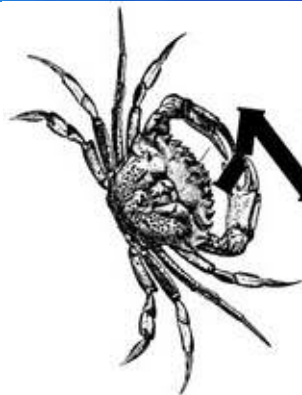


Spring Meeting
Grand Isle, VT

April 12-13, 2018



NEANS

**NORTHEAST AQUATIC
NUISANCE SPECIES PANEL**





Conference call and webinar access

Dear NEANS Panelists and ANS friends,

This document provides you with instructions, links, and credentials for conference call and webinar access.

The webinar is desktop sharing style so you will be able to see the presentations as they appear on the projection screen at the meeting. To hear the presenters and participate in discussions, you must dial into the conference line. *You may also dial-in if you do not wish to participate in the webinar.*

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Access includes the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel Steering Committee, Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel general session, and Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Council board of directors meetings.

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If you cannot travel to the meeting or participate remotely, I will be posting presentations (where presenter permissions are provided to me) at <http://www.northeastans.org/panel-members.html>, where your briefing book is posted. Please be sure to take a moment to visit the meeting forum at <https://www.northeastans.org/forum/april-2018-meeting-roundtable-updates/> and add your update in lieu of meeting summary transcription. Thank you.

Should you encounter any difficulties, please call me (not a text) at the number below or email me. I will endeavour to respond as I am able during the meeting.

Safe travels, keyboarding, and dialing.

—
Michele L. Tremblay
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**Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
meeting**

Lake Champlain Basin Program, Grand Isle, VT

April 12-13, 2018

DRAFT AGENDA

Thursday April 12, 2018 | Panel Steering Committee

11:00 AM Steering Committee

Agenda will be under separate cover to members

1:00 PM Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, review of meeting agenda, and updates by Co-chairs

Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and

Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program, NEANS Panel co-chairs

ANS updates and Panel business:

- Membership updates – Michele Tremblay
- December 2016 meeting and February and August call summaries acceptance – Sandra and Meg
- Schedule mid-term Panel conference call in August 2018 – Sandy, Meg, and Michele
- November 2018 meeting planning on New Hampshire seacoast or Maine – Sandy, Meg, and Michele
- Invasive Species Advisory Council and National Invasive Species Council – updates from members present
- Panel co-chair election – Sandy

1:30 PM Roundtable—*really* fast-paced updates from Panelists and Panel participants (updates may also be posted at

<https://www.northeastans.org/forum/april-2018-meeting-roundtable-updates/>

Moderated by Sandy Keppner and Meg Modley

3:00 PM Budget and grant update

Catherine McGlynn

3:30 PM Work Group meetings

6:30 PM Meet for group supper(s)

Friday, April 13, 2018 | Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel

9:00 AM Welcome, agenda objectives overview, and announcements

Sandra Keppner and Meg Modley

9:15 AM Work Group reports

10:15 AM Highlights from Vermont

*Josh Mulhollem, VT Department of Environmental Conservation,
discussion lead*

11:00 AM Boat and trailer inspection and decontamination programs

Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

**11:30 AM Do the 25 Asian Clam-Infested Lakes and Rivers in Massachusetts
from 2001 to 2016 Show any Sign of Climate Change in the Region?**

David Wong, MA Department of Environmental Protection

12:00 PM Recess for lunch (food will be brought in as ordered by participants)

**12:00 PM Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Council Board of Directors
meeting**

Agenda will be under separate cover to officers and directors

1:15 PM Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) update

Kevin Cute, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council

1:30 PM Updating the NEANS Panel laws, rules, and policies matrix

*Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services, discussion
lead*

**2:30PM Catching the “Unicorn:” Using Public, Private and Non-Profit
Partnerships to Help Tackle AIS**

*Ed Rudberg, CD³, General Benefit Corporation
Pat Conzemius, Wildlife Forever*

3:15 PM Review decision and action items

3:25 PM Public comment period

3:30 PM Adjourn



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Meeting Summary Draft • November 30-December 1, 2016
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station • New Haven, CT

Panelists present in Providence and via conference call/webinar: Beth Bisson, Maine Sea Grant (cc/w); Ann Bove, VT Department of Environmental Conservation (cc/w); Greg Bugbee, CT Department of Environmental Services, CT Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES); Kevin Cute; RI Coastal Resources Management Council; Scott Decker, NH Fish and Game Department; Pam Fuller, US Geological Survey; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency Region I; Bill Harman, NY State Federation of Lake Associations; Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service (cc/w); Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; Josh Mulhollem, VT Department of Environmental Conservation; Susan Pasko, Executive Secretary, federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force; Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant; Read Porter, RI Sea Grant Legal Program; Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services; Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation; Mike Vissichelli, US Army Corps of Engineers; and David Wong, MA Department of Environmental Protection.

