

**Northeast Regional Panel Recommendations and Activities**  
Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting, Arlington, Virginia  
October 28-29, 2008

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel  
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**High-Priority and/or Emerging Regional Issues:**

- Didymo continues to be a concern for northern streams. Mike Goehle and the Panel have produced a decontamination protocol posted at <http://northeastans.org/resources.htm>. A new focus page has been produced and will be posted next month.
- The Panel is working on its long-term planning with an emphasis on collaboration to maximize Panel and state/provincial resources, including a unified or consistent rapid response approach.

**Key ANS activities from May 2008 to October 2008:**

**Panel**

- In conjunction with its May 2008 meeting, the Panel convened a workshop, "Freshwater Nuisance Species Prevention and Early Detection: Northeast Programs and Potential for Regional Collaboration" that gathered representatives from Northeast states and provinces to discuss how to:
  - Enhance existing state programs by hearing from others in the region
  - Establish consistent data collection and messages for state prevention and early detection programs throughout the NEANS Panel region
  - Develop NEANS Panel-approved guidelines for states/provinces currently lacking prevention and early detection programs.
- The Panel is seven years old as of the November 2008 meeting, slated for the 19-20 in North Conway, NH. The "Spotlight on Species" session will focus on *Corbicula fluminea*. There will also be an update on Habitattitude.
- The Panel is in its new home with fiscal agent, Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Council, incorporated in NH as a 501(c)(3).

**State/Interstate**

- Rhode Island's and Connecticut's plans are complete. New York has been working on a revision and has a new office dedicated to invasive species. New Hampshire's plan is being drafted.

**Panel Recommendations to the ANS Task Force:**

1. The Panel does not have any recommendations at this time because its meeting is scheduled for next month so it will form recommendations for the May meeting. The Panel looks forward to hearing the progress made on exploring current species and other databases, including the experts database, and learning about the current and potential connections to maximize resources and coordination and collaboration.