



NEANS Meeting Agenda

May 14-15, 2014

Marlboro College Graduate Center
Brattleboro, VT

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

1:00 PM Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, review of meeting agenda, and updates by Co-chair

Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant, sole Co-chair

ANS updates and Panel business:

- Interim co-chair - Mark
- October 2013 meeting summary and February 2014 call summary acceptance – northeastans.org/meetings.htm
- Schedule mid-term Panel conference call in August 2014 – Mark and Michele Tremblay
- Schedule November meeting in Massachusetts (coastal location requested) – Mark and Michele
- 2013-2014 NEANS Panel budget update – Meg Modley, Treasurer
- ANS Task Force May 2014 meeting update – Sandy Keppner for Laura Norcutt, Acting Executive Secretary
- Invasive Species Advisory Council and National Invasive Species Council – updates from members present

2:00 PM Highlights from Vermont

Moderated by Tim Hunt, VT Department of Environmental Conservation (invited)

2:30 PM Roundtable—really fast-paced updates from Panelists and Panel participants

Moderated by Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant

3:30 PM NEANS Panel Steering Committee meeting

Agenda distributed to Steering Committee members under separate cover

6:00 PM Meet in Hampton Inn lobby for group supper

Thursday, May 15, 2014

8:00 AM Work groups meeting time with continental breakfast provided for all participants

9:15 AM Work group reports and votes on further project funding approvals

10:15 AM Spotlight on Species: float planes pilots and what they are doing to prevent the spread of invasive species

*Steve Williams, Field Director, State of Maine, Sea Pilots Association
Ken Costa, Field Director, State of New Hampshire, Sea Pilots Association*

11:15 AM Chinese Mitten Crab project

Alyson Eberhardt, NH Sea Grant and Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant

11:30 AM Public comment period

12:15 PM Meeting adjourns

NEANS Panel • May 2014 meeting participants

name		affiliation	email	telephone	ext
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Grimaldi	Alicia	US Environmental Protection Agency Region 1	Grimaldi.Alicia@epa.gov	617.918.1806	
Hahnel	Karen	ME Department of Environmental Protection	Karen.A.Hahnel@maine.gov	207.215.9270	
Harman	Willard	NY State Federation of Lake Associations	harmanwn@oneonta.edu	607.547.8778	6
Hunt	Tim	VT Department of Environmental Conservation	tim.hunt@state.vt.us	802.490.6124	
Keppner	Sandra	US Fish and Wildlife Service	sandra_keppner@fws.gov	585.948.5445	2226
Malchoff	Mark	Lake Champlain Sea Grant and LCRI	malchom@plattsburgh.edu	518.564.3037	
McPhedran	John	ME Department of Environmental Protection	John.McPhedran@maine.gov	207.215.9863	
Modley	Meg	Lake Champlain Basin Program	MModley@lcbp.org	802.372.3213	
Murray	Nancy	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Nancy.Murray@ct.gov	860.424.3589	
Pederson	Judith	MIT Sea Grant College Program	jpgederso@mit.edu	617.252.1741	
Reece	Lisa	Maine Aeronautics Association	lisa@woodex-meco.com	207.350.2122	
Smagula	Amy	NH Department of Environmental Services	amy.smagula@des.nh.gov	603.271.2248	
Straub	James	MA Department of Conservation and Recreation	jim.straub@state.ma.us	617.626.1411	
Surprenant	Leslie	Office of Invasive Species Coordination	ljsurpre@gw.dec.state.ny.us	518.402.8980	
Tremblay	Michele	naturesource communications	mlt@naturesource.net	603.796.2615	
Wilkinson	Meg	New York Natural Heritage Program	wilkinson@nynlp.org	518.402.8983	
Williams	Steve	Seaplane Pilots Association	swilliams@mecoseal.com	207.350.2120	



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Meeting Summary Draft • October 23-24, 2013
Queensbury Hotel • Glens Falls, NY

Panelists present in Providence and via conference call/webinar (c/w): Beth Bisson, Maine Sea Grant College Program; Ann Bove, VT Department of Environmental Conservation; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency; Karen Hahnel for John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Bill Harman, NYS Federation of Lake Associations; Larry Harris, University of New Hampshire; Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant Project; Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program; Murray, CT Department of Environment and Energy (c/w); Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant; Theresa Portante-Lyle, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

Others participating via conference call/webinar (c/w): Ellen Marsden, University of Vermont; Alyson Eberardt, New Hampshire Sea Grant (c/w); John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection (c/w), Laura Norcutt, US Fish and Wildlife Service for Susan Mangin, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force; Michele L. Tremblay, NEANS Panel contractor Program Manager (naturesource communications) and Meg Wilkinson, iMAPInvasives.

