

100th Meridian—Columbia Basin Group
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Portland, Oregon
November 30, 2004

In Attendance:

Bill Zook, PSMFC

Jim Irish, BPA

Joan Cabreza, EPA

Kathy Shimojima, PSMFC

Kevin Aitkin, USFWS

Mary Pfauth, PSU

Pam Meacham, WDFW

Paul Heimowitz, USFWS

David Bergendorf, USFWS

Bill Zook, PSMFC

Randy Henry, OSMB

Robin Draheim Waldeck, PSU

Stephen Phillips, PSMFC

Steven Wells, PSU

Samuel Chan, OR Sea Grant

Tim Darland, USACE

Andy Thoms, BPA

Randy Henry, OMB

Robert Birkeland, Pefix Corp.

Kim Zeile, Prefix Corp.

Al Smith, PNWNFWMW

Karen Mcgill, PSMFC

At 9:00 a.m. introductions were made around the room.

The July 27, 2004 meeting minutes were approved.

Pam Meacham updated the group on the tunicate infestation in Puget Sound, a tunicate meeting was held 11/18 that attracted 50 people. Volunteer divers will be used for further tunicate surveying. A problem is that they can be found to 120 feet, which limits survey dive time. Pam will be taking a temporary position with the USFWS ANS office in Arlington VA (four months). Michael Monroe will help Scott in Pam's absence. Pam reported that the number of Atlantic salmon juveniles in scatter creek has decreased. Compliance with state ballast water regulations has gone up as the ships are once again being checked.

Randy Henry said the TIS system in Astoria is running the Clark and Lewis Spot. The OMB will be attending the Portland Boat show in January with a newly developed display. Randy is changing positions from outreach to policy, but in the near term will be doing both. He will try and get some temporary ANS signs for the Buoy 10 season.

Kevin was at a well attended Japanese Knotweed meeting – 300 people. Kevin also said that he is heading up the effort for a green crab card that PSMFC has agreed to publish.

Paul Heimowitz reported that the much anticipated Lewis and Clark Van will be launched sometime in 2005. USFWS is also helping out in access sign printing of maps in Puget Sound (including the San Juan Islands) that will include the "Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker" message. Paul reported that Tina Proctor is coordinating the national New Zealand Mudsail Plan. A meeting is planned in February 2005 and the plan will be discussed at the May ANS Task Force meeting in California.

Discussion on where do state law enforcement agencies go to determine state ANS laws.

Mary Pfauth said that Mark Sytsma was back in DC at a National Geographic hosted ANS meeting/media event. PSU had a booth at the 2004 NALMS meeting in Victoria. A substrate monitoring brochure is about to be printed that includes a post card to sign up for the program. ANS boat ramp signs for Oregon are being purchased with funding from the EPA (Joan Cabreza).

Eileen Ryce reported that New Zealand mudsnails are expanding their range in Montana, most likely moved by fishermen. Impacts to fish populations from New Zealand mudsnails is not well documented. In Yellowstone Park, densities as high of 750,000 have been documented (this high density may be de to thermal waters however). Mudsnail signs have been posted at fishing access sites. A new invasive diatom has been discovered in Montana (Libby Reservoir) that competes with native diatoms. Illegal fish introductions are still a problem. Groups like Walleyes Unlimited want to have walleyes west of the divide. MDFWP have received \$80,000 for fish movement education and outreach. Two more TIS units are expected to be up in the Spring of 2005. MDFWP conducted 2,000-4,000 interviews last summer and found very little listenership except fort the West Yellowstone TIS unit. The TIS site at the North Dakota border has the least listener-ship. Clark and Lewis Radio spots are being played. She suggested that maybe they need to add a fishing bulletin to the TIS message and sign and place the TIS at high volume locations such boat ramps.

Randy Henry reported that Anthill productions will be developing the Oregon Invasive Species Council's education outreach strategy.

Something on the EPA ballast water screening tool project, this is headed by EPA's Cincinnati office. (I don't remember either)

Pam reported that discussions continue on development of a WA invasive species council. She said that the respective roles of this new council and the current ANS advisory group needs further clarification

Joan said that the University of Washington's 100 worst invasive species book is going to press.

David Bergendorf said that mitten crab numbers in the Bay area are way down. New Zealand mudsnails have been found at four new sites in California. USFWS/CDFG are looking into chemical treatment for fish gear. There will be two ANS HAACP workshops in California in 2005.

Tim Darland is trying to get ANS issues promoted to a higher level at the Division Office. Tim said that he was contacted by his agency staff planning dredging operations on the lower Columbia about impacts of that operation on introduced species and discussed the issue with Pam Meacham.

