Fiesta Queen – NPS folks out of Lake Powell, saw mussel infested boat parked on Hwy just inside UT state line. Utah has boat in quarantine at Aramark facility they will quarantine boat for at least 18 days. Larry will advise people through the west911 system about the results.

Bob McMahon in FL – Number of invasive species he's seeing is appalling. Let's keep up the good work in the West.

**Next Call: Scheduled Thursday, May 10, 2012 at 10 am MT, 9 am PT, 11 am Central**