



Dedicated to the prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species

AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE UPDATE

GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL PANEL MEETING

NOVEMBER 19, 2019

SUSAN PASKO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ANS TASK FORCE

SUSAN_PASKO@FWS.GOV



Overview of the ANS Task Force

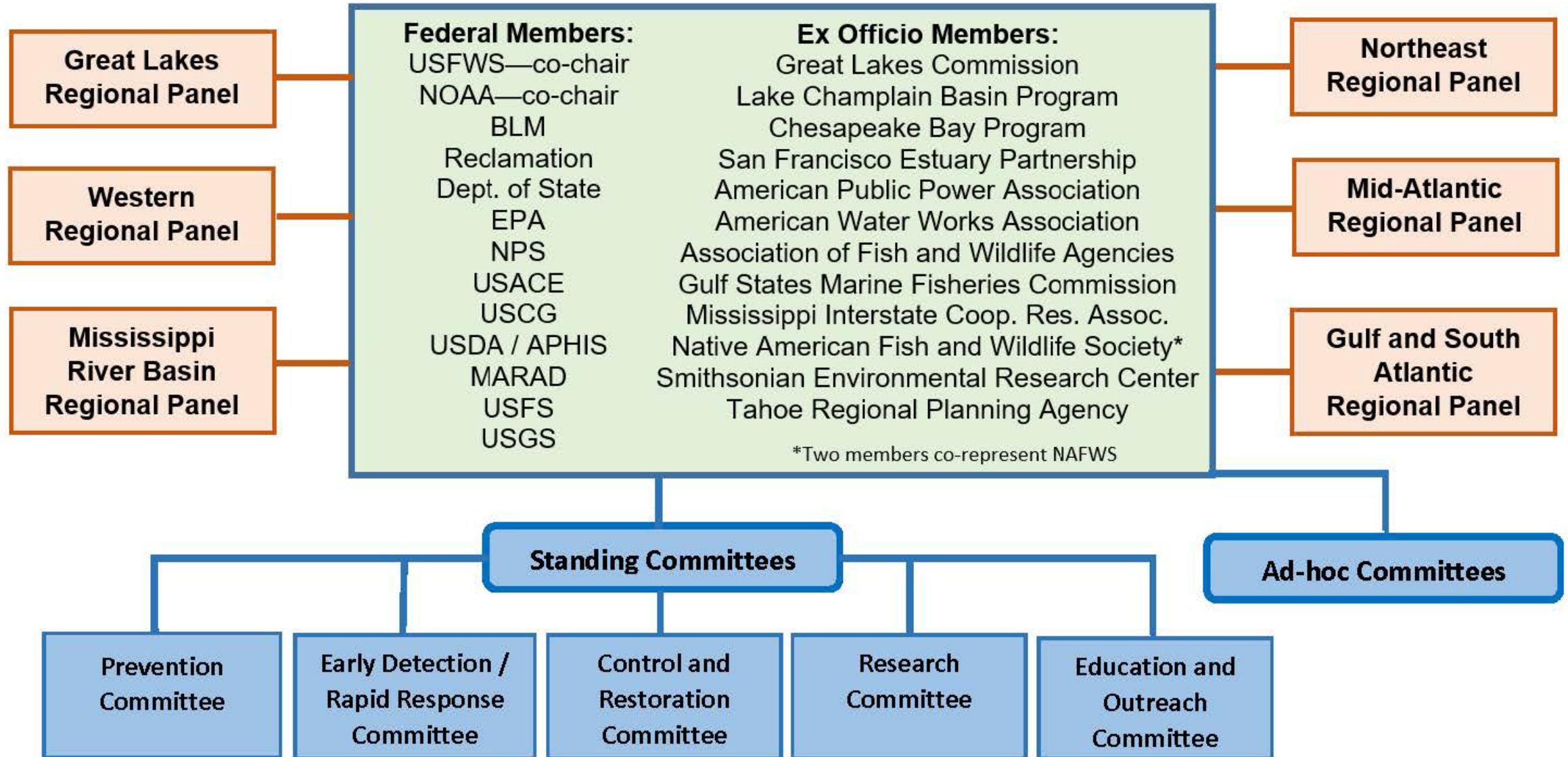
ESTABLISHED by Congress with the passage of NANPCA in 1990 and reauthorized with the passage of the NISA in 1996.

MISSION: Develop and implement a program for waters of the United States to prevent the introduction and dispersal of ANS; to monitor, control and study such species; and to disseminate related information.

