

**GULF & SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL PANEL
ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES
MINUTES**

**Tuesday and Wednesday, November 10-11, 2009
Raleigh, North Carolina**

Chairman Earl Chilton called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. The meeting began with introductions of the Panel members and guests. The following were in attendance:

Members and Proxies

Ralph Allemand, LDWF, Baton Rouge, LA
James Ballard, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS
Mike Brainard, MDMR, Biloxi, MS
Paul Carangelo, Port of Corpus Christi Authority, Corpus Christi, TX
Earl Chilton, TPWD, Austin, TX
Pam Fuller, USGS, Gainesville, FL
Chris Furqueron, National Park Service, Atlanta, GA
John Galvez, USFWS, Vero Beach, FL
Scott Hardin, FFWCC, Tallahassee, FL
Leslie Hartman, TPWD, Palacios, TX
Dewayne Hollin, Texas Sea Grant, College Station, TX
Tom Jackson, NOAA-NMFS, Miami, FL
Chuck Jacoby, University of Florida/Florida Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL
David Knott, SCDNR, Charleston, SC
Trish Murphey, NCDMF, Morehead City, NC
Marilyn Barrett O'Leary, At-Large Member, Pontchatoula, LA
Harriet Perry, GCRL, Ocean Springs, MS
Ron Lukens, At-Large Member, High Springs, FL
James A. Morris, NOAA-NCCOS, Beaufort, NC
Chris Page, SCDNR, West Columbia, SC
Bob Pitman, USFWS, Albuquerque, NM
Dennis Riecke, MDWFP, Jackson, MS
Don Schmitz, FDEP, Tallahassee, FL
John Teem, FL Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Tallahassee, FL
Keith Weaver, GDNR, Social Circle, GA

Staff

Nancy K. Marcellus, GSMFC, Ocean Springs, MS

Others

Rob Emens, NCDENR, Raleigh, NC
Tom Lorenz, Mandeville, LA
LCDR Brian Moore, USCG, Washington, DC
Lisa Moss, USFWS, Charles City, VA
Pam Schofield, USGS, Gainesville, FL

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Public Comment

Chairman Earl Chilton provided the opportunity for public comment. No public comments were received.

Review and Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 31 - April 2, 2009 meeting held in Shreveport, Louisiana were approved as written.

Overview and Demonstration of the Risk Assessment Screening Tool

Michael Hoff, Mississippi River Basin Panel on ANS, gave a presentation entitled "A Model Screening Process to Rapidly Assess Risks of Nonnative Species Establishment and Impacts".

Overview:

- Summarize MRBP's Risk Analysis Process
 - With emphasis on Rapid Risk Screening Process
- Describe tools useful to support decisions to implement that process
- Describe Next Steps for MRBP
- Past recommendation to ANSTF
- Example Risk Screening
- Demonstration of CLIMATE software.

What is a Screening Process?

- A screening process
 - is a risk assessment system designed to RAPIDLY evaluate the invasiveness (establishment and impact) potential of a nonnative species,
 - prior to its importation into a jurisdiction.

Outcomes of Screening Risk Assessments

- Results of risk screening can be used by:
- Governments and industries to determine whether risk, of a nonnative species, impact on native species and ecosystems, is:

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- Uncertain
- Low, or
- High
- Governments can use results to regulate
- Industries can use results to keep “green”
- Both groups can work together
- If species impact risk is Uncertain, then:
 - a more detailed risk assessment is needed
 - ANSTF developed a protocol in 1996
 - Time to revisit this approach
 - »Use current scientific, information technology, and risk assessment advancements
- If species establishment and impact risk is clearly Low, then
 - the species is acceptable for importation and/or use in trade
- If species impact risk is clearly High, then
 - a decision is needed about either voluntarily preventing/halting trade (industry), or regulating trade (government).

MRBP Risk Analysis Process

1. Identify Species for Screening
2. Rapid Screening Process
 - a. If risk is clearly low, then no action
 - b. If risk is clearly high, then Step 5
 - c. If risk is uncertainty, then Steps 3-4
3. Prioritize species for Detailed Risk Assessment
4. Agency Conducts Detailed Risk Assessment
5. Develop Agency Actions to Regulate and Manage
6. Implement Agency Priority Actions
7. Evaluate Agency Actions, and Adapt Management Programs.

Mississippi River Basin Panel’s Risk Analysis Process - working version of document available at: <http://www.waux.cerc.cr.usgs.gov/MICRA/MRBP/MRBP> Working Version Model Risk Assess. & Management Process 5-12-09.pdf. Or Google Mississippi River Basin Panel’s website, and look for the link.

Revised Coast Guard Ballast Water Management Rulemaking

Brian Moore

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Federal-State Partnership to Improve Screening, Risk Analysis and Interdiction of Nonnative Wildlife

Scot Hardin

Tilapia Rapid Response and the Current Range Expansions and Research on Invasive Cichlids in Louisiana

Tom Lorenz

Update on Giant Salvinia in Texas

Earl Chilton

Interagency Giant Salvinia Control Team

Bob Pitman

Current Status of Lionfish

James Morris

Update on Zebra Mussels in Texas

Earl Chilton

Update on Water Spinach in Texas

Earl Chilton

Members Forum

Overview of Mid-Atlantic Panel Activities

Lisa Moss

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Current AIS Activities in Region 4 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
John Galvez

What We Know About *Penaeus monodon*
David Knott

Discussion of the Current Status of *Penaeus monodon* in Our Region

Invasive Species Advisory Committee Update
Earl Chilton

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Update
Earl Chilton/James Ballard

Discussion of GSARP's 2010-2014 Strategic Plan

Overview of the New GSARP Website
James Ballard

Work Group Updates to the Panel and Future Directions for all Work Groups

Election of Officers

Ron Lukens was elected Chairman of the Panel and James Morris was elected as Vice-Chairman.

Other Business

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Public Comment

Chairman Earl Chilton once again provided the opportunity for public comment. No public comments were received.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.