

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
March 5, 2009

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Fred Block
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Len Meier
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB –
NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report

- The 2009 **SME/CMA conference** held February 22-25, 2009, was a success! There were LOTS of attendees at this year's conference. The NTTT booth was well represented and contained materials from all of the OSMRE regions.
- OSMRE-WR continues to work as “co-conveners” of the upcoming **ASMR/BLRS/WRTT meeting** to be held in Billings, MT, May 30-June 5 2009.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum in 2010. *US FWS reported that the White Nose Syndrome has now spread to two coal State Pennsylvania and West Virginia.*
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum in 2010.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** Working on a request for over 30 Federal Employee authorization. *102 registered to date.* The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30, 2009 in Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum. On line registration is available at:
<https://www.dce.siu.edu/index.php/Conferences/Geomorphic-Reclamation-and-Natural-Stream-Design-at-Coal-Mines>.
- **Ohio State University CCB Research** – MCR has been working with the OSM CCB regional team at the request of OSU to begin cooperating on an Ohio CCB research initiative to conduct case studies on the use of FGD in mine reclamation. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.
- **Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group** – *Draft guidelines have been developed. Last round of comments to be incorporated and document distributed by end of March.* IN Bat Recovery Plan Final by Summer 2009.
- **BCI MOU** - MCR has been working with Bat Conservation International to renew the earlier 5-year agreement. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.

AR Report:

- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The dates are June 5-12, 2010 at the Radisson-Greentree. A planning session is scheduled for March 16th in Pittsburgh to assign committees, event theme, technical sessions and field trips. Anyone who has an idea for this event is invited to contact Jeff Trump (jtrump@osmre.gov or 412 937- 2918)
- **Planning is underway for 2009 AML technical workshop**, for August 2009 concentrating on mine pools and their impacts on the state AML program.
- The ARTT team conducted their semi-annual meeting in Charleston WV on February 24-25, 2009 and ranked all 64 of the 2009 Applied Science proposals.

NTTP Report

- **Instructor Training Course** will be held on March 15-20 in Leesburg, VA.
- **Master Instructor Forum** will be held on April 21-23 in Sante Fe, NM.
- A special session of the **Administration of Reclamation Projects course** will be held for Montana on April 4-7 in Helena, MT. This course is currently being revised and this will be the first offering of the new class.
- A special session of the **Spoil Handling class** will be held for Kentucky on June 16-18 in Frankfort, KY.
- Work is proceeding very well on the **Field Investigation Course**. The team will meet in late spring and at that time, select a date and develop a list of those to be invited to the dry run for the course. The course will be piloted probably in October 2009. We may invite those who are scheduled to take the Principles of Inspection class in late September to the pilot. While some of the topics are similar in both courses, the field course is two weeks with almost a full week being spent on field exercises. (The dry run will not include the field exercises.)
- NTTP hopes to complete our move to processing all TAs and Vouchers in GovTrip next week. We are setting up special mailboxes and routing and this has delayed us some.
- A meeting of the **Passive Treatment course team** was held in February. The revised course will be offered in June.
- The **Acid Materials soils course team** is in the process of developing a new version of this class. At one time both water and soils were covered in the same course. The water part was split out into the Geology and Geochemistry class and the soils part will be in the new class. We expect development to be completed in FY 2009.
- The **Coalfield Communications course** is being reviewed and will be revised as needed.

TIPS Report

- TIPS is re-drafting it's **Memorandum of Agreement** with each state and tribe to reflect two important changes:
 - The change instituted in the OSM budget appropriation of 2005 that all TIPS equipment transferred to states or tribes becomes the property of that state or tribe.
 - Installation of the KeyServer license serving software, currently required for most TIPS software to run, will be required for installation on all computers that run TIPS software.

The requirement in the current MOA for compliance with all software license agreements is still applicable and has not changed.

- The **TIPS Steering Committee** will meet on May 19-21 in Nashville, TN and an announcement and draft agenda went to all Steering Committee members yesterday.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- Working on departmental oversight of Dam Safety
- Solicitor working on an EA of the CCB Proposed Rule
- Rahall CCB bill markup to come out March 11.
- On March 4 U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, and Thomas Carper (D-DE), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety, introduced a Senate Resolution calling on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct immediate reviews and inspections of all coal ash impoundments in the U.S. and to propose and issue as quickly as possible rules to regulate coal combustion waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).
- There were 10 Underground Mine Mapping proposals received totaling \$400,000.

IMCC Report

- We continue our work on the **Benchmarking Workshop on E-permitting and Mobile Computing**. A conference call of the presenters is scheduled for March 19 to work out all the details of the workshop. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for the end of July or beginning of August in Chicago. We are hoping that fiscal constraints and travel restrictions will not unduly hamper attendance at and the effectiveness of the workshop.

WEIB Report

- WEB is in support of the idea to distribute the Applied Science reviews as presented. Suggests that WRTT solicit some help from western state folks to assist Dave Clark.
- WIEB has no events scheduled at this time.

NAAML P Report

- The **Mid-Winter Meeting** of the NAAML P will be held in Oklahoma City March 17 and 18th. Much of the discussion will focus on the President's proposed budget where states that have completed their coal reclamation will no longer receive any AML funds. The proposal is based on outdated information contained in OSM's AML database and reverses the 2006 amendments to SMCRA which were the result of compromises worked out after years of debate.

Exhibit Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.

- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- Geomorphic Reclamation and Natural Stream Design at Coal Mines Forum April 28-30, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Conference, Billings, MT May 30-June 5, 2009 by WR (National Coordination)

- NAAML P Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)
- GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)

Next meeting will take place in San Antonio, TX April 8 & 9, 2009.