

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY  
August 9, 2007

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski

HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell

MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)

WR – Duane Matt

NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Al Whitehouse

TIPS – Lou Hamm

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

WR Report

- Western Region will procure an OSM booth for the **Geological Society of America** conference in Denver, October 28-31. Please help us coordinate with the Mine Map Repository and ARRI.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining Revised Recovery Plan Workshop.** On July 12, 2007 OSM sent comments to USFWS on the Revised Recovery Plan. The MCR has been working on briefing Brent concerning a possible meeting with USFWS management concerning outstanding Indiana bat issues.
- The **MCR PHC/CHIA resource document** is complete. Paper copies will be sent to all of the MCR state program directors. It will then be made available electronically on our Website and TT CD.
- The MCR regional team continues planning an **AML AMD workshop in Illinois** for September 11-13, 2007 in Collinsville, IL.
- **Illinois Mining Institute** August 21 Springfield, IL. MCR staff will present a talk on the status of CCB rulemaking.
- **Geological Society of America** October 28-30 Denver CO. MCR staff will present a paper on CCBs in Coal Mining to Mitigate AMD.
- **Indiana Society of Mining & Reclamation Symposium** December 3-5, 2007 Jasper, IN. MCR staff will present a talk on the status of the Indiana bat.

AR Report:

- **Mined Land Reforestation Conference**, August 7-8, 2007, Abingdon, Virginia. Approximately 200 participants attended the event which included a full day field trip.
- **AR TT Team Meeting** September 18-19, 2007 at Canaan Valley Resort, Davis WV. Presentations on the completed Applied Science Projects will be included in the agenda. The NTTTT is invited to participate; please mark your calendars. Agenda to follow.

- **Coal Mining and the Aquatic Environment**, September 5–7, 2007, Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Abingdon, VA sponsored by Nature Conservancy, Fish and Wildlife Service and others. AR will send a representative.
- Development of the **NTTP Web site** is continuing with content and graphics being added. Karrie gave a presentation on the TT web page at the OSM meeting in Golden CO July 31. The Web address is [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov).

### NTTP Report

- We are working on the **schedule for FY 2008 courses** which will be finalized by mid-September. We expect to hold approximately 50 sessions and will likely not schedule courses until at least the second week in October due to changeover in the financial system and the strong possibility of a continuing resolution. When planning the schedule and budget, we will include funding for regional workshops and IMCC benchmarkings.
- The **Instructor Training Course** is tentatively scheduled for the week of November 4-7, 2007. We expect to hold two **Master Instructor Forums** in FY 08.
- The **Instructor Advisory Council** met by phone this week. The Council has done an outstanding job of developing a joint recruitment brochure for NTTP and TIPS as well as a four-tiered incentives award program. The Council has also made terrific progress on the TIPS/NTTP Career Series sequencing and matrices which will serve as a guide to students and their supervisors on what courses to take, and in what order.
- The **Engineering series** is complete. The **Hydrology and I& E series** are well underway. The next two series are GPS and attorneys. We will compile all series in a reference booklet and distribute them in the late Fall. We will recommend that they serve as a primary reference guide when completing the Needs Survey.
- We expect that the **revised Basic Inspection Workbook** will be sent to the printers/editors in the next two weeks. We are also working on a hard copy catalog since none has been printed since 2001.
- Al Whitehouse will be attending a meeting of the **Asia Pacific Conference** the week of August 21. Al serves as the head of the coal sector for this presidential initiative.

### TIPS Report

- TIPS will hold its **Annual Team Meeting** on July 17-19 in Kansas City, MO. The Team will respond to initiatives identified by the TIPS Steering Committee at their meeting in May, and set priorities for the FY 08 TIPS budget.
- The latest remote sensing initiative that TIPS is sponsoring involves the **Indiana Bat Habitat study** developed by MCR.
- TIPS will sponsor a **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta, GA on March 24-28, 2008. Information can be found on the TIPS website ([www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)).

