

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday December 13, 2012; 10 AM

Attended by: Elizabeth Brown - Chair, Karen McDowell – Vice-Chair, Bob McMahon, Beth Bear, John Wullschleger, Stephen Phillips, Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes – Leah. Stephen motions, Karen seconds. All in agreement.
- B) Coordinator Monthly Update – Leah – Coordinating with Dave Britton to make changes to the website; everything is current and a few new resource pages are being developed/Attended ANS Task Force meeting in early November and presented on the AG workshop /Completed review of the Salt Lake City Annual meeting minutes/Participated in the bylaws work session/Completed various emails and necessary correspondence/Have held several annual meeting planning calls and coordinated with PSU host/ Discussion as to need for coordinator to attend the planning meeting regarding Quagga Strategy for potential funding.
- C) Finalizing the Salt Lake Meeting – Leah will send out the draft minutes for review by the membership ASAP. **Include this information in WRP monthly update.** Karen reported that there are no funds remaining and all travel reimbursements have been provided. Some travel for Karen to ANSTF will be charged to ISAN approx \$700. Discussion on whether Panel adopt federal per diem in the future to streamline reimbursement process. ISAN will clarify what bookkeeping needs they have and bring suggestion to Ex Comm.
- D) Progress/Next Steps on Oakland Facilitation notes and WRP Procedures Document – Elizabeth
 - a. Held a special work session on November 28 and addresses a number of details in the document to create the current draft.
 - b. Discussion on voting and quorum in particular situations for both the entire membership and Ex Comm.
 - c. Discussion on process to vote/approve individual members applicants; consensus from Ex Comm that a robust application procedure should ensure that we are populating our panel with appropriate and logical individuals. Review our application procedures to ensure that we receive quality applicants and gathers information that will allow membership to make an informed voting decision about incoming members.
 - d. Membership committee will take the first review of application materials/process. Elizabeth provided V6 of the Bylaws and this will now go to the Membership Committee for review.
 - e. Discussion of process/procedure for handling panel proposals for funding. Possibility might be that Panel could vote on a selection committee to rank that does not include individuals who are submitting for funding. Or another possibility may be when funds are available for external contracts; Ex Comm will appoint committee to review and rank, make recommendations. Process/procedure for dealing with panel funding should

be better defined and worked into the Bylaws. Next call will talk about the strategic doc and facilitation doc.

- E) ANSTF November Meeting Recap – Karen. All panel meeting was held prior to. Good sharing of information and all panels in funding crunch. This will be discussed more at the Spring ANSTF 2013 meeting. Highlighted several discussions and document approvals that will be relayed to the Panel members appropriately. Discuss Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers on the next Ex Comm call. Panel will keep an eye on the progress of the changeover of SAH to a private contractor as there seems to be limited western contact/exposure with Wildlife Forever.
- F) ANFSTF Deadlines - Leah - Annual Report Due December/Jan and Susan Mangin will be providing the template; be aware that this will have to be completed by Jan 31/Upcoming request for Research Priorities from the Panel, once we receive instructions on what type of detail they are requesting, this will have to be generated.
- G) Legislation of Interest – **Include this information in WRP monthly update.**
 - a. Invasive Species Control and Management Act (from Healthy Habitats Coalition go to <http://www.healthyhabitatscoalition.com/>) This legislation will generate funding for management of all invasive species taxa where funding amounts will be based on amount of public land within the state. It is possible that funding will be directed to each state Governor and at their discretion to direct within the state. Each state Dept of Agriculture will be the state agency lobbying for this legislation – each AIS coordinator is encouraged to work with these lobbying efforts. At this time no legislation has been introduced, but anticipating it in January. Stephen/Leah will monitor and keep updated.
 - b. Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2012. The bill would improve an existing regulatory process administered by the USFWS to prevent the introduction and establishment of injurious wildlife in the United States from imported nonnative wildlife and wild animal pathogens and parasites that are likely to cause environmental and economic harm to the country. In addition, these bills mandate that the USFWS use scientific risk assessments in making regulatory decisions. The bill has been introduced in both the House and Senate. Here’s a link to the bill <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/112/s3606>
 - c. Legislative quagga listing - Pacific State Marine Fisheries Commission is leading this effort with NW Power and Conservation Council; likely in January actions will be taken to encourage the listing.
- H) NISAW – discussion travel requests, possible Panel interests that should be conveyed on the Hill; Tom McMahon is requesting \$400 for hotel; Elizabeth requesting for hotel support. Karen made motion to approve requests; if we get additional requests then we will consider as they arise. Second by Stephen. All in favor. Leah will contact Tom know that Panel will support hotel. At Jan Ex Comm meeting will talk about priorities and talking points that could be discussed at hill visits etc during NISAW.
- I) WRP Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. 2013 Annual Meeting– Leah – Have had two planning calls and have been discussing a draft agenda of the program. The meeting space has been secured at PSU. Leah will

