

Alaska Invasive Species Working Group: Marine Subcommittee audio Conference

Thursday March 27, 2008

Hosted via NMFS bridge number. Minutes taken by Deena Jallen

Participants

Tammy Davis- ADF&G, Juneau

Dan Gilson- PWSRCAC, Valdez

Judy Hamilton- KBRR, Homer

Ingrid Harrald- KBRR, Homer

Deena Jallen- AISWG volunteer, Fairbanks

Lisa Ka'aihue- PWSRCAC, Anchorage

Miranda Plumb- USFWS, Kenai

Linda Shaw- National Marine Fisheries Service, Juneau

Agenda: Items to discuss

- Update on activities
- Green crab poster
- Green crab monitoring
- Set next meeting time
- Possible agenda items for next meeting

Additional Resources

- Contact information
- Websites

Update on Activities

Linda Shaw said that she has lots of good photos from the trip to BC for the Green crab West Coast Technical meeting (Vancouver BC, March 10). Participants got to help with trapping and tagging, and visited invaded areas (Pipe Stem inlet in Barkley Sound). Linda said that it looked similar to many Alaskan inlets. On closer inspection, the area was completely invaded by pacific oysters, varnish clams, and green crabs. On the trip, participants were able to see green crab in all life stages, molts, and reproductive states. The NOAA invasive species program may fund a workshop in Alaska to focus on rapid response to green crab invasions.

Judy Hamilton and Ingrid Harrald said the meeting was a good chance to make contacts. There is a Coastal Training Program through the reserves. They may be able to get funds to do a 1 or 2 day workshop. At a recent presentation to the community council, they found a surprising lack of knowledge about invasive species. Linda Shaw said that a fall meeting would be great. Her contact, Michele Harmon (NOAA), would like to have a meeting in Alaska focusing on green crab.

Miranda Plumb is a fisheries biologist with the Kenai US Fish and Wildlife office. She has been on the listserv for the AISWG for over a year, and has worked with Gary Sonneville (USFWS) on the Aquatic Nuisance Species ballast water program. She would

like to get more invasive species information worked into her education and outreach materials.

Tammy Davis has been working on getting materials together for the Sportsmans Show, and getting quotes on data loggers. She has been looking at getting YSI30's for measuring salinity. Ingrid Harrald also suggested looking into getting TidbiTs to put on the traps. They are about \$100.00 each, and the size of a quarter. Linda has also been looking in to TidbiTs for putting on the tunicate plates. TidbiTs can be left on the sampling plate, they record data periodically, which can then be downloaded.

Lisa Ka'aihue has been working with Jeff Heys to put together the agenda for the May 12-14 ISAC meeting in Anchorage. They are also sending out letters of invitation to agencies, and working on a public information announcement. Lisa said that Kris Benson has been very helpful with coordinating people with the ferry system and hull fouling contractors. PWSRCAC also has a NIS (nuisance aquatic species) database, and they are seeking an intern/volunteer to make updates.

Green crab poster

The green crab poster final draft has been printed. Tammy Davis (ADF&G, Juneau) and Ingrid Harrald (KBRR, Homer), offered to laminate posters to save funds on having them commercially laminated. Each location will get 100 posters, and the file is available on the listserv archives, and on the website.

Green crab monitoring

Linda Shaw has modified her green crab traps. Traps will be sent to Heather Woody in Sitka, Gary Freitag in Ketchikan, and Lance Lerum with Forest Service. Getting permits of the actual trap sites, and other issues will be followed up on during the next green crab teleconference (April 18th).

Dan Gilson has found a person in Chenega Bay to do green crab trapping (Michael Vigil with Chenega IRA), and is gearing up for the summer season.

Judy Hamilton and Ingrid Harrald with KBRR have been swapping out tunicate plates. On Easter they did a trial run of trapping, and collected some helmet crabs. Ingrid has been talking with Leslie Slater from USFWS. She is working on St. Lazaria (30 miles west of Sitka). Leslie will be there from May to August, and could do some green crab trapping while working with sea birds. A man who works at the Kodiak interpretive center may also be a good contact for trapping.

Ingrid has found a company in Memphis that can supply green crab traps cheaper than the Japanese company Linda Shaw has been using. It will be good to have a domestic source of traps. KBRR can do some side-by-side comparisons of the traps from the different companies this summer. Ingrid has also been talking with Claudio DiBacco, who has done some plankton monitoring near Homer. He may be able to look for green crab in their larval stages. A UAF grad student is also doing work looking at water flow and crab larvae. She is looking for specimens of megalopes. Claudio DiBacco has reared green crab larvae in his lab, and will send life stage information/materials to KBRR.

Judy Hamilton will be leaving KBRR in June to move to Oregon, and is working on finding a replacement person.

Upcoming teleconferences

Green crab coordination

Friday, April 18th, 9:30am

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

Tunicate coordination

Tuesday, April 22nd, 9:30am

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

Marine Subcommittee

Tuesday, April 29, 9:30 am.

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

AISWG

April 30th, 10:30 am

Call in to: 907-271-1405, allow line to ring until another party picks up.

Long distance charges apply.

Preliminary agenda:

Discuss the in-person meetings for the AISWG surrounding the ISAC meetings

Additional Resources

Miranda Plumb
Fish biologist
Kenai Fish & Wildlife Field Office
PO Box 1670
Kenai, AK 99611
907.260.0132

Chenega IRA
<http://www.chugachmiut.org/tribes/chenega.html>

Leslie Slater
Wildlife Biologist – Gulf of Alaska Unit

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Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
95 Sterling Highway, Suite 1 MS 505
Homer, AK 99603
Phone: 907-235-6546

Fax: 907-235-7783

University of British Columbia, Earth and Ocean Sciences

<http://www.eos.ubc.ca/research/infrastructure/bcoc.html>

Faculty Research Interests:

Claudio DiBacco - Biological Oceanography

Larval ecology, specifically the= biological and physical processes that regulate the abundance and distribution of marine invertebrate populations. There is a focus on marine organisms that are sedentary or sessile as adults, but that have a free-swimming planktonic larval stage of development that remains in the water column until ready to settle as a juvenile or adult. Research has implications for understanding basic ecological processes and population dynamics (i.e., sustainability), the management of ecologically and commercially important species, and marine conservation and habitat management issues.

YSI 30

<http://www.rickly.com/wqi/YSI30.htm>

TidbiTs and Hobo loggers

<http://www.etmpacific.com.au/?q=node/6>