

GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL PANEL ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



Report to the Mid-Atlantic
Regional Panel

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JUST THE ACT(S) MA'AM

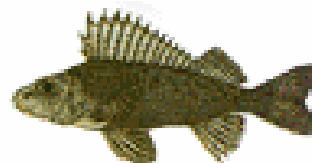
- # Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Protection and Control Act of 1990
- # National Invasive Species Act of 1996
- # Reauthorization of NISA



Zebra Mussel



Japanese Shore Crab



Ruffe



Rusty Crayfish



Purple Loosestrife

ANS Task Force

Dedicated to the prevention and control of aquatic nuisance species

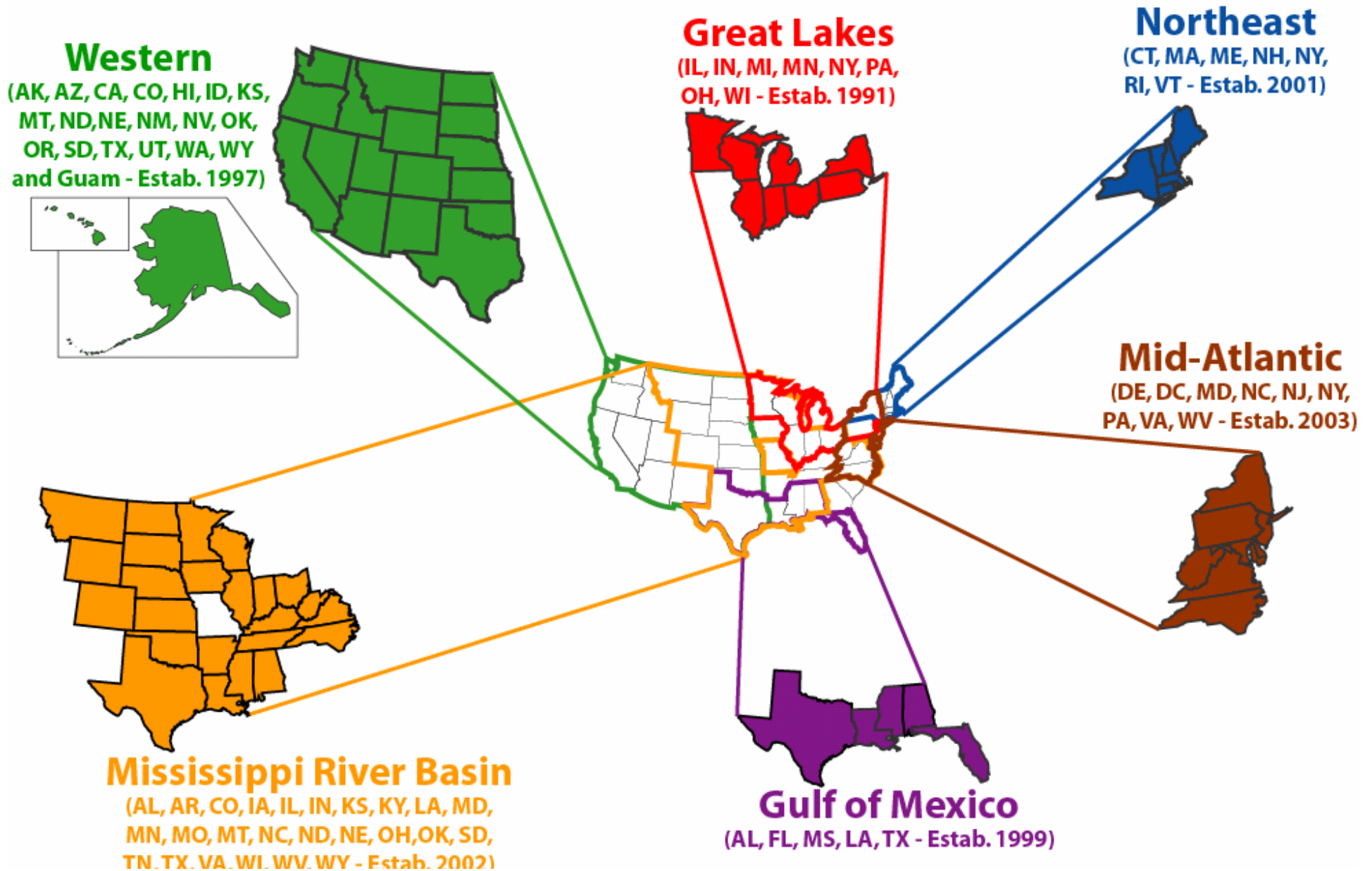
and many, many more...