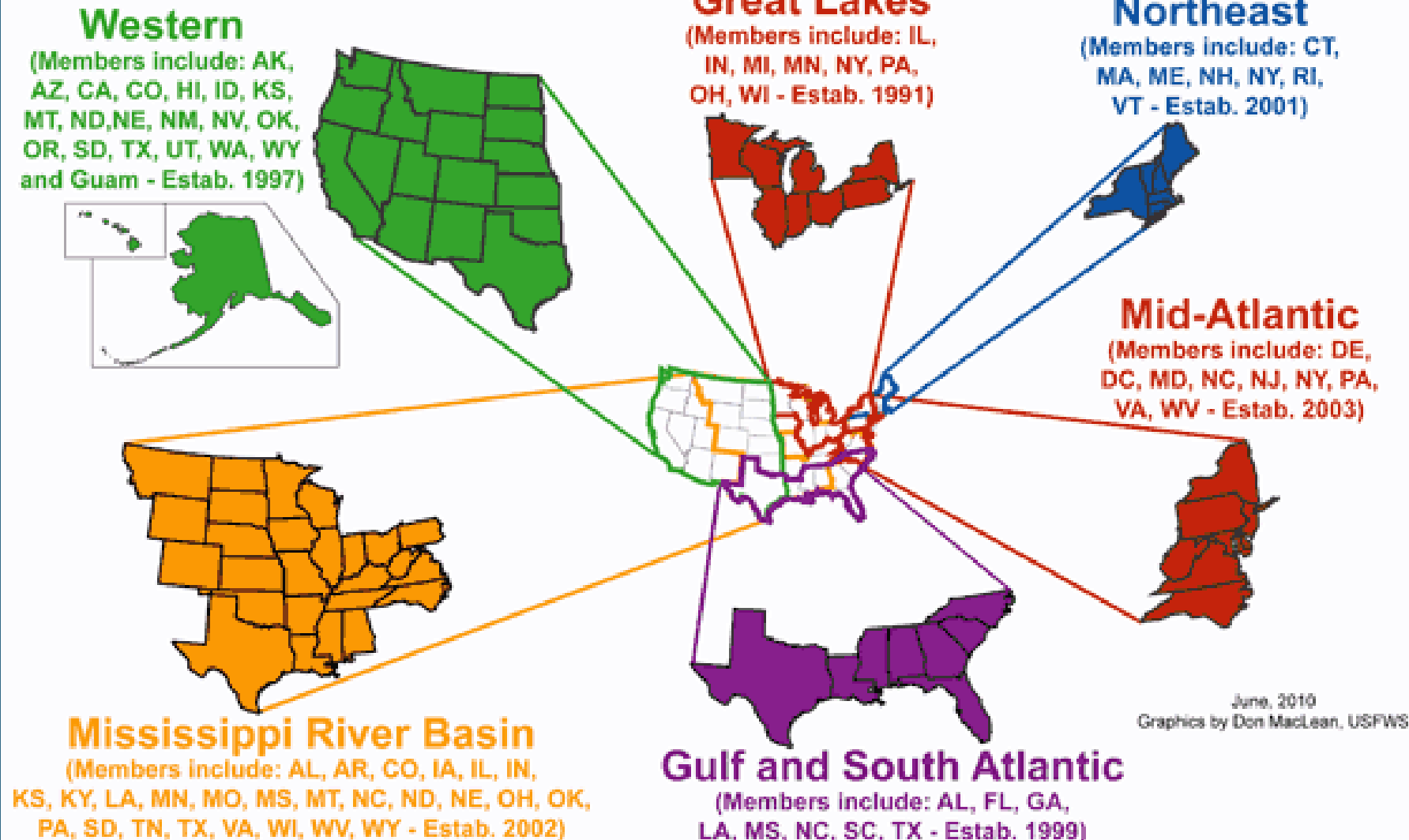
STRUCTURE: Composed of 13 Federal, 13 ex-officio members, 6 Regional Panels, 5+ Sub-committees

- The only Federally-mandated intergovernmental organization solely dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic invasive species.

