

Western Regional Panel on ANS

Virtual Business Meeting - September 4, 2025

Due to the WRP and MRBP holding a joint annual meeting September 17-19, 2025, the Executive Committee determined to hold their business meeting prior to the annual meeting.

Attended by 45 people. Participants – Tom Woolf, Robert Walters, Stephen Phillips Vanessa Salazar, John Wullschleger, Blaine Parker, Barak Shemai, Dennis Zabaglo, Colleen Allen, Sam Chan, Chris Killan, Damian Walter, Keith DeHart, Quetza Elmore, James Dominguez, Bill Janowsky, Glenn Dolphin, Kate Dukette, Kelly Stockton-Fiti, Chris Steffen, Sherri Pucherelli, Amanda Newsom, Tanner Davis, Jonathan Thompson, Alex Popores, Heidi McMaster, Christine Moffitt, Monica McGarrity, Justin Bush, Jeff Adams, Jen Murray, Chris Scianni, Josh Wright, Nic Zurfluh, Martha Volkoff, Kris Stahr, Russ Hartzell, Tom Jensen, Sara Ricklefs, Adam Sepluvada, Michael Stephenson, Erin Bjorklund, Karen McDowell, and Leah Elwell.

A. Committee Reports

- a. Amanda Newsom, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Coastal Committee Chair reported that the committee is focused on several items including engaging in the implementation of the national green crab management plan, offshore energy infrastructure, and mobile marine infrastructure. A document that outlines prevention related to mobile marine infrastructure will be finalized soon. The committee has also identified outreach with Pacific Territories on stoney coral tissue disease loss preparedness group as a priority.
- b. Kate Dukette, AZ Game and Fish, Field Sampling and Monitoring committee chair reported that they are near completion of the revised document that outlines various sampling and monitoring techniques. The final draft has been circulated to Ex Comm. This will shortly make its way to full membership for input and review. It is anticipated that the new document will be available by the end of the year. In this revision, more species have been addressed, and different techniques have been included.
- c. John Wullschleger, National Park Service, Membership and Communication committee chair reported the milestone of the recent revision to the bylaws which have been approved and adopted by the membership. The primary revision of note was improving operations and reference to Indigenous membership. The revised bylaws are found on the website.

- d. Sara Ricklefs, Invasive Species Action Network, Outreach and Education Committee chair, has been focused on identifying next steps for the committee and is currently exploring techniques to measure outreach campaign effectiveness.
 - e. Chris Killian, Tahoe Conservation District, & Josh Wright, Wyoming Game and Fish, Decontamination Think Tank Committee co-chairs reported that the committee has been exploring new topics, addressing real-time conversations about trailered watercraft and will be updating the Advanced Decontamination Manual. Other areas of discussion are lessons learned from golden mussel response, future decontamination equipment and review of dip tank protocols.
- B. Annual meeting 2026. California has offered to host the next annual meeting. Sacramento is being suggested as the host city which has reasonable per diem rates and good access to field trip locations. Sacramento International Airport is centrally located as well. Martha Volkoff, CDFW pledged to host. She suggested the WRP seek sponsorship support from the CA Invasive Species Council. CA State Lands Commission and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency also pledged to co-host the meeting. A vote among the members concurred that all were in favor of Sacramento 2026.
- C. Budget Report: Leah Elwell, Coordinator provided information about the current WRP account balances and anticipated expenses for the upcoming meeting. As recap, the WRP annually receives \$50,000 in funding from USFWS which is directed to coordination. This is fully expended annually. Conservation Collaborations, LLC is the current coordinator. Invasive Species Action Network provides fiscal management services and serves as the non-profit fiscal sponsor. The current balance of the WRP savings account is \$16,628.74 which is a reflection of accumulated uncommitted funds from sponsorships to the annual meeting. These are used to support annual meeting expenses and chair travel as needed. The 2025 annual meeting is estimated to incur expenses of roughly \$8,100 for food, room rental, AV and field trip transportation. To date no expenses in 2025 have been incurred for WRP chair travel to the ANSTF meetings. Approximately, \$9,000 in sponsorships from Clean Wake, CD3, Istonish, Invasive Species Corporation, Marine Taxonomic Services and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission were received in 2025.
- D. Elections for Executive Committee members and Other Appointing Entities
Members are currently open and results will be announced later in September.
- E. Rapid response funding update. In December 2024, the PSMFC was able assist with fiscal management of a portion of the federal rapid response funding from the

USFWS. These funds have been co-managed by WRP Executive Committee. The first announcement for funding opportunity was announced in May for pre-proposals. Those that were invited to submit full proposals have just been reviewed and selected in August. Selected projects are being notified. Official selections will be posted on the WRP website.