

Western Regional Panel Monthly Executive Committee Conference Call

October 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm mountain time

Attendees: Robert Walters, Josh Leonard, Vanessa Salazar, Stephen Phillips, Dennis Zabaglo, John Wullschleger, Tom Woolf, Blaine Parker and Leah Elwell.

Minutes

- A) Approval of August minutes; Dennis motioned to approve and John seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- B) Panel Business
 - Chair and Vice Chair election. John nominated Tom Woolf as chair, Blaine seconded. John nominated Robert Walters as vice chair, Tom seconded. All in favor. Tom Woolf and Robert Waters are approved as chair and vice respectively. Dennis will email the membership with the announcement.
 - Set monthly Ex Comm call schedule – 4th Monday 2-4 pm mountain time, send calendar invite. The group will try GotoMeeting – Leah will do a tech check for those that want to prior.
 - Identify Carp follow up re: Great Lakes Commission needs – is this more of an item to bring to AFWA. This is expressing Great Lakes frustration because of lack of clarity from a handful of states. Skeptical that a joint recommendation will have the weight needed to influence the state management strategies. Leah will do follow-up with the GLP on any next steps.
 - Sharepoint access and files – Discussion on what platform to use. Currently the WRP historic files and photos are housed on ISAN's Sharepoint. They can remain there if need be. However, Leah will investigate other storage options. Regardless of the platform there are folks that have trouble accessing. Folks were flexible on identifying a way to make it work. Microsoft is the platform to explore and will discuss/resolve at the next meeting.
- C) Legislative update – Stephen Phillips
 - The supplemental notice to the 2022 VIDA has been released to set the discharge standards for ballast water, there will be 2 virtual public meetings.
 - We are under Continuing Resolution until November 17. Likely to be another CR and get pushed into next year.
 - There is not a lot going on in Congress in terms of bills, however there is discussion starting on WRDA 2024, namely a discussion on making changes to the match needs and push to 25/75 cost share.
 - NOAA Organic Act to reorganize and reauthorize the agency has been drafted by Cantwell and in that there is a section mentioning the NOAA office of invasive species.
- D) WRP Standing Committee – Roundtable for Chairs/Liaisons
 - Annual Meeting Committee - Leah Elwell; Salt Lake debrief: business meeting was awkward; it seemed that there were too many remote presenters; emphasize to the planning team to prioritize in-meeting presenters for 2024; we don't have the resources to make remote experience perfect and will just have to work with the limited budget that we have. Additional feedback from the Planning Team included: make sure the last talk of the day is engaging to keep folks in the room, on the Membership Update Tom suggested to have members submit a single powerpoint slide to make that info sharing

smoother, and support trying a chevron shape for the business meeting. Leah has drafted business meeting minutes and will share for review on the next call. Martha Volkoff submitted a bid for CA 2024 to host, specifically suggesting the Asilomar State Park facility; Leah will reach out to Martha to confirm the bid. AV needs will be a serious consideration. Josh will serve on the planning team.

- Coastal Committee – Co-Chairs Chris Scianni and Christine Moffitt; Stephen Phillips/Leah liaisons – no information to share.
- Decontamination Think Tank Committee – Chair Robert Walters; full decon procedure – Robert will reshare the document to finalize with the Ex Comm – comments or approval due by October 31. A review of the training will be examined next.
- Field Sampling and Monitoring Committee – Chair Kate Dukette; Tom Woolf liaison; No updates.
- Membership and Communication Committee – Chair John Wullschleger; need to finalize the paperwork for tribal membership; Leah and John need to re-group on who has been contacted for tribes. Blaine will help as needed. If there is need to amend anything in the bylaws to look at in the next iteration. Change idea of petitioning to be involved to join for tribal participation. There are 573 recognized tribes across the USA.
- Outreach Committee – Chair Monica McGarrity; Barak Shemai Liaison; The 1-page summary of Dr. Kyle’s research outcomes is finalized and all of Ex Comm approved. Leah will share this on the list serv and update the committee webpage ASAP.

E) ANSTF

- Next meeting January 2024 // Panel recommendations due mid-December. Leah will ask full membership and committee chairs for ideas/input.
- Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Participation Discussion
 - Prevention - Chair Joseph Kreiger, NOAA; Barak Shemai Liaison. No info.
 - Early Detection and Rapid Response - Chair Wes Daniels, USGS; John Wullschleger Liaison; R2T3 group is plugging away on the rapid response plan template; there are 12 proposals that have been submitted to the pilot 1M fund.
 - Control and Restoration - Chair Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa; Dennis Zabaglo Liaison. No info.
 - Research - Chair Susan Pasko, USFWS; John Wullschleger Liaison. No info.
 - Education and Outreach – Chair Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant; Monica McGarrity Liaison. No info.

F) Coordinating the Coordination update

- PNWER
- NAISMA
- NMMA, ABYC, WSIA
- DOI Mussel Coordination Group
- ACOE (WRDA)
- WGA
- AFWA / WAFWA - Josh was at AFWA to present the hatchery inspection information from WISCE group, more states want to review prior to adoption.
- WISCE – met last week and discussed treatments in CO and ID dreissenid locations, more discussion on the eDNA framework and expansion, and suggestions on working with fed partners.

G) Announcements – ALL