Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

August 30th, 2021 at 1:00 pm mountain time

Attended by: Glenn Dolphin, Tom Woolf, Stephen Phillips, Martha Volkoff, Barak Shemai, Allison Zach, John Wuschleger and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of July minutes Stephen moves to approve minutes, John seconds. All in favor. Motion carries. Minutes approved.
- B) Legislative update Stephen Phillips The Federal 2022 budget and infrastructure bill are the two current items of interest. There are many positives in the infrastructure bill with specific language on conservation and invasive species. A Continuing Resolution is likely to be completed by September 30 to keep the government open.
- C) Panel Business
 - Review SOP document Leah During the upcoming business meeting at the annual meeting John shall indicate that all procedural guidelines are to be housed in the SOP document and presented in a statement as such in the Bylaws. The wrinkle of SOP and Bylaws and SOP shall match up the committee composition guidelines. Leah will align SOP to reflect the bylaws. One specific area of note in the SOPs is to clarify what is appropriate for List serv posting. The WRP will not post non-WRP announcements that serve as an advertisement or for commercial sales.
 - QZAP 2.0 Action Items Barak clarified a need to flesh out prioritization of action items, and if those were to be tackled, how were these going to be addressed was the original discussion. Move forward with prioritization, have the membership to look back at the survey. Tom, Dennis and Leah can discuss the annual meeting update associated with QZAP. Martha expressed fatigue in prioritization. Others mentioned the burden of committee work, there needs to be a balance of how to commit to complete work. Barak noted the high value in identifying proponents, agencies or organizations, regulatory entities who have abilities to implement specific priorities. What is the item that WRP can take on?
 - Ex Comm election Leah reported there have been 5 entries for the 5 seats up for election.
- D) WRP Standing Committee Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - Annual Meeting Committee Leah will draft a brief post-meeting participant poll. The group agreed that 2022 annual meeting should be approached with prudence as to the suitability of an in-person meeting.
 - Coastal Committee Chair Chris Scianni; Glenn Dolphin Liaison. The commercial vessel document as approved, printed and is being sent out.
 - Decontamination Think Tank Committee Chair Robert Walters; Tom Woolf Liaison. No meetings during the summer.
 - Membership and Communication Committee Chair John Wullschleger. John has shared information with the committee on the formalization of the SOPs in the bylaws. This discussion will take place during the business meeting in September. John will get some specific language together by the end of the week for the Ex Comm to look at this will go into the bylaws.

- Outreach Committee Chair Monica McGarrity; Allison Zach Liaison. Progress on outreach analysis project: Texas A&M Dr Kyle presented to the group in July on advancements made on the project. Dr Kyle had reached out to 10 coordinators at that time. Focus groups will not be used but a survey instead to 500 entities. Boating US agreed to help with survey distribution which will go out this fall. Next meeting in September.
- E) WRP Workgroup Updates Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - eDNA Chair Adam Sepulveda; Martha Volkoff Liaison
 - On hold through summer
 - Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures Chair Kate Wilson; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. Kate notes there have been many challenges to communicate with the fire community on AIS.

F) ANSTF

- Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion
 - Prevention Chair James Ballard; Barak Shemai Liaison. Have not met since the last Ex Comm meeting.
 - Early Detection and Rapid Response Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; John Wullschleger Liaison. Met last week and had a presentation for structured decision making with eDNA from Adam Sepulveda. The committee will be putting together a survey to see if there is an interest in ICS and preparedness training. Alison suggested it go to WISCE.
 - Control and Restoration Chair Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa and AFWA; Dennis
 Zabaglo no new information
 - Research Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison. Priority list is being reviewed by the committee, and is likely up for adoption at the fall ANSTF meeting.
 - Education and Outreach Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant; Allison Zach.
 Have not met since last call. The contract to analyze SAH! has been awarded but not announced who received it.
 - Bylaws and Operations (Ad-Hoc) Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison. The bylaws document is likely to be up for adoption at the fall meeting.
 - ANSTF meeting virtual November 16-18.
- G) Coordinating the Coordination update Leah Elwell
 - PNWER Big Sky, Montana, and virtually August 15-19, 2021 no sessions on AIS, but
 FWP had tables and there was a lot of interest on feral hogs
 - NAISMA Holiday Inn, Missoula, MT September 27-30th, it is all virtual now there are 4 tracts of information. It will be recorded for members.
 - NMMA, ABYC, WSIA no info
 - DOI Safeguarding the West no new info; the funding group will be discussing AIS budgeting
 - ACOE (WRDA) House budget is out for WRDA; upper CO and Missouri and Platte will be ready to sign agreements in January. It is challenging to move these funding agreements along, as they require significant patience to complete.
 - WGA no information.
 - Western Invasive Species Committee Lloyd Knight of ID Dept of Agriculture is chair of the Western AIS Council.
 - AFWA / WAFWA no information.

 WISCE - Tom is now the chair. PSMFC is working on commercial boat outreach and WISCE is involved in that conversation. Fish transport is on tap for discussion at their next meeting.

Announcements – ALL

- a. QZAP just finished the merit review for the FY21 funds. Once the financial office reopens he will be issuing those awards.
- b. Tom proposed a broader adoption of watercraft inspector appreciation week. Is there a possibility of WRP sanctioning this? Many thought it would be a great idea. Suggested the first week of August, people can stop at their closest inspection station to say thank you.
 - i. Outreach committee could suggest the strategy and outline. Allison will follow up with the committee.
- c. Leah short meeting for Ex Comm on September 27th at 1 pm.