

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

July 16th, 2019 at 2:30 pm mountain time

Call number: 712-770-5581

Passcode: 770367#

Agenda

- A) Approval of June minutes – All— John motioned to approve. Erin seconded. Approved.

- B) Legislative update – Stephen Philips
 - a. Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA, H. R. 3742) was introduced 7/12/19. Bill contains language for invasive species and has good bipartisan support. Broader negotiations are ongoing between Congress and White House to raise budget ceiling. House has passed out all of its appropriations packages, Senate is still waiting on budget “deal”. In the House energy and water appropriation there is WRDA 15 mil for WC inspection and \$ 3 million for monitoring, but the first step is agreeing to raise budget ceiling and then passing the FY 2020 budget. Watch RAWA and then the budget process. How could the WRDA numbers be reached if there is a CR? Short term CR is likely...stay tuned.

- C) Panel Business
 - a. QZAP 2.0 – Elizabeth Brown – sent the letter to Susan Pasko, she replied and asked if she could distribute to ANSTF members and contact us. Elizabeth replied yes. There has been no other information/correspondence.
 - b. WRP Website – Mason Parker. Westernregionalpanel.org. reviewing what needs to transfer to the new website. How should we archive this old information? John, Elizabeth, Erin.
 - c. Financial Update – balance and reimbursements – Mason Parker. Reviewed sponsors. Current balance and travel reimbursement.

- D) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - a. 2019 Annual Meeting – Leah; sponsors, agenda, AV needs

Sponsorship is looking good. For the working agenda, we are looking at a sponsorship showcase on the afternoon (2:20) of the 9th. There is flexibility in the business portion should there need to be any changes. Keynote speaker Fred Allendorf will receive a formal invitation. There is a draft ready that Elizabeth will send to Allendorf. There could be a follow-up concerning the formal invitation to the tribes. Leah will follow up with the tribes. There is going to be a special sign-up for the workshop on the Tuesday before the Meeting. Concerning remote attendance for the meeting, we could use the call in. At a minimum we should shoot for having a full recording available for everyone after the event. Allowing livestream would be good whether we want to include interactive participation or not. Nate can bring people and tech for this service. Concern was expressed that people would not attend if they could watch from their office and reduce

travel cost. We can promote interactive participation by attending live in order to reduce the chance of attendees staying home based on the availability of the livestream.

b. Coastal Committee – Chair Chris Scianni; Glenn Dolphin liaison

Biofouling best management practices are available, but looking for best way to get that out to boaters. Currently speaking to coastal boating groups concerning the best way to disseminate information. Could get the committee together in late July for conference call to make these decisions.

c. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Elizabeth liaison

Instruction has been put together for decon of new Volvo front drive. Props are reversed and there has to be new methods for decontaminating. The committee just met in July.

Leah shared that concern was raised at the CRB meeting about boats being tested by OEM in USA and moving west or to Canada without decontamination. Previously, the WRP sent a letter to manufacturers concerning testing new boats in mussel infested waters. CPW has piloted data sharing on this with Tige through the Regional WID Data Sharing System and we can reach out through NMMA to encourage other OEMs to use this process and alert western states when moving these boats. Tige also seals ballast tanks so the receiving state knows it has not been used. There is general interest in reaching back out to boat manufactures about testing in mussel waters. Canada is not participating in the Regional WID Data Sharing System so that may be a barrier. They can receive notices but need to invest roughly \$60,000 to create the duplication required in the system to use it fully and engage in compliance with international data sharing rules. If a new boat comes into the US from Canada there is no way to know if it has been tested in mussel infested waters. Canada can follow up on this. Look into which boating manufacturers are high risk. They often test them in infested waters and move them to the dealer then it gets sold to a boater. It looks like it comes from one place but it is really built and tested in another place. Should connect with the dealer to know where it is being transferred from. There is infrastructure that looks at manufacturer to dealer history, but this is not available for Canada. Elizabeth will follow up with NMMA. Leah will follow up with Canada.

d. Membership and Communication Committee – John Wullschleger

There hasn't been another meeting, but communications by email have led to a compilation of information concerning how other committees function around leadership.

e. Outreach Committee – Chair Allison Zach; Elizabeth liaison

- Four webinars are scheduled including Don't Let it Loose and eDNA.
- The committee is putting together a google doc that consolidates a list of expert on a number of invasive species for identification and other related services.
- Discussing the difference in education campaign focus from awareness to behavior change and trying to understand what we know we need to do to change behavior?

- The eDNA committee has discussed a position statement and the education committee discussed if that is the role of the WRP to create position statements (we have not done that before) and if there is a role for the education committee in helping other committees to craft these types of documents.
- Discussed the ongoing issue of making sure boaters know where to find inspection and decontamination stations and discussed simply registering WID stations as businesses on google, so that they will come up on map apps and google searches. Elizabeth has an intern starting it for Colorado and if it works well will suggest a SOP which will go out to the states to implement.
- The committee provided feedback to the ANSTF regarding the organization of the new SAH Clearinghouse which will be the clearinghouse / resource media library nationwide for ANS and is supported with a grant and contract.. Elizabeth sent the committee's work back to Susan Pasko, ANSTF and it will be organized that way on the ANSTF website. Wildlife Forever is not managing the SAH any longer. At some point there will be a call for materials.

E) WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons

- a. Building Consensus – Chair Joanne Grady
No Update
- b. eDNA Committee – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Nate liaison
No update
- c. Lab Committee (*no report – on hold until research completed*)
- d. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination Committee – Chair Elizabeth Brown
The webinar will be September 10th. Another meeting later in August. In September following the webinar, the mandatory inspection protocol will be brought to committee for approval, along with the voluntary self-inspection protocol which is being tested in the CRB this year. States and other managers can decide which one they choose to implement in their jurisdictions. Craig Martin, USFWS, is dedicating \$ to do a nationwide vector risk assessment on seaplanes / aquatic aviation over the next year. The WRP workgroup will possibly take a pause after the annual meeting and then once the research is done by USFWS, re-group and re-assess.
- e. Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures Committee – Chair Beth Bear; Nate liaison
No update

F) ANSTF

- a. USDA Member Agency Motion to ANSTF
Mike Ielmini sent a letter to all ANSTF members, officially motioned the co-chairs from USDA member agencies. It was signed off by leadership of USDA, APHIS, USFS looking to re-establish the ANSTF as an interagency committee, not a FACA, scrap the current

MOU/Charter and re-write it them collaboratively. There is a difference of opinion on if it is a coordinating group or a federal advisory committee. No response from USFWS or any members to date.

- b. FACA Committee Description per new Executive Order
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-evaluating-improving-utility-federal-advisory-committees/>
September 30th is a deadline, each agency is supposed to terminate 1/3 of their FACA committees and then the White House will limit the total number of FACA committees across all of the federal government. August 1st, Susan has to submit her report. The director has to make recommendation. Leah submitted all materials requested to Susan, ANSTF already.
- c. Workgroup Updates – On hold until further notice
- d. Leah will follow up on current status of the coordination grant.

G) Coordinating the Coordination update

- a. PNWER – Stephen Phillips - July 21-25 Saskatoon, SK
Meeting is next week. There is a lot of Canadian focused discussion. The Oregon invasive species council is providing information for OR reps at the meeting.
- b. NMMA – Elizabeth Brown
NMMA is doing a briefing for the congressional boating caucus. Launching new campaign for videos in CO and hoping to go to Tahoe and MT next, maybe others. AIS is their top policy priority in 2019-2020.
- c. ABYC – They have USFWS grant money and are staffing an ANS booth at IBEX in October. Tahoe and Colorado may be sending staff. Not sure about other Technical Committee members yet.
- d. DOI Mussel Initiative – John Wullschleger
There was a call last week. Nothing momentous to update. Forum in August. There is a small portion of the ZQ mussel money possibly going to support WIT. More information later.
- e. WGA - Elizabeth Brown – ZQM Forum August 27-28, Las Vegas
Forum is August 27-28. Had coordinating committee call last week. Next calls Aug 7th and 22nd. Two calls in August. Leadership invitations went out last week. Nevada Governor invited as keynote. Not yet accepted. There has been some confusion about participation. August 27 is introduction, field trip, afternoon sessions; August 28 has morning sessions and USACE WRDA discussion for named basin states in the afternoon. Need some clarity on desired outcomes from event. At WAFWA, AIS Committee / Fish Chiefs requested a call specifically concerning preparation of leadership and how to best prep leadership for the event. Ideas from the workshop hope to feed into next QZAP recommendations document. There may not be a final report from the event. They would prefer to have an action plan. Raise awareness among the chain of command. Concern over how to prepare leadership. An agenda would be helpful. A registration list made available would be helpful also. Elizabeth will follow up with Bill.
- f. AFWA – Elizabeth Brown

RAWA introduced. Included invasive species (ANS/AIS) in state wildlife management plans to be eligible.

g. WAFWA – Elizabeth Brown - July 11-16 Manhattan, KS

Elizabeth, Leah, Chris, and Allison attended the AIS Committee meeting on July 15. Chris gave KS program overview presentation. Elizabeth presented the history of mussels in the West including QZAP and BC update, and related WRP work. David Hoover USACE on WRDA and mussel management in KS. The group discussed WRDA implementation and WGA Forum in some detail. SD talked about their new detection, ND has also had recent detection. Discussed a lot about Powell. Leah presented on The Chemical Supplement paper, which was well received. The committee members are not opposed to supporting but several states were not present. It will be circulated and a resolution drafted for consideration; then the committee will discuss in terms of taking to Directors for formal approval at the winter meeting. Elizabeth will follow up with the Chair on that. It will be a short resolution.

h. WISCE – Elizabeth Brown

Long talk about Lake Powell and what Nate is trying to accomplish. It is a large task.

i. WSIA – Elizabeth Brown

No meetings or change since last call.

H) Announcements – ALL

- a. Oregon now has the pull the plug law!