

## WRP Executive Committee Conference Call

December 20, 2021

Attended by: Chris Steffen, Blaine Parker, Martha Volkoff, Glenn Dolphin, Tom Wolf, Barak Shemai, Stephen Phillips, Dennis Zabaglo, John Wullschleger and Leah Elwell.

### Minutes

- A) Approval of November minutes. John motioned to approve. Dennis seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) Panel Business
  - a. Prevention committee will be following up on the traffic assessment. The idea is to have an Ex Comm member attend their next committee meeting. This is linked to the WRP recommendation. After the first of the year Dennis will circle back with more details. And come up with a plan.
  - b. Meeting schedule for 2022 – January 31, Feb 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27. Leah will send out calendar invites.
- C) Legislative update – Stephen Phillips.
  - a. Build Back Better did have some invasive species language in it, did not pass. Infrastructure bill passed 100M for Interior and 100M for Forest Service. Agencies are ramping up on methods to spend. He is watching to see how that money gets out the door and when. The government is on a Continuing Resolution until mid-February and will need to come up with either an omnibus, or an alternative spending plan. The PSMFC AIS News outlines many legislative aspects noted on AIS for WID, state plans, Carp management and QZAP funding. Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA) hearing took place, look in the AIS News from PSMFC for the links on the hearings, 140 co-sponsors in the House, and 32 in Senate – how will the legislation be paid for is the big question. The Senate bill pays for it by fines to polluters, House side it is unsure.
  - b. WRDA implementation has 22 members have started to put out requests, including new folks on Carp infrastructure. It still includes WID, monitoring and rapid response, it will be interesting if Us ACE adds more watersheds.
  - c. Chuck Sams has been appointed as the new NPS Chief. He is from the Northwest, a tribal member and Navy veteran.
- D) WRP Standing Committee Updates
  - a. Annual Meeting – Leah reached out to Tammy Davis. AK is still interested in hosting; she will circle back with Ex Comm after they have a leadership conversation. Leah has solicited bids from Anchorage hotels and getting the first agenda team meeting on the January calendar.
  - b. Coastal Committee – No calls planned. Christine Moffitt may be poised to be the next chair, more in January.
  - c. WID Think Tank – nothing new to report. We are waiting for language from ANSTF to add to the recently approved decontamination protocols.
  - d. Membership - Right now there are 23 responses and 46 voting members on the bylaws language change that links the bylaws to the SOP document. The group agreed that

Leah will re-open the ballot to get more votes in January. No new committee information to share.

- e. Outreach Committee – no new news
- E) WRP Work Group Updates
- a. eDNA – Adam has been hosting presentations during the workgroup meetings. He has requested the recorded workgroup presentations be hosted on the WRP YouTube page. Leah has put on YouTube and linked to the WRP website.
  - b. Workgroups – Dennis will be reaching out to Kate and Adam. Committee profile will need to be updated for all.
- F) ANSTF Committees
- a. Prevention – no new updates
  - b. EDRR – no new updates
  - c. Control and Restoration - Leads and liaisons to the ANSTF for each of the management plans are being created. However, with QZAP it is different than the other plans. It was suggested that WRP is the lead on the QZAP with the coordinator being the liaison. Any progress, requests for grants, would be put through the Ex Comm. No concerns from Ex Comm on this approach. The committee is working on the requests for their work plan liaison (capacity at the Task Force to communicate), the ANSTF will comment on that by mid-January for European Green Crab (Ted Grosholz, and Theresa Thom), New Zealand mudsnail (Martha will be plan contact). Dennis suggested he share a file to the Teams.
  - d. Research – no new updates
  - e. Education and Outreach – need to look in past minutes to see who was going to reach out to Monica and make that ask to her
  - f. Remove ANSTF committee of bylaws and operations from next agenda
- G) Coordinating the Coordination
- a. The WGA led Western Invasive Species Council has largely had terrestrial based invasive projects. Is the group looking for AIS ideas, other groups are in better position to handle? Tammy Davis, James Dominquez, Chris Steffen and others serve on the council, so there is good representation.
  - b. Re-name DOI group to “Interior Mussel Coordination Group”
  - c. A new Aquatic Invasive Species Commission has been started by Boat US. Stephen Dennis and Elizabeth have been invited to join. Dennis will share the summary charge document with the group.
  - d. NISAW committee has started to have discussions and is planning for a February gathering for Hill visits pandemic pending.
  - e. WISCE plans to meet in person in Salt Lake City in late January.
- H) Announcements - none