

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

February 5th, 2019 at 11:00 am mountain time

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

Agenda

- A) Discussion on monthly call schedule. Third Monday of each month at 2:30 pm mountain was selected. The next meeting is March 18th (April 15th, May 13th, June 17th, July 15th, August 19, September 16th, October 21, November 18th, December 16th). Exception to yearly schedule is May 13th (it is the second Monday)
- B) Approval of January minutes - Stephen motioned to approved, John seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Minutes approved.
- C) Legislation update – Stephen Philips
 - a. Interior budget appropriations approval timing is unknown at this time.
 - b. WRDA and the expanded geographic range. The Corps is moving forward with the current language, where additional geographic areas were added included the incorrect “Arizona” Basin. There is still \$1 million for flowering rush, \$5 million for WID, and \$1 million for monitoring. The geographic expansion will mean a request for more funds to cover the expanded needs. There may be shifts in allocation of funds to recipients starting in 2020.
 - c. S.47 – Sportsman’s Package which includes Land and Water Conservation Fund, a Theodore Roosevelt prize for invasive species innovation and also includes Healthy Habitats. The Healthy Habitats calls for invasive species funding spend plan of 15% for Education & Outreach, 75% for on the ground, and 10% administration. It may pass the Senate soon.
 - d. Wild Act S.268 has been introduced. It also includes Healthy Habitats language similar to last year.
 - e. NISAW hill visit dialog will focus on full funding for ANSTF state plans and increased support for regional panels and mandatory decontamination at federal waters. The group will meet with Department of Interior staff, including BLM. Another government shutdown would negatively affect NISAW.
 - f. VIDA implementation is also starting up.
- D) QZAP 2.0 – Elizabeth – What does the document look like? Does it mirror the original QZAP or are other sections/section titles needed? The timeline is to finalize by WRP Annual Meeting in October and potentially get ANSTF approval in November. Feedback included: areas of priority will be highlighted, focus on the new priorities, align with old document where it works, there is value in being able to compare costs and resource allocation between QZAP 1.0 and 2.0, so retaining previous format could be helpful. Where new needs had been identified in previous draft of the status update, now these will be put into 2.0 and not in status. We will dive into 2.0 document in March.

- E) Discussion on committee profiles, annual work plan, and SOP document next steps – Elizabeth. All profiles are on the Drive and committee chairs have them. In Tacoma, Ex Comm agreed that these profiles would help create the annual work plan. Leah has started an SOP document and it is on the Drive. Idea was to have the work plan assembled by March. Deadline of February 28 to complete profiles and for Ex Comm to provide input on SOP. Leah will reach out to committee chairs with deadline.
- F) Coordinating the coordination update
- a. DOI Mussel Initiative – John Wullschleger – Status update is pending prior to NISAW. They will hold a call this week. NPS is on the verge of releasing opportunity for NPS use of \$1M for QZ related projects.
 - b. WGA - Elizabeth Brown – The Mussel Summit was cancelled and they are looking at other opportunities to hold in conjunction with a meeting already planned with leadership present (either summer or fall 2019) such as the Working Lands Forum. WGA still wants to have that conversation but it will look different. They are drafting their biosecurity initiative report.
 - c. WAFWA – July 11-16, Manhattan, KS. They will have a AIS committee meeting; Elizabeth plans to attend and share the QZAP Status Update and BC Summary Report and give WAFWA opportunity to provide input into QZAP 2.0. Elizabeth will also attend AFWA in March.
 - d. PNWER – Stephen Phillips - July 21-25 Saskatoon, SK. No additional information. See <http://www.pnwer.org/2019-summit.html>
 - e. NMMA/ABYC – Dennis Zabaglo – No new news.
 - f. Annual Letter to CTC partners – Elizabeth Brown; The letter is finalized and will be send as soon as approved. Joanne motioned to approved sending. Dennis seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Leah and Elizabeth will send ASAP.
 - g. WISCE – Elizabeth; With the cancellation of the WGA Mussel Summit, used the travel opportunity to assemble the WISCE group in Denver last week. They reviewed the QZAP Status update, went over the Building Consensus Summary, and had good discussion on regional management issues. Bill Whitacre, WGA, provided update on WGA policy priorities. WISCE will meet monthly James Dominguez, NM, is the chair.
- G) ANSTF - Spring ANSTF 2019 meeting/agenda – Dennis; On February 7, Dennis, Elizabeth, Susan Pasko and Leah will discuss next steps. The dates are May 6 (travel), May 7 (all panel meeting), May 8 (am WRP agenda, pm ANSTF), May 9 (ANSTF), May 10 (am optional field trip, pm travel). Possible WRP agenda items: QZAP status report, feedback on a draft QZAP 2.0, is there a coastal highlight? Biofouling BMPs; how much discussion should be slotted for at the meeting on 2.0? There is a desire at the ANSTF is to have more strategic discussions rather than updates. How does the Great Lakes QZ report intersect?

