

## **Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting**

May 19 – 21, 2009

Holiday Inn (Gallatin Room) - Bozeman, MT

Call in Numbers from 9:00AM -5:00PM mountain time

(May 19: 1-800-593-8998/PIN: BLEIS)

(May 21: 1-866-556-1099/PIN: BLEIS)

Agenda

*May 19, 2009 - Tuesday*

7:30 – 8:00 **Registration**

8:00 - 8:15 **Welcome from Co-chairs/Housekeeping**

- *Joe Maurier, Director, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks*
- *Gary Frazer, Assistant Director, Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, USFWS*
- *Pat Montanio, Director of Habitat Conservation, NOAA, serving on behalf of the acting ANSTF Co-chair for NOAA*
- *Margaret (Peg) Brady, NOAA liaison to NISC and ANSTF*
- *Susan Mangin, Executive Secretary, ANS Task Force*

8:15 – 8:30 (#1) **Introductions** (Members introduce themselves and explain their roles)

8:30 – 8:45 (#2) **Adoption of Agenda/Approval of Minutes/Review of Previous Action Items**

- **Regional Panel's Rapid Response Plans**, *Ann Garrett, NOAA*
- **Crosswalk of NISC/ANSTF Strategic Plans**, *Susan Mangin, USFWS*
- **Ballast Protocol for Vessel Groundings** *CDR Gary Croot, USCG*
- **Model Risk Assessment/Risk Management Process** (see #15)

8:45 – 9:30 (#3) **Informational: Montana ANS Program and Illegal Fish Introductions**  
*Eileen Ryce, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Chair, Western Regional Panel*  
*Jim Vashro, Regional Fish Manager, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

9:30 – 10:00 (#4) **Informational: Summary of WRP Marine Issues**, *Karen McDowell, San Francisco Estuary Project*

10:00 – 10:15 **BREAK**

10:15 – 10:40 (#5) **Informational: Success Stories of Panel Funded Projects**, *Erin Williams, USFWS*

10:40 – 11:00 (#6) **Informational: Trailered Boat Analysis from 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Initiative**, *Dave Britton, USFWS*

11:00 – 12:00 (#7) **Decisional: Quagga-Zebra Mussel Action Plan**, *Western Regional Panel, Eileen Ryce*

**Decision Points:**

- 1) The WRP recommends ANSTF review of the Plan and highest priority actions (30 days)
- 2) The WRP recommends that ANSTF develop a strategy for coordination and implementation of the Plan
- 3) The WRP requests that all Federal and appropriate *Ex-Officio* members provide information at each meeting on their efforts to implement the Plan

12:00 – 1:00 **LUNCH (on your own)**

1:00 – 1:30 (#8) **Informational: Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards for Watercraft Intervention Programs in the Western U.S.**, *Bill Zook, Contractor with PSMFC*

1:30 – 2:00 (#9) **Informational: West Coast Governor's Action Plan: Spartina Eradication Plan**, *Mark Sytsma, Portland State University*

2:00 – 3:00 (#10) **Decisional: Regional Panel and State ANS Plan Funding Discussion**  
*Panel Representatives and ANSTF Member*  
2:00 – 2:10 *Overview of Regional Panel Funding Challenges (Panel member TBD)*  
2:10 – 2:20 *Overview of State ANS Management Plan Funding Challenges (State representative TBD)*  
2:20 – 2:40 *Discussion of funding opportunities*  
2:40 – 3:00 *Prioritizing the opportunities, making recommendations, assigning actions and setting timelines, Gary Frazer, ANSTF Co-chair*

**Decision Points:**

- 1) Recommend appropriating the fully authorized amount for State Management Plan Funding (authorization for \$4M/yr but appropriation is only \$1.075M/yr).
- 2) Recommend increasing authorization for Regional Panel Funding (currently at \$300,000/yr or \$50,000 per panel).

3:00 – 3:15 **BREAK**

3:15 – 4:30 (#11) **Decisional: Regional Panel Updates** (15 minutes for each panel)

(3:15 - 3:30) Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel *Earl Chilton, Texas Parks and Wildlife*

(3:30 - 3:45) Mississippi River Basin Panel *Doug Keller, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources*

- 1) Recommend that ANSTF member agencies provide a link to the experts database on their own websites and ANSTF should explore other methods to make the database more visible.
- 2) Recommend that the ANSTF provide information to the barge industry regarding AIS transport and BMP's that should be performed to prevent spread, including inspection and removal of apple snail egg masses.
- 3) For the Asian Carp Management and Control Plan recommend establishing a full-time coordinator position dedicated to implementation of the Plan, establishing an implementation committee, and exploring options to secure and direct the stable, long-term funding necessary to fully implement the Plan.
- 4) The MRBP has taken steps to seek an independent scientific review and evaluation of the Triploid Grass Carp Inspection and Certification Program. MRBP requests the USFWS provide funding in FY2009 or FY2010 to support the recommended program review.