Full Panel meeting: welcome, introductions, review of meeting agenda, and updates by Co-Chairs – Ann Bove, VT Department of Environmental Conservation and Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined the agenda for the NEANS Panel meeting. Meg Modley and Mark Malchoff provided an overview of the canal tour itinerary for later in the afternoon. Work group participation was outlined including climate change (Judy Pederson), Spread Prevention (Karen Hahnel).

ANS updates and Panel business:

- The Panelists and guests introduced themselves and their organizations
- Accept March 2013 meeting summary
Decision: The March 2013 meeting summary was accepted.
- Schedule Panel mid-term call in February 2014
Action: Michele Tremblay will poll Panelists for the weeks of February 3 and 10, 2014.
- Schedule May 2014 meeting in Vermont
The Panel is looking at the relative merits of northern vs. southern Vermont. Michele suggested that the Panel see if there could be a no-cost host or other cost-saving venue for the meeting as was the case in Québec two years ago when Isabelle Simard hosted the meeting. If member states, provinces, and other organizations could help by hosting the location, meeting costs would be reduced.
Action: Michele Tremblay will poll Panelists for dates in May 2014 for the spring Panel meeting, secure a facility and distribute a save the date message

to Panel@NortheastANS.org. **Meg, Ann, and Michele will work together to explore no- or low-cost venues.**

- Bylaws review and discussion – Ann reviewed the proposed revisions to the bylaws, which Susan Mangin, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force has reviewed. The changes are primarily in articles 2, 6, and 4 and appendix 2. Meg Modley moved to approve the revised bylaws. Bill Harman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Decision: The Panel approved the revised bylaws.

Action: Michele will date, format, and post the revised bylaws on the Panel website and distribute a notice to the Panel listserve.

- 2013-2014 NEANS Panel budget – Meg Modley provided an update on the budget. She reported that the new allocation for the Panel would be \$40,000 instead of \$50,000. This is the last year that there will be any carryover funding that has already been allocated so the Panel must operate on \$40,000 from this year forward. The \$40,000 is allocated for the next five years with no assurance of continued funding. Susan Mangin indicated that more reductions are likely. Beginning in 2015, Meg said that there would be one on-site Panel meeting only unless other funding or alternatives are found. Additional cuts that Meg wrote into the budget including no travel to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meetings for the contractor and travel to one or less Panel meeting. Even at \$50,000, there would be no discretionary funding. Ann Bove acknowledged Michele Tremblay's negotiation work and other efforts to reduce costs and to implement other efficiencies.
- ANS Task Force June conference call and November 2013 meetings update – Laura Norcutt, US Fish and Wildlife Service reported for Susan Mangin, Executive Secretary, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force. Susan sends her regrets. Travel was reduced for the Service because of sequestration budget cuts and furloughs last year and there was no spring 2013 meeting. Instead, there was a three-hour webinar with no decisions made. Those items and their details are posted at http://www.northeastans.org/forum/?page_id=79 and will be carried to the November 2013 meeting in Silver Spring.
- Invasive Species Advisory Council and National Invasive Species Council – there were no members present to provide reports.
- Call for nominations and election of Panel co-chair – Mark indicated that Meg had nominated Theresa Portante-Lyle, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission. There were no further nominations. The nominations are closed. Ann called for the vote. Theresa was elected co-chair.
- Recognition of Ann Bove's two years of service as co-chair – Mark Malchoff presented Ann with a certificate of appreciation and a festive fall floral arrangement.

Roundtable (Panelists' and participants' updates are posted on the Panel Forum at http://www.northeastans.org/forum/?page_id=79)

New Hampshire

Larry Harris reported that the Gulf of Maine was very warm and there was invasive species domination that in some places achieved 00% cover. There were temperate sensitive species including tunicates in the northern part of the Gulf. Hemigrapsus was in Machias and moving toward Canada. Sagarcia (a sea anemone) seems to have disappeared, which was formerly in a marine in Salem Harbor.

