



Spring Meeting

Video call

May 10 and 12, 2022



NEANS

NORTHEAST AQUATIC
NUISANCE SPECIES PANEL



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**Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel
meeting**

May 10 and 12, 2022

Video conference

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 (all times are ET)

**9:00 AM Welcome, introductions, and roll call – NEANS Panel co-chairs and
Program Manager**

Ian Pfingsten, US Geological Survey

James Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

*Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications, contractor to the
Panel*

ANS brief updates and Panel business

- Membership updates – Michele L. Tremblay, contractor to the Panel
- December 2021 meeting summary acceptance – Ian and Jim
- February 2022 mid-term meeting summary acceptance – Ian and Jim
- ANS Task Force business and meeting updates – Susan Pasko, Executive Secretary, US Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force
- Schedule mid-term Panel conference call in August 2022 – Ian, Jim, and Michele
- Fall 2022 meeting: scheduling, logistics, and agenda suggestions – Ian, Jim, and Michele
- Spring 2023 meeting: scheduling and possible Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force hosting
- State Management Plans and new grants management system – Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Invasive Species Council – updates from members present

10:15 AM Work group updates

Ballast Water State Plan Implementation – *Kevin Cute, Coastal Resources Management Council, lead*

Climate change – *Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant, lead*

Spread Prevention – *Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program, leads*

Greg Bugbee, CT Agricultural Experiment Station and Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, state contacts

11:30 AM Names can have unintended consequences: time to revisit invasive species common names nomenclature?

Samuel S. Chan, Sea Grant College Program: Extension Service, Oregon State University

12:00 PM **Determining the risk of consuming fish and waterfowl harvested in reservoirs infested by hydrilla producing a novel cyanotoxin**
*Susan Bennett Wilde, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources,
University of Georgia*

12:30 PM **Public comment period**

1:00 PM **Recess until May 12, 2022 at 9:00 AM**

Thursday, May 12, 2022 (all times are ET)

9:00 AM Welcome back

*Ian Pfingsten, US Geological Survey
James Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation*

**9:10 AM Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel (pandemic delayed)
twentieth anniversary observance**

Ian, Jim, and Michele

9:30 AM Roundtable: updates from NEANS Panel representatives

Ian and Jim, moderators

10:45 AM Spotlight on Species: Sea Slugs

Two European nudibranchs new to the Gulf of Maine: When did they arrive?

Larry Harris, University of New Hampshire

11:15 AM Online Enforcement of Washington State's Plant Quarantines

Tristan Carette-Myers, Washington State Department of Agriculture

**12:15 PM Marine Invasive Species in a Changing Climate: A watch list for the
Gulf of Maine**

*Michelle D. Staudinger, USGS and Northeast Climate Adaptation
Science Center*

Aly Putnam, University of MA Amherst

12:45 PM Public comment period

1:00 PM Review action items and next steps

Ian, Jim, and Michele

1:30 PM Adjourn

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Meeting Summary DRAFT | December 3 and 8, 2021
conference call/webinar

NEANS Panelists present: Renée Bernier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Greg Bugbee, CT Department of Environmental Services Agricultural Experiment Station; Jim Carlton, Williams College; Kevin Cute, RI Coastal Resources Management Council; Brian Greene, The Nature Conservancy Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency; Larry Harris, University of New Hampshire; Bill Harman, NYS Association of Lake Federal of Lake Association; Kim Jensen, VT Department of Environmental Conservation; Sandy Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Christine Lipsky, National Park Service; Aude Lochet, Lake Champlain Sea Grant, Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant; Ian Pfingsten, US Geological Survey; Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services; Jim Straub, Mike Vissichelli, US Army Corps of Engineers; and David Wong, MA Department of Environmental Protection.

Others participating: Jon Amberg, US Geological Survey; Ann Bove, member of the public; Margot Burns, Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments; Vanessa Curran, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation; Wes Daniel, US Geological Survey; Jennifer Dean, NJ Water Supply Authority; Heather Desko, NY Natural Heritage Program; Mike Greer, US Army Corps of Engineers; Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Mark Heilman, SePro; Meagan McCormack, NYS Natural Heritage Program; Susan Pasko; Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force; Steven Pearson; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Kara Sliwoski, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation; Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications, contractor to the Panel; Dean Williams, Texas Christian University; Erin Vennie-Volrath, NYS DEC Lake Champlain Basin Program; Kathy Urffer, Connecticut River Conservancy; Kelsey Wentling, Connecticut River Conservancy; and Kerry Wixted, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, by co-chairs and roll call – Ian Pfingsten, US Geological Survey and Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation.

