

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday December 10, 2015; 10 am MDT

Participants: John Wullschleger, Stephen Phillips, Bob McMahon, Elizabeth Brown, Mark Sytsma, Joanne Grady, Dennis Zabaglo and Beth Bear.

Agenda

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes - Leah Elwell – Stephen made a motion to accept the November minutes. Joanne seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- B) Coordinating the coordination update – Elizabeth;
 - a. An economic subcommittee was initiated by ANSTF. Dr Hart from Oregon State University has been recommended and accepted to the committee. Dr. Wisinski (sp?) Rocky Mountain Research Center was recommended. They do want AIS expertise input as well.
 - b. There has been a request for WRP to send a letter to the commercial boat haulers that are concession entities with the National Parks. WRP could send a letter reminding them about Clean Drain Dry and the rack card. John - Which parks are covered by the list? Elizabeth – The list covers the Lower CO River but could cover others. John – actual lists may be maintained by individual parks; unsure how comprehensive the list may be; it would be good to understand the scope of the distribution list. John and Joanne in favor of sending a letter. John asked to provide him the list to review as there may be others to add to the list. Elizabeth will circulate draft letter to Ex Comm.
 - c. Elizabeth will set something up for after the New Year to address sampling standards that was brought up on the last Ex Comm call.
 - d. Letter request for Kami Silverwood, AZGFD to attend the Building Consensus workshop in February – Joanne is in favor of sending a letter.
 - e. James Dominguez suggested that the WRP play a role in Western Division American Fisheries Society (Reno – March 21-24, 2016). He suggests WRP organize an AIS symposia; the scope of the symposia is open to debate; Karen Vargas and Dennis have been contacted with potential involvement as local folks. This is an opportunity to have ongoing AIS education at future meetings. Joanne suggested that participation from Colorado River Fisheries Recovery program staff at the 2016 WDAFS. Dennis suggested that in the Tahoe area there is ongoing Lahontan cutthroat recovery and nexus with AIS. Elizabeth will double back with AFS and Dennis/Karen.
 - f. Tom Woolf, ID Dept Ag has been working on prevention coordination with Midwest (i.e. haulers and boat sale broker conversations with Erika Jensen and others). There is the potential for work/discussion to occur at the next Great Lakes Panel meeting (in conjunction with the Spring 2016 ANSTF meeting in Traverse City, MI). No state travel approval for Tom to attend. First step is getting with the Great Lake states and discussing what might be able to happen, such as cooperation, gear cleaning, and incentives from industry partners, national efforts to get haulers information etc. Next

WISCE call topic is "Containment". Tom has some good ideas and enthusiasm on this. Potentially put some time on the BC Denver III agenda. Stephen will double back with Tom.

C) Legislation update - Stephen Phillips –

- a. Coast Guard Authorization bill (S.1611) has vessel discharge (VIDA) language in it and according to west coast states would hamstring the state programs. S.1611 took language from S.373 Vessel Incidental Discharge Act. The House bill does not have the same language that could negatively affect state programs.
- b. Omnibus will not be ready by December 11th deadline and the deadline will be extended for one more week. Budget FY2016 appropriations will be affected by this budget outcome as well as the Interior budget for state plans. The Water Resource Reform and Development Act money in the US Army Corps budget of \$4 million for inspection stations (specific to Northwest (NW)) is determined by this budget decision. The details of how the WRRDA money would be allocated are not clear. Partners in the NW have looked at prioritizations as well as suggestions in the Pacific Northwest Economic Region document on regional defense conducted by Lisa DeBruckere. The Corps funding will require a 1:1 state match.
- c. State folks that go back during National Invasive Species Awareness Week trying to determine the final fact sheet for the visit.
- d. Federal Lands Invasive Species Control, Prevention and Management Act S.2240 (aka Healthy Habitats) sponsored by Barrasso (WY). Western partners may have to look at how to comment on the bill – many believe AIS specific language would help the bill. If enacted, funding would come to state departments of agriculture to do invasive species work on federal lands. State positioning to get funding to management programs would be important. Elizabeth – The bill calls for mandatory 5% reduction for aquatics which is impossible for many species. There are other issues with the bill that are problematic.

D) Clean Drain Dry update – no new news is known at this time. Unable to get current status from Priya Nanjappa prior to the call.

