

ANS Task Force Region Panel Recommendations – May 2019

Western Regional Panel

1. In recognition of the passage of the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) signed by the President on December 4, 2018, we respectfully request:
 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) coordinate with the States to implement VIDA in a timely manner;
 - EPA, USCG and the ANS Task Force provide clarity to the states on the intent and timeline for the Intergovernmental Response Framework provision; and
 - Encourage, in coordination with states, a speedy process for development, full \$5 million appropriation as requested, and implementation of the AIS Coastal Mitigation Grant Program and Mitigation Fund.
2. **Funding:** Maintain and/or increase financial allocation to the panel(s) to support annual meetings, coordination and panel activities.
3. **Funding:** maintain and/or increase financial allocation to ANSTF approved state management plans.
4. **Funding:** Maintain funding to support highest priority components of QZAP.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel

1. Support and facilitate the transfer of the successful strategies, tools, and assets of the Chesapeake Nutria Eradication Partnership to Virginia and North Carolina to continue the eradication of this harmful aquatic invasive species;
2. Advocate for the continued federal financial allocation of 1.5 – 2 million dollars annually for seven years to eradicate nutria and protect coastal resources in these states; and
3. Inform agencies and partners about the tremendous financial efficiency in protecting wetlands by eradicating nutria.

Great Lakes Regional Panel and Mississippi River Basin Panel

None Submitted

Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel

None Submitted

Mississippi River Basin Panel

None Submitted

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Regional Panel

None Submitted