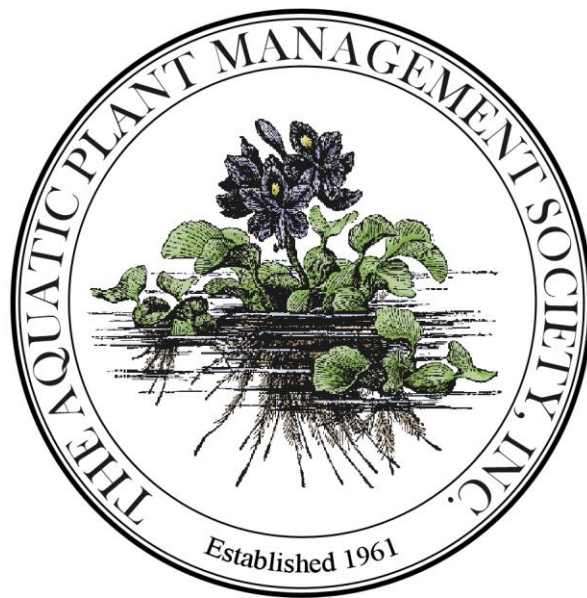


# **The Aquatic Plant Management Society**



**Board Meeting  
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel  
Grand Rapids, MI  
July 17, 2016**

## **AGENDA**

Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel  
Pearl Room  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
July 17, 2016

*~ Continental breakfast provided ~ 7:30 a.m.*

8:00 a.m.     Call to Order  
10:00 a.m.     Morning Break  
12:00 p.m.     Board Room Lunch  
12:45 p.m.     Reconvene Board Meeting  
2:45 p.m.     Afternoon Break  
5:00 p.m.     Adjourn

**8:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** - President Rob Richardson

**ROLL CALL** - Secretary Jeff Schardt

Seating of Proxies

Recognition of Visitors

**MINUTES** - Approval of Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held January 26, 2016 in Grand Rapids, MI, and subsequent e-mail votes.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** - Rob Richardson

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER** - Jeremy Slade

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY** - Jeff Schardt

**REPORT OF THE EDITOR** - Jay Ferrell

*Approval of Officer Reports*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Awards - Mike Netherland

Bylaws and Resolutions - Vernon Vandiver

Education and Outreach - Jeff Schardt

Exhibits - Craig Aguillard

Finance - John Gardner

Legislative - John Madsen

Meeting Planning - Tommy Bowen

Membership - Mark Heilman  
Nominating - Cody Gray  
Past President's Advisory - Cody Gray  
Program - John Madsen  
Publications - Jay Ferrell  
Regional Chapters - John Rodgers  
Scholastic Endowment - Tom Warmuth  
Strategic Planning - Mark Heilman  
Student Affairs - Chris Mudge  
Web Site - Karen Brown

## **SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

AERF - Carlton Layne  
BASS - Gerald Adrian  
CAST - Joe Vassios  
NALMS - Terry McNabb  
RISE - Sam Barrick  
Women of Aquatics - Amy Kay  
WSSA - Rob Richardson  
Science Policy Director - Lee Van Wychen

### ***Approval of Committee and Special Representative Reports***

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Board approval of the 2016 Review Committee recommendation for the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG) (p. 89)
- Review APMS Treasury account transparency summary (p. 90)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Board consideration of cost-shared GSRG for starry stonewort (4 attachments)
  - p. 93 - Committee Recommendation
  - p. 94 - Draft Starry Stonewort RFP and Procedure
  - p. 96 - Starry Stonewort Announcement
  - p. 97 - APMS Graduate Student Research Grant Evaluation Form
- Board consideration for 2017 membership and subscription dues amounts

**5:00 p.m. ADJOURN** - President Rob Richardson

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**7922 NW 71<sup>st</sup> Street**  
**Gainesville, FL 32653**  
**[www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org)**

**2015 - 2016 Officers and Directors**

**Officers**

**President** - Rob Richardson  
North Carolina State University

**President Elect** - John Madsen  
USDA - ARS, EIWRU

**Vice President** - John Rodgers  
Clemson University

**Immediate Past President** - Cody Gray  
UPI

**Treasurer** - Jeremy Slade (2/3)  
UPI

**Secretary** - Jeffrey Schardt (3/3)  
FL FWC (Retired)

**Editor** - Jason Ferrell (3/3)  
University of Florida

**Directors**

Mark Heilman (3/3)  
SePRO Corporation

Vernon V. Vandiver Jr. (3/3)  
University of Florida

Dick Pinagel (2/3)  
Aqua-Weed Control, Inc.

Ryan Wersal (2/3)  
Lonza

Brett Hartis (1/3)  
Tennessee Valley Authority

Ryan Thum (1/3)  
Montana State University

**Student Director**

Kallie Kessler  
Colorado State University



## 2015 - 2016 Committee Chairs and Special Representatives

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Representative</u>	
Awards	Mike Netherland	AERF	Carlton Layne
Bylaws and Resolutions	Vernon Vandiver	BASS	Gerald Adrian
Education and Outreach	Jeff Schardt	CAST	Joe Vassios
Exhibits	Craig Aguiard	NALMS	Terry McNabb
Finance	John Gardner	RISE	Sam Barrick
Legislative	John Madsen	Women of Aquatics	Amy Kay
Meeting Planning	Tommy Bowen	WSSA	Rob Richardson
Membership	Mark Heilman	Science Policy Director	Lee Van Wychen
Nominating	Cody Gray		
Past President's Advisory	Cody Gray		
Program	John Madsen		
Publications	Jay Ferrell		
Regional Chapters	John Rodgers		
Scholastic Endowment	Tom Warmuth		
Strategic Planning	Mark Heilman		
Student Affairs	Chris Mudge		
Web Site	Karen Brown		
Newsletter Editor	Jeffrey Schardt		

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**Grand Rapids, MI**

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**Officers, Directors, Chairs,**

**Representatives**

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# **THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**January 26, 2016**

**Amway Grand Plaza Hotel**

**Grand Rapids, Michigan**

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. met on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. President Rob Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Officers and Directors present at roll call were:

Rob Richardson - President  
John Madsen - President Elect  
John Rodgers - Vice President  
Cody Gray - Immediate Past President  
Jeremy Slade - Treasurer  
Jeff Schardt - Secretary  
Jason Ferrell - Editor  
Vernon Vandiver - Director  
Dick Pinagel - Director  
Brett Hartis - Director  
Ryan Thum - Director  
Kallie Kessler - Student Director

Others in attendance during all or portions of the meeting:

Tommy Bowen - Meeting Planning Committee Chair  
Mark Heilman - SePRO  
Paul Hausler - MAPMS / Progressive AE

After Roll Call, President Richardson advised that Director Rebecca Haynie resigned from the Board after moving on to a new job and severing ties with the aquatics field. She had approximately six months remaining in her Director term. Richardson advised that Haynie not only needed to be replaced as Director, but also Chair of the Student Affairs Committee and Representative of the Women in Aquatics APMS initiative. Mark Heilman offered to acquire the last six months of Haynie's term and would be willing to serve as a Director beyond the six months.

***John Madsen motioned the Board to confirm Mark Heilman to fill the Director position vacated by the resignation of Rebecca Haynie for the remainder of the term that expires at the 2016 Annual Business Meeting. Dick Pinagel seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

## **MINUTES**

There were a few clerical errors corrected in the Minutes.

*Cody Gray motioned the Board to approve the Minutes as amended. Brett Hartis seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

## **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Richardson reported that he attended the NEAPMS annual meeting that had an attendance of about 250 and continues to grow. He also attended the International Aquatic Plants Symposium in Edinburgh, UK and represented APMS at the planning committee meeting for the 2018 meeting in New Zealand.

Richardson advised that there are numerous aquatic plant management related issues under discussion nationally, including: endothall and diquat reregistration, water of the U.S. definition, NPDES general permit reissuing, NPDES “fix” amendment, pesticide applicator recertification, and more. On behalf of APMS, comments were submitted to the diquat docket. APMS co-signed with the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) on other responses including pesticide applicator recertification, NPDES fix, pollinator provisions, monarch butterfly protections, mitigating pesticide toxicity to bees, and endorsement of AFRI funding. Lee VanWychen is monitoring these issues for APMS through the WSSA.

There is traction for an APMS Regional Chapter in Australia/New Zealand – currently with about 34 interested, potential members. Tony Dugdale mentions the possibility of a two-day symposium to start the organization. APMS may consider options for supporting this effort such as providing speakers, providing sponsorship, soliciting sponsorship from APMS sustaining members, etc.

## **TREASURER’S REPORT**

Jeremy Slade advised that as of December 31, 2015, the APMS total account balance was \$431,401.06, providing the following APMS account balances:

### **General and Scholastic Checking & Investment Accounts December 31, 2015**

#### General Accounts

Checking (general operating fund)	\$19,368.02
Investment (emergency fund)	\$205,033.24 (1/11/16)
Total General Accounts	\$224,401.06

#### Scholastic Endowment Accounts

Checking	\$63,211.01
Investment (disc. subaccount)	\$143,856.42 (1/11/16)
Total Scholastic Endowment Accounts	\$207,067.43

**Total General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts      \$431,468.49**

Slade reported a reduction in funds of about \$24,474 in 2015. The Annual Meeting lost about \$3,000 and the Journal essentially broke even for the year. The greater reductions were in credit card fees, APMS membership dues, and service fees (e.g. tax preparation).

Slade projected a near \$22 thousand negative income for 2016. There was discussion that the off-year Graduate Student Research Grant is being offered because the APMS account balance can support this added expense, and that Board agreed that this expense would have the intended effect of lowering the account balance.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Schardt reported that APMS Membership is staying fairly constant at just over 300, including Sustaining (20), Active (244), Student (29), and Honorary (19). Schardt worked with Jeremy Slade and Dave Petty to extend the [www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org) domain until 2040.

Schardt prepared thank you letters to Richard DeJong of Applied Biochemists (A Lonza Business) and to individuals for donations to APMS received through the Professional Lake Management Alliance (PLMA). PLMA members donated \$1,550 in 2015 for a total of \$39,850 since the inception of the program. Sustaining Membership is up to 20 from a low a few years ago of about 12. Sustaining Members are recognized in the Annual Meeting Program, and on the APMS web site that also links to their company or business entity.

Schardt provided a breakdown of hours worked on Secretarial duties for 2015 – approximately 410 hours. Schardt also provided an annual budget that mostly relates to travel to meetings and postage to mail journals.

## **EDITOR'S REPORT**

Jay Ferrell reported that the January 2016 issue of the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management (JAPM) has been mailed. The number of journal submissions is down from about 50 per year to 26 in 2015. Although a low number, many are quality articles that are closely related to aquatics, so acceptance is relatively high. The Open Access effort has been more successful than anticipated. Five of the eight authors published in the January 2016 JAPM issue agreed to pay the \$500 charge for full rights to publish anywhere they would like without the standard 2-year delay after JAPM publication. Additionally, a few authors published in recent JAPM issues also paid for open access.

There was discussion to raise the fee for Open Access. Some societies charge as much as \$2,000 - \$4,000 depending on the quality of the journal. The Board recommended evaluating the number of authors taking advantage of Open Access to the JAPM for another year before making a decision on future charges for Open Access to the JAPM.

Ferrell looked into benefits to move from Allen Press to another entity to process and publish the JAPM. After speaking with other societies, there did not appear to be any financial incentives for APMS to leave Allen Press, and there would likely be disruption issues. There have been some technical review issues with Allen Press editors. There is a new technical editor with Allen Press,

so Ferrell will monitor for improvements. Ferrell recommended staying with Allen Press for the immediate future.

***Dick Pinagel motioned the Board to accept the Officer Reports. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

## **COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Awards:** Chair Mike Netherland provided a report and Committee Member John Madsen added that the Committee has nominees for most awards excluding the President's and Graduate Student award.

**Bylaws and Resolutions Committee:** There was no report from the Bylaws Committee.

**Education and Outreach Committee:** Chair Jeff Schardt reported that the committee has worked with the Website Committee since July 2015, updating award recipients and posting explanations of the awards on the website in addition to writing articles for the Newsletter and *Aquatics* magazine about the 2015 APMS award winners.

Schardt drafted a PowerPoint presentation template about APMS history and composition as well as information from the most recent meeting. The presentation is interactive and can be modified by the presenter to adapt to each audience. Schardt will post an editable copy in the Documents section of the website for member access, and a PDF copy in the About the Society page.

Schardt advised that APMS has been a sponsor of Florida Plant Camp for the past seven years, providing funds for meals and materials for teachers attending the workshop.

***Jeff Schardt motioned the Board to provide \$1,000 to the University of Florida to help sponsor meals and materials associated with Plant Camp 2016. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**Exhibits Committee:** Chair Craig Aguillard provided a report that there were 26 Exhibitors at the 2015 APMS Annual Meeting, and that 19 Sponsors contributed \$45,000 toward the meeting.

**Finance Committee:** Chair John Gardner provided a written report, but there was no further input in addition to discussion covered during the Treasurer's Report.

**Legislative Committee:** Chair John Madsen distributed copies of his report. He has been working with Lee VanWychen of the Science Policy Committee who has done much working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to request funds for aquatic plant management. This is the first time in years that the Corps has requested funds in the budget.

Madsen introduced two other items that are further explained in the Science Policy Report: 1) the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee adopted the NPDES fix legislation to the Sportsmen Bill (S. 659); and 2) CAST reported in their weekly newsletter that President

Obama vetoed a congressional resolution to kill the administration's "Waters of the U.S." rule redefining jurisdiction in the Clean Water Act.

**Meeting Planning Committee:** Chair Tommy Bowen reported that the 2015 Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach was the most attended since the 2010, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting, with 279 attending (175 were anticipated). Over 700 room nights were sold. The estimate was for an \$18,000 net income from the meeting, but the result was a \$1,850 loss. Sponsorship was down about \$8,500 from the previous year. There were also unanticipated expenses including: an additional night for students who participated in the tour, an extra Luncheon for Women in Aquatics, a meet-and-greet session for students, and reimbursement to SCAPMS for a higher than estimated number of SCAPMS Members attending the meeting. APMS reimburses local chapters for chapter member attendance at joint APMS / Regional Chapter Annual Meetings to offset loss of chapter revenues.

Bowen estimates 160 delegates will attend the 2016 Annual Meeting and projects a \$19,000 net income due to lower venue costs. The Committee recommends not raising registration costs for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

***John Rodgers motioned the Board to hold delegate registration costs for the 2016 Annual Meeting at the 2015 levels (\$275 early registration / \$330 late registration). Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

The contract is signed for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (2017) at the Daytona Beach Hilton with rooms costing \$139 / night. The contract is also signed for the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (2018) at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center. The Committee looked at 28 venues for the 2019 Annual Meeting in the western region and out of the country. The Committee recommendation is to confine searches to the western region due to high out-of-country costs. General site recommendations are in the Sacramento CA, San Diego CA, and Denver CO areas. Bowen called for Board approval to fund travel expenses for Bill Torres to explore hotels at these locations.

***John Madsen motioned the Board to approve travel expenses for Bill Torres to conduct site visits in San Diego, Sacramento, and Denver for the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 2019, and for 2020, consider sites outside of the normal Chapter meeting rotation. Jeremy Slade seconded the motion. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.***

**Membership Committee:** No report. There was discussion on making efforts to increase Membership Committee activity. Make Heilman offered to explore ideas and take over as Committee Chair. Schardt asked Board members for any contact information updates, especially email contact information.

John Madsen provided a LinkedIn update. Madsen moderates the Aquatics Group that now has 1206 members, averaging about one discussion per week. Madsen promotes membership and national APMS meetings by posting information on the site. He also posted the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG) announcement.

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Cody Gray advised that the Committee has not made a final determination on nominees. This year, two Directors, Vice President, Editor, and Secretary positions are up for nomination. Two APMS members have been identified for Directors, Amy Smagula and Scott Nissen, and agreed to serve if approved by the membership. Jay Ferrell and Jeff Schardt have agreed to continue as Editor and Secretary respectively, if approved. Gray does not yet have confirmation for a Vice President candidate, but suggested looking toward industry to keep a balance of industry, academia, and government on the APMS Board.

**Past President's Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Program Committee:** Chair John Madsen discussed a "Partnership for Management" theme for the 2016vAnnual Meeting. Rather than a Keynote Speaker, Madsen suggested a panel of speakers from various venues (practitioners, researchers, government) in the Midwest, and how they interact. Madsen also suggested a Midwest Session to address key issues in the region.

**Publications Committee:** No report.

**Regional Chapters Committee:** Chair John Rodgers reported that he updated Regional Chapter meeting dates and locations with Karen Brown on the website. The GSRG was advertised in the October Newsletter. Rodgers will contact the Chapters regarding contributions/commitments toward the APMS GSRG issued to Colorado State.

**Scholastic Endowment Committee:** No report. Schardt will receive GSRG proposals and forward to John Madsen who will establish a review committee.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Bo Burns has resigned as Chair of the Committee. Strategic planning will occur in 2017 in conjunction with the APMS midyear Board meeting. John Rodgers facilitated strategic planning for 2009 and 2012 and offered to assist in 2017. He suggested not going back to basic planning since that has been done. Rather, focus on 3-4 major issues, for example APMS funding categories and expenditures.

**Student Affairs Committee:** Chair Rebecca Haynie has moved to other employment and resigned from the Student Affairs Committee. Chris Mudge has expressed interest in chairing the Committee.

**Website Committee:** Karen Brown provided a report on website activities and upgrades. President Richardson advised the Board that he asked the APMS Webhost, APEX, to provide a cost estimate to develop a template to make the website mobile-device responsive. Google penalizes the site since it is not mobile responsive, and that more than half of all website queries are now from mobile devices vs. computer. APEX gave a cost estimate of a one-time \$1,000 charge and advised that there would be no website downtime and the website appearance would not undergo any noticeable change.

***John Madsen motioned the Board that APMS provide \$1,000 to APEX to change the website template to be mobile device responsive. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***



**AERF:** No report. APMS has received a request from AERF to continue sponsorship of AERF. APMS is currently an Affiliate Member of AERF.

***John Madsen motioned the Board that APMS continues to be an AERF Affiliate Member by paying \$1,000 dues for 2016. Dick Pinagel seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**BASS:** Gerald Adrian reported that AERF and APMS have discussed providing \$1,500 each toward a 2016 aquatic plant management project. Three projects have been submitted. Mike Netherland of APMS and Carlton Layne of AERF will judge the projects. Discussion and vote were tabled until Old Business under the Ad hoc Committee for proposal reviews.

BASS has also asked for \$3,000 (\$1,500 each from APMS and AERF) to sponsor the Conservation Summit luncheon at the 2016 Bassmaster Classic. Attendees will include State BASS Conservation Directors and State Fisheries Chiefs. Brett Hartis has agreed to speak at the luncheon on behalf of APMS and AERF.

***John Madsen motioned the Board that APMS provide \$1,500 toward the 2016 Bass Conservation Director's Luncheon. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**CAST:** No report.

**NALMS:** Terry McNabb just completed a three-year term as President Elect/President/Immediate Past President of NALMS. Mark Heilman agreed to contact Terry McNabb to set up an aquatics session at the 2016 NALMS meeting in November in Banff, Canada.

**RISE:** There was no discussion on Sam Barrick's report

**WSSA / Science Policy:** President Richardson first referred to Lee VanWyche's Science Policy Report on several aquatic plant and water related issues in Washington DC. Schardt will contact VanWyche to summarize the report for the March 2016 APMS Newsletter to provide information to the APMS general membership.

Cody Gray advised that he is finishing his second three-year term on the WSSA Board and that Rob Richardson will succeed Gray as the APMS Representative at the WSSA meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Gray also advised that he and Richardson would explore the WSSA conference site in Puerto Rico for a potential Annual Meeting location for APMS.

***Jay Ferrell motioned the Board to accept the Committee and Special Representative Reports. Rob Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**Old Business:** There were several items of Old Business on the Agenda.

### **1. APMS Ad hoc Proposal Review Committee**

Chair Cody Gray reminded the Board that an ad hoc committee was formed in July 2015 to review requests for APMS funding equal to or in excess of \$5,000. The ad hoc committee members were Cody Gray (Immediate Past President - Chair), John Madsen (President Elect), Ryan Wersal (Director), Jeremy Slade (Treasurer), and Tom Moorhouse (at-large not on Board). Requests were disseminated among committee members and recommendations developed for the Board during a conference call. The requests and committee recommendations are listed below:

1) Request from Midwest Chapter for APMS to co-fund Regional Chapter Scholarships. The Committee recommends to not support this request.

2) Request from AERF to fund meta-analysis of aquatic invasive species on native species (including T&E species).  
The Committee recommends to not support this proposal at this time.

3) Request from AERF to fund research on the effects of phragmites removal on native macroinvertebrates.  
The Committee recommends to not support this proposal, but suggests to submit the proposal for the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant.

4) Request from UF to create a nationwide Silent Invaders video presentation in support of the Lakeville activity.  
The Committee recommends to fund this proposal with the following requests:  
Ask for a copy (link) to be placed on the APMS website.  
Ask that the APMS logo be placed in the acknowledgment section.  
Proposal cost \$12,869.89 (revised down on 1-29-16 by K. Walters to \$11,517.80)

5) Recommendation of APMS graduate scholarship cycle (i.e. yearly, biennial, etc.) at current funding level. No documentation.  
The Committee had no recommendation at this time, suggesting a further meeting with APMS sponsors, etc. for additional input/guidance.

6) AERF-APMS Sponsor B.A.S.S. Aquatic Plant Management Conservation Award.  
The Committee recommends funding this project (\$1,500).

***Dick Pinagel motioned the Board to accept the Ad hoc Proposal Review Committee recommendations for items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 (summarized below). Mark Heilman seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

There was discussion on the utility of the ad hoc proposal review committee allowing for a contemplated review of funding requests of APMS vs. a request first presented to the Board at a Board meeting with expectation of a decision at the meeting. The Board agreed with the concept of a Proposal Review Committee and discussion ensued regarding creating a new standing

committee. This would require a Bylaws amendment and therefore approval by the general membership.

***Cody Gray motioned the Board to establish a new APMS Standing Committee, called Proposal Review Committee, to vet proposals for APMS funding equal to or in excess of \$5,000. John Madsen seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

***Jeff Schardt proposed the following language to amend Article XIII. Committees and Representatives of the APMS Bylaws adding the Proposal Review Committee as number 12 (below) and renumbering subsequent Committees in Article XIII. Vernon Vandiver seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

#### ***12. Proposal Review Committee***

***This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing all proposals submitted to the Society equal to or in excess of \$5,000, excluding proposals for the Society's Graduate Student Research Grant. The Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President, President Elect, Treasurer, one Director, and one member at-large. The Committee will be chaired by the Immediate Past President who will appoint the Director and member at-large. Upon review of each proposal, the Committee will submit a written recommendation with justification to the Board for final decision.***

## **2. Create APMS Treasury Sub-accounts**

Discussion ensued from previous meetings regarding the creation of sub-accounts providing better transparency of APMS funds. Currently there are two Investment (General and Scholastic Endowment) and two Checking Accounts (General and Scholastic Endowment). The General Account is for operations. The GSRG and other education and outreach efforts are funded from the Scholastic Endowment Account.

During previous Strategic Planning events, the Board identified a base amount of funding necessary to operate the Society for two years if there were an interruption in Society income for those years. For example; weather cancels the Annual Meeting, but hotel and other meeting commitments still must be paid. Reviewing annual expenses, the Board settled on \$90,000 per year as the Society's annual operating budget. Two years would be \$180,000. These funds should be reserved and not be used for daily operations. However, they are currently combined with daily operating funds in the General Investment and Checking Accounts, giving the impression that the Society has a much greater accessible treasury. This perception may lead to reduced contributions to the Society or reduced cost sharing of Society projects or initiatives, thinking that APMS has sufficient funds without additional outside support.

The Board discussed providing clarification in the Operating Manual, that APMS has an \$180,000 emergency or base fund. The balance of Society funds is for daily operating and education and outreach initiatives. There also needs to be a list identifying where the funds are spent. Schardt will draft Operating Manual language for Board consideration.

There was discussion that a base \$600,000 account would be needed to fund a sustainable GSRG through interest from the account. Cody Gray agreed to discuss this issue with APMS Sponsors and identify as an item to address at 2017 Strategic Planning. Discussion ended with thoughts on renaming the Scholastic Endowment Account to Scholastic Initiatives Account.

### **3. Approve Operating Procedures for the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant**

John Madsen drafted procedures for the Operating Manual to advertise, evaluate and process the APMS GSRG. The procedures will set the GSRG up as a fixed cost contract between APMS and a university, supervised by a principle investigator at the university. Objectives include getting students involved in the field of aquatic plant management, and to keep faculty involved in aquatic plant research.

While APMS does not dictate where the funds are spent (salaries, travel, student support, equipment, etc.) a budget must be submitted since the GSRG is processed through the sponsored program office of the university. Discussion concluded on indirect costs. Currently, the GSRG guidelines do not allow indirect costs, but universities are moving toward not accepting grants that do not pay indirect costs. This may need to be reviewed later.