Others participating via conference call/webinar: Cynthia Boettner, Silvio O. Conte Fish and Wildlife Refuge, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Vanessa Curran, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation; Jennifer Fanzutti, CT Department of Environmental Services CAES; Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Josh Klavens, Lake Champlain Basin Program; and Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications, contractor to the Panel.

Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, review of meeting agenda, and updates by Co-Chairs – Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency Region I and Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the agenda for the NEANS Panel meeting. Michele Tremblay provided additional logistics and thanks for their gracious hosting, which has made this meeting possible. Greg Bugbee, CT Department of Environmental Services, Agricultural Experiment Station, welcomed the Panelists and other participants and provided background information on the Station.

ANS updates and Panel business:

- The Panelists and guests introduced themselves and their organizations.
- Since the last meeting, membership has been confirmed for Read Porter, RI Sea Grant Legal Program; Renée Bernier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Alyson Eberhardt, University of New Hampshire Sea Grant; and Mike Vissichelli, US Army Corps of Engineers, North Atlantic Division.
- Accept May 2016 and August 2016 meeting summaries. Bill Harman requested an update that the acceptance by some of starry stonewort it unfortunate. Meg moved to accept the summaries. Josh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Decision: The May 2016 and August 2016 meeting summaries were accepted.

- There are several weeks available in February to schedule the next NEANS Panel mid-term conference call, taking into account school vacation week and holidays.
Action: Tremblay will poll Panelists for the Tuesdays through Thursdays during the weeks of February 6, 13, and 27, 2017.
- The Panel discussed scheduling its spring 2017 meeting in conjunction with the Mid-Atlantic in Long Island or southern New York. The Panel is in rotation to host the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force in the spring of 2018. The Mid-Atlantic Panel suggested the middle of the month.
Action: Michele will poll Panelists for time in May 2017 for the spring Panel meeting, secure a facility and distribute a save the date message to Panel@NortheastANS.org.
- Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force fall 2016 meeting – Susan Pasko provided an overview of the May 2016 agenda and outcomes. To view the agenda and meeting summary, including decision and action items, please visit <http://www.ANSTaskForce.gov>.
Action: Michele will provide to NEANS Panelists links to the last two Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting agendas so that they can gauge what issues have been priorities and how they translated into action.
Action: Michele will provide examples of other regional panels' recommendations to the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and the NEANS Panel format.
- Invasive Species Advisory Council and National Invasive Species Council – The NISC is meeting December 6-8, 2016, following their innovation summit.
- NEANS Panel fiscal year 2017 budget – Meg provided an overview of the proposed budget, which was approved by the Steering Committee during the morning.
- Election of co-chair – Alicia solicited nominations from the floor. Amy Smagula nominated Meg Modley, who serves currently treasurer for the Panel. There were no further nominations. Meg was elected as co-chair. John McPhedran presented to Alicia a framed certificate to recognize her for her two years of service as co-chair. This meeting marks the Panel's fifteenth anniversary. The Panel celebrated with a cake with its logo in frosting and Alicia Grimaldi, co-chair, making the first cut.

Roundtable

At its May 2016 meeting, the Panel decided not to transcribe roundtable updates.

Panelists will provide their updates on the Panel Forum at

<http://www.northeastans.org/forum/november-2016-meeting-roundtable-updates/>.

Action: Panelists will provide their roundtable updates via the Panel's forum at <http://www.northeastans.org/forum/november-2016-meeting-roundtable-updates/>.

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel recommendations to the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force

Alicia reminded the Panel that it will vote on its recommendations for the May 2017 federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force during the February 2017 conference call. Susan Pasko provided examples of the other regional panels' recommendations from the November 2016 meeting. Some panels felt frustrated that their recommendations might not be implemented due to lack of agencies' priorities or funding. There may be fruit in recommendations that can be implemented by the Task Force's committees, which are being reorganized. Many expressed that the NEANS

Panel should continue to submit recommendation to restore and increase funding. The Panel would like to be kept better informed of funding and other issues affecting regional panels. A recommendation about biofouling research may be relevant, especially working with the other regional panels that have these coastal issues. The regional panels met in November and discussed pathways and possible solutions. More data species transfer reporting and access to those data is needed. Michele suggested that the Panelists review the last two Task Force agendas and see what discussion items might dovetail with the NEANS Panel's priorities. She thought that the recommendations that have become the most actionable are those that are related to presentations at the Task Force meetings and have a committee (or a committee can be formed) to implement it. Pathways and barriers are important and the NEANS Panel's recommendation resulted in action. There are more data needed to gauge the effects of climate change on invasive species in the northeast region. There was discussion about a ballast water standards recommendation.

Action: Michele will provide examples of other regional panels' recommendations to the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and the NEANS Panel format.

Action: Michele will provide to NEANS Panelists links to the last two Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting agendas so that they can gauge what issues have been priorities and how they translated into action.

