

Member Update Reports for the Western Regional Panel Meeting

September 13-15, 2017

San Diego, California

Please fill out this form to provide a **brief** written report that highlights your top five priority program activities or accomplishments since the October 2016 WRP Annual Meeting in Jackson, WY. Please include any legislative updates or the link to your website where more information can be found. Reports will be distributed at the 2017 WRP Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA and added to the meeting minutes. **Please limit your entry to 2 pages total. Your report will not be edited. There will not be verbal reports at the 2017 meeting.** Non-Member participants are also welcome to submit an activity report.

Please return your completed form to Dennis Zabaglo (dzabaglo@trpa.org) by 5:00 PM on **Friday, August 25, 2017.**

Name: Erin Raney

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. AZGFD has hired a contractor to perform decontaminations of long-term moored and mussel encrusted watercraft prior to transport for a one-year pilot. We view this as a success and intend to renew the current contract as well as expand efforts to contract watercraft inspection and decontamination stations statewide. This was important step to show leadership that pursuing partnerships with private industry can be successful and help the agency realize short and long-term goals of the program to contain AIS from Arizona, particularly in light of the statewide hiring freeze. Aquatic Invasive Species Program personnel coordinated and performed over 400 watercraft inspections and/or decontaminations in 2016/2017. This was a collaborative effort by AIS staff and interns, a decontamination contractor and private industry partners. AIS personnel also contacted over 1200 boaters through angler and boater surveys to better understand boating and angling behavior as it pertains to AIS, as well as to provide education.
2. AZGFD has begun using the regional inspection database. This is an important step signaling Arizona's commitment to the residents of Arizona and the western region in stepping up efforts to contain the spread of AIS and to share data with other jurisdictions that are using

the app. Arizona has been putting decontaminations in the application as well as voluntary inspections being performed by interns and seasonal technicians.

3. AZGFD hired a company to evaluate past outreach efforts through focus groups. Through years of surveys conducted by AIS staff as well as these focus groups, it became apparent that there is still a lack of understanding of what mussels are, what their impacts are, and how individuals can make a difference to stop their spread. The focus groups resulted in a rebranding effort to change the visuals by removing excess text and emphasizing clean, drain, dry and the reason for these steps. New information also explains Director's Orders and mandatory decontamination requirements and triggers.
4. The AIS Program along with Invertebrate Program of AZGFD, and the USFS have successfully engaged with the paddlesport community to help remove and suppress populations of apple snails by removing egg masses and adult snails. This partnership with paddlesport enthusiasts coupled with higher than normal precipitation has suppressed the population of apple snails and we look forward to continuing and expanding efforts with this group of outdoor enthusiasts. It has been a great example of collaboration and leveraging volunteer efforts without much expenditure.
5. AZGFD continues to work with our Law Enforcement branch to address AIS needs. This past year, wildlife managers and AIS personnel performed overtime "plug patrols" in which LE pulled over and cited boats leaving infested waterbodies with drain plugs still in. These patrols were conducted at Lake Mohave and Lake Pleasant. A total of 291 boats were observed during the patrols with 24 citations and 6 warnings issued. The AIS program has set aside funds for the next fiscal year to ramp up LE efforts in the state. AIS personnel also were on scene to provide education and outreach after officers confirmed the scene was safe.

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Name: Martina Beck

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

- 1. Expanded Invasive Mussel Watercraft Inspection program.** In 2017 BC's watercraft inspection program expanded from 32 inspectors to 68 inspectors. The expanded operations include 2 new stations bringing the total to 10 inspections station. Nine of the stations had their hours extended from dawn to dusk, and the province's busiest station at Golden is now open 24 hr/d. The inspection season has been expanded to mid-November. BC's stats as of Aug 21 2017: 28,700 boats inspected, 1,627 high risk inspections, 17 mussel fouled boats. These 17 mussel fouled boats came from Ontario (9), Texas (2), Arizona (1), Ohio (1), Illinois (1), Michigan (1), New York (1) and Quebec (1) and were destined for the Lower Mainland (6), Okanagan (6), Kootenays (1), Thompson-Nicola (1), Vancouver Island (2) and Alaska (1). The Program receive advanced notification on 15 of the 17 mussel fouled boats either from another jurisdiction (e.g. AB, MT, Idaho, WA) or by CBSA and for two of the boats the owners actually contacted the program in advance to arrange for inspection when they arrived in BC. BC's mussel detection dog is now touring inspection stations during the busy summer months. As part of the program expansion, \$450,000 in new funding was providing to support enhanced invasive mussel lake monitoring by stewardship

groups for the next three years. This enhanced funding will allow sampling in over 100 lakes across the province.

2. **On July 7, B.C. and Alberta launched a joint watercraft passport pilot program.** The passport, is aimed at watercraft that travel frequently through B.C. and Alberta. When passports are issued, boaters must sign a commitment to practicing Clean, Drain, Dry and stopping at all inspection stations. It is still mandatory for all passport holders to stop at inspection stations, but the inspection process is quicker. The passport is stamped each time a boater goes through an inspection station. The passport serves as a record of past watercraft inspections. The passport is available for boaters who travel between B.C. and Alberta and those who only travel within B.C. Both provinces are collecting data on boaters' overall experiences with the passport program to evaluate effectiveness of the pilot. To date 1,243 passports have been issued across the BC stations.
3. **Port of Entry notifications from Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA).** Inspectors respond to watercraft flagged by the CBSA, as well as Canadian and U.S. partner agencies. Southern border crossings are monitored 24/7 by CBSA and B.C.'s southern inspection crews are able to be mobile and respond to any requests from the CBSA port of entry locations.
4. One of the key priorities of the Western Canadian Provinces and Territories Agreement is to **increase control options for aquatic invasive species including invasive mussels in Canada.** Work with Canada to establish a federal process that extends the registration of existing pesticides and facilitates the registration of new pesticides on an expedited basis.
5. Another priority under the Western Canadian Provinces and Territories Agreement is to **expand and enhance industry partnerships and identify key partners** (e.g. hydropower, pulp mills, irrigation, boat manufacturers, and commercial haulers). Seek input on prevention involvement (industry advocates).

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Please return your completed form to Dennis Zabaglo (dzabaglo@trpa.org) by 5:00 PM on **Friday, August 25, 2017.**

Name: Stephanie Carman

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. In FY17, the BLM increased dollars directed to Lake Havasu interagency efforts through the BLM-AZ state office and Lake Havasu Field Office. This included funding two seasonal rangers on the water doing outreach (Sticker a Mussel).
2. Participated in the Secretary's efforts to stop the spread of mussels in the west.
3. Began efforts for a Lake Havasu Partnership workshop to develop further actions to stem to movement of infested watercraft from the Lower Colorado River. The meeting will occur in late November/December 2017 and include state, local, county, federal and NGO partners.
4. Beginning in FY18, each BLM state will be directed to partner with their state agency AIS coordinator on efforts outlined in the AIS plans.
5. The BLM is updating the Aquatic Resources Manual (BLM 6720), which will include additional policy about AIS, following the Department of the Interior's AIS policy. A draft is expected to be distributed to WAFWA partners in late 2017/early 2018 for comment.

