

Western Regional Panel Business Meeting – Annual Meeting
Salt Lake City, UT
September 21, 2023

Members present: Bill Janowsky, USDA Forest Service; Heidi McMaster, BOR; John Wullschleger, NPS; Barak Shemai, USFWS; Adam Sepulveda, USGS; Tom Therriault, DFO; Tammy Davis, AKGF; Kate Dukette, AZGF; Robert Walters, CPW; Vanessa Salazar, KSPW; Tom Woolf, MTFWP; Kris Stahr, NEGF; James Dominguez, NMGF; Kevin Netcher, NDOW; Ben Holen, NDGF; Rick Boatner, ODFW; Tanner Davis, SDGF; Monica McGarrity, TXPW; Bruce Johnson, UTDW; Allen Pleus and Justin Bush, WADFW; Josh Leonard, WYGF; Stephen Phillips, PSMFC; Dennis Zabaglo, TRPA; Sam Chan, OR Sea Grant; Cat de Riveria, PSU; Leah Elwell, ISAN; Glenn Dolphin, OSMB; Chris Scianni, CASLC; and Mike Stephenson, ID Power.

- I. Dennis Zabaglo, TRPA and WRP Chair provided opening remarks and noted that coordination of the WRP will continue with Leah Elwell. However, Elwell will provide coordination services as Conservation Collaborations, LLC.
- II. Budget Report
 - a. \$50K from USFWS is provided annually to each of the panels. The WRP provides their \$50K to Invasive Species Action Network to provide coordination. This amount is expended in full annually on coordination. ISAN has served as the coordinator since 2011. The current 5-year agreement between ISAN - USFWS for funding expires 9/30/2023.
 - b. Ex Comm has elected to work with Leah Elwell at Conservation Collaboration effective October 1, 2023. ISAN will continue to serve as the fiscal sponsor for the panel.
 - c. The WRP Savings account has a balance of \$9,061.74
 - d. Anticipated expenses – approximately \$9,000 (breaks, room rental, charter bus). This amount does not include lunch or social hour. Printed materials \$250. All AV expenses of roughly \$8-10K will be absorbed by UT Division of Wildlife. No travel anticipated for chair this year to the ANSTF meeting because of a re-schedule of the ANSTF meeting this fall.
 - e. Anticipated income – Sponsors provided approximately \$11,000 from the following: PSMFC, WAPMS, Earth Science Labs, Clean Wake, CD3 Systems, Istonish, and Marine Taxonomic Services.
- III. Ex Comm election - The following individuals were selected for the 2023-2025 terms on the Executive Committee: Josh Leonard, Wyoming Game and Fish, Stephen Phillips, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Barak Shemai, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Blaine Parker Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Vanessa Salazar, Kansas Parks and Wildlife.
- IV. Annual Meeting Discussion
 - f. Leah proposed a different room set up for the business meeting at the annual meeting instead of the classic U-shape because of its often-uncomfortable room dynamic and associated costs for push to talk microphones as well.
 - g. Kansas has requested to host the WRP in 2025 and would like to do this as a joint meeting with the Mississippi River Basin Panel on AIS.
There have not been any formal offers to host the 2024 meeting. Several locations were suggested by the members including: Oregon coast, California, Montana, and Texas. The

Ex Comm will look into options and determine if California's previous pledge to host a future meeting would be possible in 2024.

- h. Susan Pasko clarified that it is possible to host a meeting in Canada.
 - i. The following individuals volunteered to serve on the 2024 Annual Meeting planning team: Tom Woolf, Chris Scianni, John Wullschleger, Sam Chan, Michell Cox, Tammy Davis, Heidi McMaster.
- V. Recommendations to the ANSTF
- j. The ANSTF Meeting was to be held the first week of October 2023, however with a looming government shut down it has been postponed. It will likely be mid-January. Recommendations to the ANSTF will need to be submitted to Susan Pasko before the end of 2023.
 - k. The Great Lakes Panel reached out to the WRP Ex Comm this summer to suggest a dialog among all states on how grass carp are managed. There are currently some states that may still allow different ploidy of grass carp to be stocked. The Great Lakes Panel is advocating to find consistency in stocking across all states and not allow for its stocking. Pat Kocovsky, GLP member, provided a short presentation on the issue. Discussion included Nebraska's regulations that currently state that diploid carp may be stocked. Kris Stahr clarified that the regulation will be updated to not allow stocking. Dennis Zabaglo suggested further query of the membership may be needed to help inform further consensus driven dialog among all the panels. It may be possible that a multi-panel recommendation may be submitted to the ANSTF on this topic.
- VI. Acknowledgement of retirements in 2023
- l. Allen Pleus Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - m. Rick Boatner Oregon Fish and Wildlife
 - n. Quagga D Davis, Quagga D LLC