

**Lake Tahoe Aquatic Species Working Group**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

USFS Tahoe Basin Management Unit South Lake Tahoe, CA

Attending: Jenny Francis, Invasive Species Coordinator/TRCD; Nicole Cartwright, Americorps/TRCD; Alyssa Shook, Americorps/TRCD; Rita Whitney, TRPA; Dennis Zabaglo, TRPA; Damian Higgins, USFWS; Lars Anderson, USDA-ARS; Sudeep Chandra, UNR; Ted Thayer, TRPA; John Warpeha, Washoe Tribes Environmental Protection Dept.; Richard Vacirca, USFWS-LTBMU; Marion Wittmann, UCSB, TERC; Denise Walther, USFWS; Jonathan Thompson, USFWS; Tina Hopkins, USDA-LTBMU; Val Van Way, CA State Lands Commission; Eric Gillies, CA State Lands Commission

**Next Meeting**

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007

10am-1pm LTBWCG

2pm-5pm AIS working group

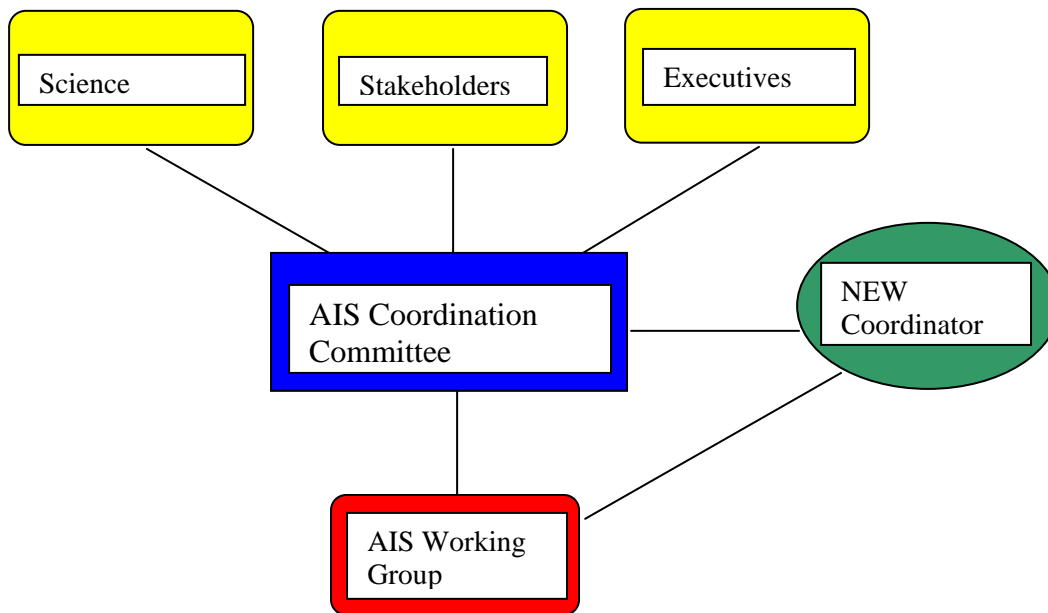
**1. Introductions –Round robin**

**2. 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Update-**

- 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian funds available
- 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Conference Las Vegas, NV Nov 26-27 or Nov 26-28

**3. AIS Coordinator Position**

- The hired coordinator will focus 70% of his/her time on the Tahoe Basin with a minor focus on northern Nevada. He or she will be housed in the TRPA office. The position will be advertised in 4-6 weeks and will be filled before the end of the year. This person will generate more funds as well as a rapid response plan.
- See chart below



- Executives will appoint a person from their agency to sit on the committee.
- Group will wait until the coordinator is hired to see if Jenny is to run the working group.
- Coordinator is to make committee stay on task to reach deliverables.

