

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

January 17, 2013

1:00 – 2:00 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – Arielle Avishai, **Lois Uranowski**, David Lane, Jeff Trump

HDQ – Josh Rockwell

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – **Tom Hines**

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLTP – John Koerth

WR Report

- We are planning the logistics for the upcoming **ASMR 2013** meeting (booth, travel, rooms, etc.). We are also assisting in helping with the conference as needed.
- Henry will be giving a small presentation to the **Colorado Environmental Management Society** on restoration success and how it relates to SMCRA.
- We are planning future **service manager visits**.
- We are planning to deploy both the **down hole camera and the FLIR camera** on two separate projects.

AR Report:

- The **ARTT team meeting** has been tentatively changed to February 20-21, 2013 at MSHA academy in Beckley, WV.
- The **West Virginia Mine Drainage Task Force meeting** will be held March 26-27, 2013 in Morgantown, WV. Site information and registration can be found at <http://wvmdtaskforce.com/symposium/index.cfm>
- The **Symposium on Environmental Considerations in Energy Production** will take place April 14-18, 2013 in Charleston WV. Information can be found at <http://www.energy.vt.edu/aries>

MCR Report

- **ASMR Geomorphic Reclamation Session(s) June 2013** – Two sessions of five talks each will be held on Case Studies in Geomorphic Reclamation & Advances in the Science of Geomorphic Reclamation.
- **2014 OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum** A flyer and website is being prepared to advertise and provide access to information about this event.
- **Indiana Bat Permitting Guidance Document** The technical team has completed their recommendations for improving the joint FWS/OSM/IMCC document and has submitted that to the management team.

- **FWS Notice of Revised IN bat Survey Guidance** A four level survey protocol system has been developed that reduces dependence up the capture method of mist netting.
- **Mine Placement of CCRs: Planning for the Future, Forum 2014** – A steering committee has been initiated to begin planning for a forum in 2014.
- **Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines II, Forum 2015** – A steering committee has been initiated to begin planning for a forum in 2015.
- **Alabama A&M University Science Seminar Speakers:** MCR will provide a speaker on “ARRI and Use of the FRA in surface coal mine reclamation” in January 31 and a speaker on “Protecting Endangered bats at coal mines” April 18, 2013.

NTTP Report

- NTTP is finishing up **confirmation of instructors availability** for the training year and will be following up with managers/supervisors who have not as yet responded.
- **Three courses have been presented** since our last call including AML Drilling and Grouting and the revised Enforcement Procedures courses were held the week of December 11 and the second session of the Enforcement Procedures course is being held this week in Knoxville, TN.
- **Upcoming courses** in February include Excess Spoiling Handling and Disposal, Forensic Hydrologic Investigation and Blasting and Inspection.
- NTTP is reviewing **a first draft of an on-line version** of the Basic Inspection Workbook. This workbook is a self-taught guide to the basics of SMCRA and mining and reclamation. It includes individual modules covering mining techniques, inspection and enforcement components, hydrologic and blasting standards, and reclamation processes and requirements. The course includes self tests at the end of each module for students to test their learning.

HEADQUARTERS:

HR Issues: The NEPA Specialist position is currently being advertised.

TIPS Report

- The **TIPS Steering Committee meeting** will take place May 14 & 15, 2013 in Denver, Colorado. The hotel has not yet been finalized. We will hold a preliminary teleconference about the upcoming Steering Committee meeting in February. No date for that teleconference is set at this time. At that teleconference we will discuss our progress on Action Items from last year's meeting and soliciting new agenda items. Look for formal announcements for both the Steering Committee meeting and the teleconference soon.
- The **Apollo Server**, which will provide desktop access to all TIPS Remote Sensing satellite imagery has been installed at the Denver Federal Center. The system is now beginning testing with Department of the Interior security specialists to obtain approval to open the application to states and tribes. Satellite data installation is underway.
- The **TIPS Training Schedule for 2013** is set and an ArcGIS class is underway in Denver. Our next class is AutoCAD Map 3D coming up the last week of January in Pittsburgh.

- We are working with the **Adams State University** - our partner school which helps TIPS and NTTTP instructors to develop online courses - to send a couple of their faculty to NTTTP's Orientation Class as well as the SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures course.