New Brunswick

Bruce Thorpe is starting a marine collection of Gulf of Maine annual monitoring. Koi were found in the Saint John River. Some Fredericton pet stores are selling rainbow snakehead, a smaller species, which might not survive the cold Maritime winters. There is not a prohibited species list in the province.

New York

Meghan Johnstone, The Nature Conservancy Adirondack Park, reported that the early detection program held three plant training sessions for over one hundred volunteers on as many waterways. Several infestations outside of the park were found. Have started surveying for spiny water fleas sampling six waterbodies (negative findings). In response to mandatory Lake George boat inspection station, TNC is working on a white paper is being drafted with Lake Champlain Basin Program, Lake George Association, and Paul Smith College since January and should be complete by the end of 2013.

Bill Harman, New York State Federal of Lake Associations, reported on the new graduate lake management program and other management efforts.

Meg Wilkinson shared news about iMAP invasives, the database for New York. Went live in 2010 and includes over 80K taxa by many organizations and have exchanged data with USGS. There is a southern Cayuga inlet infestation of Chinese mitten crab. PRISM partnerships training are held in the spring in each region. A 2014 identification training and early detection training for iMAP will be convened. Further information may be found at www.NYIMAPinvasives.org.

Mark Malchoff updated the Panelists on an effort to study a barrier for the Champlain Canal (<http://www.uvm.edu/seagrant/publications/69>), which includes Champlain Canal profile and commercial shipping tonnage information. The traffic is tracked by lock activity, which cannot be easily disaggregated.

Vermont

Ann Bove reported that only new water chestnut and European frogbit (not new species to the state but new locations) were found. There is limited management action with the three frogbit sites. BLOGBLOG.

Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program, reported that Local implementation Grants for AIS Spread Prevention are open for up to \$15,000 and eligible grant applications are due November 4, 2013. The Lake Champlain Basin AIS Rapid Response Task Force has not had to meet to respond to a new or spread of existing AIS into basin waters during summer 2013. The Task Force will meet this winter to discuss the risk assessment process and to make improvements to the process. The Lake Champlain Basin Program supported ten boat launch stewards for four days a week between Memorial Day and Labor Day (some worked through the end of September) at designated high use NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and VT Department of Fish and Wildlife boat launches around Lake Champlain. Results will be presented at North American Lake Management Society 2013 conference. The Champlain Canal barrier feasibility study with the USACE and the New York State Canal Corporation have advanced to a project cooperation agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Lake Champlain Basin Program trained the first Champlain Canal and Erie Canal boat launch stewards for a pilot program in

summer 2013. Asian clams were found in a few more locations in Lake George which indicates that detection of small clams under 2mm in size is challenging and management plans for 2014 are under development. No populations of spiny waterflea have been detected in Lake Champlain as of yet. Monitoring continues in the Champlain Canal, Lake George, and Lake Champlain.

Massachusetts

Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant, reported on a terrestrial mile-a-minute plant in fairly large areas taking beetle that feed on it have been released on Cape Cod and the north shore.

Maine

Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection, reported that there are no new infestations (so far) this year. The courtesy boat inspection program awarded several grants to organizations. The data are incoming from the lake associations. Last year, there were over 81,000 inspections, which increases each year. In 2011, there were inspections required as a condition of the boating tournament permits. There is no new legislation.

Beth Bisson, Maine Sea Grant reported that Sea Grant with ME Department of Marine Resources are hosting a Green Crab Summit on December 16, 2013 (December 18 storm date) in Augusta, Maine. The animals have become a significant problem for the fishery including lobster traps and clam flat infiltration. There are questions as to whether it is a new or different species and commercial uses for the crabs such as fertilizer or fishmeal for aquaculture.

Federal

Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Agency, reported that she has just started with invasive species. Most of EPA's work in invasive species is conducted by their dive team. They are studying effects of invasive tunicates on eelgrass. Eric Nelson is working with NHDES on an Asian Clam survey in Cobbetts Pond and the Merrimack River. Vermont received three days of help from the EPA divers.

