

## Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes

Thursday August 9, 2012 at 10am Mountain/9 am Pacific

Attended: Chair: Karen McDowell, Stephen Phillips, Bob McMahon, Kevin Anderson, Coordinator: Leah Elwell, and John Wullschleger

- A. Stephen Phillips – bolstering Canadian involvement – Pacific Northwest Economic Region is in the process of forming an Invasive Species Council and action plan to formalize AIS activities. Phillips sees PNWER as a way to create greater collaboration with Canada and other entities. Because of the involvement of Premiers of Canada this is one way work with Canadian agencies, joint commissions and others. PNWER important avenue to reach legislators, so critical to have right information before them.
- B. Phillips - Tsunami/AIS workshop meeting was last week, NOAA/Sea Grant effort to bring experts together on AIS related to tsunami debris. In summary: large debris are the concern which seem to be rare events, threat of AIS introduction is sporadic; AIS threat needs to be tracked with the marine debris; documents coming out of meeting will be illustrative of next steps; requires interagency coordination possibly coming from Sea Grant; call for WRP to address pieces on AIS component and play a leadership role; possibly via WRP Coastal Committee with Kevin Anderson as lead. Action: WRP should discuss and determine the extent of role and involvement of WRP as more information on coordination becomes available.
- C. Karen Mc Dowell – Approve 7/12/2012 Call minutes – All in approval
- D. Leah Elwell – annual meeting updates - As of 8/9 there were 45 registrants for the meeting. Ex Comm decided not to provide WebEx or teleconference services at the meeting due to limited interest and significant cost to provide. All in favor of approved Hawaii member travel request, and tentative approval of Canadian participant.
- E. McDowell - business meeting agenda at annual meeting; topics to include report from ISAC and ANSTF, Gear Decon working group report and any additional working groups, review membership list, small grants, and PNWER discussion. There is flex time in the business meeting, so send suggestions to McDowell. Anderson and Elwell will review the procedures document for membership review needs.
- F. McDowell – reinvigorating Ex Comm committees - Templates for committees will be available at the business meeting as well as discussion about new/existing committees.
- G. Elwell - AG Workshop update – Meeting is on target for August 22-23.
- H. Kevin Anderson – ANSTF strategic plan comment – 2013-2017 available for public review, proposing WRP or members to make comment. The strategic plan will be in the federal register for review. Action: WRP Ex Comm will discuss and consider ways to insert WRP in the process, and/or increase involvement of WRP
- I. Anderson – Reauthorization of NAISA. Action: Bring up at business meeting in September to give the issue some attention, also at the ANSTF meeting during the panel meeting.
- J. Other Updates or announcements
  - a. International Marine Bioinvasion conference August 20-22 2013 held in UBC Vancouver.
  - b. 18th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species will be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, April 21-25, 2013.