

# Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

March 12, 2015, 10 am Mountain Time.

Attended by: Joanne Grady, Elizabeth Brown, Stephen Phillips, Dennis Zabaglo, Beth Bear, John Wullschleger and Leah Elwell.

## Minutes

- A) Approval of Previous Call Minutes - Leah Elwell; Joanne move to accept with changes, Stephen seconded. All in favor. Group agreed that the Policy Priorities and Talking Points document was final.
- B) Coordinating the coordination update – Elizabeth Brown;
  - a. NAISMA/Travis Zeihl with Teton County Weed and Pest has reached out to many regarding adopting the outreach program Play Clean Go. Beth Bear voiced concerned and curious what others are doing. Elizabeth in Colorado uses both programs (Play Clean Go for terrestrial and Clean Drain Dry for aquatics and splits it by audience. PCG is more terrestrial based. Further discussion was suggested for members at the Annual meeting, or to even elevate it to the ANSTF. John – where is it available? Elizabeth – developed out of MN. Susan Burke coordinator (MN Forestry Pgm) letter stated it was terrestrial and that they sister program is SAH! It is very horse-boot-bug focused. Elizabeth will not be leaving the Clean, Drain Dry message.
  - b. GAO AIS audit is going on and Elizabeth has made initial contact. The WRP will have to work as a team to collect information; Joanne - there may be a site visit, but not sure what their questions are yet. This is coming and WRP will have to help direct or gather information.
  - c. Email request from ANSTF to gather contact information about ANS hotline and creating a 24 hour call center. Due the end of the month. Leah will compile and send.
  - d. Several email inquiries suggesting WRP support or encourage support among members. Bill Milne with Canadian products and Denny Salas with Water Sports Industry Association both reached out this past week. How do we respond? Stephen – always ask for the research. There is a need to stay on top of current/available chemicals and technology, but there are steps that companies have to take (e.g. use, labeling etc), not the WRP. WRP cannot approve a product, but a methodology that meets criteria. Elizabeth – suggested WRP needs a form letter/position paper to acknowledge that we are not a certification organization, and that criteria. Water Sports Industry Association wants info about the ballast filter. Ultimately they want confirmation that WRP has approved the product and its members are going to endorse. But WRP does not endorse products; it falls to the states to interpret. Joanne – agrees that endorsement/use will have to be decided by the jurisdiction themselves. Dennis – our role is to discuss the pros and cons, and encourage states to look at research and evidence to determine for themselves if it fits within their goals and policies. We want to encourage this type to technology. Stephen – provided email on specific language

that could be replied with for “new” technology businesses. Mussel Master had the advantage that it was researched. Stephen - Leah will draft this could go into UMPS III discussions. Leah – how will we reply in the near term? Stephen – undergoing a process to create an informational sheet. Elizabeth - What are your questions? Leah can reply generically. Joanne – a good question, particularly coming out of ABYC summit. Looking at next steps from the ABYC and need to visit with them.

- e. Leah - EPA National Aquatic Resource Survey – Toney Ott reached out to WRP regarding this program. There may be some capacity for both to benefit from the program in terms of data that is collected and influencing the methods that they use to collect AIS data. Elizabeth will reach back out to Toney Ott to see if there is something to explore for the WRP. What is the end goal? Sampling sounds like it falls into the building consensus arena.
- C) Legislation update - Stephen Phillips - PNWER developed WRRDA support resolution language for state legislatures; all 4 states look to be moving this forward. Once this is done it will be forwarded to WGA for potential action (resolution). A group went to DC during NISAW and was able to meet with representatives from AZ, NV, CA, ID, WA, OR and MT. Every year we go back we see a greater level of understanding on AIS. Moving forward on with priorities of WRRDA, listing of Quagga, and AIS funding. It looks as if the end of April is when the appropriations committees will work on marking up bills. The House AIS Caucus is up to 33 members, and is active. Vessel Discharge Act (S. 373) passed out of committee, it included two amendments, but still is of concern to WA, OR, and CA. This is being followed closely by partners on the WRP Coastal Committee.
- D) ANSTF Spring Meeting –Recommendations discussion – Update to the ongoing activities is needed. Leah provided content to the Coastal Committee for their input. Decided to consolidate the funding recommendation. Also, as well as requesting that the ANSTF provide support for the Marine Invasives Management Plan, the WRP will specifically request funding to NOAA with a letter to Peg Brady. Following the Coastal Committee discussion on the Management Plan during the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, there will be a briefing paper that will help inform this request. Provide feedback on the recommendations document back to Leah by March 30.
- E) List serv –Leah has been having a lot of issues with the list serv. On a lead, she has explored having the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health at U of GA host the WRP list serv. Chuck Barger has agreed to host at no cost. Group agreed to move forward with migrating the list serv to them to host.
- F) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
  - a. Annual Meeting 2015 Committee–
    - i. Dennis Zabaglo; would like to wait to invite Heller based on feedback regarding other CA senator possibilities. Discussion on direct guidelines that WRP would provide to keynote speakers - USFWS regional director/Senator for how to address the group at the meeting. Leah suggested “in light of budget restrictions and prioritizations, how do you plan for USFWS AIS programs to

