



**"The 100th Meridian Initiative is a cooperative effort between state, provincial, and federal agencies to prevent the westward spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species in North America."**

<http://www.100thmeridian.org/Documents/100thMeridian.pdf>

## **Input, Ideas, Lessons Learned and Opinions for the Future of the 100th Meridian Initiative Program:**

### **Questions Posed to Columbia River Basin Group for 100th Meridian Initiative Activities Beyond 2006**

#### **1. What are the highest priority needs for 100th Meridian Initiative activities over the next 5 years (2007-2012)?**

- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the 100th Meridian Initiative programs
- Continue to document boat/trailer movement
- Conduct educational outreach; marina operators, long distance haulers (commercial and private), legality of transport, those that think zebra mussels are good, anglers (sharp shells break lines), create brochures that target anglers, articles in fishing magazines, long term stationed boater outreach (ex. houseboats) and other outreach [\*note -it is difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of brochures]
- Build upon synergy with Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers Campaign and learn from SAH (ex. pilot state process (IAFWA funded), develop, implement and evaluate community based social marketing efforts).
- Coordinate with law enforcement (LE) agencies on watercraft inspection and mandatory cleaning
- Rank relative success of approaches used in Lewis and Clark initiative, evaluation of the types of outreach used
- Develop partnerships for Rapid Response planning
- Establish Rapid Response funding (ie. Darwin harbor, NY, etc.)
- Develop and evaluate ANS forecasting tools, and habitat modeling/forecasting
- Economic studies of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) impacts
- Monitoring for ANS and (baseline surveys + long term monitoring)

12/14/05

- Expand to other ANS issues (develop partnerships for risk analysis ANS, other spp. (ex. live bait, crayfish, leeches-fishing/bait)
- Develop lists of expert contacts
- Assessment of the movement of ANS eastward
- Develop better connections with Tribes (ie. get them interested, enhance their understanding of habitat issues)
- Continue to have a 100th Meridian representative personally visit marinas to provide educational outreach and to encourage the assistance of marina operators in educational outreach.
- Monitoring coordination and gap analysis (via Dave Britton map of the U.S. with information provided by regional monitoring programs)
- Re-focus on national 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Initiative coordination (westward and eastward movement), coordination with regional panels (they may be better at networking with local groups)
- Helping to prevent schools and Curricula from acting as potential AIS pathways
- Create outreach posters and booklets on key AIS, relevant to the western U.S. [\*note-it is difficult or impossible to evaluate the effectiveness of these products]

## **2. What high priority activities is your organization able/willing to commit to in order to address those needs?**

- Document boat/trailer movement, document outreach (various)
- Work with states on LE interception/inspection of trailered boats (various)
- Educational outreach on zebra mussels (various)
- Small funding for projects (WA)
- Planning (various)
- Technical assistance (various)
- Monitoring (in Montana), Rapid response (in Montana)
- Finish ANS plan (Idaho), outreach/public education, biologists as ANS vectors, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan development
- Increase coordination within state (OR)
- Boater surveys (WA) [boater license tax funds]
- Educational outreach, public relations [Oregon state marine board]
- Monitoring/forecasting, boats, people (USGS)
- Coordination/information sharing with Tribes (CRITFC)
- Community based social marketing expertise (USFWS - WO)

**3. What high priority activities are beyond the capacity or jurisdiction of your organization that would require the assistance of other organizations?**

- LE inspection and enforcement of mandatory cleaning
- LE; clarification of state, tribal and federal authority
- LE, Lacey Act Enforcement (as relates to interstate movement of zebra mussels)
- Maintaining current funding and other assistance: with many state ANS plans, the federal funds available per state are likely to decrease in the future
- Funding for boater surveys (OR)
- Establishing authority/policy for cleaning, inspection (OR)
- Funds for research (ex. the ecological and economic impacts of ANS)
- Stable sources of funding

**4. What other organizations should be approached to join in the 100th Meridian Initiative that can help in addressing those needs identified in question #3 above?**

- Coast Guard Auxiliary
- State DNRs, DFGs
- U.S. Customs
- State Police
- Other law enforcement organizations
- Marine Deputy Sheriffs
- Marina Operators
- Boy Scouts (useful for boater surveys)?
- Girl Scouts?
- NGOs (ex. TNC)
- Legislatures (education on issues, not lobbying)
- Tribes, first nations
- Hunting/angler education groups
- West coast watershed councils (already do monitoring and research)
- Watershed Resource Inventory Area (WIRA) management groups
- Watershed planning and enhancement forums
- Irrigation districts
- Private utility districts
- USGS
- Recreational Boating and Fishing Federation (RBFF)
- DOD (the have land, funds and an orderly decision making process)
- Science coordinators/staff for education service district
- Science teacher organizations
- State marina associations

**5. What activities seem to work (have not been evaluated for behavioral change, but have received positive feedback)?**

- Marina outreach partnerships (multiple basins)
- Focusing on a single species, (ie. zebra mussels)
- Concentrate on species that have a well documented negative impact (ex. zebra mussels)
- It is better to be safe than sorry (learned lessons from L&C), error on side of worst case estimate
- Concentrate educational message on local groups
- Compel out of state boaters to verify that boats were cleaned prior to transport/launching
- Sport/boat show outreach
- Monitoring programs
- Boater survey information
- State ANS Planning
- General public outreach (based on increasing % of public that know about ANS issues as measured in Montana and North Dakota.

**6. What activities do not seem to work (have not worked)?**

- Excessive meetings
- Wishing for extra funds/resources
- Overestimate of impact of Lewis and Clark on boater traffic
- Concentrated on wrong group (should concentrate on resident/local fishers [we know they are there and moving around])

**7. What activities still need to be evaluated or tested?**

- Are Traveler Information Systems (TIS) effective (evaluation study planned for MT in 2006)?
- How likely is the rare event of long distance transport of ANS via pathways such as trailered boats?
- New, less expensive, locally based highway sign campaign – (ie. Burma Shave model)
- Boating law enforcement training video and instructor manual (pilot study is ongoing in Pacific and CA/NV regions)
- Centralized veliger lab facility for western US w/ standard database and protocols
- Marina Partnership Conferences every other year
- All activities should be evaluated

12/14/05

**Input on this document was provided by members of the Columbia River Basin, 100th Meridian Program Sub-group, Including:**

Sam Chan, OSU, Oregon City, OR  
Robyn Draheim, PSU, Portland, OR  
Jill Hardiman, USGS, Cook, WA  
Jim Irish, BPA, Portland, OR  
Pamala Meacham, WDFW, Olympia, WA  
Lonnie Mettler, USACE, Portland, OR  
Blaine Parker, CRITFC, Portland, OR  
Fred Partridge, IDFG, Boise, ID  
Stephen Phillips, PSMFC, Portland, OR  
Eileen Ryce, MFWP, Great Falls, MT  
Jyll Smith, OSMB, Salem, OR  
Mark Sytsma, PSU/ESR, Portland, OR  
Scott Wiedemer, OSU, Oregon City, OR  
Sylvia Yamada, OSU, Corvallis, OR  
Bill Zook, PSMFC, Olympia, WA  
Joe Starinchak, USFWS