Established by the NANPCA

AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL PANELS

- # NANPCA authorized the establishment of the Great Lakes Regional Panel
- # NISA, which reauthorized NANPCA, expanded the regional panels, calling for establishment of others

The Regional Panels of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force



Regional Panels

- # Set up as official committees under the ANS Task Force
 - Subject to FACA
 - Report to the ANSTF
- # Participation to include:
 - Federal, State and local agencies
 - Private and commercial interests

Role of Regional Panels

- # Establish regional Priorities
- # Develop Action Plans
- # Coordinate Regional Activities
 - States
 - Tribes
 - Federal agencies
 - Interstate Organizations
 - Non-governmental entities

GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL PANEL ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

- # The Gulf of Mexico Regional Panel was established in late 1999 under the administration of the Gulf of Mexico Program (GOMP) of the U.S. EPA.
- # Late 2001, proposal to transfer administrative responsibility to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC)
- # September 2002, transition complete and GSMFC assumed full responsibility for administration of the Gulf Panel

WORKGROUPS



- Pathways/Prevention
- Control/Eradication/Restoration
- Research and Development
- Education and Outreach
- Early Detection/Rapid Response
- Information Management

STATUS OF WORK GROUPS

- # Pathways/Prevention - *Currently Inactive*
- # Eradication/Control/Restoration - *Currently Inactive*
- # Research and Development - *Active*
- # Education and Outreach - *Active*
- # Early Detection/Rapid Response - *Active*
- # Information Management - *Active*

WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES

Research and Development Work Group

- ▣ Review lists of research needs from other groups, including the original list from the Gulf of Mexico Program
- ▣ Develop a list of recommended research and development needs
- ▣ Maintain and update the list of research and development needs

Research and Development Work Group

2005 Proposed Activities

- # Examine appropriate partnership opportunities for conducting research or collecting data
- # Review the ISAC risk analysis process
- # Compile list of existing natural resources grant programs
- # Identify opportunities for multi-agency proposals

WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES

Cont'd

Education and Outreach Work Group

- Review existing education and outreach materials and activities
- Develop guidelines for the use of non-native/invasive species in school science fair projects - Completed in 2004
- Develop a brochure of high priority invasive species and issues in the Gulf region
- Develop a Kids/Teachers Corner to add to the web site
- Develop a news letter

Education and Outreach Work Group

2005 Proposed Activities

- # Develop format and content for ANSTF Annual Report
- # Examine appropriate partnership activities for outreach
- # Identify public outreach opportunities and establish methods to distribute panel information

WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES

Cont'd

Early Detection/Rapid Response Work Group

- Develop a Gulf-wide rapid response plan - to be completed by the end of 2004

Early Detection/Rapid Response Work Group 2005 Proposed Activities

- # Compile list of ongoing state and federal monitoring programs for early detection
- # Develop a taxonomic expert database

WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES

Cont'd

Information Management Work Group

- Review and revise the Gulf of Mexico Invasive Species web site hosted by the GSMFC - Main revision completed in early 2004
- Provide guidance for maintaining and updating the web site on an ongoing basis
- Assist in the development and maintenance of a web-based non-native/invasive species data base for the Gulf of Mexico

Information Management Work Group

2005 Proposed Activities

- # Compile list of websites that should have links on Panel website
- # Compile list of external websites that should have links to the Panel website

PATHWAYS AND PREVENTION WORK GROUP

2005 Proposed Activities

- # Conduct regional and state-by-state pathways analysis (USGS lead)
- # Identify regional priorities for pathways and species using a survey
- # Conduct an inventory of state/federal watch lists

ERADICATION, CONTROL, AND RESTORATION WORK GROUP

2005 Proposed Activities

- # Conduct an inventory of existing state and federal species prevention plans

STATUS OF STATE PLANS

- # *Texas* - Complete, submission to ANSTF pending
- # *Louisiana* - Plan completed during early 2004; submitted to the ANSTF
- # *Mississippi* - Governor identified MDEQ as lead agency and directed plan development- plan development underway - completion expected June 2006
- # *Alabama* - Held initial planning meeting during 2002-interest is high to begin plan development
- # *Florida* - Complete, submission to ANSTF pending

NEW WEB SITE LAUNCHED

The URL for the revised Gulf Regional Panel web site is

<http://nis.gsmfc.org>

You can also get there by going to

<http://www.gsmfc.org>

and clicking on **Invasive Species**