succeed; how can WRP with finite resource most effectively meet those partnership needs?; what legislative strategies would protect resources from AIS". Joanne – visited with Ron Smith, FWS to determine the process for regional director to participate.

- ii. Leah has explored the use of Citrix GoToMeeting to allow for remote presentations or participation from member. If needed the software/service would be \$49 for the event. Group was agreeable to the use. Leah will explore further expenses or tech needs for having the discussion through microphones for remote participation.
  - iii. Beth will send out sponsorship request directly to members to support annual meeting. Leah will send out requests to outside entities. Leah will provide letter/sponsor request to Beth.
- b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady –minutes from ABYC Summit are available online.
- i. WIDT Workgroup – Elizabeth; will hold a meeting next week. Dee is teaching classes. NE and SD were at the training that she just held. Struggling with the trainer’s class. All the student classes are going well. Leah is working on the revision to UMPS III.
  - ii. Legal - Joanne – no update
  - iii. Inreach – Tom – no update
  - iv. Outreach – Beth – no update
  - v. Data Sharing – Elizabeth – call next week to formalize. Notification form is up on the website that is being piloted. The West 911 email was the test. There is no personal information in it. Texas is interested in joining the discussions. Utah is in and using it to give feedback to create a great regional model.
  - vi. Perimeter defense – Stephen – call this month to discuss if there was funding from WRRDA, then what would we do with it, and where would it go. Alberta is going to do night traffic inspections with dogs.
  - vii. David Britton – will hold a QZAP call March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am to discuss funding for the year.
- c. Coastal Committee –report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – The committee met last week. Nicole Dobroski with California State Lands Commission is assuming the role as Chair. The Committee will meet on April 16 to take next steps on the Marine Invasive Species Regional Management Plan. They plan to meet in Lake Tahoe to work on the plan as well. Members of the committee are participating in a research effort to collect eDNA from commercial port for monitoring purposes. The Committee will be providing input on the annual meeting coastal session.
- d. Membership Committee– Leah – no new news.
- e. Recreational Ballast Tank Research Workgroup – Stephen – this could be dissolved; The Ex Comm will address the one page on criteria/endorsement and the WITD training group deals with the procedures of how to deal with inspection with products.

G) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Ballast Discharge – TBD
- b. Lionfish – John Wullschleger – In public review; the final versions will be released 30 days prior to ANSTF meeting
- c. QZAP – Stephen – call upcoming; if there is funding available to update the QZAP document then the update could be addressed, right now our efforts are focused on Building Consensus.
- d. Snakehead – John - In public review; the final versions will be released 30 days prior to ANSTF meeting
- e. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – no new news
- f. SAH! Advisory Committee –Joanne – no news on the SAH! website update, internal USFWS will be looking to the Ed and O committee for the structure and materials.

H) Announcements – ALL

- i) Dennis – talked with ANSTF about TRPA being an Ex Officio member; ANSTF leadership agreed that the membership is lacking in western influence.