

WESTERN REGIONAL PANEL: | October 6-8, 2010
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES | The Grove Hotel,
Boise, Idaho

Transcribed by Kelly Stockton and Cynthia Tait

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Welcome

Eileen Ryce and Erin Williams welcomed all to the meeting. Eileen Ryce’s term as Committee chair is ending next month and Erin Williams is ending her term as Panel Coordinator.

Draft minutes were approved from September 2009.

Thanks go out to Executive Committee, new elections will be held tomorrow

Idaho’s Invasive Species Program: Lessons Learned—*Amy Ferriter*

Amy Ferriter is the Invasive Species Coordinator for Idaho (Idaho Department of Agriculture) (amy.ferriter@agri.idaho.gov)

Idaho’s boat sticker program is 2 years old. In 2008, passed Idaho State ANS law and established funding to support the program. Boat sticker fees were implemented in 2009 and boat sticker purchase was combined with boater registration in 2010. With 90,000 in-state boaters at \$10 each, about \$900,000 has been generated. Boat sticker income funds Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR), prevention, education & outreach, and monitoring. Idaho considers a focus on protecting their borders more feasible than inspections at hundreds of boat ramps. The following is a list of the ten lessons learned over the past two years.

10. You’re only as good as your training- Level I WIT training was provided to all AIS staff, plus law enforcement (~300 workers); promoted professional attitudes and randomly inspected our inspectors.

9. Digital PDAs would be an improvement over handwritten paper forms.
8. Police and C/O's help with compliance. Laws were passed to get county sheriff officers involved in border checks.
7. Boats visited from every state except DE, including Hawaii.
6. Not fans of roadside decontaminations. In favor of seizing boat when mussels are encountered and decontaminating more thoroughly.
5. Public Outreach is key.
4. Local boaters need a "fast" pass.
3. Our toolbox is fairly empty. There are to date no control technologies.

States need to agree on the definition of a dreissenid-positive waterbody (e.g. Milner Reservoir)

Risk assessments carried out for Idaho reservoirs were based on calcium concentrations, depth, flow, presence of listed species, and amount of recreational use, but would like to do risk assessment on a more refined waterbody level.

2. Some boats just have bad karma

1. Idaho is not an island, and we want to work together with other states, but need standardized interstate policies, including standardized chain-of-custody forms, standardized seals and colors, consistent decontamination procedures, and consistent port-of-entry training.

Pre-WRP Meeting Summaries-

The State and Federal WRP members met separately on October 5th to discuss challenges and issues unique to their respective agencies.

State Summary—*Beth Bear*

See handout of 2010 Member Report for state member AIS issues and accomplishments for the past year.

For the states, the biggest concerns focused on funding and watercraft inspections; other issues included coordination within and between states, research on veliger survival, the definition of a positive waterbody, and fast pass through inspections for local boaters.

Federal Meeting Summary—*Paul Heimowitz, Cynthia Tait*

See handout of 2010 Member Report for federal member AIS issues and accomplishments for the past year.

Federal WRP members and interested non-members attended the meeting to discuss how each agency addressed AIS and how their programs fit in with the states. Focus was on rapid response, AIS data management, and Lake Mead NP boater enforcement issues.

Action items discussed: **What is the federal agency niche or role for AIS efforts in the West?**— facilitate coordination within/between states; take responsibility for preventing AIS spread and set examples (federal lands, fire ops, HACCP, etc.); proactively promote action on emerging threats (e.g. Asian carp EDRR); help facilitate response to new introductions; help establish interagency agreements (e.g. with states) for rapid response; share information; identify national-level RR resources and funding sources; work w/ EPA to expand approval/flexibility for chemical decontaminant use; consolidate data, research and develop new tools.

Notes of the federal meeting were sent to WRP members and attendees.

Discussion on State and Federal Agency Issues

Need to standardize outreach and education

Need to increase coordination with states.

Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan (Q-ZAP): Implementation and Project Update-*Eileen Ryce, Stephen Phillips, Tom McMahon*

WRP was tasked to write the plan in October 2008. By May 2009, draft of Q-ZAP went to ANS Taskforce and was approved Fall 2009. We need to decide how we are going to implement Q-ZAP. There is need for a non-federal ‘quagga tsar’ who could coordinate all players to implement Q-ZAP, be stationed in the west, and work with congress without bias (perhaps someone from the National Invasive Species Council?). How would this position be funded (it requires \$200k)? A draft position description for the quagga czar will be presented to ANSTF at the November 2010 meeting. The Asian carp tsar is an example.

Of the \$2 million appropriated for QZAP, \$800k went to Lake Tahoe, \$600k to states with ANS plans (\$26,000 per state), and \$600,000 for competitive grant projects. There were 24 grant proposals, 9 were funded. USFWS sent out press release August 24 on projects accepted. The status of the current projects is unknown. States reported on how they spent their money. Montana used it for watercraft inspection (WCI), education, and monitoring; mostly general operations. California is looking into research that may benefit other states or focus monitoring efforts (calcium blitz) or increase outreach. Utah used the money to help implement plan, put additional people on reservoirs and address positive water bodies (e.g. Sand Hollow). Idaho funded monitoring and education. Oregon monitored high risk areas and education and outreach. This is Alaska’s first funding, so they established protocols and EDRR.

Sharing Information under the Privacy Act-NPS Lake Mead

This session was cancelled because Randy Lavasseur, NPS LEO, was unavailable. NPS will hold a webinar on the topic within the next month or two and this afternoon will follow up on this topic. See ‘Member Discussion—Highest Priorities’, below.

UNLV Boat Decontamination study update-David Wong

(david.wong@unlv.edu)

‘Using Hot Water Spray to Kill Quagga Mussels’

Hot water for boat decon is popular because it’s cheap and effective. Current prescription = $\leq 140\text{F}$, which may not kill all mussels if exposure is < 10 sec (Morse 2009). However, Morse’s work was on zebras (thicker shell, more byssals than quaggas) and under lab conditions.

This study occurred on boats under summer ambient air temps.

Study Results: Temperature and Time to achieve 100% Mortality on Quagga Mussel Adults

Temperature °F	Time (seconds)
104	40+
122	20+
130	10+
140	5+
158	5+
176	5+

When air temp is hot, less time is needed to reach lethal temperatures. Problems still with hard to access places (e.g. gimbal required 42 sec to kill all mussels).

Need to make sure areas are reaching required temperatures. Recommendation: use 140F water for 5+ sec to kill quagga mussels. Tests were conducted under low pressure water (flow equal to that of a garden hose). Future study: validate protocol in winter; field tests for zebras.

BOR Research Update: Zequanox, operational coatings, etc.-Leonard

Willett (Leonard Willett: lwillett@usbr.gov)

Check out www.usbr.gov/mussels/ for tools to monitor a facility.

Proactive prevention easy in veliger stage; reactive removal difficult in post-byssal stage.

Historically, BOR has been reactive. Mussel driving factors seem to be dissolved oxygen, pH, and calcium levels. BOR needs to maintain underwater structures.

In the Colorado River, reproductive rates are 6X higher than in Midwest, so BOR doesn’t bother with deploying substrates for monitoring. Colonized mussel pseudofeces are very acidic and corrosive to structures. At Lake Havasu, increased water clarity has led to macrophyte blooms, and now millions spent annually on weed removal. In Lake Mead, BOR has found mussels

below 300 feet in penstocks. Oxidizing chemical treatments (Cl, Br, ClO₂) can clear pipes but toxic. Most biocoatings tested are not effective in decreasing settled quaggas on structures, but ‘Seacoat’ shows promise. Cu in paint will last 2 yrs only. UV on cooling water systems shows good promise. Filters do not achieve 100% removal, best if coupled with something else like UV, ozone, etc. BOR is also doing physical removal with pressure spray.

Zequanox (*Pseudomonas fluorescens*) disrupts dreissenid digestion and takes 1-30 days to kill depending on metabolic rates. Used in large tank, but experiment failed due to mechanical problems. Smaller scale studies performed in bioboxes worked. BOR cannot do trials that release Zequanox in open water but is currently doing NEPA to address the use of Zequanox in open water, to be completed by Dec 2010. Full scale test is scheduled for March 2011. Further research is to produce a dry powder to mix on site; currently have liquid. Results of small scale testing produced 100% mortality with pediveligers and veligers, but not a 100% mortality with adults. Marrone Bioinnovations had done all of the toxicity testing.