IMCC Report

IMCC is awaiting action on a number of fronts that will impact the states: OSM rulemakings (as reported in other sections of the NTTTT Report); the FY 2013 budget; the FY 2014 proposed budget; and sequestration. There will also be several realignments on Capitol Hill that are of interest to IMCC and OSM, including the new Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Wyden of Oregon). Just as with the federal government, we are seeing several retirements and/or moves among congressional staff, so challenges abound in the 113th Congress. IMCC will also be working jointly with OSM on several upcoming conferences, including bat conservation, coal ash and geospatial technologies.

WIEB Report

- No events scheduled at this time. Continued coordination with IMCC on budget, legislative, rulemaking and oversight issues.

NAAML P Report No Report

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the next year 2013. Need to talk about reviving the Tech Transfer Calendar.

- NAAML P Winter Meeting is March 11 – 13, 2013 in Annapolis, MD by AR
- WV Mine Drainage Symposium March, 2013 Morgantown, WV by AR
- IMCC Western Noncoal Minerals Symposium March 27 & 28, Salt Lake City, UT
- IMCC Annual Meeting is April 14 – 17, Cincinnati, OH
- Environmental Consideration in Energy Development, April 14-18, 2013, Charleston, WV by AR
- World of Coal Ash, April 22-25, 2013, Lexington, KY by MCR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Annual Meeting, June 2-6, 2013, Laramie, WY by WR (National Coordination)
- NAAML P Annual Meeting September 22-25, 2013 in Glade Springs, WV AR (National Coordination)
- NASLR Annual Meeting September 30- October 3, 2013
- IMCC Mid-Year Meeting October 2 and 3, San Antonio, TX
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 3-4, 2013 by MCR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2013, by MCR

Next conference call will be March 20, 2013 at 1 PM Central.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

March 20, 2013

1:00 – 2:00 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – Arielle Avishai, **Lois Uranowski**, David Lane, Jeff Trump

HDQ – **Josh Rockwell**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – Tom Hines

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – **Dave Berry**

NAAMLPL – John Koerth

WR Report

- **Technical Studies ICR** - We have been collecting responses to the NTTTT questionnaire. Should have those on Friday.

AR Report: Need an Update

- The **West Virginia Mine Drainage Task Force meeting** will be held March 26-27, 2013 in Morgantown, WV. Site information and registration can be found at <http://wvmdtaskforce.com/symposium/index.cfm>
- The **Symposium on Environmental Considerations in Energy Production** will take place April 14-18, 2013 in Charleston WV. Information can be found at <http://www.energy.vt.edu/aries>
- ARTT is planning to conduct **webinars** as a way to bring technology updates to our OSM and regulatory authority staff. The first webinar will take place April 16th with details to be announced via email.

MCR Report

- **ASMR Geomorphic Reclamation Session(s) June 2013** – Two sessions of five talks each will be held on Case Studies in Geomorphic Reclamation & Advances in the Science of Geomorphic Reclamation.
- **2014 OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum** A flyer has been prepared and distributed to a e-mail mailing list of over 2500 to advertise a call for papers from February 20-25, 2013. Abstracts received to date: 1 from a speaker in Spain who needs travel assistance.
- **Indiana Bat Permitting Guidance Document** The revised guidance document has been posted to the web at <http://www.mcrc.org/MCR/Resources/bats/bats-1.shtm>
- **FWS Notice of Revised IN bat Survey Guidance** A four level survey protocol system has been developed that reduces dependence up the capture method of mist netting. FWS will develop interim guidance on the integration of the new monitoring method with the IN Bat Guidance document for this season.

- **Mine Placement of CCRs: Planning for the Future, Forum 2014** – A steering committee has been initiated to begin planning for a forum in 2014 however all of these plans have been placed on hold due to budget concerns.
- **Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines II, Forum 2015** – A steering committee has been initiated to begin planning for a forum in 2015.
- **Alabama A&M University Science Seminar Speakers:** MCR will provide a speaker on “Protecting Endangered bats at coal mines” April 4, 2013.