#### 4. Funding Updates

- Army Corps money passed through the CTC and was signed on Tuesday.
- Draft form of the Aquatic Invasive Species SOW Revision 7/24/07 distributed. *See handout.* Lars Believes that 25K for the Invertebrate Monitoring Plan is too small. The match money for the monitoring plan questioned. The impact study will be tied into the management plan. The USFWS has more enforceability power that the TRPA does not have. The possibility of leveraging funding questioned. Sudeep stated that the invertebrate lab work will cost more than is allocated for it. It might be possible to be supplemented. This money will be used to start the program and then the group will work together to find more funding. Lars believes a little more money is needed to mitigate.
- SNPLMA 8 money will available in the spring and will be focused on dealing with existing populations of invasive species. Multiple proposals by the USFS and the USFWS submitted. The scope needs to be rewritten. SNPLMA gave us Round 8 placeholder status.
- Lars believes that the plan will not take 300K and would like the money shifted to inspection. The State of CA did it for 1/3 of that cost. Once the group gets a bid for a consultant then the allocation of that money should be determined. Lars is afraid that the Draft will become set in stone.
- If the plan incorporated scientific documentation then it will cost that much. Science is needed to sway Lahontan.
- There is potential funding from the Western Regional Panel of about 10K. CA needs to get plan together.

## 5. News

- Man dies in Milfoil in the Columbia River
- Quagga now is San Diego County
- Quagga may be in Lake Powell
- NDOW sampling determined that there is no quagga mussels in northern NV. Steve Wells might train the group on how to see if veligers are in water. The protocol to test is easy.
- RCD enewsletter is out.
- Sierra Sun had an article about the aquatic invasives.
- Southern NV Water Authority, NDOW trying to make monitoring plan.
- Divers working to start sampling sites. They use bricks and PVC pipes. As of now, none found.
- Lake Mead has a boat wash system. It is large and involves four lanes of traffic. There has been a bid for 300K for one, self contained unit. The cost will drop if the unit can be tied into the sewer system. There has been another offer from Bob Schweitzer at KNB sales.
- The CAL F&G has some monitoring money and is finishing up electrofishing. The report is almost done. Still looking at migration/ location patterns
- Sudeep will tag fish (Bluegill and bass) to see if they are moving out of the marina. He will have a better idea in the spring. What action should be done about the homeowners in the Tahoe Keys who are becoming passionate about their fish was discussed. Education and outreach needed for Keys and Trout Creek area. Homeowners need to be shown the benefits or removal. There are now no native fish in the Keys. A population trend assessment for each area is needed. Eurasian water milfoil needs to be taken care of immediately.

## 6. BOR Update

- The grant is administered by Jenny. This year set up the groundwork.
- Remetrix is a company that did hydroacoustic surveys to show the status of the aquatic weeds before their removal. Surveys should be done after their removal as well.
- By December, protocols will be written and submitted to grants for hand removal and bottom barriers. Need to determine how to prevent the most turbidity. The TRPA has a continuous turbidity meter.
- The Tahoe Keys will be dredging this month. Toby Tyler at Lahontan is the contact person about the Keys
- Lars will be doing one more survey this fall in the next 3 weeks. He will be looking at the interactions between curly leaf and the milfoil. Hydroacoustic surveys will not determine between the two. In the future, yearly hydroacoustic surveys will be needed. Treatment for curlyleaf and Eurasian water milfoil differ.
- A few divers are available on short notice. If the project is longer, more notice needs to be given.
- 20 bottom barriers takes about 3 hours to install.

## **7. AIS Workshop Update**

- Susie is working on fixing the data entry matrix. Susie will be writing most of the report. The draft will be done by mid November. By Christmas, a final report will be ready and on the TRCD website. It will also be circulated to attendees.

**ACTION:** Review the Table of Contents and email Alyssa ([ashook\\_trcd@yahoo.com](mailto:ashook_trcd@yahoo.com)) any comments by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Short Term Goals**

- The groups outreach strategy will be worked on once the coordinator starts. Hiring the coordinator should be a group effort.

**ACTION:** Brainstorm ideas for future outreach efforts.

## **9. MOU**

- The group discussed the possibility of creating their own MOU. It was decided to wait until the coordinator is hired.

**ACTION:** Think about the pros and cons of creating own MOU and brainstorm any new ideas regarding it.

## **10. Western Aquatic Plant Management Society**

- Meeting to be held in Tahoe, March 2-5. Being a sponsor is an option

**ACTION:** Lars will email group about event.

## **11. Next Agenda**

- The next meeting agenda will include a discussion of species not talked about like bull frogs to make a list of priorities.
- The inclusion of stakeholders from Pyramid Lake was discussed. Dan Mosely would be the person to contact from Pyramid Lake.