

## **Alaska Invasive Species Working Group: Marine Subcommittee audio Conference**

Thursday January 10, 2008

Hosted via NMFS bridge number. Minutes taken by Deena Jallen

### **Participants**

Kris Benson- AKDOT

Tammy Davis- ADF&G, Juneau

Dan Gilson- PWSRCAC, Valdez

Judy Hamilton- KBRR, Homer

Ingrid Harrald- KBRR, Homer

Jeff Heys- NPS, Anchorage

Deena Jallen- UAF CES, Fairbanks

Lisa Ka'ahue- PWSRCAC, Anchorage

Lance Lerum- Forestry Service, Juneau

Cheri Murphy- AKDOT, Ketchikan

Linda Shaw- National Marine Fisheries Service, Juneau

### **Agenda: Items to discuss**

- Update on activities
- Set next meeting time
- Possible agenda items for next meeting

### **Additional Resources**

- Alaska Forum on the Environment information

### **Update on Activities**

Linda Shaw is reinitiating green crab and tunicate monitoring efforts for 2008. Tammy Davis had called about some funding for monitoring in Southeast Alaska, and a teleconference is scheduled for January 29<sup>th</sup> with Whitney Rapp, Gary Freitag, Helen Woody, and other folks who attended green crab monitoring training last spring. Judy Hamilton and Ingrid Harrald may also be getting some support for statewide monitoring and coordination.

Linda has also recently sent in the permit report from last year, and is waiting for information on re-initiating the sampling permit. Whitney Rapp has said she will need to get a Glacier Bay Permit for sampling. Jeff Heys said that process should be fairly easy.

Linda Shaw has contacted the Juneau Watershed Partnership, and they are on board with doing green crab monitoring in the Juneau area.

Deena Jallen is working on the green crab poster, and is looking into printing and distribution options. Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council may have funds for printing, and Dan Proulx from AK DNR said that his office has a plotter and access to lamination materials.

Lance Lerum said that Forest Service personnel may be able to take part in green crab monitoring. The Tongass Forest has 3 large boats based in Juneau, Ketchikan, and Petersburg that go on 10 day trips. Lance also has a 30' Forest Service vessel based out of Admiralty Monument that goes on 1-10 day trips. They may be able to put out traps during their research trips, to at least do presence/absence level monitoring. Dan Gilson said that that sampling would be less formal, but would be useful. Traps could be set near shore in inter-tidal areas in 15 ft or less of water, and then retrieved the next day (on-shore sampling is usually done on tidal flats at low tide, and recovered during the next low tide). Linda Shaw will send Lance photos of the traps and the trapping protocol.

Dan Gilson is busy modifying green crab traps in preparation for the summer trapping season. He has also carried out winter tunicate monitoring as weather permits.

Lisa Ka'ahue will be contacting Kris Benson, and the University of Washington people to work on the hull fouling project. She has organized the invasive species films for the Alaska Forum on the Environment Meeting.

### **Alaska Forum on the Environment and Invasive Species Advisory Committee Meeting**

Jeff Heys mentioned that at the forum, on February 14, there will be sessions on invasive species. There are two tracks in the morning on invasive plants, in the afternoon there will be 1 session on rat eradication training, and 2.25 hours on marine invasive species. Tammy Davis will moderate the marine session, with presentations from Judy Hamilton (detection efforts) and Bob Piorkowski (hull fouling and ballast water vectors).

In mid May, the ISAC will be meeting in Anchorage. Jeff encouraged anyone with ideas about Alaska invasive species issues that could use national attention to contact Lisa Ka'ahue. Lisa Ka'ahue, Denny Lassuy, Gina (?), and Jeff Heys are on the planning committee for the meeting, and have been putting together topics. They are also planning field trips, which may allow for more opportunities to present information.

Linda Shaw wanted to know what form the issues would take, and if folks would be able to give presentations. She mentioned that there is a national focus on tunicates, and national and international focus on green crab (thousands are being caught in British Columbia). Jeff Heys said that green crab are on the list of topics for consideration. Lisa Ka'ahue is coordinating with Marilyn Leland on ballast water issues, and would also talk about the overall importance of citizen monitoring. Linda Shaw mentioned that at the AISWG meeting in Fairbanks in November, Greg Ruiz had stressed introduction vectors as being one of the most important things for Alaska to address.

### **Tunicate Monitoring**

Linda Shaw said that Lance Lerum and Whitney Rapp are setting out settling plates in Bartlett Cove. Linda would like to see the sampling expanded to the ferry system, as would Greg Ruiz from the Smithsonian Institute. Linda will be setting up a conference call with Greg Ruiz, Linda Hamilton, and AK Dept. of Transportation Marine Highway

folks later this spring. During the call, they can discuss more about potential locations, protocol, equipment and personnel.

Sampling plates usually go out for 3 month periods. The Smithsonian starts its spring cycle in mid-March, but would prefer that Alaska monitoring at least takes place during the summer period (June, July, August). Lance Lerum pulled some plates in December, and found almost nothing on them (no tunicates). Linda would like to see the ferry terminals set out plates in June. Lance pointed out that the spring period (March, April, May) might also be useful to do, as barnacles and other organisms begin to attach to his boat in the spring.

Cheri Murphy asked for information about the tunicate protocol. Lance clarified that the tunicate plates consist of a PVC plate 6"x6", hung 1 meter over the dock. After 3 months, the plates are pulled, photographed, and then can be cleaned and re-deployed. Plates could be placed on any dock with access and personnel, preferably near areas with ship traffic and ballast exchanges. Cheri, the ferry terminal operations manager, said that the AKDOT marine highway would be able to participate. They have some unattended docks that they might not be able to get ship participation at, but would be able to set out tunicate plates at all the attended docks.

Linda will set up a conference call with Greg Ruiz and interested folks in early February. Any interested personnel are welcome to attend the call and help with tunicate monitoring.

## **Next teleconference for the AISWG**

### **Marine Subcommittee and Green Crab citizen monitors teleconference**

January 29<sup>th</sup>

Call in number and time To Be Announced

Contact Linda Shaw for more information ([Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov](mailto:Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov))

### **Tunicate Monitoring teleconference**

Call in number and time/date To Be Announced

Contact Linda Shaw for more information ([Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov](mailto:Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov))

### **Marine Subcommittee**

February 28, 9:30 am

To attend, call into 907-586-7977. Allow line to ring until another party picks up, long distance charges apply.

### **AISWG**

February 28, 11:00 am

To attend, call into 907-271-1405. Allow line to ring until another party picks up, long distance charges apply.

## **Additional Resources**

Alaska Forum on the Environment

<http://www.akforum.com/>

Agenda

<http://www.akforum.com/agenda.htm>

2/11 2:00pm to 3:15pm

Film Festival: Invasive Species