NTTP Report

- NTTP has received confirmation of all **course instructors’ availability** for the training year.
- NTTP presented several courses since our last call. They included: Excess Spoiling Handling and Disposal, Forensic Hydrologic Investigation, Blasting and Inspection and Underground Mining Technology. This week there is a session of the Evidence Preparation and Testimony and the AML Design Workshop: Subsidence.
- NTTP specific **class scheduling** is proceeding but finalization of course and travel components are subject to budgetary considerations and will not proceed until approval is received.
- A class of Historical and Archaeological Resources scheduled for Ohio for this past week was cancelled. Additional course offerings may need to be cancelled based on the **sequestration and/or CR budgetary considerations.**

TIPS Report

- Nine **TIPS classes have been cancelled** due to sequestration budget cuts. All classes through April are in place and will occur. There are two classes that are currently scheduled to take place after April. One in May and the other in August.
- The OSM Communications office is preparing a **statement listing course cancellations** for NTTP and TIPS that will be sent to governors and state organizations this week.
- Staff training, and other travel and purchases are currently being considered on a case by case basis.
- Travel for the TIPS Steering Committee meeting in May is unlikely, so TIPS is planning for connecting the Committee via Adobe Connect teleconferencing. More information on that will be given to Steering Committee members in the coming days.

IMCC Report

IMCC is awaiting action on a number of fronts that will impact the states: OSM rulemakings (as reported in other sections of the NTTTT Report); the FY 2013 budget; the FY 2014 proposed budget; and sequestration. There will also be several realignments on Capitol Hill that are of interest to IMCC and OSM, including the new Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Wyden of Oregon). Just as with the federal government, we are seeing several retirements and/or moves among congressional staff, so challenges abound in the 113th Congress. IMCC will also be working jointly with OSM on several upcoming conferences, including bat conservation, coal ash and geospatial technologies.

WIEB Report

- No events scheduled at this time. Coordination with IMCC continues regarding national policy and funding issues.

NAAML P Report No Report

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the next year 2013. Need to talk about reviving the Tech Transfer Calendar.

- WV Mine Drainage Symposium March, 2013 Morgantown, WV by AR
- IMCC Western Noncoal Minerals Symposium March 27 & 28, Salt Lake City, UT
- IMCC Annual Meeting is April 14 – 17, Cincinnati, OH
- ARIES Environmental Consideration in Energy Development, April 14-18, 2013, Charleston, WV by AR
- ASMR Annual Meeting, June 2-6, 2013, Laramie, WY by WR (National Coordination)
- NAAML P Annual Meeting September 22-25, 2013 in Glade Springs, WV AR (National Coordination)
- NASLR Annual Meeting September 30- October 3, 2013 (National Coordination)
- IMCC Mid-Year Meeting October 2 and 3, San Antonio, TX
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 3-4, 2013 by MCR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2013, by MCR

Next conference call will be June 11, 2013 at 10:00 AM Central.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

June 11, 2013

1:00 – 1:30 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – Arielle Avishai, Lois Uranowski, David Lane, Jeff Trump

HDQ –Josh Rockwell

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – Duane Matt

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP –**Tom Hines**

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLPL –John Koerth

WR Report

- Planning continues for the **2014 Geomorphic Reclamation Forum**. The forum planning sub team continues to evaluate possible field trip, location options and all associated costs.
- OSMRE WR sent a small contingent of folks to either present or attend the recent **ASMR conference in Laramie, WY**.
- The **Adams State University/Office of Surface Mining collaboration** continues on such topics as: OSM training program development, and, ASU curriculum/student program development.
- With travel funding cut, a "**virtual**" **service manager visit** was conducted to the state of AK via the use of Adobe Connect.