Developing, packaging, and distributing messages for public service announcements to target audiences: next steps

Amy Smagula provided an overview on the work conducted during the May 2016 meeting. The question is if the NEANS Panel should and can create messages and produce public service announcements (PSAs), e.g., mobile telephone border crossing texts, radio stations for parks and other state service areas, television, for the region. Amy and Michele are members of a legislative committee on invasive species in New Hampshire that wants to produce PSAs. Michele indicated that projects are fundable and there may be grants and partners that would invest in PSAs or other project. It would be ideal to focus on the northeast freshwater and marine environments. For Massachusetts, approval is required for every piece of outreach collateral. Jim said that he would need to have a package in hand to present and request approval. There is a value in a generic message and a regional message and brand may have power. Is that more powerful than individual state's messages? The western states unified with their zebra and Quagga mussel messaging and have received significant funding. Mike suggested that the Panel and the Task Force might engage with the Ad Council.

Spotlight on Species: National Database and Mapping Tool

Pam Fuller, United States Geological Survey, provided an overview and demonstration of the database and mapping tool features and functions. One of the newest features is the ability to save a map with a unique URL. If new data are received, the map at the unique URL will automatically update. The tool can be accessed at

<https://nas.er.usgs.gov/viewer>.

<http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201611/>.

Work Group reports

Spread Prevention

Meg reported that the group met to discuss projects and strategies. Many states and provinces have varying degrees of host programs. The work group would like to develop a list of the each state's and province's technologies. Combine or utilize the

steward data that are collected across the states and provinces. Electronic data would be required. Five or six parameters for data collection would be necessary to prioritize limited spread prevention resources. The Climate Change and spread Prevention Work Groups' efforts could be combined, to some degree, by soliciting stewardship program data and analyzing them for range expansion. The marine vectors are challenging.

Action: Meg will provide a summary of the Spread Prevention Work Group meeting and next steps.

Climate Change

Judy reported that the group has not met. Judy solicited responses but have not received them. She will re-send the email asking for responses on range expansions.

Action: Michele and Judy will forward to the Panel listserve information on a climate change listserve to which they can subscribe.

Action: Judy will re-send the email and spreadsheet asking for responses on range expansions.

Non-invasive Techniques for Invasive Species Prevention and Control

David Wong, MA Department of Environmental Protection, began his presentation with a focus on physical/mechanical, chemical, biological techniques.

Action: David will provide a PDF of his presentation and the movie file for Michele to post the Panel's meeting page.

[http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201611/.](http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201611/)

Highlights from Connecticut

Greg Bugbee provided an overview on activities relating to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's invasive species activities.

[http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201611/.](http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201611/)

Public comment period

Cynthia Boettner mentioned that she has been in contact with a biocontrol researcher who thinks that there is new promise with purple loosestrife control.

Bill Harman reported that he was involved with a new control case study and would keep the Panel posted with further details.

Michele recognized Greg Bugbee, Sandy Carney, and Vicki Marie Bomba Lewandowski for their gracious hosting and making possible the Panel's fall meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications

Review and agreement on decision and action items

Decisions

- The May 2016 and August 2016 meeting summaries were accepted.

Actions

- Michele will poll Panelists for the Tuesdays through Thursdays during the weeks of February 6, 13, and 27, 2017.
- Michele will poll Panelists for time in May 2017 for the spring Panel meeting, secure a facility and distribute a save the date message to Panel@NortheastANS.org.
- Michele will provide to NEANS Panelists links to the last two Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting agendas so that they can gauge what issues have been priorities and how they translated into action.
- Michele will provide examples of other regional panels' recommendations to the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and the NEANS Panel format.
- Panelists will provide their roundtable updates via the Panel's forum at <http://NortheastANS.org/forum>.
- Michele will provide examples of other regional panels' recommendations to the federal Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and the NEANS Panel format.
- Michele will provide to NEANS Panelists links to the last two Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting agendas so that they can gauge what issues have been priorities and how they translated into action.
- Meg will provide a summary of the Spread Prevention Work Group meeting and next steps.
- Michele and Judy will forward to the Panel listserv information on a climate change listserv to which they can subscribe.
- Judy will re-send the email and spreadsheet asking for responses on range expansions.
- David will provide a PDF of his presentation and the movie file for Michele to post the Panel's meeting page.



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Conference Call Summary Draft • February 28, 2017

Panelists participating in conference call: Renée Bernier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Ann Bove, VT Department of Environmental Conservation; Greg Bugbee, CT Agricultural Experiment Station; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Administration; Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Invasive Species Coordination Unit; Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant; John Phedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; Josh Mulholland, VT Department of Environmental Protection; Ian Pflingsten, US Geological Survey; Read Porter, Marine Affairs Institute, Roger Williams University; Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services; and Mike Vissichelli, US Army Corps of Engineers.

Others participating in conference call: Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Emily Reynolds, NY Natural Heritage Program; and Michele L. Tremblay, NEANS Panel contractor (naturesource communications).