NEANS Panel draft recommendations for Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force –

Ann and Mark led the discussion on the recommendations drafted and submitted to date. Michele finalized Paul Gregory's Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker's evaluation recommendation and submitted it to the Aquatic Nuisance Task Force.

Meg drafted the recommendation to restore funding to the six regional panels to at least \$50,000 per Panel from the current \$40,000. Michele asked if the NEANS Panel wanted to include specific language that captured the August mid-term conference call discussion about Task Force participating agencies contributing at least \$60,000 nationally to accomplish this modest objection. Language will be added to remind ANS Task Force members that the \$50,000 funding was allocated. The Task force will be reminded of the Panel's work including but not limited to the importance and outcomes of semi-annual meetings, management, workshops, projects, and products and other tools produced.

Meg plans to propose a recommendation for the Panel to make to the Task Force regarding the *Champlain Canal Aquatic Invasive Nuisance Species Barrier Options Study* and distribute the draft to the Panel before submitting it to the Task Force.

Judy Pederson suggested that there be more implementation of the national management plans. There are plans that are not yet complete or have not been implemented and the Task Force should dedicate resources to them.

Mark noted that the links on the federal agency logos on the ANS Task Force page are non-functional and incorrect.

Decision: The Panel will submit recommendations to evaluate the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers campaign (previously submitted), restore the regional panels' funding to at least \$50,000 each, and conduct a Champlain Barrier Feasibility Study.

Action: Michele Tremblay will provide the logo/link error information to the US Fish and Wildlife Service webmaster.

Work Group reports

Mark reported on the spread prevention group meeting. The key chain page with an embedded survey and spread prevention message is posted. The foam key chains have a QR code and a URL, which leads users to the webpage. There are five responses to date, which is indicative of late delivery and distribution of the key chains.

The online guide should be expanded with freshwater species Asian Carps (Mark for some Carps, Judy will send fact sheets), Water Soldier (Meghan and Meg), New Zealand Mud Snail (Leslie Surprenant) images and descriptions. Marine species may be added at any time by using the template for current species. Judy indicated that Nancy Balcom is working on some marine spread prevention.

More key chains should be ordered as part of spread prevention projects, which might be fundable such as boat launch host programs. There may also be an opportunity to offer a buy-in for future orders where users would commit to quantities for which they would pay.

Judy Pederson reported that the climate change work group focused on looking at northern movement of some species. The climate change work group feels that their constituents are scientists and people whom are out doing surveys.

Didemnum vexillum (tunicate)

Bnonnemaisonia hamifera (red Alga)

Ostrea edulis (European edible oyster)

Diplosoma listerianum (didemnid tunicate)

Clavelina lipadiformis (Lamp post tunicate)

Styela clava (sea potato tunicate)

Codium fragile subspecies fragile (green alga)

Bugula neritina (bryozoan)

Tricellaria inopinata (bryozoan)

Membranipora membranacea (bryozoans)

Hemigrapsus sanguineus (Asian shore crab)

Heterosiphonia japonica (filamentous red alga)

Facelina bostoniensis (sea slug)

Petrolisthes amatus (crab larvae from the south)

Centropristis striata (Black sea bass)

Tautoga onitis (Tautog)

Corbicula fluminea (Asian clam, fresh water)

Hydrilla verticillata (monoecious and dioecious forms fresh water aquatic plant)

Stratiotes aloides (water soldier, aquatic plant)

Judy indicated that the work group would request funds from the NEANS Panel for a climate change meeting next year. Judy directed Panelists' attention to www.NERACOOS.org to show the highs and lows of salinity, sea temperature, and other data.

Action: Michele will recycle the Hydrilla Watch Card work group listserve for the Spread Prevention Work Group. Karen and Mark will provide a subscriber list to Michele

Action: Michele will create a ClimateChange@NortheastANS.org listserve Judy will provide a subscriber list to Michele.

Highlights from New York – Leslie Surprenant, NYS State Department of Environmental Conservation presented a synopsis on the Invasive Species Coordination Unit activities, now part of Division of Lands and Forests Division, and an overview on the PRISMs as well as other aquatic and invasive tools.

