Western Regional Panel Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes Thursday, August 10, 2006

Members Present: Kevin Anderson, Karen McDowell, Eileen Ryce, John Wullschleger, Bob Piorkowski, Tina Proctor

Members Absent: Blaine Parker, Susan Ellis, John Chapman, Robyn Draheim

1. Discussion of Proposals

Kevin sent a spread sheet of the proposals that were submitted in response to the RFP. There are six proposals plus one that will be late. The total requested is over \$80,000. Kevin noted that the main focus of the proposals this year is: 1) building tools that help state ANS management programs, and 2) communication actions. After considerable discussion, the EC agreed that all of the proposals should be considered by the members. Kevin will send the full proposals to the EC and then will follow-up with an e-mail to the members so they can review the proposals before the annual meeting. Eileen will follow up with Mary Maj about her proposal regarding the Greater Yellowstone ANS program and send a support letter.

2. Annual Meeting – Portland

Eileen has only received 5 member updates but the due date isn't until August 31.

Tina will send a reminder about making hotel reservations because the cut-off is April 12th.

David Britton would like to do a presentation regarding a 100th Meridian Initiative project which targets training boating law enforcement officers. There is time on Thursday afternoon to have him do this presentation.

Ten people have signed up for Tribal Training so far. We shouldn't have trouble getting five more.

Bob suggested a couple of presentations, one on the green crab initiative and the second on the invasive tunicate (???). These are projects of major importance in the northwest. He recognized that he has missed the last two EC phone calls and that it may be too late to add these presentations. Tina said she and the meeting committee would review the agenda for any open time slots.

3. Election Discussion

The EC discussed the election for EC members and who might be interested in running for the committee. Everyone agreed that we need to encourage more inland participation. There are four slots up for election. John C. and Blaine are not going to run for their slots. Both John W. and Susan will run for election to two-year slots. We need at least two people to complete the nine-member committee.