AR Report:

- ARTT with the Charleston Field Office sponsored a **webinar** on May 15th using Adobe Connect software supplied by TIPS. The focus was **Appalachia Regional Oversight Study: Breakthrough Potential of Slurry Impoundments** discussing both the findings from the West Virginia study and overview of the regional plan moving forward. Approximately 50 attendees from states and OSM were on hand for the 2-hour webinar. This webinar was made possible through the use of the TIPS Adobe Connect. Also training was provided by TIPS
- On June 18th, ARTT along with Stream Restoration Inc, is sponsoring **two guided tours of a watershed-developed passive treatment system** that employs a 16th century technology to improve aeration of the system. This application is a direct result of an Applied Science Project titled "TROMPE - Powered Passive Aeration of Mine Water" See web site for more information:

<http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov/NTTMainSite/Events/2013/TROMPE/arTrompeSite.shtm>

MCR Report

- **ASMR Geomorphic Reclamation Session(s)** – On June 5, 2013, OSM moderated two technical sessions at ASMR in Laramie, WY on Geomorphic Reclamation that were also organized by OSM. Six presentations were provided in the morning session on Geomorphic Case Studies and two presentations in the afternoon on Advances in the Science of Geomorphic Reclamation. One of the talks in the AM was an OSM funded applied science project. Three talks had been scheduled in the afternoon session but one of the speakers cancelled. Each of these sessions was held in the largest meeting room available for technical sessions. The room was completely filled with standing room only in the first session estimated at apx. 100 in attendance. The second session had about 50 in attendance. An interactive discussion was held at the end of each session with questions for all of the speakers. There was a full half hour of questions at the end of the morning session and about 10 minutes of questions at the afternoon session. The morning session rated the satisfaction level at 4.5 on a 5 point scale. We did not receive any evaluations for the afternoon session.

Two of the talks recruited by OSM on natural stream design and restoration in Illinois ended up in other sessions on stream reconstruction. These talks were from an OSM funded applied science project. These talks won an award for being one of the best student presentations at the meeting.

OSM provided an exhibit at this event that was well visited with distribution of over half of the technology transfer materials distributed.

- **2014 OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum** Abstracts received to date: 1 from Pennsylvania and 1 from a speaker in Spain who needs travel assistance.

NTTP Report

- NTTP presented several courses since our last call. They included: Acid Forming Materials: Fundamentals and Application, Erosion and Sediment Control, NEPA Procedures, AML Design Workshop: Dangerous Highwalls, AML Reclamation Projects, AML Design Workshop: Fires, SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures, Geology and Geochemistry of Acid Forming Materials and Soils and Revegetation. This week there is a session of the Geology and Geochemistry of Acid Forming Materials.
- The annual **NTTP/TIPS Training Needs Survey** is out to the states, tribes and OSM offices for identifying the FY-14 training needs to assist NTTP/TIPS with establishing next training year's space allocations. With the budgetary constraints associated with the sequester and cuts it is critical that the responders to the survey pay particular attention to their space requests and their prioritization of those requested spaces.
- **NTTP Steering Committee** used Adobe Connect as the mechanism for their committee meeting on Tuesday, June 4. This was effective in providing opportunity for discussion on topics slated in the meeting agenda including the ability to weigh in on meeting topics via chatting questions to the moderator that were visible to the participants.
- Arlean Arnold joined the NTTP staff in April of this year. Arlean is serving as a course manager currently beginning her management duties with the Acid Forming Materials courses. She is a welcome addition to the NTTP staff.

TIPS Report

- The Technology Management Division in the Western Region has restructured to administer changing initiatives in **Geospatial technology and Program Services**. Dan Rivers will supervise the TIPS Geospatial Information Services Branch, Michele Christmann will supervise the Program Services Branch, and Lou Hamm will manage the TIPS Training and Technology Services Branch. The effect to TIPS is to place Geospatial related efforts including, GeoMine, GIS, and Remote Sensing, under Dan Rivers, with the Training and all other functions under Lou. With budget, procurement, and web site support from Michele Christmann's Branch the intent is for TIPS to restructure limited support in lean times to be able to handle the maximum possible TIPS support to customers.
- TIPS is planning for a **teleconference-style Steering Committee meeting** this year, likely near the end of August. TIPS will use the new Adobe Connect Event software to allow for presentations and exchanges to occur directly on each participant's personal computer or laptop. An agenda is being developed, and Steering Committee members will be polled regarding the meeting date.
- TIPS is encouraging all SMCRA personnel to respond to the annual **NTTP/TIPS Training Needs Survey** that has been distributed to training contacts in all SMCRA offices. You are all aware of the training class cutbacks this year due to budget cutbacks. The prognosis of more cutbacks in FY 14 makes the responses to the Training Needs Survey even more important so that priorities can be properly set for next year's training classes.
- TIPS will release an updated version of the powerful true-3D modeling software, **earthVision** this week.

