

CNIPM Monthly Teleconference Notes

April 2nd, 2014

General Meeting 9-10 a.m.

Board Meeting: 10-11am

Call in: 1-800-893-8850

Passcode: 5711553

Teleconference Leader: Brianne Blackburn

Next Meeting: May 7th-Lead: Katrina LeMieux

Attendees:

Darcy Etcheverry, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks
Katrina LeMeaux, Alaska Department of Transportation, Fairbanks
Brianne Blackburn, Division of Agriculture, Palmer
Heather Stewart, Division of Agriculture, Palmer
Tim Stallard, Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage
Elizabeth Bella, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Soldotna
Dave Lendrum, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau
Christina Kriedeman, National Parks Service, Seward
John Hudson, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau
Brian Maupin, Alaska Association of Conservation Districts, Juneau
Brett Nelson, Alaska Department of Transportation, Fairbanks
Matt Steffy, Homer SWCD, Homer
Steve Seefeldt, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks
Aliza Segal, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage
Beth Shultz, US Forest Service, Anchorage
Patrick Samson, Kuskokwim River Watershed Council, Bethel
Whitney Rapp, Katmai National Park, King Salmon
Chris Overbaugh, National Parks Service, Anchorage
Mary Stensvold, US Forest Service, Sitka

Round Robin

Southwest

Pat –Recommended aquatic plant survey efforts to regional advisory committee. No aquatic plant surveys in the area. Look for money/support for king salmon tributaries as they are setting fishing limits in the area. He is hosting an hour presentation on invasives at upcoming Earth Day event. Also on the radar is the Donlin Gold Mine operation which will potentially include up to 3-5 barges up and down the river for 165 days so there may be a need for AIS outreach.

Whitney-Just got back from New Zealand for a month and getting caught up and planning for the field season. Will have 2 interns arriving at the end of this month.

Interior

Katrina-DOT has new IVMP posted to DEC website-active April 20th. Working on regional/district priorities to help with coordination. May 7th is the Chena River Watershed summit which will include discussion on DEC's impaired water body process and invasives-working with SWCD to coordinate.

Steve-Just finished up with a pesticide applicator training course with another scheduled next month. Manuscript on clopyralid and dicamba impacts to potatoes was accepted with major revisions. Will hopefully be out in the next few months.

Darcy-Elodea public meeting hosted last week through SWSCD in North Pole to update stakeholders on what has happened. 6 people in attendance. Weed smackdown scheduled for June 21st.

Brett-no update

Southcentral

Aliza- BLM training for NISM database next week with partners including NHP. Field season specifics up in the air with budget right now.

Beth- gearing up for field season-FIA effort concentrated in interior this season.

Chris-NPS hired new biotech (Peter Frank) who will be shared between region office and Wrangle. Will be EPMT lead for Wrangle doing data management. Has been with the team for 5th year. All interns are selected-will be using SCA crew-Denali, Kenai, Wrangle-also Saga crews. Finalized project proposal for Elodea Surveys-current start date 2019-looking to move it up-based on urgency. Been approved at regional level for 3 years-surveys for Elodea in NPS system in AK, highest risk water bodies. Is in DC for national approval.

Tim-Anchorage Parks Dept has small amount of money to improve Little Campbell Lake but the public asked for a wash station where they could clean fish. Focus on outreach to inform folks about Elodea. Volunteer computer programmers have developed a beta version of a citizen weed warrior app. People can use the app to adopt a patch of weeds. Needs further development. Anchorage SWCD released Sand Lake Management Plan-contact him for a copy. HB 89 hearing in house finance on Friday at 8:30am-CNIPM will try to have someone on the line to testify in support. Tim and Darcy were contacted by Rep Seaton's staff to participate. Kodiak NWR has a supplemental EA out for comment period until April 10th.

Libby-Plugging along with Elodea. Stakeholder meeting scheduled for April 24th followed by the CWMA annual Conference on the 25th. Waiting to hear on state money for elodea treatment. USFWS applied for internal funding to supplement. Otherwise, gearing up for field season.

Christina- Kenai Fjords-biotech, SCA and two youth conservation corp on crew this season. Will be providing a short presentation for area superintendents on invasive plant management accomplishments. Excited to work with USFWS to survey two lakes for elodea in Kenai Fjords.

Brianne-Will represent DNR on the HB89 hearing on Friday at 8:30am. Would be good to have a CNIPM voice on the line as well. Div of Ag has been working to address the recent aquatic plant quarantine that was issued last month. *Note* if you keep elodea in your tanks for educational purposes, please get in touch with me so you can get a transport permit. It is a simple form to fill out and should not be a problem. Weed Free Forage and Gravel Inspector Training tentatively scheduled for May 14th-I will send an announcement and invitation to register out this week. Training will be held in Palmer at the PMC-if there is interest in distance delivery, we can work to make it available via webinar as well.

