

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

June 17th, 2019 at 2:30 pm mountain time

Attended by: Stephen Phillips, Nate Owens, John Wullschleger, Glenn Dolphin, Elizabeth Brown, Martha Volkoff, Leah Elwell, and Mason Parker.

Minutes

- A) Mason gave a short introduction; he will be coordinating moving forward
- B) Approval of May minutes. **Nate motion to approve, John seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.**
- C) Legislative update – Stephen Philips –
 - a. Budget both the House Interior (USFWS) and Energy and Water (USACE) budgets are likely to be approved in the next several weeks, currently working through amendments. There is concern about a government shutdown but that is far in the future.
 - b. Executive branch has announced more scrutiny on and for FACA committee reduction; ANSTF was mentioned in a press article.
 - c. Land Water Conservation Fund was introduced again and there are connections to invasive species with this program
 - d. RAWA – this resource bill is awaiting re-introduction
 - e. BOR House budget is difficult to discern where information is to be found for AIS allocations etc.
- D) Panel Business – Elizabeth Brown
 - a. QZAP 2.0 – At the May ANSTF meeting, it was discussed that the WRP would need to make a formal recommendation for how they want to move forward. There are several pathways forward 1) create a document in the next several months that outlines priorities for implementation under the QZAP 2010, 2) create new QZAP 2019, 3) get behind a national QZ management plan. ANSTF will discuss a new national management plan in November. WRP plans to be done with new priorities document by October. Funding implications are unclear should there be a national plan and many are uncomfortable with that, many (including other panels) are not supportive of a national plan. Same model in the West may not work for the rest of the country, eastern priorities would likely be different than western ones. Is there any danger of letting the 2010 QZAP lie and add new recommendations under that document? There are several events where thoughts could be presented including WAFWA in July, Western Governors Summit in August and WRP October and then it will take vetting. Does the ANSTF need to approve a WRP priority document? WRP document could be an accessory to a national plan if it aligns with where the ANSTF goes. Goal should be to set the priorities for the WRP and be strategic; therefore, WRP needs to generate those QZAP priorities for WRP membership. Could each of the regional panels generate a priorities list and together create a national plan. **Ex Comm members agreed to create new document that outlines updated priorities for future implementation of existing QZAP (2010) and circulate to membership for review prior to the annual meeting in October.** WRP process/timeline is tight: have a working draft in July,

comment period from members, both WAFWA and WGA discussions (give folks couple of weeks after the WGA meeting) meeting to provide clarity and present a good working draft in October.

- b. WRP Website – Ex Comm **all agreed that the domain name would be westernregionalpanel.org**. ISAN will move forward with purchasing and discuss layout/content with a select team from Ex Comm. Leah will draft a letter of agreement from ISAN that will outline website ownership should ISAN no longer need to manage the website for the WRP. This document will be discussed in July.

E) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons

- a. 2019 Annual Meeting – Leah; Leah will provide final CSKT tribal invitation and Elizabeth will send. The current working agenda was shared and all were encouraged to review and note any red flags or requests. The group discussed extra meetings and field trip and workshop needs surrounding the week of the annual meeting. After discussing shortened timed slots for committees, it was determined that allocating the full afternoon to WISCE was better and slots for the morning for committees. The workshop will be offered Tuesday morning, however there will be a minimum of 15 registrants (maximum of 25). The Ex Comm agreed to meet as “new Ex Comm” on Thursday night for dinner.
- b. Coastal Committee – Chair Chris Scianni; Glenn Dolphin liaison; no updates
- c. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Elizabeth liaison – The committee is working on trouble shooting decontamination needs being in the midst of the busy season. Decontamination committee is primarily working on centurion ballast boat protocols.
- d. Membership and Communication Committee – John Wullschleger; Discussion on the timing for our letter of reprimand for inactive members. Because the 2017 bylaws were the beginning of the change, absenteeism from 2017-19 was suggested. The committee shall examine the membership structure and leadership structure and make recommendations if things need to be better specified. Then make an update to bylaws, however new membership election process could be in a SOP document. No set pathway to leadership, is there a need or not to define this? Vice transition to chair is a nice model. Look at how others rotate leadership. Committee should present some options and then Ex Comm makes a recommendation to bring to membership. Make sure that the comparisons capture that people can exit their job which means exit the WRP. There are pros and cons for many models.
- e. Outreach Committee – Chair Allison Zach; Elizabeth liaison - no updates

F) WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons

- a. Building Consensus – Chair Joanne Grady - no update
- b. eDNA Committee – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Nate liaison - no update
- c. Lab Committee (*no report – on hold until winter research completed*)
- d. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination Committee – Chair Elizabeth Brown – Northwest agencies are working on an effort for self-certification for pilots. WRP committee has worked on completing mandatory inspection protocols. The National Seaplane Association has contacted ANSTF for national guidelines and logo use, there might be a national workgroup in the future. Research funding for seaplane risk has been discussed and could be informed at a national level.

Committee will hold a webinar on September 10th and conference calls are scheduled for 6/27 and 8/14 to prepare for webinar, which the education committee is helping with also.

- e. Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures Committee – Chair Beth Bear; Nate liaison – There was a call today, began reviewing all of the documents, decision making flow chart for chemicals, water for different equipment, BMPs have been assembled – all are being reviewed. Can update next steps via email.
- G) ANSTF Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Liaisons – ANSTF is working on the strategic plan and creating committees for the plan. They are looking into the FACA requirements and bylaws to be developed.
- a. Communications, Education and Outreach - Elizabeth - Habitatitude re-launched last week. SAH! Phase 2 has begun with the document catalog which will be online eventually.
 - b. Prevention - On hold until further notice
 - c. Research Committee
 - i. AIS Economic Analysis – John Wullschleger
 - d. Ad-hoc Boating Committee – Dennis Zabaglo
- H) Coordinating the Coordination update
- a. PNWER – Stephen Phillips - July 21-25 Saskatoon, SK - it is not clear what AIS western coordinators will be attending
 - b. NMMA/ABYC – Elizabeth provided western state perspective to the marine industry at their recent meeting. Elizabeth took NMMA staff to various WID stations last week where they took video of inspections, decontaminations and interviewed staff for a national campaign on AIS.
 - c. DOI Mussel Initiative – John Wullschleger – NPS specific: FY19 NPS money is out the door, the projects for FY20/21 have been selected.
 - d. WGA - Elizabeth Brown – Elizabeth presented to 12 Governors at the WGA Annual Meeting with Libby Yranski, NMMA, on June 10th. They asked good questions, were educated on the topic of mussels and interested in WID. This concluded the Biosecurity and Invasives Initiative. Next up is the ZQM Leadership Forum on August 27-28 in Las Vegas. The Initiative report and videos has been released in addition to a new resolution.
 - e. AFWA – Elizabeth Brown will not meet until winter
 - f. WAFWA – Elizabeth Brown - July 11-16 Manhattan, KS, AIS committee meeting is on the 15th. Elizabeth and Leah will attend and much of the agenda is QZ, Leah will present on chemical information and seek resolution
 - g. WISCE – Elizabeth Brown – They have been meeting every month.
 - h. WSIA – Elizabeth Brown – have not have had a committee call, working on their technology and looking at the information WISCE sent them.
- I) Announcements – ALL
- a. Lake Powell situation is crazy and they are being forced to make tough decisions; scaling back decontamination to maintain manageable work situation; nearly every boat coming off of Powell has mussels. Utah will be spraying mussels off to make legal to transport, but they will

not be decontaminated/will not have paperwork either. It is suspected the rising lake levels are suspending mussels that were stranded when lake levels were declining. Stephen suggests we make a webpage/app with decon resources/locations more available to boaters.

- b. Next call will be July 16th at 2:30 pm mountain time.