

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

December 10th, 2018 at 9:00 am mountain time

Minutes

Attended by: Glenn Dolphin, Erin Raney, Stephen Phillips, Elizabeth Brown, Martha Volkoff, Dennis Zabaglo, Nate Owens, John Wullschleger, Joanne Grady and Leah Elwell.

The first hour of the call focused on QZAP survey in preparation for the WGA QZ Leadership Forum

Elizabeth put a version of the QZAP score card on the Google shared drive. WISCE group has had discussions, and several folks have been asked for information. A primary discussion point is to determine: What is the future need for things that are not started in QZAP?

Is there a need to re-do the plan? Based on what happens in January at the WGA Leadership Summit, it is likely. It has been suggested there might be an opportunity to strengthen federal coordination. What do we want them to do – participate, maybe under this administration it might be state-centric. If there is a mandate for coordination and action, will they do something less rigorous than the states would have done? Keep in mind that QZAP is federal-state, but the states have been primary leaders. The Department of Interior will likely have a high influence; states have done a good job of creating a unified front. Do we need something official from Interior or not? Where do we want that coordination to be happening?

The final publication date of QZAP document was 2009 (this date is the metric for the calculations).

- Section A – is ongoing and will need some explanatory text – what is the ask moving forward, and what do we need for federal funding and coordination?
- Suggested edit for B.6 – does the Wells et al. need to be added here or is it sufficient in section E.
- Law Enforcement needs - What is the need moving forward – a paradigm shift on LE is needed for several partners. The lack of LE commitment is one of the issues that has been continuous and at the WGA Summit we should be pointing this out. Someone above us will have to recommend that this be improved. Call out that “it is required” which translates to more funding. High priority action item perhaps in the revision.
- Lab standard with QC component that is.....etc. refinement editing needed here.
- Monitoring has been initiated by the CRB. The long-standing need has been for a state-federal committee that sets up the process for certifying labs. Double-blind tests - both tasks will need a home.
- For D.1. USACE has some current funding that can be used for Rapid response, throughout the west. How do you treat a response – emergency or programmatic. Once the USACE gets the paperwork in order then WRDA jurisdictions can apply for money. WID, monitoring, RR and flowering rush – it will be a juggle to input the funds across the eligible entities.
- There are currently a lot of list servs and phone trees to release information.

- For D.4 – there have been RR exercises for over a decade, and people are being trained.
- For D. 5 – ESA manual is in preparation; USACE consultation and we are partly there. This will help guide the other federal entities when they can see what USFWS R1 and USACE Walla Walla District.
- Coordinating outreach – could do better on press releases co-release on a multi-state timed effort. Are there any social science research/audience effectiveness priorities moving forward? Should they remain as priorities or fall off? Nate – investment should be in the social science research how best to reach and where are they getting their information. Identify what communities we are not reaching, how to do it and change their behavior. Erin – TV and radio seem very location specific. Schools can have AIS build into their curriculum.
- Add the Wells et al paper to the G.1

Continue with regular WRP Ex Comm agenda.

- A) Approval of November minutes and Tacoma Ex Comm discussion minutes; member survey and SWOT survey attach to the Tacoma Ex Comm notes. Tacoma notes: John made a motion to approve with changes and mentioned attachments, Stephen seconded. All in favor, motion carries. November Ex Comm minutes: Stephen made a motion to approve, Nate seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- B) Legislation update – Stephen Phillips-
 - a. VIDA passed.
 - b. Congress has 2 weeks to get the budget done. Waiting on getting the appropriations bill and that will give us the Interior spending (state plans, QZAP etc.) and Commerce (Sea Grant, etc.).
 - c. Various legislation is floating such as Land Water Conservation Fund and Recovering Americas Wildlife Act. The LWCF has a chance to pass.
- C) Policy on letters of support – Stephen – He should have a draft for discussion on the January call.
- D) Coordinating the coordination update
 - a. DOI Mussel Initiative – John Wullschleger – working through the Safeguarding the West accomplishment report to be shared with Department leadership and all stakeholders; NPS FY19 AIS projects will be selected the week after next.
 - b. WGA - Elizabeth Brown – The Planning Team is moving forward with assembling the Mussel Leadership Summit. The invites went out and all the pre-work is underway. Their final workshop is in Hawaii this week.
 - c. WAFWA – January 2-7, 2019, Tucson (there will be no committee meetings)
 - d. PNWER – Stephen Phillips – meet July 21-25. 2019 in Saskatchewan.
 - e. NMMA/ABYC – Joanne – We are starting to see trade stories about the Technical Information Report on AIS and watercraft; Joanne will circulate ones that show up.
 - f. Annual letter to CTC partners and updates to list – Elizabeth; please make any edits to the list of folks by Dec 31. Letter to be completed by the Membership and

Communication Committee in January/February, and shared with Ex Comm.

- E) ANSTF
 - a. Spring 2019 meeting – WRP to host at Tahoe – Targeting the first or second week of May. Will report back after Dec ANSTF meeting.

- F) Status Update on BOR request – Elizabeth – No new information. Based on internal DOI calls we may not know for several months.

- G) WRP Website update and discussion on future website – Leah – R1 has committed to trying to keep the updates moving forward. Prioritize what the asks are for if we get BOR funding we could be looking at a new website. An evaluation/recommendations (what needs to be added and not relevant) of the website could be a good thing for the EDU committee. A goal and audience should be defined. Ex Comm agreed that the website needs to house business of the WRP, make connections between the audiences that we serve. Needs to be more functional for who we serve right now, which is for our members and partners. Could provide the public part at a later time. Plan to get some feedback from the members of what would be valuable to add and could be covered on the mid-year teleconference.

- H) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. 2019 Annual Meeting – Leah – plans are underway. Many quotes from facilities have been solicited in Bozeman, Missoula, Kalispell, and Whitefish. The agenda team will gather in January.
 - b. Coastal Committee – Glenn Dolphin liaison – no new news
 - c. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Elizabeth liaison – held a call in December and are continuing to work on the updated Decon system spec, reviewing changes to the regional WID database, they will do some evaluations on how it is adapted, working on updates to training manual for next year, will meet monthly until March and then skip during prime inspection/decontamination time.
 - d. Membership and Communication Committee – John Wullschleger – no new news
 - e. Outreach Committee – Chair Allison Zach; Elizabeth liaison – had a call 12/6; discussed the template documents and QZAP needs.

- I) WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Building Consensus – Chair Joanne Grady – Stephanie got great comments on the MOU; in graphic design phase, has reached out to AFWA to fulfill commitment to move through the AIS committee and be presented to the main voting body of AFWA. The grant for the MOU completion also includes funding on outreach and education for legal folks and leaders; she plans to be at the WGA summit.
 - b. eDNA Committee – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Nate liaison – The committee will meet on December 12 for their first call.
 - c. Lab Committee (no report – on hold until winter research completed)

- d. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination Committee – Chair Elizabeth Brown – no new information.
 - e. Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures – Chair Beth Bear (Nate liaison) – The committee will meet on December 12 for their first call.
- J) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. Communications, Education and Outreach – Co-Chair Elizabeth Brown (no new updates)
 - b. Prevention (committee currently inactive)
 - c. Research Committee (committee currently inactive)
 - i. AIS Economic Analysis – John Wullschleger (committee currently inactive)
 - d. Ad-hoc Boating Committee – Dennis Zabaglo – no new information
- K) Announcements – ALL