

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

Thursday January 8th, 2014; 10 am MDT

Attended by: Elizabeth Brown, Stephen Phillips, Bob McMahon, Beth Bear, Tom McMahon, John Wullschleger, Dennis Zabaglo and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes - Leah Elwell; Bob McMahon motions to approve December 2014 minutes, Stephen Phillips seconds. All in favor, and minutes are approved.
- B) Approval of letters – Elizabeth – Lake Assault Boats letter went out in January. Letter to Utah to encourage the participation of Jordan Nielson at the ABYC workshop; letter to CA for Dennis Zabaglo to be nominated for the CAIS Committee. Tom moves to approve both letters with inclusion of any minor edits, Stephen seconds. All in favor, if other minor edits come it will be added by 5 pm today to get the letters out to respective recipients.
- C) Coordinating the coordination update – Elizabeth Brown; there is a PNWER webinar on January 22; MN AIS summit is also on January 21-22. She will be presenting at both events electronically.
- D) Legislation update - Stephen Phillips – Only bill seen introduced so far is the wildlife trafficking bill but unlikely to have AIS content; There are states going to NISAW for hill visits (Dennis Zabaglo and Tom McMahon are included in that group). They are in the process of putting together the fact sheet and hill visit list. Top items are similar to past, e.g. decontamination for boats leaving federally AIS-affected waters, increased funding for state management plans, and quagga listing. This year they will also include the re-authorization of NISA; based on the other regional panel interest and discussions from the fall 2014 ANSTF meeting. Earl inquired how best to identify critical congressmen to talk to during NISAW. Stephen recommends that for your specific state identify representatives that serve on committees for energy, water, natural resources (and Interior) and appropriations. If you have questions, he can try to help.
- E) All Member Call February 12 at 2pm MST Agenda finalize – Leah will distribute the finalized agenda in the next WRP monthly update.
- F) Update to WRP 1 pager – Leah will update minor components and distribute to the Ex Comm for full review and appropriate updates in track changes. Leah will compile and provide to Elizabeth in time for Jan 20th meeting. **Deadline for comments to Leah January 16th.**
- G) Utilization of “Threats to the West” map graphics – Susan Pasko has requested the use of the maps from Threats brochure in the Report to Congress. All agreed was appropriate, but include credit to WRP.
- H) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Annual Meeting 2015 Committee– Dennis Zabaglo – Held a planning conference call yesterday with discussion about the topics for the agenda. Exploring ideas about inreach, economic impacts and others. Another possible topic might be next steps for social marketing communication talk. Dennis has explored some keynote speaker ideas

including Sen. Heller (NV). The development of the agenda is on track and facility is secured.

- b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Elizabeth – The main focus has been to get ready for the ABYC workshop that is later this month.
 - i. WIDT Workgroup – Elizabeth – Dee Davis has her first training with the new materials next month and they are working hard to get the final portions of the decontamination section to be completed by the end of the week. Trainings and registration are on the www.westernais.org. CO has two trainer training courses soon. This workgroup will move on to UMPS soon. Leah will put in next WRP Monthly Update the website information, training and highlight this as a resource. If there are resources or other information missing on the site, be sure to let Lisa DeBruyckere know. Stephen – has all of the data for 2014 for inspection stations, number inspected, how many caught and sources of boats which he compiles for analysis. The number of boats intercepted was down a bit. This does not include high risk boats. He intends on including high risk boats counts in 2015, but one of the issues with including them is the CA dataset which would include 10K+ of high risk boats. Stephen is working on outlining UPMS III and will have additional help to get this document completed. In the past, previous revisions included time-consuming surveys and phone calls. He anticipates input collectively by phone and will need as many people as possible to weigh in. UMPS III will be reformatted with different information being put into appendices. The science that we have is still valid.
Elizabeth would like to have a conference call with ANSTF outreach committee and Building Consensus Inreach and Outreach subcommittees to see if we can minimize duplication of work for all. Need to assemble action items and mission statements for the subcommittees. Leah will clarify with Tammy Davis about being chair of the Inreach committee.
 - ii. Legal – Model regulation portion has begun and they will hold a one day meeting after ABYC to initiate the effort among those that can attend.
 - iii. Inreach - Tom
 - iv. Outreach - Beth
 - v. Data Sharing – Elizabeth – has an upcoming meeting with UT (Jordan and tech person) to further develop app for sharing among CO, UT, and NM. She hopes later this month to convene the full committee to discuss the notification forms and the legal aspects. As a middle ground step, the form could eliminate any personal information, and then individual states would use their enforcement staff to look up additional information. This would allow NPS partners to participate in the usage/data sharing. Elizabeth has started making some of the modifications to the Colorado app, so some of those items are built and can be readily copied/westernized for others to utilize.

- vi. Perimeter defense – Stephen – There is a January 21st webinar to report on all the coordination that is ongoing hosted by PNWER; From the November PNWER meeting on perimeter defense there will be a summary report available shortly.
 - c. Coastal Committee – report from Chair Sonia Gorgula; Stephen Phillips is scheduling a half day workshop to flesh out the bio-fouling/tunicate/marine AIS planning related aspects of the management plan as part of the annual Pacific Ballast Water Group Meeting. This is scheduled to take place on the afternoon of 16 April in Seattle. The 3 hour planning meeting includes industry and other stakeholders. The goal is to have organizers hold a frank discussion on next steps.
 - d. Membership Committee – Leah – Continues to clarify with some members their intent to participate in the future due to their lack of recent participation.
 - e. Recreational Ballast Tank Research Workgroup – Stephen – there may be some next steps for this workgroup but it may depend on what takes place at ABYC workshop later this month. Stephen hopes that some sort of certification process for new technologies could come out of the ABYC; where an industry-agency group could be part of a review process bearing a “Good Housekeeping Seal” to new technologies.
- I) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Ballast Discharge – TBD
 - b. Lionfish – John Wullschleger – The document went out for public comment before the holidays.
 - c. QZAP – Stephen- Elizabeth’s ad hoc request to extend the deadline of the QZAP document at the last ANSTF meeting has spurred some conversations. Dave Britton will hold a winter meeting to discuss prioritization of funding again. Elizabeth will double back on extending the deadline items and report back. Stephen believes the document still holds and is relevant; priorities are still the same priorities. Elizabeth - The QZAP ANSTF committee are similar to who meets with Britton, but there are additional people. Are there steps to take or not? At a minimum, we will have to prepare some information to bring to the Spring ANSTF meeting to report back on.
 - d. Snakehead – John – this is on its way out for public comment
 - e. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – no activity since the last meeting
 - f. SAH! Advisory Committee –Joanne - no new news
 - g. NISAW Planning Committee – Tom McMahon – February 23-27th. No new significant activity to report; Hill team will get together to discuss strategy soon.
- J) Announcements – ALL -