Welcome and roll call – Sandy Keppner and Meg Modley welcomed everyone to the conference call, confirmed the quorum, and outlined the agenda.

Review Fall meeting decision and action items

The Panel reviewed its decisions and actions and discussed the importance of its work in regional coordination. The coordination role supports disseminating information and promoting cooperation, coordination, and collaboration. Michele indicated that her business, naturesource communications purchased at her expense new software expense to support embedded film files in future presentations. The Panelists agreed that they would contribute to the meeting roundtable forum with their organization update in lieu of them being transcribed in the meeting records. The forum is publicly available and linked prominently at [NortheastANS.org](http://www.northeastans.org). Meeting presentations can be viewed at <http://www.northeastans.org/panel-members.html>.

Decision: The Panel accepted the meeting and action items.

Action: Panelists will continue to post their updates on the NEANS Panel forum.

The May meeting link is <http://www.northeastans.org/forum/may-2016-meeting-roundtable-updates>.

Nomination for Dr. Carmela Cuomo as new Panelists for Academic in Connecticut

Nancy Murray recommended Dr. Cuomo as a Panelist representing academia in Connecticut. Meg moved to invite Dr. Cuomo. John seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Decision item: The Panel invites Dr. Carmela Cuomo to the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel.

Action item: Michele will extend the Panel's invitation to Dr. Carmela Cuomo to the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel and notify the ANSTF Executive Secretary.

Recommendations for Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force May 2017 meeting

No draft recommendations have been received. Michele provided the last recommendation to the Task Force that the NEANS Panel approved. Michele updated the Panel request relative to state management plan funding. The funding outlook has not been promising for many federal natural resource agencies. Meg said that the current language was adequate for re-submittal with the addition of language that the Panel is not seeking to move funds from state management plans to the regional panel's allocation. John moved to recommend the draft recommendation to the ANS Task Force. Cathy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Decision item: The Panel will recommend to the ANS Task Force that funding be at least restored to \$50,000 and will include language that SMP funds should not be moved to regional panels.

Action item: Meg and Michele will work on language that makes is clear that no regional panel funding would be recommended at the expense of state management plan funds.

Spring meeting planning with Mid-Atlantic Panel

The Panel discussed locations including the lower Hudson Valley and Long Island. At this time, the Panel will not be inviting EarthTec to present at the meeting.

Michele provided an overview on the origin of the items on the spring meeting agenda placeholder document. Panelists were in consensus that the suggested agenda item for water hyacinth and giant salvinia do not currently have sufficient research or data that would support a Spotlight on Species feature. Mitten crab, Hydrilla, and other species moving north from New Jersey would be a good topic for the lower Hudson Valley venue. There are new outreach and other materials to present. An agenda item for Mid-Atlantic marine and freshwater species is important. Judy can present the status on marine invasive species in the Northeast. A discussion on what species could be added to the NEANS Panel's online guide, based on the Mid-Atlantic Panel's experience, which may be a fundable through grants. The Mid-Atlantic Panel would like to share information on bloodworm bait and boat and trailer inspection programs. There is also field tour potential given the lateness of the season and possible venues.

Decision item: The NEANS Panel would like to spend most of the two days with the Mid-Atlantic Panel.

Action item: Michele will determine what work groups the Mid-Atlantic Panel has and how they may wish to work with the NEANS Panel's work groups.

Fall meeting planning as possible partnership with Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society in January 2018 in New Castle, NH

Amy provided an overview of the Society's annual event structure. It meets beginning the second Tuesday afternoon through noon on Thursday each January. Meg suggested that the NEANS Panel could meet on Monday afternoon or it could meet on Tuesday morning before the afternoon workshops. Participants can register by-the-day for Society events. The Panel could meet on Monday morning or afternoon. Some Panelists have expressed concerns about travelling on weekends or the inability to do so or cannot be paid for their time and expenses or covered for liability. Amy said that

meeting space may be at no charge. Refreshments would need to be purchased through the Wentworth-by-the-Sea resort in New Castle. Those on the call raised questions including, would the Panel's meeting be abbreviated to accommodate this event and what agenda items or business would be removed from the Panel agenda and will a lot of Panelists participate, such as the marine Panelists? The NEANS Panel meeting could focus on marine issues to assure balance. Michele reported that she can secure gratis space at no charge at other venues and be able to bring in food at a low cost. Judy feels that one of the values of the Panel is for freshwater and marine interests to be together.

Decision item: The Panel decided to meet Morning morning, January 8 through Tuesday at noon.

Action item: Michele will research costs on meeting venues and provide findings and recommendations to the Panel co-chairs.

Other business

Judy is part of an effort to organize a rapid assessment survey for 2017. She is requesting \$5,000 to support the effort by paying for room and board for the surveyors. Judy said that the National Estuarine Program offices have supported the effort but may not be able to in the future. She proposed that a check in that amount would be written to the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Office. Meg said that she would support the effort with a detailed proposal including costs and deliverables.

