

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

April 25th, 2022 at 1:00 pm mountain time

Attended by: Stephen Phillips, Martha Volkoff, Tom Woolf, Dennis Zabaglo, Blaine Parker, Glenn Dolphin, John Wullshleger and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A. May meeting will be held as a Teams Meeting.
- B. Approval of March minutes. Dennis moved to approve minutes. John second. All in Favor – Minutes Approved.
- C. Panel Business
 - Annual Meeting 2022 Considerations – Discussion on status of sponsorships and received funds (see Income/Expense spreadsheet in the shared space). With only \$1000 actually received, with several verbal commitments and several invoiced, Dennis recommended that additional emails to sponsors be sent and additional funds received before finalizing a contract with the Hilton. Targeting the end of this week to sign with the Hilton if funds are received.
 - QZAP 2.0 Action Items – Susan has requested a presentation on QZAP for the upcoming ANSTF meeting in May. Dennis will do a quick review of previous prioritizations/accomplishments and their status as prep for ANSTF presentation. He will share these back to the Ex Comm prior to finalizing presentation.
 - ANSTF Recommendations – Finalize / discuss co-submission with other panels / submissions are due May 9. The recommendations on boat industry and fire protocols are ready to go. The Great Lakes Panel and the MRBP both expressed interest in co-submitting for these two. Leah will share with the respective panels in the provided template back to GLP and MRBP to finalize. A third recommendation from the Education Committee on renaming species was also prepared and will be submitted. The Coastal Committee provided two recommendations for consideration. The Ex Comm agreed they should be submitted. Leah will work with the committee chairs to finalize and fill in a bit more information.

Legislative update – Stephen Phillips

- RAWA 2372 is out of committee, there is funding for state, federal and tribal entities. Discussion now is on where the funding will go. The Endangered Species Act and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation have been identified as areas or mechanisms for focus or distribution of funding.
 - Competes Act – HR 4521 has language that would address the Lacey Act. However, the Senate version, S1250, has no Lacey Act language. Some of this will be ironed out in committee. The pet and aquaculture industries are nervous about the Lacey Act language.
 - Biden is attempting to bring back the Build Back Act better which does have invasive species language in it.
- D. WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - Annual Meeting Committee - Leah asked if Dennis could personally reach out to the Seaplane Association for sponsorship as they have been unresponsive. Abstracts are being solicited and the deadline to submit is May 1. Leah also just circulated a call for workshop ideas. The goal is to create workshop time during the main agenda time.

Barak shared a possible meeting space location for Anchorage, BP Energy Center, which would come at a nominal cost. However, WRP would be responsible for room set up, securing outside catering, and clean up. This location is not downtown, but there are several potentially walkable hotels. While this was an economically appealing idea, there are many logistics to still resolve and ultimately the Ex Comm determined to stick with the Hilton option.

- Coastal Committee – Co-Chairs Chris Scianni and Christine Moffitt; Glenn Dolphin Liaison. No new information to share.
- Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; Tom Woolf Liaison. They have not met since the last call.
- Membership and Communication Committee – Chair John Wullschleger. Elizabeth, Tammy and Kelly Stockton are the current members and will be meeting soon. Leah reminded folks that there are 4 Ex Comm seats that are up for election: Dennis, Tom, Glenn and John.
- Outreach Committee – Chair Monica McGarrity; Barak Shemai Liaison. Leah is working to extend the contract period for the QZAP grant project that is examining outreach messaging.
- E. WRP Workgroup Updates – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - eDNA – Chair Adam Sepulveda; Martha Volkoff Liaison. No update. Dennis will reach back out to Adam to prompt him for revised goals. No deadline established.
 - Fire Equipment Decontamination Procedures – Chair Kate Wilson; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. Dennis will be reaching out to get the template from Kate.
- F. ANSTF
 - Virtual meeting May 24-26
 - Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion
 - Prevention - Chair James Ballard, GSARP; Barak Shemai Liaison. Organisms in Trade subcommittee are working on some tools for pet industry to find regulated species by state and appropriate contacts as well as exploring outreach pieces.
 - Early Detection and Rapid Response - Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; John Wullschleger Liaison; The committee is working on developing templates for rapid response plans as guided by their survey response for tools needed.
 - Control and Restoration - Chair Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison; The committee will meet tomorrow to talk about control plan decision making process and if there should be a presentation in that process.
 - Research - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison; sent out the list of research priorities; Leah could reach out to Susan to find out if this will be released to panels.
 - Education and Outreach – Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant; Monica McGarrity Liaison. This committee has not met in several months.
- G. Coordinating the Coordination update
 - PNWER - July meeting with AIS session. Martina Beck is participating with the AIS subcommittee.
 - DOI Mussel Coordination Group – They will meet next week; John mentioned that on NPS related note they are working with \$3 million for QZ in the west; much of it may go into Powell management
 - WISCE – Their recent discussions focused on challenges with hiring; Lake Powell challenges with management; contaminants in the pet trade and, protocols for hatchery inspections for consistency
- G. Next call May 23 – This will be a TEAMS call.