

**Western Regional Panel
Executive Committee
Draft Notes
Thursday, August 9, 2007**

Members Present: Kevin Anderson, Karen McDowell, Jason Goeckler, Tina Proctor

Members Absent: Eileen Ryce, Lynn Schlueter, Billie Kerans, Robyn Draheim, John Wullschleger, Susan Ellis

There was not a quorum for this meeting, therefore no official decisions were made.

1. Proposals

Susan received 9 proposals. Tina will send them to the Executive Committee to review and decide if any do not meet the WRP priorities or requirements of the RFP. She requested that any responses be sent to her by August 15.

She will prepare draft rating criteria based on RFP requirements and will send to the EC for comments. She will contact Paul Olin who agreed to make the rating criteria and the proposals available on-line so that WRP members can each rate the proposals. The highest ranked proposals will be discussed at the WRP meeting in September. Members will have from August 20-Sept. 4 to rank the proposals.

2. Annual meeting

Tina presented information about the annual meeting including due dates for requests for information. The social event will be at the Sheraton on Wednesday night which is within walking distance of the Ilikai. Kevin will send out a request for member updates again now and then closer to the due date as well. Eileen sent out the 3 ANSTF questions discussed at the last meeting on July 12. The answers will be discussed at the business meeting. Kevin called Allen to remind him to send out an announcement regarding the slogan-picture-slide, etc. competition.

3. Election

There is a slate of 5 people to fit in the 5 slots for the election of new EC members. The people interested in running for the 2-year terms are Kevin, Eileen, Karen, Amy Ferriter (ID Dept. of Ag) and Andy Burgess (SD Game, Fish and Parks) Tina will send an e-mail asking members to approve the slate so they can be announced at the meeting.

4. West Coast Governors Agreement on Ocean Health

The Ocean Health Agreement Caucus is developing an action plan due this fall 2007 to advance the goals of the agreement.

In 2006, the Governors of California, Oregon and Washington announced the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health. The Agreement launched a new, proactive regional collaboration to protect and manage the ocean and coastal resources along the entire West Coast, as called for in the recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission. Both commissions identify invasive species as a significant threat to the nation's oceans.

The caucus meet by phone with marine invasive species experts in the three states to develop recommendations that the governors can advance to improve regional cooperation and close significant gaps in the invasive species program. The group identified recommendations related to ballast water, aquaculture, live bait, hull fouling, recreational boating, and control and eradication. Several WRP members participated in these discussions. Kevin represented the WRP.

Since September, the governors have called on the President and Congress to reinforce the states opposition to oil and gas leasing, exploration, and development; to help develop a regional research plan for the west coast in coordination with the National Sea Grant Office, academia, and other research institutions, and to provide states with federal technical assistance to address issues of regional significance.