Action item: Judy Pederson will obtain a budget and submit a detailed proposal.

There was no other business. The meeting adjourned.

The meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications



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Conference Call Summary Draft • August 1, 2017

Panelists participating in conference call: Renée Bernier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Beth Bisson, Maine Sea Grant; Greg Bugbee, CT Agricultural Experiment Station; Vanessa Curran for Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation; Kevin Cute, RI Coastal Resources Management Council; Scott Decker, NH Fish and Game Department; Ann Marie Dilorenzo for Mike Vissichelli, US Army Corps of Engineers; Alyson Eberhardt, UNH Sea Grant; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Administration; Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program; Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Invasive Species Coordination Unit; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; Josh Mulholland, VT Department of Environmental Protection; Susan Pasko, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Ian Pflingsten, US Geological Survey; Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services; and David Wong, MA Department of Environmental Protection.

Others participating in conference call: Ivy Frignoca, Friends of Casco Bay; Cristina Kennedy, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management Program; Carrie Brown Lima, Cornell University NY Invasive Species Research Institute; and Michele L. Tremblay, NEANS Panel contractor (naturesource communications).

Welcome and roll call – Sandy Keppner was not able to co-chair the conference call due to the FACA groups “strategic pause.” Meg Modley welcomed everyone to the conference call, confirmed the quorum, and outlined the agenda. Kevin moved to approve the consent agenda. David seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved.

Recommendations for Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force November 15-16 2017 meeting

No draft recommendations have been received. Michele provided the last recommendation to the Task Force that the NEANS Panel approved. Meg recommended that the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel should draft and submit a recommendation about the “strategic pause” making it difficult or impossible for regional panels to conduct their business, that it is disruptive, and expend funds as part of the existing recommendation to restore and increase panel funding. Kevin moved to approve the recommendation. Catherine secured the motion. The motion carried.

Decision item: *The Panel will recommend to the ANS Task Force that funding be at least restored to \$50,000 and will include language that state management plan funds should not be moved to regional panels.*

Action item: *Michele will draft and submit the letter to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.*

“Fall” meeting planning: January 8-9, 2018

Amy indicated that the WENTWORTH by-the-Sea is nearly at capacity so it would not be a good idea to add to the overnight room block for the Panelists if they were to meet there or want to stay there. Amy would not want to impact her own group with shortened rooms. Amy had made the recommendation and said that she could get a free room at the Wentworth. There would be food and telephone costs with other charges plus tax and service fees at the Wentworth.

Michel reported that in her research of meeting venue alternatives, she was able to place a temporary reservation on the large room at the NH Department of Environmental Services coastal offices at the Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth. There are several hotels nearby including an extended stay suites property.

Michele provided an overview of what May 2017 draft agenda items could be moved forward and what items might be saved for a rescheduled joint meeting with the Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species.

Kevin suggested that recent work on eelgrass dive surveys would be interesting. The research results should be available in September 2017.

Kevin suggested a presentation and discussion on the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, which is in a state of flux and will follow the process closely.

Decision item: The January Panel meeting will be convened at the NH Department of Environmental Services coastal offices.

Action item: Michele will work on venue reservations, food, hotel, and other logistics for the Panel’s January meeting.

Action item: Carrie Brown Lima will identify a presenter for marine range expansion and effects of temperature change.

Work Group updates

Meg reported that there will be a meeting of the Climate Change Work Group, which Judy Pederson leads. Carrie said that when she spoke with Judy, there did not seem to be sufficient interest to keep the work group active. Meg felt that it was not a lack of interest but that the majority of Panelists are not researchers. David said that there are not as many marine Panelists as there are freshwater Panelists. Cristina said that climate change effects are important to their marine monitoring programs. Beth feels that the ebb and flow of species population is not well understood. Research is needed for market and other species. She suggested identifying a presenter from Northeast University.

Meg reported that there has not been any recent activity with the Spread Prevention Work Group. She will draft an agenda for the January meeting. David reported that there are efforts to inventory their freshwater species with each having its own map. This would facilitate what spread prevention protocols would be needed for movement between waterbodies.

Action item: Meg will draft an agenda for the Spread Prevention Work Group’s meeting in January 2018.

Other business

Susan Pasko offered to answer questions about the “strategic pause,” which is slated to end on September 1, 2017. The Western Regional Panel is planning to meet in mid-September. The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force is planning to meet in November 2017. The agenda will focus on the five-year strategic plan. There will be several break-out groups to facilitate planning discussions.