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Name: Martha Volkoff

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Maintained Quagga Mussel Program (Lead Agency – Department of Fish and Wildlife)

The statewide program continued to work toward prevention through interdiction of watercraft and outreach and education, and by providing support to responsible parties implementing containment efforts at infested waters, and prevention efforts at uninfested waters. From September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017, 90 watercraft were quarantined and 7 were denied entry at the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Border Protection Stations due to infestations of quagga/zebra mussels.

2. Implementation of AB 2443: Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Program (Lead Agency State Parks, Division of Boating and Waterways)

The legislated "mussel infestation prevention grant program" received grant applications from local, state, and federal agencies for 17 mussel prevention projects throughout the state; awards pending. The next grant cycle is anticipated to begin in December 2017.

3. Invasive aquatic plant risk assessments (Lead Agency – Department of Fish and Wildlife)

CDFW conducted risk assessments for 3 potentially invasive aquatic plants (coontail, *Ceratophyllum demersum*, Carolina fanwort, *Cabomba caroliniana*, and floating pennywort, *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*) to authorize Parks-DBW to take necessary action to control the species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

4. Nerodia eradication (Lead Agency – Department of Fish and Wildlife)

CDFW continued efforts to eradicate invasive populations of *N. sipedon* and initiated eradication efforts for *N. fasciata pictiventris* to reduce and prevent further impacts to California's special status species. In 2016, 44 *N. sipedon* were removed, in 2017, 3 *N. sipedon* and 17 *N. f. pictiventris* have been removed. Trapping and removal will continue into future years.

5. Nutria (Lead Agency – Department of Fish and Wildlife)

An established population of nutria, a large, semi-aquatic rodent native to South America, has been discovered in Merced County. Nutria feed heavily on emergent and riparian vegetation and burrow into levees, and are well suited to establish throughout the Central Valley and coastal California. Nutria threaten to alter wetlands, compromise the integrity of the state's water conveyance system, and negatively impact agriculture and public safety. Since their discovery in March, CDFW, in partnership with CDFA and USDA, has been using existing resources to trap nutria and delineate the scope of the population. To date, 18 nutria have been captured. However, existing resources are not adequate to fully implement an aggressive response with the goal of eradication.

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Name: Nicole Dobroski

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Adoption of Biofouling Management Regulations

On April 20, 2017, the California State Lands Commission (Commission) approved biofouling management regulations aimed at preventing the introduction of nonindigenous species from vessels arriving at California ports. These regulations are scheduled for implementation on October 1, 2017. The biofouling management regulations are the result of seven years of consultation and discussions with shipping industry, scientific, public, and regulatory stakeholders; truly a collaborative process. California now becomes the first state in the country to adopt and implement biofouling management regulations, and one of the first globally. Commission staff are preparing outreach materials, an informational webinar, and customer service meetings to ensure that up-to-date and accurate information is shared with the shipping industry prior to implementation.

2. Focus on Prevention: Implementation of an Enhanced Pre-Arrival Risk Assessment Process and New Outreach Materials

Prevention of species introductions is the most efficient and effective way to manage NIS. Commission staff has recently updated our process for vessel pre-arrival risk assessment to

enhance our prevention efforts. All vessels submit Ballast Water Management Reports 24 hours prior to arrival at California ports. Staff performs an initial scan of all forms to determine if the vessel will discharge ballast in California waters (note: approximately 15% of arrivals discharge). For those vessels that will discharge, the ballast water management locations are plotted in Google Earth (augmented with a layer for the 200 nautical mile zone around land masses). Vessels that conducted non-compliant ballast water management are notified immediately, while still en route, of the potential violation. As a result of staff's proactive efforts, multiple vessels have altered their routes or elected to hold ballast while in California waters thereby preventing the discharge of improperly managed ballast water. We have paired this enhanced risk assessment process with new outreach materials (available both in hard copy and digitally) for the regulated industry to ensure that our prevention efforts are as effective as possible. The risk assessment process will be modified again once the new biofouling management regulations are implemented.

3. Adoption of Marine Invasive Species Act Enforcement Regulations

On July 1, 2017, the California State Lands Commission implemented new regulations that establish a process for conducting enforcement actions under the Marine Invasive Species Act. Violations of the Act and associated regulations are broken into classes based on level of risk, and penalties are assigned for each type of violation. While the majority of vessels arriving at California ports are compliant with management, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements, these new regulations provide the Commission with the necessary tools to proceed with enforcement actions when outreach and education efforts are not effective.

4. Completion of Web-Based User Interface for Reporting Form Submittal

All qualifying vessel arrivals (= vessels greater than 300 gross registered tons) at California ports must submit reporting forms detailing their ballast water management activities and hull husbandry practices. The Commission receives roughly 12,000 reporting forms each year that are hand entered into the Marine Invasive Species Program database. This data entry process is slow and staffing intensive. After years of planning and contracting, a new web-based data entry portal (misp.io) is now complete. We will roll out the misp.io application to the shipping industry during the last two weeks of September 2017. This application will significantly reduce data entry time, allowing staff to focus on risk assessment, quality assurance, and customer service.

5. Opposition to the Proposed, Federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act

The proposed, federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) would preempt state regulation of vessel discharges, including ballast water. Commission staff has been supporting and advising our congressional delegation as they have discussed the development of VIDA. Commission staff is also working closely with state partners and the shipping industry to draft language that will address industry concerns about conflicting regulation of vessel discharges while maintaining state authority to regulate unique state waters. At stake is California's (and all states') ability to set state-specific vessel discharge management requirements, collect vessel-reported information and fees, and conduct vessel inspections. The Commission will continue to track this bill and work collaboratively with our partners and will oppose unless amended.

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Name: Brian Neilson

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Minimize further introductions:

The State of Hawaii recently completed a State Biosecurity Plan. This plan addresses a wide range of invasive species threats including AIS to prevent further introductions to Hawaii. Vessel biofouling and ballast water remain the primary vectors for Hawaii's marine & estuarine bioinvasions. Therefore we are currently working on the following legislation:

- Amend State of Hawai'i Ballast Water Management Rule
- Develop Biofouling Rule for the State of Hawai'i
- Develop In-water cleaning BMP's

2. AIS Control and Management:

The AIS team has been actively managing invasive marine algae through the use of mechanical removal and sea urchin biocontrol. Our sea urchin biocontrol hatchery has

produced over 400,000 urchins to date and treated approximately 100 acres of reef. This effort has proven to be effective, showing minimal re-growth on reefs treated four years ago.

3. **AIS Monitoring:**

The AIS team has continued to respond to Japanese tsunami debris landings. Skiffs and other debris heavily biofouled with non-native species continue to wash ashore on all of the main Hawaiian Islands. Over 200 suspected items have been recovered to date. Boats are scraped clean and specimens are sent-off for analysis. Over 50 species of invertebrates and algae of Japanese origin have been documented from debris landings. The AIS team has been monitoring invasive algae species *Avrainvillea amadelpha* that seems to be spreading rapidly throughout O'ahu Island. We are working with partners to develop control options.

4. **Communication & Coordination** The AIS coordinator is working to build partnerships among managers and community groups throughout the main Hawaiian Islands and become more involved in statewide AIS issues. The AIS team has been providing outreach at state wide events and workshops in order to educate the public on AIS issues in the state. In addition, we've developed partnerships and collaborations with researchers and managers throughout the world.