<http://marronebioinnovations.com/>

BOR Double Blind Study Update-Marc Frischer (via phone)

Marc Frischer and Kevin Kelley are working on 2 QZAP projects:

- 1) PCR Microscopy—provide veliger reference materials; evaluate veliger sampling and handling procedures (e.g. storage, buffering); completion of double blind studies (look for ranges of variability in sample collection)
- 2) 2 workshops coming up February 8-11, 2011: (a) detection of larvae in plankton samples (tech workshop) and (b) establishing a lab Q/A and accreditation program for the detection of larvae in plankton samples

Marc asked if dates were acceptable and if there were any experts that could help out.

Results of survey re: lab certification; State protocols for declaring

+/- Stephen Phillips (Stephen_phillips@psmfc.org)

There is a need for Q/A in veliger monitoring labs—no process exists for lab certification. Surveys were sent to 28 labs, with 17 returns. Established contact lists and collected lab operating procedures. He talked about survey results, and ISAC is looking into doing a white paper. John Darling (EPA) is review the use of PCR for monitoring AIS. The definition for the Columbai River Basin when a waterbody is infested is positive PCR and positive microscopy (both) and basically the same as was agreed at Denver, January 2009 meeting.

Member Discussion of Highest Priority Issues

Eileen: A lot of good response from member reports on high priority issues. Picked main topics to discuss. See handout: want to also include others to think about invasive species.

(1) Sharing Information-Privacy Act and NPS

Sharing information on boats leaving infested waters is problematic. WRP and NPS will set up a Privacy Act webinar because speakers from Lake Mead couldn't make it to the meeting. What concerns are out there?

Background on Privacy Act- *Dave Britton (FWS) and John Wullschleger (NPS)*

NPS-Lake Mead is infested with quagga mussels. Several states have asked the NPS for info about boats owners leaving the marina, and particularly their intended destinations. Is the federal government allowed to share personal identification information? Is this a law enforcement issue?

Brian (NPS-Biologist): If boaters are breaking any laws then the marinas can give information to law enforcement, then LE can give that information to LE in other states/areas, but not to AIS coordinators. NPS did try to use a release of information form, but solicitors still have issues with it. NPS rules are that boats need to decontaminate and be inspected as they leave the park. Boats within the marinas are supposed to give 72 hours notice. The problem is repossessed boats and boats that are pulled out at night. This may or may not be a violation of the Lacey Act because zebras are considered injurious, whereas quaggas are not. However, it is illegal to possess quaggas in Nevada.

Idaho State Senator- Tim Corder (Mt Home)—It may come down to Idaho's attorney general vs NPS attorney general. How is quagga transport different from hazmat transport, as far as seriousness and need for regulation?

Larry Dalton (UDWR)- this is an issue west-wide, and WAFWA is considering sending a new letter to NPS Superintendent William Dickinson to get issue sorted out. States are getting boats from Lake Mead- a boat this year was decontaminated at Lake Mead but when inspected again in Utah mussels were found. Not sure a committee will help to further this situation, let's wait and see what happens with the webinar.

Notes from poster sheets

- Question: Is ID information allowed to be shared if boat was not decontaminated?
 - Answer: Only applies to slipped boats
- “Intent” to break law, or actually breaking?
- Can there be designated Law Enforcement contact when State coordinators can't be contacted?
- Concern about continued movement of contaminated boats (that were decontaminated) from Lake Mead.
- Larry will keep group posted on WAFWA effort.
- To pursue webinar/conference call in very near future to hear NPS info and other comments – **Eileen Ryce, John Wullschleger, Brian**

- Alberta has people waive FOIA/Privacy Act. Put that in slip agreements?
- Consider Western Governors Assoc as appropriate group to take lead for resolution.
- Other options? Apply remote sensing chips, RFIDs, to boat when slipped and remove it when decontaminated.

