

Western Regional Panel Executive Committee Monthly Conference Call Minutes

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Present: Eileen Ryce, Karen McDowell, Erin Williams, Blake Feist, Bob McMahon, Diane Cooper, Kevin Anderson, Lynn Schlueter, Louanne McMartin, John Wullschleger

Absent: Andy Burgess, Amy Ferriter

Agenda items:

1) Q-ZAP:

a) Eileen sent an email requesting feedback from WRP members with comments due by July 15th. The draft plan has been sent to ANSTF members for comments which are due July 10th.

A conference call has been arranged for July 23rd to discuss WRP and ANSTF comments with the Executive Committee, Steering Committee and Susan Mangin.

→ Waiting to hear what ANSTF member comments look like and decide what next steps will be.

b) Discussed supporting a Decontamination efficacy study RFP with remaining funds for QZAP (FWS funds that have Fiscal Year spending deadline of early August) combined with other FWS funds from Region 1 and Region 6. This would help address a highest priority in the draft QZAP:

Develop Consistent and Reliable Boat and Equipment Decontamination Protocols –Varying techniques for decontamination need to be evaluated for their effectiveness on both zebra and quagga mussels. Field-based evidence is lacking and should be obtained to support and improve recommended practices.

*ExComm decided to provide remaining FWS funds to support the decontamination study RFP, providing that the ExComm can review the RFP and proposals that are submitted.

d) Discussed suggestion to hold special Q-ZAP Implementation meeting or hold annual meeting with WD AFS in April 2010.

Questions raised were “What would the meeting agenda look like?” What’s would the goal of the session/presentation be (e.g. awareness of plan?, high priorities?, how it relates to entire west?).

There was a suggestion to have a presentation as part of the regular Invasive Species concurrent session instead of a separate meeting or session for QZAP (due to registration cost concerns).

*Tabled the discussion to the next call.

2) Annual meeting

Erin sent out the registration form for field trip and the travel assistance request form on June 25th. The deadline to register for field trips is August 7th.

a) Discussed draft agenda: Erin updated the agenda accordingly.

b) Travel requests and speaker travel: Have received 5 member requests to date; currently have 2 speakers for travel support.

c) Membership review and nomination form: No further edits.

*Erin will send draft agenda, membership nomination form and member list, meeting registration to listserve by the end of the day on July 8th.

*Karen will send the member report template request to listserve.

d) Shellfish Bake – Diane will need some drivers to help get people to the location (TBD).

e) Request for Proposals

On the last call, the ExComm decided to solicit proposals with the goal of funding one project for \$25,000. Erin sent out the email with the RFP on June 30, 2009.

July 31st – RFP submissions will be due to Blake Feist.

August 7th – Blake will send summary of proposals and copies to ExComm.

Proposals will be discussed on the August 13th ExComm call and will determine at that time if there will be online voting or email voting by membership.

August 17th – Proposals provided to WRP members to vote – via survey monkey or other which Blake will handle.

Still TBD if there will be a Run-off vote or 2nd vote at meeting if vote is too close.

3) Membership:

Membership review for “Tribal” and “Other members” 4-year membership review will occur at the annual meeting. The ExComm decided to have everyone re-nominate themselves or nominate a new

group/person. If someone does not re-nominate themselves/group for the slot, they automatically are not eligible for that slot. Erin drafted language about WRP membership roles and responsibilities to include in the nomination form and sent that to the ExComm for review. Minor edits made and the nomination form will be sent with the meeting email on July 8th (see annual meeting discussion).

4) Executive Committee (ExComm)

Erin has checked with current ExComm members and will include a request for nominations for the 2-yr terms in the July 8th email to the listserv.

5) Work Groups

- a) Blake/Request for Proposals (RFP) – see annual meeting
- b) Louanne/Climate Change – There are regional designees for FWS and Louanne will be subgroup member. May or may not have an update at the annual meeting.

6) Other news or business from the group:

- a) Next ExComm call Thursday, August 13, 2009 (9 am Pacific; 10 am Mountain; 11 am Central)
- b) Undaria found in SF Bay
- c) Bass fishing tournament pre-fishing inspection certification in ND
- d) Tunicate eradication in WA