5. **Increase Capacity to manage AIS:**

We are working with our State Legislature to increase our staffing capacity specifically for biofouling and ballast water reporting, risk-assessment, compliance testing and monitoring.

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The Western Aquatic Plant Management Society (WAPMS) is one of 6 regional chapters of the national Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). The other chapters are Florida (FAPMS), South Carolina (SCAPMS), Texas (TAPMS), MidSouth (MSAPMS), Midwest (MAPMS) and the Northeast (NEAPMS). The WAPMS chapter includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, New Mexico, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, we also have members from the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta.

Several things make our APMS chapter unique:

- We have an enormous international geography. The WAPMS covers half of the United States, nearly 2 million square miles (for comparison, consider the FAPMS footprint of 65,800 square miles). We also have active members from two Western Canadian Provinces.
- Our chapter includes diverse aquatic systems ranging from heavily managed canal infrastructure systems in Southern California and the arid inland Northwest to huge natural lake systems in places like Idaho, Montana and Alaska.
- Our members are also diverse, managing everything from native sago and horned pondweed in irrigation and water delivery systems to flowering rush and Eurasian watermilfoil in wetlands and large natural lake systems.

- Even within a single state – Washington, for example – target plant species and available management options vary dramatically. Canal managers in the Columbia Basin of arid eastern Washington have little in common with aquatic resource managers in the Columbia River or biologists working in Willapa Bay along the Washington coast.
- Our chapter’s diversity makes things interesting, but it also poses challenges as the board develops the annual conference agenda – it’s a constant struggle to weigh topics and evaluate what the membership will find most useful. Are we too technical, are we not technical enough? Will members in coastal areas care about projects unique to the inland states? Should we focus more on applied “on the ground” projects, or does the membership prefer academic presentations?

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. WAPMS held joint conference with the Western Society of Weed Science in March, 2017 at the Coeur d’Alene Resort in Idaho. The meeting was very well attended with more than 400 weed scientists, land managers, biologists, botanists, ecologists, regulatory experts, industry representatives and academia sharing research and program updates.
2. WAPMS is actively working on ways to better network with the other regional APMS chapters. This is important as the West struggles to manage problematic species like flowering rush and proactively detect new invaders like starry stonewort. The other APMS chapters have an immense amount of expertise, and technology transfer is a critical role for our society as a whole. APMS chapter presidents have been invited to participate in the 2018 WAPMS conference in Reno, and we look forward to increasing this type of cross-pollination between chapters.
3. The WAPMS has updated its website to provide increased member functionality. In addition to a more informative website, members also benefit from increased email communications, a member directory and timely updates via social media – Like us on Facebook!
4. The WAPMS has completed a 5-year Strategic Plan for the chapter. It is closely aligned with the national APMS strategy. The full text of the Strategic Plan is provided on the WAPMS website. We encourage all members to use this document as an impetus to get involved in the organization. If you see something of interest in the plan, please email, phone or text me for specifics on how you can actively engage (amy.ferriter@cpsagu.com, (509) 993-7490).
5. Please plan to join us in Reno March 26-28 for our WAPMS annual conference. Talks from WRP members are strongly encouraged!

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Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Watercraft Inspection Station Operation:

19 watercraft inspection stations located throughout Idaho on major travel corridors into the state. 3 new watercraft inspection stations for 2017 including Rose Lake (St Hwy 3 West), Kooskia (US Hwy 12 West), and Dubois (I-15 South).

YTD Data: Total watercraft Inspections: 80,282. Hotwashes (140F) performed: 4,239.

Weeds on boat: 452. Q/Z Fouled watercraft: 27

24Hour "nighttime" watercraft inspection operations at Cottrell (I-84W) inspection station. Idaho State Police support, increased lighting around station, electronic message board and a great cooperater (Cassia SWCD) made 24 hour operations a reality. Data analysis coming fall 2017.

Cooperative agreement with the Bear Lake Regional Commission to support two Utah stations, replacing the Idaho Bear Lake check station. Three roving AIS inspection crews based in Boise, Couer d'alene and Idaho Falls. Cooperative law enforcement support agreements for nearly all watercraft inspection station locations representing at least 20 hours per week of support for each station. FY 2018 Budget included one new Idaho State Police Trooper to support nighttime operations at Cottrell to begin July 2017. Current program cooperative agreements include; 10 Watercraft Inspection agreements, 9 Law Enforcement agreements.

Pacific States Marine Fisheries WRDA Funding agreement (\$1 million) to support watercraft inspection efforts. USFWS ANS Task Force Grant for \$45,000 in federal funds to support monitoring efforts.

2. Monitoring Operations:

ISDA performs annual early detection monitoring at 70 waterbodies throughout Idaho utilizing 800-900 plankton tow samples for microscopy analysis. Monitoring occurs during multiple sampling events, bi-monthly for each waterbody throughout the summer season. Samples are shipped overnight same day with a two-week turnaround for lab analysis. Early detection monitoring also includes visual inspection of artificial substrate performed by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and shoreline walks survey during reservoir low pool. Idaho Rapid Response Plan defines decision making, response, and communication in cases of suspect or positive results.

3. Education/outreach:

ISDA continues to provide education and outreach on Invasive Species throughout various avenues including media new releases, watercraft inspection station staff, brochure material, interactive website and facebook page. Messages used to promote the Idaho invasive species program include "Clean, Drain, Dry" "Know what you grow", "Don't let it loose", and "Knock it off".

Please visit our webpages at:

www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov

www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov/watercraft-inspection-station/

www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov/edrr-monitoring/

www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov/maps/

4. 2017 Legislation:

S1112: Supplemental appropriation of \$710,000 from the General Fund and \$300,000 from the dedicated Invasive Species Fund to continue enhanced operations of the 15 watercraft inspection stations, and to open three additional stations. The \$300,000 supplemental increased the dedicated portion of the watercraft inspection budget to \$2.5 million. The watercraft inspection budget grew to \$3.2 million including the General Fund appropriation.

H308: Provided \$3,143,300 from the General Fund to continue enhanced operations of the state's watercraft inspection stations for FY 2018. Included funding for 24-hour operations at I-84 Cottrell. Added four additional full-time equivalent positions. It also included \$1,000,000 from federal funds, should they become available, to enhance operations or equip watercraft inspection stations. The watercraft inspection budget for FY 2018 is \$1.4 million from the dedicated Watercraft

Inspection Fund, \$3.14 million from the General Fund, and \$1.0 million from federal funds for a total of \$5.54 million. Intent Language: Encourage the use of roving stations where appropriate, the addition of staff on busy weekends, the collection of data regarding the number of watercraft bypassing inspection stations, and procurement of federal funds. Requires the department to report to JFAC, the House Agricultural Affairs Committee, and the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee, during the 2018 legislative session, the results of the data gathering, securement of federal funds, and provide an operational review of the boat inspection stations.

