

100th Meridian - Columbia River Basin Group
Meeting - April 5, 2005
Held at the offices of Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Portland, Oregon

Attending:

Stephen Phillips, PSMFC, Portland, OR
Blaine Parker, CRITFC, Portland, OR
David Bergendorf, USFWS, Sacramento, CA
Danielle Warner, USFWS, Portland, OR
Kevin Aitkin, USFWS, Lacey, WA
Fred Partridge, IDFG, Boise, ID
Joan Cabreza, EPA, Seattle, WA
Robyn Draheim, PSU, Portland, OR
Tina Proctor, FWS, Denver, CO
Eileen Ryce, MFWP, Great Falls, MT
Bill Zook, PSMFC, Olympia, WA
Tim Darland, USCOE
Andy Thomas, BPA, Portland, OR
Sam Chan, OSU – Sea Grant, Oregon City, OR
Mark Sytsma, PSU/ESR, Portland, OR
Steven Wells, PSU/ESR, Portland, OR

Comments & Approval of November Meeting Minutes:

Minutes can be reviewed on the 100th Meridian website

Individual Agency Updates:

Blaine Parker - Working with Mark Sytsma on NZMS education/awareness. Plans to do education/survey of Snake River area. Blaine is working with a graduate student in Walla Walla, looking for NZMS in salmon bearing streams - none found. These streams not stocked, no recreational anglers, so less potential for infestation.

Also is working with Paul and Robyn on the grass carp program.

Non-tribal: evaluating fish, the water they are in and eradicating weeds. This has just begun so no answer as to whether it is successful yet.

Questions on how looking for NZMS - ocular, scuba, hands-on. Time of year - July-August.

Tim Darland - Public Outreach - ANS display shared by staff at a conference for visitor centers.

Has been assisting Stephen on ZM economic impact report for BPA.

Jim Athearn's replacement has been selected - Rock Peters. He will work on both fish passage and ANS, same duties as Jim's. Tim will send out Rock's telephone number to group.

Discussed the sea lion problem and the fact they have no jurisdiction to harm/harass the animals. They have been seen in both ladders, both Oregon/Washington sides, 14 have been counted. The Corps is working with NOAA, in the 1990's they assisted with Herschel at the Ballard locks. Meeting this week on how/what can be done to discourage seals. Only one has entered the locks at this time.

Corp public affairs office did an article in inter-agency newsletter to raise public awareness on ANS.

Corp will be involved in large dredging contracts later this year. Ballast water and ANS language inserted into the contract, questions on dredging equipment as ANS vector.

Bill Zook - Will be in the upper Missouri basin later this month providing outreach materials to marinas. In May he will be in the Columbia River Basin providing signs, newsletters, raising public awareness/education. Not sure yet if this will be conducted annually; this year is important due to the Lewis and Clark bicentennial. This work was done last year in the CRB, and two years ago on the Missouri. Problems in the Missouri upper basin due to drought. Fort Peck is 40 feet below fill depth. Columbia River marinas are very cooperative, Missouri not as cooperative, probably because they are struggling to survive economically. Bill has had good cooperation from approximately half of the marinas he visited.

Eileen said that normally there are 40-50 boat ramps, last year only 6.

Eileen Ryce - Boat inspection program has been fairly successful, public outreach was good. Walleye's Unlimited on board with ANS program. Angler surveys completed for mapping and passed onto David Britton (USFWS).

HAACP is slow going with MDFWP.

The 2005 MT Legislature ok'd a 100k in funding for a boat wash system. One, Prefix system, uses recirculating water, 300 boats per fill. The Forest Service has developed one which is more portable, probably will not be in service until fall of 2006. Still negotiating price with Prefix.

Exotic species legislation has upped fine to \$500 with animal confiscation added. New Black list will include mudsnails, will allow the state to quarantine hatchery.

Eileen and staff worked five outdoor shows with funding from PSMFC.