E) Set All member call date – March 16th 2 pm – two hours

F) Annual meeting 2017 proposal solicitation – Leah will get out requests for proposals out now and vote on the location of the 2017 meeting on the All Member call in March 2016. In Jackson, the membership will vote on 2018. Inland coastal rotation was discussed as important, but the locations selected will boil down to the applications that are submitted and the associated location costs. The annual meeting requires a professional facility to get things done.

G) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Annual Meeting 2016 Committee– Beth; next planning call is January 12th. Agenda is in development – Dennis suggested that ABYC potentially present as they will have finished the technical report.
- b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady - planning team to get together next week. Invitation letter for Denver III workshop went out to the participants; QZAP will

be on the 3rd day following Denver III. Leah and Lisa are working through the agenda. WISCE calls are being held to help inform the agenda for February. The WISCE calls will cover Containment and Sampling. Light at the end of the tunnel to complete work and she is viewing February as the last face to face.

- i. WIDT Workgroup – Elizabeth – Stephen announced the Spring Watercraft Inspection training calendar. Elizabeth will de-brief with Stephen and Dee on the 2015 training year. Colorado training calendar is in development.
 - ii. Legal - Joanne – not sure of the status of the team but development of the regulations is underway
 - iii. Data Sharing – Elizabeth – Hope to have the design ready for the data sharing app for February. Two more webinars remaining with western regional partners, and programming of the regional app will begin the first week of January.
 - iv. Regional Defense – Stephen – GIS Colorado and GIS Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission will be having a conversation in early January on mapping tools for inspection and interceptions. What was previously collected via email will be better managed and shared in the future. A long term goal - A future “Super Database” to put West 911, COPW/WRP/QZAP database and PSMFC WI/I/L database spreadsheets, etc to better compile and communicate. We have great GIS expertise and just need to agree on variables and fields.
 - v. Outreach – Beth – The committee has held 2 calls, and the next call will be in January. The committee has discussed the importance of having a central location for boating industry folks to access outreach materials. The committee is exploring social based marketing strategies for non-motorized boaters. In February they will meet informally face to face.
- c. Coastal Committee –report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – The Committee met yesterday to discuss the development of the Regional Marine Biofouling Plan. Stephen -The outline for the plan was the goal for the meeting this week. However, the committee left the meeting with the goal of creating a reason/purpose for developing the plan. A white paper is the focus now for justification which will also help outline and future plan writing. There is so much work to do in the ocean, so this will help develop a strategy for the committee moving forward. They will meet next March 29/30 at the Pacific Ballast Water Group meeting and take at least ½ day there.
 - d. Membership Committee– Leah – A committee call will be initiated in January to begin addressing topics raised at the annual meeting.

H) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Ballast Discharge – TBD
- b. QZAP – Stephen – no comments at this time with the exception of the QZAP funding meeting to be held in February mentioned previously.
- c. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – The leadership of the committee has had four conference calls in the last 2 weeks with chairs and USFWS leadership. Focus has been

on updating the SAH! website where a contract is in place to do the technical work. Roles and responsibilities are better sorted out now. One of the primary needs of partners is the availability of the products produced under that campaign – online catalog. Jensen’s vision is “People, products and projects”, however there has not been any buy-in yet from the committee on this. None of the work to date to revise the website has involved the committee of 35 people. Contractor will design and committee to create content. Jeff Iverson is the developer. There is a lot of inclusion of Play, Clean, Go on the SAH! website being designed. Clean Drain Dry is present as well as SAH!

- d. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis – The committee will need to create a charter and begin this the first of the year; examples have been provided from Don MacLean to use. Joanne and Glenn Dolphin expressed interest in serving on the committee with about 10 people total nationwide. Dennis presented in Nashville at National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) Compliance Standards Seminar to over 300 people. He shared info on western inspection programs and UMPS. Robert Newsome is really plugging the issue at NMMA. All positive.
 - e. NISAW – (report as needed Tom McMahon) participation nationally – Leah will reach out to Tom to present on the next Ex Comm call.
- l) Announcements – ALL –
- a. Mark Sytsma held a forum in early November that explored AIS research needs with input from 30+ people from around the country; draft report is being reviewed by the participants and the final document will be ready in December for distribution to WRP.