

Invasive Species

PNWER 25th Annual Summit – Big Sky, Montana

July 13, 2015

9:15am – 5:30pm

Preventing the Spread of Invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels into the PNWER Region

9:15am – 9:30am

Welcome and Introductions

Sen. Arnie Roblan, Oregon and Dr. Mark Sytsma, Portland State University

9:30am – 9:40am

Update on Regional Legislation and Current Gaps in Legislation

United States – Mark Sytsma, Portland State University

Canada – Kate Wilson, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

9:40am – 11:00am

A Regional Framework to Prevent the Spread of Zebra and Quagga Mussels into the Pacific Northwest: An update on the PNWER Regional Plan for coordination against the spread of invasive mussels

Lisa DeBruyckere, Creative Resource Strategies

Discussion: Implementing the Regional Framework

What will it take to fulfill the recommendations of the framework? How can Canada be better integrated into this plan? What resources are available? What can be done with the resources that already exist? (25 minutes)

Moderated by Lisa DeBruyckere

11:00am – 11:40pm

Easing Action: A Perspective from Jurisdictions that have Addressed Mussel Infestations - Long Term Infestations

Jeff Forester, Executive Director of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates
Kylie Bloodsworth, Natural Resource Specialist, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

11:40am – 12:00pm

Legislative Response

Arnie Roblan (OR), Bill Kennemer (OR), Mike Cuffe (MT)

12:00am – 12:30pm

Mussel Sniffing Dogs

Cindy Sawchuk, AIS Operations Lead / Dog Handler, Alberta Environment and Parks

Aimee Hurt, Director of Operations for Working Dogs for Conservation

12:30pm – 2:30pm

LUNCH

Emerging Concerns and Best Practices for Coordinated Response

2:30pm – 2:35pm

Session Goals

2:35pm – 4:15pm

Emerging Issues and Examples of Coordinated Response

Emerald Ash Borer – Laurie Kerzichnik, Insect Diagnostician and Assistant IPM Specialist at Montana State University

New Zealand Mud Snails- Robyn Draheim, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Emerging Issues in the Region and their Biological Impacts- Ray Callaway, University of Montana

Fisheries Impact on Flowering Rush – Virgil Dupuis, Extension Director, Salish Kootenai College

Biocontrol Efforts on Flowering Rush – Jennifer Andreas, Integrated Weed Control Project Director

Changing Mentality towards Prevention and EDRR- Travis Ziehl, Assistant Supervisor, Teton County Weed and Pest

4:15pm – 5:30pm

Working Session: Enhancing Communication among Existing Regional Invasive Species Partnerships

This facilitated working session will provide an opportunity for stakeholders from throughout the region to discuss how the region can advance communication among existing invasive species groups, from state and provincial invasive plant and species councils, to the Columbia River Basin, and Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The session will incorporate the invasive species councils to discuss the best ways for the various councils to interact with and update each other, and the possibility of a meeting between the councils in the future. Discussion will also address what PNWER's role should be in facilitating regional invasive species responses moving forward.

5:30pm

Adjourn