Ballast water dispersal is an issue with Columbia River dredging (and channel deepening). Tim and Paul will follow up with this.

The South American red sided pacu has been found in Bass Lake near Bonneville apparently from an aquarium introduction. Paul Heimowitz said he would follow up on this. Two other lakes, Pound and Lacunas, apparently have piranhas.

Bill Zook reported that the list of Columbia River Basin marina operators by facility type has been completed and is available as a hard copy of CD. Bill also said that an ANS newsletter will be sent out to the marina's in the Columbia Basin. A draft of the first newsletter was handed out. We hope to do 2 newsletters a year, and expand the coverage to the Missouri River marina's as well.

Discussion on newsletter content followed. Bill said further comments on the newsletter need to be back to him by the 10th of December. We hope to mail the newsletter in early January.

Bill talked about the Clark and Lewis radio PSA that was sent out to hundreds of radio stations across the West and Midwest by the PSMFC and to thousands of media contacts by the USFWS earlier in the year. Bill had not made additional calls since the last meeting. Bill will work with Paul on further follow up work. Bill will send Paul the PSMFC radio list.

There was discussion on sending the Clark and Lewis PSA out again in May 2005. The suggestion that we pay for airtime instead of relying on free play Randy said that his agency has had the most play time success when they send localized information by state. Andy Thoms said that BPA state account executives could be good promoters of the tapes at their local radio stations.

TIS usage and siting was discussed. Stephen said that \$30,000 was available in USFWS funding for TIS construction in the Columbia Basin. We need to site TIS's in area of high usage, maybe do a shared message with a fishing report or weather report to attract more interest. A dedicated phone line is needed if the TIS message is to be updated periodically. Eileen said that in Montana creel survey data showed fishermen were not listening. Eileen said getting the TIS signs up in MT took a long time. For the Columbia River Basin, Bill will investigate potential TIS sites that would likely have high listenership (i.e. captured source). Stephen, Bill, Paul, Kevin, and Eileen will follow up regarding a potential TIS survey.

Al Smith asked about supporting ANS activities in Canada, especially with the shared Columbia River Basin. There was discussion of this issue. Stephen pointed out the difficulties in providing financial assistance to Canada.

Kim and Rob from Prefix Corporation gave a presentation on a boat wash system that they were in the process of developing. They said that Minnesota DNR reportedly loved the idea. The system is self contained, fits on the back of a conventional trash dumpster carrier so are movable. It uses propane to power a high pressure (5000 psi) hot water (90 degrees over ambient) totally mobile washer system that can use be set up with a card reader for operation. Is of modular design -- has arms that fold out, can hold 1500 gallons of water, allowing 30 washes per tank

load. They may try to fit it with a water purifier to increase the number of washes per tank by reusing wastewater. They are trying to raise capital to build some prototypes – they could build 10 to 20 for approximately \$50,000 each.

Paul said that testing of these systems is needed.

Eileen expressed interest in the system. She said has been looking at a competitor's product and would be interested in talking to them further about purchasing up to five units if they could get them at a reduced cost in exchange for field testing. They would use them potentially for fishing tournaments but needed them to be in a remote site, be able to undertake numerous washes in a short period of time. The system would need to handle more than 30 boats.

Bill suggested \$25K each for field testing.

Paul will lead an effort for development of a “northwest” /Columbia Basin ANS card.

Randy Henry discussed the Oregon Marine Board's “Clean Marina Program.”

Paul updated the group on the upcoming middle Columbia River survey, a follow up to the recently completed Lower Columbia survey. This project will be administered by the PSMFC and carried out by PSU with the University of Washington.

USGS is doing some milfoil mapping in Grant County PUD???? (I don't know either)

Bill Zook, with assistance from Paul and David Bergendorf are working on a project for training boating law enforcement agency/department personnel in ANS boat inspection. The budget calls for us to working principally in Idaho, Oregon and California and in Washington and Nevada if time and budget permit.

Pam will mail Paul/Bill WDFW's boat inspector training power point presentation.

Pam said WDFW boater surveys have shown many people clean their boats. Forty percent of those surveyed would pay a \$2-\$5 fee to fund an ANS program. The survey noted very few out of state boaters, and those that were from out of state were from nearby states. 2004 was the last year of boater surveys.

The state of California is not looking at boats for zebra mussels anymore at their Ag inspection stations.

Eileen said that their survey results showed Montana has out of state boaters. They also see resident boaters leave the state. The walleye fishermen tend to wash their boats more than the trout fishermen. ANS awareness is at 60 %. Surveys are great outreach tools. Montana will be doing surveys again in 2005.

WDFW liked the PDA units used by samplers, Montana said it slowed them down, and they ended up writing everything down by hand.