Expanding staff to three seasonal and one temp for summer months. One based on Missouri angler survey and boat inspection; one monitoring NZMS/ZM, and two on boat inspections at lakes/reservoirs. ZM were found on a boat purchased in Indiana and brought back to Montana. Owner of boat contacted MFWP (due to their work with Walleye's Unlimited) with concerns on water in boat; they found ZM in intake/outtake valves. Eileen also communicating with dealer

who sold the boat.

Tina Proctor - Tulsa meeting last week, training for biologists - David Britton HAACP has an on line wizard which helps fill out an online plan.

Eileen discussed fish hatchery certifications, sampling effluent if closed supply. What is the process? Discussion on sampling techniques for mudsnails kick-net vs. snorkeling. *High-Country News* called Tina and asked why lack there was a of federal funding for research into NZMS - answer - no impacts documented yet.

Robyn Draheim - ODFW may work with PSU on looking into hatchery HAACP plans.

Moving ANS survey to Middle Columbia from Bonneville to Lower Granite dam. Installing ANS signs (boat wash, trailing weeds) throughout state. Aquatic Bioinvasion Policy and Research Institute (SERC –PSU) focus is ballast water and hull fouling.

Spartina drift cards study at Humboldt and San Francisco bays, if found on beach people are asked to call the information in.

Working with ODFW for hunter/angler education program curriculum.

Oregon Invasive Species Council developing a strategy for their education/awareness plan. Rewriting state ANS plan will be coming out soon for review. New website in next couple weeks.

Weed Awareness Week -- June 19-25 - statewide outreach.

Attempting to change process of awareness/education - mitten crab monitoring will be modified/expanded to Coos Bay/Puget Sound.

Bill asked if ODFW has replaced ANS Cidney Howard ?, not yet, held up by fiscal year funding. Does Oregon legislature give PSU any authority on the ANS plan ?- According to mark Sytsma: The legislation that established the Center for Lakes and Reservoirs includes:

- (1) Education in limnology and lake and reservoir management;
- (2) Technical assistance and development of management plans to address limnological and aquatic nuisance species problems in an integrated manner in lakes and reservoirs upon request from local, state or federal agencies, citizens or other organizations; and
- (3) Research and development of techniques that will allow effective management of aquatic nuisance species problems in aquatic systems.

The governor's office instructed us to develop the state plan. We did this in collaboration with all the management agencies in the state, and the consensus was that PSU CLR

should implement the plan. So, I think the legislature did give us authority for the plan. Of course, we don't do management, that is the responsibility of several different agencies, primarily ODA and ODFW. We work with both these agencies very closely to implement the plan.

Andy Thoms – The Hatfield Marine Science Center kick off for their “Invasion of the Habitat Snatchers” display was unfortunately not widely attended.

Received a call from Dr. Sell who has developed and trying to market a protective coating (doesn't slough), he has a small company looking for funding.

BPA interested in wash system for use in remote areas, they are expensive to develop. They are interested in portable wash rack concept.

Eileen - Forest service has portable system, however she has concerns with the durability. Some discussion on costs Forest Service \$15-20k vs. Prefix of \$50k for a boat wash system.

Worked with Sam Chan for more laminated ANS sheets for outreach, also worked with Tim for curriculum for dam operators.

Joan Cabreza - Working on pathway & genetic screening tool - three EPA region genetic tool for ballast water. Developing a methodology in Region 5. Have found green crab [mitten crab] in Great Lakes. Database of genetic information will be developed, and then you can compare west coast to east coast green crab (as an example). Can prove links by looking at organisms between areas (CA/OR/WA) if no link than ballast water most likely was vector. Need to collect ballast water samples in China and Japan.

Joan is co-chair for Washington ANS Committee, current task is completing a Rapid Response Plan. This will for general committee by mid-April.

