

Alaska Invasive Species Working Group: Marine Subcommittee audio Conference
Thursday February 28, 2008
Hosted via NMFS bridge number. Minutes taken by Deena Jallen

Participants

Kris Benson- AKDOT
Tammy Davis- ADF&G, Juneau
Judy Hamilton- KBRR, Homer
Ingrid Harrald- KBRR, Homer
Deena Jallen- AISWG, Fairbanks
Lisa Ka'ahue- PWSRCAC, Anchorage
Linda Shaw- National Marine Fisheries Service, Juneau

Meeting topics

- Review of green crab and tunicate monitoring teleconferences
- Update on activities
- Set next meeting time
- Upcoming teleconferences

Additional Resources

- Grosholz contact and link to UC Davis lab
- Link to *Caprella mutica* information

Review of green crab and tunicate monitoring teleconferences

Linda Shaw gave an update on the green crab and tunicate monitoring teleconferences. Expanding the tunicate monitoring to the AKDOT ferry system is going well. Ketchikan, Prince Rupert, Sitka, Tatitlek and Chenega have been chosen as pilot sites. At the next teleconference, participants will continue to address issues of manpower, site suitability (local salinity), and permitting.

The green crab monitoring coordination is progressing. Linda Shaw has written a letter of support to help Whitney Rapp in Glacier Bay get approval for monitoring. Lisa Ka'ahue also requested the letter.

Forest Service is willing to take four green crab traps on each of their three ranger district vessels. They would be able to do opportunistic sampling in remote areas. Linda is working with Lance Lerum to get sampling permits. The sampling protocol would be different than that for the shore based sampling. Traps would be set from the boats overnight in subtidal waters, and will probably be out for 12 hours at a time.

Update on Activities

Linda Shaw is working with the NOAA cooperative agreement process to accept the green crab monitoring funds from ADF&G. The agreement has to be accepted by the NOAA general council in Washington D.C. before the funds can be used. The process may take a long time to complete, but the funds need to be spent by June. Linda and

Tammy Davis will work together to either have ADF&G spend the money, or find another partnership to route the funds through.

NOAA has provided some funding to Linda Shaw to support green crab, tunicate, and spartina monitoring and rapid response plans in Southeast Alaska. The funds cannot be spent until April, and are intended for equipment, shipping expenses, and for development of rapid response plans. Linda will work with Gino Graziano, who has started an early detection group for CNIPM (Alaska Committee for Noxious and Invasive Plants Management).

Lisa Ka'aihue has been working on the hull fouling project with the University of Washington. She is also setting up a field trip for the 16th of May with the Invasive Species Advisory Committee members. The ISAC meeting will be held in Anchorage that week. The field trip will go from Whittier to Valdez, and Lisa is trying to arrange a tour of the Alyeska pipeline terminal in Valdez, but Alyeska does not usually give tours on Saturdays. The trip will be sponsored by PWSRCAC. Those wishing to participate should contact Lisa Ka'aihue, space may be limited by vessel size.

Dan Gilson, Lisa Ka'aihue, Linda Shaw and Tammy Davis will be traveling to the green crab technical meeting in Vancouver. Linda Shaw will give a presentation on the status of the habitat suitability model, Tammy Davis will give an update on the state activities, and Dan Gilson will present about green crab monitoring. There will also be a field trip to the southern tip of Vancouver Island, so participants can see what kind of habitat green crabs are occupying there. Deena Jallen requested that people get photos and specimens, if possible. There are few green crab resources for visual and educational aides in Alaska.

In Juneau, Linda Shaw attended a seminar given by the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Shellfish Biologist Candidate Ted Grosholz. He is from UC Davis, and spoke on topics including Olympia oysters and to green crabs. He mentioned that densities of green crabs in Vancouver are higher than in their native range. He is also concerned about New Zealand mud snails showing up in west coast estuaries. See Additional Resources for a link to his UC Davis lab.

Judy Hamilton and Ingrid Harrald reported that the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR) is gearing up for summer. They will be putting out tunicate settling plates in the Seldovia and Homer harbors. Plates have been kept out all year. They will also look into putting plates at oyster farms, and sampling for amphipods. SERC had sent up a researcher to observe the KBNERR tunicate plate retrieval and deployment. She found some clinging amphipods on one of the plates. The sampling was very opportunistic, and it turned out that the amphipod was from an invasive species; *Caprella mutica*. KBNERR now plans to put out amphipod samplers as well, which consist of a type of scrubby mat. In Holland, *Caprella mutica* has become a problem by covering structures and fouling gear with dense mats.

Deena Jallen is working on finishing up the final draft of the green crab poster. AKDNR will print 11"x17" posters, which can then be laminated for posting in outdoor areas. Poster drafts have been sent out via the listserv for review and comments.

Upcoming teleconferences for the AISWG and subcommittees

Tunicate Monitoring Coordination Teleconference

March 25th, 9:30 am

Call in to: 907-586-7977, allow line to ring until another party picks up.

Long distance charges apply.

Preliminary agenda:

Summer monitoring details; who, where, and when.

AISWG Teleconference

March 26th, 9:30 am

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

Long distance charges apply.

Preliminary agenda:

Discuss an in-person meeting for spring

Topics to present at upcoming ISAC meeting in May

Set next meeting time

Marine Subcommittee Teleconference

March 27th, 9:30 am

Call in to: 907-586-7977, allow line to ring until another party picks up.

Long distance charges apply.

Preliminary agenda:

Updates on marine invasive activities

Set next meeting time

Green Crab Monitoring Coordination Teleconference

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Call in to: 907-586-7977, allow line to ring until another party picks up.

Long distance charges apply.

Preliminary agenda:

Green crab monitoring in southeast Alaska: training, monitoring, coordination, etc.

Additional Resources

Invaded food webs and Olympia oysters

Tuesday, 26 February, 4:00 pm

Dr. Edwin Grosholz, Department of Environmental Science & Policy

University of California, Davis

Juneau—221 Anderson

Dr. Grosholz is a School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Shellfish Biologist Candidate

<http://www.des.ucdavis.edu/faculty/grosholz/research.htm>

Caprella mutica info

<http://www.marlin.ac.uk/species/Caprellamutica.htm>