

## **Regional Panel Recommendations and Activities for the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting, North Charleston, South Carolina, April 29-30, 2008**

### **Panel Name**

Mid-Atlantic Panel

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### **High-Priority and/or Emerging Regional Issues:**

- Chinese mitten crab surveillance/rapid response
- Ballast water regulation

### **Key ANS activities from November 2007 to April 2008:**

#### **Panel**

- Coordination of Report with Environmental Law Institute
- Creation of model Rapid Response Plan
- Continuation of mapping/listing efforts
- [www.midatlanticpanel.org/](http://www.midatlanticpanel.org/)
- Small Grants Program (second year) and has funded small scale projects in several Panel States.

#### **State/Interstate**

- Training/certification of Panel Membership in Incident Command System
- Coordination of monitoring for Northern Snakehead
- ANS containment
- Planning regional ANS meeting for Spring 2009

### **Panel Recommendations to the ANS Task Force:**

1. Please fill the ANSTF Executive Director position. Scott Newsham's leadership and organization were very important to the steering and focus of the Task Force.
2. Review State and regional ANS lists and attempt to harmonize or at least post them in similar formats to create a national picture of the current biological picture. The Task Force could provide web support for this function as it did for the experts database.
3. Keep ANSTF meetings focused on specific themes
4. Agree upon action items with measurable benchmarks or products at meetings that can be accomplished by the Task Force between meetings.
5. Consider adopting or endorsing the Incident Command System as a model for rapid response to invasive species outbreaks.