

**ANSTF Fall 2014 Meeting Update**  
**NEANS Meeting, Gloucester, Massachusetts**  
**Dec 1-2, 2014**

**ANSTF Update**

- The Last ANSTF Meeting was in the Falls Church, Virginia from November 5-6, 2014. The meeting presentations are posted on the ANSTF website and the draft meeting minutes will be posted on the website in a month or so.
  - [http://www.anstaskforce.gov/Meetings/2014\\_November/default.php](http://www.anstaskforce.gov/Meetings/2014_November/default.php)
- This past year we have had some problems with the website but those are now corrected and you can access the Experts Database. In the future there will be more updates and improvements to the website.
- November 4 was an All Panel Meeting which included a Panel Grant Award training. This generated additional questions and Laura Norcutt will set up a follow up teleconference to address additional grant application and reporting questions.
  - Other topics discussed at the All Panel meeting were NISA Re-authorization. The WRP and Gulf and South Atlantic Panels submitted a joint recommendation to the ANSTF to consider re-authorization. Michele Temblay and Erika Jensen agreed to host an all panel teleconference to propose improvements to NISA to the ANSTF.
  - Sustainable Panel funding was also discussed and agreed that within the NISA discussions, the panels would explore alternate funding models such as the WSFR Program. This topic was also a recommendation to the ANSTF from the WRP and Gulf and South Atlantic Regional Panel. During the ANSTF Meeting, Christy Vigfusson of the FWS Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program gave a presentation on grants that could be used for AIS. ***A handout with answers to WSFR questions is provided.***
  - The WRP and Mississippi River Basin Panel submitted a recommendation to the ANSTF requesting the ANSTF send a joint letter to USGS expressing need and support for the NAS Database to sustain the alert system and reinstate and bolster the aquatic plants in the database. The ANSTF agreed to send a letter to the USGS.
  - During the ANSTF, the Panels agreed that before future ANSTF Meetings, they should coordinate their recommendations and provide more joint recommendations and propose specific actions.

- No state or species management plans were approved at the November ANSTF Meeting. However, quite a few Action items came out of the November 2014 meeting:
  - ANSTF will follow up with OLE on Marshall Meyers' proposal for LEMIS to develop species-specific codes (similar to what was done for lionfish) for the two marine and freshwater tropical fish categories.
  - ANSTF members with the proper areas of expertise should consider attending the ABYC Summit on Boat Construction or find others that may be appropriate to attend.
  - The ANSTF Outreach Committee is seeking ANSTF Members interested in participating on the Committee. Contact Doug Jensen or Elizabeth Brown.
  - ANSTF will continue to work with DOT Rep to determine next steps for the SAH! Stop Sign/Billboard Issue.
  - ANSTF members will contact Marshall Meyers if they are interested in helping him with the revitalizing of the Habitattitude campaign.
  - FWS will phase out the ANS Hotline in favor of reporting AIS sightings using USGS NAS Alert System and other state reporting systems.
  - The FWS Maryland Fishery Resource Office will address Maryland DNR Snakehead Plan comments and FWS will post the notice in the Federal Register for public comment. Comments will be addressed by the May 2015 ANSTF Meeting.
  - Stas Burgiel will provide the briefing paper on fracking to the ANSTF. The ANSTF will help engage the Fracking industry. The joint ANSTF Prevention Committee will determine best way to approach working with industry to develop Fracking BMP's. (Marshall Meyers, MAP are interested in helping. Check to see if USCG is interested in helping id experts).
  - ANSTF members are to provide information on gaps, comments on the document and graphics for the Draft Report to Congress to Susan Pasko by November 21.
  - Regional Panels will provide a list of vacant positions to Laura Norcutt for help to fill the positions and will circulate the list to the ANSTF.
  - ANSTF will send support letter to ELI for Lionfish Control Workshop.
  - FWS will strive to fill the Executive Secretary position in 2015.
  - FWS will respond to MSRBP letter on black carp and snakehead markers; Midwest region of FWS will continue to work with USACE to develop black carp markers.
  
- The Spring ANSTF meeting will be hosted by the Gulf and South Atlantic Panel, probably in Florida May 6-7, 2015.
  - The Lionfish Plan will tentatively be up for approval
  - Potential State Plans up for approval or discussion include: WV, NC, MD, and FL
  - The rest of the spring agenda is under development.