



## National CAPS Committee (NCC) Conference Call

December 3, 2015

Minutes

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### Participants

John Bowers	Carol Motloch	Lisa Jackson
Brian Kopper	Lisa Ishibashi	Melinda Sullivan
Kristian Rondeau	Dale Anderson	Susan Schechter
Piera Siegert	Ian Foley	Matt Ethington
Joe Collins	Mark Hitchcox	Eileen Luke
Brad Lewis	Ruth Welliver	

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### NCC

NCC members serve 3-year terms, with terms staggered so that there is a minimum turnover each year. This preserves the stability of the NCC while opening the possibility for new membership each year. With each ending, there is a new beginning

John, Brian, and Rick, as well as the entire NCC, extend a heart-filled appreciation to Joe Collins, Carol Motloch, and Saul Viacinas for their participation and service to the CAPS community. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

At the same time we welcome Tyson Emery (Bureau Chief, SPRO rep FL), Mark Hitchcox (PSS OR), and Ruth Welliver (SSC PA), and look forward to their participation. Introductory bios will be posted on the home page of the CAPS R&C site soon. Sherry Aultman (SSC SC) has been re-nominated by her constituency, and will serve a second 3-year term.

### Annual NCC Meeting

The Annual NCC Meeting in Phoenix, AZ at the AZ SPHD office on February 2-3, 2016 has been approved. A hotel room block is being reserved. Travel reservation can now be made. As more details are known, that information will be sent to those attending the meeting. Documents will be posted on the NCC page of the CAPS R&C site starting soon.

In preparing the final agenda for this meeting, the NCC needs to know what is important to the CAPS community. What issues and/or topics does the NCC need to talk about to meet the needs of the community? Is there something that the NCC needs to address? Do you have suggestions that will benefit the CAPS program? Please discuss this opportunity among your constituency to get what is on your mind out on the table. Please speak up as everyone has a role and responsibility to improve this Program.

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Note: A reminder to the NCC, please distribute CAPS updates, conference-call minutes, and other CAPS-related information to the constituency that you represent in a timely manner. Also, please bring their items, issues, concerns, and opinions back to the NCC for discussion. It is our responsibility that everyone is kept engaged in the CAPS program.



## **Budget**

As of today (12/10/15) Congress has not passed a spending bill to fund the government pass Friday, December 11. A short term Continuing Resolution is likely. An informative article in USA Today at the link below explains the budget politics occurring in Washington.

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/08/24-questions-threats-of-government-shutdown/76994550/>

## **Agreements**

APHIS is currently under a CR and has not received an FY16 budget. As such, agreements cannot be finalized until an allocation is received in Field Operations. An available option is to request a pre-award up to the percentage amount under the CR to start work. States may request up to 19.7% of their agreement in a formal Pre-Award Request Letter. Several States have exercised this option. Contact your ADODR or Brian for more information.

The Agency currently is assessing and pursuing a new online agreements system called Grantor. This is a mandate by the Department and scheduled to begin in the Summer of 2016. One of the many attributes offered within this system is electronic reporting. This will greatly reduce the time for reporting required by both Cooperator and the ADODR. Grantor will streamline the agreements process and improve efficiency. Plans are to talk about this at the Regional Plant Board meetings.

## **NAPIS Data Entry**

Two columns will soon be added to NAPIS: Trap and Lure. For Priority Pests, the specific Approved Methods for Pest Surveillance (AMPS) for each pest are presented as options in the Survey Summary Form (SSF), and a state's trap and lure choice will be written to their 'My Surveys' template for the target. When that state's trap data is submitted, using a Survey Method value of 3001 – Trapping Survey, it will be validated against that values selected in the Survey Summary Form. For pests that are not Priority Pests (do not have an approved method), Lisa Jackson will work with states to ensure there are appropriate options for Trap and Lure. Currently, Lisa is in the process of reaching out to states to find out what they are using for any pests being surveyed for in 2015 or 2016. In some cases, new trap or lure names will be added.

It is important to remember that these non-priority pests will not have an **approved method**. Instead, they will have standard traps and lures that appear as options in the forms. These trapping methods have not been vetted by CPHST. By having the methods listed as options, the goal is only to capture and standardize **what the states have decided to use**. In future years, if states plan to use a trapping product not listed, they can reach out to Lisa to have the item associated with that pest.

Each year, once the Survey Summary forms have been completed, Lisa will work on any new pests that do not currently have a list of associated traps or lures. By capturing this important



information in NAPIS, we will have more accurate information regarding how the data was collected. Questions can be directed to Lisa, Melinda, or Susan.

### **Sample Routing**

Brian and Steve Bullington (NIS, vice Joel Floyd) are reviewing the requests in the SSF for screening, identification, and diagnostic assistance, or other taxonomic needs. If by mid-January you have not heard of how to route your samples, please contact Brian.

### **Farm Bill**

The review and rating period has finished, the goal teams have submitted their spending plans, and a draft spending plan has been compiled. The Farm Bill team currently is in discussions with the Deputy Administrator to review the plan. A finalized spending plan for FY16 is expected to roll out in February. As always, announcements will be made via the Stakeholder Registry.

### **CPHST Vacancy**

CPHST is preparing to hire a replacement for Talitha. The job announcement is currently being developed and should be announced soon. Questions should be directed to Rick.

### **CAPS Recognition**

It is not too early to start thinking of nominating someone for CAPS Recognition for work done in 2015. The call for nominations will go out in January.

### **Plant Board Meetings for 2016**

See the [National Plant Board Meeting](#) page.

*Have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.*

**The next NCC call will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016, at 1:00 pm eastern time.**

Please forward to your NCC representative any agenda topics for discussion on the next NCC call.