(2) Pathways of Infestation-General

Karen McDowell-The Pacific Ballast Water Group trying to coordinate a discussion or research on ballast water issues in Pacific. For update contact Stephen Phillips:

Stephen_phillips@psmfc.org

Diane Cooper- Other pathways are important, such as pet trade, equipment haulers; we need the perspectives and involvement from people in the industry. Willing to help if this goes further. Move to talk about this at business meeting. Membership tabled.

Beth Bear- Do we need to start on heavy equipment outreach?

Paul Heimowitz- BOR has written manual on heavy equipment issues, including water bags and crane decontamination.

Kelly Stockton-FS is very interested in decontaminating their equipment

Robyn Draheim-need contracting language for equipment movement- there are successful studies

Bob Wiltshire- Montana has partnered with Department of Transportation and found that people are responsive.

Cynthia Tait- Forest management, including fire, is a pathway of spreading invasive species; is getting national and interagency involvement to address issues.

Larry Dalton- Petroleum industry can work with you if you outreach to them, but we don't have laws that address non-traditional pathways, such as water haulers.

Notes from poster sheets

- Would like to have more ballast water discussion
- If more discussion about pathways, need more groups/industry operators at the table (e.g. pet trade, equipment haulers). Talk about at the Business meeting.
- Outreach, Inspections – Other vectors (e.g. heavy equipment)
 - BOR manual/crane industry inspections
 - FS – Fire ops
 - MT & USDA-APHIS – truck inspections
- HACCP doesn't work for all pathways (e.g. irrigators)
- Workgroups (if any) should focus on high-risk, not all pathways.

Early Detection and Rapid Response

Bob Wiltshire-Uncomfortable with ‘rapid response’ because we don’t have any options to control AIS; RR is not relevant and we are sending out a bad message. We can’t completely eradicate invasive mussels like we can plants.

Paul Heimowitz- EDRR doesn’t mean control or eradicate. RR signifies something being done, containment, quarantine, monitoring, treatment, education and outreach, etc.

Dave Britton- Texas is involved in RR and is actively trying to eradicate zebra mussels from a reservoir.

Karen McDowell-There has been RR that has worked. This term is extensively used in state and species management plans, and is recognized as a priority. Don’t want to change verbiage.

Definition of ‘infested’: when is a positive a positive?

Paul Heimowitz- CRB hasn’t agreed, but is considering 2 positive PCRs and 2 positive microscopies (from independent labs). We need to come to an agreement and it hasn’t been easy in just the Columbia River Basin. Also suggested different color dots for other standards when mapping.

Does the panel want to set a standard? A work group needed?

Karen McDowell- We could include species other than dreissenids as well.

Notes from poster sheets

- When is an invasive eradicated?
- Questions arose whether “RR” can occur for AIS– sending wrong message. However, “RR” means something being done – not “control” or eradication.
- WRP could develop minimal thresholds for positive AIS occurrence, or the states could agree to standard, such as 2 PCRs and 2 microscopy positives (from independent labs)
- Database/map reflects standard used to show (+ of different types)

Outreach/Education/Communication

Notes from poster sheets

- Suggestion was made to develop WRP history/white paper to attract tribal involvement and others.
- Education/Outreach should include action items (e.g. clean, drain, dry) with awareness message/other outreach. Need to change people’s behavior, not just warn them.
- Can learn from other campaigns/efforts

- Be aware/careful of “scary” messages intended to draw attention; they can lose public credibility.
- Consider spending the \$\$ to hire marketing and communications experts.

Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination

Notes from Poster Sheets

- Boat seals? Can we honor them across states?
 - Some seeing requests for seal before trip to another state (+ tournaments)
 - WY seals only after decontaminations (mandatory). Inspection seal is voluntary.
 - CO bought 60,000 seals, especially for leaving containment waters (e.g. Pueblo State Park). CO seals after inspection (voluntary) or decontamination (mandatory). Night pre-inspection check if boater drops seal in box
 - “yellow” seal = fast pass for SAME water
 - “green” = statewide seal
 - ND, OR and MT recognize seals from other states and give faster inspections. OR does look, but not full blown or mandatory inspections; bass tournaments are the drivers in the permit process. OR public wants inspection seal and certificate; there is perception that it will mean something.
 - ID = Orange
 - UT = Blue; only professional decontamination sealed (follows WIT standards). Utah seal means a professional decontamination and paperwork have been given to boat and owner; got to have both. Utah honors all other state seals, but will still have a quick look.
 - CA = Seal means a quarantined boat; the state has several entities that may or may not accept another’s seals; California quarantines boats that need to be decontaminated, but CDFG doesn’t operate a sealing or inspection program; state parks do some. How do you convince other agencies/parties to take seals?
- Workgroup needs to discuss how to get cross-state acceptance of seals.
- How to get other agencies (local) to accept standard
- QZAP \$ to PSMFC to update UMPS and reciprocity
- Data available to other states re: Effectiveness of Programs?
 - MN MOUs to share resources with neighbor states and for border checks
- QA.QC – are partner groups checking? Effective?
 - Mixed results in Colorado. Some entities received chemicals; some don’t.
 - ID, Tahoe – used ‘secret shoppers’ for inspection Q/A. Tahoe workers forgot some of the training, changes were instituted; 4 inspectors were fired on the spot by marina owners.
- Is there need for standard protocols? How can we standardize decontamination techniques regionally? How can limited resources be used to make watercraft inspections

more efficient/effective? Stephen Phillips—QZAP funded projects are working on updating decontamination protocols. 2nd part willing to help out, willing to be part of a work group

- Chemical decontaminants: Current practices
 - UT state employees use Formula 409 for waders/NZMS. 2 different 409 formulations
 - MT, USFS do not advocate chemicals for public use
 - Wiltshire—high % of anglers are confused about chemicals; Bob does not advocate their use
 - New research: Kelly Stockton studying Virkon Aquatic v NZMS and veligers
 - Does question of chemical use really matter if state requires NO mussels dead or alive?
 - What do your agencies recommend to their own people?
 - Keep public message simple and not confusing—should also help with increased compliance.
- Update Websites

WRP Funded Projects-Final Reports

Water Trail Users' ANS Prevention Workshops and Regional Model - *Carla Hoopes (MSU)*

For information see www.weedawareness.org/wiyw_home.html

Using the floating permit process to educate about ANS prevention – *Bob Wiltshire, Center for Aquatic Nuisance Species*

On Smith River (MT), Bob used different message delivery types to get AIS message out to floaters and evaluated effectiveness with electronic pre- and post-surveys. Put AIS outreach message in permit award package (1 sheet), in a postcard reminder 1 wk prior to float, and in ranger talk at put-in. Ranger talk appeared most effective, postcard reached more floaters than the email. Awareness increased slightly, and attitudes and willingness to clean remained similar.

WRP Funded Projects-Underway

100th Meridian Database Evaluation

See written report by Marion Wittman

Colorado State Plan

Not presented; Elizabeth Brown unable to attend meeting

Boat Hauler Survey Update - Stephen Phillips

Stephen and Bill Zook's report, below, is now online.

Preventing the Transfer of Dreissenid Mussels and Other Aquatic Invasive Species by Commercial Watercraft and Equipment Transport Providers: Results of an On-line Survey Completed in July, 2010 and Prevention Strategy Recommendations for the Commercial Watercraft Transport Industry

<http://www.aquaticnuisance.org/wit/reports>.

They are working on *Don't Move A Mussel 2* video and may film a segment on BMP's or standards for commercial transport. Diane Cooper felt that we need to target consumers in order to promote change in private industry; Paul Heimowitz thought it could be a combination of efforts on each side.

Business Meeting

Fiscal Report 2010

See budget sheet. A 2011 budget was proposed as well.

Asked for a motion: Karen McDowell; Earl Chilton 2nd motion; motion unanimously passed

Running for ExCom (4 positions)— Nominees:

Diane Cooper: being part of this helps facilitate progress in the meeting

Bob McMahon: Dave Britton spoke on his behalf saying Bob has been involved for a long time and wants to continue

Tom McMahon: important role, Q-ZAP needs to be connected

Lynn Schlueter

John Wullschleger: important to keep every agency talking to each other

Bob Wiltshire: has a different view point (NGO) and wants to share

WRP Website Update - Dave Britton

The new version of the website is available: <http://www.fws.gov/answest/default.html>

Website has been updated. Dave will send out notice through listserv. Please provide comments about website organization, content or other issues to Dave Britton: david_britton@fws.gov. States and other agencies please send your ANS website to Dave for linking. It is currently not possible to upload images to the website because of USFWS restrictions.

