

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

March 9, 2017 at 10:30 am mountain time

Attended by: Tammy Davis, Jeff Adams, Dennis Zabaglo, Stephen Phillips, Joanne Grady, Elizabeth Brown, John Wullschleger and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of January and February minutes - Leah Elwell; Stephen made a motion to approve both January and February, Dennis seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) Ex Comm Vacancy Update – Leah; Woolf, Dominguez and Owens have all submitted their names. Leah will compile their information and circulate ballot by this Friday. There will be a two week voting period. Winner will be announced on the March 29th Mid-Year Teleconference.
- C) Coordinating the coordination update - Elizabeth Brown
 - a. WDAFS – May 22-25 2017, Missoula (Leah). Planning is underway and the agenda is coming together. The symposium likely will be held on the 24th.
 - b. Jim Schleicher; Anchor Co has shared a label that they will put on new anchors. Elizabeth requested feedback from Ex Comm on the final language. Overall Ex Comm liked the plate. Ex Comm would prefer Clean, Drain, Dry instead of Don't Move a Mussel; and is not in favor of vinegar recommendation.
 - c. WAFWA Summer Meeting – July 6-11 in Vail CO
 - d. ISAC – next meeting July 18-20 in DC
 - e. PNWER – no new information.
 - f. WGA – call was yesterday; WGA is trying to figure out where they can be useful and where it aligns with their current AIS resolution. How much effort do we want to put forth that would be meaningful to WRP – is there a data sharing need that WRP could identify and make a suggestion? Elizabeth suspects that WGA is trying to build off of the critical habitat analysis on ESA species. Jeff volunteered to serve on this if needed. Elizabeth suggests that we stay in the watch and see mode. If anyone has a solid need for broad data gathering or sharing that is not already in place, please let Leah or Elizabeth know.
- D) Legislation update – Stephen Philips –
 - a. Healthy Habitats Legislation – Historically most of the AIS community has not been a strong supporter. The current version removed the 5% reduction of AIS requirement, but still many of us want more prevention language in the bill.
 - b. NISAW – Feb –Bill Tweit WA, Nate Owens UT, Elizabeth Brown CO, Dennis Zabaglo TRPA, and Stephen PSMFC were a successful team for hill visits. AIS Caucus leadership gave a talk during the NISAW Federal Fair event. QZ request was well received, fought for panel funding but not at the expense of state funding. Continuing federal funding need discussion with regulations at federal waterbodies. VIDA was discussed.
 - c. CR or Omnibus – FY2017 – Water Resource Development Act current bill is a request for an increase in funding;

- d. Secretary Zinke of Interior looks to be beneficial to AIS in the west.
- E) WRP Website update – Leah is working Linda Beck, RI USFWS to slowly make changes to the website.
- F) Mid-Year Teleconference agenda finalize. Leah will distribute the agenda and call information soon.
- G) WRP Committee/Working Group Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons
 - a. Annual Meeting 2017 Committee – Leah – Committee asked for clarification on possible funding for a keynote. In light of fiscal situation the consensus was to decline spending money on a keynote and look locally. The agenda development is underway.
 - b. ANSTF Meeting Spring 2017 – Dennis Zabaglio; Review the WRP portion of the agenda – send a message to the ANSTF and how to elevate the message within DOI. Adams asked if there was possibility to present remotely. Brian Turner could talk regarding green crabs if need be. Sea Grant really gives plug for citizen science. Federal partnerships in WID- How far we have come but highlighting still what is necessary. Should stay on the success story side of things and possibly set the stage with WRP recommendations. There is a desire to focus presentations on items we report as ongoing work and recommendations to the ANSTF. Leah, Dennis and Elizabeth will regroup to finish this off and get to Susan Pasko.
 - c. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady - March 21 planning team meeting; Workshop will be April 5-6 in New Mexico. James Dominguez is providing local arrangements.
 - i. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells – They have a call March 28th and participants are actively sending Steve information.
 - ii. Legal – report from Stephanie Showalter Otts – Joanne – Stephanie gave a presentation recently at the MN State Legislators meeting. She will have the legislative comparison report ready by April.
 - iii. Inreach – Tammy Davis – She has directed her efforts on a one pager with a broad target audience. Comments due back by the 20th. Ideally she will have a draft to BC meeting in time.
 - iv. Outreach – report from Chair Beth Bear – Discussions will take place in NM.
 - v. Sampling Protocol – report from Chair Karen Vargas. She is compiling information from participants and hopes to have a document ready by April.
 - d. Coastal Committee – report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – Tammy – The committee will meet in person on April 13th at the Pacific States Biofouling meeting. The biofouling white paper is in final revisions.
 - e. Membership Committee – Leah; the committee is actively reviewing the bylaws and hopes to present recommendations in April to Ex Comm. The Ex Comm reviewed a membership participation letter that will be sent to entities which currently have a voting seat but not an active participant.
- H) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth; Have not met since the last Ex Comm call.
- b. Recreational Boating Committee – Elizabeth – They had a call this week and are still working on the October draft document; subcommittee was created to review the recommendations related to UMPS and the training manual. Trying to keep everyone on task and not get into the “weeds”. Shingledecker with Boat US is doing a good job working to keep the effort moving forward. Expecting a revised draft by the end of March. Reminder this product is an informational report not a standard. Encourage input from everyone. ABYC will circulate the document. Please follow the ABYC commenting rules and use their format so that comments will be accepted/discussed.
- c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger – no activity from the committee
- d. QZAP – Stephen - some internal conversations USFWS; Barak Shamaï (replacement of David Britton) has a lot of grant experience. It is not clear if there will be a stakeholder’s call prior to the QZAP funding decisions this year. Shamaï is invited to attend BC in NM to learn the issues and people. A mid-March release for the QZAP grant requests is anticipated. .
- e. NISAW –Dennis and Stephen – see above.

l) Announcements – ALL