

ANSTF Meeting Presentation Information

1) Name and affiliation of presenter: Anne Marie Eich (Sea Grant Fellow)

2) Background information about presentation (no more than 5 sentences):

The resources to prevent, control, and manage aquatic invasive species are limited; however, these activities would be more attainable through a partnership with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and the Girl Scouts of America (GSA). The ANSTF would provide the Scouting community with information on potential volunteer opportunities available through ANSTF member agencies across the country using one all-encompassing, yet easy-to-use, website. Each year, the thousands of Scouts, working on the Gold Award (GSA) or the rank of Eagle Scout (BSA), could develop ideas and projects initially proposed by the ANSTF; these projects could become the foundation for additional projects including monitoring and maintenance of the project site. Local troops could “adopt” a location and help build longstanding relationships within the community. The partnership will provide enormous opportunities to focus on the critical needs addressing aquatic invasive species, and Scouts with valuable hands-on conservation work with visible impacts and results.

3) If the presentation supports a decision, what is the decision point to be considered by the ANSTF?

Decision Point: Will the ANSTF support this partnership?

4) Does the subject matter relate to an objective(s) identified in the 2007-2012 ANS Strategic Plan? If so, explain.

This proposal related to Strategic Goal 4 by increase public understanding of the importance of reducing the introduction, spread, and impact of ANS. Specifically, Objective 4.1 could see huge progress by ensuring that more people of the United States understand the problems and impacts associated with ANS.

5) What is the ANSTF role(s) regarding the subject and decision points?

ANSTF would need to provide project needs to a point of contact who would distribute to BSA and GSA through links on the ANSTF, BSA, and GSA websites. ANSTF employees would provide mentorship and training, while local troops could provide the necessary backbone for long-term monitoring and removal of AIS, potentially reporting useful scientific information.