Jim Straub submitted via writing prior to this meeting that this is the year of the Water Chestnut. Algae blooms and that both are numerous in Massachusetts. He will be conducting a Hydrilla survey of the Connecticut River. Iris reported that Friends of Casco Bay have seen numerous increased blooms of algal mats in clam beds. Kevin and Cristina said that algal blooms have been reported in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

The meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, natresource communications

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Council
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Work Sheet
 10.1.17 - 9.30.18

Revenue	2017 Budget	2017 Actual		Actual+ Encumbered	Balance	2018 Budget		Notes
		through 7.24.17	Encumbered			Proposal		
New funding not yet disbursed	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00		FY18 submitted but in hand
Previous year funding in hand+	44,137.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,137.59	49,315.73		FY17 cash-in-hand, less encumbrance
Survey fee dollar bill in hand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Checking account interest in hand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Meeting revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Totals	\$84,137.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84,137.59	\$89,315.73		Total Available
Expense								
ANS Program Manager fee*	32,593.24	24,444.98	8,148.30	\$32,593.28	(\$0.04)	33,571.04		increase
ANS Program Manager travel**	2,100.00	4,732.80	0.00	4,732.80	(2,632.80)	2,500.00		increase
Reimbursement for watch cards shipping	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Panel meetings (January and May)	1,000.00	110.91	0.00	110.91	889.09	1,000.00		
Framing	0.00	17.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00		increase
QuickBooks Pro check printing	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Co-chair/PM ANSTF meeting travel	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00		
Conference calls***	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
State of NH nonprofit report/name fee	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00		no fee 2018
State of NH annual report filing fee	75.00	75.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	75.00		
Check stop payment fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Federal / state filings CPA fee	500.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	100.00	500.00		
Web hosting / domain registration	200.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	(200.00)	162.00		domain registered for 12 years
Web repair	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00		
Rapid Response balance from 2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,401.00		\$10,000 original but only used \$1,599
Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00		for web project
ANS funds^	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00		\$20,000 treasurer proposed contingency
Totals	\$39,268.24	\$29,831.18	\$8,148.30	\$38,311.99	\$956.25	72,234.04		
Under (over) available funds	\$44,869.35	(\$29,831.18)	(\$8,148.30)	(\$38,311.99)	\$83,181.34	\$17,081.69		

Notes

- ±Checking account interest is estimated at less than 1% APR
- *Encumbered amount includes three months of contract payments
- **Travel includes Panel and ANSTF meetings
- ***PM supplies conference call service at no charge to Panel
- ^Temporarily reserved for cash flow between USFWS grant funds receipt

**Proposal for NEANS Panel Rapid Response Financial Assistance Program
Submitted by Denise Blanchette, Maine Department of Environmental Protection
February 28, 2018**

Organization Name:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Contact Name(s) and Information, include address, telephone, email:

Denise Blanchette

Maine DEP

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Project Name:

Long Lake (Naples, Maine) variable-leaved water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) Rapid Response

Eligibility for Rapid Response Funding:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection is a NEANS Panel member state. This project will provide dive time to respond to this incipient infestation with manual plant removal techniques.

Request Amount: \$12,400

Project summary narrative:

In August 2017, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and regional organization Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) identified variable-leaved water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) growing in Long Lake, Naples. Long Lake had previously been thought to be free from any invasive aquatic plant. Growth of the plant was confined to one portion of the lake (Mast Cove in Naples) in proximity to a campground marina/boat launching site.

Long lake is considered one of Maine's premier recreational lakes and is in the towns of Bridgton, Harrison and Naples. Like many lake regions in Maine, the tax base and tourist economy of these towns is dependent on the lake. Variable-leaved water-milfoil has the potential to occupy large areas of Long Lake because the water body is relatively shallow with many coves. There are multiple points of access. Spread of this infestation throughout Long lake will greatly increase the spread risk to nearby un-infested waterbodies.

Initial response by DEP and LEA in August 2017 included urging the campground owner to inspect boats leaving the site (to which they agreed), mobilizing divers to use Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting and benthic barriers to knock-back the growth, and meeting with town officials to discuss additional surveying and management plans.

Significant progress on decreasing the density of growth was accomplished in 2017 but plants remain that need to be managed in 2018. Expected regrowth from remnant root crowns will also need to be controlled in 2018.

Also in 2017, two-thirds of this 5300-acre lake was surveyed by volunteer Invasive Plant Patrollers (IPPs). A solitary variable-leaved water-milfoil plant was found in another area of the lake and was promptly removed. No additional outlying populations were found in 2017. Invasive Plant Patrollers will complete the lake survey in 2018. Boat inspections will occur at all public access points in 2018 and owners of private access will be alerted to the threat and urged to inspect boats entering and leaving those sites.

Response to this infestation is consistent with Maine's *Rapid Response Plan For Invasive Aquatic Plants, Fish, and Other Fauna; PART 1: PLANT PROTOCOL* (http://www.maine.gov/dep/water/invasives/rrp_part1final.pdf).