David Bergendorf informed the group that he has hired a contractor (“Scientific Principles”) for boater surveys in California. It will be focused on freshwater. They had a problem with the PDA’s.

Mary Pfauth and Steve Wilson updated to the group on the substrate monitoring program. A total of 234 substrates are deployed in 13 states. Veliger sampling is better than substrate sampling but more expensive, and substrate sampling is a great educational tool. Steve said he would follow-up with Fred Partridge (IDFG) and Idaho Power on substrate distribution. Also the marinas from Bill Zook’s work in the Columbia and Missouri River Basins. Montana is having problems with substrate distribution (low water).

WDFW sampled 72 sites for veligers (all negative) in 2004. MDFWP and NDFG (Lynn Schleuter) are going to undertake joint Veliger sampling in 2005. Tim Darland will undertake veliger sampling in 2005 at Corp’s projects on the Lower Columbia.

Stephen discussed PSMFC funded green crab sampling in California and Oregon, ballast water database project, and upcoming sport shows. MTFWP, with funds from the PSMFC, will attend sport shows in 5 MT cities. PSMFC will also attend shows in Salt Lake City, Pasco, Denver, Portland, Seattle, and Pendleton. Stephen thanked Joan Cabreza and EPA for a \$15,000 grant for publications of ANS signs (Oregon and Montana), substrate brochures, and zebra watch cards.

Tasks assigned for group member follow up can be found below.

Next Meeting: April 5, 2005 in Portland at the offices of the PSMFC.

Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming Events

- Aquatic Nuisance Species: Identification, Status and Management Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Annual Meeting, Doubletree Inn, Missoula February 8, 2005. <http://www.fisheries.org/AFSmontana/>
- Annual Meeting of the Oregon Chapter AFS . Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. Introduced and Invasive Species Session, at February 17, 2005. <http://www.orafs.org/>
- Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society (ORTWS) and Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology (SNVB). February 23: Invasives and Biological Diversity. <http://fw.oregonstate.edu/tws/index.htm>
- **Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control**, April 19-20, 2005, Reno, Nevada <http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/index.shtml?L+mystore+cxpl5647>
- ANS Task Force Meeting Monterey, California. May 25-27. The May meeting will be held at the Monterey Conference Center. Rooms are being held at the Marriott Hotel for

May 23, 24, 25 and 26, at the Government rate of \$132.00. Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-228-9290 or 831-649-4234. The cut-off date for reservations is May 9, 2005.

**Columbia River ANS Work Group
Follow-up Tasks - 11/30/05 Meeting**

- 1. Stephen will work with Tim to set-up a meeting to tour Bonneville Dam as part of his research on the projected hydropower impacts of a zebra mussel infestation, for BPA.**
- 2. Bill will provide Paul with a copy of the form used to survey radio stations about their use of PSA's and a copy of the list of radio stations that received the PSA's as a result of our contractors mailing.**
- 3. Stephen will try to provide Randy with up to 200 copies of the "Clark and Lewis" PSA's for inclusion in boater outreach packets he will send out this spring.**
- 4. Tim and Paul will look into the issue of where dredging equipment used in the Columbia Basin is coming from and how it's its being decontaminated.**
- 5. Stephen will follow-through with mailing to all Columbia Basin power companies and irrigation districts. Will consider including copy of PSA and adding language to the cover letter asking them to utilize their working relationship with local radio stations to get it played this spring and 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. Everyone has until December 10th to get comments on DRAFT zebra mussel newsletter to Bill. Bill and Karen will then revise the newsletter and mail to potential outreach partners in early January.**
- 8. Paul, Andy and Pam will look into the production of a general "top 10-20?" ANS species handout for public distribution and report back to the group at the next meeting.**
- 9. Bill will provide a list of potential Columbia Basin TIS locations and their pro's and con's to the group by the end of the year for review and eventual selection of one site for a new TIS to be installed before next boating season.**

- 10. Stephen will look for potential contractors to design and implement an assessment of TIS effectiveness for the new TIS site and possibly one additional existing site. \$15K was set aside for this task.**
- 11. Comments on the Power Wash Poster should be in to Robyn by December 10 (2nd chance review) and revisions will be cleared through the group before posters are produced. Revised poster will be used in the newsletter.**
- 12. Comments on the draft work plan for inspector training should be submitted to Bill, Paul or David by the 10th of December. The work plan will then be finished and work will commence as soon as possible on Phase 1 of this project.**
- 13. Sam will contact people who are willing to help him put together a seminar on ANS so that he can get this material on the OSU science channel.**
- 14. Steve Wells will contact Fred Partridge and Idaho Power Biologist to see if they want to participate in substrate sampling program.**