Joan received the Wetland Scientist ANS Education Innovation Award

Fred Partridge - Idaho Legislature is still in session. Finalized action plan with the Invasive Species Council - presented to legislature. IDFG requested funds for a statewide invasive species coordinator, this and the species conservation person in the governors office put on hold and may not happen.

Steve Wells worked with Idaho Power on ZM substrate distribution.

Hatchery programs - HAACP plans - resident hatchery supervisor in Wyoming for plan training. Will effect how fish are transported. Two Idaho hatcheries have mudsnails.

Fire Crews - concern over movement of ANS. Forest Service involved to limit weed transference and reduce risk of fire crews pumping weed seeds. Eileen asked if air crews had developed anything yet - main fire crews are supposed to have had training on water bodies to avoid. Eileen asked if maps on what water can be used/where can be dropped were available -

No.

Kevin Aitkin - Green Crab card to Stephen for printing.

Worked on Portland Outdoor Show.

WDFW training seminars for divers on ANS.

Washington legislature: Two pieces of legislation one to create Invasive Species Council; another is an increase in boater registration fees with some of the funds going to the ANS program in WDFW. Both bills passed senate; not sure on house yet.

Danielle Warner, USFWS - attending for Paul Heimowitz.

David Bergendorf - Fishing groups want a decontamination process for gear – the decontamination study is done and results will be out by end of April. Seven different combinations of 5 minute shake/soak methods (which won't destroy gear). Eileen asked what can be done with water in bottom of drift boats, some discussion, answer - small amount of bleach.

Looking for funding on NZMS studies - Ken Davies is a contact, private biologist his work is funded by water agencies. He has worked in Putah Creek.

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California Agriculture is no longer stopping trailered boats, interception of ZM boats will decrease . Doing surveys to see where boat are coming from to California. Inputting all data into David Britton's database.

Discussed problems on PDA's – slow for data collection in the field, Montana has gone to loading own database then sending on to David Britton for the 100th Meridian Website.

ZM - Department of Water Resources is developing a plan for rapid response. Draft reviewed recently needs more work, David will be working with them.

Mitten crabs- research by ????? indicates will go after salmon eggs if they are there. Life history researches feel 2007 will be a big year for mitten crabs - final study not reviewed yet.

Stephen Phillips - Completed work for six outdoor shows - Plus partial support to Eileen for Montana shows. Article for Outdoor News paper. Grant work continues. Completed mailing to public utility/water districts regarding ANS.

Wants to develop CRB ANS plan for ANS Task Force, idea is to shore up rapid response plans, include Montana - more discussion to come. Stephen will put together something and send out for comment, will show benefit to states. Much discussion followed on how this would effect states, existing funding, etc.

CRB Zebra Mussel Rapid Response Plan- Mike Fraidenburg - conference call:

The document has two needs 1) rapid response plan for CRB, and 2) different management entities moving together.

The current plan is oriented towards building around a simple first cut of action plan; then attend a meeting, go home with draft and then promote need to have plan on how to proceed should zm be found. Will need to bring technical stakeholders to Portland for two day meeting, see how to have institutions work together collectively on proceeding.

Bill asked if it wouldn't be possible to take input from 'blog' and Washington's plan and do a first draft - yes, but first draft will be very simple, only 10-12 pages. Bill asked if there was still opportunity to provide input? Mike - yes, blog still active.

Blaine commented that while the blog is a useful tool, he is concerned that the outline proposed will not be detailed enough. Would like to see basic structure on responsibility with so many entities involved, the report needs a top-down with strong direction to start. Mike - the draft will have incident command in it, need agreement on this first.

There are many unanswered questions regarding permits, chemicals, etc. Many in the group had questions on how detailed this plan would be. Discussed the Washington action plan and Mike voiced concerns on level of agreement or lack of from concerned parties.