5. Executive Order 2017-05 replaces EO 2010-14. Purpose of the Council is to foster coordinated approaches that support local initiatives for the prevention and control of invasive species. The Council shall meet at least twice annually. Membership shall include: Governor's office, nine state agencies, member of the Idaho Senate, member of the Idaho House, representative of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides. Chaired by the ISDA Director or her designee. Other invitations by the Director. Provide policy level recommendations and planning assistance for combating harmful invasive species infestations throughout the state and preventing the introduction of others that may be potentially harmful. Serve as a nonpartisan forum for identifying and understanding invasive species issues. Identify opportunities for cooperating and coordination between departments, tribal governments, stakeholders, Idaho universities, private and not-for-profit organizations, other states, and the federal government. Recommend steps for implementing actions proposed in the Strategic Action Plan for Invasive Species. Take measures that will encourage control and prevention of harmful non-native species. Organize and streamline the process for identifying and controlling invasive species among all stakeholders. Consider ways to halt the spread of invasive species as well as finding possible ways to bring existing problems under control.

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Please return your completed form to Dennis Zabaglo (dzabaglo@trpa.org) by 5:00 PM on **Friday, August 25, 2017.**

Name: Chris Steffen

Organization: Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Title: ANS Coordinator

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City: Emporia

State: KS

Zip: 66801

Email address: chris.steffen@ks.gov

Phone: 620-342-0658

Fax: 620-342-6248

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. **Agency Survey** - All KDWP employees (fisheries and wildlife biologists, game wardens, state park rangers, etc.) were surveyed for their opinions and thoughts about the Kansas ANS program. The response rate was very high; 300 of 383 employees completed the survey. The data was analyzed by our human dimensions specialist and a report was produced. The report focused on the ANS program's perceived strengths and areas of need. The information is being used to re-prioritize ANS program goals and objectives.
2. **Aquatic Vegetation Survey** - A statewide aquatic vegetation survey was initiated. A comprehensive survey of aquatic vegetation has never been conducted in Kansas. ANS such as Curlyleaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Brittle Naiad and Phragmites are known to exist in some Kansas waterbodies, but precise distributions are currently unknown. Results of survey will be used to initiate management of vegetative ANS.
3. **Bait Shop Inspections** - Inspections were conducted at bait shops statewide; no invasive species were found in commercial bait tanks during the inspection process. ANS literature was distributed to the bait shops during inspections.
4. **Fish Health Sampling** - Sampling was conducted at all four state fish hatchery facilities, three private fish farm locations and four reservoirs. None of the fish tested

showed signs of noteworthy diseases. In addition, hatchery staff were trained to conduct health sampling. Should a disease outbreak require urgent collection of samples, these staff will be able to conduct immediate sampling.

5. **ANS Education and Outreach** - Efforts were continued through a variety of media outlets including internet ads, radio ads, etc. Ads were redesigned and repositioned from previous years and lead to a significant increase in traffic to the ProtectKSWaters page. ANS staff also attended several zoo and fair events.

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Organization: National Sea Grant Law Center

Name: Stephanie Otts

Title: Director

Mailing address: Kinard Hall, Wing E, Room 256; P.O. Box 1848

City: University

State: MS

Zip: 38677

Email address: sshowalt@olemiss.edu

Phone: (662) 915-7714

Fax: (662) 915-5267

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. In December 2016, the National Sea Grant Law Center and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) released the "Model Regulation for State Watercraft and Inspection Programs." The model regulation is available at: <http://nsglc.olemiss.edu/projects/model-legal-framework/index.html>. The Law Center and AFWA are currently working with the WRP to develop a model memorandum of understanding (MOU) to provide a model framework for the formalization of interstate and regional collaborations through the development of written agreements. Upon release of the model MOU, policymakers and regulators will have access to a model legal framework identifying model WID provisions from legislation through implementation.
2. The NSGLC updated its companion report to the model WID legal framework to analyze how each state's program compared to the authorities set forth in the Model State Legislative Provisions and Model Regulation. The update was released in April 2017.
3. The NSGLC, along with fellow members of the Building Consensus Planning Committee, organized a Building Consensus meeting (Denver III) in April 2017.

4. The NSGLC is currently working with Lisa DeBruckere, Creative Resource Strategies, to develop a model zebra/quagga mussel reciprocal vessel certification program for Clear Lake, California and neighboring lakes. The NSGLC is conducting legal research and preparing model policy documents to provide guidance regarding program implementation.
5. Wrote article on the *USARK v. Zinke* case for The SandBar, the NSGLC's quarterly newsletter. The article appeared in the July 2017 issue, available at <http://nsglc.olemiss.edu/SandBar/pdfs/sandbar16.3.pdf>.

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Name: **Bob Wiltshire**

Organization: **Invasive Species Action Network**

Title: **Executive Director**

Mailing address: **215 East Lewis ST, ST 202**

City: **Livingston**

State: **MT**

Zip: **59047**

Email address: **bob@stopais.org**

Phone: **406-222-7270**

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Youth Education – education and outreach are widely recognized as vital to reducing the spread of AIS. Unfortunately, most agencies have been slow to incorporate youth education programs. ISAN contracts with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks to provide youth education services. In the 2016 – 2017 school year we conducted over 300 classroom programs which included AIS messaging. These programs reached over 9,000 students. Many of our AIS programs are centered on AIS activities that have been developed by ISAN. In particular, the Invader Inspector activity has proven very popular.

To leverage our youth education efforts in 2017, with support from the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, we conducted a “Teaching Students About Invasive Species” workshop for natural resource professionals. This workshop provided participants with training on how to work with schools, teachers and students and introduced a number of invasive species teaching activities. Each participant left with a trunk of materials and all were ready to go to schools to conduct programs. We expect to conduct another of these workshops in Jackson, WY in 2018.

2. Non-motorized Boater Outreach – it is widely recognized that outreach to non-motorized boaters is lacking across the west. ISAN has received funding from a USFWS QZAP grant to

conduct outreach to this group of boaters. We have developed a full suite of products and advertisements and are engaging partners in the paddling community to help spread the message. In addition, we have been awarded a Google advertising grant which provides us up to \$10,000 a month in free advertising for our efforts. ISAN will provide a short presentation on this effort at the WRP meeting.

3. Professional Services For Invasive Species Programs – ISAN provides a host of professional services to help agencies accomplish their goals. We provide writing services that are widely utilized. In 2017 we completed the Nevada AIS Management Plan and the UMPS 3 document and are currently working on a chemicals paper and a flowering rush management plan for the Columbia River Basin. We also provide coordination and facilitation services for the WRP and for the Columbia Basin CWMA and for activities such as rapid response exercises, meetings and conferences. Our professional staff is able to assist or lead any project you may envision.
4. Quality Assurance & Quality Control (QAQC) – also known as “secret shopper”, ISAN provides QAQC services to anyone operating watercraft inspection stations. For this work ISAN staff pose as recreational boaters and perform employee evaluations while undergoing inspection. We are currently providing QAQC services for Montana, Wyoming and Lake Tahoe. In each jurisdiction we work with the manager to develop a custom approach that is designed to assess the inspection station aspects that are of most significance to the program.
5. Don’t Let It Loose – this pet store outreach program has grown significantly since it was introduced in 2015. In 2016/2017 Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and New Mexico all implemented the aspects of the program that best suit the needs of the state. With support from USFWS Region 6 ISAN added the states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming and continued to support the program in Montana. With support from Montana FWP we took the first steps toward adding a classroom component to the effort. ISAN will report on this program at the WRP meeting