### HEADQUARTERS Report

- **Indiana Bats**-Headquarters is coordinating the collection of information from each region. This information will be used to prepare OSM's Director for a meeting with FWS. Information has not been received from the ARCC or the WRCC to date.
- A **Minority Higher Education outreach program** has been developed between EEO and the Program Support Directorate. Headquarters personnel will be meeting with these institutions to discuss the Applied Science Program, the development of coursework, and various partnerships that can be developed between OSM and the institutions.
- **CCB Rule**-A package is planned to be put into surname by the end of September. The NEPA process is currently underway. The ad-hoc team will be meeting in Washington, DC on August 22-23.
- **Stream Buffer Zone**- The inter-agency review process is complete. The EIS and Rule are in the final stages and almost ready for publication.

### IMCC Report

- **Underground Mine Mapping** -- Regional Workshop in Morgantown, WV will be held August 14 and 15. We are expecting about 17 attendees and about 6 instructors.
- **Surface and Ground Water Database Development and Use** -- is tentatively set for December 4 and 5 in New Orleans. Notice of the workshop will be sent out shortly with a detailed agenda to follow.
- **IMCC Meetings** -- the Mid-Year meeting is set for October 16 and 17 in Park City, UT. OSM's CLT will be meeting during this time as well. The IMCC 2008 Annual Meeting will be held May 18 - 21 in Teton Village (near Jackson), WY.
- **OSM Oversight Hearing** -- the Oversight Hearing on the implementation of SMCRA held by the House Natural Resources Committee on July 25 went fairly well. The list of witnesses included representatives from OSM, the states, the UMW, environmental/citizen groups, and industry.

### WEIB Report

- The western states and OSM management will be meeting in Denver August 28 and 29, 2007. WIEB and IMCC continue to work nationally to secure new/additional funds in the forthcoming OSM budget for Title V grants.

### Exhibit Schedule

The TT calendar will be revised to include the OSM exhibit plan.

- Taste of Colorado Denver, CO September 1-4 by WR
- Coal Mining and the Aquatic Environment Blacksburg, VA September 5-7 by AR
- NASLR Asheville, NC September 9-12 AR
- [NAAML P Bloomington, IN October 8-10 by MCR \(National Coordination\)](#)
- Geological Society of America Denver, CO October 28-30 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 3-4 by MCR
- [ASMR 2008 \(National Coordination\)](#)

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- **Applied Science Project Selection FY 2007.** We received 29 proposals. 11 projects were approved by the CLT. Letters were sent to all proposers who were not selected thanking them for their participation. Due to complications with FBMS, awarding funds has been delayed but should be corrected soon and funds distributed.
- **Applied Science Final Reports for FY 2005 and FY 2006.** The first quarterly report for Applied Science projects for 2007 was due April 30. We are still missing the status of many of these projects. The second quarter reports are due July 31. The CLT is very concerned about the small number of completed projects and needs to make sure that unfinished projects are completed in a timely manner and that progress reports are being communicated as required.

#### **2005 Missing Project Status**

OSM	Project Title	Missing Report	Tech Rep
HDQ	<b>Inter-laboratory Evaluation of Draft Kinetic Test: Procedure for Prediction of Coal Mine Drainage Quality</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Maria Mitchell</b>
AR	<b>Investigation of Alternatives for Restoring Headwater Streams via Sediment Pond Removal in the Appalachian Coal Belt Region</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Don Stump</b>
AR	<b>Development of a Field Procedure to Evaluate the Reforestation Potential of Reclaimed Surface-Mined Land</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Michael Bower</b>
AR	<b>Demonstrate the Potential for Large-Scale Carbon Sequestration by Reforestation of Mined Lands Using Managed Forests</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Michael Bower</b>
AR	<b>Development of Rapid Assessment Protocols for Beneficial Use of Post-2000 Coal Combustion Products in Virginia Coal Mines</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Lois Uranowski</b>
AR	<i>Determining the Eco-toxicological Recovery of Black Creek (Wise County) and Ely Creek (Lee County) after Watershed Restoration of abandoned Mine Lands and Acid Mine Drainage</i>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Craig Walker</b>
AR	<b>Geospatial Technologies For Regulatory Oversight On Mining And Reclamation Operations</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Lois Uranowski</b>
AR	<i>Monitoring and Exploration for Flooded Pools in the Pittsburgh Coal Basin of Northern West Virginia</i>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Tom Gayla</b>
AR	<i>Stream Dewatering Project- Underground mine Subsidence And Its Influence on Stream Flow at High and Low Base Flow Conditions</i>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Jay Hawkins</b>