Robyn - what has been done to address the many parties involved in CRB? Mike - Went out to technical people and requested names. CRB is large/diverse/demanding and this may preclude comprehensive participation. There has not been a great deal of participation with the blog. Stephen - Need draft and then hard editing for group. Mike - is optimistic that initial plan will be valid. Joan - easier to react to, need some amount of detail to pull together. She supports need for concrete/comprehensive plan.

Tina - blog idea is good, look forward to step 2. Andy - has concerns as to the number of people within his agency who need to comment. Stephen asked that everyone follow-up on sending their comments to Mike.

Recommendation that Mike develop a hard document and Executive Committee WRP needs to visit this. Tina said she will do this and will be contact.

Update - Projected ZM Impact on Hydropower Dams in CRB:

Tim discussed submersible traveler screen - when this doesn't work then the unit is completely taken down and this could be a large cost per day.

Mark discussed veliger sampling to be done at Bonneville from April-November. Eileen, they are sampling locks and she will be looking at the samples using polarized light.

Update - Boat Inspection Training Program - Bill Zook:

Power point/handout

1. Develop list of those who need to be trained
2. Develop curriculum
3. Select/contract the trainers
4. Provide at least three training events in the Western US.

Full report is available, copy handed out is recommendation only. All states, except Nevada, already have some training plan on-going. Robyn asked if live-bait information was included? Yes. Blaine recommended law enforcement/fish and wildlife conferences to reach larger audiences.

This is all built from Washington's 10 minute video Pam Meacham developed. Blaine pointed out need to have information on what the law is on stopping or confiscating a vehicle. Group discussed legal footing and Bill understands need for this information in the training/video. Tina asked if Bill was doing the training - No, he will identify trainers only. Also, local law enforcement would not be covered in the video - only federal and more general rules/regulations.

CRB TIS Sight Selection - Bill Zook:

Three possible locations - Rock Springs, Wyoming; Southern Idaho; Northern Utah. Bill still needs to find a contact in Wyoming, would only have to use for ANS during boating season. Andy - thinks there is a TIS close to Lewiston. David - their stops have been coming in on I-80.

Agreement from group that Bill can proceed with Wyoming site.

TIS Evaluation Study - Eileen Ryce/Bill Zook:

PowerPoint

Explained choices and why - if they setup at weight stations they can require stops. Objective is to find out how well the TIS are working. 2004 MDFGW survey sample only had one person that said they has heard a TIS ANS message . Discussion on whether or not these are valuable , and sign location. Eileen reviewed basic questions and sign locations. Blaine asked if the Montana survey could be done on people purchasing fishing licenses?

Agreement to go ahead, funds are available - Eileen to forward contract information to Stephen to start survey field work mid-May through early September. Comments to Eileen ASAP. Eileen will look into moving the ANS sign further from the likely ANS sampling location to give drivers a longer distance to hear the ANS message.

New Zealand Mudsail HAACP Exercise - Robyn Draheim:

Will be writing up results of HAACP training, moving from watershed to watershed in Oregon. Procedure: Inspect gear, clean gear at each site, end of day - gear goes through scalding wash/dry.

Basic steps for field crews. Survey of participants - time needed for process, if steps were skipped - why? - how they felt the protocol worked.

Most thought the process was effective, takes 20-40 minutes, their agency provided propane

stove/pot (for scalding process). Awareness factor seemed good on returned surveys.

Conclusion - need to educate teams on vehicle washing.

Update - CRB ZM Exclusion Program - Bill Zook:

PowerPoint

Tina has 1,000 Lewis and Clark brochures with ANS message, she will mail to Bill.

Eileen reports Montana signs are up (new yellow ANS signs)

Idaho - most signs are up

Idaho Power and North Side Canal are both onboard with substrate sampling. Montana has stopped substrate sampling due to drought, going to veliger sampling.

Will increase boater surveys in Washington, Oregon - Robyn has talked with the Marine Board, they are still up in the air on this, Idaho - no plans at this time

Eileen asked who in the group should be listed as a contact for Montana's rapid response plan, currently no one is listed outside of Montana. Group decided a call to Stephen should be made.

