

# Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

January 12, 2017 at 10:30 am mountain time

Attended by: Tammy Davis, John Wullschleger, Stephen Phillips, Tom McMahon, Elizabeth Brown, Mark Sytsma, Dennis Zabaglo and Leah Elwell.

## Agenda

- A) Approval of December minutes - Leah Elwell. Tammy motioned to approve minutes. John seconded. All in favor, minutes are approved.
- B) Coordinating the coordination update - Elizabeth Brown
  - a. Havasu Anchor Letter – Elizabeth contacted Havasu Marine Assoc. Jim Salscheider who is working with an anchor company near Havasu. The Havasu Marine Assoc. are asking Slide Anchor to include AIS education information in their product documents. Can WRP write a letter to Slide Anchor to encourage this action and provide the accurate language of Clean, Drain, Dry? Tom made a motion to approve sending letter. Seconded by John. All approved.
  - b. WDAFS – May 22-25 2017, Missoula – ISAN/WRP organized symposia. ISAN has agreed to follow through and submit symposia abstract by 1/21. ISAN will also provide a confirmed speaker list by 1/30. ISAN will share draft agenda and get feedback from Ex Comm. Ex Comm will encourage participation.
  - c. WAFWA – They met in AZ last week; John Wullschleger was in attendance, there was also a CO River Coordinating council side meeting. In general, he observed a dramatic change in the level of knowledge and appreciation from the fish chiefs for Building Consensus. The committee chose a new chair, Reid DeWalt, Assistant Director of Wildlife and Natural Resources from CO Parks & Wildlife. A lot of discussion on non-native fish as they are not classified as invasive species, depending. Also a AZ vision document was circulated. Their next meeting is in Vail, CO in July. We will revisit what kind of “ask” might be appropriate to bring to them at that time.
  - d. AFWA – National Conservation Need –The proposal from last year was highly received and are hopeful that it would be considered well this year.
  - e. ISAC – Leah provided a summary from Bob Wiltshire’s participation at the December meeting.
    - i. NISC has 5 new staff, a new website and facebook page.
    - ii. NISC just held the “Innovation Summit” first week of December. There will be a report from this event. It is hoped that this will evolve into an annual week-long event.
    - iii. There were 4 principle federal agencies in attendance of the ISAC meeting; USDA, DOI, DOD and DOT. CEQ leadership was in attendance and made comments.
    - iv. The Executive Order that reauthorized NISC was released at the ISAC meeting in December. It included language that added human health, climate change

linked with invasive species and new technology. The EO also expanded membership.

v. ISAC will meet next in July 2017.

f. PNWER – July Portland meeting, the AIS committee will have a full day meeting. Kate Wilson (AB) is the co-chair.

C) Legislation update – Stephen Philips –

a. Congress is just getting going. GMO and aquaculture bills are the only bills of relevance that have come out yet.

b. VIDA – there is a draft out there similar to the past bills. There was a recent call among that states to discuss. Nicole Dobroski/Allen Pleus and other stakeholders will meet with shipping industry in February to discuss “issues”. We have heard that the VIDA bill will be marked up the end of January in the Commerce Committee.

c. Other bills that may be (re) introduced in this Congress - Lacey Act and Healthy Habitats bills are likely (???) to appear. We hope to see someone showing interest in the re-authorization on NISA.

d. At NISAW hill visits in February the briefing materials will contain a top priority of increased support for the Panel(s).

e. Mark suggests that it might be helpful to reach out the AG directors in the similar way of the wildlife directors. The cross-over would be really helpful. Elizabeth has tried to make connections with the National Association of State Directors of Agriculture (NASDA) with no success. She suggested an action plan about reaching out might be needed, and we should seek out those WRP members with an existing relationship there if any exists. She asked state coordinators – how much do you talk to weed coordinators. AK works with the ag coordinator, AZ lets Ag handle plants. ID AIS program is in agriculture.

D) Finalize the 1 pager – Leah – The committee discussed and finalized suggested edits. Leah will circulate for one final read through.

E) Future of WRP Website - Leah – At this time Joanne has secured permission to make revisions on the WRP site. She has to obtain software to make those changes. Leah will provide her with changes as soon as she is ready. In the meantime, if money becomes available then the group can consider other options for future web presence for the WRP.

F) Financials – as of 1/11/2017 the WRP Savings Account balance = \$11,903.28 and remaining USFWS Funds = \$1,306.72. The USFWS are from the original 2012 agreement. USFWS is wanting to close out these older contracts as soon as possible. This contract closes on Dec 29, 2017. WRP is able to expend these funds prior to December. The group agreed that the funds would be transferred to the savings account to finalize the contract.

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

a. Annual Meeting 2017 Committee – Leah; The planning team met last week and had a great first discussion. The team decided that non-solicited talks will require an abstract; Leah has developed one on google forms. Leah is working with CA on funding support.