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Structure

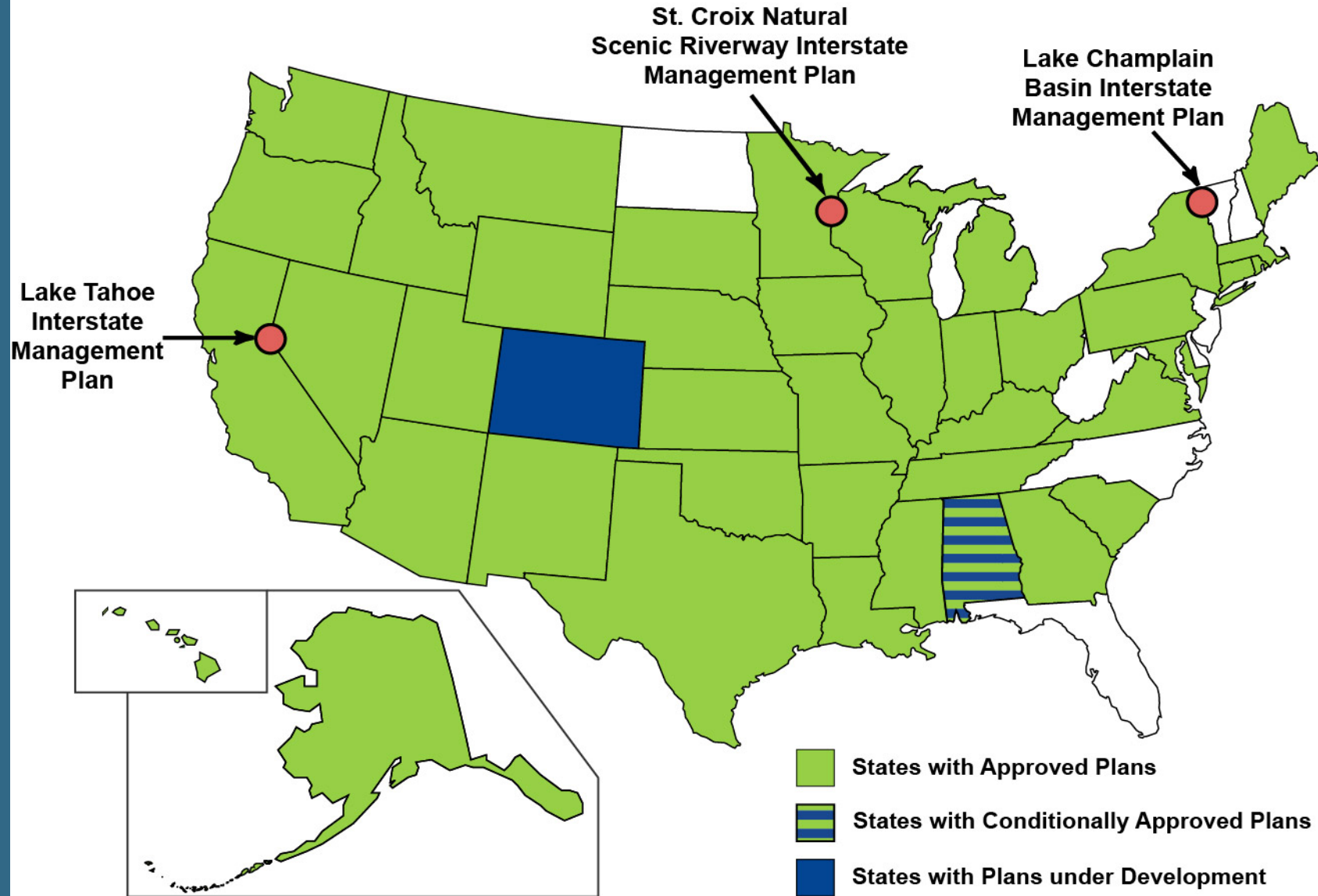


The Regional Panels of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force



Status of State ANS Management Plans

(43 Approved Plans - 40 State, and 3 Interstate)



August, 2019
Graphics by Don MacLean, USFWS

Last ANS Task Force Meeting

Beltsville, Maryland; November 6-7, 2019

Action Items:

- Develop a concise synopsis of key invasive species interagency organizations
- Co-Chairs will establish an ad-hoc subcommittee to review the Draft ANS Task Force Bylaws and operating procedures. Members interested in serving on the subcommittee should let the co-chairs know by December 1.
- EPA and USCG will report out at the next ANS Task Force meeting on “Intergovernmental Response Framework for Vessel Discharge Risks” and how the ANS Task Force can engage.
- ABYC will be invited to provide an update on the status of the Technical Information Report marketing at the next ANS Task Force meeting
- Members and regional panels are invited to provide suggestions to the co-chairs on format, content, and layout of the next Report to Congress.
- Subcommittees will refine their work plans and resubmit them to the ANS Task Force by December 16. Members and panels will provide comments on the work plans by January 13.