*John Rodgers motioned the Board to accept the draft Graduate Student Research Grant procedures as amended by the Board. Brett Hartis seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

### **4. Approve language in the Operating Manual separating APMS from liabilities when other entities hold meetings before, during or after an APMS function.**

There was discussion and a motion brought before the Board to create language for the Operating Manual to alert APMS to avoid hotel costs being charged to the Society if other entities may hold meetings (e.g. room charges or meals associated with the meeting) during an APMS Annual Meeting.

*John Rodgers motioned the Board to accept the following language for the APMS Operating Manual. The Society will not be found liable or obligated to assist entities with holding business meetings/events in conjunction before, during, or after any Society function. The entities will be solely responsible for all expenditures required to hold the event. The Society welcomes such events to be held before or after Society activities. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

### **5. Increase Editor stipend from \$4,000 to \$6,000 as incentive for second term.**

*John Rodgers motioned the Board to include the following language in the Operating Manual related to the Editor. As incentive to retain the Editor after the first term, the Board may increase the stipend to \$6,000 per year to award exemplary performance and on-time journal production. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

## **6. Approve guidelines for selecting APMS Board member representation.**

This discussion was on creating guidelines to achieve diversity on the APMS Board of Directors.

*Vernon Vandiver motioned the Board to accept the recommended language to include in the Operating Manual providing guidance to limit, if possible, Board composition to no more than two members at any one time from the same business entity, university, or government entity. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

## **New Business:**

### **1. Social Media**

Brett Hartis will contact Amy Ferriter to confirm that she will organize and post APMS social media content on the APMS website, and to supply her with any formatting or procedures already in place.

### **2. Strategic Planning - Scheduled for January 2017**

Jay Ferrell will contact University of Florida facilitators for price, availability, and general impression for the value of a facilitator to moderate the January 2017 APMS Strategic Planning Session.

The last Strategic Planning session focused on Society core values. The 2017 session may focus on specific issues such as funding, research direction or needs, and education and outreach. The focus can be established at the July 2016 Post-conference Board meeting. Mark Heilman agreed to Chair the Strategic Planning Committee.

### **3. Continued APMS Support of Florida Plant Camp**

Brett Hartis advised that TVA is interested in holding local Plant Camps, and that teachers from Tennessee are interested in attending. He will follow up with the teachers and see that their requests are submitted to Katie Walters at UF.

### **4. Review WSSA procedures for overhead payment associated with grants**

Cody Gray will refer to WSSA to adopt limits for Board approval regarding paying overhead for APMS-funded proposals.

### **5. Alternatives to the APMS GSRG**

There was lengthy discussion regarding APMS partnering with other entities to leverage funding and sponsor additional research outside the GSRG. John Madsen will draft RFP language for a GSRG cosponsored by APMS with a single regional chapter or limited regional chapter participation, for future Board discussion or consideration. This GSRG would be in addition to the current biannual GSRG shared by all regional chapters and APMS.

*Ryan Thum motioned the Board to adjourn the meeting. Cody Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

The Board Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

## **THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

**Email votes considered by the Board of Directors since the  
Midyear Board meeting held on January 26, 2016.**

### **1) Approve Travel and Hotel Expensed for Sherry Whitaker**

**Background:** Sherry Whitaker was a long term Treasurer for APMS and coordinated registration before and during APMS Annual Meetings. Travel restrictions have limited her attendance at APMS meetings and APMS paid for her travel and lodging expenses to work the Registration Desk at the 2015 APMS Annual Meeting. She has expressed interest in working the Registration Desk again at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Accordingly, Jeremy made the following motion on January 28, 2016. President Richardson called for a second. Brett Hartis seconded the motion. After a brief period for discussion, President Rob Richardson called for a vote on 2-3-16.

*Jeremy Slade motioned the Board to cover Sherry Whitaker's travel expenses (airfare and hotel room) to attend and work the registration desk at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids. Brett Hartis seconded the motion. The motion passed 10-0.*

### **2) Approve APMS Annual Meeting Site for 2019**

**Background:** On May 19, 2016, Tommy Bowen, Meeting Planning Committee Chair, forwarded hotel information to President Richardson, including the following information and a motion for the recommended annual meeting site for 2019. President Richardson called for and received a second for the motion. After a period for discussion, President Richardson called for a vote on May 25, 2016.

1. The conference rate negotiated is \$175, (Note: Bill Torres negotiated later to \$169).
2. The Doubletree was selected because of its exceptional value. Meeting and exhibit ballrooms are elegant and can easily accommodate our conference.
3. The food and beverage guarantee is well within our annual meeting budget (\$25K). We will be able to lock in F&B pricing a year early in 2018.
4. The adjacent trolley stop offers a ride to the city's top attractions including San Diego Zoo, Old Town, Little Italy, and Gaslamp Quarter. A pedestrian bridge links the Doubletree to Hazard Center's eclectic mix of shops and restaurants.
5. The hotel is only seven miles from the airport.

*Tommy Bowen presented the following motion to the Board. The APMS Meeting Planning Committee, after reviewing 25 venue sites for our 2019 annual meeting and narrowing our choices to Sacramento, Denver, and San Diego, recommends the Doubletree San Diego Mission Valley in San Diego, California as the host hotel for our annual meeting, July 14-17, 2019. Mark Heilman seconded the motion. The motion passed 13-0.*

### **3) Approve 2016 Officer and Director Slate**

**Background:** On June 6, 2016, Cody Gray, Nominating Committee Chair, motioned the Board to approve the following APMS Officer and Director slate of nominees for subsequent vote by the APMS Membership at the Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, MI. This slate fills anticipated vacancies for the APMS Board after the July, 2016 Annual Meeting. President Richardson called for a second to the motion. After receiving a second from Ryan Wersal, Richardson allowed a day for discussion and called for a vote on June 10.

*Cody Gray motioned the Board with the following proposal. The APMS Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of nominees for Officers and Directors for 2016. Ryan Wersal seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0.*

*Vice President - Craig Aguillard*

*Editor - Jay Ferrell*

*Secretary - Jeff Schardt*

*Director - Todd Olson*

*Director - Scott Nissen*

**Report of the President  
Rob Richardson  
APMS Winter Board of Directors Meeting  
Grand Rapids, MI  
July 16, 2016**

It sure is Grand here.

**Meetings.** I recently attended the MAPMS and WAPMS annual meetings and provided an APMS update. I also attended SWSS/WSSA and IWSS. The next IWSS meeting will be in Bangkok in 4 years. There was a total of 1 aquatic weed talks at IWSS.

**Regulatory Issues.** There have been a lot of ongoing national regulatory issues and it appears this will continue for a while. EPA was supposed to drop the diquat review this week, but I have not seen it. The EPA proposed rules for paraquat were very extensive. Currently proposed rules for atrazine would kill it. They did drop the SU review. I'm not sure what is in that yet.

The latest NPDES fix failed as part of a Zika measure. Waters of the US is still pending, but there has already been one citation for a farmer for releasing soil into a waters of the US from tillage of a vernal pool. APMS has co-signed several comments from WSSA. I did request changes to one letter regarding "full label rate" wording and WSSA obliged.

EPA now wants to essentially ban tank mixtures. This is an issue for every new and re-registration.

**Australasia Regional Chapter.** Conversations continue with regard to the formation of an Australia/New Zealand regional APMS chapter, but not progress has been made. They now have about 40 people interested and have had some discussions about an initial symposium. Mike Netherland and I may be traveling back to Australia in the near future and it is possible we could participate in an initial symposium.

**Strategic Planning.** Coming up folks.

**JAPM considerations.** Refer to WSSA report.

**Toxic algae bloom.** The large bloom in Florida has been getting a lot of media attention. Should APMS have a role?

**2019 Meeting.** Contract signed

**Board.** Thank you to all board members and committee chairs for your effort over the past year.



July 6, 2016

To: Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)

From: Jeremy G. Slade

Subject: Report of the Treasurer

**General and Education & Outreach Account Balances.**

Enclosure 1 is a summary of the General and Education & Outreach Accounts.

**2016 YTD Income and Expense.**

Enclosure 2 is a summary of income and expense for the period January 1, 2016 through July 5, 2016.

**2015 Audit and Tax Return.**

The independent auditor's report prepared by Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Company, LLP of assets and liabilities, and net assets of the APMS as of December 31, 2015 are presented in Enclosure 3. In addition, Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Company, LLP prepared our Federal and state tax returns for the year ended December 31, 2015. Total cost was \$5,800.

**3 Enclosures**

**SOP Addition:** Re: Honorary Members and Spouse Annual Meeting Registration Waivers

July 17, 2014 –

*Terry Goldsby motioned the Board to waive registration fees for Honorary Members and spouses who attend the Annual Meeting. Jeff Schardt seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**General and Education/Outreach Accounts**  
July 6, 2016

**General and Education & Outreach Accounts**

**General Accounts**

Checking	\$88,134.33
Investment	<u>\$223,502.07</u> (as of 6/30/2016)

<b>Total General Accounts</b>	<b>\$311,636.40</b>
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**Education & Outreach Accounts**

Checking	\$28,208.88
Investment	<u>\$151,851.42</u> (as of 6/30/2016)

<b>Total Education &amp; Outreach Accounts</b>	<b><u>\$180,060.30</u></b>
------------------------------------------------	----------------------------

<b>Total General and Education &amp; Outreach Accounts</b>	<b><u><u>\$491,696.70</u></u></b>
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4:21 PM

July 5, 2016

Cash Basis

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Income and Expense Report**  
January 1 through July 5, 2016

	<u>Jan 1 - Jul 5, 16</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Annual Meeting Income</b>	
Contributions	44,070.00
Delegate 1-Day Registration	160.00
Delegate Pre-Registration	16,775.00
Delegate Registration	2,970.00
Event Tickets	175.00
Exhibit Fees	14,700.00
Guest Pre-Registration	1,696.80
Guest Registration	255.00
Guest Tour	120.00
Student Registration	0.00
<b>Total Annual Meeting Income</b>	<u>80,921.80</u>
<b>Journal Income</b>	
Page Fees	2,227.50
Subscriptions	2,000.00
<b>Total Journal Income</b>	<u>4,227.50</u>
<b>Membership Income</b>	
Individual	12,300.00
Student	140.00
Sustaining	10,500.00
<b>Total Membership Income</b>	<u>22,940.00</u>
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>	1.00
<b>Scholastic Endowment Income</b>	
Contributions	150.00
Graduate Assistantship	6,000.00
<b>Total Scholastic Endowment Income</b>	<u>6,150.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	114,240.30
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>American Express Annual Fee</b>	140.00
<b>Annual Meeting Expense</b>	
Guest Tour	300.00
<b>Total Annual Meeting Expense</b>	<u>300.00</u>
<b>Bank Service Charges</b>	164.01
<b>Corporation Annual Report Fee</b>	61.25
<b>Credit Card Merchant Processing</b>	
Card Fees	2,728.33
<b>Total Credit Card Merchant Processing</b>	<u>2,728.33</u>

Enclosure 2

4:21 PM

July 5, 2016

Cash Basis

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Income and Expense Report**  
January 1 through July 5, 2016

	<u>Jan 1 - Jul 5, 16</u>
Dues	
AERF	1,000.00
CAST	1,500.00
RISE	500.00
Total Dues	<u>3,000.00</u>
Education/Outreach	3,752.13
Insurance	
Board of Dir. & Gen. Liability	818.00
Total Insurance	<u>818.00</u>
Journal Expense	
Editor Stipend	2,000.00
Manuscripts	6,311.06
Printing & Postage	59.97
Total Journal Expense	<u>8,371.03</u>
Meeting Planner	
Meeting 3 years out	1,573.55
Total Meeting Planner	<u>1,573.55</u>
Miscellaneous	225.25
Professional Fees	
Accounting	5,800.00
Total Professional Fees	<u>5,800.00</u>
Scholastic Endowment Expense	
Graduate Assistantship	40,000.00
Student Books	1,509.27
Total Scholastic Endowment Expense	<u>41,509.27</u>
Secretary Stipend	5,000.00
Travel	
Registration Booth Staff	591.20
Total Travel	<u>591.20</u>
Website	
Administration	2,500.00
Total Website	<u>2,500.00</u>

4:21 PM

July 5, 2016

Cash Basis

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Income and Expense Report**  
January 1 through July 5, 2016

	<u>Jan 1 - Jul 5, 16</u>
Winter Board Meeting	
Audio Visual Equipment	76.80
BOD Hotel Rooms	959.10
Meals	1,557.99
Travel	111.50
	<hr/>
Total Winter Board Meeting	2,705.39
	<hr/>
Total Expense	79,239.41
	<hr/>
Net Ordinary Income	35,000.89
	<hr/>
Net Income	<u><u>35,000.89</u></u>

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015 and 2014**

## **AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY**

### **Table of Contents**

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Statement of Support, Revenue, and Expenses –Cash Basis	4-5
Notes to the Financial Statement	6-8

# Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans, & Company, LLP

Certified Public Accountants



America Counts on CPAs

James P. Winston II, CPA  
Gary L. Williams, CPA  
Carleen P. Evans, CPA

Jennifer T. Reese, CPA  
Curtis G. Van Horne, CPA  
Cathy E. McKinley, CPA  
Tara H. Roberson, CPA  
K. Jamison Crampton, CPA

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Aquatic Plant Management Society,

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Aquatic Plant Management Society (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets—Cash Basis as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related Statement of Support, Revenues and Expenses—Cash Basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note A; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

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In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and net assets of Aquatic Plant Management Society as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and its support, revenue, and expenses for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note A.

**Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note A of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

***Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Co., LLP***

Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans & Co., LLP  
Certified Public Accountants

June 13, 2016

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND NET ASSETS -**  
**CASH BASIS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 81,399	\$ 36,301
Long-Term Investments	358,412	433,700
Total Assets	<u>\$ 439,811</u>	<u>\$ 470,001</u>

**NET ASSETS**

Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ 229,022	\$ 394,482
Restricted - Scholastic Endowment	210,789	75,519
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 439,811</u>	<u>\$ 470,001</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS**  
**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:</b>		
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Annual Meeting	\$ 94,484	\$ 88,134
Investment Income	11,132	16,777
Journal & Reprints	26,413	24,560
Membership	22,305	24,105
Exhibit fees	18,200	19,600
Unrealized Gain (loss) on Investments	(11,112)	(7,687)
Gain (Loss) on sale of securities	(195)	5,627
Total Unrestricted Revenues	\$ 161,227	\$ 171,116
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program Services		
Annual Meeting	117,756	93,143
Journal Expense	26,690	22,697
Winter Board Meeting	454	3,962
Total Program Service Expenses	144,900	119,802
Support Services		
Bank & Merchant Charges	5,747	5,913
Investment Fees	2,349	3,268
Donations	1,015	995
Dues	7,278	8,712
Insurance	2,319	2,247
Legal & Accounting	5,500	5,822
Postage/Shipping	398	253
Miscellaneous fees	61	61
Travel	3,532	5,324
Printing	208	238
Supplies	477	1,538
Web Page	4,295	3,000
Miscellaneous (Income)/Expense	210	-
Education/ Outreach	11,521	17,329
Total Support Service Expenses	44,910	54,700
Total Unrestricted Expenses	189,810	174,502
<b>EXCESS OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUES</b>		
<b>OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES</b>	\$ (28,583)	\$ (3,386)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS**  
**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

	2015	2014
RESTRICTED FUNDS - SCHOLASTIC ENDOWMENT REVENUES		
Education and outreach	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,900
Raffle and auction	6,225	6,917
Graduate assistantship	16,330	4,150
Investment Income	8,005	3,479
Unrealized Gain (loss) on Investments	(7,554)	34
Gain (Loss) on sale of securities	(1,754)	492
Total Restricted Revenues - Scholastic Endowment	\$ 22,402	\$ 16,972
EXPENSES		
Raffle and Auction	-	993
Awards	1,200	2,960
Booklets and brochures	1,229	-
Graduate assistantship	20,000	20,000
Investment fees	1,580	885
Total Restricted Expenses - Scholastic Endowment	24,009	24,838
EXCESS OF RESTRICTED REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	(1,607)	(7,866)
TOTAL INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	(30,190)	(11,252)
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	470,001	403,313
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$ 439,811	\$ 392,061
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$ 439,811	\$ 470,001

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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**NOTE A – NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

This summary of significant accounting policies of Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is presented to assist in understanding the Organization's financial statements. The financial statements and notes are representations of the Organization's management, who are responsible for their integrity and objectivity.

Nature of Operations

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is an international organization of scientists, educators, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and control of aquatic plants. The membership reflects a diverse collection of Federal, state and local agencies; researchers and students from universities and colleges around the world; corporations; commercial applicators; and others dedicated to promoting research and sharing information about aquatic plants and the technology of aquatic plant management.

Basis of Accounting

The Organization's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting; consequently, certain revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and certain expenses and purchases of assets are recognized when cash is disbursed rather than when the obligation is incurred. Consequently, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present the financial position of Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. and the results of its operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Revenue Recognition

All contributions and other revenue are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. reports gifts of cash and other assets as restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of donated assets. When donor restrictions expire, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For financial statement purposes, Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of 3 months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Investment Securities

Investment in marketable securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities are valued at their fair values in the statement of assets, liabilities and net assets. Unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets. Investment income and gains restricted by a donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions are met (either by passage of time or by use) in the reporting period in which the income and gains are recognized. Short-term investments consist of marketable securities with original maturities of twelve

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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months or less. Long-term investments consist of marketable securities with original maturities greater than twelve months. Investment accounts are not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Investments at December 31, 2015 were comprised of marketable securities and investment accounts as follows:

	<u>FMV</u>
State Bank (General Operating Account)	\$210,834
State Bank (Scholastic Endowment Account)	147,578

Fair Value Measurements

U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures (U.S. GAAP) defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, including consideration of non-performance risk, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e., an exit price).

U.S. GAAP also establishes a fair value hierarchy that categorizes and prioritizes the inputs used to estimate fair value into three levels based upon their observability. Level 1 has the highest priority and Level 3 the lowest. If an input is based on bid and ask prices, the guidance permits the use of a mid-market pricing convention. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 inputs are other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices (in non-active markets or in active markets for similar assets or liabilities), inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, and inputs that are not directly observable, but that are corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs shall be used to the extent that observable inputs are not available, allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for an asset or liability.

Financial assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment, and may affect the valuation of assets and liabilities and their placement within the fair value hierarchy levels.

Income Tax Status

Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is a non-profit corporation and is exempt from Federal and state income taxes under Section 501(c) (5) of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code.

There was no unrelated business income for the year ended December 31, 2015. The Organization's open audit periods are 2013 through 2015.

**AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INC.**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2015**

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In June 2006, The Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASC 740-10 (formerly known as FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes), which prescribed a comprehensive model for how an organization should measure, recognize, present, and disclose in its financial statements uncertain tax positions that an organization has taken or expects to take on a tax return. There was no impact to the Organization's financial statements as a result of the implementation of ASC 740-10.

**NOTE B – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT**

The fair value measurements and levels within the fair value hierarchy of those measurements for the assets reported at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2015 are as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Quoted Prices (Level 1)</u>	<u>Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)</u>	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</u>
State Bank				
General Operating	\$ 210,834	\$ 210,834	\$ -	\$ -
Scholastic Endowment	147,578	147,578	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 358,412</u>	<u>\$ 358,412</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The Organization recognizes transfers of assets into and out of levels as of the date an event or change in circumstances causes the transfer. There were no transfers between levels in the year ended December 31, 2015.

**NOTE C – RESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. has scholastic endowment accounts set up to promote educational development. The net assets restricted for this purpose amounted to \$ 210,789 at December 31, 2015 and \$75,519 at December 31, 2014.

**NOTE D – SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS OF SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Aquatic Plant Management Society has evaluated events and transactions that occurred between December 31, 2015 and May 12, 2016, which is the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, for possible recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

**Secretary Report**  
**Board of Directors Meeting, APMS**  
**July 17, 2016**  
**Grand Rapids, Michigan**

**Submitted by: Jeffrey D. Schardt, Secretary**

**Board Meeting Minutes:** Board and Annual Meeting Minutes from July, 2001-January, 2016 have been posted on the Members Only section of the web site. The Minutes are sorted chronologically by the three Board and one Annual Business Meeting that are held each year. The Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs, and Special Representatives are also posted for each of these years.

**Annual Meeting Program:** The Secretary works with the Program Committee to format, assemble information, and oversee printing and delivery of the Program. 200 Programs were printed this year. Programs are printed by PRIDE Industries in Florida, associated with the FL prison system. Since APMS is a not-for profit entity, PRIDE offers a reduced rate on printing. Duke Energy has once again requested to reimburse APMS for the \$1,145 printing and shipping costs of the Program.

**Membership:** Most of the Secretary's work between the midyear and July Board meetings is focused on membership updates and assisting in the Annual Meeting Program layout and printing. APMS Membership is fluid as new members join throughout the year and existing members pay dues from January through registration at the Annual Meeting. So far, since July 30, 2015 (after the 2015 Annual Meeting) we have 28 new members – about half as many new members as in each of the previous two years that were joint meetings with Regional Chapters. We get a lot of new Memberships during Annual Meeting Registration, especially for joint meetings with Chapters, but many of these new Members do not renew the following year. Total membership for APMS as of July 10, 2016 is ~287 and breaks down as follows:

	<b>2016 Total</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
279	USA	Active	223	265	248	244	213
8	International	Honorary	16	17	19	19	21
35	Subscription	Student	26	33	25	30	32
		Sustaining	17	16	16	18	21
		<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>287</b>

Total membership is about 24 fewer than reported in 2015. When calculating total membership, I include members who have paid dues for the current and most recent previous year. Therefore, the numbers above for 2016 represent members who have paid through 2016 and members who paid dues in 2015, but not yet in 2016. Some may pay 2016 dues at the Annual Meeting; however, there are 64 members that paid in 2015 but not in 2016.

**Subscriptions:** We lost several library journal subscribers when SWETS subscription service went bankrupt in 2014. I tracked down a few that now subscribe through a different service. We picked up three new library subscribers this year, but eight did not renew from last year. We now have 35 library subscriptions.



**Board Decision:** Subscription services are beginning their annual inquiries regarding journal subscription costs for the upcoming year. The Board needs to address the journal subscription price for 2016. The current cost is \$200 per year for two issues.

**Expenditures:** Following are Secretary expenditures for the current Board year – since the close of last year’s Annual Meeting. Most costs are associated with travel to the midyear Board meeting and mailing Journals to new members.

**Secretary Expenditures - July 30, 2015 - July 10, 2016**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Shipping / Postage</b>	<b>Travel</b>	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Refund</b>
07/30/15	Mail 6 Journals			34.50	
07/31/15	Mail 8 Journals			66.75	
08/10/15	Mail Program / brochures			11.70	
08/26/15	Mail New Member Journal			2.96	
09/04/15		Hotel FAPMS - deposit		128.25	
10/04/15			Purchase Publisher Pro software	85.59	
10/04/15			Refund Publisher Pro software		-85.59
10/08/15		Hotel FAPMS - balance		128.25	
10/13/15			Purchase Publisher software	109.99	
10/14/15			Refund Publisher software		-109.99
10/14/15			Tech support - Publisher	39.99	
10/14/15			Purchase MS 365 1-yr subscr.	69.99	
11/13/15		Airfare - Grand Rapids		427.20	
12/15/15	Mail Journal			2.96	
12/28/15	Mail Journals			4.60	
01/08/16	Mail Journals			5.75	
01/13/16	Mail New Member Journal			2.30	
01/25/16		Cab - GR Airport/hotel		40.00	
01/27/16		Jax. Airport parking		24.00	
01/27/16		Gas - airport - 348 mi		22.50	
01/28/16	Mail Journals			4.60	
03/03/16	Mail Journals			12.82	
03/25/16	Mail Journal Overseas			7.90	
04/13/16	Mail New Member Journal			2.20	
05/17/16	Mail New Member Journals			4.40	
05/28/16	Mail New Member Journals			4.40	
06/10/16	Mail New Member Journals			8.80	
<b>07/10/16</b>	<b>Total</b>			<b>1252.40</b>	<b>-195.58</b>

**Newsletter:** The APMS Newsletter has come full circle and is once again a duty of the Secretary. LeeAnn Glomski had published the Newsletter for several years, and Karen Brown stepped in for a couple issues after LeeAnn’s resignation. I have worked closely with Karen Brown in publishing the October 2015, and March and June 2016 issues. The Bylaws changes adding the proposed **Proposal Review Committee** were published in both the March and June issues. The 2016 Officer

and Director Slate was also published in the June issue which was posted more than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

**Secretary Time Distribution:** I have been logging time spent on APMS Secretarial duties since January 2015 to give an accounting of the types of issues handled by the APMS Secretary and approximate times associated with these efforts. I logged approximately 410 hours in 2015, and 212 hours from January 1, 2016 through July 10, 2016. See table below for 2016 hours through July 10.

Brdbook	Mbrshp.	Minutes	Prgm.	Subscrip.	Travel	Errand	Website	Admin.	Newsletter	Total
17.50	30.25	20.50	54.50	2.25	31.00	1.25	10.50	23.50	20.75	<b>212.00</b>

**Board Decision:** The Board voted on January 13, 2015 to pay an annual stipend for Secretarial duties in addition to travel expenses (see Motion below). This was for a trial period that expires August 31, 2016. The trial period was for 15 months, although the Motion was for an annual stipend. The Board needs to consider the value of this stipend and whether to formalize it as an annual stipend, or let it expire on August 31, 2016.