send out solicitation for agenda items to general membership to ensure we capture broad interests.

- b. AG Workshop Follow-Up – Beth Bear – no calls recently; working on several articles that will be published in a Law Journal
 - c. Agency Decon Guidelines – Leah – Stephanie Carman agreed to be responsible for annual review and update of the document. The final version will be posted on the WRP website as soon as possible.
 - d. Recreational Ballast Tank – Stephen Phillips – This project includes partners from state and federal agencies and watercraft associations/companies. Research will start next year at Lake Mead with University of Nevada Reno (contract currently being set up between UNR and CDFG).
 - e. Coastal Group – Kevin Anderson – Committee meeting to be held on Dec 20th. **Include this information in WRP monthly update.**
 - f. Lab Protocols and Standards – Stephen Phillips – Will discuss at the next ISAC meeting; Hope that Great Lakes will provide guidance on certification lab/ program that would be initiated from Asian carp efforts. Elizabeth said that Colorado has plans to improve communication in their state with partners. Attempt to validate PCR among different sources. Attempting to find positive ways to resolve for CO; WRP could play a leadership role in the definitions for these controversial terms associated with lab results (e.g. “suspect” waterbody). Technical issues/ QAQC/ communication/difference in goals. Could bundle what comes out of the CO effort into a white paper to move this issue forward.
 - g. Membership – Leah Elwell – Will meet in Jan/Feb; address Bylaws and membership application materials and discuss improving membership slots that have low or no active participation.
- J) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. QZAP – Stephen Phillips – No new news
 - b. Snakehead – John Wullschleger – This will be going out for public review soon.
 - c. Lionfish – John Wullschleger – Still adding and revising the plan at this time.
 - d. Ballast Discharge – Karen McDowell – Reported at ANSTF; working on the standards from a biological perspective; did a working group session to try to determine this, will put together a draft document in the near future.
 - e. Recreational Guidelines – John Wullschleger – Completed; out for public review soon.
 - f. Strategic Plan / Action Plan – Karen McDowell – Updating Matrix with input from the panels once a year in Nov1
 - g. NZMS – Beth Bear – No new news to report.
- K) Possibility of ANSTF 2014 Spring Meeting hosted by WRP? – Karen; The ANSTF spring meeting is rotated within different panels on a 6 year cycle; has not been on the west coast since 2005 and will not be in the WRP until 2015. Gulf panel is in 2014, Karen approached Gulf coordinator with possibility of going in 2014; maybe the WRP could host in coastal area. So if panel member regionally could do this – some presentations and help with field trip; Karen is suggesting AK with emerging issues and TF has not been there. AK is an option, specifically in Anchorage.

Input if WPR should move forward with trying to host. Elizabeth – make sure we know what Panel requirements would be. No one opposed to hosting in 2014 spring ANSTF; specific to AK. Motion to let Karen to move forward with exploring AK possibility, unless ANSTF chooses not to. Second by Wullshleger. All in favor. Karen will follow up.