

# Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday October 8th, 2015; 10 am MDT

Attended by: Dennis Zabaglo, Beth Bear, Elizabeth Brown, Joanne Grady, John Wullschleger, and Leah Elwell.

## Minutes

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes - Leah Elwell - John- motion to approve minutes, Joanne – seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) Coordinating the coordination update – Elizabeth – North American Lake Management Society, International Conference in Denver 2017. They will do a session on AIS and Elizabeth will reach out to WRP members for presentations. North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) is encouraging adoption of Play Clean Go (PCG). Elizabeth would like direction from Ex Comm on how to proceed. Do we recommend language for aquatic related materials? Suggest aligning with Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers (SAH!)/Clean Drain Dry language. Beth has already stated that WY will use it for terrestrial but will continue the use of Drain, Clean and Dry. Elizabeth says the same for CO right now. NAISMA does not have adequate AIS representation across the nation; if they want WRP to implement PCG then better communication is needed. Joanne – The US FWS refuge program was a big supporter of the program; in general though USFWS supports SAH for aquatic and PCG for terrestrial. As a panel there have been repeated attempts to coordinate with NAISMA and at this time WRP will not take additional steps toward using PCG.
- C) Legislation update - Stephen Phillips – no report due to Columbia Basin Team meeting conflict
- D) Annual meeting 2015 survey – Leah – The survey generally showed positive comments on the 2015 meeting. There were specific suggestions for 2016 and these will be brought to the agenda planning team. Elizabeth encouraged the group to look at other configurations for agenda schedule, possibly doing committee work within the timeframe. Joanne agreed that it would be a good use of time to get committees together to discuss ideas and then present that at the business meeting.
- E) Fiscal update – Leah – See summary below. Leah will supply quarterly update on bank account.

<b>2015 Annual Meeting</b>		
<u>Income</u>		
Uncommitted funds	4,501.00	General support for meeting
Committed Funds	<u>4,025.01</u>	Meeting support for specific uses
Total Income	8,526.01	
<u>Use of Income</u>		
Uncommitted funds	4,501.00	– Transferred to WRP savings account on 9/25/15
Committed Funds	4,025.01	– Used to offset meeting expenses
<u>Expenses</u>		
Total Meeting Expense	-11,497.25	
Committed funds	<u>4,025.01</u>	
Remaining balance funds	-7,472.24	Paid by transfer from USFWS funds
<b>USFWS Funds</b>		
Opening balance	24,583.93	
2015 meeting expense	<u>-7,472.24</u>	
<b>Available Balance</b>	<b>17,111.69</b>	
<b>WRP Available Funds</b>		
USFWS funds	17,111.69	
WRP Savings Account	<u>4,501.00</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,612.69</b>	

F) Clean Drain Dry (CDD) next steps - Leah distributed a survey to WRP member to collect information on the use of the phrase, the date of first use and how the phrase is used. Largely, it has been in wide use for almost a decade by a variety of agencies throughout the west. Joanne suggests we get Wildlife Forever (WF) on the phone to better understand their efforts to trademark the phrase Clean, Drain, Dry; At a recent Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency meeting, Doug Grann of Wildlife Forever explained that they were doing this for the benefit of the natural resource agencies and to protect from other uses of the phrase. It is not their intent to go after those using it but to provide as a beneficial service. Can Wildlife Forever provide this intent to the WRP in writing? State of TX sent a letter to WF informed them that CDD is already in use in Texas and if WF were to interfere with that use they would oppose their trademark. Joanne provided the letter to Ex Com. John suggested WF should have initiated some sort of discussion with the AIS community to vet the idea. Their motivation is not clear. Joanne - They have some champions in other agencies and parts of the west. WRP needs some answers to this issue - What does it mean if the TM office awards the TM to Wildlife Forever? As a panel is a letter sent to WF; or recommendation to the ANS Task Force? Priya was going to follow up with WF on getting in current use writing that WF will not seek cease and desist for current use. Unclear from an agency perspective how agency phrases are protected. Elizabeth will follow up

to get Doug Grann to initiate a call with Ex Comm and will distribute a doodle poll. John - What would we ask ANSTF to do? Dennis suggested ANSTF could get WF to put their intent in writing?

