

**Minutes
Western Regional Panel
Executive Committee Conference Call
Thursday, June 12, 2008**

Members Present: Eileen Ryce, Jason Goeckler, John Wullschleger, Karen McDowell, Kevin Anderson, Lynn Schlueter, Amy Ferriter, Andy Burgess, Tina Proctor

Members Absent: Billie Kerans

1. Election for 2008

Positions up for election this year are those held by:

Billie Kerans
Lynn Schlueter
John Wullschleger
Jason Goeckler

Tina asked that these four people talk to her about whether they want to run for re-election.

2. Work Plan Committee

The Work Plan Committee needs to get started and get the RFP 2009 written and a timeline set up. Members of the committee are Eileen, Jason, Kevin, Karen and Paul Olin. Eileen agreed to be the committee lead. They will need to refine the scoring process. Paul agreed to set up a web-based scoring link again this year. He will not be at the meeting so someone else will have to present the results.

3. Agenda for annual meeting 2009

The EC went over the agenda and made the following comments and changes:

- Support for a presentation from the Human Dimensions group at the College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University
- Support for field trip to Rocky Mountain National Park. Presentations by Bruce Rosenlund from FWS and David Nickum, Trout Unlimited at the hotel. Vans to the Park. Can divide into two groups, both groups can go to Bear Lake to hear about removal of nonnative trout and restoration of native trout. One group can take a 3-4 mile hike to see another restored lake. (fishing?) The other group can do more sight-seeing within the park from the vans (e.g. drive up to the Continental Divide?). I'm not sure if the Trout Unlimited restoration area is accessible to a drive – I will check with David.
- Suggested that Colorado issues be moved after the keynote speaker

- New Zealand mudsnail control in hatcheries and aquaculture. Tina will call Chris Myrick (CSU) and Ken Cline (Boulder). Eileen will call Christine Moffit (U. of Idaho).
- Don't show the "Don't move a Mussel" video because probably everyone will have seen it. If not, Bill can show it at lunch time or right after the Wednesday sessions.
- Shorten time for business meeting; add discussion on ideas for change and what's next with WRP.
- 45 minute session on current state legislation and rules. Have a panel where each person can speak for 5-6 minutes. Then questions.
- Presentation on quagga mussels on Reclamation Dams on Lower Colorado by Leonard Willet. 30-35 minutes on Dams but also brief review of power plants and canals.
- Eurasian watermilfoil control – Eileen and Amy will talk about which one wants to do presentation.
- Support for Thursday afternoon field trip to USDA-APHIS lab

Tina will rework the agenda for the next Meeting Committee conference call in May.

4. Updates

Karen – California

The Ocean Protection Council is giving \$1 million to help fund the implementation of the ANS Management Plan, to cover vector assessments such as live bait, live seafood and aquarium dumping.

Andy – South Dakota

They are planning to submit the SD ANS Management Plan to the ANSTF by the end of August. There is still no commitment for financial investment from the state. Three teachers wrote three ANS lesson plans. He will take them to the WRP meeting. They finished the first round of VHS sampling. There has been lots of flooding in the MO River tributaries. Asian carp are moving farther up the tributaries than ever before.

Jason – Kansas

They are busting bait dealers and finding 3-spine sticklebacks which are not native to Kansas. Kansans can only use live bait of native fish. Kansas is also creating statewide aquaculture plans.

Lynn – North Dakota

They are doing 30-second ANS spots on outdoor TV programs for 9 weeks. They have put up posters and billboards. They have closed down the bait industry – absolutely no live bait importation – went into effect April 1st. New ANS rules went into effect which prohibits vegetation on boats and equipment.

Kevin – Washington

Budget planning is going on now for 2009. They are requesting \$1 million to respond to a marine tunicate; \$3 million for spartina control and \$1 million for knotweed control. Staff are visiting boatyards and training them to identify and report ANS. They are doing a recreational boater survey with British Columbia. They are looking at recreational marine boats as a possible pathway spreading marine organisms up and down the coast.

The Invasive Species council strategic plan is now available. Kevin will send it to Tina for getting it out to the WRP.