Name: Jessica Howell

Organization: North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Title: Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator

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Fax: (701) 253-6490

Major Accomplishments and on-going works

1. **Multi-media outreach campaign** – We renewed a contract with an NGO to fund a statewide, multi-media ANS I/E effort; completed multiple internal webcast, video, press releases, and website updates; assisted with design of a new ANS sign, brochure updates, and state fair display; and met with various user groups to present information about ANS. New for the 2017 season are outreach efforts directed specifically at pet stores (partnership with the Invasive Species Action Network) and marinas, both of which include face-to-face meetings and subsequent follow-ups with all locally owned pet stores and marinas in the state.
2. **Seasonal boater surveys and voluntary inspections** – We contracted work of four seasonal employees to conduct voluntary boater surveys and inspections at high-use locations in ND. In 2016, over 470 surveys were conducted; so far in 2017 we have exceeded 400 surveys.
3. **Industry ANS inspections** – ANS inspections were completed on high-risk commercial construction equipment and ANS facility inspections were completed at non-resident bait suppliers that sell live aquatic bait to ND bait vendors. New for 2017, all North Dakota bait vendors are also being checked and a few large fishing tournaments are getting mandatory inspections.
4. **ANS sampling** – We conducted regular monitoring of the Red River for zebra mussels; conducted early detection sampling on a number of non-infested waters for zebra mussels and other ANS; and conducted regular monitoring on the James River for silver carp. New for 2017, we are sampling vegetation at high-use, non-department managed waters that are popular waterfowl hunting locations.
5. **Coordination** – We hosted a ND AIS Committee meeting (held every spring and fall); met with various ND user groups and water advisory boards; and attended regional coordination meetings.

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Name: Allison Zach

Organization: Nebraska Invasive Species Program (with input from the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission)

Title: Program Coordinator

Mailing address: 506 Hardin Hall, 3310 Holdrege St

City: Lincoln

State: NE

Zip: 68583

Email address: Azach3@unl.edu

Phone: (402) 472-3133

Website: <https://neinvasives.com/>

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Boat Surveys & Watercraft Inspections: Conducted boater surveys using tablets and inspected watercrafts and have done so since 2012. As of Aug 22, 2017 over 3,600 surveys had been completed. Some technicians will continue to conduct boater surveys and watercraft inspections through October. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission employed 6 full time technicians between May and August. The Nebraska Invasive Species Program employed 2 full time technicians conducting surveys in the Lincoln and Omaha area waterbodies between May and August. Surveys collected information on the last waterbody the watercraft had been used at, where they might use that watercraft again this year, clean, drain and dry behaviors, and bait usage. Activities on Lewis and Clark Lake and the Missouri River concentrated efforts on dealing with boaters leaving the areas to increase efforts to prevent the spread of zebra mussels from these infested waters. Outreach materials were given to the public during inspections. Technicians also did outreach at fishing tournaments and family fishing events.
2. Zebra mussel sampling & status: The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission sampled waterbodies throughout the state and sent them to the MT lab for analysis. Lake Yankton, located by Lewis and Clark Reservoir, had an adult zebra mussel found by the public in August, 2017 and then confirmed by South Dakota officials. It became the 4th zebra mussel infested waterbody in Nebraska (the others are Offutt Air Force Base Lake, Lewis and Clark Lake, the Missouri River). Nebraska has 2 suspect waterbodies. One sample from Carter Lake (which shares borders with Nebraska and Iowa) was suspect as a zebra mussel veliger when the MT lab did microscopy on it. A single veliger was detected in a sample from a different date. Visual surveys on the lake have not found adults. The lake will continue to be monitored by staff from both Nebraska and Iowa. Zorinsky lake is considered suspect after a water sample from last year was found to have zebra mussel veligers confirmed by the MT lab via microscopy and qPCR via the Pisces lab. A single veliger was found in one of

the samples collected this spring. Following a drawdown of the lake this year for maintenance work by the Corp of Engineers field inspections were conducted this summer around lake revealed no adult zebra mussels. Lewis and Clark Lake (near Yankton, SD) and the entire length of the Missouri River downstream have seen an increasing density of mussels and power plants pulling water from the river found zebra mussels in their facilities for the first time in 2016. Signage and new releases were put out to educate the public of this risk. Adult mussel samplers and boat docks will be inspected this fall.

3. Asian carp (bighead and silver carp) have been documented over the past several years in the upper sections of the Loup, Platte and Elkhorn rivers. Seining has been conducted the last two summers to try to document young of the year Asian carp but none has been collected thus far. Numerous adults were sampled this summer in the Elkhorn and an overwintering population of both silver and bighead were documented in Turkey Creek (near Kearney, NE) which is a tributary of the Platte River which is the first documentation of an overwintering population in this area. Seine haul samples were preserved for lab analysis. The USGS water center in Nebraska is pursuing funding for eDNA of Asian Carps for detection in Nebraska.
4. Nebraska's motorboat aquatic invasive species fee (resident boat registration fee and non-resident annual sticker) went into effect in 2016. The non-resident \$15 annual fee and \$5 resident motorboat fee (with a 3 year registration) fund an aquatic invasive species prevention program at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Several violations occurred in 2016 and 2017 of non-resident motorboats not having the required AIS stamp. Signage and outreach will be increased in 2018 to increase knowledge of this required sticker.

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Name: Karen Vargas

Organization: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Title: AIS Coordinator

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State: NV

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Phone: 775.688.1532

Fax: 775.688.1597

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Nevada's AIS Management Plan is currently in the process of being submitted to the ANS Task Force for the November 2017 meeting. We are expecting Nevada's Governor Sandoval to approve and submit the plan to the Task Force in September.
2. In 2017, Nevada's AIS Program focused on new AIS regulations including the removal of watercraft drain plugs and devices holding backwater when traveling on any Nevada public highway. The regulation is for the transport of ALL watercraft regardless of what state or what body of water the watercraft originated from. A large outreach campaign was implemented including billboards, radio advertising, social media, rack cards and inspection station staff training and promotional items.
3. In October 2016, the AIS Program began providing outreach and performing inspections and decontaminations on watercrafts that are for sale and located in boat dealer yards in the Las Vegas Valley. Generally, staff visits the facilities one time per month. All facilities have been cooperative with the exception of one major boat dealer in the valley. NDOW doesn't have the authority to inspect watercraft for AIS on private property without the dealer's approval.

4. Nevada is currently utilizing the Colorado database for Watercraft Movement Notices and statewide inspection/decontamination data for 2017. Watercraft Movement Notices are automatically incorporated into the database. NDOW is currently working on uploading all statewide inspection data for 2017.

5. Station Information for 2017

Thirteen inspection and decontamination stations are currently operating in Nevada. Four are at Lake Mead NRA and a seasonal station is located along the Colorado River in Laughlin. The focus for these stations is on performing inspections on watercraft exiting the waterway.

Elsewhere in the state there are two seasonal roadside stations including an Alamo station (northbound Highway 93) that intercepts watercrafts coming from Southern Nevada. We are expecting the station to stay open 7 days per week until October and reopen in late winter. The other roadside station is along the Mountain Highway near Elko and intercepts northbound vessels heading to the Nevada/Idaho border. The station will close in late September and reopen in mid-April 2018. All other stations in the state are entry/boat ramp stations located at specific waterbodies.

