

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

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

Minutes

Attended by: Martha Volkoff, Glenn Dolphin, Stephen Phillips, Barak Shemai, Chris Steffen, Dennis Zabaglo, and Blaine Parker.

- A. Approval of January and February minutes. Stephen Moves to approve, Blaine seconds. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B. Panel Business
 - Annual Meeting 2022 Considerations – Glenn votes to move forward with in-person in Anchorage, as did Chris, Barak, and Stephen. Dennis suggested that we get verbal commitments from AK Game and Fish and US FWS to get some support, Dennis suggested try to get sponsorship for in-person and if we don't hold in person, then reimburse. Virtual participation could be GoToWebinar, or live stream with AV specialists. PSMFC can support virtual platform plus whatever help they can. Leah will reach out this week to all of the sponsors and the hosts to secure sponsorships. Leah will relay information back to the group as it becomes available.
 - QZAP 2.0 Action Items – Dennis Zabaglo - no discussion.
 - Mid-Year Teleconference: April 13 1-3 pm MST – Final agenda was reviewed. The meeting will use GoToMeeting which is slightly different than GoToWebinar in that there is no pre-registration and all participants will be able to chat/see each other and unmute. Leah has information about joining the meeting on
 - ANSTF Recommendations – These will be due first part of May; The group reviewed two that were drafted previously related to fire and boat decon. Several recommendations were provided by the Outreach/Education Committee. One pertained to re-naming of invasive species that have harmful names. It is not clear if the ANSTF Community of Practice group was meant to address this. Leah will clarify what is the intent of the group with Susan. Leah will ask Monica about recommendation related to "Protect the West". Barak noted that this Protect the West was supported by QZAP dollars. Barak will do some follow-up. Leah will follow up with Monica. The last one could be talked about at a ANSTF committee level. Dennis will follow up with Monica. Collective analysis of all the efforts – could be voiced as an interest. Forward the email to Dennis Monica. Leah will circulate the first two to the panel principals for their consideration in joint submission.
 - Submission of WRP Coordination paperwork to USFWS. Susan has already circulated a prompt to submit revised paperwork for the WRP Coordination grant. This is a five-year agreement that closes in August/September 2023. Leah will plan to submit the paperwork for the final year in the agreement.
- C. Legislative update – Stephen Phillips –
 - A. President released his budget recently, which is illustrative of interest in specific areas etc. We are more interested in the House budget which will come out in a few months.
 - B. US Coast Guard Re-authorization bill which is moving along there is a section on invasives; Garamendi bill was circulating that listed cost-share of mandatory inspection and decontamination for other federal agencies
 - C. COMPETES Innovation bill on House side has Lacey Act language, but the Senate bill does not have that same language. Stephen encouraged viewing Su Jewell of

the US FWS Lacey Act presentation (you can view on the Wildlife Society website under learning).

- D. Federal budget did get passed – AIS funding amounts are similar to previous year. Recover Americas Wildlife Act is still working out how the funding will be accounted for in state and federal grants.
- D. WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - Annual Meeting Committee - Leah Elwell; The planning team has been meeting to discuss the agenda and a good draft is in the works. Leah has launched a call for abstracts with a deadline of May 1. On the last planning team call there was considerable skepticism about gathering in Anchorage.
 - Coastal Committee – Co-Chairs Chris Scianni and Christine Moffitt; Glenn Dolphin Liaison. The committee has not met in several months. Marine mobile infrastructure outreach is the last piece to be completed in the series of outreach projects by the committee. Glenn will make follow up call with Chris.
 - Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Tom Woolf Liaison. No new information.
 - Membership and Communication Committee – Chair John Wullschleger. No new information.
 - Outreach Committee – Chair Monica McGarrity; Barak Shemai Liaison. The contractor who is examining the western outreach effectiveness, Dr. Kyle, has presented information and how he is interpreting the data. The committee had a discussion on the survey and Dr. Kyle is taking those comments, re-analyze the data and bring back to committee. They have plans to have Wildlife Forever on their next committee call.
- E. WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - eDNA – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Martha Volkoff Liaison. Continue to schedule the monthly presentation calls, John Snider has been participating in her stead. Dennis has not been able to connect directly with Adam to understand the future goals for the workgroup.
 - Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures – Chair Kate Wilson; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. Kate will be talking about getting a template ready to include with the recommendation to be used by other entities when necessary. Dennis would like to include that with the recommendation. They meet on April 11.
- F. ANSTF
 - Their charter was just finally approved on Friday last week!! All business can resume for FACA committees and subcommittees (i.e. WRP).
 - Virtual meeting May 24-26; Susan would like the agenda to feature the panels
 - Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion
 - Prevention - Chair James Ballard, GSARP; Barak Shemai Liaison. Seaplane risk analysis project funding is still stalled out. The SAH analysis is ongoing, and pathway analysis funding is being pursued by USGS.
 - Early Detection and Rapid Response - Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; John Wullschleger Liaison. Not met since the last Ex Comm call.
 - Control and Restoration - Chair Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. NZMS control update timeline? 12-18 months was requested from USFWS, right now Martha has gotten a list of people who would participate.

Barak will maybe participate in the NZMS team, there will be opportunities to help in big or small ways throughout the process.

- Research - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison. No new information.
- Education and Outreach – Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant; Monica McGarrity Liaison. No new information.

G. Coordinating the Coordination update

- PNWER - They are starting to reactivate their AIS group. Their annual meeting is in Calgary in July. Lloyd Knight with ID will be participating.
- NAISMA -They will hold their annual meeting in Ft Myers, FL the first week of November. They are seeking a new executive director.
- NMMA, ABYC, WSIA - Dennis would like to share the WRP recommendation on boats/decon once finalized from the WID Think Tank so they are not surprised by it. The way it is currently drafted, it is very cooperative. We want to keep the communication going. Brian Goodwin with ABYC is the contact withing the industry that Dennis will reach out to. TRPA has recently been in touch with Centurion Boats to coordinate on decon boats and temperatures.
- DOI Mussel Coordination Group
- ACOE (WRDA)
- WGA
- AFWA / WAFWA
- WISCE

H. Announcements –

- A. Barak – QZAP grant funds for 2022 has not officially been released yet. He anticipates that within the next month, historically leaning on original priorities, hybridized previous, this year will be leaned fully on 2.0.
- B. Leah mentioned that the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Committee just did a re-brand/re-name and is now Pet Advocacy Network

I. Next call April 25