*John Madsen motioned the Board that APMS provide an annual stipend of \$10,000 for general secretarial duties plus travel expenses for the Secretary to attend meetings and any other travel required by the Board, and supplies approved by the President and Treasurer. This funding is approved for the period of June 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016. Rob Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote. Schardt abstained from the vote.*

Editor Report – Journal of Aquatic Plant Management  
Summer 2016 Board Meeting  
Jason Ferrell

JAPM 54:2 (July 2016) is fully edited and with the printer. It contains 9 manuscripts (6 papers and 3 notes) and has an estimated delivery date of July 7, 2016. On a 5-year average, we have a 70% acceptance rate. This is higher than I would like, but it is a sign that good papers are being submitted.

Associate Editor Response time:

Ryan Wersal – 1.3 days from assignment to reviewer selected

8.3 days from reviewer decision to AE decision

Total number of submissions:

2012 – 48

2013 – 52

2014 – 50

2015 – 25\*

2016 – 18 (as of May 27, 2016)

\*The reason for such low submission numbers in 2015 is unknown.

Open access:

For the January issue, of the 8 articles 2 paid for open access.

For the July issue, of the 9 articles 0 paid for open access

Outstanding JAPM article award

Efficacy of single and consecutive early-season diquat treatments on curlyleaf pondweed and associated aquatic macrophytes: A case study.

G. Bugbee, J. Gibbons, and M. June-Wells

(2015) - 53:171-177

Questions for our editorial board

- What is a minimum number of articles that should comprise an issue?
  - If we miss that number, do we hold the issue – if so how long?
- How much money is JAPM worth to APMS (assuming yearly loss in revenue)?
- How should we promote JAPM?
- Should we solicit review articles? Pay stipend for invited reviews?
- Should we go to online only?

**APMS Summer Board of Directors Meeting  
Grand Rapids, MI  
July 17, 2016**

**Report of the Awards Committee**

**Chair: Michael D. Netherland**

**Committee Members: John Madsen, Rob Richardson, Ryan Wersal**

We had no problem with receiving nominations for our awards this year. A special thanks to committee members for providing several recommendations and letters of support.

**President's Award** – Dr. Richardson has provided a nomination and the recipient will be recognized at the banquet.

**Honorary Member Award** - Dr. Ryan Wersal nominated Jim Schmidt (retired from Lonza) for the Honorary Member Award. We received the requisite letters of support as well as ten APMS members who signed a petition (via e-mail) supporting this nomination. We have identified additional members who will likely be recognized at the meeting in Daytona, FL in 2017.

**T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award** - Dr. Wersal nominated Craig Aguillard for his years of dedicated service on the Exhibits Committee. This effort has provided significant funds to the APMS. Craig will be recognized at the banquet. Letters of support were received.

**Max McCowen Friendship Award** – We received a nomination from Dr. Rob Richardson for Ken Manuel to receive this award for his years of dedicated service to the society, and for acting as a great ambassador for the APMS. Ken is a former APMS President, and he has remained highly active in the Society. Letters of support were received.

**Outstanding Graduate Student Award** – Dr. John Rodgers nominated Kyla Iwinski, a prospective PhD student from Clemson University for this award based on significant achievements during her graduate career. A letter of support was received.

**Outstanding Research or Technical Contributor Award** – Dr. Netherland made a nomination and the recipient will be recognized at the banquet. A letter of support was received.

**Outstanding International Contribution Award** – Dr. John Madsen nominated Paul Champion (New Zealand) for this award and he will be in attendance to receive this award.

**Outstanding JAPM Article Award** – Dr. Jay Ferrell polled the Associate Editors and a paper by Greg Bugbee, M Gibbons, and MJ Wells was nominated. The winning paper will be announced at the banquet.

*Bugbee GJ, Gibbons JA, June-Wells M (2015) Efficacy of single and consecutive early-season diquat treatments on curlyleaf pondweed and associated aquatic macrophytes: A case study. J. Aquat. Plant Manage. 53:170-178.*

**Outgoing Directors** - At the banquet, outgoing directors Dr. Mark Heilman (SePRO Corp.) and Dr. Vernon Vandiver (retired – University of FL) will be recognized for their service. We will also recognize outgoing student director, Kallie Kessler (Colorado State University).

During the Banquet we also recognize the **Student Presentation Awards** (oral and poster) and Exhibitors Excellence Award. These awards are determined at the meeting.

From the Ops Manual  
Awards Committee

1. Be comprised of not less than three (3) voting members of the Society.
2. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the Chair shall solicit through the Newsletter and Website or shall make recommendations to the Board, nominations for membership awards qualifying in accordance with Chapter IV, Section A of this Operating Manual.
3. Prior to the Annual Meeting, arrange for the purchase and inscription of plaques, certificates, and other items to be presented at the Annual Meeting.
  - a. Honorary Member Award – check with the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for candidates.
  - b. President's, T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service, and Max McCowen Friendship Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
  - d. Outstanding Graduate Student Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
  - e. Outstanding Research and/or Technical Contributor Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
  - f. Outstanding International Contribution Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
  - g. Outstanding JAPM Article Award – check with current President or Editor as to recipients, if any.
  - h. Student Presentation Awards – coordinate with Student Affairs Committee.
  - i. Exhibitor's Excellence Award – coordinate with Exhibits Committee.
  - j. Outgoing Officers and Directors – coordinate with the Nominating Committee.
4. At the Annual Meeting, coordinate participation, qualifications, criteria and student panel judge selection for the (non-student) Best Poster Award.
5. Utilize and update, as necessary, the APMS Award/Honors Procedures and Criteria found in Chapter IV, Section A of this Operating Manual, and assist in determining copy on plaques, certificates, etc.
6. Provide the Membership Committee annual lists of Awards and Honor recipients for entry into the Society's permanent record and posting on the website.

Respectfully

Michael D. Netherland

**Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Board of Director Meeting  
Grand Rapids, MI  
July 17, 2016**

**Education and Outreach Committee Report**

Submitted by Jeff Schardt

**APMS PowerPoint Presentation**

Two PowerPoint presentations are posted on the APMS website. A generic version that provides APMS history, mission and core values. Membership logistics student initiatives, and APMS awards are discussed. The second version provides photos and award winners from the 2015 Annual Meeting. Both versions are editable to tailor to individual audiences.

**APMS Sponsorship of Florida Plant Camp**

APMS again sponsored \$1000 for FL Plant Camp 2016 to provide meals and materials for Plant Camp as well as travel expenses for to instructors from Tennessee. The TN teachers will assist in creating Plant Camp in TN. Twenty-two teachers were selected from 45 applicants to attend Plant Camp 2016. Plant Camp not only provides information and training for teachers about aquatic plants and their management, it is also a forum for feedback from teachers to improve future Camp and teaching materials. This year, teachers were divided into classroom age groups to discuss how to improve materials and curricula for hands-on instruction.

Katie Walters, who has been administering FL Plant Camp for the past 4.5 years will leave the program to go UGA as a graduate student in learning design and technology. Her replacement, Dehlia Albrecht, has a master's in entomology from UF. She attended and trained at Plant Camp 2016.

**APMS Funds for National Silent Invaders**

APMS provided UF \$11,517.80 to upgrade the Silent Invaders DVD for use by teachers nationwide. The Silent Invaders DVD will be in single frame animation and contain five parts including: Introduction, Native, Nonnative, and Invasive plants, and an Overview. It is scheduled for completion in the first or second week of August. Katie Walters will see this project through with the UF graphics department. They have the APMS logo to include, and we will make it available to APMS in several file formats for use on the APMS website, to burn to DVDs, put on YouTube, etc. Walters has developed an outreach plan for the video, which Dehlia Albrecht will implement. An invoice will be sent to APMS upon completion of the project.

**APMS Board of Directors Meeting  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**Sponsorship and Exhibit chairman report**

Submitted by Craig Aguillard

The 56<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the APMS held in Grand Rapids MI will have a total of 19 exhibitors and 1 nonprofit. The total amount collected for exhibits is \$13,300. Sponsors for this meeting are 1 Gold level sponsor, 4 Silver level sponsors, 4 bronze level sponsors and 7 contributing sponsors. The total amount donated by sponsors for the annual meeting is \$43,570.

APMS Annual Meeting 2016  
Legislative Committee Report  
John Madsen

1. I direct you to the report by Lee van Wychen, Director of Science Policy for WSSA for legislative activity. Two events have occurred since his report was sent in that should be reported.
2. The Zika Vector Control response package did pass with sufficient votes in the Senate to overcome the anticipated veto by the President. While there was a NPDES waiver included in the Zika bill, it only applied to mosquito control.
3. As part of this committee, I sit in on the WSSA Science Policy Committee. The committee considers many issues over the year, including proposed herbicide resistance language from US EPA, proposed Endangered Species Act considerations for new herbicide labels, NPDES issues, proposed restrictions on tank mixes by US EPA, and so on.
4. As APMS President, I will continue to be a part of the WSSA Science Policy Committee. However, I will look for a new chair of the Legislative Committee after the annual meeting.



June 24, 2016

To: Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)

Subject: Report of the Meeting Planning Committee (MPC)

**Committee Members:**

Craig Aguillard, Linda Nelson, Cody Gray, Sherry Whitaker, Troy Goldsby, Bryan Goldsby, George Selden, Chris Mudge, Tommy Bowen (Chair)

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 17-20, 2016, Grand Rapids, Michigan**

By late June, the conference room block at the Hilton was 95% full. We are exploring alternative hotels should we fill the Amway block completely. Reservation reminders have been sent to the membership via the website, provided in the June newsletter, and sent by email.

The MPC has finalized the meeting requirements and coordinated with APMS officers and committee chairs regarding the other meeting necessities (exhibits, registration, audio/visual, student rooms, auctions, etc.).

A preliminary budget was provided as an enclosure in the January 2016 MPC report. This budget was based on an attendance of 160 delegates and guests. Registration fees, exhibit fees, and sponsorship levels are the same as last year. A net income of \$19K is estimated for this annual meeting.

**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 16-19, 2017, Daytona Beach, Florida**

The contract has been signed with the Daytona Beach Hilton in Daytona Beach as the site for our 2017 annual meeting, July 16-19.

**58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 15-18, 2018, Buffalo, New York**

The contract has been signed with the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center in Buffalo as the site for our 2018 annual meeting, July 15-18.

**59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 14-17, 2019, San Diego, California**

The APMS Board approved by email vote the Meeting Planning Committee recommendation of the Doubletree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley Hotel in San Diego, California as the site for our 2019 annual meeting. The hotel contract was signed on May 31, 2016 by President Rob Richardson (Enclosure 1).

1 Enclosure

Tommy

## GROUP SALES EVENT AGREEMENT

### DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley

7450 Hazard Center Drive  
San Diego, CA 92108

This Group Sales Event Agreement ("Agreement") is by and between Aquatic Plant Management Society ("Group" or "you" or "your(s)") and HLT Operate DTWC LLC ("Owner"), d/b/a DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley (the "Hotel" or "we" or "us" or "our").

Especially Prepared for:		Event & Hotel Information:	
Group Contact:	Mr. Bill Torres	Name of "Event":	2019 Annual Meeting
Title:	Meeting Planner	Date(s) of Event:	July 12, 2019 - July 18, 2019
Company Name:	Aquatic Plant Management Society	Post to Reader Board As:	2019 Annual Meeting
Address:	329 Dreadnaught Court	Hotel Contact:	Matthew Kurylo
City, State, Zip:	Tallahassee, FL 32312	Title:	Senior Sales Manager
Phone:	(850) 519-4310	Phone:	(619) 270-2614
Email:	FAPMS@embargo.com	Email:	matt.kurylo@hilton.com

#### Room Block and Sleeping Room Rates

We are pleased to confirm the following negotiated meeting rates:

Day/Date	Fri, 7/12/19	Sat, 7/13/19	Sun, 7/14/19	Mon, 7/15/19	Tue, 7/16/19	Wed, 7/17/19	Total	Rate
Standard Guestrooms	2	33	128	128	128	18	437	\$169
Premium Rooms	0	10	10	10	10	10	50	\$169
Presidential Suite	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	\$169
Suite	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	Comp
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>497</b>	

*Standard Rooms as noted above are made up of Double Queen and Single King Room types. On average, your group block will be made up of 63% Double Queens and 37% Single King rooms due to the nature of our inventories. Exact room types cannot be guaranteed. The Bedroom Unit in our One Bedroom or Two Bedroom Suite(s) will be taken from Standard inventory.*

The hotel agrees not to offer special promotional rates or weekend packages during the meeting period which are less than the meeting rate unless such special rates apply to all rooms in the organization's room block.

See last paragraph under "Audit of Attendees".

The hotel agrees, based on group rate availability, to honor the group's room block rate if the reserved room block is exceeded.

#### **TOTAL SLEEPING ROOM NIGHTS RESERVED: 497**

Sleeping room rates as noted in the "Room Block" above are **commissionable** and are quoted **exclusive** of applicable state and local taxes, fees and assessments.

Quoted sleeping room rates will be offered to your attendees, based on group room availability of contracted room type(s), 3 days before and 3 days after the above Event dates.

Group agrees to provide to Hotel information summarizing all events of a similar type to the one described in this Agreement that Group holds between the date this Agreement is signed and the date of the Event described in this Agreement, no later than 60 days after each event is completed. This information will be used by Hotel to assist Group and Hotel in planning for this Event.

#### Summary of Revenue Anticipated by Hotel from this Agreement

For your information and guidance, the following chart illustrates the total potential value of your Event. The Hotel has offered the negotiated sleeping room rates, meeting room inventory and other concessions in this Agreement based upon the total revenue contracted, as well as additional revenue from providing additional services to your Group and your attendees at additional charge. Any requests for additional sleeping rooms, meeting rooms, function space and/or Food and Beverage to be added after Agreement signing will be subject to availability, and agreed upon changes would be confirmed in a written amendment to this Agreement signed by both parties.

*Handwritten signature and date 5/2/19*



Summary of Revenue Anticipated by Hotel from this Agreement	
Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue:	\$82,075
Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue:	\$25,000
<small>Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue does not include gratuities, service charges, supplemental surcharges, applicable federal, state or local taxes or any other fees outside of food and beverage product sales.</small>	
"Total Anticipated Revenue":	\$107,075

#### Option Dates

These arrangements are being held on a **first option basis** until **May 31, 2016** (the "Option Period"). However, should other business opportunities arise such that we are in a position to confirm immediately, you will be advised and given **3 days**, or until the end of your Option Period (whichever is shorter) to confirm this Agreement on a definite basis by returning a signed copy of this Agreement to us. Please note that it is your responsibility to notify us if you need to request an extension of your Option Period. If we do not receive a signed copy of this Agreement by **May 31, 2016** we may, at our sole option and with no notice required, release this first option, review our rates, or continue to hold the arrangements.

#### Taxes

In addition to the Total Anticipated Revenue for your Event as set forth herein, you agree to pay any and all applicable federal, state, municipal or other taxes, fees, or assessments imposed on or applicable to your Event. In the state in which Hotel is located, currently the sales tax rate is **8%**, and our Occupancy Tax is **10.50%**; SD Tourism Marketing District **2.00%**; CA Tourism Assessment **0.30%**. Total current Occupancy Tax is **12.80%**. We will honor any available tax exemptions for which you qualify, provided that you properly complete and timely provide all documentation required by the applicable jurisdiction to substantiate said exemption.

#### Commission

We will pay a commission of **10%** of the room rate (excluding any taxes, rebates, staff rooms, housing company fees or other subsidy) for each sleeping room night actually occupied and paid for by your attendees that was reserved as part of the established Room Block at the negotiated convention/meeting rates contained in this Agreement. Commission will be paid to **Florida Event Planning & Meeting Service** ("Meeting Planner"), unless we receive confirmation in writing signed by both Group and Meeting Planner that commissions are to be paid to some other person or entity. We will make no more than one commission payment of **10%**, which we estimate will equal **\$8,698** if your entire Room Block is actualized at the minimum room rates. Payment will be made after receipt by the Hotel of full payment for the Event, but Hotel has no obligation to take any action to collect funds to be paid as commissions. For the avoidance of doubt, no commission payments will be paid to the Meeting Planner for revenue received by Hotel from cancellation damages, no-show charges, discounted staff rooms, or sleeping room performance damages. If no third party meeting planner is used, commission will not be paid to the Group.

IATA # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Event Planner Bonus Program

**Mr. Bill Torres** ("Event Planner") is eligible to earn an Event Planner Bonus for a qualifying event. The Event Planner's HHonors Account Number is 838704364. For this Event, Event Planner is eligible to earn one HHonors bonus point for every eligible dollar spent, up to a maximum award of **100,000 HHonors bonus points**. Eligible revenue will include all revenue billed to the master account revenue up to a maximum of **\$100,000** of eligible revenue. Full details and rules regarding the Event Planner Bonus Program are available by visiting [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com).

#### Disclosure of Third Party Payments

If we agree to pay a commission, rebate, subsidy, housing fee and/or Event Planner Bonus (collectively, a "Third Party Payment") in connection with your Event, then you (and your Meeting Planner if the Meeting Planner is signing the Agreement on your behalf) agree to take full responsibility for determining whether further disclosure of the Third Party Payment is required and for making such disclosure if it is required, and you (and your Meeting Planner if the Meeting Planner is signing the Agreement on your behalf) further agree to reimburse us for any fees, costs, liabilities or expenses that we incur should any person claim that disclosure was insufficient.

#### Complimentary Rooms

In consideration of your guest room commitment, we are pleased to extend one (1) complimentary room night per every **(50)** revenue room night actually utilized within your official Room Block by your Group. A standard parlor of a suite is counted as one room, with a standard one-bedroom suite being counted as two rooms. Group should provide a list of names in order of preference for complimentary room assignment. If you fill all of the rooms reserved in your Room Block, you will be entitled up to **10** complimentary rooms, valued at a minimum of **\$1,690**.

#### Additional Concessions

In consideration of the entire value your Event brings to the Hotel, we are pleased to offer the following concessions based on Group's achievement of **80%** or greater of the **Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue**. If the actual total sleeping room revenue for your Event materializes at less than **80%** of the **Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue**, the concessions will be *reduced* proportionately at the discretion of the Hotel or, at your request, provided and charged to your Master Account at retail value, in addition to any performance damages you may owe related to sleeping room revenue and Food and Beverage revenue, plus applicable Meeting

*[Handwritten signature]*  
2/5/16



Room Rental Fees. Please advise your assigned Event Manager no later than seven (7) days prior to first guest room arrival of your decision whether you prefer to have concessions reduced or if you want to retain and pay for them. If you elect to pay for unearned concessions, you agree that you will pay all applicable labor/union charges, state and local taxes, gratuity and/or service charges on all concessions provided.

- Food & Beverage minimum of \$25,000++
- Complimentary Meeting & Exhibit Space with 80% guest room pick-up
- 1 Complimentary room night per 50 room nights occupied
- One (1) Presidential Suite at the group rate over peak nights – Sat, 7/13/19 thru Wed 7/17/19 (5 nights)
- Ten (10) rooms per night upgraded to Premium Rooms at the group rate – Sat, 7/13/19 thru Wed 7/17/19 (5 nights)
- Lock-in 2018 Food & Beverage prices at contract signing
- Complimentary Wi-Fi in the guest rooms and registration area
- One complimentary suite for the meeting planner for the – Sat, 7/13/19 thru Wed 7/17/19 (5 nights)
- **January 2019 Board Meeting:** Hotel will provide complimentary function space for a 1 day Board Meeting for up to 15 people 8am-5pm on a mutually agreeable date. Should guestrooms be needed the hotel will make every effort to extend the conference rate of \$169.00 plus tax or lowest available rate (10% commissionable to FLORIDA EVENT PLANNING & MEETING SERVICE) per night for a standard guestroom.

#### Cut-Off Date

In order to assign specific room types to your attendees, each sleeping room in your Room Block must be confirmed in the manner described below no later than June 21, 2019. This date will be known as your "Cut-Off Date." After the Cut-Off Date, the Hotel will continue to hold any rooms in your Room Block not assigned to a specific attendee for your Group if you pay for such rooms in full at that time. If you have not guaranteed or prepaid such rooms, you agree that Hotel may offer unused sleeping rooms held in your Room Block to other customers to reduce Hotel's losses. You agree that the release of rooms will not affect the enforceability of this Agreement or your obligation to pay for unsold rooms in your Room Block. Advance payments will be refunded by the Hotel after your Event dates if rooms you paid for in advance were later paid for by your attendees. Confirmation of rooms after the Cut-Off Date will only be accepted based on availability of contracted room type(s) and at the Hotel's prevailing rates.

#### Check-In/Out Time

Our check-in time begins at 3:00 PM; check-out time is 12:00 PM. All guests arriving before 3:00 PM may be accommodated as rooms become available provided that such guests elect to pay an early arrival fee (currently \$25.00). Our Bell Staff can arrange to check baggage for those arriving early when rooms are unavailable and for guests attending functions on departure day.

#### Porterage

In the event of prearranged transportation (outside bus, shuttle etc. company.) of a group arrival or group departure (10 people or more arriving or departing at a common date and time), arranged by the client/group/company, a mandatory baggage handling charge of \$10.00 per person round trip will be posted to the Group's Master Account. This charge includes groups that require pre-registration and pre keyed arrival. Please advise us of a group arrival/departure at least two weeks prior to arrival. These charges will be applicable to the Group and added to each guest folio as an incidental charge on the Group's Master Account. Baggage fees are subject to change without notice.

#### Shipping & Receiving

**Storage:** Due to our limited storage space, a \$50.00 per day storage/handling fee will be applied to all shipments, up to 25 boxes. Anything in excess of 25 boxes will incur an additional \$25.00 per day charge. Pallets or any extremely heavy items that will require a pallet jack or fork lift, will also incur an additional \$25.00 per day charge.

**Boxes and Packages Delivery:** \$2.00 per box or \$20 per pallet delivered to meeting rooms or guestrooms will be charged to the Master Account or Individual Folio as instructed. All fees are given to the team member who delivers the boxes.

#### Parking

The DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley offers self-parking for our guests at \$20.00 per day and valet parking at \$23.00 per day. Rates are subject to change without notice.

#### Early Departure Fee

If a guest who has requested a room within your Room Block checks out prior to the guest's reserved checkout date, the Hotel will add an early checkout fee to that guest's individual account (currently, \$75.00). Guests wishing to avoid an early checkout fee, should advise the Hotel at or before check-in of any change in planned length of stay. The Hotel will inform your Group attendees of this potential charge upon check-in and requests that you also inform your attendees of this obligation.

The Hotel will deduct any collected early departure fees from the amount you may owe as sleeping room performance damages.

2/3/16



### Room Assignments

Your assigned Event Manager will discuss your housing requirements (Individual Call-in) with you to customize a solution that will provide the most effective method for your attendees to book their reservations and for your management of the Room Block powered by GroupMax™ housing technology. All published housing information on your website or registration materials must be reviewed by the Hotel to ensure rate, date, cut off and Hotel specific information is correct. This link will take you to a tutorial for meeting planners on the reporting tools for GroupMax™:

<http://www.passkey.com/GM/EventDashboards-PlannerGuide-RLM.pdf>.

### Guest Payment Arrangements

It is our understanding that all individuals who attend your Event will be responsible for their own room, tax and incidental charges upon check-out. Incidental charges must be paid in full prior to the guest's departure, with individual credit being established upon check-in. Please instruct your guests to check with the Hotel to make certain all incidental charges are paid prior to departure.

If Group submits a rooming list with reservations that will be paid for by Group, such reservations will be considered guaranteed for the full length of stay unless the reservations are cancelled by Group or the guest no later than 2 days in advance of arrival. Early departure charges will be applied to Group's Master Account for guests guaranteed by Group's rooming list that depart early.

### Individual Guest Deposits/Confirmation

To confirm a sleeping room within your Room Block, the sleeping room must be secured with a valid credit card provided either by you or the guest attending your Event, along with a first night's deposit, refundable up to 2 days in advance of your Event date. Checks and major credit cards are acceptable to establish prepayment. All credit cards used to prepay the room deposit will be charged immediately. Should you secure sleeping rooms on behalf of your guests with your credit card, your attendees may thereafter provide their own credit card information for their own sleeping rooms. Your advance payments and deposits will either be refunded by us to you within 30 days after completion of your Event if sleeping rooms you paid for in advance were later paid for by your attendees or, at our election, credited to your Master Account. The Hotel will deduct any collected nonrefundable prepayment fees from the amount you may owe as performance or cancellation damages.

### Audit of Attendees

We are pleased to offer G.R.I.P., Hilton's proprietary Group Reservation Identification Program, which automates the process of cross referencing registration lists to identify rooms booked outside of the reserved Room Block. Your final report of consumed rooms will reflect all rooms associated with your Room Block.

If you request a comparison through G.R.I.P., you will need to electronically provide the first and last names of attendees registered for your Event to the Hotel. Group agrees that Group takes full responsibility for (a) determining whether it is necessary to disclose to Group's attendees that information is being provided to Hotel by Group or vice versa which may be considered private or confidential, and for making such disclosure, if it is required, and (b) obtaining any necessary permissions from attendees allowing for such exchange of information. After comparing your list to the Hotel's guest registry, Hotel will advise you of the number of room nights occupied by your attendees reserved outside the official Room Block.

If you request Hotel to provide you with the names of the guests who reserved rooms outside of the official Room Block, you agree to sign an addendum relating to the release of the audit information for Group's Event and to fully defend, indemnify and hold Hotel and Hilton Worldwide, Inc. harmless from and against any and all claims, settlements, judgments, fees or costs, including attorney's fees and expert witness fees and costs, incurred as a result of any third party claim by any person or entity arising out of the release of information about a guest or guests to Group, as part of this comparison process.

Your assigned Event Manager will discuss how we can assist you in managing your attendees' booking behavior so that attendees will reserve rooms within the Room Block.

The revenue generated by those room nights booked outside of the reserved Room Block will be added to Group's revenue achieved for purposes of determining Group's obligations under the Sleeping Rooms Performance clause. Group will be given credit for rooms used by Group's attendees outside the Room Block at the rate actually paid for the rooms used. Rooms reserved outside Group's Room Block will be counted in determining any complimentary room credit or staff room allotments.

### Unavailability of Guestrooms

The parties agree that on occasions due to unanticipated circumstances, the Hotel may not have rooms available for all guests who wish to check in on a particular night. While Hotel will use reasonable efforts to avoid such situation impacting Group, if an attendee with a confirmed reservation in your Room Block cannot be accommodated by the Hotel, the Hotel will provide the following:

1. Accommodations at a comparable hotel as close as possible and at no charge to the guest for each night the guest is displaced from the Hotel.
2. One daily complimentary round trip ground transportation between Hotel and the alternate hotel.
3. The Hotel will make necessary arrangements for the displaced guest's telephone messages and mail to ensure that they are properly forwarded.
4. Group will receive credit for any guests displaced toward its pick up for purposes of this Agreement.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
4/30/16



5. If a room becomes available at the Hotel for the displaced guest and the guest elects not to return to the Hotel, the Hotel will have no further obligations under this clause.

#### Function Space

Based on your requirements as you have indicated them to be, we have reserved the attached program of function space needs (see **Schedule 1** labeled as "**Schedule of Events and Function Space Charges**"). Specific meeting rooms cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change. The Hotel's standard rental charges for the space held with \$25,000 in Food & Beverage would be **\$12,000**.

Based on the Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue and the Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue as indicated in this Agreement and the other anticipated revenue that Hotel will realize from this Event, the function space for your program will be provided on a complimentary basis, a savings of approximately **\$12,000**.

**Meeting Room Charges Based on Sleeping Room Performance:** Should Group's minimum revenue commitments not materialize as anticipated, then charges will be assessed to the Group's Master Account by Hotel for function space as set forth below, in addition to any performance damages owed by Group under the Performance policies.

GROUP'S ACTUAL SLEEPING ROOM PERFORMANCE	MEETING ROOM RENTAL CHARGES BASED ON SLEEPING ROOM PERFORMANCE
80-100% of Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue	Waived
70-79% of Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue	\$6,000
60-69% of Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue	\$8,000
50-59% of Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue	\$10,000
49% and below of Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue	\$12,000

The room rental charges listed in this chart above will be added in addition to the room rental charges (if any) listed in Schedule 1.

You agree to confirm with us the assigned function space *before* printing any materials listing specific meeting or function locations. If for any reason the function space reserved is not available on the day of your Event (whether unavailable, for instance, due to emergency repairs or unscheduled maintenance), you agree that we may substitute space of appropriate size and comparable quality for your meeting or function.

#### Audio Visual

No surcharge or service charge will be assessed to The ~~Midwest~~ Aquatic Plant Management Society Master Account for using their own **AV** equipment (e.g. Laptop, Projector, Printer, Confidence Monitor, VGA Cords, etc.).

#### Banquet Services

Group has agreed to hold the food and beverage events set forth in the attached Schedule of Events, or to provide **\$25,000** in total anticipated catered food and beverage revenue. The following mandatory timeline relates to final menus and program meal functions:

- Your Event Manager will contact you at least **thirty (30) days** before your Event to review and re-confirm the details for your Event, including menus, decorations, entertainment and beverage service. We require that your final menu selections and room set specifications be completed and received at least **thirty (30) days** prior to your major arrival day.
- If for any reason your final menu selections and room set specifications are provided to the Hotel **fourteen (14) days** or less prior to your arrival day, Hotel may, in our sole discretion, make Chef's Selections for food product based on your delayed submission of final menu selections, and you agree to accept such substitutions.
- Due to supply chain logistics that are out of the control of the Hotel including seasonal availability of product, holidays and weekends, if for any reason you do not provide the Hotel with your final menu selections and room set specifications at least ten (10) days prior to your arrival day, the Hotel will assess an extra fee equal to \$1.00 per menu per person to offset extra costs Hotel may incur when placing expedited food product orders to Hotel's suppliers.
- Upon review of your final menus and Event requirements, Event Orders will be sent by Hotel to you within **five (5) business days** to confirm all final arrangements and prices, which Event Orders will serve as a part of this Agreement. If you do not advise Hotel of any changes on the Event Orders by the date requested by Hotel, you agree that the Event Orders will be considered accepted by you as correct and you will be billed accordingly.
- At least **72 hours (three days)** before your Event, you must inform us of the exact number of people who will attend your Event functions by contacting your assigned Event Manager by email or phone. Guarantees by text message cannot be accepted. We will not undertake to serve more than **3%** above this guaranteed minimum.

**GRATUITY: 16.5%** (or the current gratuity in effect on the day of the Event) of the food and beverage total plus any applicable state and/or local taxes will be added to your account as a gratuity and fully distributed to servers, and where applicable, bussers and/or bartenders.

2/5/16

**SERVICE CHARGE: 7.5%** (or the current service charge in effect on the day of the Event) of the food and beverage total, plus any applicable state and/or local taxes, will be added to your account as a service charge. This service charge is not a gratuity and is the property of Hotel to cover discretionary costs of the Event.

We will endeavor to notify you in advance of your Event of any increases to the gratuity and/or service charge should different amounts be in effect on the day of your Event.

#### Master Accounts

It is our understanding you want to establish credit with us for the Master Account charges for this Event. Please complete the enclosed credit application and return it to our Credit Manager. If the application is not received by 06/14/2019 or not approved, you agree that the total estimated Master Account charges are to be paid by company check, certified check, wire transfer or credit card for the entire estimated charges no later than 30 days in advance of Group's arrival date.

On receipt and approval of the credit application, a Master Account will be set up for this Event. We would like to review this account with you daily and have charges approved in writing by you or your designee to eliminate discrepancies, however failure on your part to review charges while on site will not be a basis for disputing any charge.

Group agrees to the following deposit schedule:

DEPOSIT SCHEDULE		
	Due Date	Amount
Initial Deposit	No later than <u>30</u> days after 7/11/2017	\$2,000

If credit has not been approved for your Event, then no later than 30 days in advance of arrival, or 06/14/2019, you will either provide us with a valid credit card to which all remaining estimated Master Account charges will be charged on that date, or provide payment of all remaining estimated Master Account charges by company check, certified check, wire transfer or credit card.

We reserve the right to increase the amount of deposits and/or pre-payments should there be a negative change in your financial status, even if credit had previously been approved. If advance payments or deposits are not paid on a timely basis, the Hotel will have the right, at our option, to consider the Agreement cancelled and we will be entitled to cancellation damages as provided in this Agreement.

If you are paying by credit card, we request that you provide us with your credit card information at the time of your Event so that we may charge the credit card account at departure. If any charges are disputed, you agree to provide us with an itemized list of disputed charges so that we may charge the undisputed charges to the credit card account immediately and the remainder will be charged upon resolution.

If payment of all undisputed charges is not received within thirty (30) days after your receipt of the final invoice, a finance charge of 1.5% per month, or the maximum amount allowed by law, whichever is less, will accrue on the unpaid, undisputed amount, commencing on the date of receipt of the final invoice. You will submit to us an itemized list of any disputed charges within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the final invoice, or else all disputes are waived. If any charges are disputed, all undisputed amounts will be paid within thirty (30) days and the parties agree to work in good faith to resolve the disputed invoiced charges in a timely manner, and you agree to pay the remainder immediately upon resolution of the dispute.

#### Impossibility

Neither party shall be responsible for failure to perform this Agreement if unanticipated circumstances beyond their control, including, but not limited to: acts of God; terrorist attacks in the city in which Hotel is located; or declared war in the United States; make it illegal or impossible for Hotel to hold the Event. The affected party may terminate this Agreement without liability upon providing written notice to the other party within ten (10) days of the occurrence.

#### Performance and Cancellation Policies

##### Sleeping Room Performance Policy

The Total Sleeping Room Nights Reserved under this Agreement will generate **\$82,075** in revenue for Hotel ("Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue"). If you do not use all of the sleeping rooms in your Room Block, you agree that the Hotel will suffer damages because the Hotel will have lost the opportunity to offer your unused rooms to others either individually or as part of another block and the Hotel will incur additional costs in attempting to resell inventory that was already sold to you. The parties agree that since the exact amount of such damages would be difficult to determine, the liquidated damages clauses provided for in this Agreement are a reasonable effort by the parties to agree in advance on the damages that the Hotel will suffer due to your lack of performance. Therefore, if the contracted Event is held as scheduled, Hotel will not seek performance damages if Group achieves a minimum of 80% of the Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue. Should Group achieve less than this amount, Group agrees to pay to Hotel, as reasonable liquidated damages and not a penalty, the difference between 80% of the Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue and the actualized guest room revenue received by Hotel for rooms used and paid for as part of the official Room Block, plus any applicable

4316  
[Signature]



state and local taxes as required by law, as a reasonable estimate of the Hotel's losses on sleeping rooms, ancillary revenue, costs of sale and other losses.

All estimated sleeping room performance damages will be due and payable to the Hotel no later than **seven (7)** days prior to Group arrival date, regardless of Master Account credit status.

#### Food and Beverage Performance Policy

The guestroom rates and concessions outlined are based on Group's guaranteed expenditure of a minimum of **\$25,000** in banquet food and beverage, excluding taxes, gratuities and service charges ("**Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue**"). The Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue amount does not include gratuities, service charges, supplemental surcharges, applicable federal, state or local taxes or any other fees outside of food and beverage product sales. Should you fall short of this Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue, whether due to reduction in size of your meeting, drop in attendance, change in food and beverage functions or otherwise, you agree that the Hotel will suffer damages that will be difficult to determine. Therefore, you agree that you will pay the Hotel, as liquidated damages and not as a penalty, the amount equal to the difference between the guaranteed Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue and the actual food and beverage revenue amount received by Hotel for your Group's banquet food and beverage functions during your Event dates, plus any applicable state and local taxes as required by law. You agree that this charge is a reasonable estimate of the Hotel's losses on food and beverage.

For example, if the Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue is contracted at \$25,000 and if the actual expenditure during the Event is \$20,000, then the food and beverage performance damages will equal \$5,000 (\$25,000 - \$20,000).

Once food and beverage functions have been established under the Event Orders sent to you by the Hotel, performance damages for food and beverage will be determined separately based on the terms of the Event Orders if the anticipated food and beverage revenue under the Event Orders is higher. At the time Event Orders are prepared, Hotel will advise Group if the food and beverage selections based on the Event Orders will achieve the Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue. If not, the Hotel will provide Group with food and beverage options that would achieve the Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue. Group will then have the option of either altering the Event Orders to achieve the Total Anticipated Food and Beverage Revenue, or paying the estimated food and beverage performance damages pursuant to this Food and Beverage Performance Policy.

All estimated food and beverage performance damages will be due and payable to the Hotel no later than **seven (7)** days prior to Group arrival date, regardless of Master Account credit status.

#### Cancellation Policy

Hotel has offered the favorable sleeping room rates and other concessions in this Agreement based upon the Total Anticipated Revenue for your Event, plus additional revenue that the Hotel anticipates we would receive from providing additional services to the Group and your attendees at additional charge. If this Agreement is cancelled by Group, the parties agree that the Hotel will have lost the revenue represented by this Agreement, and also the opportunity to offer your unused facilities to others either individually or as part of another block and we will incur additional costs in attempting to resell inventory that was already sold to you. The parties agree that since the exact amount of such damages will be difficult to determine, the liquidated damage clauses provided for in this Agreement are a reasonable effort by the parties to agree in advance on the damages that the Hotel will suffer due to a cancellation. Therefore, Group agrees that should Group cancel your Event for any reason other than due to a valid impossibility occurrence, including changing your meeting site to another hotel, Group will pay as liquidated damages to the Hotel a percentage of the Total Anticipated Revenue for your Event, plus any applicable state and local taxes as required by law, as follows:

Date of Hotel's Receipt of Cancellation Notice	Percentage of Total Anticipated Revenue	Amount of Cancellation Damages
Cancellation between date of signing and <u>07/11/17</u>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
Cancellation between <u>07/12/17</u> and <u>07/11/18</u> :	<b>55 % =</b>	<b>\$58,891</b>
Cancellation between <u>07/12/18</u> and <u>07/12/19</u> :	<b>75 % =</b>	<b>\$80,306</b>

**Total Anticipated Revenue** for this Event is **\$107,075**.

The parties agree that the sliding scale of damages above is intended to reflect that the closer in time to the date of your Event that a cancellation occurs the less likely it is that Hotel will be able to replace any or all of your business with comparable business.

Payment of cancellation damages is due within 30 days following your written notice of cancellation to us. We may consider your notice of cancellation to be invalid and thus may not release accommodations held until payment of the applicable cancellation damages is received; therefore delay in payment may result in higher cancellation damages owed.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
4/31/16



### Resale

The Hotel agrees to reduce any **cancellation damages** owed for sleeping rooms by revenue received from unused sleeping rooms that are resold by Hotel. Sleeping rooms will be considered "resold" to the extent that the Hotel sells more sleeping rooms on a night of your Event than it would have had available to sell if Group had fully occupied its reserved Room Block. Each room resold will be counted as a room occupied in your Room Block. For example, if a hotel has 300 total available rooms, and if a group reserves 100 rooms, that hotel would have 200 rooms available to sell to others before "reselling" an unused room that was part of that group's reserved room block.

If Group paid damages under the Cancellation policy at the same time that Group delivered written notice of cancellation to the Hotel, the resold room credit will equal the average daily rate received by the Hotel for the nights on which rooms are resold multiplied by the number of rooms resold multiplied by the applicable cancellation damage percentage owed by Group. For example, if the Event is cancelled by Group **90 days** in advance, the cancellation damages owed would equal **80%** of the Total Anticipated Revenue and the resale credit will equal **80%** (same percentage) of resold room revenue.

### Indemnification

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Group agrees to protect, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Hotel, Hilton Worldwide, Inc. and the Hotel's Owner, and their respective owners, managers, partners, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, employees and agents (collectively, the "Hotel Indemnified Parties"), from and against any and all claims, losses or damages to persons or property, governmental charges or fines, penalties, and costs (including reasonable attorney's fees) (collectively, "Claim(s)"), in any way arising out of or relating to the Event that is the subject of this Agreement but only to the extent any such Claim(s) arise out of (i) the negligence, gross negligence or intentional misconduct of Group's employees, agents, contractors, or attendees, or (ii) a violation or breach of any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by Group or any related act or failure to act by Group, including but not limited to the obligation of compliance with applicable laws or regulations. Nothing in this indemnification shall require Group to indemnify the Hotel Indemnified Parties for that portion of any Claim arising out of the negligence, gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the Hotel Indemnified Parties. This section shall survive any termination or expiration of this Agreement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Hotel agrees to protect, indemnify, defend and hold harmless Group, Group's owners, managers, partners, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, employees and agents (collectively, the "Group Indemnified Parties"), from and against any and all Claims (as such term is defined above) arising out of or relating to the Event that is the subject of this Agreement but only to the extent any such Claim(s) arise out of (i) the negligence, gross negligence or intentional misconduct of Hotel's employees, agents, or contractors, or (ii) a violation or breach of any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by Hotel or any related act or failure to act by Hotel including, but not limited to, the obligation of compliance with applicable laws or regulations. Nothing in this indemnification shall require Hotel to indemnify any of the Group Indemnified Parties for that portion of any Claim arising out of the negligence, gross negligence or intentional misconduct of the Group Indemnified Parties.

The party found to be at fault or responsible for any Claim will be required to indemnify the other party as provided in this section. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the parties agree that a comparative negligence standard will apply to any Claims and each party will be responsible for paying for the portion of the total Claims attributable to its fault. In the event of a settlement of any Claim, expenses will be allocated proportionately based upon the amount paid by each party.

This section shall not waive any statutory limitations of liability available to either party, including innkeeper's limitation of liability laws, nor shall it waive any defenses a party may have with respect to any Claim. This section shall survive any termination or expiration of this Agreement.

### Insurance

You agree to maintain insurance reasonably commensurate with all activities arising from or connected with your Event, including, but not limited to, general liability insurance, with limits not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence, covering personal injury, property damage, and other liability arising from your Event. You further agree to add Hotel, Hotel's Owner, and Hilton Worldwide, Inc. as additional insureds under all applicable policies for your Event. Please check with the Hotel to confirm which parties must be named as additional insureds on your insurance certificate(s). With respect to any claims or other liability for which you are responsible, your insurance will apply as primary to any insurance maintained by the Hotel Indemnified Parties.

Hotel agrees to maintain general liability insurance with limits not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence, covering liability for personal injury, property damage, liquor liability, and automobile liability, as well as Workers Compensation insurance per applicable laws and Employers Liability insurance.

Upon written request, each party shall make evidence of coverage available to the other party.

For hotels that participate in Hilton Worldwide's general liability insurance program, proof of Hotel's insurance coverage is satisfied by a Memorandum of Insurance available at: <http://www.marsh.com/moi?client=0291>. The Hotel can confirm whether they participate.

### Governing Law

The Agreement will be governed by and interpreted pursuant to the laws of the state in which Hotel is located, excluding any laws regarding the choice or conflict of laws.



### Dispute Resolution

The parties will use their commercially reasonable efforts to informally and timely resolve any dispute concerning any matter related to this Agreement by presenting the dispute to senior representatives of Hotel and Group for their discussion and possible resolution in the order set forth herein; *provided, however*, a dispute relating to patents, trademarks, trade dress, copyrights, trade secrets, and/or infringement of intellectual property rights shall not be subject to this provision. All negotiations pursuant to this section are confidential and shall be treated as compromise and settlement negotiations for purposes of applicable rules of evidence. If within a period of thirty (30) calendar days after submission of a disputed matter in accordance with this clause, the respective senior representatives are unable to agree upon a resolution of such dispute, then the dispute will be resolved by arbitration using one arbitrator before JAMS or the American Arbitration Association in the state and city in which Hotel is located, or the closest available location. The parties further agree that in any arbitration proceeding, they may conduct reasonable discovery pursuant to the arbitration rules, and any arbitration award will be enforceable in State or Federal court.

### Attorney's Fees/Costs

The parties agree that the prevailing party in any arbitration or court proceeding arising out of or related to this Agreement will be entitled to recover an award of its reasonable attorney's fees and expert witness fees, costs and pre and post judgment interest at the highest available legal rate. The parties further agree that if Hotel must retain counsel or initiate arbitration or legal action to collect of any monies owed to Hotel by Group under this Agreement, whether or not an arbitration or court action is filed, Hotel will be entitled to recover its attorney's fees incurred in such efforts to collect.

### Renovation/Remodeling

As of the date of the signing of this Agreement, Hotel has no plans for renovation or remodeling of any facilities that will be utilized by Group pursuant to this Agreement, other than ordinary maintenance. If after this Agreement is signed, Hotel confirms any plans to remodel or renovate its facilities, Hotel agrees to inform Group in writing within a reasonable amount of time of the following:

- a. Planned scope of project;
- b. Schedule for commencement and completion;
- c. Anticipated impact project will have on areas to be utilized by Group; and
- d. Hotel's plan for minimizing impact of project on Group.

Hotel's plan to renovate or remodel will not constitute grounds for termination of this Agreement unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. The parties agree to negotiate in good faith to resolve any concerns raised as a result of renovations or remodeling and to enter into such amendments of this Agreement as may be necessary to reasonably accommodate both parties' interests.

### Quiet Enjoyment

DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley represents and warrants that there will be no outside distractions that could affect the ordinary use of meeting rooms or other facilities to be used by the Aquatic Plant Management Society and its attendees. Hotel further represents and warrants that there will be not outside distractions that could interfere with the "quiet enjoyment" of guest rooms to be used by the Group and its event attendees.

### Entire Agreement/Amendments/Changes

This Agreement, Exhibit A entitled "Standard Terms and Conditions" (attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference), Exhibit B entitled "Use of Exhibit Space" (attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference), and all other exhibits attached hereto (if any), upon signature by both parties below, together constitute the entire understanding between the parties and may not be amended or changed unless done so in writing and signed by both Hotel and Group; provided, however, that this Agreement includes all signed or unsigned Event Orders issued by us for this Event and that your final guarantee of attendance may be made by phone.

If this Agreement is returned signed but with changes, it shall not constitute an acceptance, but rather a counteroffer by you that may be accepted or rejected by the Hotel in our sole discretion. This Agreement will become a binding commitment upon signature by both you and us (even if signed after the Option Period).

For purposes of this Agreement and any amendment or modification thereto, or for any other notice or communication between the parties, signatures sent or received by email with a scanned document attached or by facsimile transmission will be considered as enforceable and valid as an original signature by the party signing. The effective date of communications between the parties will be determined as follows:

- (a) Communications sent via U.S. Mail or private mail delivery service (i.e., Fed Ex) or email will be effective as of the date sent; or
- (b) Communications sent via facsimile will be considered effective as of the date and time on the facsimile confirmation sheet retained by the sender.

For the avoidance of doubt, emails, including emails that bear an electronic "signature block" identifying the sender, do not constitute signed writings for purposes of this Agreement.


The undersigned expressly agree and warrant that they are authorized to sign and enter into this Agreement on behalf of the party for which they sign.

**ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:**

**GROUP:**

Aquatic Plant Management Society

By:

  
Dr. Rob Richardson  
Aquatic Plant Management Society, President  
2015-2016

Dated:

5/31/16

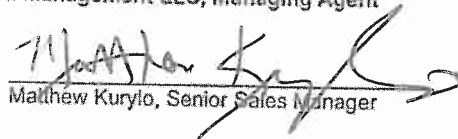
**HOTEL:**

HLT Operate DTWC LLC

d/b/a DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley

By Hilton Management LLC, Managing Agent

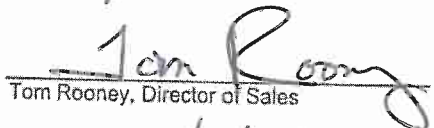
By:

  
Matthew Kurylo, Senior Sales Manager

Dated:

6/1/2016

By:

  
Tom Rooney, Director of Sales

Dated:

6/1/16



**SCHEDULE 1**  
**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Date	Start Time	End Time	Function	Room	Setup	Agr
Sun 14 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office	Hub		5
Sun 14 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage	Hub	Special Setup Instructions	
Sun 14 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Registration	South Foyer All	Registration	4
Sun 14 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Exhibition/Trade Show	Gallery	Exhibition - Table Top	30
Sun 14 Jul 2019	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room	Shutters West I	Special Setup Instructions	5
Sun 14 Jul 2019	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Meeting	Shutters East I&II	Special Setup Instructions	
Sun 14 Jul 2019	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Reception	Gallery	Reception	125
Mon 15 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	General Session/Congress	Great Room I,II,III,IV,V	Classroom	160
Mon 15 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Exhibition/Trade Show	Gallery	Exhibition - Table Top	30
Mon 15 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Registration	South Foyer All	Registration	4
Mon 15 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage	Hub	Special Setup Instructions	
Mon 15 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office	Hub		5
Mon 15 Jul 2019	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room	Shutters West I	Special Setup Instructions	5
Mon 15 Jul 2019	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break	Gallery	Existing Setup	160
Mon 15 Jul 2019	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch	Shutters East I	Round Tables of 10	30
Mon 15 Jul 2019	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch	Shutters East II	Round Tables of 10	30
Mon 15 Jul 2019	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Break	Gallery	Existing Setup	160
Mon 15 Jul 2019	5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Gallery	Reception	150
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Exhibition/Trade Show	Gallery	Exhibition - Table Top	30
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	General Session/Congress	Great Room I,II,III,IV,V	Classroom	160
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Registration	South Foyer All	Registration	4
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Office	Hub		5
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	11:00 PM	Storage	Hub	Special Setup Instructions	
Tue 16 Jul 2019	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room	Shutters West I	Special Setup Instructions	5
Tue 16 Jul 2019	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break	Gallery	Existing Setup	160
Tue 16 Jul 2019	11:15 AM	1:30 PM	Lunch	Scottsdale	Round Tables of 8	15
Tue 16 Jul 2019	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Lunch	Shutters East I&II	Round Tables of 8	30
Tue 16 Jul 2019	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Lunch	Brickstones	Round Tables of 8	20
Tue 16 Jul 2019	3:00 PM	3:30 PM	Break	Gallery	Existing Setup	160
Tue 16 Jul 2019	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Southwest Foyer	Reception	240
Tue 16 Jul 2019	7:00 PM	10:00 PM	Dinner	Great Room	Round Tables of 10	240
Wed 17 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	General Session/Congress	Great Room I,II,III,IV,V	Classroom	200
Wed 17 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibition/Trade Show	Gallery	Exhibition - Table Top	30
Wed 17 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration	South Foyer All	Registration	4
Wed 17 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	Storage	Hub	Special Setup Instructions	
Wed 17 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	Office	Hub		5
Wed 17 Jul 2019	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Speaker Ready Room	Shutters West I	Special Setup Instructions	5
Wed 17 Jul 2019	10:00 AM	10:30 AM	Break	Gallery	Existing Setup	160
Wed 17 Jul 2019	12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Meeting	Shutters East I&II	Conference/Boardroom	25
Thu 18 Jul 2019	6:00 AM	5:00 PM	Storage	Hub	Special Setup Instructions	

- \*Subject to change without notice.
- Regarding Room Rental, please refer to the earlier section entitled "Meeting Room Charges Based on Sleeping Room Performance"

5/31/19



## EXHIBIT A

### STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**BANQUET FUNCTIONS:** For your organized food and beverage functions and meetings, the following will apply:

**Overtime:** You agree to begin your Event promptly at the scheduled start time and to have your guests, invitees and other persons vacate the designated function space at the agreed upon end time. You must reimburse us for any overtime wage payments or other expenses incurred by us because of your failure to comply with these requirements.

