

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday January 10, 2013; 10 AM MST

Attended by: Elizabeth Brown – Chair, Karen Mc Dowell – Vice Chair, Leah Elwell - Coordinator, Stephen Phillips, Kevin Anderson, John Wullschleger, Earl Chilton, and Larry Dalton.

Minutes

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes – Leah. Karen motion to approve, Earl second. All in favor.
- B) Coordinator Monthly Update – Leah – Solicited feedback from members on annual meeting topics, sent out Dec monthly email, reminder out for Salt Lake minute comments due the 21st, change in membership representation from Manitoba; clarification of participation at NISAW AG with Joanne and others; majority of the web changes are completed need to touch base with Britton on other requests of new pages; Question – would Ex Comm like the coordinator to participate in subcommittee/committee meetings? Majority agreed that that Elwell should participate. Elwell will provide more detailed report to Ex Comm on current expenditure of time spent on WRP to date that can be used to advise Elwell’s time on future meetings/calls etc.
- C) Progress/Next Steps on Oakland Facilitation notes and WRP Procedures Document – Leah. Earl recommended that a percentage of membership to be present for a quorum; most are 50% of membership that should be present at any meeting. This could be problematic with travel restrictions when we only have a few members are present there may not be a representative vote, in that case suggest going to electronic. Karen suggested defining “active membership” to ensure that missing slots are not counted in the total percentage. Look at this after the membership committee reviews the current version of the Bylaws.
- D) ANFSTF Deadlines - Annual Report Due January 31, time frames of when the money was partitioned will determine the period of this report; there will be an all Panels call on Jan 22 to discuss the Duluth meeting topics.
- E) NISAW –discussion of possible Panel interests that should be conveyed on the Hill. Anderson - What was the message from last time? Phillips - Focus was on implementation for the 1M to Lake Mead. For 2013, Phillips and others from the west will have an organized message that will likely have a) the listing of quagga as injurious under the Lacey Act, an b) possibly funding. Elizabeth Brown /Tom McMahon will be in DC.
- F) WRP Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Annual Meeting 2013– Leah Elwell – Next call scheduled for Jan 31
 - b. AG Workshop Follow-Up – Leah – A call will be held on Jan 24 at 11:30-1pm MST to have participants update on the action plan and the status of other work items
 - c. Ballast Tank – Stephen Phillips – The contract between CA Fish and Game and University of Nevada - Reno is almost set; ballast units are almost ready to ship to Tahoe, the project is on target to begin late Feb/early March and go through early summer.
 - d. Coastal Group – Kevin Anderson – Committee held call Dec 20, 2012 with good participation from region; Committee seems interested both on tsunami debris and

regional collaboration; addressed WRP annual agenda for 2013 looking for success stories with many relayed to Robyn Draheim. AK response plan on green crab was discussed and distributed. A general discussion that people should be aware of - AK bill pending that will develop an emergency response fund for AIS. February meeting planned for next committee call.

- e. Lab Protocols and Standards – Stephen Phillips – No new updates
 - f. Membership – Leah Elwell – Scheduling first call for later this month/early Feb.
- G) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
- a. Ballast Discharge – Karen McDowell – no new updates
 - b. Lionfish – John Wullschleger – no new updates
 - c. NZMS – Beth Bear – no new updates
 - d. QZAP – Stephen Phillips – call to be scheduled soon
 - e. Recreational Guidelines – John Wullschleger - no new updates
 - f. Snakehead – John Wullschleger – no new updates
 - g. Strategic Plan / Action Plan – Karen McDowell – no new updates
- H) Announcements – ALL -
- a. Larry Dalton provided update on directing \$1M to USFWS for Q/Z efforts in West. A process has been put in place to make recommendations on how best to allocate the funds. A committee will meet Feb 20th in Salt Lake City to discuss with the help of a facilitator. Dave Britton is organizing this effort. Following the meeting, the group hopes to make a recommendation to the USFWS on allocating the money. There is a possibility that there may be more funding available for programmatic efforts.
 - b. Earl Chilton– Texas may have some of the past cuts to AIS programs restored or increased. Also, there is new state legislation that would help in the control of zebra mussels, where currently, management require a proof of presence of the mussel to allow for adequate management actions/prevention measures to be taken.