IMCC Report

- IMCC is conducting a survey for our **NTTP Steering Committee** state representatives to ascertain the priority the states have for the existing NTTP courses as OSM plans for the future of these courses.

WIEB Report

- **No report provided.**

NAAML P Report

- **No Report provided.**

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for 2013.

- NAAML P Annual Meeting September 22-25, 2013 in Glade Springs, WV AR (National Coordination)
- NASLR Annual Meeting September 30- October 3, 2013 (National Coordination)
- IMCC Mid-Year Meeting October 2 and 3, San Antonio, TX
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 3-4, 2013 by MCR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2013, by MCR

- ISMR Annual Meeting, Jasper, IN December 2-3, 2013 by MCR

EY 2014 Applied Science Solicitation

Proposed High Priority Topics are due now. Kim plans to submit the proposed topics to OSM management June 17, 2013. Once management decides which topics to include in this solicitation, Kim will send a final draft of the solicitation to the NTTT for final comments.

Next conference call

Mark your calendar for August 27, 2013 1 PM Central Time

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

August 27, 2013

1:00 – 1:30 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – Arielle Avishai, Lois Uranowski, **Jeff Trump, Ken Eltschlager**

HDQ – **Josh Rockwell**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – **Tom Hines**

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLTP – John Koerth

WR Report

- Planning continues for the **2014 Geomorphic Reclamation Forum**. The forum planning sub team continues to evaluate possible field trip, location options and all associated costs.
- Western states continue working to develop a guidelines document for **reviewing in-situ coal mining permit applications**. Exploration permits have been submitted in Wyoming, and Alaska. Other states receiving other interest.
- A presentation was given at the recent **Southwestern Abandoned Mine Lands** meeting in Flagstaff, AZ. NM, CO, UT and the Hopi, Navajo and Crow were present. In addition, members of the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy and a member of the Bat Conservation International attended. All members learned about TIPS and Technology Transfer.

AR Report:

- The AR Technical Support Division has **reorganized** from 4 branches to three within the last two months:
 - Engineering Services and Technology Transfer Branch
 - State and Federal Programs Branch
 - Water, Geological and Geospatial Branch
- **Mine map staff** and facilities remain in Pittsburgh but report to the Program Assistance Division in Lexington Kentucky. Staff reassignments are still in flux as the administrative paperwork is still out of order.
- **Regional technology transfer initiatives** for the near future will be limited to on-line presentations of recently completed Applied Science projects.

MCR Report

- **OSM Technical Sessions for ASMR 2014 Oklahoma City, OK:** PTSB staff have been in communication with the organizers of this event in order to coordinate efforts for organizing technical sessions that could focus on the following topics: 1. Scientific

Studies on water quality issues related to active mining that would include parameters not normally covered by NPDES permits (TSS, TDS, selenium, etc.). 2. Scientific studies on impacts to aquatic organisms and ecosystems for active mining water quality issues that go beyond normal NPDES issues. 3. Scientific studies on the hydrogeologic conditions that contribute to such water contamination events. and 4. The development of technologies that could be used to prevent or mitigate the above water contamination.

- **OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum 2014** – Planning has begun for a national forum in Albuquerque NM May 20-22, 2014. 4 abstracts received to date. Working on 2 day field trip.

NTTP Report

- NTTP presented several **courses** since our last call. They included: Soils and Revegetation (2 sessions); Acid-Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden; Mine Gas Safety and Investigation; Quantitative Hydrogeology; Surface and Groundwater Hydrology; AML Design Workshop: Landslides; Erosion and Sediment Control: Bond Workshop: Cost Estimation; and AML Design Workshop: Dangerous Openings. The final course for FY-13 is a Principles of Inspection course schedule for the week of September 10-13.
- The annual **NTTP/TIPS Training Needs Survey** results have been received from the States, Tribes and OSM offices for identifying the FY-14 training needs to assist NTTP/TIPS with establishing next training year's space allocations. NTTP received 1734 requests for training spaces in response to the needs survey. A draft schedule and space allocation will be developed and we will consult with the NTTP Steering Committee and OSM Management prior to establishing the proposed course schedule for the FY-14 training year.
- Greg Conrad of IMCC, at the request of the States, conducted a survey to the program States and Tribes to solicit input on **training course priorities** while NTTP requested similar information from the Regional OSM and HQ offices to gather valuable input for use in establishing the coming year's schedule.
- **NTTP Steering Committee** will converse again on September 19 to review and discuss the proposals developed for prioritization of FY-14 training needs.
- NTTP is undertaking a **job/task analysis relative to SMCRA related positions** to evaluate the courses offered and content applicability to specific job tasks.

