

# Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

June 8th, 2017 at 10:30 am mountain time

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

## Minutes

- A) Approval of April and May minutes - Leah Elwell. John motioned to approve both April and May minutes, Dennis seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) Coordinating the coordination update - Elizabeth Brown
  - a. WGA - June meeting – The DOI Mussel Initiative commitments will be turned in this Monday. Additionally at the meeting in June, there will be an opportunity for the states to tell DOI what they can do. The WGA leadership is drafting a letter to send to Secretary Zinke to request taking action on mussels with the following focus on having a) DOI work with the states through WGA, b) implement QZAP, c) increase funding for monitoring. One consideration will be “what is the WRP role moving forward?” WPR hopes to take a leadership role in this future process.
  - b. WAFWA Summer Meeting – July 6-11 in Vail CO – At this time the current Chair has sent out requests to the committee members for agenda items for the July meeting. Some possible requests from the WRP may be a) requesting a joint discussion with WAFWA Education Committee, Enforcement Committee and AIS Committee at their December meeting, b) updating the AIS Committee on the model regulation completion, DOI/WGA developments, and understanding the state response from this effort, c) progress report on boat plug and plant regulation language from states.
  - c. WDAFS – May 22-25 2017, Missoula Recap. The meeting went off well and was well attended. By all accounts this AIS session was positive.
  - d. Havasu Anchor – This company is one of the largest anchor manufacturers in the US and has placed information on Clean, Drain, Dry directly on each of their anchors. This project is a QZAP-funded project.
  - e. NISC – At the time of this call, NISC was scheduled to meet in Whitefish following the WGA June meeting. However, the NISC meeting was cancelled with week of June 19th.
  - f. ISAC - This meeting is under FACA review by the DOI and has cancelled their summer 2017 meeting.
  - g. PNWER – This meeting will take place in Portland in July. Kate Wilson of Alberta is co-chairing the AIS committee and developing the meeting agenda.
- C) Legislation update – Stephen Philips – A few relevant legislative items include the WILD Act (SB 27) which contains the “Healthy Habitats” legislative language, and VIDA is now found in the Coast Guard Authorization Act.
- D) FACA Committee review by DOI – Currently the ANSTF is under FACA review by the DOI Secretary. ANSTF has advised the panels to not meet during this review which will be completed in early September. This does create some uncertainty for the WRP as the WRP Annual meeting

will take place September 13-15 in San Diego. Additional information gathering will take place and the Ex Comm will determine how it will affect the WRP. John and Elizabeth will visit with individuals in USFWS and DOI to determine if there is any clarity on the review process and timing. Leah will review contract with the hotel to understand the financial liability for cancelling the meeting. Ex Comm will meet again shortly and review new information as soon as possible in June.

E) WRP Website update – no new information to share.

F) WRP Coordination Contract – Leah has submitted the paperwork to R6 USFWS for approval.

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

a. Annual Meeting 2017 Committee – Leah; The draft agenda was reviewed and discussed. Several presentations were suggested such as Jeff presenting on European green crab rapid response and monitoring, Dennis on new UV technologies to control invasive aquatic plants at Lake Tahoe. Leah has the registration ready and it is live. Promoting the meeting and requesting sponsors are the final planning steps.

b. Building Consensus Workgroup – Joanne Grady – The meeting report is under review. As soon as the report is ready it will be circulated.

i. Lab Standards – report from Chair Steve Wells.

1. The Committee has reviewed the literature and key parameters where differences exist such as the type of alcohol used for preservation, preservation concentration, buffering agent, method used to add buffering agent, method to measure sample pH, and decon protocols.
2. Discussed report format, and document sharing platform and agreed to keep the report broad and provide the different options for the different parameters (instead of trying to determine the best single method when multiple methods are being used by different labs). The report will also provide notes, cautions, and warnings to address issues with specific methods, e.g. pH colorimetric paper strips are likely not accurate; pH probes should be double junction designed for environmental samples and need to be decontaminated between samples.
3. Identified the decontamination sequence: physical scrubbing with brush, soap and water, then acid to dissolve shells, then bleach to denature genetic material. 10% bleach for most samples collected for CPLM and traditional molecular. Samples collected specifically for eDNA should use 50% bleach.
4. Reviewing document sharing platforms such as Google Docs, and trying to find one that everyone can use. Government is limited, but we may use private email to circumvent. Steve is drafting a skeleton document that will go to committee next week.
5. Next call is 2-3 weeks, and we'll use skeleton doc to start working on report. Final product will be a static document to be posted online. Aim

is to keep document simple. Committee voted for bulleted list over report format.

- ii. Legal – report from Stephanie Showalter Otts – No new information to share.
- iii. Inreach – Tammy Davis – no new information to share.
- iv. Outreach – report from Chair Beth Bear. Leah will check in with Beth to determine if all agree this committee disbanded in Albuquerque.
- v. Sampling Protocol – report from Chair Karen Vargas. There is no new information to report from this committee at this time on Phase 1. Kami Silverwood will be chairing Phase 2. Leah will visit with Kami on their progress.
- c. Coastal Committee – report from Chair Nicole Dobroski – no new information to share.
- d. Membership Committee – Leah; Bylaws update. The document was reviewed by the Ex Comm several times. Leah will circulate the draft to the membership as soon as possible with a 3 week review period. If need be, the Ex Comm will host a call to discuss comments. If comments are minor, Leah will set up an electronic vote with the membership to approve. Once this is completed, Leah will move forward with membership position announcements and election to take place in San Diego. Ex Comm agreed to add WGA as a voting member pending approval by the membership.
- e. Stakeholder Engagement at QZ Infested Waters – Tom Woolf – No new information to report at this time.

#### H) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons

- a. Education and Outreach - Elizabeth – No new information to report at this time.
- b. Recreational Boating Committee – Dennis and Joanne – ABYC committee will meet in Denver June 27 and 28 to discuss the protocols document and receive a tour of a boat inspection station.
- c. Economic Committee – John Wullschleger – No new information to report at this time.
- d. QZAP – Stephen. The USFWS staff will be reviewing QZAP grant proposals the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- e. NISAW – Dennis and Stephen – No new information to report.

#### I) Announcements – ALL