

ANS

*Task
Force*

Dedicated to the prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species

AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE UPDATE



ANS Task Force Meetings

In response to concerns over COVID-19, the Spring meeting scheduled for May 5-7, 2020 was postponed and is

Next meeting currently scheduled as a virtual meeting on **December 8 –10, 2020**. The agenda will include:

- Updates from the DOI Invasive Species Task Force, National Invasive Species Council, as well as on recent efforts regarding Asian Carp management, Vessel Incidental Discharge National Standards of Performance, and development of an Early Detection Rapid Response Framework.
- Two State ANS Management Plans (Indiana and Colorado) will be submitted and considered for approval during the December meeting.
- The five standing subcommittees (prevention, early detection rapid response, control and restoration, research, and education and outreach) will report on the progress of the 2020 workplans and present their proposed work for 2021.



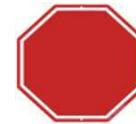
Coordination Goal



- Develop ANS Task Force bylaws that are consistent with FACA guidelines
- Prepare the next ANS Task Force Report to Congress
- Establish a process for ANS Task Force members to respond to recommendations brought forward by the regional panels
- Continue to provide technical assistance for State and Interstate ANS Management Plan development



Prevention Goal



- Work with Federal agencies to make importation data electronically available and searchable for species imported into the United States
- Enter into national prevention practices with responsible industry sectors that consider invasion risk.
 - Committee determined that an evaluation of the sea plane pathway is needed to better understand the risk associated with this pathway. Currently drafting NOFO
- Establish an ad-hoc Committee to evaluate and implement the roles and responsibilities of the ANSTF under the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act



EDRR Goal



Develop strategies to inform a nationally coordinated EDRR approach

- Assists USGS
 - Develop recommendations for minimal reporting standards for eDNA detections to be incorporated into the USGS NAS database
 - Develop a 3-year plan for capacity-building in NAS to meet stakeholder needs

Assist NISC:

- Develop a report describing where emergency response funds are currently in use

Conducted RR survey among states

- Develop a template and general guidance for using ICS for rapid response



Control and Restoration Goal



FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Assess state of each ANS Management and Control Plan, including current activity and management needs
- Draft guidance for ANS Management and Control Plan development
- Survey members and panels for gaps in control and restoration; inform the ANSTF of the gaps for consideration as a future research priority

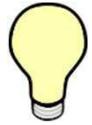


Research Goal



FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Develop an annual priority research list that shows both regional and national priorities.
- Survey members and regional panels for a list of research entities that have the ability to address ANS research needs
- Develop a model for ANSTF research grant program, including exploration of options for obtaining funds to administer the program



Education and Outreach Goal



FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Conduct an assessment of ANS national campaigns and ANSTF guidelines to evaluate progress of outreach goals and effectiveness in changing behavior
- Finish the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers portal to serve as a clearinghouse for campaign materials
- Develop templates for ANS Task Force messaging and briefings to ensure consistency
- Refresh the subcommittee charge document to use for recruitment

THANK YOU!

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For more information, visit the ANS Task Force website or [Subscribe to our Newsletter!](#)