- Data for Lake Mead NRA Data for 4 Inspection/Decontamination Stations
- 664 Watercraft Movement Notices/Decontaminations were performed in 2016 and >10,000 inspections.
- As of mid-August 2017, over 700 Watercraft Movement Notices (decontaminations) have been sent out. Inspections are expected to surmount the 2016 levels.

Member Update Reports for the Western Regional Panel Meeting

Name: Christine M Moffitt

Organization: University of Idaho, Academia at Large Inland

Title: Professor Emerita

Mailing address: current home address 700 Denise Place

City: Coos Bay

State:

OR

Zip: 97420

Email address: cmoffitt@uidaho.edu

Phone: 208-310-3276

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Completed research project with Kelly Stockton-Fiti on evaluation of the Edwards Protocol in different temperatures and water qualities and presented results at AFS meeting Tampa FL “Controlling the Spread of Invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels with KCL” Session Topic What can we expect from non-natives and climate change?
2. Member, Scientist Expert Panel for Delta Science Program- Review of feasibility of use of shore-based ballast water reception and treatment facilities in California. Delta Stewardship Council, and the California State Lands Commission.
3. Published three manuscripts on control measures for invasive species and one project final report to FWS: Moffitt, C. M. K. A. Stockton-Fiti, and R. Caudi. 2016. Toxicity of potassium chloride to veliger and byssal stage dreissenid mussels related to water quality. *Management of Biological Invasions* 7:257–268.
Stockton, K.A., C. M. Moffitt, B. J. Watten, and B. Vinci. 2016. Hydraulics and particle removal efficiency of mixed cell raceway and Burrow’s pond rearing systems. *Aquacultural Engineering* 74:52-61. doi:10.1016/j.aquaeng.2016.04.005
Stockton-Fiti, K. A., and C. M. Moffitt. *In press*. Safety and Efficacy of Virkon® Aquatic as a control tool for invasive mollusks in aquaculture. *Aquaculture*.
Moffitt, C. M. 2017. Guidance documents: continued support to improve operations of fish hatcheries and field sites to reduce the impact or prevent establishment of New Zealand mudsnails and other invasive mollusks. Final report to US Fish and Wildlife Service. Region 6 Aquatic Invasive Species.
4. Completed draft report of project on control measures for Asian clam infestation in Lake Pend Oreille, ID. Final report will be completed in October.
5. Participated in Columbia River Basin Team meetings and networks, and Idaho Invasive Species Council sharing key findings of research.

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Name: Blaine L. Parker

Organization: Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Title: ANS Update from CRITFC

Mailing address: 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1200

City: Portland

State: Oregon

Zip: 97232

Email address: parb@critfc.org

Phone: 503-238-0667

Fax: n/a

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Participation in ISAC Meetings and processes
2. Created Commitment Templates for Whitefish meeting for use in CRITFC/Tribal ANS goals
3. Received 230K Grant from BIA for increased tribal participation for invasive mussel monitoring in the Columbia River basin with WSU and USGS as collaborating partners. As part of this project, CRITFC is working with the USGS and WSU to conduct early detection monitoring in the Columbia and Snake Rivers. The effort will continue and expand during FY18.

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Name: Mark Sytsma

Organization: Center for Lakes and Reservoirs, Portland State University

Title: Professor and Director

Mailing address: ESM, POB 751

City: Portland

State: OR

Zip: 97207

Email address: mark.sytsma@pdx.edu

Phone: 503 725 3833

Fax:

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Conducted early detection surveys for flowering rush, water primrose zebra/quagga mussels, and other AIS in Oregon and the Columbia River Basin.
2. Participated in multiple coordinating activities to ensure effective response including Pacific Northwest Economic Region Invasive Species Working Group, Columbia River Basin Team of the 100th Meridian Initiative, Oregon Invasive Species Council, and Western Aquatic Invasives Network.
3. Conducted research on linkage between terrestrial invaders and eutrophication of water bodies.
4. Initiated a project to rehabilitate a shallow lake that was subjected to inappropriate management of *Egeria densa* (herbicide and grass carp) that resulted in hypereutrophic conditions and toxic algae blooms that threaten human health.
5. ytsmaTrained two doctoral students working on AIS

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Name: Dennis Zabaglo

Organization: Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)

Title: Aquatic Resources Program Manager

Mailing address: PO Box 5310

City: Stateline

State: NV

Zip: 89449

Email address: dzabaglo@trpa.org

Phone: 775-589-5255

Fax: 775-588-4527

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. The Lake Tahoe AIS prevention program has been in operation for nine seasons (since 2008), and to date, no new invasives have been detected.
2. The Lake Tahoe Program has implemented a pilot project to test an innovative technique to control AIS. A boat outfitted with UV light arrays has been constructed to control invasive aquatic plants. The technology utilizes a specific range of UV-C light that disrupts the cellular structure of the organisms. It is similar to a long-used technique for treating water to kill microbes, that is being tried on AIS. The developer is presenting at the 2017 WRP annual meeting.
3. TRPA and other regulatory agencies within the Lake Tahoe region have received permit applications to use aquatic pesticides to treat invasive aquatic plants within an area known as the Tahoe Keys. The Tahoe Keys is a series of interconnected channels and lagoons of approximately 172 surface acres that connect directly to Lake Tahoe. The waters are almost entirely infested with Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed, and is considered ground zero for those species within Lake Tahoe. This development was once the largest wetland in the entire Sierras, until it was constructed in the late 1950's. This proposal is a

first for the region, as until recently their use was completely prohibited. Due to Lake Tahoe's designation as a Tier 3 Outstanding Natural Resource Waters (ONRW), and its famed clarity, there is considerable focus on this proposal. The development of the necessary environmental documentation began in August 2017 and regulatory decisions are expected in the spring of 2018.

4. After three years of utilizing bottom barriers diver hand pulling and suction, the Lake Tahoe AIS program has successfully achieved localized eradication of aquatic invasive plants at another location known as Crystal Shores. Crystal Shores is a condominium development on the north shore of Lake Tahoe, in Nevada that has an associated marina. The infestation was approximately three acres in size and consisted of Eurasian watermilfoil. The homeowners have agreed to implement a routine monitoring program and implement measures to reduce the likelihood of the marina becoming re-infested.
5. Lake Tahoe AIS program staff continue to be a representative of national AIS managers working with the boat industry to encourage design and construction of watercraft with AIS in mind. Recently, Volvo incorporated a new aspect to their marine engines that allows a direct connection to decontamination equipment, eliminating the need for "ear muffs" that do not always operate as effectively as desired.

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Name: Cynthia Tait

Organization: U.S. Forest Service

Title: Regional Aquatic Ecologist

Mailing address: 324 25th St

City: Ogden

State: UT

Zip: 84401

Email address: ctait@fs.fed.us

Phone: 801-625-5358

Fax: 801-625-5756

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

REGION 1 (MT, n. ID)

- Flathead NF (MT) contributes funds to the Flathead Basin Commission, which runs several inspection stations. The commission operates the Highway 2 station on the Blackfoot Reservation, where 40 percent of MT's contaminated boats were intercepted this year.
- Lolo NF (MT) contributed to inspection/wash stations in the Clearwater Basin, including FS boat launches on 8 lakes.
- The Region is coordinating with Montana on veliger detection and **National Genomics Center for Wildlife and Fish Conservation / USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research (RMRS)** has been advising on genetic methodology for veliger detection.