(3:45 – 4:00) Great Lakes Panel *Jim Grazio, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection*

- 1) Recommend that the ANSTF work toward national ballast water regulations.
- 2) In conjunction with the MRBP, in July of 2008, the Great Lakes Panel recommended that ANSTF member agencies consider funding the development and evaluation of AIS risk assessment screening tools. The ANSTF response to this request is respectfully requested.

(4:00-4:15) Northeast Panel *Susannah King, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission*

(4:15-4:30) Mid-Atlantic Panel *Jonathan McKnight, Maryland Department of Natural Resources*

- 1) Recommend review of State and regional ANS lists and attempt to harmonize or at least post them in similar formats to create a national picture of the current biological picture. The Task Force could provide web support for this function as it did for the experts database.
- 2) Recommend keeping ANSTF meetings focused on specific themes
- 3) Recommend agreeing upon action items with measurable benchmarks or products at meetings that can be accomplished by the Task Force between meetings.

4:30 – 5:00 (#12) **Public Comment**

6:00 – 9:00 *Evening reception sponsored by the Center for Invasive Plant Management – Gallatin Room*

*May 20, 2009 – Wednesday*

***Field Trip***

**Please wear suitable footwear for walking on rough terrain, no high-heels or flip-flops. Be prepared for bad weather, hopefully it will be dry and sunny but, it is Montana and it could quite easily snow in May.**

**8:00: Depart Holiday Inn**

**9:00: Cobblestone Fishing Access Site on the Madison River**

- Demonstration of New Zealand mudsnail sampling
- Discussion of New Zealand mudsnail management in Montana

**10:00: Headwater State Park**

- Presentation by park manager on Missouri River headwaters and history of the park

**12:00: Lunch at Canyon Ferry Reservoir**

- Presentation by management biologist on an illegal fish introduction and the issues involved with managing a recreational fishery in the presence of an invasive species
- Presentation by a Cutthroat Trout biologist on the restoration of native fish populations in the presence of non-native fish species

**3:00: Return to Bozeman**

*May 21, 2009 – Thursday*

7:30 – 8:00 **Registration**

8:00 – 8:05 **Introductory Remarks/Housekeeping** *Susan Mangin*

8:05 – 8:40 (#13) **Decisional: Planning for Future Task Force Meetings** *Gary Frazer, Pat Montanio*

**Decision Points:**

- 1) Recommend that beginning 2010, schedule ANSTF meetings during January and June
- 2) Recommend that Regional Panels consider which June meeting they would like to host
- 3) Recommend that the focus of the next ANSTF meeting be implementation of ANSTF Strategic Plan and NISC Management Plan

8:40 – 9:00 (#14) **Decisional/Informational: ANSTF Decision on State and Interstate ANS Management Plans (Utah/conditional approval; Tahoe/informational)**

**Decision Point:** Recommend conditionally approving the Utah State ANS Management Plan

9:00 – 9:45 (#15) **Informational: Aquatic Organism Screening Workgroup Risk Assessment/Risk Management Model**, *Mike Hoff, USFWS*

9:45 – 10:00 **BREAK**

10:00 – 10:50 (#16) **Informational and Decisional: Committee Updates**

(10:00 – 10:25) Research Committee/Research Protocol, *David Reid, NOAA*

(10:25 – 10:35) Prevention Committee, *Mindy Wilkinson, NISC State Liaison*

**Decision Point:** The Nonnative Wildlife Screening Working Group (Working Group) has generally supported the screening process identified by the Mississippi River Basin Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species (Panel). The Joint Prevention Committee (Committee) recommends that the Working Group: 1) continue to work with the Panel, and others as appropriate, toward a goal of completing a study that comparatively evaluates existing screening systems for nonnative animals, and 2) report back to the Committee with their findings.

(10:35 – 10:50) Status of Detection and Monitoring Committee/Communication, Education, Outreach Committee/and Control Committee

10:50 – 11:20 (#17) **Informational: Invasive Fish: Control Efforts and Impacts to Native Species in the Northern Rocky Mountains**, *Clint Mulhfeld and Jackson Gross, USGS*

11:20– 12:00 (#18) **Decisional: Invasion Issues with Pay Fishing Lakes**, *Doug Keller, Indiana Department of Natural Resources*

**Decision Point:** Recommend considering whether the ANSTF would fund full evaluation of risks associated with pay lakes?

12:00 – 1:00 **LUNCH on your own**

1:00 – 1:30 (#19) **Informational: Northern Snakehead Eradication Project**, *Michael Armstrong, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission*

1:30 – 2:00 (#20) **Informational: Impacts of Nonindigenous Species on Salmon in the Northwest**, *Beth Sanderson, NOAA NW Fisheries Science Center*

2:00 – 2:30 (#21) **Informational: Upcoming Rulemaking Under Clean Boating Act of 2008**, *John Lishman, EPA*

2:30 – 2:45 **BREAK**

2:45 – 3:45 (#22) **Informational: ANSTF Federal and Ex Officio Member Updates** (Give each member 5 minutes)

3:45 – 4:15 (#23) **Public Comment**

4:15 – 5:00 (#24) **Review Action Items**

5:00 **Adjourn Meeting**