TIPS Report

- The **TIPS Steering Committee** will meet on September 3-5. The meeting will be conducted via web teleconference using Adobe Connect in four one and one-half hour sessions. This is the first year that TIPS will use the web teleconference method to conduct the meeting. TIPS assisted NTTP with conducting their Steering Committee meeting in July via web teleconference.
- The **TIPS Mobile Computing Team** is experimenting with the use of iPads and Galaxy tablets by SMCRA inspectors in all regions.

- TIPS is sponsoring four OSM Hydrologists to attend **Corps of Engineers HEC-RAS software training** in Denver September 11-13 in support of the Dam Safety efforts in PSD.

IMCC Report

- **No report provided**

WIEB Report

- The annual **Western Regional OSM/States/Tribes meeting** occurred in Denver August 8, 2013. WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC regarding national issues such as oversight policy and funding.

NAAML P Report

- **No Report provided.**

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for 2013.

- NAAML P Annual Meeting September 22-25, 2013 in Glade Springs, WV AR (National Coordination)
- **2013 National Association of State Land Reclamationists** It will be held from Monday, September 30 through Wednesday, October 2 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas. For more information, go to: www.naslr.org
- IMCC Mid-Year Meeting October 2 and 3, San Antonio, TX
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 3-4, 2013 by MCR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, Bastrop, TX, October 26-30, 2013, by MCR
- ISMR Annual Meeting, Jasper, IN December 2-3, 2013 by MCR

2014 Applied Science Solicitation – OSM has budgeted \$1.6 million for applied science projects in its 2014 budget. OSM will publish a solicitation for proposals only after congress approves the 2014 budget. The question is whether congress will pass a budget or whether we have a CR.

Next conference call

Mark your calendar for October 22, 2013 1 PM Central Time

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

October 22, 2013

1:00 – 2:15 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – **Jeff Trump, Ken Eltschlager**

HDQ – **Josh Rockwell**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader), **David Kovaluk**

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – **Tom Hines**

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – **Dave Berry**

NAAMLPL – **John Koerth**

WR Report

- OSM-WRTT and Adams State are collaborating on the **construction of a surface mine model**. The model will be used as a tool during public outreach to educate said public in all aspects of coal mining.
- I am offering to be the NTTTT contact for the **NTTTT events calendar**. Whenever a member of our NTTTT team receives information about a future technology transfer event, I would ask that they send that information to me.

AR Report:

- **ARTT team meeting**, February 2014, National Mine Health and Safety Academy, Beckley, WV. In addition to the standard meeting, Academy personnel will provide training on coal slurry impoundment construction and coal slurry injection into underground mines.
- **Websites**, AR currently supports the Blasting Download Page as an information resource to states, the public and industry. Additional pages under development include information on Impoundment and Subsidence. These pages will make facilitate topic specific information currently residing with OSM personnel readily available.
- **Technical Chats**, Monthly conference calls to discuss blasting related technical issues normally have over 15 attendees from OSM and the states. The format is a combination of Live Meeting and conference call. The call is a forum to share information on explosive use, certifications, permitting, vibration monitoring, flyrock control, recordkeeping, etc. Monthly conference calls on other topical areas are being developed, specifically Impoundments and Subsidence.
- **AS Projects**, One final report has been submitted recently, *Field Testing and Analysis of Blasts Utilizing Short Delays with Electronic Detonators*. The report and Fact sheet will be posted soon.

