

## **Executive Committee Conference Call**

### **Executive Committee Minutes**

Thursday, May 13, 2004

#### **NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JUNE 10**

**Members Present:** Susan Ellis, Scott Smith, Jim Athearn, Blaine Parker, Al Van Vooren, Karen McDowell, John Chapman, Tina Proctor

**Members Absent:** Dwight Williamson, Mark Sytsma, Ted Grosholz

#### **1. Annual Meeting Update**

The EC discussed the 2004 Annual meeting agenda and made the following suggestions:

- We invite a Mexican scientist to do a presentation. John will work on this.
- Is 20 minutes enough for the welcome since they usually start late anyway?
- Is one hour enough for the Work Plan Committee presentation?
- John would like 10-15 minutes to present an interesting idea about a snail that was introduced to the East coast 1,000 years ago by the Vikings but only became a huge problem 150 years ago. It may change how we look at "non-invasive nonnative species."
- Al suggested that we set a tone of positive action and not dwell on the negative. Tina said she would talk to the meeting planning committee about ways to do that.

#### **2. Update on Vote on Western Aquatic Plant Management Society**

Tina has received 30 votes and needs 34 to make it legal. She will send out another e-mail request to those who have not yet voted.

#### **3. Proposal from Wendy Ralley on International Border Crossings**

The EC reviewed the proposal from Wendy Ralley from Manitoba to identify a process whereby a consistent message to all travelers trailering water-based equipment can be provided at international border crossings by appropriate agencies in western US and Canada. The proposal requests \$2,500 to recommend a process to involve appropriate federal, state and provincial agencies in developing a consistent message that the U.S. Customs Service and Canada Border Services Agency. The proposal was approved by the EC with the caveat that Wendy work with the other regional panels (Great Lakes and Northeast) which have borders with Canada.

#### **4. Western Governors' Association Resolution**

Scott has contacted Governor Locke's office (WA – D) and they may be interested in sponsoring the resolution. He then approached the staff in the Governor Lingle's office (HI – R). Her staff liked the resolution and reviewed it with Governor Lingle yesterday, but Scott hasn't heard whether she has agreed to sponsor it yet. Al mentioned that when the final copy is given to the WGA (by May 21), he will share it with Governor Kempthorne before the June WGA meeting.

Jim and Susan asked for a one page synopsis of the Resolution that could be shared with governors in their states. Tina will present the resolution to the ANS Task Force at their meeting May 26th in Columbia, MO. Al suggested that a phrase be added to the sentence regarding Minnesota that explains how they have been successful.

#### **5. WRP Annual Report**

Karen reported that she got a bid on a report that would be 24-48 pages, magazine style for 50-200 copies. It

would cost \$500 to \$1,000 to print. SFEP would take out \$500 for overhead, which leaves about \$3500 to create the document. The graphic designer at SFEP will also create a lower resolution copy as a .pdf file that would be on the WRP website.

Since the targeted funds were originally planned to create a pre-invasion rapid response team, Tina and Susan will speak to Lars and Mark about whether that project is feasible this year.

## **6. Rapid Response Planning**

Scott proposed that we create a rapid response plan for zebra mussels based on the Columbia River Basin involving the states of Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. There was a substantial discussion about making a change in the original scope of work for the \$20,000 distributed to the WRP by NOAA last year and what the product would look like. Scott mentioned that live zebra mussels were found on a boat coming through the Spokane inspection station this week from Tennessee. The boat had been cleaned but the zebra mussels were found underneath the trim tabs. The EC decided to call the project, "Rapid Response to Zebra Mussels in the Columbia River Drainage." This would include streams and lakes or reservoirs. Tina will talk to Dorn Carlson about the change in scope.

## **7. Work Plan**

The EC discussed the projects that still need to be approved. John is still interested in getting publication of introduced specie in Mexico before there is a meeting. Susan will speak to Phil Pister of the Desert Fishes Council since every other meeting they have is in Mexico. Perhaps we could partner with them and have an invasive species component to their meeting.

Susan and Tina will follow up with Adelheid on the Tribal cooperation and Phil and Mark on the Research Priorities project.

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