#### **2006 Missing Project Status**

HDQ	<b>Robotic Survey and Mapping of Mines</b>	1st Quarter 2007	<b>Maria Mitchell</b>
MCR	<b>Improved Static Test Prediction of Acid</b>	1st Quarter	<b>Paul Behum</b>

	<b>Generation Potential: A Surface Analysis Approach.</b>	2007	
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- **Applied Science Reporting Guidelines** At the July OSM TT meeting a work group was formed lead by (Tonya Blackburn?) to develop these guidance documents.
- **Applied Science Solicitation FY 2008.** The CLT has directed that we get the solicitation out by October 2007. The team reached a concensus on a number of revisions to the solicitation during the call. The revised solicitation will be sent out with the conference call summary. Please respond with comments or corrections by **August 20.**
- **OSM TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER MEETING** – The OSM staff met in Golden, CO July 31 thru August 1, 2007. The team made substantial progress on enhancements to the applied science program, exhibits, and technology transfer products & services.
- The next **NTTT annual meeting** will be February 20-21, 2008.

Next conference call will be September 5, 2007 1 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY  
September 5, 2007

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski  
HDQ – Josh Rockwell  
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)  
WR – Paul Clark  
NTTP – Al Whitehouse  
TIPS – Lou Hamm  
IMCC – Greg Conrad  
WEIB –

WR Report

- Western Region Tech Transfer participated in the **Taste of Colorado** public outreach event over Labor Day weekend. Approximately 10,000 event attendees stopped by the mining exhibit to ask questions, pick up educational outreach literature, and free samples of coal and reclamation seed mixture.
- The **Western States Leadership Conference** was held for managers in Denver on August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. WRTT presented a summary of team activities and accomplishments over the past year, as well as developmental plans and vision for the next year.
- WRTT represented OSM at a **career fair for the Navajo Nation**.
- WRTT is in the process of awarding the successful Applied Science Project and Underground Mine Mapping Project via **Cooperative Agreements for FY07**. WRTT is concurrently in the process of closing out completed Applied Science and Underground Mine Mapping Projects from FY06.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining Revised Recovery Plan Workshop**. On August 29 MCR prepared a briefing paper for the Director in anticipation of a possible meeting between OSM & USFWS.
- The **MCR PHC/CHIA resource document** is complete. Paper copies are being produced by Karrie at AR will be sent to all of the MCR state program directors. It will then be made available electronically on our Website and TT CD.
- The MCR regional team continues planning an **AML AMD workshop in Illinois** for September 11-13, 2007 in Collinsville, IL.
- **Illinois Mining Institute** August 21 Springfield, IL. MCR staff presented a talk on the status of CCB rulemaking. Meeting was well attended by Industry and Industry equipment suppliers.

- The MCR will provide an exhibit at the **Texas Surface Mine Reclamation Workshop** in College Station October 4-5.
- The MCR will take the lead in preparing an exhibit for the **NAAMLPL annual meeting** in Bloomington, IN October 8-10. MCR will also be providing several technical talks and leading a panel discussion.
- **Geological Society of America** October 28-30 Denver CO. MCR staff will present a paper on CCBs in Coal Mining to Mitigate AMD.
- **Indiana Society of Mining & Reclamation Symposium** December 3-5, 2007 Jasper, IN. MCR staff will present a talk on the status of the Indiana bat.