REGION 2 (CO, E. WY, SD, NE, KS)

USFS has a Cost Share Agreement with Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) as well as other partnerships for boat inspection and decontamination programs on 10 reservoirs across 5 National Forests in the Region. The breakdown is as follows:

- Arapaho/Roosevelt NF: Colorado Big Thompson System including 4 major reservoirs – Lake Granby, Grand Lake, Shadow Mountain Reservoir Willow Creek Reservoir. The Region provided \$100K in a match with CPW's \$100K along with a partner contribution from

Northern Water of \$130K to operate a reduced inspection program (number of ramps open reduced due to lack of funding to support inspections at all ramps).

- Grand Mesa/Uncompahgre/Gunnison NF: The Region provided \$24K matched by CPW to run a boat inspection and decontamination program at Taylor Park Reservoir.
- Pike/San Isabel NF: The forest contributes \$15K to a partnership with Colorado Springs Utility (\$32K), Aurora Water (\$32K), and the Pueblo Water Board, who pays for the storage and gates used. The money is used for the boat inspections at Twin and Turquoise Lakes, headwater lakes with valuable drinking water uses.
- San Juan NF: The Region participates with 3 partners (Bureau of Reclamation, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Delores Water Conservancy, splitting the \$88K total cost) for inspection and decontamination stations on high risk McPhee Reservoir. Lake Powell is infested and nearby.
- White River NF: Costs for AIS boat inspection and decontamination stations for Ruedi Reservoir were shared, with \$18K from FS, \$18K from CPW, and \$38K covered by Ruedi Water and Power Association. Green Mountain Reservoir, another high-risk waterbody, is funded \$26K by FS and matched by CPW to run a reduced boat inspection and decontamination program. In August, Green Mountain Reservoir tested positive for Quagga Mussel veligers, independently confirmed by 2 genetics labs. Additional testing is ongoing to determine a status category for the Reservoir.

REGION 4 (UT, NV, s. ID, w. WY)

- The Regional Office continues to fund AIS inspection, outreach, and AIS monitoring on high risk USFS waterbodies, through partnerships with Utah Department of Wildlife Resources, Idaho Department of Agriculture, and Wyoming Department of Game & Fish. To date, there are no known occurrences of invasive mussels in any Regional USFS waterbody. In 2016, the Region approved funding \$400,000 to cover our three state partners for the next 3 years, through 2019.
- Bridger Teton NF completed eDNA sampling for New Zealand mudsnails and dreissenids for all Forest lakes with significant recreational boating (11 lakes this year). Analysis is provided by RMRS. Sampling is mainly by boat, with smaller lakes sampled by field crews in waders. We are taking samples at inlets, outlets, boat docks and launch ramps. We don't expect to find anything, but want to be ready with early detection and rapid response if anything does show up.
- The Forest is re-evaluating all special use permits to pay careful attention to AIS invasion potential, and is prescribing best management practices to mitigate risks.

Member Update Reports for the Western Regional Panel Meeting

September 13-15, 2017

San Diego, California

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Please return your completed form to Dennis Zabaglo (dzabaglo@trpa.org) by 5:00 PM on **Friday, August 25, 2017.**

Name: Nathan Owens

Organization: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (www.STDoftheSea.com)

Title: Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Mailing address: 1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110

City: Salt Lake City

State: Utah

Zip: 84114-6301

Email address: nathanowens@utah.gov

Phone: 385-239-0861

Fax:

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. UDWR successfully transitioned all watercraft interdiction operations from its Aquatics section to its Law Enforcement section. This included the creation of five new "Corporal" positions to supervise regional interdiction efforts, and the incorporation of eight regional Interdiction Specialists. Aquatics is now supporting Law Enforcement in interdiction efforts while significantly increasing early detection sampling at all high priority waters within the state.
2. UDWR entered into a cooperative effort with Idaho Department of Agriculture and the Bear Lake Commission to streamline watercraft inspections in the Bear Lake area. This has resulted in the elimination of one duplicate inspection station in Idaho, while transferring funds to UDWR to help extend night hours during the busiest times.
3. A new Local Boater Program was implemented at Deer Creek Reservoir. The program was modeled after a similar program UDWR started at Lake Powell two years ago, but was more complicated due to Deer Creek Reservoir's location within an urban center. The program has resulted in fewer safety issues and traffic congestion than in past years, while allowing more high-risk boats to be inspected exiting the reservoir.

4. Deer Creek Reservoir continues to be listed as a “suspect” reservoir, with containment efforts in place. No new evidence of Dreissenid mussels has been found, and if this continues, Deer Creek Reservoir will be officially reclassified as an “undetected” water in January 2018.
5. UDWR was successful in passing a rule change requiring all watercraft leaving a mussel-affected waterbody to be transported and stored with all drain plugs removed.

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Name: Eric C. Anderson

Organization: Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife

Title: AIS Enforcement Captain

Mailing address: PO Box 43200

City: Olympia State: WA Zip: 98504-3200

Email address: Eric.Anderson@dfw.wa.gov

Phone: (360)640-0493

Fax: N/A

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. POLICY & LEGISLATION:

The Washington State legislature passed and signed into law ESSB 5303 in an effort to bolster the State's efforts in AIS prevention & enforcement. The bill had tremendous stakeholder support and was unanimously passed with bipartisan support. The main impact that the bill has will be an increase of funding to WDFW for AIS Prevention & Enforcement Efforts. The bill mandates that owners of Non-resident Recreational watercraft, Seaplanes, and/or Commercial watercraft purchase an AIS Prevention Permit before they can be placed or operated in the waters of Washington state.

2. WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS:

WDFW launched its largest expansion of mandatory watercraft inspection stations to date. Historically, WDFW only operated "roving" watercraft inspection stations, i.e. They occurred at random locations and random dates/times throughout the state. This year, WDFW changed tactics and began continuous operations of AIS Watercraft Inspection stations at two fixed locations on a continuous schedule. The stations were strategically located at two locations where it was anticipated that the most out-of-state boat traffic from high risk areas would be encountered. The station locations are; Spokane – WSP Interstate 90 Port of Entry (Idaho/Washington State Line) and Plymouth – WSP Highway 395 Port of Entry (Oregon/Washington State Line). The stations are open Thursday through Sunday with hours of operation timed to encounter the largest volume of interstate watercraft travel. This has resulted in the most watercraft inspections in the history of WDFW's watercraft inspection program. **(4,477 inspections as of 8/13/2018)**

3. European Green Crab (EGC) – Rapid Response

Four EGC were detected on April 13, 2017 on Dungeness Spit by a University of Washington Sea Grant Green Crab Team and volunteers. This Species is classified as prohibited level 1 pose a high invasive risk and are a priority for prevention and expedited rapid response management actions. Dungeness Spit is United States Fish & Wildlife Service controlled land and therefore required multiple permissions and stakeholder meetings prior to response. The response required logistics for; Equipment, Traps, Bait, Transportation. The eradication/control strategy required; Assessment of EGC population and scope of infestation, Coordination/communications/stakeholder outreach, Access to area, Amount Staff required, Training & Safety considerations. **To Date; 80 EGC (50 Males & 30 Females) have been trapped and euthanized** WDFW will continue its response throughout 2017 and 2018

4. African Clawed Frogs (ACF) – Response & Management

Detected in City of Lacey Storm water Ponds on July 15, 2015 by Washington State Department of Ecology staff, (was reported on the Washington Invasive Species Council reporting site). This was the first known detection in Washington and the initial response required logistics for; Equipment, Traps, Transportation. The eradication/control strategy required; Assessment of ACF population and scope of infestation, coordination/communications/stakeholder outreach, Access to area, Amount Staff required, Training & Safety considerations. Additionally, the ponds also contain two other AIS; Bull Frogs & Goldfish. While the ACF trapping program was being used, WDFW also conducted sodium chloride trails and has found 100% mortality on ACF. Subsequently, WDFW then applied for and obtained a Washington Department of Ecology permit to discharge this chemical and the Washington State Department of Agriculture label to use sodium chloride for ACF eradication. On August 10 & 11, 2017 the application of sodium chloride occurred on Pond #1 at the site (there are 3 ponds at the site and all have ACF's). The following table is eradication totals for the site to date;

Site	ACF	Bullfrog	Native	Goldfish	Total
Pond 1	3,421	201	255	10,690	14,567
Pond 2	2,223	3,250	131	0	5,604
Pond 3	462	618	193	44	1,317
Total	6,106	4,069	579	10,734	21,488

5. WDFW AIS PROGRAM GENERAL UPDATES:

Staffing increased – The WDFW AIS Prevention & Enforcement Program currently is staffed with;

Prevention/Monitoring – Division

Statewide AIS Coordinator – Allen Pleus

Biologist – Jesse Schultz

Prevention Technician (half time) – Richard Visser

Prevention Technician (3/4 time)- Mike Wilkinsen

Three Watercraft Inspectors (half time)- Temporary Personnel

Enforcement – Division

Statewide AIS Enforcement Capt. – Eric Anderson

Statewide AIS Enforcement Sgt. – Pam Taylor

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Name: Gordon King and Diane Cooper

Organization: Taylor Shellfish Company

Title: Director of Mussel Farms

Mailing address: SE 130 Lynch Rd.

City: Shelton **State:** WA. **Zip:** 98584

Email address: gordonk@taylorshellfish.com

Phone: 360 490 9511

Fax: 360 427 0327

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. Participated on the **Aquatic Invasive Species Funding Advisory Committee** to develop funding options for consideration by the Washington State Legislature.
2. Worked with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a **Memorandum of Agreement on Aquatic Invasive Species Education and Outreach Partnership** as part of the funding legislative options effort.

Draft Statement of Agreement & Purpose: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association agree that it is in their mutual interest to form an aquatic invasive species education and outreach partnership. The purpose of this partnership will be to increase public awareness and promote behaviors that lessen the risk of invasive species transmission by: (1) developing yearly themes, messages, and related materials (media, posters, etc.) to educate shellfish consumers and the general public about how they can help to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species; and (2) supporting execution of these themes and provision of education and outreach information by WDFW and participating shellfish growers individually and collectively.

3. Implemented Company-wide **Environmental Codes of Practice** addressing aquatic invasive species using GIS technology (see attached).
4. Participated on the **Industry Panel to the Washington Invasive Species Council**.
5. Participated in **European Green Monitoring Efforts** under the direction of and in partnership with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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Name: Jeff Adams

Organization: Washington Sea Grant

Title: Marine Ecologist

Mailing address: 345 Sixth St., Suite 550

City: Bremerton

State: WA

Zip: 98337

Email address: jaws@uw.edu

Phone: 360-229-9398

Fax:

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. California Sea Grant (Carrie Culver, cculver@ucsd.edu) - increased efforts on outreach regarding two invasive seaweeds in southern California (*Sargassum horneri* and *Undaria pinnatifida*), including different outreach pieces and highlights of the species during California's Invasive Species week (<https://caseagrant.ucsd.edu/news/help-protect-kelp-beds-and-reefs-from-invasive-seaweeds>). A short video related to the two species was also highlighted in March via the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries through their Earth is Blue social media campaign on Facebook as a final post for (National) Invasive Species Awareness Week 2017. We are planning to further distribute the identification and awareness flyers to harbors and dive and fishing shops and charter boats this fall before lobster season opens - when there are a lot of divers and hoop netters in the water and when the seaweed reaches stages that are easier to recognize and there is a higher likelihood of running into them (they are annuals).
2. Oregon Sea Grant (Tania Siemens, Tania.Siemens@oregonstate.edu) has nearly completed the *Menace to the West* aquatic invasive species curriculum website. Though not currently active, the website is expected to come on line by October (<http://www.menacetothewest.org>).

3. Oregon Sea Grant (Tania Siemens, Tania.Siemens@oregonstate.edu) has also focused resources on their *Don't Pack a Pest* with International students project. This project looks at the packing habits of international students and study abroad students and works with schools to integrate awareness about invasive species introductions through international travel into their international student and study abroad student programs. We have completed a survey and report on our first phase of the project, and are now expanding to include WA and CA.
4. Washington Sea Grant (Jeff Adams, jaws@uw.edu) has continued to expand the highly successful European green crab early detection program that it started in partnership with WDFW. The program currently includes about 200 volunteers and 20 institutional partner staff who are trapping and conducting molt hunts at over 50 highly suitable habitats around Washington's inland marine shorelines. To date, monitoring has picked up individual crabs at several sites and helped identified a small population at the Dungeness Spit National Wildlife Refuge. Rapid response actions, led by WDFW and USFWS with technical guidance from Washington Sea Grant, have captured over 80 European green crab at Dungeness Spit and reduced the population to a point where captures have become rare. More about Washington Sea Grant's Crab Team's efforts can be found at the project website <http://wsg.washington.edu/crabteam>.

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Name: Beth Bear

Organization: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Title: Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Mailing address: 528 S. Adams

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State: WY

Zip: 82070

Email address: Beth.Bear@wyo.gov

Phone: 307-745-5180 Ext. 256

Fax:

Please provide a description of your top five AIS activities/accomplishments/priorities for the past year:

1. **Outreach** – In 2017 we conducted a boater appreciation raffle to thank boaters for cooperation with watercraft inspections. The raffle also allows us to collect real time feedback from boaters on their experience at watercraft inspection stations.
2. **Watercraft Inspections** - Through July 2017, over 23,000 watercraft inspections were conducted at check stations. A total of 1,495 high risk inspections were conducted and 401 watercraft required decontamination. The majority of decontaminations were performed on watercraft with standing water in the motor.
3. **Monitoring**- Over 60 waters were surveyed for aquatic invasive species during 2017. Results are still pending for the majority of waters sampled but to date no evidence of mussel veligers has been confirmed in a Wyoming water.
4. **Legislation** – Revisions to the AIS regulation were enacted to require all watercraft to have bilge and other plugs removed and watercraft drained and free of aquatic vegetation while traveling throughout the state.
5. More information can be found at wgfd.wyo.gov/AIS