

Western Regional Panel Executive Committee Monthly Conference Call Minutes

Friday, October 16, 2009

Participants: Erin Williams, Stephen Phillips, Eileen Ryce, Kevin Anderson, Elizabeth Brown, Karen McDowell

Agenda items:

1) Welcome to new Executive Committee members Elizabeth Brown and Stephen Phillips. Thank you to everyone for their willingness to serve the Panel as Executive Committee members.

2) Chair and Vice-Chair for 2009-2010: Eileen Ryce will continue as Chair at least through the spring ANS Task Force meeting. Karen McDowell will continue as Vice-Chair.

3) Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) and ANSTF meeting:
The final QZAP was submitted to the ANSTF on October 5th. There were substantial additions and modifications since the draft plan including budget description for each action item and additional information or clarification per ANSTF and WRP member comments.

At the November 5th ANSTF meeting, the Panel is asking the Task Force for 3 actions:

1. **Plan adoption.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF adopt the QZAP or provide guidance on an alternative way to formalize completion of the Plan.
2. **Implementation and Coordination.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF discuss how to proceed with implementation and coordination of the Plan.
3. **ANSTF member agency involvement.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF members recognize which of the action items in the plan their agencies will implement. Additionally, it is requested that all ANSTF members provide information at each ANSTF meeting on their implementation efforts.

Eileen will present the plan at the ANSTF meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5th.

- The Panel update and Panel Funding Needs request from ANSTF was reviewed on the call, edits were made, and the final versions were sent to Susan Mangin (ANSTF Executive Secretary).

4) Watercraft decontamination efficacy study RFP update:
Proposal submissions are due Oct. 30th. To date, no proposals have been received by PSMFC. The Panel provided the remaining QZAP support funds from FWS to this effort since it is a high priority action item in the plan.

5) Membership nominations

Erin will send an email to ExComm requesting any additional membership positions for consideration. Once the ExComm agrees on the positions (e.g. Recreational Fishing or Conservation), then Erin/Lori (Acting Erin from Nov. 9 – Dec. 4; see below) will send out a request for nominations for those positions to the whole membership (**clarification question: send nomination request to listserve or just voting members?**).

6) Erin's schedule during next few months:

As part of the development program Erin is in, a 30-day job swap with someone else in the program will occur from Nov. 9 to Dec. 4th. Lori Nordstrom, Field Supervisor for an endangered species office in Maine, will be swapping jobs with Erin. Lori will work with the ExComm as well as within the Fish and Wildlife Service AIS program during this time.

7) ISAC and NISAW:

At this time it was decided not to pursue a presentation at the NISAW in January. The Panel is waiting to hear if the QZAP presentation proposal for the December ISAC meeting was accepted.

8) Next Call: Thursday, November 12th at 9am Pacific, 10am Mountain, 11am Central. Lori Nordstrom will be Acting Erin.