**Price Increases:** There may be increases in prices due to unforeseen changes in market conditions at the time of your Event. We will communicate these increases to you in advance. We will require written confirmation that you agree to pay these increased prices, or at our option we may make reasonable substitutions in menus and you agree to accept such substitutions.

**Set Up Charges:** Should extensive meeting room set-ups or elaborate staging be required, there will be a set-up charge to cover Hotel costs and additional labor. If equipment is necessary that exceeds Hotel's inventory, then you agree to pay for the cost of renting this additional equipment.

**Additional Spend:** You agree to pay the Hotel for any food, beverages and other services not expressly set out in the Agreement and any appendix but provided on your request during the Event. On or before the arrival date, you will confirm to us in writing the names of those persons who you have authorized to sanction additional spend at the Event over and above the contracted amounts. All our records for additional spend (meeting room rental, audio/visual equipment, flipcharts, F&B functions and other incidentals) will be presented to one of your authorized signatories to be checked and signed on a daily basis. Failure of your authorized signatory to review any or all charges on a daily basis will not be grounds for disputing the charges.

**Supplemental Surcharges:** Supplemental surcharges are charges added to your Master Account bill to pay for costs incurred by the Hotel in connection with additional equipment, administration, and staffing necessary for the Event. These surcharges will be solely retained by the Hotel and are not distributed to hourly or tipped employees. Examples include, but are not limited to, early sets, late end times, outdoor venues, resets, refreshes, cleaning and other service that require staffing above normal levels and/or services outside of the normal scope contracted and paid products and services.

**Additional Charges:** In addition to the customary charges associated with Group's Event (for example, sleeping room rates, meeting room rental, banquet charges, audio-visual, etc.), Hotel may offer other services for which there may be fees either to Group or the individual attendee (as applicable). Examples of potential additional charges could include Package Handling, Business Center, Sign Making, Banner Hanging, Telephone Rental, Private Locks, Electrical Power, Labor for Audio-Visual & Electrical Requirements, Athletic Club, Parking, Luggage Storage. Prior to Group's Event, Group may request that Hotel disclose to Group those potential additional charges that are in effect at the time of Group's Event.

**Outside Food and Beverage:** Due to applicable law, you may not bring alcoholic beverages into the Hotel for your Event. You must obtain our prior approval before you bring any food or non-alcoholic beverages from outside sources into our Hotel. Service fees will apply to any outside food or beverage served in our function space, regardless whether Hotel labor is required.

**Displays and Decorations; Your Property:** You may, at your option, purchase insurance to cover your personal property, including decorations, special objects and other property. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we are not responsible for any loss or damage to property belonging to you or your attendees and do not maintain insurance covering it. All displays and/or decorations will be subject to our prior written approval and we reserve the right to contract and charge you for Hotel staff to provide the labor for any installations or removals of such. Hotel can advise you of such potential charges upon request.

**Outside Contractors:** Should you elect to utilize outside contractors on Hotel premises during your Event, you must notify us at least ten (10) days in advance of your Event. We may require that your outside contractors sign a hold harmless, indemnification and insurance agreement in the form currently in use at the Hotel for similar outside contractors, and provide proof of insurance in amounts acceptable to us (amounts and types of insurance to be determined in our sole discretion based on the type of services the outside contractor will be providing) before the outside contractor will be allowed to provide services on our Hotel premises. In some instances, despite your use of an outside contractor, Hotel may be required, pursuant to obligations imposed on Hotel by labor unions or collective bargaining agreements, to utilize Hotel labor to provide certain services, and you agree to pay the fees and/or charges associated with these services. Upon request by Group, Hotel will disclose prior to the Event those services that are required to be performed by Hotel labor (if any) as well as the potential fees and charges associated with such Hotel labor usage.

**Conduct of Event:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, you assume full responsibility for any damage done to our premises during your Event, but only to the extent such damage is caused by you, your employees, guests, agents, or contractors, including any damage done resulting from the installation, placement, and removal of your displays, equipment, exhibits, or other items. For purposes of clarity, Group shall not be responsible for damage to guest sleeping rooms or public spaces of the Hotel not occupied by Group; in those instances, Hotel shall seek payment for damage from the responsible guest(s). You also agree that your Event will not create any unreasonable disturbance to other guests or meetings, such as excessive noise, smoke or fog machines, dry ice, confetti cannons, candles, incense, or any activity that generates offensive smells. Hotel reserves the right to end your Event immediately if you do not comply with Hotel's request to reduce or eliminate any such disturbance, in which case you will remain responsible for payment of all charges related to your Event and no refunds will be issued by Hotel.

**Fire Safety:** For the safety of persons and property, no fireworks or incendiary devices may be used indoors at the Hotel. All room sets must be in compliance with the local Fire Department regulations, including those pertaining to occupancy load, mandatory aisles, ceiling clearance and fire exits. Any Event that has vehicle displays, fog machines, fueled cooking demonstrations, lasers, exhibits (including tabletop) or extensive productions with staging and props, must have a certified permit from the local Fire Marshall. All associated fees for permits, floor plan approval and stand-by fire watch are your responsibility and final approved copies of all such permits must be provided to Hotel at least three (3) days prior to your Event. Should you require any rigging services for this Event, all such services must be arranged through the in-house audio-visual provider or the Hotel and you will be responsible for all costs associated therewith.

**Security:** If required, in Hotel's reasonable judgment, in order to maintain adequate security measures in light of the size and/or nature of your Event, you will provide, at your expense, security personnel supplied by a licensed guard or security agency, which agency will be subject to Hotel's prior approval. Such security personnel may not carry weapons. Your security agency will be required to provide proof of insurance and sign a hold harmless agreement before they will be allowed to provide services on Hotel premises.

**GUEST RESERVATION INFORMATION:** If you request that Hotel provide you and/or your representative(s) with access to guest reservation information pertaining to guests who have reserved rooms at the Hotel as part of the Room Block (each, an "Attendee") established pursuant to this Agreement, then you certify that you have already obtained, or will obtain, consent from each of your Attendees for the Hotel or Hilton Worldwide, Inc. to provide to you and/or your representative(s) such Attendee's reservation information, and you further agree to reimburse Hotel and Hilton Worldwide, Inc. for any costs, damages, fees or expenses of any kind arising from any claim(s) by an Attendee relating to the Hotel's or Hilton Worldwide, Inc.'s disclosure of any Attendee's reservation information.

**EVENT PLANNER BONUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM:** If we agree to pay an Event Planner Bonus in connection with your Event, then before the Event Planner Bonus can be issued, an acknowledgment form signed by an authorized representative of the Event Planner's employer must be submitted to us, with such form merely confirming that the employer is aware of the courtesy being provided to the Event Planner, and that the issuance of the courtesy does not violate the employer's policies as of the date of issuance of the Event Planner Bonus. We can provide an acknowledgement form acceptable to us.

3/2/10  
[Signature]



**DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, Group agrees that in no event will Hotel, Hotel's Owner or Hilton Worldwide, Inc. be liable for (1) any services or products provided, or to be provided, to Group by any third party supplier or contractor (including, but not limited to, companies that provide meeting registration or management services, florists, decorators, musicians, etc.), or (2) any liability arising out of any agreement between Group and any such third party supplier or contractor that Group hires or retains to provide services to Group's Event. For the avoidance of doubt, this disclaimer applies even if such third party supplier or contractor (1) was recommended by Hotel to Group, (2) was as a preferred supplier / vendor of the Hotel, and/or (3) pays Hotel commissions or provides Hotel with other incentives based on their services paid for by Group.

**AUXILIARY AIDS:** The Hotel represents that it contains accessibility features for individuals with disabilities and, where needed, the Hotel will provide equivalent facilitation, auxiliary aids and services, and reasonable modifications to policies and procedures to ensure that its guests have equivalent access to its goods, services, and accommodations. Except as required by applicable laws, you agree that you will be responsible for the procurement and payment of all charges for auxiliary aids and services required by your Event or program attendees in the meeting or function space that you have reserved. We will, upon your request, furnish you with the names of businesses you can contact to obtain these aids. You agree that one week in advance of your Event you will furnish to us a list of any auxiliary aids and/or services that you will be providing for your attendees in the meeting or function space that you have reserved. You also agree to be responsible for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act in the set up and conduct of meetings for your Event.

**COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** You represent and warrant that you are currently not on the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) List of Specially Designated Nationals and Other Blocked Persons (including terrorists and narcotics traffickers) (the "OFAC List"), nor on any similar restricted party listings, including those maintained by other governments pursuant to applicable United Nations, regional or national trade or financial sanctions. If you are added to any such restricted party list prior to your arrival date, then you must notify us immediately. The OFAC List can be found by visiting <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx>. We may cancel your Event and this Agreement without liability to you if we reasonably believe it is necessary to do so in order for us to comply with our obligations under such applicable laws or regulations, including if you are added to any restricted party listings as described in this section.

**PROMOTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:** We have the right to review and approve any advertisements or promotional materials in connection with your Event that specifically reference the name of the Hotel or a name or logo owned by a subsidiary of Hilton Worldwide, Inc., including (but not limited to): Hilton, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Conrad Hotels & Resorts, Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts, Embassy Suites, DoubleTree by Hilton, Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton Inn, Hampton Inn & Suites, Home2 Suites by Hilton, Homewood Suites by Hilton, and Hilton Grand Vacations. You agree that we may share your Event and Planner information with our third party providers who offer support services to groups holding meetings/functions at our Hotel, including audio/visual services, decorators, florists, and others.

**DISPUTES INVOLVING CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS:** As a condition of Hotel agreeing to accept your credit card as an approved form of payment for all Master Account charges, you agree that any dispute that you may raise with respect to any Master Account charges must be addressed directly between you and us. Any dispute that cannot be timely resolved to the mutual satisfaction of the parties shall be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution provisions as contained in this Agreement.

**HOTEL'S RIGHT TO CANCEL FUTURE CONTRACTED EVENTS:** Should the Group's Master Account remain unpaid after 60 days, or if advance payments requested are not paid as required, in addition to our other remedies, Hotel reserves the right to cancel any subsequent arrangements agreed upon herein or any agreements separately made by that time between Group and the Hotel for additional conventions/meetings to be held in the future at the Hotel, and that in such event the Hotel shall have no liability to Group for such cancellation (no fees, charges, damages or penalties shall be due from the Hotel as a result of the cancellation). In the event of cancellation by Hotel pursuant to this clause, Group will be responsible for cancellation damages set forth in each of the event agreements. Additionally, should employees, agents, contractors or attendees of the Group entity signing this Agreement cause unreasonable damage or disruption to Hotel's premises, operations or guests, or in the event of any criminal activity on Hotel's premises arising out of or related to Group's Event, Hotel reserves the right to cancel any subsequent arrangements agreed upon herein or any agreements already contracted for additional functions/meetings to be held in the future at this Hotel, and that in such event the Hotel shall have no liability to Group for such cancellation (no fees, charges, damages or penalties shall be due from the Hotel as a result of the cancellation and no claim shall be brought against the Hotel as a result of the cancellation). In the event of cancellation by Hotel pursuant to this clause, Group will be responsible for cancellation damages set forth in each of the event agreements.

**SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS:** The commitments made by each party will be binding on their respective successors and assigns. In the event that Group assigns, sells, conveys, pledges or otherwise disposes of all or substantially all of its assets (collectively referred to as "assignment"), by operation of law or otherwise, this Agreement and the obligations herein must also be assigned to and assumed by the successor organization, subject to approval by Hotel. In the event such an assignment is contemplated, Group agrees to notify Hotel at least thirty days in advance of the planned close of the assignment transaction of the entities involved. Hotel will thereafter have 20 days in which to notify Group if assignment is approved (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld by Hotel, although the Hotel may assess factors including the creditworthiness of the successor organization). Group may not otherwise assign this Agreement or any rights hereunder. You may not re-sell reservations. If we become aware of any violation of this section, we may immediately terminate the Agreement without incurring any liability to you for contracted rooms or rates and you will be responsible for any damages resulting from the cancellation as set forth herein.

**SEVERABILITY; NON-WAIVER:** Any provision in this Agreement that is held to be illegal or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall be ineffective to the extent of such illegality or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions and any such illegal or unenforceable provision shall be deemed to be restated to reflect as nearly as possible the original intentions of the parties in accordance with applicable law. Either party's failure to enforce any term or condition of this Agreement does not waive that party's right to enforce that or any other term or condition at any time.

*Handwritten signature/initials*

**EXHIBIT B**  
**USE OF EXHIBIT SPACE**

All exhibits (professional booth, poster board, auction or tabletop) held on Hotel property, including exhibit halls, meeting rooms, ballrooms, pre-function or public areas coded for occupancy, suites, parking structures or outdoor space, are subject to the following rates and policies:

- Adherence with all state and city ordinances and permit requirements
- Written Fire Marshal approval
- Permit and associated fees are the sole responsibility of the Group
- Security and associated fees are the sole responsibility of the Group
- Adherence with all Hotel production and exhibit policies

**Rentals, Cleaning and Other Services**

- All set equipment, including but not limited to tables, chairs, linen, wastebaskets, easels will be charged at prevailing rental rates.
- All cleaning of exhibit area including aisles and booths will be charged at prevailing rates.
- All audio visual, power, Internet, telecommunications, food and beverage or other Hotel provided product, equipment or services will be charged at then-current 2019 published rates.

**Exhibitor Guidelines**

The Group's use of exhibit space will also be subject to the term and conditions of the Hotel's then current exhibitor guidelines, which will be provided to Group by your assigned Event Manager approximately one year prior to your major arrival date.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Group assumes responsibility for any claims (such as for losses or damages to persons or property) arising out of the use of the exhibition premises of the Hotel but only to the extent any such claim is caused by Group's employees, agents, contractors, attendees or exhibitors. Nothing in this clause shall require Group to be liable for that portion of any claim caused by the Hotel's employees, agents or contractors.

In order to protect both Group and the Hotel, Group agrees to include the following "Exhibitor Responsibility Clause" in every exhibitor contract entered into between Group and each exhibitor:

**Exhibitor Responsibility Clause:** To the fullest extent permitted by law, the person/legal entity described as "Exhibitor" in this clause and in this exhibitor contract (regardless whether such person/legal entity is also described as "Exhibitor" in this contract) hereby assumes full responsibility and agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley ("Hotel"), Hotel's owner (HLT Operate DTWC LLC), Hilton Worldwide, Inc., and each of their respective owners, managers, subsidiaries, affiliates, employees and agents (collectively, "Hotel Parties"), as well as Aquatic Plant Management Society ("Group"), from and against any and all claims or expenses arising out of Exhibitor's use of the Hotel's exhibition premises. Exhibitor agrees to obtain and maintain during the use of the exhibition premises, Comprehensive General Liability Insurance, including contractual liability covering the Exhibitor's indemnity obligations in this clause. Such insurance shall be in the amount of not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit for personal injury and property damage. The Hotel Parties and Group shall be named as additional insureds on such policy, and Exhibitor shall supply the Hotel with a Certificate of Insurance at least 30 days prior to the use of the exhibition premises. The Exhibitor understands that neither the Group nor the Hotel Parties maintain insurance covering the Exhibitor's property and it is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor to obtain such insurance.

To ensure that Group has inserted the correct "Exhibitor Responsibility Clause" into the exhibitor contract, Hotel reserves the right to require that Group submit a **proof** of the Group's exhibitor contract to Hotel **before** such exhibitor contract is sent by Group to the Group's exhibitors.



MEETING PLANNER BONUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Dear Business Associate,

Hilton values your business and our relationship, which we have worked hard to develop and nurture. We may provide to the Event Planner designated in the sales agreement certain HHonors bonus points under the Hilton HHonors "Event Planner Program" in connection with qualifying group events booked at Hilton Worldwide portfolio of hotels which have agreed as part of the booking contract to award such bonus points to an Event Planner.

While it is our pleasure to extend this opportunity to Event Planners, in this climate of heightened ethical awareness and increased scrutiny of business practices which we read about every day, we believe it is advisable to ask Event Planners receiving HHonors points under the Event Planner Program, to have their supervisor or superior confirm that their acceptance of such bonus points will not violate their organization's code of conduct or similar ethical policies, and that appropriate disclosures have been made.

To help both of us satisfy this requirement, please have your supervisor or superior sign and return the attached acknowledgement form.

We look forward to our continued relationship and hope you embrace and understand the spirit behind this request.

Acknowledgement Card:

Please detach this card and fax it to: Matthew Kurylo, Fax: 819-270-2601

Your supervisor may also complete and return this form by email to [matt.kurylo@hilton.com](mailto:matt.kurylo@hilton.com)

Thank you.

Event Planner Acknowledgement Form

On behalf of Aquatic Plant Management Society, I hereby acknowledge that *Bill Torres* may accept HHonors bonus points under the Hilton HHonors Event Planner Bonus Program for booking a qualifying event at the DoubleTree by Hilton San Diego Mission Valley for an event known as 2019 Annual Meeting and to be held on or about July 12, 2019 - July 18, 2019 from Hilton HHonors Worldwide, LLC, and that such acceptance is in compliance with our internal policies.

[Signature]  
Authorized signature\*

President  
Title

5/31/16  
Date

Robert Richardson  
Print name

\*If returned by email, your supervisor's return email address will suffice as an authorized signature.



**Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**Membership Committee Report  
Submitted by: Mark Heilman**

Per Membership committee activity, there was discussion regarding confirming the demographics of the Society with a questionnaire item disseminated to the membership either via online survey (e.g., Survey Monkey) or perhaps now tied into conference feedback process...or perhaps both. NEAPMS has tracked member 'affiliation' for many years and this information assists understanding membership trends and where to strategically seek expanded membership participation. <http://www.neapms.org/membership-data/>

I have attached draft questions that could be included in a future member survey with the goals of securing confirmation of APMS membership demographics and providing some general feedback for Strategic Planning process.

**Draft questions for APMS Member Feedback in association with 2016 annual conference and upcoming 2017 Strategic Planning?**

- 1) Within the broader discipline of aquatic plant management, please check which best describes your role (select one):
  - a. Academia (non-student)
  - b. Academia (student)
  - c. Distributor
  - d. Federal agency
  - e. General environmental consultant
  - f. Management firm (including herbicide application)
  - g. Manufacturer
  - h. Other government agency
  - i. Other non-governmental organization
  - j. Power generation
  - k. State agency
  - l. Other (\_\_\_\_\_)
- 2) The APMS mission: *'APMS strives to promote environmental stewardship through scientific innovation and development of technology related to integrated plant management in aquatic and riparian systems.'* How well is APMS doing in your opinion to achieve its mission?
  - a. Extremely well
  - b. Well but could improve
  - c. Poorly and needs major improvement
- 3) How satisfied are you as a member of APMS?
  - a. Very satisfied
  - b. Somewhat satisfied
  - c. Somewhat dissatisfied
  - d. Very dissatisfied
- 4) Do you have suggestions on how APMS can improve looking ahead as part of its strategic planning for the future? Please describe briefly below.

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LinkedIn APMS Group Update  
APMS Summer Board Meeting, July 17, 2016  
John Madsen, Moderator

1. The APMS LinkedIn group was formed on February 24, 2011, so it is currently 5.5 years old. It currently has 1,248 members, an increase of 100 members since last summer.
2. The group centers around discussion of topics. Topics in the past six months have included the annual meetings, announcements of events from APMS, regional chapters, NALMS, and related groups. There have been fewer discussions on issues in the past months.
3. I try to start a new discussion every two weeks or so. I try to promote the national and regional societies, including updates on annual meetings. I have also posted about journals, WSSA, AERF, NALMS, and other related organizations.
4. I encourage members to post job announcements and promotions. If these are placed in the wrong category, I move them as appropriate.

**APMS Nomination Committee  
Report to the APMS Board of Directors  
2016 Summer Board Meeting – Grand Rapids, MI**

Committee members:

Cody Gray, Chair  
Carlton Layne  
Tyler Kosnick  
Mike Netherland  
Dave Isaacs

The Nomination Committee would like to nominate the following individuals to the APMS Board of Directors.

Vice-President	Craig Aguillard
Secretary	Jeff Schardt
Editor	Jay Ferrell
Director	Scott Nissen
Director	Todd Olson

Respectively submitted,

Cody Gray

A Report to the APMS Board of Directors

Date: July 6, 2016

From: John H. Rodgers, Jr., VP and Chair, Regional Chapters Committee

1. Regional Chapters were contacted to request their support for APMS Scholarship. Thanks to Jeremy Slade for his assistance with this.
2. Regional Chapters were contacted regarding their participation in the Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids. They were reminded of the Luncheon and the opportunity for presenting a Regional Chapters Update on Wednesday (July 20). If you have agenda items for the Luncheon, please let me know.

**Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**Scholastic Endowment Report  
Submitted by: Tom Warmuth**

The BOD did not want to invest in purchasing a gift card for the raffle (they are relying on the donated items and the ticket sales that they will generate). I have about 14 vendors, manufacturers, and applicators that have donated raffle and silent auction prizes. This includes most all of the exhibitors and vendors of the meeting, except for UPI and SePRO (who are already donating heavily to the meeting and Scholastic Endowment).

Additionally, we have secured an APMS branded Corn Hole set that will be utilized as a game at brakes and evening social and before the banquet. This was donated (by either MAPMS or MAMA....not sure who yet). The proceeds from it (likely a 50/50) will also go to the Scholastic Endowment. The winner will either get a 50/50 of the cash pot and/or the actual game mailed to them as a prize.

**Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**Strategic Planning Committee Report  
Submitted by: Mark Heilman**

My 'to-do' items are mostly focused on future board actions, particularly regarding the Strategic Planning process looking out into 2017. Attached is a message from Ed Osborne--Professor and Chair of the Dept. of Agricultural Education and Communication at University of Florida. Ed was recommended to us by Dr. Ferrell and I have had a few follow-up communications with Ed since. The attached note summarizes how Dr. Osborne believes he can facilitate our planning process and his cost estimate for such support. My recommendation is that we review this proposal for his support and commit at our July Board meeting to engaging him in the planning process. He is a very experienced facilitator and can likely add some general perspective on the strategic planning process as we enter into it. We can provide any immediate feedback on his support coming out of our July meeting and I would propose that lead up to a potential face-to-face discussion with any of the Strategic Planning Committee attending FAPMS in October. Due to a potential schedule conflict in January, Dr. Osborne did indicate last week that it would help him to have confirmation of the dates of our January Board meeting / planning session ASAP so he can hold those. If Jeff S. or others here can help provide dates or likely dates, I can pass that along. The dates may not be firmly set until our July meeting but if I can provide him most likely timing, that would suffice for now.

From: "Osborne,Edward Wayne" <ewo@ufl.edu>  
To: "Heilman, Mark" <MarkH@sepro.com>  
Date: Sun, 1 May 2016 20:51:06 +0000  
Subject: Strategic Planning

Hi Mark,

I've read over the documents you provided and my lengthy notes from our phone conversation. I understand that:

- You would like to complete a full strategic planning process that leads to strategic goals.
- You would also like to begin by reviewing the current APMS vision and mission statements.
- Your last strategic plan update was in 2013, and your bylaws require an update every 3-4 years.

- I would work with your 13-member board in facilitating the SP process in January 2017 in Daytona Beach.
- APMS will hold a regional meeting on October 17-20 of this year in Daytona, and you'd like me to attend at least a portion of this meeting.

I take a very pragmatic approach to strategic planning and believe that the best strategic plan is one that is comprehensive, yet practical; action oriented in terms of vision, mission, strategic goals, and action steps; easy to monitor; and communicates well internally and externally. Some of the best (most implemented and impactful) strategic plans that I've seen are only a few pages in length. I can take the summary notes from the meeting and provide a draft strategic plan, or you can have someone from your organization work the meeting notes into a strategic plan document. The sample attached outline is the format that I would use, if I were to prepare the draft strategic planning document for you. Of course, your board would need to add the information for the elements after the action steps, although I can offer suggestions on monitoring implementation progress. I can also offer suggestions for taking the day's work, which would be considered preliminary at the end of the day, and following up with your membership to finalize.

