



Strategic Alliance Strategic Initiative (SASI) Closeout White Paper

SASI #3: Enhanced Sharing of AQI Data between CBP, PPQ, and NPB

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Initial SASI request:

NPB members (including the Western Plant Board) identified a need for more consistent communication and improved awareness of Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) pest interception and related program information to support state risk-based planning and survey targeting. The original concept included evaluating current data-sharing practices, clarifying priority data elements, and strengthening mechanisms for collaboration between federal partners and State Plant Regulatory Officials (SPROs).

Summary of SASI Goals/Objectives:

Goal: Improve shared understanding and practical use of AQI-related information to better inform state-level planning processes and strengthen coordination between federal and state partners.

Objective #1 – Improve NPB awareness and access to AQI program data

- Confirm what AQI-related reports are already provided to SPROs and how they can be used effectively.
- Clarify additional requests and determine feasible options within existing federal policy frameworks and data stewardship requirements.

Objective #2 – Improve NPB awareness and access to Pest Risk Committees (PRCs)

- Increase understanding of PRC purpose, functions, and resources, and strengthen PRC consistency and effectiveness as a venue for collaboration and discussion of risk trends.

Summary of work conducted on SASI:

Over FY2024–FY2025, PPQ and NPB partners focused on practical steps to improve awareness, understanding, and use of AQI-related information provided to SPROs, while supporting strengthened collaboration through PRCs.

AQI data awareness and use (Objective #1):

- Conducted discussions with NPB to clarify priority information needs and confirm what SPROs currently receive through established reporting mechanisms.



- Confirmed that existing recurring reports, particularly monthly Emergency Action Notification (EAN) summary reporting (aggregated) and weekly PPQ 264 reporting for propagative material, address many core state planning needs, with a key gap being awareness, familiarity, and interpretive support, rather than the existence of reports.
- Delivered two informational webinars led by PPQ's Data, Analysis, Risk, and Targeting (DART) team to review the reports, discuss appropriate use cases (e.g., pathway analysis and survey targeting), and provide a forum to surface questions and potential refinements.
- Explored potential modernization options (e.g., Tableau-style access) to improve usability and accessibility; this work was not implemented during the SASI period due to resource limitations and competing priorities.

PRC awareness and strengthening (Objective #2):

- Advanced PRC support resources that improve consistency, usability, and data-driven discussion across committees.
- Updated PRC charter tools (template and addendum) to improve clarity, usability, and alignment with current PRC operations, including emphasis on planning, joint operations, and structured, data-informed agenda topics.
- Developed a streamlined, presentation-ready Port Profile report format (PDF) suitable for broader PRC use, including state partners participating in PRCs, to support shared situational awareness and more productive discussions.
- Supported Joint Agency Task Force (JATF) Initiative 2.2.2 outcomes that reinforce cross-agency alignment and strengthen PRCs as a collaborative forum.

Outcomes/Deliverables:

Objective #1 – Improve NPB awareness and access to AQI program data

1. Clarified baseline AQI reporting already provided to SPROs
 - Reinforced awareness of routine, established AQI-related reporting provided to SPROs and SPHDs, including monthly EAN reporting (aggregated by destination zip code) and weekly PPQ 264 reporting for propagative material cleared through Plant Inspection Stations.
2. Two AQI data informational webinars delivered to NPB members and staff
 - DART-led sessions provided an overview of AQI program roles, data types and limitations, and practical examples of how the reports support risk-based planning (e.g., identifying commodities/pathways of interest, informing trapping and survey targeting, and coordinating within and between states).
 - Webinars created an organized venue to capture questions, align expectations, and identify where additional interpretive support may be most helpful.
3. Assessed enhancements to improve usability of reports
 - Options to improve access/visualization (e.g., dashboards) were explored; implementation was deferred due to resource constraints and competing priorities.

Objective #2 – Improve NPB awareness and access to Pest Risk Committees (PRCs)



1. PRC Charter Template and Addendum updated and shared as a national resource
 - Updated tools improve consistency, reduce outdated language, and better support operational planning and structured discussions across PRCs.
2. Port Profile report product refined for broader PRC use (including state partners participating in PRCs)
 - Developed a presentation-ready Port Profile format to support shared situational awareness and facilitate discussion of trends and risk indicators, in a way that is useful to PRC participants.
3. PRC support materials advanced under broader joint-agency coordination
 - Contributed to strengthened alignment and messaging through JATF 2.2.2, reinforcing PRCs as a practical collaboration mechanism that benefits both federal and state partners.

Closeout and path forward (post-SASI):

Objective #1 of SASI #3 is considered complete based on delivery of the AQI data primary awareness-building and the assessment of the usability of the reports. Objective #2 of SASI #3 is considered complete, the additional survey data has been analyzed and incorporated into the PRC tools. Work will continue through routine program activities and related initiatives (e.g., PRC resource modernization efforts), with an emphasis on improving partner awareness, communication and access to available resources and data, consistency of engagement, and practical use of available information in support of shared plant health goals.