

Western Regional Panel Executive Committee Monthly Conference Call Minutes

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Participants: Stephen Phillips, Eileen Ryce, Elizabeth Brown, Karen McDowell, John Wullscheger, Diane Cooper, Bob McMahon, Lori Nordstrom (currently on job-swap with Erin Williams)

Agenda items:

1) Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) and ANSTF meeting:

The final QZAP was presented to the ANSTF on November 5, 2009. At the meeting, the Panel asked the Task Force for 3 actions:

1. **Plan adoption.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF adopt the QZAP or provide guidance on an alternative way to formalize completion of the Plan.
2. **Implementation and Coordination.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF discuss how to proceed with implementation and coordination of the Plan.
3. **ANSTF member agency involvement.** The WRP requests that the ANSTF members recognize which of the action items in the plan their agencies will implement. Additionally, it is requested that all ANSTF members provide information at each ANSTF meeting on their implementation efforts.

- The ANSTF approved the QZAP upon condition of making several changes. Eileen will make the changes and submit to ANSTF by December 21, 2009. The QZAP will subsequently be approved by the ANSTF and finalized.
- Federal members of ANSTF are going to establish a committee to determine how to proceed with implementation. Eileen requested that a member of the WRP participate on this committee.
- ANSTF Strategic Plan – The Task Force members discussed the Strategic Plan. An exercise was held to prioritize action items within the Strategic Plan and discuss their implementation. A lot of overlap existed between the TF Strategic Plan highest priority action items and the highest priority action items in QZAP.
- Panels presented their funding needs as requested by ANSTF. As a follow up to the spring TF meeting each Panel was requested to present specifics on funding needs. The needs of the WRP closely matched those of the MRBP. The needs of each panel were primarily for Operations (travel and meeting expenses) and Project funds. The TF will use the information to demonstrate a need for additional funding.

2) Watercraft decontamination efficacy study RFP update:

Proposal submissions were due Oct. 30th. Four proposals were received by PSMFC. The Panel provided the remaining QZAP support funds from FWS to this effort since it is a high priority action item in the plan. Selection will be announced next week.

3) Annual meeting will be held in Boise, ID, either the first or second week of October, 2010. First meeting of the organizing committee will be December 18.

4) Membership nominations

The ExComm agreed to add four new positions: 1) Recreational fishing/angling. 2) Recreational boating, 3) Conservation, and 4) Marina Operators. Eileen will send a request for nominations to the listserve. Nominations will be submitted to Eileen by December 11.

Note: It was decided that a stronger effort should be made to engage a fish health group such as Pacific Northwest Fish Health Protection Committee, but not to add this group as a member.

5) ISAC presentation:

Susan Ellis and Bob McMahon will present the QZAP at the NISC Invasive Species Advisory Committee in early December.

6) GYA Cooperative request for funding and certification program for carwashes. Eileen will respond that the WRP is deferring action until the report is received and that more information is needed before entering into a certification program.

7) Next Call: Thursday, December 10 at 9am Pacific, 10am Mountain, 11am Central.