Bob Wiltshire suggested getting stats on number of people going to website; it will be good for resource allocation.

Karen McDowell motioned creating a workgroup with names on website that can help facilitate process of review and vetting information to the website. John Wullschleger- second. Motion was unanimously passed

Website workgroup consists of Cynthia Tait, Kevin Anderson, Robyn Draheim, Toni Pennington, Dave Britton

‘Threats to the West’ Brochure - *Dave Britton*

There are no brochures left and they were very popular. Target audience is the general public, it has been used at many boat shows, it is the most requested brochure because it provides holistic views with pathways, and provides awareness. For an updated brochure, would, for example, the highlighted plants still be valid? Golden algae and diseases, salt cedar and purple loosestrife are not listed in old brochure. It would be a cost effective to keep format the same, just update information. Don't want to waste energy on developing something completely new if it's not necessary.

A motion was passed for the panel to fund developing the brochure, separate from a printing budget, and suggested that the process is not rushed to ensure a good job. ExCom will approve budget for brochure and request a RFP for brochure development. A workgroup will be formed to determine content, and will do a poll of species to determine which will be highlighted. The RFP needs to work with the content workgroup. Want to be done before end of 2011.

Brochure Content Workgroup: Bob Wiltshire; and contact Paul Heimowitz (paul_heimowitz@fws.gov) if interested.

Membership

4 new positions created in 2009 need representatives:

1. Recreational Boating
2. Marina Operators
3. Conservation
4. Anglers and Boating

If you are interested contact the Committee Chair or Vice Chair. Members can be added at any time and voted through email. Membership can be done throughout the year. Nomination form to be sent out.

New Excom Members Announced

Diane Cooper, Bob McMahon, Tom McMahon, John Wullschleger

Recognize Eileen Ryce as Chair has been doing this for four years. She is stepping down. Thank you for all of your hard work, Eileen!

2011 Annual Meeting

Location: California. Susan Ellis is thinking about San Francisco.

Create a workgroup/planning committee- Susan Ellis and Karen McDowell are committee chairs. Need to determine agenda, etc. One goal is to get a tribal perspective, more of a holistic approach.

Felt-Soled Boot Ban - *Bob Wiltshire (bob@stopans.org)*

New Zealand banned felt in 2008. NZ studies with didymo showed that felts retained 3000x more cells than rubber, took weeks to dry, and were difficult to disinfect. A MSU study (Gates 2007) found that felt soles retain whirling disease spores. Trout Unlimited pushed to discontinue the use of felt. Statewide felt bans: Alaska January 2012; Vermont April 2011; Maryland January 2011; New Mexico is having Fish and Game look into it; Oregon, proposed in legislature.

Banning felt soles is not the silver bullet. Bob's Clean Angling Coalition is trying to change ethic with fishermen, saying that you're not done fishing until you have cleaned your gear, and not relying on non-felts in lieu of cleaning.

Other studies, Kelly Stockton, has shown that ANS species, specifically New Zealand mudsnails will attach to all types of soles, including rubber, felt, and neoprene. Decontamination/Cleaning is the only way to ensure that no ANS are transported from place to place.

Discussion:

Stephanie Carman and Robyn Draheim proposed motions that a work group be formed that would address decontamination protocols for field gear.

Field Gear Cleaning (e.g. waders, boots) Workgroup: Tammy Davis and Bob Wiltshire appointed for lead, Stephanie Carman, Rick Boatner, Cynthia Tait, Toni Pennington, Greg, John Wullschleger

Strategic Planning Meeting

Panel Coordinator

Erin Williams- How can panel be most effective? Each panel needs a full time coordinator. Work load and interest has increased, and we especially need a facilitator and organizer, not a spokesperson (not an advocate). This position is under USFWS and supported by their budget.

There are 5 FWS regions but the “burden” of the Coordinator position is on Region 6 (Rocky Mtns/Prairie).

Susan Mangin- No funding for Q-ZAP tsar for full time, years down the road

Diane Cooper- Panel person needs to be full time, and do only panel work.

