

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

February 28th, 2022 at 1:00 pm mountain time

Tom Woolf, John Wullschleger, Stephen Phillips, Martha Volkoff, Glenn Dolphin, Dennis Zabaglo and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of January minutes - hold until March for a vote
- B) Panel Business
 - QZAP 2.0 Action Items – Dennis Zabaglo. ANSTF prevention subcommittee is waiting for feedback from WRP. Leah shared the draft language from the Dreissenid Research Priorities Workshop that mentions incorporating transportation pathways into prevention and containment efforts. This item was in top 5 priority research elements that fell into Control and Management. The Ex Comm will re-visit on next call potentially when the workshop document is finalized.
 - Mid-Year Webinar: April 13 1-3 pm MST – agenda finalization – Overall the agenda looks good. Stephen will give a broad overview of legislative information, including infrastructure and appropriations, and COMPETES Act. Is there is a need to expand legislative discussion? Do we need to have someone like Stephanie talk about why Competes Act has gotten so hot? When Rubio bill came out, there was not a lot of dialog on this. Once the Lacey language got into the COMPETES Act the stakeholders got agitated. **Leah will ping Stephanie TBD for call.** A discussion on the best platform to use for the webinar addressed how to balance controlling participant background noise and for better audience interactions. GoWebinar everyone joins in listen only and admin can unmute. If set as a GoToMeeting everyone must mute themselves when they join and participants can chat/ “see each other”. **Set up a trial with Martha, Dennis, and John to confirm the use of GoToMeeting.**
 - ANSTF Recommendations – Leah confirmed with Susan that the earliest they would be due is the last week April. Do we have any recommendations to combine forces with other panels? Draft language of several items and circulate to membership for them to share ideas with Ex Comm. **Leah will email membership on the list of potential recommendations – target the end of next week to send.** Possible recommendations:
 - Traffic assessment – It could be included as an FYI that it is supported in the Dreissenid Research Priorities workshop document.
 - Fire – see below. This could be a group panel item.
 - Boat industry keeping up with changes and decontamination – can you help us to continue to move the needle and not fall behind. This could be a group panel item.
 - Oregon AIS Management Plan revision – Dennis; Robyn Draheim reached out to Dennis to let him know that the Oregon plan will go through a major revision. The plan is over 20 years old. Kat DeRivera, PSU, is the lead on the plan revision. The revision team should reach out if there is any feedback or guidance from Ex Comm needed. The revised plan completion will be targeted for fall ANSTF meeting.
- C) Legislative update – Stephen Phillips –
 - Federal budget needs to be approved by March 11. Sounds like that will be completed.

- COMPETES Act (which includes explicit language that would affect the Lacey Act past ruling on reptiles etc.) is still in conference committee.
 - Recovering Americas Wildlife Act (RAWA) is continuing to get co-sponsors, but there is difficulty in getting this funded. It is not clear what the schedule for this bill is.
 - WRDA 2022 is being worked on, and PSMFC has submitted a language change to request the cost share to 75-25 from 50-50, will be especially helpful for the Platte and other basins coming on board who have difficulty generating match.
- D) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - Annual Meeting Committee - Leah Elwell; Full-steam ahead for in-person. The agenda planning team has met several times and there are good discussions underway to make the conference a bit more interactive. Leah will begin to solicit sponsorships to support the meeting. The draft materials were discussed. Add Dennis' signature to the letter for sponsor requests. **Leah will share list of potential sponsors 2022.** Leah proposed that the Ex Comm move to get a draft contract from Hilton property for September 21-22, which all agreed to move on. Other potential conflict dates were discussed and none were identified. NAISMA is November 7 and Upper Midwest IS Conference is October 25.
 - Coastal Committee – Co-Chairs Chris Scianni and Christine Moffitt; Glenn Dolphin Liaison. Christine Moffitt is now serving as the co-chair with Chris. There has not been a committee call in several months.
 - Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Tom Woolf Liaison; The group met last week to work on plant decontamination protocols which are very close to complete. A list of decontamination challenges specific to new watercraft is being compiled. This includes specific boat models and specific issues with decontamination on newer boats. The idea is that this list could be shared with Brian Goodwin of ABYC to have them convey to the industry. **Dennis will draft an email for Ex Comm review, and then share list/correspondence with Brian.**
 - Membership and Communication Committee – Chair John Wullschleger; There has not been a meeting recently. John expressed that they need direction on what do address now. Leah suggested that the committee could help identify individuals to help fill vacancies in the membership and better outline the process for soliciting new members.
 - Outreach Committee – Chair Monica McGarrity; Barak Shemai Liaison. Dr. Kyle will be sharing with the group on their next call on the data collected to date and how the final report will be designed.
- E) WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - eDNA – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Martha Volkoff Liaison. Dennis has not yet sent an email to Adam, but would like to get his feedback on completing the tasks of the workgroup. In the meantime, Adam is continuing with monthly speaker series, which are posted on the WRP YouTube site. **Dennis will reach out to Adam this week.**
 - Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures – Chair Kate Wilson; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. At this time the committee is working to incorporate feedback into a template, training materials and resource guide. This would eventually be housed on website for jurisdictions to utilize.
 - Ex Comm discussed elevating the use/adoption of these guidelines. A recommendation could be brought to the ANSTF to request that the Forest Service, BLM, and other major land management agencies linked to fire operations look to adopt AIS guidelines and push from the top-down.

F) ANSTF Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion

- Prevention - Chair James Ballard, GSARP; Barak Shemai Liaison; A working group within the committee has been created to look at contaminants in pet trade. List of regulatory folks will be maintained.
- Early Detection and Rapid Response - Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; John Wullschleger Liaison; The committee is discussing how best to meet needs found in the recent survey to provide assistance on rapid response preparedness. The priority item from the survey was to provide guidance in developing RR plan guidance which will be the next step to develop for the committee.
- Control and Restoration - Chair Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison; They have been discussing hydrilla management, the NE is seeking assistance/advice and others that could help them in coordination. Management plans are the primary discussion. Martha is the primary liaison for the NZMS plan revision, and several have volunteered to assist in that process. Martha has looked at prior authors from the 2007 and many are not available. Calurpa plan is on hold with the ongoing response in CA. Some of the other plans are being reviewed for a need to update. Genetic control is being discussed with NISC to see if the committee can integrate into new plans.
- Research - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison. Getting ready to request information that may fit into the recently released research priorities. There might be an opportunity to see if there is feedback once the Dreissenid Research Prioritization workshop report is released.
- Education and Outreach – Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant; Monica McGarrity Liaison. Leah has secured Monica as the liaison just recently, no committee information available.
- According to Don McLean, David Hoskins is unavailable and may not be co-chair of ANSTF.

G) Coordinating the Coordination update

- WISCE – The group is having good conversation on how the group will work with others in AIS and priorities moving forward. Current focus is on hatchery protocols.
- AIS Commission meeting – Stephen, Dennis, Elizabeth Brown, Monica McGarrity are all invited participants. Discussion has focused on coordination on funding and rules and authorities. Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership is facilitating this effort. Helpful to provide a voice from AIS community.

H) Announcements – ALL

I) Next call March 28