Minutes

100\textsuperscript{th} Meridian Initiative - Columbia River Basin Team Meeting
November 9, 2011
Heathman Lodge
Vancouver, Washington

1. Introductions and Announcements: [See end of document for attendance list]

2. Comments and Approval of June Minutes: There were no comments on the June minutes and they were adopted. The minutes can be found at http://www.100thmeridian.org/Columbia_RBT.asp

Montana Rapid Response Exercise – E. Ryce (MTFWP), M. Herborg (BC)
• This exercise was the fifth Rapid Response Exercise undertaken for the Columbia River Basin Plan but the first to focus on including Canadian partners in all stages of the exercise. The exercise scenario included a confirmed finding of dreissenid larvae in Lake Koocanusa near Libby, MT. The exercise was conducted over a two-day period. The morning of October 4 consisted of introductions, an overview of the Incident Command System (ICS) Planning Process, and a review of the CRB Plan. Majority of time spent on operations (monitoring and containment). Attendees include CRB states, Province of British Columbia, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, US federal agencies. The after action report can be found at http://www.100thmeridian.org/ActionTeams/Columbia/2011%20Lake%20Koocanusa%20invasive%20mussel%20exercise%20report.pdf
• Montana has plans to do additional regional rapid response exercises in the future
• Canadian participants expressed their belief that their involvement in the exercise would be helpful as they pushed for stronger AIS-related regulations and more comprehensive prevention, monitoring, and education programs in Canada.

Montana Update – E. Ryce (MTFWP)
• Boat inspection – huge expansion, increased highway/border checks, 7000+ boats inspected (last year 3000 boats), 3 with mussels, several with vegetation and/or standing water
• Most boats with mussels from Midwest, not Lake Mead
• Boat sticker fee in talks, next legislative session not until 2013
• Addition/Correction submitted by E. Hanson, AIS Consultant (Sent by email 3/6/12) – In addition to MTFWP inspections reported by E. Ryce above -- MT Dept. of Agriculture also inspected 10,000 boats in 2011 and 5,000 boats in 2010.

BC Update – M. Herborg
• They are pushing the Clean, Drain, Dry message with legislative money from invasive plant fund
• Hoping to find AIS funding for additional regulation/prevention (wash stations)
**Rapid Response Plan for the CRB**
- P. Heimowitz reported that NOAA Fisheries had just signed onto the plan

**Nevada – Rye Patch, Lahotan, N. NV Quagga Task Force – K. Vargas, NDOW**
- Positive quagga veliger results for 2 Northern lakes (reservoirs)
  - Lahotan listed “positive”, Rye patch listed “suspect”
- Sticker fee starts January 2013 for boaters
- Hoping to set up boat wash stations to be set up, maybe Carson City, Reno
- Planning on going for Decontamination/Cleaning station: Wildhorse, Rye Patch, Lahotan
- Lake Mead National Park vs. NDOW authority an issue, have had initial discussions about setting up a decontamination station for Lake Mead (very initial stage)

**Lake Whatcom – Corbicula – T. Ward**
- 9/19/11 WDFW confirmed species in the interjurisdictional lake
- AIS plan developed, boater surveys done at boat ramp, incidence report
- 29 points surveyed along the lake
- Response options: benthic mats, draw down of Whatcom, physical removal
- Need to understand monitoring/managing protocols and bring in other groups/agencies
- S. Waste said that resources exist in the PNAMP group for monitoring support

**CRB Rapid Response Plan/Amendments Update - P. Heimowitz**
- September 19, 2011 amendments adopted by Plan signatories. Most edits to the Plan were editorial, but did include NOAA’s ESA consultation procedures
- Next amendment in process and will include new notification procedures and thresholds, updates to MAC Group procedures (informally adopted in 2010), etc

**Regulatory and Outreach Strategies for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Oregon -- J. Lam/S. Chan**
- Goal to create efficient boat inspection program in Oregon
- Boater survey to be sent out, findings will facilitate stakeholder workshops
- What changes to Oregon’s constitution would need to be made to allow this effectiveness?
- Deadline: June 30, 2012
- FINAL OBJECTIVE: Use findings to synthesize and facilitate workshops that engage policy decision makers, stakeholders (boating interests) and implementers leading to legislation/rules and for effective outreach/voluntary programs to minimize the risk AIS from boat and trailer movement.
- National Sea Grant Law center wanting to sponsor a workshop on the topic with attorney generals around the state

**Integrating Anthropogenic Introduction and Habitat Suitability to Predict Risk of Aquatic Invasions in the Pacific Northwest – S. Chan**
- 3 phases: AIS spatial risk, AIS damages to management strategies, model for evaluating AIS management strategies
- Gravity model used
Based on boat registration and survey data from each state in the Pacific Northwest, individual gravity models were estimated using a censored regression model, which accounts for the possibility of zero boat flow observations.

Results for Oregon suggest that higher boat flows into a region are a function of geographic proximity, the number of water bodies present, and the accessibility of those water bodies. Adjacency to the Pacific Ocean also predicted a larger boat flows to the region.