Tasks	Completion date
1. Benthic barrier retrieval (from 2017 deployment)	May 21-25, 2018
2. Benthic barrier deployment on patches	May 28-June 1, 2018
3. DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) on plants beyond barriers and in areas mixed with natives	June 11-15, 18-22, 2018
4. Survey and hand pulling of scattered plants found	August 20-24, 2018
5. DASH of new patches identified by survey crew	August 27-31, 2018

Deliverables	Completion date
1. Cleared (of variable-leaved water-milfoil) boat slips and channels in Mast Cove, Long Lake, Naples, Maine	September 2018
2. Summary report and presentation at NEANS Panel meeting	Fall 2018

Detailed Budget and Justification

Expenditure	Cost
1. Dive time by LEA under contract with DEP	\$12,400
Total	\$12,400

The requested amount will be matched with \$5,946 in local funding to cover total anticipated cost of \$18,346 for the Long Lake Rapid Response in 2018.

PROPOSED 2017 NEW ENGLAND RAPID ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Purpose

With an extremely successful foundation established through five previous New England Rapid Assessment Surveys, the 2017 survey is a unique opportunity to meaningfully advance scientific understanding of regional trends by bringing together an established and highly experienced team of taxonomic experts. Because these experts volunteer their time for the survey, this is an extremely cost-effective approach to collecting the highest quality data. To capitalize on this opportunity, the proposed 2017 survey will: (1) Conduct Rapid Assessment Surveys for native and non-native marine organisms on structures such as floating docks, pilings, and buoys, (2) discern trends of non-native species distribution and composition through time, (3) record and report sightings of new marine invasive species, and (4) inform management efforts with the resulting data additions to this important, long-term data set.

Background

The introduction of non-native species into the marine environment can lead to harmful economic and ecological impacts. To proactively address these impacts, coastal managers need high quality, long-term data on existing and emerging invasive species in the region. Long-term data is particularly valuable to answer questions on the spread of these species and the potential for increased risks due to pressures from the addition of artificial structures, increased shipping traffic, and climate change.

The Rapid Assessment Survey provides an opportunity to discover new marine invaders through a close inspection of flora and fauna by an expert taxonomic team. Previous Rapid Assessment Surveys have been conducted in the Northeast in 2000, 2003, 2007, 2010, and 2013 through the collaboration of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), the MIT Sea Grant College Program, and the National Estuary Programs of the Northeast. During these surveys, newly detected non-native species such as the invasive tunicate *Didemnum vexillum*, the isopod *Synidotea laevidorsalis*, the European Rock Shrimp, *Palaemon elegans*, and amphipod *Meilia palmata* have been identified. Other non-native species such as the red algae, *Grateloupia turuturu*, have been recorded spreading northward from warmer waters into the colder waters of the Gulf of Maine and south from Nova Scotia to Massachusetts such as the sac algae *Colpomenia peregrina*. In addition, the survey has led to the reclassification of species formerly assumed to be native. For example, several species of marine algae, formally thought to be native to our region, were correctly reclassified as non-native based on information gathered by the Rapid Assessment Survey.

Approach

The approach is to bring together experts in major taxonomic groups to identify native and non-native species on floating docks in locations from Rhode Island to Maine. The taxonomists are familiar with both native and non-native species making the database valuable for tracking historic trends and useful for identifying new species not previously reported. Sampling occurs for a defined time period (1 hour), with field identifications noted on site and verified from collections placed on ice and returned to a laboratory for species identification. Voucher specimens are placed with the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology as appropriate.

We anticipate that the sites will be located throughout coastal New England, with the final number to be determined by the available funding levels. Generally, three to four sites a day can be surveyed. The survey approach would be similar to the methodology implemented in past years allowing comparisons with previously collected data. Environmental data along with species data will be collected at each

location. The data will then be compiled and described in a summary report when all identification work has been completed and verified.

Schedule

The team of experts will arrive and assemble on July 22, 2017 and travel to various sites through July 30, 2017. Transportation will be provided to the starting point where the team will meet for introductions, and a review of the sampling schedule and procedures. Sampling will take place daily from Sunday to Friday, with the next Saturday as an additional day in the laboratory. Field sampling will roughly take place between 8 AM and approximately 4PM, followed by laboratory identification work until 9PM. Final site selection is being developed, but the team will likely be based in New Hampshire for four evenings and in Rhode Island for four evenings as we work to survey sites in the New England region. On Sunday, the team will be debriefed, the need for any follow up identification work or other analyses will be planned, and the participants will be provided with transportation to their point of origin (or airport).

Scientific and Support Team

All team members are chosen based on their experience with introduced marine species. The team will include taxonomists with expertise in particular groups of organisms, as well as individuals with expertise in species assemblages in non-local marine systems. Graduate students from local marine graduate programs and state agency staff will provide logistical and organizational support and will assist with specimen collection and data collection. The survey is designed to offer opportunities for graduate students to learn from experts while working beside them and we are thrilled to have contributed to the careers of many students in this way. All members of the team will donate their time.