Kevin Anderson- Need a coordinator position and need the budget. It would be nice to have FWS employee because they have access to the “system” know how to get funded.

Erin Williams-We need to define role of coordinator. Non Federal could have easier time talking to politicians. Other entities that could fund are Gulf Coast Commission, Pacific States Commission, National Marine Fisheries Commission, NW Power Council.

Options for Panel Coordinator	Pros	Cons
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget for activities • Paid for by USFWS • Continuity/familiarity • more mission-oriented relative to other organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WORKLOAD (3 jobs) • Can raise issues through system (USFWS) • Not workable for a new person
2. Rotate among FWS regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid for by USFWS • Burden shared • Less burden on R6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USFWS connection • Lose continuity
3. Specific Panel coordinator funded by USFWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good for panel. Need to attract a good person • Pressure off workgroup – more time to work on activities • More panel activities – less demand on ExComm/ Workgroups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of funds • USFWS connection
4. Outside contractor – non-USFWS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impartiality • Not representing panel and USFWS • Cheaper • Pressure off Chair ○ Share responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of project funds • Lessening to commitment to success – loss of connection to agencies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More independent than an organization 	
5. Other host organization – PSMFC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization provides staffing – not paid with panel funds 	Would organization be able to fund the coordinator? Depends on organization. Specific mission of organization needs to fit in well with Panel.
6. Split funding among five USFWS Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better than rotating • Split specific duties – not sharing duties 	Could cause confusion – need point of contact and a lead

Chair/Executive Committee/Membership - *Karen McDowell*

Excom needs to engage membership for staffing workgroups. We need more volunteers.

- **Marine Issues:** Coastal Provinces and States need more communication on marine spp., education/awareness
 - Coastal workgroup (?) – meet to share information and coordinate. Not a task oriented workgroup. – *Kevin Anderson, Susan Ellis, Tammy Davis, Robyn Draheim, Karen McDowell, Jeff Adams, Adelheid Herrmann*
 - More focus on marine issues
- **Conflict Management:** Contradictory regulations for Japanese Yellow Grass – different state perspectives, conflicting management on non-native spp. – *Diane Cooper, Paul Heimowitz*
- **Status of infestations:** workgroup – *Eileen Ryce, John Wullschleger, Stephen Phillips, Amy Ferriter, Rick Boatner*
- **Pathways:** Existing and novel pathways, periodic review of pathways – Workgroup – *Jeff Adams*
- **Watercraft Inspection Decontamination:** updated info, review of info - *Beth Bear, Gene Seagle, Tom McMahon, Amy Ferriter, Larry Dalton*

Recommendations to ANSTF

- 1) Explore options for a separate QZAP coordinator position (same recommendation as when plan was submitted).
- 2) Thank ANSTF for developing QZAP implementation team, express appreciation for opportunity to participate in that team, recommend that the Panel continue work on implementation team.

- 3) Recommend updating recreational guidelines. WRP would like to participate in and provide information in that update process (i.e. wader and field gear/equipment disinfection guidance that will be drafted by Panel over next 6 months).
- 4) Panel recommends that ANSTF explore national implications of commercial markets for non-native species, and perhaps develop a white paper about pros/cons. The Panel would be available to assist in those discussions.

Questions/Concerns

- Sharing ideas and coordinating implementation of priorities in QZAP
- Discussions with Lake Mead NPS regarding Privacy Act and sharing of information about potentially infested boats leaving Lake Mead.
- Due to transition of Panel Coordinator position, the Panel had lengthy discussions about needing a full-time coordinator especially given the introduction of mussels in the west, UMPs, development of QZAP and its ongoing implementation. The Panel is exploring funding for a full-time position.

Public Comment

Irradiation to control dreissenids - Larry Dalton

Research has begun into irradiating Z/Q mussels, an idea based on sterile insect techniques, where male mussels are exposed to 2-4 kilorads, then returned to water body. Offspring would have decreased reproductive capabilities, potentially below threshold of population viability. See papers Larry sent out on the listserv.

End of Meeting

Karen McDowell- The Spring Task Force meeting is in May so work groups need to be prepared a month before hand.

Eileen Ryce- asked to think about the format and asked people to comment on the presentations and discussion times.