Regarding the strategic planning session itself, I will work through the following items in this order:

- Welcome, introductions, purpose of the meeting
- General background information needed for the day (If those present have been well engaged in APMS, then probably no additional information will be needed.)
- Review and finalize vision statement
- Review and finalize mission statement
- SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats)
- Identification of strategic goals and related key outcome statements
- Development of action plans and measures of success for each strategic goal
- Identification of leadership teams for each strategic goal
- Plans for monitoring progress
- Discussion of budget considerations

I would suggest that you simply tell the board that we'll devote the day to this process and topics. I rarely provide a group with a more specific agenda, because it's impossible to determine



how long each item will take. This depends on individual personalities, group dynamics, the state of the organization, the engagement of the group, and other factors. However, if I have a most of the day (8:30 am to 4:00 pm), I'm sure that I can work the group through all of these topics.

I will hold the October 17-20 date of the regional meeting in Daytona Beach on my calendar, and my schedule is flexible in January to facilitate the strategic planning process with the board, should you decide at your July meeting that you would like for me to do so.

In thinking about my time and expenses in helping APMS develop a strategic plan, I would propose the following:

- Expenses related to attending the October 2016 regional meeting in Daytona Beach and the January 2017 meeting
- Round trip mileage to Daytona Beach (two trips at 200mi/trip X \$.54/mi) = \$108
- Hotel (just guessing here) – 3 nights total @ \$150 = \$450
- Meals (?) – perhaps three days at \$50/day = \$150
- Materials – no charge for the flips charts and markers that I'll use
- Time – attend regional meeting, prepare for the session, facilitate the session, prepare the following notes and a draft strategic plan = \$2,000

Let me know if you have questions or need additional information.

Best wishes,

Ed  
Ed Osborne  
Professor and Chair  
Dept. of Agricultural Education and Communication  
University of Florida  
305 Rolfs Hall, PO Box 110540  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0540  
Office: 352-273-2613  
ewo@ufl.edu

# Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) [DATES] Strategic Plan<sup>1</sup>

## Vision

The *vision* of APMS is to be...

## Mission

The *mission* of APMS to ...

## Strategic Goals

**Goal 1: [Insert succinct action statement.]**

*Key Outcome: [What will occur if this goal is achieved?]*

### Action Steps:

1. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
2. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
3. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
4. ...

### Measures of Success:

- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- ...

### Leadership Team:

[Insert names and specify the team leader.]

### Feedback Loop:

[Specify how often and by whom implementation progress will be reported.]

### Budget Needed:

[Specify amount, timing, and sources, if applicable.]

**REPEAT THE ABOVE OUTLINE FOR EACH STRATEGIC GOAL...**

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<sup>1</sup> Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

**Date:** 28 June 2016

**Committee:** Christopher Mudge, Chair

Ben Willis

Leif Willey

Kallie Kessler (Student Rep)

Elizabeth Edgerton

Rebecca Haynie

**Participants:** We have 19 student presenters (paper and poster), several of which have never presented at an APMS meeting, from 8 different Universities: Clemson University, Colorado State University, University of Florida, Louisiana State University, University of Minnesota, North Carolina State, Texas Tech University and University of Toledo.

**Accommodations:** Student rooms have been reserved by Bill Torres. Considerable time and effort went into assigning rooms so that we could release rooms as soon as possible based on arrival and departure dates. Since the Amway Grand is unable to accommodate those students staying through Friday morning for the student tour, Bill reserved an additional 5 rooms at the DoubleTree Hotel near the Grand Rapids airport. Bill emailed the confirmation numbers for the Amway Grand and DoubleTree hotels to the students.

**Books:** Each student will receive a textbook of his/her choice (<\$100.00). The books have been ordered, payment arranged with Jeremy Slade, and were shipped to Leif Willey. Leif will transport the books to the meeting. We requested that the students select a text related to aquatics (i.e. plant management, ecology, limnology, etc.).

**Meet & Greet:** Prior to the President's Reception on Sunday evening, students are invited to the hotel bar for a 1 hour social hour.

**Luncheon:** The student luncheon on Monday will be sponsored by Silver Level Sponsors. Drs. Linda Nelson (USAERDC), Stephen Enloe (UF), and Justin Nawrocki (UPI) will be our guest speakers. Gold (1) and silver (4) level sponsors have been invited to send 1 representative to the luncheon in appreciation of their support of the student events and the society.

**Judges:** Ben Willis has contacted and received confirmation for 3 poster and 6 paper judges for student competitions. Our student rep, Kallie Kessler, will coordinate with student participants to judge the non-student posters and exhibitor displays.

**Tour:** We will have 12 students and 2 chaperones (Leif Willey and Ben Willis) participating in the student tour of local aquatic plant management activities. The tour will be Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday. On Wednesday, students will tour the facilities at Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI) in Muskegon, MI and visit Hoffmaster State Park to learn about dune ecology and take the trails. Paul Hausler (Progressive AE) will assist with the AWRI and park tour. On Thursday, Gun Lake State Park and Big Pine

Island will toured by boat to observe active aquatic plant management projects. Progressive AE and Jason Broekstra (PLM Lake & Land Management Corp) will provide boats and assist with the field tour on Thursday. We appreciate APMS sponsoring an additional 2 nights in a hotel for tour participants. This year's tour is sponsored by APMS. Paul Hausler and Mark Heilman (SePRO) assisted with tour destinations and logistics.

Tour expenses:

- We are renting 2 minivans.
- We will coordinate reimbursement with Jeremy Slade and Bill Torres to cover student dinner on Wednesday evening and lunch on Thursday.
- Bill Torres has reserved hotel rooms for an additional 2 nights for all students participating in the tour.

**B.A.S.S. Report  
Submitted to the APMS  
Gerald Adrian**

**B.A.S.S. Activities:**

**BASS Conservation Award sponsored by AERF and APMS**

APMS and AERF agreed to support a grant of \$3000 (\$1500 ea.) to the Bass Club providing the best proposal for an Aquatic Plant Management project. This is in lieu of the APM Conservation Award that we have sponsored for the past 2 years.

Bass Federation Nation of Virginia was selected as the recipient of the grant to support Aquatic Plant Management. The project will establish shoreline vegetation to improve fish habitat and shoreline stabilization on Claytor Lake, Leesville Lake and Smith Mountain Lake in VA. (Please see the attachment)

APMS and AERF sponsored the Conservation Summit luncheon during the Bassmaster Classic. Attendees will include the State BASS Conservation Directors and the State Fisheries Chiefs. Brett Hartis spoke on behalf of both organizations about communication between the APM Industry and bass anglers. Thanks to Brett for a job well done.

I propose we continue with this project at the same level of funding as in 2016 (appx \$3000 for each organization). The Grants will be announced in October by BASS Conservation Director, Gene Gilliland and announced during the Bassmaster Classic in Houston, March 24-26. NOTE: The anglers qualifying for the "Classic" will be fishing the contentious Lake Conroe, which was stocked with high numbers of grass carp less than 10 years ago.

Gene Gilliland made a presentation during the APMS meeting in Chaleston this past summer. His topic is "Getting B.A.S.S. Members Involved in the Equation".

Jeff Holland and Brett Hartis have provided support on the BASS website as well as others to provide information about aquatic plant management. These have been quite helpful and has been effective in reaching grass roots bass anglers.

Brett Hartis with TVA has developed an Aquatic Plant ID app for bass anglers. This will eventually be an app. <https://www.tva.gov/Environment/Environmental-Stewardship/Anglers-Aquatic-Plant-ID> This effort is aimed at anglers, primarily in the region around the TVA lakes. Although this is an independent site and is a work in progress, it is a resource for anglers.

**Issues:** BASS has weighed in on the proposed hydrilla management plan for Strom Thurmond Reservoir (US Army Corps). The plan calls for stocking of grass carp and some use of herbicides. I've attached a piece by Robert Montgomery.

Although other issues exist, most are a result of the lack of involvement of anglers in the planning process especially where larger scale herbicide treatments are involved. In most cases, explaining the need for control of aquatic weeds satisfies bass anglers, especially if there is some science

behind the decisions (an in most treatments this is the case). Unfortunately there are a few anglers that refuse to accept the need for treatments. In cases where you feel B.A.S.S., APMS or AERF can be of assistance please don't hesitate to call me.

## Virginia B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Grant Application

### **AERF-APMS Submission for award for the best aquatic plant management project**

- **Sponsoring member/agency:** ○ B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia, Inc
- **Project Leader Contact:**
  - Joan Blankenship ○ 3461 Lee
  - Ford Camp Road ○ Ridgeway, VA
  - 24148 ○ [bass2class@gmail.com](mailto:bass2class@gmail.com) ○
  - 276-340-9778
- **Statement of Problem/Need**
  - Native aquatic vegetation that can serve as nursery habitat for juvenile sport and forage fish as well as provide shoreline protection and erosion control, is lacking in many Virginia reservoirs. Restoration efforts have been hampered because plants obtained from commercial sources have been of poor quality and harbored potential invasive species. Sources outside the region cannot supply plants that are adapted to the climate of this area, resulting in poor survival. This site is being selected because it has a large community support as well as agency support. It is an area with college, high school and conservation corps support. ○ There is a need to develop a plant source that can produce the numbers and species required for restoration efforts in several reservoirs. Our goal is to partner with the Pulaski County high school agriculture program to construct and operate a nursery that will propagate plants, assist in the restoration efforts and provide valuable lessons to the students in the role of plants in aquatic ecosystems.
- **Location of project: (reservoir name, location (GPS coordinates of dam, if available) \*reservoir must be open to public access to be eligible;**
  - Pulaski County High School Pulaski Virginia -80.718527 37.09445 ○ Smith Mountain Lake (Huddleston, VA; Bedford County), 37.04098N, 79.53531W.
  - Claytor Lake (Dublin, VA; Pulaski County), 37.5389N, 80.63W.
  - Leesville Lake (Alta Vista, VA Campbell County), 37.09278°N 79.40167°W ○ These reservoirs are all open to public access and include but are not limited to Smith Mountain Lake, Claytor Lake, Leesville Lake and other impoundments .in Virginia.

**What is the habitat issue that is being addressed by the proposal?**

- Native aquatic vegetation is lacking in Claytor Lake as a result of normal reservoir operations, environmental conditions and grass carp introductions. Juvenile fish are dependent on vegetation as nursery habitat. Lack of emergent shoreline vegetation has resulted in erosion and siltation issues as well. Restoration efforts will require a reliable local source of a wide variety of native aquatic plant species to address the different conditions in each reservoir.
- **A letter of support from a representative of the state fish and wildlife management agency must be included in the proposal; See attached.**
  - See letter attached in support from John Copeland, Regional biologist for Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF).
- **If available, include a copy of or link to a lake management plan that states this need (proposals which complement an existing plan for the lake will receive extra consideration).** ○ John Copeland has emphasized the need to do native aquatic plant restoration ever since hydrilla was successfully controlled in Claytor Lake. ○ <http://www.focl.org/programs/aep-relicensing/shoreline-management-plan/> (Claytor Lake) ○ Leesville Lake plan is being developed.
- **Describe the Methods being used to Address this Need: State the type and amount of habitat that the project proposes to add/restore;** ○ This project is an expansion of the pilot project that was started at Magna Vista High School in 2014 and will use existing facilities at Pulaski County high school to create nursery pools and tanks, obtain and pot propagules and culture the plants to maturity, splitting and repotting as necessary to maximize production space.
  - This will be an ongoing project that should be self sustaining after the initial start up. This can be duplicated at other interested high schools. ○ A lesson plan with a time-line for this project will be developed for this project so that it provides added value to the existing horticulture program.
- **Describe the methods used to accomplish the project;** ○ Step 1: Approval will be obtained from Pulaski County High School to set up a small native plant propagation area in their state-of-the-art greenhouse. Grant funds will be used to purchase plastic pools and quart-size pots for planting and other miscellaneous materials needed in the greenhouse. Soil that is appropriate for aquatic plants will be obtained locally. ○ Step 2. VDGIF biologist will help oversee the planting of the seed that will be harvested from plants that were propagated in 2014-2015. The greatest challenge has been finding native seed and this put the original pilot project one year behind. Native seed can only be harvested during the first two weeks in October.
  - Step 3. Select students that have been identified by the school's Horticulture Department faculty will go on a field trip with parental support to harvest the plants.
  - Step 4. Under the supervision of school Horticulture faculty and/or Joan Blankenship, MS Ed, conservation director for the Virginia B.A.S.S. Nation, the students will pot and plant the specimens in the greenhouse. Students will monitor and tend the plants, splitting into additional containers as necessary and document the progress with narrative and photographs. The progress will be posted on the B.A.S.S. Nation conservation web page monthly.
  - Step 5. A selection of mature plants will be harvested and introduced into appropriate herbivore-resistant enclosures in one of Claytor Lake reservoir. This field trip for students

will require parental support. Virginia B.A.S.S. Nation members will provide boats as necessary and the VDGIF Regional biologist will supervise the planting.

- **What are the expected outcomes?**
  - The short-term goal is to establish sufficient nursery capacity to provide plants for restoration efforts that VDGIF, Appalachian Power and other shoreline management teams can use in restoration efforts. The pilot project is still ongoing and this grant will be to expand the concept to other high schools and increase plant production capacity.
  - It will teach the high school students native aquatic plant culture techniques that may provide the basis for starting a small for-profit business enterprise.
  - This project will also introduce the students to ecological principles outside the greenhouse and to conservation practices that can help control shoreline erosion, provide fish habitat and improve water quality.
- **Partners: Provide a list of partners involved in the project; To be considered a partner, the group/company/agency has to provide either direct monetary or in-kind (supplies, equipment, labor) to the project**
  - Pulaski County High School, VA will provide facilities and students who will work in the greenhouse and on field trips.
  - Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries will provide technical support, assist with locating and collecting source plants, and provide labor during reservoir planting.
  - Appalachian Power will provide technical assistance, boats and labor at field sites.
- **Budget (the budget should be presented in the table format below; you can cut and paste this table directly into your proposal and fill in as appropriate)**

Partner	Cash Contributions	In-kind Contributions (type: labor, supplies, equipment)	In-kind Contributions (cash value)
<b>AERF-APMS</b>	\$3000.00		
VA B.A.S.S Nation - Joan Blankenship, Conservation Director	\$100.00	Labor, supplies, boats and boat captains, life jackets, shovels, waders	\$1000
Appalachian Power		Labor, boats and boat captains, technical support and site selection	100 hours * \$24 = \$2,400
Pulaski County High School-		Greenhouse facilities, labor from student volunteers, teacher supervision	18 weeks * 10 hours per week * 1 teacher * \$24. = \$4,320.



Friends of Claytor Lake		Community	18 weeks * 4 hours
		supporter and mentor	per week * 1 mentor * \$18 = \$1,296.
VDGIF-John Copeland, Regional Biologist		Technical advice and evaluation of quality of plants, locating plant sources and assistance with planting	100 hours * \$24= \$2,400.  Can provide an additional boat as needed

(volunteer labor should be calculated at \$10/hr for age 16 and under; \$18/hr other volunteers; agency staff labor rates @ \$24/hr

**□ Outreach (Include an outreach plan) How do you propose to advertise the project (on-site signage, press releases, websites, message boards, etc.)** ○ This project will be promoted on Bassmaster.com, Friends of Claytor Lake, the B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia conservation web page, Facebook, in news releases to local newspaper(s) and other sources as identified during the project. Photographs and video will be taken from set-up of the project to their introduction in the reservoirs.

Projects must be submitted to B.A.S.S. Conservation by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016 to be eligible for the award.

Judging will be done by the B.A.S.S. Conservation Director, Dr. Mike Netherland (APMS) and Carlton Layne (AERF).



## Hydrilla control plan proposed for Thurmond Lake



May 18, 2016



**Robert Montgomery**

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Anglers have until noon on May 31 to comment about a controversial U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposal to diminish hydrilla coverage at J. Strom Thurmond Lake (also known as Clarks Hill) on the Georgia/South Carolina border.

Additionally, public meetings are planned for 6 to 8 p.m. May 16 at McCormick County High School in McCormick, S.C., and 6 to 8 p.m. May 17 at Eubank Blanchard Community Center in Appling, Ga.

The intent of this strategy is to diminish the death of bald eagles, but what would eliminating hydrilla due to the sport fishery, especially the bass population?

"Protecting eagles is a big deal," said Gene Gilliland, national conservation director for B.A.S.S. "But eradication of the hydrilla, which provides valuable fish habitat, could result in long-term damage to the bass fishery and have negative impacts on the local economy."

Since 1998, a toxic blue-green algae that grows on the invasive plant is believed to be primarily responsible for the death of 81 eagles. The birds contract avian vacuolar myelinopathy (AVM) by eating coots which feed on the hydrilla.

"Aquatic vegetation management is needed at Thurmond to minimize eagle deaths linked to hydrilla and its associated toxic cyanobacteria," the Corps said.

Their preferred plan, "would reduce the acres of hydrilla in Thurmond, thereby reducing potential impacts on bald eagles from AVM. This should minimize overall adverse environmental impacts."

The Corps' choice of the four alternatives it considered includes incremental stocking of triploid grass carp and "limited herbicide application." Currently the hydrilla is managed with herbicide treatments to control the plants in public use areas around boat ramps, parks and swim beaches. Private land owners can also apply herbicides around their docks and boat houses with a Corps permit.

Although biologists do not seem to feel that the levels of hydrilla in the reservoir are excessive from a fishery standpoint, the *Augusta Chronicle* newspaper found some, including fishermen, who would like to see less hydrilla in the 70,000-acre fishery, the largest Corps impoundment east of the Mississippi River. "I don't like it," said Noel Brown, who has been fishing Thurmond for decades. "It's become so dense in many areas that bass can't move around in it. It's clogged up the shoreline, a situation you don't have in Alabama's Lake Guntersville."

But as many anglers and fishery managers know, overstocking of grass carp has decimated many quality fisheries, as the fast-growing grazers gobble up not just hydrilla but native vegetation as well.

"Eradication of the vegetation is a near certainty with the numbers of grass carp they are proposing to stock over time," Gilliland said. "At some point, the loss of habitat will likely affect bass recruitment and eventually the quality of the fishing." He added, "And attempts to re-establish significant amounts of vegetation after grass carp have been introduced in lakes or reservoirs have been largely unsuccessful."

The integrated plan calls for stocking 7.5 carp per vegetated area in the first year and 9.75 carp per vegetated acre in the second. Additionally herbicides would be applied "in areas where hydrilla is at or near the surface with priority given to those areas known to have high concentrations of American coots and past eagle mortalities."

Gilliland questions the Corps' assessment that there will be no significant impacts to recreation or the environment. "My feeling is that fishing interests may not have been fully considered in the planning process and need to be championed by anglers now, before the approvals go through," he said. "We need to get anglers to the public meetings to learn more about the issues."

And they need to send e-mails to the Corps and request a response.

"Angler comments should not just be a complaint. It is imperative that comments propose a compromise solution to manage, not eradicate the vegetation. Insist on an evaluation of the treatments and require accountability," the conservation director said. "Make sure both state fishery agencies are on board with the plan and are required to monitor the progress and document impacts on the fishery. This needs to be thought out very well because once the grass carp have been stocked, they will be there for years and years."

## **CAST Report**

2016 APMS Board Meeting

Joe Vassios

July 17, 2016

The function of CAST as stated by their mission statement is: “CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.”

The CAST Annual Meeting was held Oct 27-29 in Des Moines, IA, and also included a session on Strategic Planning.

Recently, Dr. Nancy Reichert from Mississippi State University was elected as the new CAST President- Elect. She has served on the CAST Board of Representatives as the representative for the Society of In Vitro Biology, and is involved in the CAST Food Work Group.

The 2016 Borlaug CAST Communication Award was recently presented to Dr. Kevin Folta, who is the Chair of the Horticultural Sciences Department at the University of Florida.

CAST has recently launched two new publications, and has an additional 20 on the forthcoming publications list, including publications from all three of the work groups.

New publications released by CAST since the last APMS Board Meeting include:

- Process Labeling of Food: Consumer Behavior, the Agricultural Sector, and Policy Recommendations
- A Life-cycle Approach to Low-invasion Potential Bioenergy Production
- Food Waste Across the Supply Chain: A U.S. Perspective on a Global Problem (with University of Pennsylvania)

I have continued to participate in the monthly conference calls for the Plant Work Group, in which we work to prioritize and develop new publications of interest to the Plant Work Group. In addition, the Plant Work Group has also had additional opportunities to be involved in the Strategic Planning for the organization.

Manuscripts currently under preparation by the Plant Work Group include:

- Ag Innovation: An Introduction. Commentary
- Ag Innovation: Crop Protection Contributions toward Agricultural Productivity
- Ag Innovation: Irrigation and Precision Crop Management
- Ag Innovation: Plant Breeding and Genetics
- Recruiting and Educating Graduate Students to Become Researchers and Leaders in Global Agricultural Sciences
- Why Does Bee Health Matter? The Science Surrounding Honey Bee Health Concerns and What We Can Do About It
- The Impact of CAST – 45 Years of Influence in Agriculture

Proposals currently in the development stage include:

- Harmful algal blooms and water quality
- Climate change and Cropping Systems
- UAV applications in agriculture
- Potential solutions of nutrient loss on water quality
- Sustainability. What is the Science? What are the Needs?
- Greenhouse gas emission reduction in agriculture
- The prospects for microbials/biologicals in agricultural systems

An additional aspect of the functioning of CAST is to help attract additional members to contribute to the CAST mission, including private companies, societies, and individuals. I believe that that our membership as part of CAST has been beneficial with our ability to have their support in publishing a paper on nuisance aquatic plants, and the opportunity to work toward another paper on harmful algal blooms. I would encourage other APMS members to continue to contribute to the mission of CAST.

The CAST Annual Meeting will be held in St. Louis, MO on October 25-27. I will be attending this meeting, and would be happy to present any additional ideas that APMS members have for publications, or address any items that are of interest to the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Vassios

**Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, MI**

**NALMS Report**

**Submitted by: Terry McNabb**

NALMS will be holding its 36th annual meeting in Banff, Alberta November 1-4 of 2016, co-hosted by the Alberta Lake Management Society. There will be a number of sessions that would be of interest to APMS members, one of Dr. Haller's students, Kate Wilson, and I will be co-chairing a session on management of invasive aquatic weeds. There will also be two sessions devoted to in-lake phosphorus treatment and sequestration. With toxic algae on the rise everywhere, this could be of interest to the group.

Lastly, I am their newsletter editor, we have been promoting APMS and regional APMS chapter meetings in each newsletter with respect to coming events and any news any of you have that you want to push out there, I would welcome it.

Thanks for your consideration. I hope to see you all in GR. I have a key person down with medical issues; however, and fish timing windows for treatments open on many of our lakes on July 15<sup>th</sup>, so we'll see.

**Addendum to NALMS Report**

**Submitted by: Mark Heilman**

Regarding NALMS in Banff next November, I did engage with Terry McNabb and he interacted with Program committee. It does appear there are a sufficient number of submitted talks for an APM session but a draft program agenda has not been set. If I learn more on program, I will pass along. I would suggest that APMS consider being a non-profit exhibitor at NALMS (~\$495). I know of at least a few of our members that will attend NALMS that could be present at exhibitor booth during most breaks. NEAPMS was an exhibitor in Saratoga Springs last year and the activity seemed very positive in terms of interactions with NALMS attendees regarding APM.

## Water Issues: A RISE Strategic Priority

By Aaron Hobbs, President, RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) & [Sam Barrick RISE Aquatic Committee Chairman](#)

Clean Water Act reform continues to be a strategic priority for RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), with the association focusing on two key priorities – eliminating existing and duplicative National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements for Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act-regulated pesticide applications and preventing the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule from going into effect for such applications.

While recent efforts to include NPDES permit relief in a Zika funding package were unsuccessful, RISE continues to look for strategic opportunities to promote permit relief. Last month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that would have provided \$622 million in funding for Zika virus relief efforts and would have eliminated NPDES permit requirements for all pesticide applications for two years. The U.S. Senate's Zika funding package was silent on NPDES permits. House and Senate leaders negotiated a conference agreement that would have provided \$1.1 billion in funding for Zika response and waived NPDES permit requirements for mosquito control for six months. That measure passed the House, but failed in the Senate due to opposition from Senate Democrats who opposed the measure because it would have partially offset the \$1.1 billion in spending with cuts to other health care programs.

While NPDES permit relief strategies continue, the association is also closely monitoring the NPDES permit renewal process. The current federal Pesticide General Permit (PGP) is set to expire on October 31, 2016. In late January, EPA proposed to renew the permit with the same permit conditions, but also asked for comments about ways in which the permit could be strengthened. RISE submitted comments to EPA that support maintaining existing permit requirements and oppose incorporating more onerous permit requirements from states such as California and Maryland. States not subject to the federal permit must also renew their permits this year.

The specialty industry's perspective is that existing NPDES permit requirements could be expanded to additional water bodies including irrigation canals and manmade lakes that somehow connect to a Water of the United States under the WOTUS rule. Due to a federal court injunction, the rule is not currently in effect. Legal wrangling around the rule continues as do legislative efforts to block the rule through the appropriations process or other legislation. The association serves on the steering committee of the Waters Advocacy Coalition, which has spearheaded legal and legislative efforts related to WOTUS.