Similar results are observed in Washington and Idaho, except that Washington’s recreational boaters tended to travel to regions with less concentrated water bodies.

Predictions from the gravity model were normalized on total predicted flows of a given state to assess anthropogenic introduction risk of invasive species.

- Next steps will include - Estimating Aquatic Invasive Species Spatial Dispersal Risk, Estimating Damages of Aquatic Invasive Species & Management Costs, and a Model for Evaluating AIS Management Strategies (Minimize total cost + damages)

**Nonnative freshwater bryozoans – B. Orwick**

- Provided an overview of nonnative freshwater bryozoans in the region, including recent reports of the magnificent bryozoan Pectinatella magnifica.
- It's unclear whether this species is nonnative throughout the Northwest, whether it is having harmful impacts, and whether it might become more abundant with changing climatic conditions.

**Procedures for Conducting Underwater Searches for Invasive Mussels -- N. Adams**

- Needs assessment survey for training
- Hood River training held September 9\(^{th}\), (15 divers trained); 2012 – funding available for one more training
- USFWS YouTube video – Eye Wide Open: Watching Out for Aquatic Invaders [http://www.youtube.com/usfwsfp/c/00CA362652FF8AB3/0/AH3HVJBo1vg](http://www.youtube.com/usfwsfp/c/00CA362652FF8AB3/0/AH3HVJBo1vg)

**State Reports**

- Idaho - A. Ferriter
  - $850,000 budget/year, 7am-7pm, 7 days/wk
  - Decreased 20 \(\rightarrow\) 15 stations in 2011
  - 24 boats intercepted (14 commercially hauled)
  - Port of entry inspecting oversized load boats
  - Passport system worked very well
  - Changes for 2012: open earlier (Feb.), target commercially hauled boats, target marina managers/owners
  - Not getting calls from NPS Lake Mead about boats heading to Idaho

- Oregon – R. Boatner, G. Dolphin
  - 2010- 5 roaming teams (May-Sept)
2011 – 4 teams, intercepted 5 boats, passed HB 3399 (mandatory stops at boat inspection sites) passed in August
  - 29% compliance before HB3399, 38% in August, 57% after HB3399
2012 – move 4 roaming teams to Southern/Eastern Oregon, start May/April
Permit requirement compliance checks (increasing checking for 2012)
Sam Chan asked if any mudsnails had been found during checks; Rick said no in 2011 but yes (1) in 2010.
Rian Hooff reported that ORDEQ will be hiring a ballast water inspector in 2012, paid for with the new commercial shipping landing fee

Washington – E. Anderson
20 contaminated boats is 2011, majority passed through Idaho
20 inspection stations in 2010, 46 inspection stations 2011
An AIS survey of Banks Lake draw down resulted in no finding of dreissenids, but did find Corbicula and virulent crayfish
Northern Pike issue – Pend D’Oreille River – April will start monitoring
Paul mentioned Kalispel tribes are seeking funding to address the issue

Member briefings
Sam said that invasive tunicates on the Oregon coast are still found in just 2 spots
Robyn said that Sitka, AK tunicate eradication project has been complicated by storm damage to docks
Paul said there is talk about a future tunicate workshop
Jennifer talked about project to identify carwash facilities in Oregon for use in boat decons – they go in and out of business a lot.
Jim Capurso updated the group on USFS AIS Program [On 12/5 the U.S. Forest Service announced that the publication of its first ever national-level direction on the management of invasive species across aquatic and terrestrial areas of the National Forest System.] It is action orientated. Outreach will be an important component. Looking at expanding monitoring options (maybe partner with NW Forest Plan Activities - AREMP). Jim also said he would be following up with states on vector analysis
Sam talked about school pathways (aquarium releases). One issue is to try and use native species (i.e. crayfish) for classroom use; problem is being able to supply native organisms during the school year.
Robyn discussed progress on the Oregon Rapid Response Plan – it is in development, they are looking at how Incident command would work.
There was discussion on the WA AIS permit and the national NPDES pesticide permit, further discussion should take place on this at the next meeting (also information on NOAA biop, go to http://www.cbbulletin.com/413768.aspx for more information)
Paul discussed potential upcoming workshops on eDNA technologies – this is being used more and more for monitoring and it would be good to get everyone in the same room
Rian discussed upcoming EPA (Vessel General permit) and USCG national ballast water permitting issues
Robyn reported that PSU continues in its nutria research and monitoring projects (Trevor Sheffels, lead). Looks like nutria could be a giardia vector.
• Paul said more Asian carp cards will be coming soon.
• Robyn updated the group on the quagga growth experiment in Nevada (Brain Adair lead) with Columbia basin water. Results to date indicate more calcium = better growth, but there are outliers with Willamette river water where quaggas are gaining weight (and this in low calcium water)
• Stephen reported that at the WRP meeting they passed a recommendation for the ANS Task Force on the Lake Mead situation. It was decided that the CRB state/tribes would follow up on this and have a conference call to discuss what our region could do to address this issue.

Next meeting: week of March 5, 2012 in Boise, Idaho
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