- H) Status Update on BOR request – Elizabeth – Last week other regional \$ requests were publicized, which did not include the WRP request. Elizabeth will make a follow-up inquiry.

- I) WRP Website update and discussion on future website – Leah; With the January government shut down there has been a lag in updates to the website, however Theresa Thom R1 FWS has reached out indicating updates will happen as soon as able.

- J) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. 2019 Annual Meeting – Leah; Leah finalized the hotel contract last week with Holiday Inn, Downtown Missoula. The dates are October 9-11, 2019. The planning team will meet next week. If there are specific ideas for sponsors this year, provide to Leah. A revised sponsor letter will be shared with the Ex Comm soon.
 - b. Coastal Committee – Chair Chris Scianni; Glenn Dolphin liaison
 - i. Glenn Dolphin and Chris are working on a draft of the mission and other components of a new WRP committee information document. Committee members will provide review and feedback.
 - ii. Biofouling BMPs: Jules Kuo and Chris are working on putting our text into two-page brochures. A draft recreational boat BMPs brochure will be ready for committee review soon. The feedback will be used to revise that document and also to produce the remaining two BMP brochures (commercial fishing vessels and mobile marine infrastructure). The final review will include end-users before finalizing.
 - iii. Biofouling BMPs: Tammy Davis and Linda Shaw submitted an abstract for the 32nd Wakefield Fisheries Symposium in Anchorage Alaska in May to present our commercial fishing biofouling BMPs for feedback from their local fishing industry.
 - iv. Next meeting: Committee plans to meet in the afternoon of Wednesday, April 3, 2019, to take place at the conclusion of the Pacific Ballast Water Group annual meeting in Vallejo, CA.
 - c. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Elizabeth liaison. Group met on January 15th. They are trying to get the decon specs finished up and next they will work on protocols. They are discussing how to modify protocol to accommodate for recent research findings from a BOR/UDWR study that found adults and settlers survive moving through pumps and are viable; and the MN/Adam Doll study which showed the same along with survivability of veligers from engine and other compartments.
 - d. Membership and Communication Committee – John Wullschleger; He will schedule something before the end of the month.
 - e. Outreach Committee – Chair Allison Zach; Elizabeth liaison; Met in December and discussed QZAP and BC reports. The committee is re-scheduling for a February call. They are working on a design standard for WRP to complement the logo with easy to use templates. They will create a ppt template, letterhead, report covers to brand those products. Design standard from state or federal could be helpful in creating this. They

may create a master slide deck (e.g. presenting at AFS). If there are designers that from home agencies that can create these documents – TBD.

K) WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Building Consensus – Chair Joanne Grady – no new information
- b. eDNA Committee – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Nate liaison; The next call will be on Friday; Action was postponed with shut down. The first webinar on eDNA is being planned.
- c. Lab Committee (*no report – on hold until winter research completed*)
- d. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination Committee – Chair Elizabeth; Hope to schedule something for March. Possibly hold a webinar in March.
- e. Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures Committee – Chair Beth Bear; Nate liaison; Second call is tomorrow, 8 different internal protocols have been collected, looking for common elements to put into a general manual for those looking for guidance.

L) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Communications, Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – FWS cannot process the final piece of the SAH website under the current CR, but it is all scoped out. The final piece is the national clearinghouse of education materials, which are all the print files that can be personalized. It will be login and password protected, partners will provide content to the clearinghouse. They also have a contract in place for a nationwide assessment of the SAH and Habitatitude campaigns which has started. Over the next year expect that someone will contact states on this assessment. The framework to do this analysis will be available after project and could be applied to CDD. This committee is not active, but rather work is being completed by Susan and she is communicating and gaining feedback from panel chairs. Hopefully following the ANSTF strategic planning process, the committee will regain momentum.
- 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.

M) Announcements – ALL

- N) April 9 is the Mid-Year Teleconference. All committee leads can attend with the exception of Joanne Grady. She suggested that Stephanie Showalter Otts could speak about the MOU and the latest gap analysis, Leah will invite her to do that.