There are not many legislative days left before Congress adjourns for the elections. Congress will be on recess in mid-July through Labor day and then back in session for about two weeks in September. We expect the annual funding debate and most



other legislative business to be pushed off to a “lame duck” session following the elections.

RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)<sup>®</sup> is the national trade association representing manufacturers, formulators, distributors, and other industry leaders involved with specialty pesticides and fertilizers.

**Women of Aquatics  
APMS  
July 17, 2016  
Grand Rapids, Michigan**

**Submitted by Amy Kay**

Women of Aquatics (WOA) is a group committed to promoting and supporting all women of the aquatics industry as presented to the APMS Board of Directors during the 2015 annual conference in Myrtle Beach by Rebecca Haynie. The first meeting of WOA on the national level occurred the same week, a lunch sponsored by APMS. During this meeting the group decided that WOA should be a formal organization versus a casual one. A mission statement, focus areas and primary goals were established prior to the APMS meeting (earlier meetings were held), and refined during and after.

**Women of Aquatics Mission**

*Together we promote all women of the aquatics industry by inspiring and supporting them to pursue their ambitions and achieve their potential both professionally and personally.*

**Areas of Focus**

- Career Advancement
- Continuing Education
- Work-Life Balance
- Health & Wellness

**Goals & Progress**

- Have a WOA meeting at each conference as able to increase participation, retention and growth within the organization and our industry as a whole.
  - Amy Kay has facilitated meetings at APMS in 2015, MAPMS, Wisconsin Lakes Partnership and Michigan Lakes and Streams in 2015 & 2016, and WAPMS in 2016.
- Become a nonprofit organization by APMS 2016
  - Paperwork filed and paid for, anticipated to be processed and EIN number received end of July/early August.
- 2016-2017
  - Establish Board of Directors
  - Training Retreat in Wisconsin
  - Meeting plans for at least 2 additional APMS chapter conferences
  - Grow contact list (future membership list) from 90-115

*WOA would like to thank the APMS board for the acknowledgement and support provided. Any feedback or suggestions are encouraged.*

Director of Science Policy Report  
APMS Annual Meeting  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
July 17 - 20, 2016

Discussion Items

1. Tank Mix Prohibitions / Herbicide Synergism Uncertainties
2. EPA Herbicide Resistant Management Plan / Labeling /MOA Classification
3. Draft Ecological Risk Assessments for Triazines
4. Glyphosate- IARC/NIH funding
5. USDA Suggestions for Aquatic Weed Research Funding
6. FY 2017 USDA Appropriations- IR4 increase
7. Aquatic Plant Control Research Program funding
8. WOTUS Update
9. NPDES Fix Bill Update
10. National Survey of Most Common and Troublesome Weeds
11. Milkweed and Monarchs
12. NISAW & ISAC Update
13. GAO Report on Federal Spending for Aquatic Invasive Species

1. Tank Mix Prohibitions / Herbicide Synergism Uncertainties

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies (WSSA, APMS, NCWSS, NEWSS, SWSS, & WSSWS) commented on the tank mix prohibitions proposed by EPA for two new herbicide registrations: 1) dicamba-tolerant cotton and soybean; and 2) halauxifen-methyl. The comment period for both those registrations closed at the end of May. EPA is considering whether they will continue to propose tank mix prohibitions on all new registrations and re-registrations going forward due to uncertainty about potential tank mix synergism effects on non-target organisms.

We're opposed to the proposed tank mix prohibitions because the benefits of tank mixing outweigh any "uncertainty" about potential tank mix synergism effects on non-target organisms. EPA recognizes the benefits from tank mixes and states: *"The practice of tank mixing can result in **significant economic benefits to the grower** by allowing control of a wider variety of pests in a single application without incurring the expense of sequential applications. Additionally, by reducing the number of visits to the agricultural field, the grower is also **reducing fossil fuel use** and emissions from large agricultural equipment, **as well as the potential exposure to pesticides** that can result from multiple visits to the same area being treated. It is also widely accepted that the practice of **mixing products with different modes of action is essential to the management of weed resistance**. Because weed resistance is known to have a very costly impact to overall crop yields, which in turn negatively impacts growers' harvests and the price of commodities to the consumer, tools that aid in the prevention of resistance are considered to be a very important benefit to agriculture".*

Yet, despite these recognized benefits, EPA has proposed a tank mix prohibitions for both dicamba and halauxifen-methyl. In addition, EPA's "uncertainty" about the effects of herbicide synergism on non-target organisms is a divergence from the [2013 National Academy of Sciences \(NAS\) report: "Assessing Risks to Endangered and Threatened Species from Pesticides"](#). The NAS report is the gold standard for how EPA and the Fish and Wildlife Service are supposed to make endangered species assessments. The NAS report recognizes that *"The toxicity of a chemical mixture probably will not be known, and it is not feasible to measure the toxicity of all pesticide formulations, tank mixtures, and environmental mixtures. Therefore, combined effects must be predicted on the basis of models that reflect known principles of the combined toxic*

*action of chemicals*". The 2013 NAS report emphasizes that the complexity of assessing the risk posed by chemical mixture (i.e. tank mixing herbicides) "**should not paralyze the process**".

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies comments are at: <http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/Weed-Science-Societies-comments-on-dicamba.pdf> and <http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/Weed-Science-Societies-comments-on-Haloxifen-methyl.pdf>

The tank mix prohibition situation does not appear to be going away anytime soon and is impacting all pest management disciplines. This started with a patent office claim on Enlist Duo from last fall. Registrants have filed 100's of herbicide synergism patents with the Patent Office going back to the 1960's to "control the business space". The first one was approved by the Patent Office in 1969 (before EPA). We need to show EPA that the benefits of tank mixes with multiple herbicide MOA's outweigh any potential synergistic effects from a tank mix on non-target organisms.

Bryan Young, Purdue, gave an excellent presentation to EPA staff on June 1 in a talk titled "Herbicide Interactions: A Weed Science Perspective". It was standing room only with over 50 people in the room. Bryan is also developing a symposium for the WSSA meeting in Tucson, AZ in 2017 titled "Understanding and Reducing the Impact of Herbicide Off-Site Movement: Technologies and Tank Mix Interactions".

Another possibility to address this is developing some WSSA white papers. Michael Horak with Monsanto is interested in sponsoring a publication(s) that would address the economic, herbicide resistance management, practical weed management, sustainability, and environmental benefits of herbicide mixtures in agriculture. Some parts may be a review while others (e.g. economics) may be some new analysis.

## **2. EPA Herbicide Resistant Management Plan / Labeling**

On May 31, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies (WSSA, APMS, NCWSS, NEWSS, SWSS, & WSSWS) submitted comments on EPA's proposed herbicide resistance management plan, which was first proposed as part of the dicamba-tolerant cotton and soybean registrations. EPA's proposal presents a significant change in how resistance is monitored, mitigated and communicated to weed management stakeholders.

While the National and Regional Weed Science Societies complimented EPA on these proactive resistance management measures, we provided many suggestions and recommendations on how to improve the plan. It will be important for EPA to communicate to the weed management community what their expectations are for the plan, how much it will cost to implement, and how will success (and failure) be measured. In addition, we consider the plan a first iteration that will need adaptation and evolution with our experience with it. The comments are at: <http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/Weed-Science-Societies-Comments-on-EPA-11-element-Resistance-Mgmt-Plan.pdf>

One of our concerns was that this was included as part of the proposed dicamba registration and not as a separate Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice by itself. However, just as the dicamba registration comment period was closing at the end of May, EPA did issue two separate PR Notices for the Resistance Management Plan on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first PR Notice (PR Notice 2016-X) is titled "[Draft Guidance for Pesticide Registrants on Pesticide Resistance Management Labeling](#)" and the second PR Notice (PR Notice 2016-XX) is titled "[Draft Guidance for Herbicide Resistance Management Labeling, Education, Training, and Stewardship](#)."

Draft [PR Notice 2016-X](#), which revises and updates [PR Notice 2001-5](#) (the first labeling update in 15 years), applies to all conventional agricultural pesticides (*i.e.*, herbicides, fungicides, bactericides, insecticides and acaricides). The updates in PR Notice 2016-X focus on pesticides labels and are aimed at improving information about how pesticide users can minimize and manage pest resistance. Updates fall into the

following three categories: (1) additional guidance to registrants and a recommended format for resistance-management statements or information to place on labels; (2) references to external technical resources for guidance on resistance management; and (3) instructions on how to submit changes to existing labels in order to enhance resistance-management language.

Draft [PR Notice 2016-XX](#), which only applies to herbicides, communicates EPA's current thinking and approach to address herbicide-resistant weeds by providing guidance on labeling, education, training, and stewardship for herbicides undergoing registration review or registration (*i.e.*, new herbicide actives, new uses proposed for use on herbicide-resistant crops, or other case-specific registration actions).

To view and provide comments on these draft Pesticide Registration Notices and any supporting material, please visit [EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0242](#) for PRN 2016-X and [EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0226](#) for PRN 2016-XX. **The comment period for each closes on August 2, 2016.**

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies will be submitting comments for both PR Notices. The first PR Notice has some discrepancies in the definitions used among the pest management disciplines that need to be corrected. There is also the subject of trying to get the entire weed science community to use the same herbicide MOA classification scheme, whether that be HRAC's or WSSA's. We will discuss.

For the second PR Notice, we will resubmit our comments for EPA's proposed herbicide resistance management plan, which was first proposed as part of the dicamba-tolerant cotton and soybean registrations. **One thing we might do differently is submit separate comments for herbicide resistance management in aquatic systems.** The main issue is that using full label rates is not often recommended in aquatic systems. In addition, NPDES regulation of aquatic pesticide applications mandates that the lowest possible discharge be conducted. We will discuss.

### **3. Draft Ecological Risk Assessments for Triazines**

Below are links to the draft ecological risk assessments for atrazine, propazine and simazine and their supporting documents.

- Atrazine ([EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0266](#))
  - [Preliminary Ecological Risk Assessment for Atrazine](#)
  - [Supporting Documents](#)
- Propazine ([EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0250](#))
  - [Preliminary Ecological Risk Assessment for Propazine](#)
  - [Supporting Documents](#)
- Simazine ([EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0251](#))
  - [Preliminary Ecological Risk Assessment for Simazine](#)
  - [Supporting Documents](#)

There are significant concerns with EPA's draft ecological risk assessment and the models they used, especially for atrazine. EPA used data and findings previously deemed "flawed" by EPA's 2012 Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) on atrazine. EPA is recommending aquatic life level of concern (LOC) be set at 3.4 parts per billion (ppb) on a 60-day average. The EPA's current LOC for atrazine is 10 ppb. However, scientific evidence points to a safe aquatic life LOC at 25 ppb or greater. The proposed level cuts average field application rates down to approximately 1/4 pound per acre – which effectively eliminates it.

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies will be commenting on the ecological risk assessments for the triazines. **Is APMS aware of any concerns expressed about the aquatic use of simazine?** The 60-day comment period started on June 6, 2016 and ends August 5, 2016. However, I believe a 60 day extension was just granted so the **comment period will now end on October 4, 2016.**

#### **4. Glyphosate- IARC/NIH funding**

Advocacy groups in Europe used the International Agency for Research on Cancer's (IARC) report on glyphosate to lobby member state governments to block the EU's reauthorization of glyphosate. As discussed previously, the IARC study conclusions are the result of a significantly flawed process. Of the 900+ things IARC has analyzed, IARC has determined that they all could cause cancer (except yoga pants), which is often at odds with the conclusion of U.S. regulators. EPA's Cancer Assessment Review Committee completely discredits IARC findings in their review of glyphosate (but EPA has been sitting on that report since Oct. 1, 2015- and is a whole other issue). **The problem is this- the National Institutes of Health (NIH) gave IARC \$859,000 in U.S. taxpayer dollars to conduct its flawed study.** Any study by IARC, regardless of its credibility, benefits from association with the U.S. NIH and its reputation as a premier research organization. Unfortunately, because the glyphosate study was funded through the NIH, the conclusions will be taken more seriously than they might have been. Rep. Bob Aderholt, chairman of the House Ag Appropriations Subcommittee is investigating this with NIH Director Francis Collins. In addition, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has recently pushed back against IARC, saying that IARC reports create mostly confusion because they only look at hazard, not risk, which is poorly understood by consumers.

#### **5. USDA Suggestions for Aquatic Weed Research Funding**

Aquatic weeds can be the subject of investigation of USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) awards, but would have to compete with other proposals. How well they compete will be determined by the peer review panel for a particular program, and will be based on how well the project directors make that case that proposed project fits the goals/objectives identified in a program's RFA. In some programs the key may be to demonstrate that the project addresses problems with an aquatic weed that is impacting production agriculture, in others the key may be to demonstrate that the project will help mitigate the impacts of an aquatic weed on biodiversity or ecosystem services.

There are several potential sources of funding for research and extension efforts on aquatic weeds, but potential applicants should read the program's request for applications carefully and then contact the national program leader (NPL) before submitting a proposal so they can determine whether it would be a good fit/would be competitive. All NIFA RFAs can be accessed via the grants page on the agency's website: [www.nifa.usda.gov](http://www.nifa.usda.gov). Here's a few possibilities for aquatic weeds:

##### **AFRI Foundational Program:**

- Pests and Beneficial Species in Agricultural Production Systems. NPLs: Mary Purcell-Miramontes ([mpurcell@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:mpurcell@nifa.usda.gov)) and Jeff Steiner ([jeffrey.steiner@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:jeffrey.steiner@nifa.usda.gov))
- Agro-ecosystem Management. NPL: Michael Bowers, [mbowers@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:mbowers@nifa.usda.gov)

##### **Crop Protection and Pest Management:**

- Applied Research and Development program area. NPL: Herb Bolton, [hbolton@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:hbolton@nifa.usda.gov)

##### **Aquaculture Program:**

- Special Grant Aquaculture Program. NPL: Gene Kim, [gkim@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:gkim@nifa.usda.gov)
- Small Business Innovation Research Aquaculture program (SBIR proposals require an industry partner). NPL: Gene Kim, [gkim@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:gkim@nifa.usda.gov)

#### **6. FY 2017 USDA Appropriations**

The House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees released their proposed budgets for FY 2017. In both budgets, many of the USDA agencies that receive funding for weed research and management

were proposed to receive modest increases compared to FY 2016. Agencies with proposed increases include: APHIS, ARS, NIFA, and NRCS. Within NIFA, the AFRI Competitive Grants program, both the House and Senate recommended an increase of \$25 million over the FY 2016 appropriation of \$350 million. However, most of the other NIFA line items relevant to weed science were held constant to the FY 2016 levels. This included Hatch Act, McIntire-Stennis, Smith Lever b & c, IR-4, SARE, and Crop Protection and Pest Management.

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017 House	FY 2017 Senate
<b>USDA AGENCY</b>	----- \$ millions -----				
ARS	1,122.4	1,132.6	1,143.8	1,151.8	1,177.9
ERS	78.0	85.3	85.3	86.0	86.7
NASS	161.2	172.4	168.4	168.4	169.6
NIFA	1,277.1	1,289.5	1,326.4	1,341.1	1,363.7
APHIS	821.7	871.3	894.4	930.9	939.2
NRCS	812.9	846.4	850.8	855.2	864.4
<b>NIFA Programs</b>					
Research and Education Activities	772.5	786.8	819.6	832.8	851.4
-Hatch Act (Experiment Stations)	243.7	243.7	243.7	243.7	243.7
-Cooperative Forestry Research	33.9	33.9	33.9	33.9	33.9
-AFRI Grants Program	316.4	325.0	350.0	375.0	375.0
-Sustainable Ag Res. & Education	22.6	22.6	24.6	24.6	27.0
-IR-4 Program	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9
Extension Activities	469.1	471.6	475.8	477.3	476.2
-Smith-Lever Act, Section (b) & (c)	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0
Integrated Activities	35.3	30.9	30.9	30.9	36.0
-Crop Protection & Pest Mang't	17.1	17.2	17.2	17.2	20.0

There are also various instructions and recommendations included in both the House and Senate Ag Appropriations bill related to weed science. I have included them in my July 2016 WSSA newsletter. Here are three examples:

- **Herbicide Resistance**-The Committee reminds NRCS of the challenges many producers are facing due to the spread of herbicide-resistant weeds and encourages it to ensure agency staff, partners, and producers are aware of conservation practice standards, conservation activity plans to address herbicide-resistant weeds, and financial assistance available through conservation programs to assist producers in their efforts to control these weeds.
- **Sage Steppe Restoration Science**- The Committee includes an increase of \$1,000,000 for ARS to advance sagebrush habitat restoration science in the Northern Great Basin including cooperative research, testing and deploying precision restoration methods to restore habitat Impacted by significant disturbance such as wildfire and invasive species.
- **Pollinator Health and Monarch Recovery**.- The Committee reiterates its concern for the need to address threats posed to pollinator health, and urges the Department to continue to support the Fish and Wildlife Service's Monarch Conservation Strategy. The Committee directs NRCS to leverage resources, relationships and partnerships, including with non-governmental organizations that are perceived positively by the private land and agriculture communities and that possess experience working directly with agricultural producers and other conservation partners. The Committee



recommends the Department continue to support monarch conservation on private lands in fiscal year 2017 and expects to see a multi-year recovery effort undertaken, focusing on the deployment of conservation practices.

## **7. Aquatic Plant Control Research Program funding**

The Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee recommendation for aquatic plant control funding in FY 2017 initially included \$9 million in their first markup in March, despite the Army Corp of Engineers not requesting any funding once again. Within the \$9 million in funding from the Senate, \$4 million was for the Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP), another \$4 million was for the watercraft inspection stations, and \$1 million was for monitoring and contingency planning associated with watercraft inspection stations.

The House and Senate both passed the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 (H.R.2028) in May, albeit with several changes to aquatic plant control funding. In the House version of H.R. 2028, there is only \$4 million for the watercraft inspection stations. In the Senate version, there is only \$4 million for APCRP. Needless to say, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies will support the Senate version over the House version if we had to choose, but we'd rather see both programs receive \$4 million like they did in the FY 2016 appropriations.

During the floor debate in the Senate on H.R. 2028, an amendment by Sen. John Hoeven (ND) that would have blocked the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers WOTUS rule was defeated by a 56-42 vote. They needed 60 votes to invoke cloture and pass the amendment. The amendment also would have blocked EPA's Interpretive Rule, which narrowed an agricultural exemption for farmers and ranchers under the Clean Water Act.

## **8. WOTUS Rule Update.**

In June 2015, the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers finalized their waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule, which expands which waters are covered under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The rule will reportedly add some two million acres of streams and 20 million acres of wetlands. Over 30 states subsequently filed lawsuits in multiple federal courts seeking to block the administration's WOTUS rule. In August 2015, the District of North Dakota stayed the rule nationwide. In October 2015, the Sixth Circuit Court (not district court) claimed they have jurisdiction over the rule. Since then, there have been numerous jurisdictional battles between opponents and proponents of the rule in both District and Circuit courts. When it's all said and done, the Supreme Court will likely be issuing a final verdict on whether the WOTUS rule is "arguably unconstitutionally vague" under the CWA.

In a separate Supreme Court case ruling regarding CWA determinations on May 30, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously against the government in a case deciding when landowners can challenge certain decisions about water permits in court. The case, *Army Corps of Engineers v. Hawkes Co. Inc.*, centers on a North Dakota peat mining company that wants to challenge a government determination that its mining plans would require costly Clean Water Act permits. Property rights advocates and industry contend that landowners should be able to contest those decisions in court and the Supreme Court unanimously agreed. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the court's opinion, finding that a jurisdictional determination approved by the Corps is indeed a "final agency action" that is subject to judicial review. [Click here](#) to read the Supreme Court opinion.

In yet another CWA court case, the Eastern District Court of California ruled that a wheat farmer and nursery operator violated the CWA because he plowed his field. I'm not going to go into the details here, but there is a nice little write-up in Farm Futures by Gary Baise at: <http://farmfutures.com/blogs-plowing-polluting-wheat-farmer-loses-clean-water-case-11059>



## **9. NPDES Fix Bill Update**

On May 24, the House passed H.R. 897, the Zika Vector Control Act (formerly the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act- a.k.a. the “NPDES Fix” bill) [by a vote of 258-156](#). This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in five years the House has passed this bill. This version of H.R. 897 contains the same language as the original legislation, but included a 2 year sunset provision that we opposed. The Zika Vector Control Act (H.R. 897) was rolled into H.R. 2577, which also includes the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill as well as the Zika Response Funding bills.

The National and Regional Weed Societies [joined over 100 other organizations in a letter](#) urging House and Senate Conferees to support the inclusion of H.R. 897 in the final conference agreement for H.R. 2577 and to remove the sunset provision. The good news is that part of the NPDES fix language made it into the House – Senate Conference Agreement that includes a \$1.1 billion Zika virus response package and the FY 2017 Military Construction-VA appropriations bill. The bad news is that there is only a waiver from NPDES permits for mosquito control, not aquatic weeds. Plus the waiver is only for 180 days, and then sunsets. The House did pass the conference agreement (H.R. 2577), but then it blew up in the Senate, plus Obama promised to veto it. In other words, it’s back to the drawing board.

## **10. National Survey of Most Common and Troublesome Weeds- Update**

I have received a lot of positive feedback from the national survey of the most common and troublesome weeds. There were nearly 700 responses from 49 states, Puerto Rico, and eight Canadian provinces. The plan is to conduct this survey every year, but split it into a 3-year rotation. The 2016 survey covers the most common and troublesome weeds in broadleaf crops (i.e alfalfa, canola, pulse crops, etc...), fruit & nut crops, and vegetables and is still open at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016weeds>. So far, 145 individuals have submitted just over 200 survey responses for weeds in broadleaf crops. In 2017, the survey will cover weeds in grass crops/pasture/turf. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the rotation **in 2018**, the survey will cover weeds in **aquatic/non-crop/natural areas**.

One concern was how to reference the survey data. For the short term, please use the following suggested website citation:

Van Wychen L (2016) 2015 Survey of the Most Common and Troublesome Weeds in the United States and Canada. Weed Science Society of America National Weed Survey Dataset. Available: [http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/2015-Weed-Survey\\_FINAL1.xlsx](http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/2015-Weed-Survey_FINAL1.xlsx).

After we get two or three complete weed survey data sets for the 26 different crops, non-crops, aquatic, and natural areas, I would expect WSSA & APMS to analyze and publish that data in one or all of our journals.

## **11. Milkweed and Monarchs**

On February 27, the World Wildlife Fund and the Mexican National Commission of Protected Natural Areas reported that the total forest area in central Mexico occupied by overwintering monarch colonies was 4.01 hectares, which was more than triple the 1.13 hectares in 2015 and six times greater than the low of 0.67 hectares reported in 2014. This year’s reported population is estimated to be 200 million monarchs compared to the long-term average of 300 million. The National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators has set a short-term target of 225 million monarchs overwintering in Mexico (approximately six hectares of covered forest) by 2020 through national/international actions and public/private partnerships. Unfortunately, only 2 weeks after the monarch population numbers were announced in February, a March 11 snowstorm with subfreezing temps and 50 mph wind gusts hit Mexico’s overwintering grounds, killing somewhere between 3 – 50% of the overwintering population.

The *Oikos Journal* published a Cornell study online on April 27 titled “[Linking the continental migratory cycle of the monarch butterfly to understand its population decline](#)”. **Abstract:** Recent analyses have linked the monarch decline to reduced abundance of milkweed host plants in the USA caused by increased use of genetically modified herbicide-resistant crops. To identify the most sensitive stages in the monarch's annual multi-generational migration, and to test the milkweed limitation hypothesis, we analyzed 22 years of citizen science records from four monitoring programs across North America. We analyzed the relationships between butterfly population indices at successive stages of the annual migratory cycle to assess demographic connections and to address the roles of migrant population size versus temporal trends that reflect changes in habitat or resource quality. We find a sharp annual population decline in the first breeding generation in the southern USA, driven by the progressively smaller numbers of spring migrants from the overwintering grounds in Mexico. Monarch populations then build regionally during the summer generations. **Contrary to the milkweed limitation hypothesis, we did not find statistically significant temporal trends in stage-to-stage population relationships in the mid-western or northeastern USA. In contrast, there are statistically significant negative temporal trends at the overwintering grounds in Mexico,** suggesting that monarch success during the fall migration and re-establishment strongly contributes to the butterfly decline. **Lack of milkweed, the only host plant for monarch butterfly caterpillars, is unlikely to be driving the monarch's population decline.** Conservation efforts therefore require additional focus on the later phases in the monarch's annual migratory cycle. We hypothesize that lack of nectar sources, habitat fragmentation, continued degradation at the overwintering sites, or other threats to successful fall migration are critical limiting factors for declining monarchs.