ANS Task Force Strategic Plan for 2020-2025



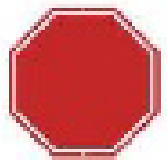
COORDINATION

Coordinate a national ANS program for waters of the United States



CONTROL & RESTORATION

Contain and control established ANS and restore native species and ecosystems



PREVENTION

Prevent the establishment and spread of existing ANS



RESEARCH

Facilitate research on ANS threats, impacts, and controls



EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE

Identify and respond to new species detections in a timely manner to prevent their establishment and spread



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Conduct outreach and education to increase awareness concerning the threats of ANS



Coordination Goal



Maximize the organizational effectiveness of the ANS Task Force by establishing effective processes that create opportunities for members and participants to work collaboratively across agency and organizational lines.

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Develop bylaws and membership expectations for the members and regional panels
- Establish a process for members to respond to recommendations brought forward by the regional panels
- Annually assess ANSTF accomplishments and report on the progress and gaps to the Strategic Plan and report results to Congress



Prevention Goal



Develop strategies to identify, assess, and manage the risk of ANS and their pathways to prevent new introductions in the waters of the United States

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Evaluate and refine the NISC/ANS Task Force pathway risk assessment process; complete guidelines for the use and interpretation of these tools
- Work with Federal agencies to make importation data electronically available and searchable for species imported into the United States
- Assess new ANS introductions to determine where prevention measures may have been lacking, been ineffective, or resulted from gaps in authority
- Enter into national prevention practices with responsible industry sectors that consider invasion risks



EDRR Goal



Develop strategies to inform a nationally coordinated EDRR approach

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Develop a framework for the use of horizon-scanning tools to determine U.S. hotspots to be targeted for monitoring
- Develop a report describing available tools for interpretation of eDNA detection patterns, including conclusions and recommendations regarding current best practices and future research needs
- Develop guidance on threshold and decision-making criteria to determine appropriate management actions to new species detections
- Develop a report describing where emergency response funds are currently in use and provide a model to establish and administer an emergency rapid response fund



Control and Restoration Goal



Facilitate capabilities to control established ANS populations and restore impacted habitats

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Assess state of each ANS Management and Control Plan, including current activity and management needs
- Draft guidance for ANS Management and Control Plan development
- Survey members and panels for gaps in control and restoration; inform the ANSTF of the gaps for consideration as a future research priority
- Identify Federal and non-federal entities that have the ability develop and test new control and restoration measures; partner with these entities to address gaps identified in control and restoration measures



Research Goal



Facilitate research in support of implementing an ANS Program for waters of the United States

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Develop an annual priority research list that shows both regional and national priorities.
- Survey members and regional panels for a list of research entities that have the ability to address ANS research needs
- Develop a model for ANSTF research grant program, including exploration of options for obtaining funds to administer the program



Education and Outreach Goal



Develop strategies to increase awareness and change behaviors responsible for introducing and spreading ANS in waters of the United States

Draft FY 2020 Work plan Outputs:

- Conduct an assessment of ANS national campaigns and ANSTF guidelines to evaluate progress of outreach goals and effectiveness in changing behavior
- Finish the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers portal to serve as a clearinghouse for campaign materials
- Define and identify leaders for an ANS Community of Practice to provide a forum for dialogue to share ideas, evaluate data, and improve outreach tools and methods.
- Develop templates for ANS Task Force messaging and briefings to ensure consistency

COMING SOON

SAH Website Phase II: Partner Portal

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Be A Good Steward. Clean, Drain, Dry.

StopAquaticHitchhikers.org

GRAPHICS LIBRARY



MARKETING SHOWROOM

CHECK THESE LOCATIONS FOR INVASIVE SPECIES:

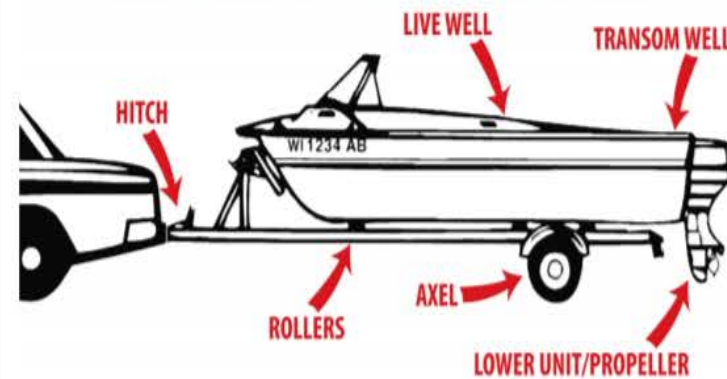


IMAGE LIBRARY

INVASIVE SPECIES RESOURCES

THANK YOU!



Dedicated to the prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species

Susan Pasko

ANS Task Force Executive Secretary

57725 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041

Phone: 703-358-2466

Email: Susan_Pasko@fws.gov

For more information, visit the ANS Task Force website or Subscribe to our Newsletter!