- b. ANSTF Meeting Spring 2017 – Dennis Zabaglo and Leah – Dennis, Leah, Elizabeth and Susan Pasko met on Tuesday. The meeting will take place in South Lake Tahoe and the Tahoe Resort Hotel May 2-4. On May 2: WRP has the first day of meeting to develop as they see fit. May 3 and 4 is for ANSTF to develop. WRP will query the other panels on getting together on the Thursday afternoon. Susan will deal with invitation/registration. Goal to have a save the date out in February. If Ex Comm members have any input on western focus topics, please provide. Mark suggested a talk on weeds in the Delta (John Madsen).
- c. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady - the planning team met this week and agenda development is underway for April 5 and 6 in Albuquerque. James Dominguez and Sam Chan are handling hotel and meeting room logistics.
  - i. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells – Met on Tuesday.
    - 1. Participants included Christopher Churchill (USGS), Stephen Phillips (PSMFC), Denise Hosler (USBR), Lidija Vidmanic (BC Ministry of Env), Megan Payne (EcoAnalysts), Stacy Schmidt (MTFWP), Greg Southard (TXPWD), Dominique Nortion (CDFW), Jim Snider (CDFW), and Paul Rochelle (Met WD). Agenda is attached.
    - 2. After the call, he sent out a draft table for existing lab protocols (attached). This is updated version of table on agenda based on call. Members are going to make changes to table parameters and due this Friday. We'll then fill in table and look for patterns.
    - 3. Greg Southard provided link to AFS fish health QAQC section, and members are to review by next call 3/7/17.
    - 4. Looks good. Lots of common ground, and differences don't appear to impact results.
    - 5. Very technical – concentrate on microscopy not PCR
    - 6. Stay on top of this effort with Steve leaving for a different job
  - ii. Legal – Joanne – Stephanie Showalter Otts is updating the legislation comparison document. She will also begin working on model MOU.
  - iii. Inreach –Tammy Davis – Met last week, still identifying deliverables. Their goal to have 1 pager by April meeting for review and possibly a ppt for various venues. She requested that if there are specific documents that should be mentioned in the 1 pager – please provide directly to her.
  - iv. Outreach – report from Chair Beth Bear; met in November, plans to have discussion in New Mexico to help resolve the intent moving forward.
  - v. Sampling Protocol – report from Chair Karen Vargas - the sampling group last met in November. She will have a draft document out to the committee to review this month.
- d. Coastal Committee –report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – Tammy – CASLC have finished up the white paper on biofouling and sent to the Coastal Committee for review. It looks good. Next step may be to meet up and discuss in April at Pacific Ballast Water group meeting.

- e. Membership Committee – Leah - met yesterday; group is looking at the bylaws, membership positions, process for tribal/first nations membership. She has created a timeline to make the deadlines needed for elections and voting on the bylaws.

H) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth; Susan Pasko is working with the contractor to get the SAH! website finished and is on track for the end of February. One place of consternation is the branding vetting, the new site follows the Play Clean Go standard and language. If you like it use it, if not then don't. Susan will be able to edit as soon as it goes live. Habitatitude has its own contract for a website and it may go live this winter too. They will then move on to updating the ANSTF and USFWS AIS pages. What is the committee supposed to be doing? Consistently implement the guidelines published in 2012. The goal is to query the panels are your members implementing and evaluating the guidelines. They are developing a simple survey and will discuss at the ANSTF Tahoe meeting with the results and what committee could do moving forward.
- b. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis and Joanne –Waiting on minutes and updated draft from the last meeting in the Fall.
- c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger – Susan sent out an email for economic studies from states.
- d. QZAP – Stephen – Barak Shemai is the new USFWS R2 AIS Coordinator and replaces David Britton's position. There may be a possibility to meet with Barak in with the BC meeting in Albuquerque. It is unclear what the timing is for QZAP funding this year. We could use meeting to discuss QZAP in general. If Albuquerque is too late then may need to have discussions on what will take place. The management needs (historically supporting the lower Colorado River containment (state) programs) will need to be prioritized moving forward and will need open communication. History of QZAP efforts and the original intent are still highly relevant.
- e. NISAW –Dennis and Stephen – Last week of February NISAW takes place with webinars, brown bag lunch seminars, hill visits etc.

I) Announcements – ALL

- a. Elizabeth - An ask for WAFWA may be: there is a trend is that we agree on what the best science is and then when we get a positive result, the director takes over and we don't adhere. This would be an issue to bring to WAFWA to adopt BC classifications and notifications and follow. Essentially a notification policy – standards for listing and de-listing. Revisit the first BC document and polish. Tammy – having something clear and well prepared is much more well received. Making this type of request also helps us get a perspective on where people stand. One of the things in administrative level is how to keep information close - hold. Trust building and ties to reciprocity.
- b. Mid-Year Teleconference March 29<sup>th</sup> 1 pm mountain.
- c. West Coast Sea grant on new curriculum will be available soon.
- d. Leah will doodle for February Ex Comm as Leah and Elizabeth both have a conflict.