

DoD PARC 2012 Implementation Workshop
National Military Fish and Wildlife Association Conference
March 12, 2012, Atlanta, GA

DoD PARC Update and Path Forward

- What and Who Is DoD PARC?
- Proposed Organizational Structure
- PARC's Contribution to DoD PARC (Terry Riley)
- Update and Discussion on the Way Forward

DoD PARC Project Update and Accomplishments

- Outcome of the DoD PARC Workshop at the SMR Conference
- New DoD PARC Logo



-
- DoD PARC Photo Library (<http://dodparcphotolibrary.shutterfly.com/>)
 - website discussion and suggestions
 - Ability to query state to see the T&E species
 - Survey windows for different species
 - FWS representative-Add link to FWS website
 - List of recommended contractors-this might be a conflict within federal guidelines and contracting rules
 - Addition of BA/BO to website library
 - Add EA's related to herps
 - Add field surveys that are base specific
 - Add SOW for herp surveys as templates for others to use
 - Add ID keys (tadpoles, egg masses)
 - Posting of relevant DoD herpetofaunal gray literature and reports on Website
- Amphibian and Reptile Database Demo –suggestions and questions
 - Addition of overseas data (OCONUS)
 - Cross Reference with NMFWA database to show base specific data
 - Federal status is in the database along with NatureServe status
 - Recommended that USGS utilize to update their database that has regional holes in it
 - Database/website uses standard common and scientific species names based on *Scientific and Standard Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico with Comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding (Sixth Edition)*.
 - Database search will search by partial names of sites
 - Database is current stand alone and available only from Chris Petersen
chris.petersen@navy.mil; very large file so must be sent via mail on CD or else via FTP
 - Database will be updated every three years
 - Missing installations can be added
 - Add relevant citation for use of the database (DoD PARC)

- Amphibian Disease Survey Results 2011
 - Samples can be refrigerated for an extended period
 - How to prevent amphibian chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, or “Bd” for short) spread through equipment usage – see PARC website (<http://www.parcplace.org/resources/204-amphibian-declines-a-chytridiomycosis.html>) and Bd Field Disinfection Protocols under the July 2010 update

Discussion of Future Projects

- Disease Sampling (swabbing) demo (Atlanta Botanical Garden live demonstration by Dr. Danté Fenolio)
 - Equipment: nitrile gloves, several sandwich-sized plastic baggies, sample vials, wooden-handle, cotton-tipped swabs, small pet store “critter carriers” if you need to temporarily house amphibians before swabbing them
 - Do not use powdered latex gloves when handling frogs, lethal to amphibians
 - 30-45 gentle passes total with swab over sides, hands, feet, throat and groin – very little pressure is needed, don’t want to rub off or injure skin.
 - Recommended adding a drop of ethyl alcohol to swab tip, using refilled eye dropper, just before placing the sample into your sample vial.
 - Sanitize critter carriers between sample sites 5% bleach/water solution
- Emerging issues and possible project ideas
 - Add Legacy website link to shutterfly photo website
 - Looking for more Legacy project ideas related to conservation and management
 - ID links
 - Formation of a database of experts from DoD as a resource
 - Rob Lovich recommended Herp Con Bio as a excellent place to have gray literature published
 - Link to Herp Con Bio available on website (www.herpconbio.org)

Implementation

- Collaborating with the Herp Working Group
 - Regional review of NEPA and INRMPs by colleagues
 - Prioritizing chair and co-chair positions on DoD PARC Steering Committee to Herp Working Group members first
 - Herp Working Group could serve as a technical support to DoD PARC
- Reviewing/ranking Herp Legacy Proposals
 - DOD PARC is setting up a committee and process to review and recommend Legacy projects
 - Would like to have representation from all military Services
- What is the best way for us to communicate?
 - Peter Boice recommended DOD Naturalresources.net for information
 - Use of alternate ways of communication has its difficulties
 - The importance of the yearly face to face meeting vital to communication
 - DCO has an online meeting platform that may be useful
 - PARC regional meeting may be a good place for meetings
 - NMFVA and Sustaining Military Readiness conferences are the best current formats due to command support
 - Joint meetings with DoD PIF are also considered
- Engaging partners (CONUS, OCONUS)

- FWS- Explained a new NRCS initiative “Working Lands for Wildlife” with \$30 million available – this is primarily for private lands, but could be an opportunity for buffer/encroachment area work
- PARC announcements
 - Regional Habitat Guidelines available through PARC website (www.parcplace.org) under Publications
 - Inventory and Monitoring guidelines available soon
 - Year of the Lizard, newsletter and calendars available – www.yearofthelizard.org

Refining priorities from discussion, action items

- DOD PARC is NOT an unfunded requirement
- DOD PARC participation is voluntary
- How to tie in Climate change issues to herp conservation
 - Herp vulnerability analyses for several SE, NE and some other US species coming out soon through PARC
- Funding
 - Does DOD PARC save dollars and support mission is a common question? Yes to both
 - Connect herp conservation and management to compliance requirements
 - Streamline herpetofaunal work across services
- DOD PARC would like to be involved with reviewing and ranking of Legacy proposals
 - Ranking protocol to be developed and working group to be formed in 2012
- **Action Item:** How to align DoD PARC regions-PARC or FWS or hybrid model
 - Majority agreed to model DoD PARC organizational structure after that of the FWS regions
- **Action Item:** How to select region leaders: Chair and co-chair?
 - Must have support from command or supervisors
 - Offer DoD PARC chair and co-chair positions to Herp Working Group Members first
- **Action Item:** DoD PARC Website
 - Add workshop attendees as members to the website
 - Continue to add pictures, documents and links
 - Continue to promote and enhance the website
- **Action Item:** Herpetofauna Database
 - Finalize database and distribute via FTP or CD to members
 - Investigate adding the database to the Navy Environmental Portal website or DENIX