ANS updates and Panel business:

- Michele called the roll and established that there is a quorum.
- Membership: The Panel welcomed Christine Lipsky, National Park Service. Aude Lochet, Lake Champlain Sea Grant was on the mid-term call and was re-welcomed during this semi-annual meeting.
- John moved to accept the May 2021 meeting summary. Meg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- The August 2021 meeting summary approval was tabled until the February mid-term meeting.
Decision: The May 2021 meeting summaries were accepted.
Action: The August 2021 meeting summary approval will be placed on the February mid-term meeting.
- Schedule mid-term Panel February conference call.
Decision: The Panel will convene its midterm meeting in February 2022.
Action: Michele will work with the co-chairs on a polling platform checking availability for first thing in the morning and late in the afternoon for the weeks of January 31 and February 7, 2022.
- Schedule spring 2021 meeting. If the Panel hosts the ANS Task Force in Connecticut, the date will need to be adjusted to see coastal and hydrilla growth all or in a substantive way during May or even June, depending on water temperature. Michele will push for July but it may be too late in the ANS Task Force's season. It will also be very expensive in Mystic. A suggestion was made to investigate the Hartford Science Center. Susan said that there is not yet direction regarding online vs. on-site meetings. February is the expected due date for a decision to be made by federal agencies. If there will be an on-site meeting, she will poll ANS Task Force members. There could be fieldwork season conflicts as hosting dates are pushed further back into the summer.
Decision: The NEANS Panel will schedule its spring meeting online, pending ANS Task Force decision for an on-site meeting.
Action: Michele will work with the co-chairs on a polling platform checking availability for May 2022.
Action: Michele will work with the ANS Task Force to see if they are willing to schedule their spring meeting in late June or July 2022.
- Susan provided an update on the ANS Task Force, which is posted at <https://www.northeastans.org/index.php/home/meetings-and-panel-information/docs/meetings/december-2021-meeting-presentations-2/>
- There was no one available to provide a National Invasive Species Council update.
- Sandra Keppner provided a State Management Plan update. There is a not a 2022 budget, which may change this evening when Congress closes its session. There is a possible change to the grant timing and process to move up the first step for submission of "pre-proposals" in advance of the Service's budget approval. The GrantSolutions.gov process is going better and showing additional efficiencies. Reporting was done formerly by emailing documents to Sandy. This has changed to all reporting submitted on GrantSolutions.gov by completing online forms and uploading reports. There is still some confusion with knowing when reporting is due with varying dates, which has been addressed with everyone's annual and final reports ending with the fiscal year. Future fund awards can be threatened if reporting targets are not met. There should be a feature that allows recipients to receive email reminders.

National Horizon Scan of Vertebrate Organisms in Trade: Bringing Awareness to the Potential Next Invasive Species to the U.S.

Wes Daniels, US Geological Survey, provided a synopsis of his larger online presentation. He will provide an announcement of a second session for regional panels and others.

Molecular survey for a recently introduced genotype of hydrilla (*hydrilla verticillata* L. f. Royle) in the United States

Dean Williams, USGS, presenting findings on the genotype study.

The presentation is posted at <https://www.northeastans.org/index.php/home/meetings-and-panel-information/docs/meetings/december-2021-meeting-presentations-2/>

Management Tools for Control of Aquatic Invasive Species: A new Chemical and a New Old Chemical

Jon Amberg, US Geological Survey,

Recess until December 8, 2021 at 1:00 PM

Roundtable

Updates are posted at <https://www.northeastans.org/forum/>

Hydrilla in the Connecticut River: updates and next steps

Ian Pflingsten; Jim Straub; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; and Catherine McGlynn, NYS of Environmental Conservation; and Greg Bugbee, CT Agricultural Experiment Station provided an update on activities to date and what is needed for the next stage of working together on this invasion.

There is a dedicated Panel page for Connecticut River hydrilla resources:

<https://www.northeastans.org/index.php/home/connecticutriverhydrilla/>

Mike Greer said that the Army Corps is not able to provide funding for a demonstration project this year and hopes for funding in fiscal 2023.

Greg would like to see the current Panel hydrilla plan updated so that it can be used as a guide for the scope of services. Mapping is incomplete for the affected and vulnerable areas. The Panel's Spread Prevention Work Group is the beginning point for any revisions.