Top 10 ANS Species Fact Sheet - Andy Thomas:

Group has not met yet

University TV Channel Seminar - Sam Chan:

Outreach - televised media on aquatic nuisance species on the research channel/cspan.

Questions were - who is the audience, what is the message, how long can you engage the audience?

State of Oregon research channel - OPAN, channel 29, 6-8PM. Research, political, ideas of policy, needs policy implication or education impact, must provide content and share with other states. Pursue at this time? No.

Oregon ANS Legislation - Mark Sytsma:

Ballast water bill passed house. When California passes their law all west coast states will have same requirements 50 miles out.

Another bill on transport of weeds - currently being amended. ODA study of weeds (plan) last funded by nursery industry on nursery invasive species.

ZM Substrate Program in the CRB - Steve Wells:

98 volunteers (26 new, mostly in California).

Need to increase monitoring on Snake.

Adding stickers to Zebra Mussel cards for California.

Wrong telephone number on ZM brochures - send back to Steve and he they will return with new number (sticker).

Test of zebra mussel rapid response plan might be valuable.

Eileen had questions on veliger monitoring sites - Steve will check with Mary.

Recap of work assignments

Next meeting set for PSMFC office on June 28, 2005.

meeting adjourned

**Columbia River ANS Work Group
Follow-up Tasks - 04/05/2005 Meeting**

- 1. Dave Britton is revising the 'Zap the Zebra' brochure for reprint. We will try to have the revised brochure available by the 1st of June if not sooner.**
- 2. Tim will provide Work Group members with Rock Peters telephone number within the next week. Rock is taking over for Jim Athearn at the USACE.**
- 3. Joan and Kevin will send out copies of Washington's draft rapid response plan when it is completed to all Work Group members (after 4/14/05).**
- 4. Comments on the CRB rapid response plan can still be made on the Zebra Mussel 'blog' until 4/08/05. Comments about your hopes and expectations about the level of detail in the plan should be mailed to Mike Fraidenberg, Tina and Stephen by 4/15/05. Tina will follow-up on Mike's completion of the first draft.**
- 5. Bill will continue to pursue setting up a TIS on I-84 near Rock Springs Wyoming. He will attempt to get a cooperative agreement with Wyoming Fish and Game to sponsor the project and coordinate installation and broadcasting so the system can be in place and operating by the end of this summer.**
- 6. Bill will complete Marina Report and it will be put on various ANS websites w/pictures and a hard copy report will be produced for public distribution upon request.**
- 7. TIS Evaluation Study comments need to be to Eileen by Friday, 04/08/05. Eileen and the Montana Department of Game, Fish and Parks will be in charge of this project and will contract with PSMFC for \$15K to it. Montana ANS funding will also be included if more money is required to complete the project.**
- 8. Robyn is rewriting the Oregon ANS plan and will send out by mid-May for review/comments.**
- 9. Robyn will also be sending out a draft copy of a report that evaluates the use of HAACP developed standards for equipment decontamination by field fisheries workers as soon as it is completed (by mid-May).**
- 10. Bill will check on when the Lewis & Clark van will be ready to go.**
- 11. Kevin, Andy, Paul, and Sam - will be working on the Top 10 ANS Fact Sheet and have a draft ready before our next Work Group meeting.**

- 12. Contact Steven Wells to get phone number revision “stickers” for all of your 'Stop the Spread' brochures (back page item #5). Steve can either provide stickers or you can send him the brochures so that he can attach the stickers and return the revised brochures.**
- 13. Steve will also provide Bill with 200 copies of revised brochure by April 22.**
- 14. Stephen/Karen/Susan will get copies of boat wash posters printed so they will be available in early April.**
- 15. Funding needs for FY-06 USFWS ANS budget will be important topic for the next CRB Work Group meeting.**

Next meeting is on Tuesday, June 28, 2005 at PSMFC Office in Portland