- G) ANS Task Force – A review of the ongoing activities and recommendations document to be submitted to ANSTF by October 23rd; ANSTF reporting matrix input – Leah supplied a proposed document that was presented to the ANSTF members, panel leadership, and state representatives. The proposed matrix form is an attempt to simplify collecting information for the Annual Report to Congress. Currently the information is collected via an Excel spreadsheet. This current matrix form however combines the collection of not only informing the Report to Congress from panels and ANSTF member agencies, but also the fiscal panel reporting, and state plan funding reporting. At this time WRP receives their funding through USFWS Region 6 and submits financial reporting directly to them, not to USFWS headquarters. Invasive Species Action Network, as the panel coordinator contractor would still be required to submit this financial reporting. Leah suggested that perhaps the form should only be used for informing the Report to Congress rather than financial reporting as well. A discussion of how to address fiscal reporting versus activity reporting to the ANSTF for the report to Congress. The \$40,000 that the panel receives directly supports coordination and beyond that other activities products from the panel are a result of other sources of partner funding and pro bono professional time.
- H) National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) – Tom McMahon – NISAW will be held in Washington DC Feb 21-27<sup>th</sup> 2016. Save the date is going out soon. Some of the activities include an awards ceremony at Capitol, webinars, and fly-in. Phil Andreozzi, National Invasive Species Council, is chair of the committee. It would be good to have national efforts take place simultaneously. Dennis asked if there were specific appointments for the fly-in that should be made now. Tom said in November office staff visits will begin to be planned.
- I) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
  - a. Annual Meeting 2016 Committee– Beth – Beth, Leah and Travis Zeihl (Teton County Weed and Pest) have been working on location. The meeting will likely be the week of October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 mostly because it is difficult to get federal per diem in September in Jackson. We have honed in on Snow King Resort. The planning committee will meet in November. Leah will work with the hotel on the contract and bring to the Ex Comm for approval.
  - b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady - Joanne just gave talk at Sport Fishing Boating Council (SFBC) meeting on Building Consensus. SFBC will have vacancies for new membership in June 2016. Susan Shingledecker and Brian Goodwin will likely be leads on the technical document to be developed by American Boating and Yachting Council (ABYC). There were some interesting questions from PA in how to apply similar western inspection efforts to Pennsylvania where there are many lakes and different political will. Colorado Marine Dealers Association has expressed interest in future participation in Building Consensus efforts. John Adey (ABYC) suggested a coordination committee that would be utilized for the technical document with (proposed) ANSTF Boating Industry Committee; these may serve the same purpose. John Adey of ABYC will be at ANSTF. BC Planning team will hold their next call on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.

Joanne has charged individuals to identify the questions Elizabeth/Dee need answered for WIT updating, Stephanie/Priya questions answered for regulations; other pieces for additional input for the planned early Feb workshop with AIS coordinators. Elizabeth is looking to utilize the committee to help prioritize and wrap things up. For example, how do we write things in the manual so they are universal (e.g. hand launch boats variation). What are the things that really matter to the group? Like seals and receipts because it is how we are communicating.

- i. WIDT Workgroup – Elizabeth – The group will get together the week of Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, and UMPS is out for the final review. One question that needs to be resolved is “are we doing all of this for PSMFC/100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Training or for everyone in the West”? Will address in a WISCE call. Joanne – couldn’t it be for both. Elizabeth - Some of it is content and some is delivery, and she suggests that we focus on the content.
  - ii. Legal - Joanne - Stephanie Showalter Otts is soliciting law enforcement officers to serve on the legal drafting team. If there are those interested, send them her way.
  - iii. Data Sharing – Elizabeth has set up a series of webinars with states to work through the data sharing. She has started by working with those states that have infested waters. Once those are completed will set up with other states without dreissenids. She trying to boil it down into smaller dialog and get a handle on the needs and how they want to use the app for data sharing.
  - iv. Regional Defense – Stephen – no report
  - v. Inreach – no report
  - vi. Outreach – Beth – needs to reconvene the committee after the IBEX meeting.
- c. Coastal Committee –report from Chair Nicole Dobroski
- i. We set up a file sharing site to collect references/resources for the development of the regional biofouling management plan. If any of the non-CC Ex Comm members would like to have access to the site, let me know and I’ll send them an invite.
  - ii. We are also brainstorming names of additional biofouling experts that we should add to the regional biofouling management plan development team to augment the Coastal Committee’s knowledge base. A few names have already been brought up.
  - iii. We have set the next workshop for the development of the regional biofouling management plan as December 9-10, 2015 in the Portland metro area.
  - iv. The document “A review of international, federal, state, and provincial regulatory roles and responsibilities relating to aquatic marine invasive species on the west coast” (written by Lisa DeBruckere) was finalized within the CC and has now (as of Monday afternoon) been distributed to the full WRP for review/thoughts. I’ve asked for comments back by Friday October 23.
  - v. On October 5, 2015, the US Court of Appeals (2nd Circuit) released its opinion on a petition for review of the EPA Vessel General Permit by 4 environmental

organizations. The Court held that EPA's permit failed to establish permit limits that meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act. This opinion could have a major impact on EPA regulation of vessel discharges (including ballast water). We are combing through the legal decision now and will provide further information, as it becomes available, on potential impacts to the west coast states.

- d. Membership Committee– Leah – no report
  - e. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis will be going to National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) compliance standards meeting in December and is in communication with Robert Newsome, VP of Engineering Standards at NMMA; Dennis will be helping to provide basic level presentations on AIS with boating community entities.
- J) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. Ballast Discharge – TBD
  - b. QZAP – Stephen
  - c. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth
- K) Announcements – ALL – Next Ex Comm call on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Nov.