Qualifications

The level of expertise provided by the team members is exceptional. This type of scientific venture is unique in its ability to provide taxonomic expertise for an intensive marine sampling program at low cost. The public/university partnership provides rising students with an unparalleled learning experience and provides state agency staff and managers with unique access to a scientific survey. A draft list of primary team members is below. The participation of some students and agency staff will vary over the course of the week as the team moves from Rhode Island to Maine, but the core scientific team will participate in the entire week-long survey.

Scientific team will include:

Dr. James Carlton, Williams College (Emeritus), barnacles, mollusks, general invertebrates

Dr. Andrew David, Clarkson University, polychaete worms

Dr. Arthur Mathieson, University of New Hampshire, marine algae

Dr. Lindsay Greene, University of Rhode Island, marine algae

Dr. Clinton Dawes, University of South Florida, marine algae

Dr. Larry Harris, University of New Hampshire, marine invertebrates

Dr. Sara Grady, North and South Rivers Watershed Association, all marine species

Dr. Antonio Marques, University of Sao Paulo, hydroids

Dr. Niels Hobbs, University of Rhode Island, crustaceans

Dr. Adrian Gittenberger, University of Leiden, Netherlands, all marine species, also underwater photography and documentation

Dr. Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant (Emeritus), all marine species

Dr. Jennifer Dijkstra, University of New Hampshire, all marine species

Dr. Walter Lambert, Framingham State College, all marine species

Dr. Gretchen Lambert, University of Washington, ascidians

Dr. Lauren Stefaniak, Georgia Southern University, ascidians

Megan McCuller, MS, Southern Maine Community College, bryozoans

Dr. Dave Elvin, retired, Vermont, sponges (pending final budget)

Data Collection and Management

All participants will be provided with workbooks to record data during the site sampling and during laboratory work. Graduate students and the support team will work with the taxonomic experts to enter species information into a spreadsheet on a laptop each evening. Voucher specimens will be preserved in ethanol and archived at Harvard University as appropriate. Scientists may preserve some samples for further identification work if additional time is needed. Specimens will be properly disposed of at laboratory work sites at the end of each evening's work. In addition to specimen identification, water quality parameters (dissolved oxygen, salinity, and temperature) will be collected at each location. Diver-collected information to survey and photograph marine organisms underneath floating docks, otherwise inaccessible, will be compiled for each location. Data will be managed by CZM staff who will compile the final identification information, environmental data, and site information into the final report.

Budget/Cost

Past Rapid Assessment Surveys were carried out with the support from many partners, multiple funding sources, and the contributions of a number of taxonomists and students. While the taxonomic team will volunteer their time and expertise, approximately **\$51,525** is needed to cover transportation, lodging, and meals for the 9-day long survey. CZM will provide funding of van rentals to support local travel, all staff time for logistical coordination of the survey, data collection, data analysis, and report production. To date, we have received tentative commitments from several partners, pending final committee approval, but require additional funds. We are seeking commitments of \$7,500-10,000 from each partner to support Rapid Assessment Survey activities in their region.

2017 Rapid Assessment Survey Estimated Budget

Estimated Expenses	
Accommodation 8 nights x 20 rooms x \$150/night	\$24,000
Meals (25 people) \$725 x 9 days	\$6,525

Vehicle Rental (2 15-passenger vans X 9 days)	\$3,000
Gas and tolls	\$2,500
Costs for taxonomist travel to/from survey	\$7,500
Miscellaneous equipment and supply expenses (ice, plastic bags, preservative, vials)	\$2,000
Summer Intern	\$3,000
Estimated Total	\$42,000

Fiscal Management

CZM will assume overall responsibility for project management and deliverables. Salem Sound Coastwatch will serve as our local partner to manage collection and reimbursements of funds. As a fiscal agent, SSCW will be provided with a small fee to be negotiated, proportional to the total funds collected (10%) to cover administrative and staff time costs of managing expenses for the survey.

Deliverables

Deliverables will include a data set of native and non-native species recorded at each site, salinity, temperature and photographs, and a final report that will summarize the findings of the 2017 survey. The report will be available electronically. Findings may also be disseminated at public meetings and through the published literature as applicable. Previous years reports can be found here:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/czm/invasives/ras-2010-final.pdf>

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/czm/invasives/ras-2013-final.pdf>

Expected deliverables and completion dates:

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Environmental data collected	August 31, 2017
Preliminary findings annotated	December, 2017
Species identifications completed	February, 2018
Summary report completed	September, 2018

Implications

The value of the Rapid Assessment Surveys only increases with time and number of surveys. Building on our previous dataset, we can begin to examine trends, impacts, and management implications more closely. For instance, some species are closely associated with artificial structures, are we finding these species spreading to adjacent areas? Has the community residing on artificial structures and native substrate shifted from native to non-native species? Given long-term data sets on temperature and salinity, can we document movement of species based on climate shifts? These data will be of use to coastal managers who are committed to sustainable, healthy ecosystems, particularly predictions on the potential for climate change to alter communities.

Contact

For more information about the Rapid Assessment Survey, please contact:

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NEANS Panel • April 2017 meeting participants

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