Ian reported that the ANS Task Force provided their opinions and guidance on the Panel's Connecticut River hydrilla recommendation. It suggested that the Panel participate in the ANS Task Force's five subcommittees to explore and strategize approaches to the invasion. The ANS Task Force's newly approved bylaws specify that membership is open to non-Task Force members, subject to the subcommittee co-chairs' review and approval. The subcommittees are submitting their annual reports by 12.17.21. These reports will help clarify for the Panel where and how it should participate to further its recommendation.

To date, the Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Council has not received a response from the Coalition of Northeastern Governors (CONEG) to discuss the Council's letter. Ian suggested inviting CONEG to a Panel meeting.

Action: Ian and Jim will review the 12.17.21 ANSTF five subcommittees' reports and solicit Panelists' wishes for nomination to those groups to further the Connecticut River hydrilla to next steps pursuant to the ANSTF's direction on the Panel's recommendation.

Action: The Spread Prevention Work Group will convene to address the Connecticut River plan possible updates will be discussed in the.

Climate Change

There is no further action to date. There is no source of funding. Chinese mitten crab appears to be moving northward. There are two one-page summaries in the serious. Judy will be convening the group with Kevin as co-lead. There are not many marine Panelists vs. freshwater ones so it is challenging to convene a group that can work on these tasks. There is a Northeast Regional Invasive Species & Climate Change (RISCC) Symposium in January: <https://www.risccnetwork.org/symposia> that may provide ideas and perspectives for the Work Group's planning.

Marine Invasions in New England: Summer 2021 Field Adventures and Some Lessons Learned

Jim Carlton, Williams College, provided a chronology of marine invasive discoveries and developments of barnacles in Massachusetts, sea anemones in Rhode Island, and seasquirts in Connecticut. These numerous and widespread discoveries may speak to abundant or very abundant overlooks species, which may be the case for freshwater and terrestrial species as well. There is not a report but there will be a paper on the

anemones. The seasquirts invasion will be seeing further study. The next Rapid Assessment Survey will be conducted in New Jersey, Delaware, and Virginia.

Public comment period

There was no public comment.

Other business

There was no other business.

Meg moved to adjourn. Judy seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

*Meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, natresource communications
(contractor to the Panel)*



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Meeting Summary DRAFT | February 4, 2022
conference call/webinar

NEANS Panelists present: Carolina Bastidas, MIT Sea Grant; Renée Bernier, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Greg Bugbee, CT Department of Environmental Services Agricultural Experiment Station; Scott Decker, NH Fish and Game; Brian Greene, The Nature Conservancy Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency; Larry Harris, University of New Hampshire; Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Sandy Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Christine Lipsky, National Park Service; Aude Lochet, Lake Champlain Sea Grant; Meaghan McCormack, Natural Heritage, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; Catherine McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Ian Pfungsten, US Geological Survey; 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: Mike Greer, US Army Corps of Engineers; Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Mark Heilman, SePro; Susan Pasko; Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force; Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications, contractor to the Panel; and Kerry Wixted, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, by co-chairs and roll call – Ian Pfungsten, US Geological Survey and Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation. Michele Tremblay conducted the roll call.

Approve August 2021 meeting summary

John moved to accept the August 2021 meeting summary. Larry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- **Decision: The August 2021 meeting summary was accepted.**

Spring meeting agenda development

Jim would like to see marine updates from the states. Michele suggested a marine focus for bringing back “Spotlight on Species” with a focus on marine issues. Alicia can update on the climate risk symposium. There was a panel with marine invasives and see if we can invite one or more of their presenters. Ian had contacts from the conference relative to horizon scanning. Larry said there would be benthic meetings at the end of March in Portsmouth, NH, where he can identify prospective “Spotlight on Species” presenter panelists.

The Panel’s Twentieth Anniversary was November 2021. Because of the pandemic, we can celebrate this year.

Michele said that she would set up a Dropbox for everyone to use to transmit their images and other files to show the Panel’s history and accomplishments since 2001.

Suggested agenda items include

- NEANS Panelists Roundtable
- ANS Task Force updates, Susan Pasko
- ANS Task Force subcommittee updates, NEANS Panel representatives to the ANSTF subcommittees
- Spotlight on Species” with marine focus (Michele will work with NEANS Panelists on identifying speakers and working with suggestions in chat (appended to this meeting summary)
- NEANS Panel work groups’ updates
- Updating guidance document for co-chairs (a draft presentation to full Panel)
- Connecticut River Hydrilla Project update, Cathy, Greg, and Meg
- Toxic bacteria growing on hydrilla - Susan Wilde, University of Georgia (Ian will contact her)
- Washington State Department of Agriculture’s online trade monitoring program Kerry Wixted will contact program manager
- High-protection level lakes and ponds monitor data program – Jim Straub, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (half-hour)
- Spider diagrams – Cecelia Weibert, Great Lakes Commission
- Boater behaviour – Tim Campbell, Wisconsin Sea Grant

Greg provided a brief update of Connecticut’s activity on hydrilla, including a new staff, equipment, and other resources to support boat stewards.

Decision:

Action: Anyone interested in working on anniversary ideas observance should contact Michele.

Action: Anyone with Panel images should contact Michele for a Dropbox invitation.

Action: Michele will work with co-chairs and volunteers on the May meeting agenda.

ANS Task Force updates

Susan did not have updates since the December Panel meeting. Subcommittee work plans have been submitted. Membership is open to all.

The decision, which is due to be made at the end of February, is not yet made for an online vs. an on-site meeting for May. She queried Panelists about their comfort levels in travelling and meeting in-person as well as their organizations’ travel policies. It can be complicated to work with hotels on planning during with so much uncertainty and with the online participation option. Negotiations are often dependent on guaranteeing food and room counts, which are not certain with pandemic moving targets. A fair amount of lead time is required for planning, particularly in a tourist area, so a spring meeting hosted by the NEANS Panel probably will not happen.

The Connecticut River Hydrilla invasion is not at its peak until mid-to-late August or early September. Early October might work but there will be more fragmentation vs. peak growth. It is temperature dependent.

The ANS Task Force’s charter renewal has been submitted, which must be approved for Panel business to be conducted.

Decision:

Action: Michele will work with Susan on scheduling and locations to accommodate pricing, meeting space flexibility, and field tour requirements.

ANS Task Force subcommittees update

Ian asked if there were more the four subcommittees on which the NEANS Panelists may serve. The Panel or others working with the Panel, is serving on Control with Jim Straub as primary with Greg Bugbee; Outreach with Michele Tremblay as primary and Summer Stebbins; Prevention with Ian Pfingsten as primary with Summer Stebbins; and Research with Ian Pfingsten as primary with Greg Bugbee. There is also EDRR. Susan explained that all were welcome to participation. Ian asked if the Panel co-chairs and Panel contractor serving as the primary representatives on the ANS Task Force subcommittees with others serving as the pleasure of the subcommittee co-chairs. Susan said that regional panels should decide on how they wish to be represented.

Ian, David Wong, and Michele participated on the ANS Task Force Research Subcommittee meeting. There will be a draft letter of awareness for broad distribution. Al Cofrancesco, US Army Corps of Engineers, is interested in working on the issue.

The Prevention Subcommittee meets next week. Ian and Summer will be at the meeting. Susan provided an overview of the rest of the agenda, including pathways and e-commerce.

Action: Ian, Jim, and Michele will work on Panel representation on ANS Task Force subcommittees. Those interested in representing the Panel should contact Ian, Jim, and Michele.

Action: Those interested in representing their agencies on the ANS Task Force subcommittees can contact directly Susan Pasko.

State Management Plans

Sandy reported that the FY 2022 NOFO was completed in early January, which is awaiting approval. Timing remains a challenge but it should be published in about a month. Sandra stressed the importance of reporting and meeting all of the commitments in work plans to spend down funds.

Susan said that the regional panels would receive a notice to begin processing their amendments for the continuation of their five-year awards.

Action: States will keep current with their reporting and be prepared to submit their FY 2022 work plans.

Spread Prevention Work Group

Cathy reported on the three subgroups. One is focused on submitting a funding proposal for a regional data initiative. This is collaboration with NEANS Panel/NAS/iMapInvasives. The group will be polling for its next meeting.

There is a subgroup working on the Landing Blitz for the Northeast, which includes a new webpage, recruitment collateral, and a survey for data submission.

There will be a pre-season media release as the first task for the Public Service Announcements subgroup.

The Spread Prevention Work Group is working on a presentation for National Invasive Species Awareness Week.

Action: Cathy and Michele will work on polling for the next regional data collaboration meeting.

Public comment period

Brian Greene, The Nature Conservancy New York is working on an initiative to close lock gates with the intent of stopping round goby from moving through the system. They have contacted the Governor's office. He asked if anyone has any fact sheets or

other material to raise awareness about invasive species and if they want to work on the effort.

There is another part of the initiative to reach out to anglers to ask them that they not release live bait to prevent species from skipping the barriers.

Decision:

Action: Those with canal outreach materials or wanting to be part of a discussion group email, please contact brian.greene@tnc.org.

John moved to adjourn. David seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Zoom chat appended to this summary.

Meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, natresource communications (contractor to the Panel)