#### AR Report:

- **AR TT Team Meeting** September 17-19, 2007 at Canaan Valley Resort, Davis WV. Presentations on technical assistance and Applied Science Projects will be included in the agenda.
- **Coal Mining and the Aquatic Environment**, September 5-7, 2007, Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Abingdon, VA sponsored by Nature Conservancy, Fish and Wildlife Service and others. AR will send a representative.
- Plans for the upcoming NAAMLPL annual meeting are being developed.
- Development of the **NTT Web site** is continuing with content and graphics being added. The NTTT Web team monthly conference call is scheduled for Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> with team members to discuss the final content. The Web address is [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov).

#### NTTP Report

- We expect to hold two **Master Instructor Forums** in FY 08.
- NTTP is working on the **course schedule for FY 2008**. The schedule will be distributed in mid-September to NTTP and TIPS training contacts and posted on the OSM website.
- The only **Instructor Training Course (ITC)** for this year will be held on November 4-8 in Leesburg, VA. Please let Sarah know if you have nominees for this course.

#### TIPS Report

- TIPS will sponsor a **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta, GA on March 24-28, 2008. Information can be found on the TIPS website ([www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)). The registration site for the Geospatial conference in March will be available in a few days and formal advertising for the conference will commence.
- TIPS will institute new procedures for **TIPS Training classes** beginning with the fiscal year. At that time all TIPS classes will purchase a block of rooms for the students so that state and tribal students will not be expected to use their own personal credit card to pay for their lodging until they are reimbursed. Voucher preparation will be done by Training Coordinators on site as in the past.
- The **Western States Leadership meeting** was conducted in Denver last week. State leaders expressed concerns regarding rulemaking, and grants, among other issues. One

other issue was succession planning especially with regard to replacing necessary skill sets with the anticipated retirement of OSM and State personnel

### HEADQUARTERS Report

- **Indiana Bats-** Indiana Bats-Headquarters is coordinating the collection of information from each region. This information will be used to prepare OSM's Director for a meeting with FWS. Information has not been received from the ARCC or the WRCC to date.
- **CCB Rule-**The ad-hoc team met in Washington DC and with EPA on August 22-23.
- **Vacancy-**The HQ Hydrologist (12/13/14) position is currently being advertised. The advertisement closes September 28<sup>th</sup>.

### IMCC Report

- **Underground Mine Mapping Regional Workshop** -- the combined West Virginia/Kentucky regional benchmarking workshop on underground mine mapping held on August 15 and 16 in Morgantown, WV went very well. There were 20 participants and the average rating for the workshop was 4.5 out of 5. Participants especially appreciated the cross-pollination (for lack of a better term) between the two programs.
- **Benchmarking Workshop on Surface and Ground Water Database Development and Use in Mining Programs** -- is scheduled for December 4 and 5 in New Orleans. The hotel has been contracted for and the presenters are confirmed and will be meeting via conference call in early September to map out the final agenda. A mailing regarding logistics, agenda and registration will be sent out before the end of September.
- **IMCC Meetings** -- the Mid-Year meeting is set for October 16 and 17 in Park City, UT. OSM's CLT will be meeting during this time as well. The IMCC 2008 Annual Meeting will be held May 18 - 21 in Teton Village (near Jackson), WY.

### WEIB Report

### Exhibit Schedule

The TT calendar will be revised to include the OSM exhibit plan.