## **12. NISAW and Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) Update**

Planning for National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) 2017 is underway. Scott Cameron, President of the Reducing Risk from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) replaced Phil Andreozzi from the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) as my fellow co-chair for NISAW. Last February, we organized most of the NISAW events so that they occurred online. See [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org). Other main organizing committee members include Hilda Diaz-Soltero – USDA, Stephen Phillips - Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Leigh Greenwood - Nature Conservancy, Hilary Smith - Department of the Interior, Jason Goldberg – FWS, Priya Nanjappa – AFWA, Chuck Barger-Bugwood, and Peg Brady- NOAA. We meet once a month and are currently working on forming a Steering Committee to identify DC seminar topics and recruit seminar speakers. We have also discussed what is the best venue on Capitol Hill for a NISAW fair & reception and need to decide on a week for NISAW in 2017.

NISC solicited nominations for the 9<sup>th</sup> Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC). Janis McFarland was reappointed for a 2<sup>nd</sup> two year term. Joe Ditomaso retired from ISAC. The Science Policy Committee nominated Jacob Barney and Rob Richardson, but unfortunately neither was selected at this time. For a complete list of new and reappointed members of ISAC, please go to: <https://www.doi.gov/invasivespecies/members-isac-9>

## **13. GAO Report on Federal Spending for Aquatic Invasive Species**

The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014 includes a provision that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) assess federal costs of, and spending on, aquatic invasive species. This GAO report examines: (1) how much the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) member agencies expended addressing aquatic invasive species for fiscal years 2012-2014; (2) activities conducted by ANSTF member agencies and challenges in addressing aquatic invasive species; and (3) the extent to which ANSTF has measured progress in achieving the goals of its 2013-2017 strategic plan.

The 13 federal member agencies of the ANSTF estimated expending an average of about \$260 million annually for fiscal years 2012 through 2014 to address aquatic invasive species. However, several member agencies

identified in their questionnaire responses challenges in developing their estimates. For example, some member agencies reported that their activities to address aquatic invasive species were often integrated into larger projects, making it difficult to isolate the portion of expenditures specific to aquatic invasive species out of total expenditures for the projects. As a result, expenditure information reported by GAO generally reflects member agencies' best estimates of total expenditures, rather than actual expenditures. GAO recommended that ANSTF develop a mechanism to measure progress toward its strategic goals and help meet certain statutory requirements. Most member agencies generally concurred or had no comments, but NOAA disagreed. GAO believes its recommendation is valid as discussed further in the report.

The full GAO report is at: <http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/673897.pdf>

**Table 3: Estimated Annual Expenditures to Address Aquatic Invasive Species, by Task Force Member Agency, Fiscal Years 2012 through 2014**

Dollars in thousands			
	Fiscal year 2012 estimated expenditures	Fiscal year 2013 estimated expenditures	Fiscal year 2014 estimated expenditures
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>			
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	\$3,618	\$3,454	\$3,467
U.S. Forest Service	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>a</sup>	<sup>a</sup>
<b>Department of Commerce</b>			
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	3,855	3,454	3,528
<b>Department of Defense</b>			
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	134,886	133,139	148,571
<b>Department of Homeland Security</b>			
U.S. Coast Guard	2,809	3,995	3,362
<b>Department of the Interior</b>			
Bureau of Land Management	298	205	70
Bureau of Reclamation	4,728	5,352	6,335
National Park Service	3,967	4,078	5,437
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	13,049	13,096	15,049
U.S. Geological Survey	10,229	10,034	11,325
<b>Department of State<sup>b</sup></b>	18,575	18,106	19,341
<b>Department of Transportation</b>			
Maritime Administration	5,137	4,965	4,473
<b>Environmental Protection Agency<sup>c</sup></b>	56,709	44,946	54,599
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$257,860</b>	<b>\$244,824</b>	<b>\$275,557</b>

Sources: GAO questionnaires of 13 Task Force member agencies. | GAO-16-49

Note: The data in this table were provided by Task Force member agencies and reflect their best estimates of annual expenditures to address aquatic invasive species for fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

<sup>a</sup>The U.S. Forest Service reported that it was unable to develop estimated annual expenditures for its aquatic invasive species activities. The agency cited several reasons, including that its program management and financial accounting systems do not separately track aquatic invasive species expenditures.

<sup>b</sup>The Department of State estimates reflect amounts mostly provided to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, largely for Sea Lamprey control and research efforts. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission provided financial resources to other Task Force member agencies and therefore to minimize double-counting, we have to the extent possible, excluded this funding from the estimates reported by the other Task Force member agencies.

<sup>c</sup>The Environmental Protection Agency's estimates reflect amounts for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (a program launched in 2010 to protect and restore the Great Lakes ecosystem), most of which was provided to other Task Force member agencies. To minimize double-counting, we have, to the extent possible, excluded this funding from the estimates reported by the other Task Force member agencies.

## WSSA Report

Rob Richardson – APMS Rep to WSSA

7/12-7/13 WSSA agenda is attached. Highlights follow but contact me for more information on any topic.

- WSSA is spending more money they are bringing in
- WSSA total funds -
- “Regular” membership has declined from 953 in 2011 to 698 in 2016
- WSSA has 5 or 6 sustaining membership levels just because. No standing guidance on levels or contribution amounts.
- Early member registration for 2016 will be \$400
- 2017 Annual meeting will be in Tucson, AZ. It is hot there. And dry. And hot.
- 2018 meeting will be in Arlington, VA (DC).
- WSSA will be contracting with a firm to fill their Executive Secretary needs. NCWSSA and SWSSA will likely also contract with same firm. WWSS is going to make a decision when they want to make a decision and will not tell WSSA until they feel like it.
- WSSA will release RFP for meeting planning. APMS meeting planning is far better organized than WSSA has been.
- WSSA seeking new chair for Herbicide Handbook committee (aka editor of next edition). I’ve found aquatic fate to be lacking in the HH. Think APMS should be involved with aquatic products to improve information related to aquatic use patterns.
- Lots of legislative stuff going on. Lee continues to support APMS needs respective to legislative issues.
- Release of dicamba tolerant traits without herbicide registration for use has been a disaster. Hundreds to thousands of off label applications and non-target crop damage.
- WSSA needs to revise approach to herbicide modes of action. Likely a new committee to sort it out.
- WSSA is considering providing access to annual meeting presentations for members that could not attend conference. ASA-SSSA-CSA do this.
- Sarah Ward will continue as publications chair for another 3 years.
- WSSA expecting more revenue from Cambridge than were getting from Allen Press (~\$100,000 more). Cambridge provides ~30% higher rate of royalty return (38% vs 5-8%) and does “more aggressive marketing”. APMS may need to evaluate where JAPM should be in 3-5 years. Cambridge also

provides a minimum guaranteed payment based on projected royalties. Will continue licensing to JSTOR and BioONE short term and pass contracting to Cambridge in a few years. WSSA journals will be online only in the future.

- All WSSA journal impact factors went up. WSSA has a list of articles with the most online “hits”. I’m sure everyone will be surprised to know that no aquatic articles were in the top.
- WSSA once threatened Allen Press with legal action due to poor editorial effort and publication delays. New editor Taylor Ward has been very good.
- IPSM submissions have gone up. Were really low in 2015.
- Weed Science and Weed Tech will go to 6 issues per year. No more early view access. Goal is to get IPSM to 6 also, but don’t have quantity.
- Cambridge will not sell books so WSSA needs to decide how to handle print materials.
- Don’t ever volunteer to be WSSA’s director of publications.
- WSSA has a constitutional position on board to handle any procedural questions.
- USDA has 9 page document constraining employees from serving on boards. Has been a problem for current Treasurer. Additional restrictions on financial decisions and signing checks. There is a document WSSA has to sign that has stipulations from USDA. WSSA now hesitant to consider USDA employees for board positions and say it would be “really tough” for USDA employee to be in presidential succession.
- WSSA symposia likely to include 1) off-site herbicide movement, 2) precision ag, 3) USDA area wide programs, 4) weed science teaching, and 5) federal funding. Possibly 2 as workshops and 3 as symposia.
- WSSA meeting planning is sloppy
- FOIA requests have been an issue for some WSSA members
- Lack of aquatic talks at WSSA annual meeting. Is this ok or do we want to have a bigger presence?
- Mechanism of action of herbicides to be revised. There are currently two systems and these have little alignment. WSSA will be considering how to move forward with this.
- Herbicide Handbook. WSSA is seeking a new chair of the herbicide handbook committee (aka the editor of the next edition. I’ve noticed in the past that information on aquatic herbicides is not always robust for aquatic use patterns. Do we want any involvement here?

## **AGENDA**

### **WSSA Summer Board of Directors Meeting Coronado 1 Room**

#### **Tuesday, July 12**

7:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	Introductions, Approval of the Agenda - <b>Bradley</b>
8:10 AM	Approval of Minutes - <b>Sandler</b>
8:20 AM	President's Report - <b>Bradley</b>
8:30 AM	Executive Secretary Search Results/Recommendation - <b>Bradley</b>
9:00 AM	Krueger proposal to handle membership database – <b>Bradley/Lancaster</b>
9:15 AM	Executive Secretary Report - <b>Lancaster</b>
9:30 AM	Future Site Selection - <b>Lancaster</b>
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 AM	National Academy of Sciences Request - <b>Bradley</b>
10:15 AM	Finance Committee Report and Annual Dues - <b>Boydston</b>
11:00 AM	Meeting Registration Rates - <b>Boydston</b>
11:15 AM	Funding issue for Public Awareness Committee – <b>Van Wychen</b>
11:45 AM	Future of press releases - <b>Bradley</b>
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	NIFA Fellow report – <b>Schilling (Bradley)</b>
1:15 PM	Science Policy Report – <b>Van Wychen</b>
2:15 PM	Possibility of Science Policy intern – <b>Van Wychen</b>
2:30 PM	Break
2:45 PM	EPA Liaison Report – <b>Barrett (Van Wychen)</b>
3:00 PM	2016 Meeting Program, Symposia, and plans – <b>Mcfarland</b>
3:30 PM	Tour of hotel facilities – <b>Lancaster et al.</b>
5:30 PM	Meet in lobby to go to Tavolinos for dinner

#### **Wednesday, July 13**

7:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	Herbicide MOA Discussion - <b>Senseman</b>
8:30 AM	Constitution and Operating Procedures – <b>Bernards</b>
8:45 AM	Potential Recording of Oral Sessions - <b>Bernards</b>
9:00 AM	Publications Report - <b>Ward</b>
9:30 AM	Nominating Committee Report - <b>Peterson</b>
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 AM	Herbicide Resistance Education Report – <b>Shaw (Bradley)</b>
10:15 AM	Graduate Student Organization Report - <b>Basinger</b>
10:30 AM	Poster Contest – <b>Bradley</b>
10:45 AM	Other business - <b>Bradley</b>
11:00 AM	Adjourn and lunch

2016 APMS Graduate Student Research Grant  
Report to the APMS BOD  
July 17, 2016  
Report by John Madsen, Chair

1. I would like to thank my panel of judges for their hard work this year: Cody Gray, Steve Enloe, Ryan Wersal, Mark Heilman, Bin Zhu, Brett Hartis, Todd Sink, and Joe Vassios. They provided an excellent review of the submissions.
2. We had five entries for this RFP, from across the country (north, south, east, and west). All five entries were judged to be suitable for an award. I thank all of the faculty members from these institutions for making submissions.
3. The winner of the 2016 RFP was ultimately supported by all of the judges, and will be announced at the banquet on Tuesday night, July 19.

## **APMS Treasury Account Summary**

One of the Secretary Tasks from the 2016 Midyear Board meeting is to draft a description of APMS treasury accounts, clarifying sources, amounts, expenditures, and balances of APMS funds. Recent discussions at APMS Board meetings suggest that reduced cost-sharing of APMS projects by other entities and declining income from APMS sponsors stem from a perception that APMS has sufficient or surplus funds on hand and no longer needs the level of financial contribution that was once required from sponsors and members. Additionally, there is perception that with current APMS account balances, the society is in position to increase services to members or reduce annual dues or registration fees for annual meetings.

APMS underwent strategic planning evaluation in 2009 and 2012, identifying core values that include Society sustainability, student initiatives, and education and outreach programs. All are closely tied to the way the Society manages its funds. Current wisdom implies that a non-profit organization such as APMS should maintain a reserve account equal to two years of the entity's operating expenses. For APMS, this would allow the Society to meet its financial commitments in the event that the primary sources of income were interrupted for 1-2 years. An example for APMS might include last-minute cancellation of an Annual Meeting due to weather or travel restrictions. A cursory review estimates APMS annual financial operating commitments at approximately \$90,000. A two-year reserve at this level would equal \$180,000.

APMS funds are currently distributed among four accounts: General Checking and General Investments Accounts, and Scholastic Checking and Scholastic Investment Accounts. The General Investment Account currently includes operating funds and the emergency or reserve funds. However; there is no formal separation of the funds within this account. Therefore; available operating funds in the General Investment Account equal the total account balance minus the \$180,000 reserve. For greater transparency, the APMS Board of Directors discussed dividing the General Investment Account into two subaccounts: An Operating Account for conducting the annual business of the Society, and an Emergency or Reserve Account.

There was discussion at the APMS 2016 Midyear Board meeting that APMS treasury accounts, income, and spending commitments and initiatives could be focus topics at the January 2017 APMS Strategic Planning effort. Account balances at the 2016 Midyear BOD meeting are listed below in Table 1. This information was supplied in Jeremy Slade's Treasurer's Report at the 2016 Midyear APMS Board Meeting (attached in the email). The Treasurer's Report also provides incomes and expenditures in general categories over the past five years. A detailed breakdown of these categories is presented in Tables 2 and 3 respectively.

Establishing subaccounts and minimum levels of funds within these accounts not only imparts transparency, but also provides parameters within which the Board can commit funds to recurring obligations and elective projects. Examples discussed include APMS offering an annual Graduate Student Research Grant (GSRG), or increasing the amount of the GSRG. After examining annual commitments for the Scholastic Endowment Account and the recurring impact of additional or increased GSRGs, the Board then has a better understanding whether or not these would be sustainable options. If additional funds were needed to support this GSRG example, they may be transferred from the General Investment Account, but only if available after annual operating funding commitments are deducted and with the understanding that the reserve funds are not available.



**Table 1. APMS Account Balances - December 2015**

## General Accounts

Checking	\$19,368.02
Investments	\$205,033.24 (includes \$180,000 Reserve)
Subtotal	\$224,401.06

## Scholastic Endowment Accounts

Checking	\$63,211.01
Investment	\$143,856.42
Subtotal	\$207,067.43

**Grand Total                    \$431,468.49**

**Table 2. APMS Income Sources**

Account	Income Source
Scholastic Endowment	Graduate Student Research Grant assistance (Regional Chapters)
	Silent auction and raffle at Annual Meeting
	Periodic golf tournaments / duck race at Annual Meetings
General Investment	Annual Meeting sponsorships
	Exhibitor fees
	Registration and event tickets
	Annual Memberships (Sustaining, Active, Student)
	Journal
	Subscriptions
	Page and reprint fees
	Open access

**Table 3. APMS Expenditure Categories**

Account	Expenditure Type
Scholastic Endowment	Student
	Graduate Student Research Grant
	Student Books
	Student Awards
	Student expenses at Annual Meeting (see below)
	Education and Outreach
	Contributions (BASS, FL Plant Camp lunch and materials)
	Teacher initiatives (Lakeville / Plant Camp curricula and travel)
	Publications (periodic (e.g., CAST paper, AERF manual))
General Investment	Annual Meeting
	Rooms
	Presidents Reception
	Poster Reception
	Awards Banquet

	Exhibit and poster room
	Board Meeting rooms and lunch (2)
	Meeting room (and audio visual equipment)
	Registration desk (and staff) / storage room
	Four Luncheons (Past Pres., Reg. Chapter, Student, WOA)
	Student hotel rooms
	Food and beverage
	Banquet
	Receptions
	Continental breakfasts and breaks
	Guest tour
	Student tour
	Host Chapter reimbursement (for joint meetings)
	Invited speaker travel, meals, lodging
	Board member travel, meals, lodging (if requested)
	Meeting planner (site selection, run Annual Meeting)
	Program printing
	Ship materials
	Event / sponsor signs
	Miscellaneous expenses (copies, shuttle to events, etc.)
	Awards (plaques / certificates)
	Audit fees
	Dues / sponsorships (AERF, CAST, RISE, WSSA)
	Fees (credit card, Corporation fee)
	Journal (manuscripts, etc.)
	Liability Insurance
	Midyear Board Meeting (hotel, transportation, meals)
	Office supplies
	Postage
	Printing (brochures, etc.)
	Stipends (Editor, Secretary)
	Website administration

2017 APMS Graduate Student Research Grant RFP Committee  
Report to the APMS BOD  
July 17, 2016  
Report by John Madsen, Chair

1. I was asked by President Rob Richardson to form an ad hoc committee to develop a plan for a special RFP specifically on Starry Stonewort, at the 2016 Mid-Winter Board Meeting.
2. I have attached three items that I have sent to the boards of MAPMS and NEAPMS. I have asked them to consider supporting the RFP at the \$5,000 per year level (for two years), and report on a vote by the time of the APMS annual meeting.
3. After conferring with some officers of APMS, I decided to reduce the requested commitment from APMS to \$5,000 per year for two years.
4. I contacted AERF to request that they partner with us at the \$5,000 per year for two years level. I thank them for responding within two weeks, but they decided against supporting this RFP.
5. Since the decision by AERF, I have been contacted or contacted three companies specifically, and two have agreed to support this RFP at \$5,000 per year for two years.
6. So long as we can get a commitment of at least \$20,000 per year for two years, I feel this RFP is viable. If we have \$25,000 per year for two years, I feel the additional amount is justified in that we are asking the recipient to travel to both chapters to report on their results.
7. **Recommendation/Motion:** I move that the APMS Board of Directors approve funding the 2017 RFP specifically on starry stonewort at the level of \$5,000 per year for two years, and act as the coordinating body for the RFP between the regional chapters and the companies that are contributing. APMS will not release the 2017 RFP until at least \$20,000 per year for two years of funding is committed by all of the partners. We will further acknowledge the support of all regional chapters and companies that support this RFP, in the RFP release and on the APMS webpage.

June 8, 2016

MEMORANDUM

For Potential Sponsor Boards of Directors or Decision Makers: Bill Rataczyk, Applied Biochemists; Chris Doyle, NEAPMS President; Dick Pinagel, MAPMS President; Rob Richardson, APMS President

CC: Starry Stonewort RFP committee: Rob Richardson, Ryan Wersal, Chris Doyle, Mark Heilman, Chuck Boylen, Ryan Thum, Jacob Meganck, Dick Pinagel

FROM John Madsen, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee, Starry Stonewort RFP

Subject Draft Starry Stonewort RFP and Procedure

1. The APMS BOD is proposing a special 2-year RFP specifically on starry stonewort research, if Applied Biochemists, NEAPMS and MAPMS are willing to partner with APMS for those two years – aside from any obligations entailed in the current or future grant RFPs.
2. APMS will allocate \$5,000 per year for two years to this grant. Applied Biochemists, APMS, NEAPMS and MAPMS will allocate \$5,000 per year, for a total of \$20,000 per year for two years.
3. A decision on going forward with this RFP is relatively urgent; we must agree to a protocol and RFP before the APMS annual meeting in July 2016 to post an announcement immediately after the meeting, with a deadline in the spring. See draft RFP. Therefore, I would ask each entity (Applied Biochemists, MAPMS, NEAPMS, APMS) send this to the necessary board or process to decide if they will support this RFP by the beginning of the APMS Annual Meeting, July 17, 2016.
4. The grants should be reviewed based on scientific merit, potential to bring real solutions to the management of starry stonewort in the near future, and other criteria. See draft review form.
5. I propose to have a review panel of eight judges; two judges selected by each contributing chapter or organization (e.g., Applied Biochemists, MAPMS, and NEAPMS) and two selected by me as chair of the RFP on behalf of the APMS. Judges should have no conflict of interest with the applicants, the judges should be familiar with research (e.g., possess an advanced scientific degree), and be familiar with issues associated with aquatic plant management. The regions may opt to have the chair select appropriate judges from members of their respective chapters.
6. Reviewers should indicate to the Chair by private ballot whether each candidate proposal is qualified for the program, if the proposal is scientifically adequate, and the ranking of proposals. The Chair need not ask for quantitative scores, but these scores may assist in the event of a close decision.

7. Once the results are tabulated by the Chair, the Chair should send the results to the committee to confirm their selections. If the decision is close, the Chair may convene a teleconference to discuss the proposals.

8. If all of the representative judges of a respective chapter or national APMS vote to find that there are no suitable applicants for the grant, then that chapter does not have to obligate their contribution to this research effort.

9. The Chair should then communicate the result to the Secretary and the President of the national APMS and regional partners (NEAPMS and MAPMS) as early as possible. The awardee will be formally recognized at the national APMS meeting in July 2017. The student will be expected to participate in at least one APMS meeting and one chapter meeting of the partner chapters (NEAPMS and MAPMS) during the progress of the grant.

10. The agreement with the College or University should be signed by the President of APMS or designee, with the correspondence to go directly to the Treasurer or Executive Secretary. The University should invoice APMS after the first year and after the second year. Each increment should be one-half of the grant amount agreed to by the board, and included in the announcement.

11. Funding levels and grant frequency will be decided by the APMS Board of Directors prior to the end of the Post-Conference Board Meeting in the year before the grant RFP is released. APMS will act as the intermediary for the participant chapters.

12. Report requirements. The successful grant recipient is expected to provide an update on the research in either a student or regular presentation, with the acknowledgement that the research is supported by APMS and the regional chapters NEAPMS and MAPMS, at the annual meeting after the first or second year of the grant. The recipient is also expected to participate in at least one of the chapter annual meetings of each partner chapter (MAPMS and NEAPMS). Given that presentations at a total of at least three annual conferences (one each for the national APMS, MAPMS, and NEAPMS) exceed what is normally expected (though not unusual for many graduate students), additional travel funds may be found to support travel for one meeting. The successful applicant is also expected to provide a short update to the newsletter and webpage after the first and second year of the grant. These updates will be shared with the partner chapters.



**THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Inc.**  
Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants  
7922 NW 71st Street  
Gainesville, FL 32653  
[www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org)

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### ***APMS GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT 2017***

A graduate student research grant on the biology, ecology, and management of starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*) is being offered by the Aquatic Plant Management Society's research and education initiative, in cooperation with the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation, Midwest APMS and the Northeast APMS.

**Objective:** To provide a grant to support a graduate student to conduct research on the biology, ecology, and/or management (used alone or integrated with other management approaches) of starry stonewort in the Midwestern or northeastern United States. While field work should focus on one or both of those two regions, postgraduate degree offering institutions from anywhere in the United States may apply to this RFP.

**Applicants:** Solicitation for proposals is open to any full-time faculty member of an accredited U.S. academic institution. A faculty sponsor must submit this proposal through the grants office of the University with which they are affiliated. While the intention is to support a graduate student in part, a student need not be identified by name.

**Amount:** \$40,000 (it is the policy of APMS not to pay overhead or indirect costs).

**Duration:** Two (2) years (\$20,000 per year).

**Proposal Deadline:** Applications must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2017. The grant awardee will be announced at the 2017 Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting.

**Guidelines for Proposals:** Proposals should contain a concise statement of the project, including its purpose and justification, as well as sections that discuss study objectives, methodology, schedule, budget, and planned publication of results. The resumé of the faculty applicant and graduate student (if known) should not exceed two (2) pages each. Proposals should not exceed ten (10) pages, and must be signed by the applicant (principal investigator) and an appropriate university official. Include copies of up to five (5) of your most recent peer reviewed publications. Please submit a pdf file of your full application via email to Dr. John Madsen at [jmadsen@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jmadsen@ucdavis.edu). The grant proposal will be judged based on the quality of the scientific approach, applicability to management of starry stonewort, feasibility, and potential of applicants to continue in aquatic plant management activities or involvement in the future of the society.

**Award:** The award will be announced at the 2017 Aquatic Plant management Society Annual Meeting in July 2017. Notification of award will be provided to the faculty member in time to make arrangements to attend the APMS 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (July 16-19, 2017 – Daytona Beach, Florida). Payments will be made before January 31<sup>st</sup> of 2018 and 2019.

**Requirements:** Semi-annual progress reports must be submitted to APMS prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> for each year of the grant. The faculty member and student must participate in at least one APMS regional chapter meeting and attend the APMS Annual Meeting. The student must present results of the funded research at least one time over the duration of the grant, although it is preferred that presentations are made annually. Upon completion, a final report must be submitted to APMS.

**Inquiries:** Dr. John Madsen USDA - ARS, EIWRU, University of California-Davis, Mail Stop 4 - One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, Phone: 530-752-7870, Email: [jmadsen@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jmadsen@ucdavis.edu).

## APMS Graduate Student Grant Evaluation Form

PI:		
Title:		
Reviewer #		
Category	Score	Max points
1. Does the proposal meet the objectives of the program (20)		20
2. Scientific and Technical Feasibility (50)		
2a. Logical objectives		10
2b. Valid scientific approach		10
2c. Appropriate level of effort		10
2d. Work can be completed with time and resources allotted		10
2e. Statistically sound and valid analyses		10
3. Investigator and Resource Qualifications (10)		
3a. Faculty advisor qualifications		5
3b. Adequate facilities and equipment		5
4. Results will be relevant to the management of starry stonewort in the near future		20
Total		
		100