

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

January 11th, 2017 at 2:00 am mountain time

Attended by: Dennis Zabaglo, Stephen Phillips, Nate Owens, Tammy Davis, Jeff Adams, Martha Volkoff and Elizabeth Brown.

Minutes

- A) Approval of October and December minutes - Leah Elwell – Dennis made a motion to approve both, and Nate seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) 2018 Election Results to date - Leah distributed the election ballot for Ex Comm and membership elections. Unanimously all members and Ex Comm members were selected.
- C) Election of Chair and Vice Chair – Elizabeth and Dennis would like to run for chair, and vice chair respectively. Stephen made motion to approve and Jeff seconded. All in favor. The group approved the 2017-2018 Chair/Vice. The group moved the monthly call to Third Wednesday 2 pm mountain time.
- D) Coordinating the coordination update
 - a. DOI Mussel Initiative – not much new to report; A response to the Western Governors letter regarding mussel management recent received a response from the DOI. Today Bill Whiteacre, WGA, was to be meeting with an advisory team regarding the response letter. It is not clear what will be the outcome of the November 2017 Lake Mead Meeting.
 - b. WGA - March workshop – no new information;
 - c. WAFWA – The group met last week but did not have an AIS committee meeting. That committee has agreed to only meet on time per year rather than twice as a year as the full WAFWA does.
 - d. NISC - added by Tammy after call: NISC, as the facilitator for the Arctic Region Invasive and Alien Species (ARIAS) Strategy and Action Plan is supporting (not financially) an all taxa EDRR strategy for Alaska. AK DF&G and DNR are partnering with NOAA and USFWS to pull together stakeholders for input.
 - e. ISAC – A recent announcement was made that ISAC is no accepting applications for 4 membership openings, which are due by mid-February. There have been discussion of potentially holding a meeting at NISAW this year.
 - f. PNWER – They will be doing state legislature visits this winter which may include invasive species topics. Their next meeting is July22-26 in Spokane.
 - g. eDNA monitoring state efforts – Martha – Tom Woolf (correction MT Invasive Species Council) is convening an eDNA experts panel in MT. Martha will communicate with him to ensure that there is no duplication should a western regional standard protocol be pursued. Consistent terminology is needed.
 - h. Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council meeting 1/4/2018 – Doug Kreiger (CO Parks and Wildlife) presented the work of the model law comparison; filled in on monitoring efforts, discussed seaplanes; suggested there may be there things to learn from

activities in the Columbia Basin and put in a plug for NISAW participation. The council suggested they would try to help on the FACA review affecting the WRP with a director's letter. Many of fish chiefs were not as knowledgeable of ongoing AIS work highlighting disconnect between AIS staff and the chiefs.

- E) Legislation update – Stephen Philips –
 - a. FY18 budget is being discussed, suspect that there will be another short-term resolution which will slow down activities potentially,
 - b. “Small vessel VIDA” small boats exception expired in December and a short term bill to stop-gap will expire mid-January.
 - c. 2018 WRRDA may be wrapped into infrastructure bill.
 - d. No new AIS legislation introduced in the last few months.
 - e. They will be tightening up talking points for NISAW but likely to cover continued support for state AIS plans and panel funding, the need for NPS regulation for watercraft inspection and support of WRRDA.
- F) WRP Website update – Leah – Linda Beck, FWS Region 1, has been the current webmaster, however she is out on extensive leave. Johnna Roy, FWS Region 1 fisheries director, as agreed to fulfill minor web updates in the meantime.
- G) ANSTF
 - a. FACA committee review by DOI – Charter renewal of the ANSTF is in the signature phase, but no new information on the progress of the FACA review.
 - b. Letter from the panels – The other regional panels have been drafting a letter that would be sent to Secretary of DOI outlining impact of the incomplete FACA review. It may be unnecessary and probably not sent if charter is finalized and FACA review completed soon.
- H) Decontamination unit specification standards – technical review committee hoping to get feedback from knowledgeable;
- I) Canada/Alberta risk assessment for marine manufacturers – Leah will find out if there is any information from Tanya Rushcall from the October survey that Albert conducted.
- J) Seaplanes Workgroup – discussion/vote; Elizabeth suggested a work group was needed to address seaplanes. Items to be addressed would be a literature review, standard seaplane protocol (could be a supplement to UMPS) and working with industry immediately. Woolf was contacted by the seaplane pilot association, and western seaplane pilot association who plan to have a June Montana fly-in. Seaplane constituents are not familiar with pervious building consensus process and how it could be used to address seaplanes. They want to work with WRP on this. The workgroup will look to engage them. Participants to be invited to the workgroup: James Dominguez, John Wullschleger, Tom Woolf, Tammy Davis and Cynthia Tait. Nate made a motion to create a workgroup and Stephen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- K) WID Committee – reinstate discussion/vote – Elizabeth suggested that the WID Committee be re-instated to focus on decontamination. Stephen made a motion to reinstate the committee and Dennis seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Leah to include a call for participants in WRP monthly update.

L) WRP Mid-Year Teleconference – April 11th is out. Leah will doodle Ex Comm and committee chairs for first half of April.

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

a. Annual Meeting 2018 – Leah

i. Discussion on summit vs annual meeting – The group discussed doing a meeting regardless of status of WRP. Stephen stated PSMFC may be able to support a meeting. After review of facility choices in Seattle airport area, Tacoma and Spokane, the group agree to move forward with Tacoma. Leah will solicit a contract with preferred location requesting either the first week, or 4th week of October.

b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne

i. Sampling Protocol –

1. Phase 1 –plankton - report from Chair Martha Volkoff – Karen (previous chair, now retired) shared most recent draft of the document with her. Martha has made editorial refinement and is following up on portions of the document. Jim Snider is reviewing the final draft. She is hoping to finalize in next 30 days.

2. Phase 2 – substrate – report from Chair Erin Raney – meeting scheduled for this month.

ii. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells – Reported via email after the call “A call to be scheduled for January and targeting a January completion date”.

iii. Legal – report from Stephanie Showalter Otts – no new information

iv. Reach –Tammy Davis – She has still been receiving communication plan feedback, and will be compiling results soon to re-circulate. She will need more assistance to continue this effort. What is the real end goal? Some key questions that still need to be addressed:

1. Clarity on final deliverables

2. Who has a role of implementing?

3. Is it to be used as a tool to refer to or is it prepared as an ideal/guiding document. It could be looked at as guidance rather than action specific? But there is value in identifying a person who will be taking that action.

4. Who gets the communication plan – directors etc?

5. Is there a way to bolster AIS coordinators to share information?

c. Coastal Committee –Tammy – Chris Scianni, CA State Lands Commission, as offered to chair for the committee. Nicole announced that she will accept nominations for the replacement chair position until January 23.

d. Membership Committee – Leah – Membership election covered above.

e. Outreach – Allison Zach volunteered in San Diego – Discussion on roles, goals etc. – hold until next meeting

f. Stakeholder Engagement at QZ Infested Waters – report from Chair Tom Woolf - no new news.

N) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons – no activity or news

- a. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth
- b. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis and Joanne
- c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger
- d. QZAP – Stephen
- e. NISAW –Dennis and Stephen

O) Announcements – ALL -