Her presentation is online at <http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201310/>

Morphology and Function of Champlain Canal relative to AIS Transfer: Past, Present, and Future – Ellen Marsden, University of Vermont provided information on Her presentation is online at <http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201310/>

Chinese Mitten Crab project – Beth Bisson, Maine Sea Grant; Alyson Eberhardt, New Hampshire Sea Grant; and Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant presented an update on their three-state Chinese Mitten Crab Project.

Action: Beth Bisson, Alyson Eberhardt, and Judy Pederson will make requests for the Panel participants in the Chinese Mitten Crab project including

- **Identify contacts**
- **Funding resources**
- **Document and verify sightings (SERC)**
- **Surveys and mapping**
- **Quarantine procedures**
- **Control methods review**
- **Eradication**
- **Monitoring**
- **Assessment Outreach**
- **Regulatory compliance**
- **Rapid response plan reviewers**

Their presentation is online at <http://www.northeastans.org/docs/meetings/201310/>

Public comment period

There were no comments from the public.

Ann and Mark adjourned the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, natresource communications



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Conference Call Summary Draft • February 6, 2014

Panelists participating in conference call: Nancy Balcom, University of Connecticut Sea Grant; Ann Bove, VT Department of Environmental Conservation; Alicia Grimaldi, US Environmental Protection Administration; Sandra Keppner, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Jason Leblanc, NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture; Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant; John McPhedran, ME Department of Environmental Protection; Nancy Murray, CT Department of Energy and Environment; Judy Pederson, MIT Sea Grant, Amy Smagula, NH Department of Environmental Services; and Jan Smith, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management.

Others participating in conference call: Phil Colarusso, US Environmental Protection Agency Region I; Karen Hahnel, ME Department of Environmental Protection; and Michele L. Tremblay, NEANS Panel contractor (naturesource communications).

Consent agenda – The consent agenda was accepted.

Welcome and roll call – Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant welcomed everyone to the conference call and outlined the agenda. Theresa Portante-Lyle had a last minute meeting and sends her regrets that she could not join the Panel on the call today.

“Looking for Sea Monsters” presentation

Phil Colarusso, US Environmental Protection Agency, provided a presentation on the effects of tunicates on eel grass.

Action: *The Panel will work with Phil Colarusso on possible presentations and tours for the November 14, 2014 meeting, which may be located in Gloucester, Massachusetts.*

Action: *Judy Pederson will forward to Panel@NortheastANS.org a link to a paper on the source of tunicates and their introduction in northeastern North America.*

May meeting agenda draft review and venue selection

Ann Bove was able to use her influence to secure the Marlboro College Graduate Center, with its considerable technology (downtown Brattleboro), at no charge. Michele will be working with the Latchis Hotel, which is within walking distance of the Center on a group room block. The Panel discussed Spotlight on Species session topics including float planes and using invasive species.

Action: *Michele Tremblay will work with Mark Malchoff, Theresa Portante-Lyle, and Ann Bove to finalize the Spotlight on Species for the May 2014 meeting.*

Action: *Michele Tremblay will work with Ann Bove and Amy Smagula on possible field tours for the May 2014 meeting.*

Action: *Michele Tremblay will secure a group room block at the Latchis Hotel and send a save the date with the draft May 2014 agenda to the Panel for their use in travel requests.*

Recommendations for Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force May 2014 meeting

Michele indicated that Meg Modley had been working with Laura Norcutt on a Champlain Canal barrier recommendation but it was unclear if it was on behalf of the NEANS Panel or the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Action: Mark Malchoff will contact Meg Modley regarding the Champlain Canal barrier recommendation that she drafted to be submitted to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and see if it was on behalf of the NEANS Panel or the Lake Champlain Basin Program. (Post conference call note: Meg clarified via an email on February 10, 2014 that she submitted the recommendation on behalf of the NEANS Panel.)

Work Group updates

Karen Hahnel had no further updates on the Online Guide.

Mark reported that the key chain survey is live. Michele is providing to the Spread Prevention Work Group monthly updates on the survey results from the key chain QR code and the direct URL. There is also a prominent link to the survey at NortheastANS.org.

Judy Pederson reported that she has not yet heard from the Climate Change Work Group but will be following up with them.

Other business

Susan Mangin has announced her retirement, which will begin in March. Laura Norcutt will be the Acting Executive Secretary and the regional panels' liaison until a new Executive Secretary is appointed.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned.

Meeting summary prepared by Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications