

Development of Ohio's Rapid Response Plan for ANS

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Why Do We Need a RRP ?

- Stop ANS before they get established
- Another tool for the tool box
- Timing – Currently updating SMP



Process – How to Develop a RRP ?

- RR May be controversial
- Need public buy-in
- Bring people to the table
- How to proceed ?



Public Input

Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop: Developing a Rapid Response Plan for Ohio

The introduction and spread of non-native aquatic invasive species (AIS) is a serious environmental problem that confronts Ohio along with the other Great Lakes states in the region. Great Lakes aquatic invasions, a constant since the 1800s, cause devastating impacts to Ohio's ecological and economic health. Effective AIS management requires a timely response to new aquatic invasions, allowing for the implementation of appropriate eradication and/or control measures. A "rapid response" strategy for newly discovered aquatic invasions is urgently needed to prevent and/or slow the spread of these introduced populations and mitigate associated impacts.

The Ohio Sea Grant College Program, ODNR Division of Wildlife, and the Great Lakes Commission invite you to attend a workshop to lay the groundwork for developing a rapid response plan for Ohio. At this workshop, we will provide an overview of aquatic invasive species issues as they relate to rapid response planning and describe current efforts in Ohio and the Great Lakes region to address rapid response. Participants will then have the opportunity to provide ideas for developing a rapid response plan for Ohio. As significant stakeholders, your input is vital to effectively address this issue. We hope you will attend and contribute your comments and expertise.

Please Join Us: Wednesday, April 18th, 2007; 10:00am – 5:00pm
Lake Erie Nature and Science Center
28728 Wolf Rd
Bay Village, OH 44140
Ph. (440) 671-2000

This workshop is free and lunch will be provided.
We do request that you **please RSVP by April 6, 2007** to:

Email: ajensen@dlc.org
Erika Jensen, Great Lakes Commission
Phone: (734) 971-9135 ext. 139 Fax: (734) 971-9150

For more information, contact:

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- Great Lakes Commission funding (from a National Sea Grant grant) for planning meeting
- Conference calls, conference calls aplenty...
- Develop workshop format and agenda
- Identify invitees

This workshop is sponsored jointly by the Ohio Sea Grant College Program, the ODNR Division of Wildlife, and the Great Lakes Commission, with funding from the National Sea Grant Program.

Guest List

- Sea Grant advisory committees
- Citizen interest: conservation and sport organizations, etc.
- Watershed groups and soil & water conservation districts
- Industry: commercial fishing, recreational fishing, shipping, etc.
- Agency—federal, state, and local: USFWS, US Coast Guard, ODNR, county and city govt., park systems, etc.



...et al.

Plenary Session



- **MCs: Frank Lichtkoppler & Eugene Braig, Ohio Sea Grant**
- **Fred Snyder, Ohio Sea Grant**
- **Erika Jensen & Kathe Glassner-Shwayder, Great Lakes Commission**
- **Doug Keller, Indiana Department of Natural Resources**
- **John Navarro, Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Division of Wildlife**



Nominal Group Process

- “A reasonable, sensible, effective, and responsible Ohio rapid response plan for dealing with aquatic invasive species should include...”



Nominal Group Process

➤ Dave's group

1. Establishment of a framework or flow chart to help agencies walk through a problem (will include environmental and economic feasibility)
2. Need an approved set of tools that can be used for rapid response situations (i.e., chemicals, biological controls, etc.)
3. Federal and state funding must be sought before a problem arises (i.e., dedicated funding)
4. Public information outlets to educate people about AIS (e.g., TV, radio, magazine, etc.)
5. Develop criteria to allow prioritization of which species to address

Nominal Group Process

➤ Eugene's group

1. "War chest" of designated funding
2. Economic impact analysis
3. Sufficient public and stakeholder education both before incident and during rapid response
4. Full-time person at lead agency to coordinate rapid response
5. Identify a lead agency with legislative authority to act
6. Government-affairs staff to write, advise, and testify on legislation

Nominal Group Process

➤ Frank's group

1. Prioritization of species (bang for the buck, likelihood of success, feasible & effective)
2. Multi-pronged approach to securing funding (dedicated funding)
3. Establish incident command system (chain of command)
4. Classify priority sites based on how ecologically pristine they are
5. Strategic plan that has rapid-response actions pre-approved by regulatory agencies

Nominal Group Process

➤ Fred's group

1. Identify adequate funding levels: resources available, find gaps, determine amount of money needed
2. Continue prevention (e.g., vectors) while developing rapid response plan (e.g., advocacy for legislation and enforcement)
3. Formalize monitoring programs, including public as first level for monitoring (passive approach)
4. Establish protocol and transparent process for rapid response plan (ID responsible authorities, professionals, and potentially affected interests)
5. Build in public involvement at all levels of rapid response plan development (watershed, outreach, user groups, etc.)

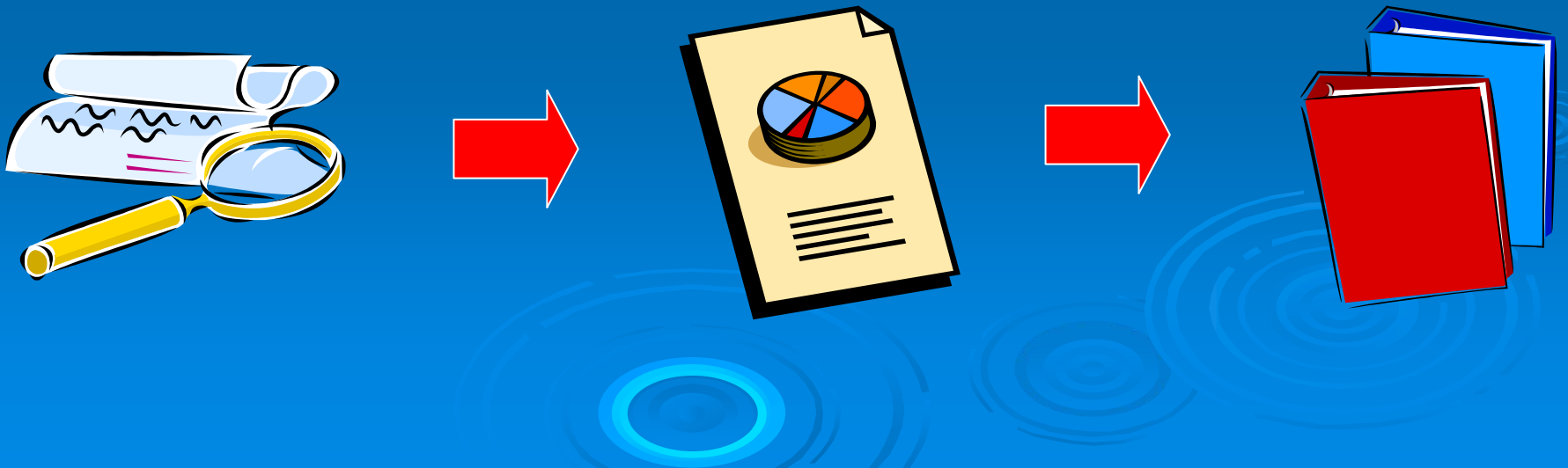
Nominal Group Process

➤ **Top five (or six) priorities overall**

1. “War chest” of designated funding: 19 votes, score 74
2. Establishment of a framework or flow chart to help agencies walk through a problem (will include environmental and economic feasibility): 16 votes, score 58
3. Formalize monitoring programs, including public as first level for monitoring (passive approach): 12 votes, score 37
4. Continue prevention (e.g., vectors) while developing rapid response plan (e.g., advocacy for legislation and enforcement): 13 votes, score 36
5. Need an approved set of tools that can be used for rapid response situations (i.e., chemicals, biological controls, etc.): 13 votes, score 29
6. Prioritization of species (bang for the buck, likelihood of success, feasible & effective): 8 votes, score 29

Where Do We Go From Here ?

- Use information from workshop to draft a RRP
- Incorporate RRP into the Ohio's revised SMP
- Reconvene the ANS Advisory Committee
- Look to use Ohio's RRP to combat ANS



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 - Doug Keller
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