MCR Report

- **OSM Technical Sessions for ASMR 2014 Oklahoma City, OK:** PTSB staff have been in communication with the organizers of this event in order to coordinate efforts for organizing technical sessions that could focus on the following topics: 1. Scientific Studies on water quality issues related to active mining that would include parameters not normally covered by NPDES permits (TSS, TDS, selenium, etc.). 2. Scientific studies on impacts to aquatic organisms and ecosystems for active mining water quality issues that go beyond normal NPDES issues. 3. Scientific studies on the hydrogeologic conditions that contribute to such water contamination events. and 4. The development of technologies that could be used to prevent or mitigate the above water contamination. We are waiting for ASMR to send out a request for abstracts to initiate a request to participate in the OSM technical sessions.
- **OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum 2014** – Planning has begun for a national forum in Albuquerque NM May 20-22, 2014. 12 abstracts received to date. The forum meeting site has been secured at the BIA Training Center, Working on a 2 day field trip.

NTTP Report

- NTTP presented the **final course for FY13**, Principles of Inspection in Columbus, Ohio September 10-13.
- **NTTP Steering Committee** met on September 19 and reviewed and discussed the prioritization of FY-14 training courses that was accomplished utilizing input from all stakeholders.
- An initial **draft schedule and space allocation** has been developed for planning purposes for FY14. The draft course schedule has been developed utilizing the results of the training needs survey with input from the NTTP Steering Committee (SC), information collected by IMCC for the SC and OSM Management. OSM management and NTTP are accessing the budgetary components of the program prior to finalizing the proposed FY14 schedule.
- **The first course for FY14** will be the Instructor Training Course that will be held November 3-7 in Landsdowne, VA. Currently 21 proposed new instructors are scheduled to attend this session.

TIPS Report

- **TIPS Software is Back Online** - Following the shutdown, the software licenses are now back online.
- **TIPS Training Schedule** - TIPS has put together their 2014 schedule and is coordinating with the NTTP folks in preparation for announcing the upcoming training. The final schedule will depend upon Bureau funding decisions in the coming weeks. TIPS has a number of new instructors that will be attending the NTTP Instructor Training Course during the first week of November.
- **Groundwater Vistas Software** – After having resolved previous issues with preparing the AQTESOLV hydrology software for TIPS distribution in TIPS' unique license

sharing system, TIPS will begin the process of distributing the software to SMCRA programs nationwide.

IMCC Report

- IMCC had a successful **Mid-Year meeting in San Antonio, Texas** from Oct. 1- 3, despite the absence of OSM leadership (for the first time in many years) due to the government shutdown. We had some extensive discussions about budget and funding priorities as a follow on to efforts initiated by the Western Interstate Energy Board at the OSM/States meeting in Denver last August. Several states volunteered to be part of a new, national initiative to work in partnership with OSM to review program priorities and how we can best fund the most critical aspects of state and federal programs that are essential to the effective implementation of SMCRA, including new revenue streams. We expect that this effort will gather steam going into November and are awaiting further word from OSM leadership about the process for moving forward. IMCC is also hopeful that the ongoing budget deficit/debt ceiling negotiations will secure a more permanent solution for funding in FY 2014 beyond the end of the current continuing resolution on January 15. There appear to be several different routes that these discussions could take, including a House/Senate conference on their respective budgets (since both bodies passed budget resolutions for the first time in many years) or as part of a larger (but not necessarily “grand”) bargain that addresses appropriations, sequestration and debt ceiling limits. It appears that everything is on the table in these discussions, including mandatory funding (which would include Title IV AML funding), entitlement programs, new revenue sources (including potential royalties for hardrock mining and a hardrock AML fee), and individual program reevaluations. As an example of the latter, discussions in various sectors continue about reauthorization of the AML fee under Title IV of SMCRA, including the potential for program adjustments to insure that high priority projects are being addressed. The next few weeks will be very telling in this regard. We may also see separate legislative actions (in the way of oversight hearings or markups of pending legislation) that address issues of concern to the mining states, including Good Samaritan protections and operation of AML programs. How all of these factors will combine at the end of the day remains to be seen, but it could be a wild ride.