Heather- Working with ADF&G to roll out the AIS agency field staff training over the next few weeks. Statewide Elodea survey maps available-interactive web portal through DMLW to come-will include downloadable dataset. Darcy suggested incorporating herbarium/NPS/other aquatic inventories to the data of surveyed lakes.

Matt- Kenai Peninsula CWMA annual conference scheduled for April 25th. Still working out presentation details but should be a good lineup. Will have the public landowners meeting on evening before regarding Elodea Management efforts on the Kenai. Project DEC PUP public comment closed and we are awaiting word from DEC on next steps. There was a comment from DEC regarding the public water system notice requirement. Coordinating with Jack Blackwell on this. The project is still awaiting word on funding, but borough, SWCD board, and agency support is strong. Homer SWCD was approved for AACD IPP-funding to survey Port Graham and outreach. Looking for future outreach as well. Rebecca Zueleta moving on-district helping fill in the gaps to keep projects moving forward. KP CWMA Working on smackdown plans for 2014.

Southeast

Mary- Regional Invasive Species Issues Team meeting April 9th to update strategy, and coordinate various invasive species work in region for FS.

Dave –no update

John-Working with Brian to finish reporting on weed control activities from last summer. Spent time in MT creek watershed in Juneau-focusing EDRR efforts-sprayed RCG. Continuing EDRR efforts in Auck lake watershed, Peterson creek-focus on undeveloped, high fish and wildlife habitat and take care of small infestations before they get bigger. More funding might be coming down for aquatic invasive species-focusing on RCG.

Brian-working with John and SE SWCD is going great. Control a couple acres of knotweed last year, RCG on vulnerable watershed. It was pleasantly surprising to see how quickly they could manage a couple acres. Working to get SE SWCD a permanent technician. Hiring soon. For AACD-IPP grants review happened last week-started full funding for top 3 proposals and partial funding for the rest for the upcoming season.

General Discussion

Pat: Has anyone collected data about where pilots flying from Anchorage waters are landing? Curious if we can get information from anchorage pilots to identify pathways?

- This has been discussed but no one has done this work yet. Would be great for risk analysis.

Darcy: (to Brian) is AACD considering commenting on the Sand Lake/ASWCD situation?

- Question came up about how best for districts to comment regarding the Sand Lake Management Plan. Brienne suggested directing comments to the Natural Resource Conservation Development Board or the DNR Deputy Commissioner's office.

Board Meeting

Katrina LeMeaux, Alaska Department of Transportation, Fairbanks
Steve Seefeldt, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks
Aliza Segal, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage
John Hudson, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau
Tim Stallard, Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage
Matt Steffy, Homer SWCD, Homer
Beth Shultz, US Forest Service, Anchorage
Brienne Blackburn, Division of Agriculture, Palmer
Elizabeth Bella, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Soldotna
Mary Stensvold, US Forest Service, Sitka

**Denotes Action Items

Conference:

- Nightmare Under the Surface/ Prom gone wrong
 - Surface instead of "Sea" could incorporate more than just marine. Could include weed seed bank as well.
- Presenters: Celestine Duncan: contractor for MT DNR equivalent-expert on AIS, weekly email digest for aquatic invasive news focused on MT and the Northwest
 - Steve: she's really great for promotional presentations. Would be good to look for more content or data-driven presenters as well.

- Session aimed more at Newbies-pull in more people from the community.
 - If one session was dedicated to basic information, it could draw in local agency participation as well.
- Figure out soon: 3 day to 2 day meeting this year.
 - 2 days looks like it's going to be tight-maybe consider 2 days of presentation with a board meeting or more specific information on the third so not everyone needed to stick around?
- Waiting on location information-Gino is working with new staff at CES who will help facilitate this.

HB 89

- Schedule for House Finance Hearing on Friday, April 4th at 8:30am. Rep. Seaton contacted CNIPM to be on the line for testimony. Tim can't be there, Brianne will be on the line to represent DNR. Gino said he could be available to represent CNIPM.
 - **Send Gino both letters from CNIPM for reference.

Kodiak NWR Supplemental EA Notice

- Public comment period ends April 10th-CNIPM board will submit letter of support
- Tim sent last years letter from CNIPM→same issues, can follow a similar format.
 - **Brianne will review and get out to the board for a vote by the end of this week

Misc

- Libby will need to swap September with another board member for leading telecon.
 - Brianne will take it on.

Subcommittees

- **Still hoping to have subcommittees meet and formulate some ideas about updating the strategic plan before field season.