**Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call \***

March 30th, 2020 at 1:00 pm mountain time
Call number: 712-770-5581
Passcode: 770367#

Attendees: Elizabeth Brown, Dennis Zabaglo, Allison Zach, John Wullschleger, Martha Volkoff, Glenn Dolphin, Stephen Phillips, Blaine Parker, Leah Elwell, and Mason Parker

**Meeting Minutes**

1. Executive Committee Election, Welcome to Tom Woolf! - Mason Parker
2. Approval of February minutes – Glenn Moves, Blaine Seconds, all in favor motion approved.
3. Legislative update – Stephen Phillips
	1. VIDA -- Passed in 2019. On the state side there are still concerns about the rollout. West coast ballast water state agencies are monitoring the situation.
	2. Stimulus Bill -- The 2.2 trillion-dollar stimulus bill included $300 million for fishing and aquaculture. PSMFC often deals with disaster funding.
	3. Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels Act -- This bill was introduced into the Senate in December 2019. The companion bill was introduced on March 2, 2020 into the House.
	4. Annual appropriations process is currently stalled due to coronavirus activity.
4. Panel Business
	1. QZAP 2.0 – Elizabeth Brown
		1. We will discuss QZAP 2.0 at the all panel meeting coming up and there are some questions about how to write this up to be inclusive yet still identify the high priority needs. States can’t agree on what ‘high priority’ regionally should be. We are still focused on a basin-based organizational structure to mirror WRDA and 100th Meridian Initiative.
		2. States are hung up on where to put the WID stations. There is a desire for a WRP west-wide WID strategy, but we are still a long way away from that. In the plan document, states are discussing how to organize stations and maybe put them in the appendices organized by state or by agency or by basin. There is not agreement between those that are doing roadside vs. those working at lakes vs. those that do both. Most agree we need both highways, lake-based stations and off-water stations at offices and businesses - an integrated approach. As we work through these discussions, we get more specific and there is fear that specificity will be limiting or too prescriptive in the end. There is a desire for the federal side to use QZAP as a guiding document for grants, funding, and resources allocation.
		3. The plan calls for basin coordination, strategy, communications, and plans to be developed. Ideally, this would be coordinated and implemented by the WRP and not any one agency. WRP needs more money to hire someone dedicated to QZAP 2.0.
		4. The original QZAP was focused on the Lower Colorado River. Should we be focusing on that again as the priority? It’s the same issues as we were dealing with in 2009 but it’s tougher now because we have Tonto NF and Powell. We may be in a different place, but we still aren't together regarding containment and management on the Colorado.
		5. A big part of what is in QZAP 2.0 is the establishment of basins and the western WID systems. How does the WRP feel about trying to build the capacity to serve as a parallel to the role PSMFC has played in accepting fed dollars and coordinating CRB? WRP wrote QZAP and could get a QZAP grant to coordinate implementation of QZAP.
			1. Basin teams are written into legislation through the 100th meridian initiative. To make this work well, it needs to be in the legislation.
			2. When the tribes became involved in AIS management there was no budget. Each basin is so different. There may be some questions about how this is transferable.
		6. We have the all-member call next week and Elizabeth would like to hear from Ex Comm members and all participants. We will bring folks up to speed about the state of the QZAP during the all-member call. Then after the next call, we will release a new draft for review. If there are a lot of comments, we can host an all member call to discuss. If not a lot of comments, we can release to a broader audience next round.
		7. We still need to develop the budget!
	2. Review SOPs- Mason Parker
		1. Question - In the case of a tie during elections, could the Ex Comm could have a tie breaking vote? This is an issue that needs to be resolved in the Bylaws.
		2. Clarify in bylaws or SOPs -- It needs to be a voting member of the WRP who requests and facilitates the creation of a committee. This could also exist in the Bylaws. Creating a process by which the membership can bring forward the creation of a committee.
		3. ExComm members should submit comments on the SOPs by April 10th.
	3. Review Report to Congress (RTC) – Mason Parker
		1. ExComm members should submit comments on the RTC before April 10th.
	4. Mid-Year Teleconference – Mason Parker
		1. Agenda – We could add some folks to the Coordinating the Coordination portion of the call. Mason will ask Bill Whitacre. Elizabeth will reach out to Brian Goodwin. Hilary is planning to present already.
		2. Education Committee - We need a new committee chair. Allison is still listed as committee chair for Education and Outreach. We can bring up the vacancy on the call.
		3. Platform – GoToMeeting set up and facilitated by Elizabeth.

1. WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
	1. Committee Document Sharing – Dennis Zabaglo
		1. Google groups has more wide-ranging capacity for something like this.
		2. Slack? There needs to be a shared network drive that the Ex Comm can access.
		3. Can there be something password protected on our website that allows member access for committee and workgroup materials?
	2. 2020 Annual Meeting – Mason Parker
		1. We are currently looking at filling out the agenda. The big question lingering over everything is the state of the Coronavirus. The update during the Mid-year Teleconference will assure people we are still moving forward with the Annual Meeting but the direction could change with changing conditions.
	3. Coastal Committee – Chair Chris Scianni; Glenn Dolphin liaison
		1. Next meeting April 16th.
	4. Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Elizabeth Brown liaison
		1. Currently in the process of scheduling the next meeting and finalizing the updated inspection procedures to align with BC agreements. This will come to ExComm for approval in May.
	5. Membership and Communication Committee – Chair John Wullschleger
		1. We have not met since the last call. The Executive Committee needs to do a deep dive and have thoughtful conversation for transition of leadership. How does membership move into committees and go on from there into committee chair, ExComm vice-chair, and ExComm chair positions. This was the path Elizabeth took to become Chair. We need to create a path for people to move into these leadership positions in the future.
		2. We will host an Ex Comm call on membership, SOPs, and bylaws. Mason will send out a doodle poll for the last half of April to discuss this.
	6. Outreach Committee – Chair Allison Zach
		1. No updates. Seeking new Committee Chair.
2. WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
	1. eDNA – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Martha Volkoff
		1. USGS edna webinar were recapped in WRP meeting. The highlights were the USDA report out. Adam said there was someone doing coastal metabarcoding. They are looking for a large number of species. Regular monthly meetings are scheduled.
	2. Lab – Chair Yale Passamenek; Elizabeth liaison
		1. No update. Committee on hold until BOR preservation study is completed.
	3. Seaplane Inspection and Decontamination – Chair Elizabeth Brown
		1. Note: Workgroup is on hold until USFWS completes national risk assessment.
		2. Fish and wildlife is going to give $60k funding for risk assessment and hoping to get funding from the Seaplane Pilots Association. If there is interest in participating in the risk assessment development contact Craig Martin at USFWS.
	4. Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures – Chair Kate Wilson; Dennis Zabaglo
		1. Had a committee meeting this month. There is a lot of excitement moving forward.
3. ANSTF
	1. Review and discussion on ANSTF panel recommendation and report to congress form
	2. ANSTF Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion
		1. Prevention - Chair TBD; John Wullschleger
			1. Trying to get work plans finalized.
		2. Early Detection and Rapid Response - Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; Elizabeth Brown
		3. Control and Restoration - Chair Kim Bogenschultz, Iowa and AFWA; Dennis Zabaglo (?)
		4. Research - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger
		5. Education and Outreach – Tim Campbell, Wisconsin and Great Lakes Panel; Elizabeth Brown liaison
		6. Bylaws and Operations (Ad-Hoc) - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; Elizabeth Brown
			1. The USFWS Co-Chair said that Elizabeth could not participate because WRP is not a voting member of the ANSTF.
			2. The USFWS Co-Chair said that the USDA could not participate because the voting representative did not have the “experience” to contribute.
				1. The USDA claims this is simply not true.
			3. There are only 5 participants allowed on the committee. It is unclear if there will be any review process in which the WRP and ANSTF members will be allowed to participate in and contribute to.
4. Coordinating the Coordination update
	1. PNWER – Stephen Phillips
		1. No update
	2. NAISMA – Leah Elwell
	3. NMMA – Dennis Zabaglo
		1. No update
	4. ABYC – Dennis Zabaglo
		1. No update
	5. WSIA – Elizabeth Brown
		1. No update
	6. DOI Safeguarding the West – John Wullschleger
		1. Funding group met and signed a joint agreement for allotment of money to bureaus through the west. These funds will go to WID training and the western database for trailered boats.
	7. ACOE (WRDA) - Stephen Phillips
		1. No update
	8. WGA - Elizabeth Brown
		1. No update
	9. AFWA – Elizabeth Brown
		1. Met a couple weeks ago but no update on outcome from the meeting.
	10. WAFWA – Elizabeth Brown
		1. No decision on whether they will be holding their summer meeting.
	11. WISCE – Allison Zach
		1. Allison is facilitating voting on specific items such as QZAP 2.0, WAFWA resolutions, etc.
	12. NISAW - Stephen Phillips
		1. No update
5. Announcements – ALL