WIEB Report

- WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC regarding issues such as **national oversight policy, federal rulemakings and funding adequacy/prioritization.**

NAAML P Report

- **No Report provided.**

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

The following is the upcoming OSM exhibits

- ISMR Annual Meeting, Jasper, IN December 2-3, 2013 by MCR
- OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum, Albuquerque, NM, May 20-22, 2014 by WR

2014 Applied Science Solicitation – OSM had budgeted \$1.6 million for applied science projects in its 2014 budget. OSM will publish a solicitation for proposals only after congress approves the 2014 budget. The question is whether congress will pass the 2014 budget.

Next conference call

Mark your calendar for December 17, 2013 1 PM Central Time

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
December 17, 2013
1:00 – 1:45 PM Central Time

Participants

AR –Jeff Trump, **Ken Eltschlager**

HDQ –**Josh Rockwell**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader), David Kovaluk

WR –

TIPS – Janine Ferarese

NTTP –**Tom Hines**

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – **Dave Berry**

NAAMLPL –John Koerth

WR Report

- The WR will no longer provide a representative to the NTTTT.

AR Report:

- **ARTT team** will meet February 19 and 20, 2014 at National Mine Health and Safety Academy in Beckley, WV. In addition to the standard meeting, academy instructors will present on impoundment foundations, inspections and seepage from MSHA's perspective.
- At the request of industry, Ohio is currently evaluating **the use of shale gas drill cuttings** in Title IV and V reclamation activities. They are looking to the other states for advice.
- PA DEP is considering **recalculation of bonds at coal refuse sites** for long term water quality treatment. They are seeking input from the other AR states.

MCR Report

- **OSM Geomorphic Reclamation Forum 2014** – Advertisement of this event is continuing. An announcement has been posted on the OSM website. Online registration has been set up with SIUC. Leadership for the forum was transferred to Harry Payne.
- **David Kovaluk** will be the new MCR representative to the NTTTT.

NTTP Report

- The first NTTP course for FY14, the **Instructor Training Course**, was held November 3-7 in Landsdowne, VA. Nineteen students attended this session. They will help fill some critical needs in the NTTP/TIPS instructor cadre.
- NTTP is presenting the **AML Drilling and Grouting Course** in Columbus, Ohio this week.

- A session of the **Enforcement Procedures Course** scheduled for December 10-12 had to be cancelled due to lack of student nominations received. Numerous factors affected the student requests for this class.
- NTTP Released the Proposed **FY14 Course Schedule and Space Allocations** to the OSM, State and Tribal training contacts on Friday, December 13. The schedule was released with the stipulation that offering the scheduled classes in whole or in part was contingent upon budget considerations and changes may be necessary as the budget gets finalized. See Attached Proposed Schedule.
- NTTP wants to express our Appreciation and Well Wishes to Kim Vories on his pending retirement from OSMRE. Kim has always been a dedicated supporter of Technology Transfer and a long time instructor in our NTTP courses. We thank him for the commitment and support throughout his career.
Thanks Kim!

TIPS Report

- Janine Ferarese has been appointed the **interim TIPS Training and Technology Services Branch Manager**. I will be acting through March 30, 2014.
- TIPS has released the **FY14 Training Schedule** (attached in case anyone is interested and did not receive it.)
- **Reorganization** is occurring in the Western Region offices and Duane Matt is being transferred to the Denver Field Division.

IMCC Report

- There has been little in the way of action on the regulatory front given the few rulemakings that are currently in process, many of which are delayed due to lack of Solicitor review. Legislative activity for the balance of the calendar year has also halted as the first session of the 113th Congress comes to an end. We await further action by the Appropriations Committees in response to the budget approved by Congress which will determine the amounts of money available for state grants, applied science and other OSM programs. Action is expected to be completed by January 15, the end date for the current CR.

WIEB Report

- WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC regarding issues such as **national oversight policy, federal rulemakings and funding adequacy/prioritization**.

NAAML Report

- **No Report provided.**

Exhibit & Meeting Schedule

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NTTT Lead

This will be the last meeting with Kim Vories as the team leader. Erv says that MCR and AR still see the NTTT as a viable organization and are working on selecting a team leader from AR.

Next conference call

Mark your calendar for February 13, 2014 1 PM Central Time