- Coal Mining and the Aquatic Environment Blacksburg, VA September 5-7 by AR
- NASLR Asheville, NC September 9-12 AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 4-5 by MCR
- [NAAML P Bloomington, IN October 8-10 by MCR \(National Coordination\)](#)
- Geological Society of America Denver, CO October 28-30 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 3-4 by MCR
- [ASMR Richmond, VA June 2008 by AR \(National Coordination\)](#)

Next conference call will be October 2, 2007 at 1 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY  
October 2, 2007

Participants

AR – Nancy Pointon  
HDQ – Fred Block, Joshua Rockwell  
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)  
WR – Duane Matt  
NTTP –  
TIPS – Lou Hamm  
IMCC –  
WEIB –

WR Report

- WR has been collaborating with MCR and AR for the upcoming **NAAML P conference**. All discussions are finished and the materials are to be mailed to the conference tomorrow.
- WR is collaborating with MCR and AR for the upcoming **GSA conference** to be held in Denver, CO. Collaboration is ongoing.
- OSMRE participated in the annual **Hispanic Engineering and Science Organization's career fair(s)** the end of September in both Albuquerque, NM and Socorro, NM.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** Will be begin working with the steering committee to plan for a forum in FY 2009.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee will have its first conference call October 18 to begin planning for a forum in FY 2009.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** Will be begin working with the steering committee to plan for a forum.
- The **MCR PHC/CHIA resource document** has been published with copies provided to the MCR SRAs. It is also available electronically on our Website and TT CD.
- **AML AMD workshop in Illinois** for September 11-13, 2007 in Collinsville, IL. There were 31 participants. **Larry Lewis** reported that the presentations, discussions, and field exercises went very well. It was a quality event with much to offer our technical staff working on AML AMD sites. **Nick Grant** reported that the power points of the talks have all been posted on the MCR website at [www.mcrc.org](http://www.mcrc.org). He also reported that the participant surveys gave the event a 4.5/5 Overall Satisfaction Rating.
- The MCR will provide an exhibit at the **Texas Surface Mine Reclamation Workshop** in College Station October 4-5 featuring an exhibit on the OSM 30 year anniversary.
- The MCR will take the lead in preparing an exhibit for the **NAAML P annual meeting** in Bloomington, IN October 8-10. MCR will also be providing several technical talks and leading a panel discussion. OSM will also provide three instructors for a workshop on **Stream and Wetland Management**.

- **Geological Society of America** October 28-30 Denver CO. MCR staff will present a paper on CCBs in Coal Mining to Mitigate AMD.
- **Indiana Society of Mining & Reclamation Symposium** December 3-5, 2007 Jasper, IN. MCR staff will present a talk on the status of the Indiana bat and provide a technology transfer exhibit.

#### AR Report:

ARTT just had their semi-annual meeting in Canaan Valley WV on Sept 18-20. Some highlights:

- The team reached consensus to add a **Title 4(AML) representative** to the team. This person would represent the Appalachia States in AML technical developments and provide insight into AML areas that Technology Transfer can play a part. The team will hear recommendations as to who would best fit this seat on our next monthly conference call in November, 2007.
- the team voted to consider a **blasting tech transfer event in FY 08** however the venue has not been determined. Blasting has several components, one of which is technical.
- The WV FOD, Roger Calhoun, headed a talk on Field Issues and received a request from the team to pursue **coordination with MSHA as a Field Issues Topic**, specifically on availability of underground mine maps. This is a multi-agency multi-state concern with several state and federal agencies involved.
- **Technical Presentations** included AML technical assistance, OSM update on studies of endangered Mussel species, and Kinetic Test Procedure for the Prediction of Coal Mine Drainage Quality (The PA Leaching Study)

Ordered a number of new TT items for FY'08 that have the NTTTT name and web page.

Lois will be at the NAAMLPL conference next week working with the other 2 regions at the NTT booths.

Karrie, Nick and Delva are inputting content on the web site. The problem with connectivity has been resolved with help from HQ.

#### NTTP Report

- The **NTTP Course schedule** and space allocation was distributed to our 65 training contacts last week. The schedule and allocation will be posted on OSM's webpage to give all easier access to this information, including updates. We have 52 regularly scheduled course sessions and will continue to support IMCC benchmarkings and regional forums in FY 2008. Those interested in joint sponsorship should contact Sarah Donnelly.
- The quarterly conference call for the **Instructor Advisory Council** was held this week. The council is making excellent progress on the Instructor Incentives Program and Instructor Recruitment brochure and on the Career Series delineations. We expect to complete the Career Series guidance this year and to distribute in booklet format to all State, Tribal, and OSM supervisors.

- The **Instructor Training Course** will be held on Nov. 4-8 in Leesburg, VA. We are anticipating 22-24 students.
- Two sessions of the **Master Instructor Forum** will be held this year (in January and April). Nominees will be recommended by NTTP and TIPS course managers as well as the Instructor Advisory Council. Since many NTTT members are also involved in the training programs, please let Sarah know if you would like to nominate anyone to attend the class. We will take 16 students in each session. Both sessions will be held in San Antonio.

### TIPS Report

- Abstracts for the **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta, GA on March 24-28, 2008 are being received. TIPS Service Managers are encouraged to continue to solicit more submittals from SMCRA institutions. Information can be found on the TIPS website at ([www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)).
- TIPS will institute new procedures for **TIPS Training classes** beginning with the fiscal year. At that time all TIPS classes will purchase a block of rooms for the students so that state and tribal students will not be expected to use their own personal credit card to pay for their lodging until they are reimbursed. Voucher preparation will be done by Training Coordinators on site as in the past.

### HEADQUARTERS Report

- **Indiana Bats**-Headquarters has received input from the regions and is in the process of setting up a meeting with FWS.
- Vacancy-The **HQ Hydrologist** (12/13/14) position closed last week.
- **Minority College Outreach**-HQ recently completed a "road-show" with regard to tech transfer and possible partnerships. The Applied Science program was also detailed and the institutions are looking forward to providing proposals.
- **Underground Mine Mapping**-A conference call with the Underground Mine Map Steering Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 4. The meeting will produce a final draft of the FY'08 Solicitation for proposals. The final date for proposal submission has been pushed back to January 2. Ranking/Rating has been pushed back to February 7. Solicitation distribution will take place next week.
- **Annual Report**-Any partnerships that should be identified and promoted in the Annual Report should be described and sent to John Craynon for inclusion.
- **Migratory Birds**-Headquarters is setting up a meeting with FWS to propose the creation of an MOU with regard to Migratory Birds.

### IMCC Report

- **Benchmarking Workshop on Surface and Ground Water Database Development and Use in Mining Programs** -- is scheduled for December 4 and 5 in New Orleans. Registration information has now been sent out. I would appreciate your efforts in making sure that folks are aware of this workshop.

- **IMCC Meetings** -- the Mid-Year meeting is set for October 16 and 17 in Park City, UT. The IMCC 2008 Annual Meeting will be held May 18 - 21 in Teton Village (near Jackson), WY.

#### WEIB Report

- The **Western States/OSM management meeting** occurred on August 28-29. Discussions focused on Title V funding, Reg 8 reporting, AML fund distribution procedures, pending rulemakings. Presentations were also provided by TIPS and representatives from the WRTT.
- Discussions also emphasized the need to increase **western state project applications for Applied Science** monies.

#### Exhibit Schedule

The TT calendar will be revised to include the OSM exhibit plan.

- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 4-5 by MCR
- [NAAML P Bloomington, IN October 8-10 by MCR \(National Coordination\)](#)
- Geological Society of America, Denver, CO October 28-30 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 3-4 by MCR
- [ASMR Richmond, VA June 2008 by AR \(National Coordination\)](#)

Next conference call will be November 7, 2007 at 1 PM CST.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY  
November 7, 2007

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski  
HDQ – John Craynon  
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Nick Grant  
WR – Duane Matt  
NTTP – Al Whitehouse  
TIPS – Lou Hamm  
IMCC – Greg Conrad  
WEIB – Dave Berry

WR Report

- The **NAAML** meeting was a success. Our display was a national display this year and was well received by all. Lois and I both talked to the business group and told them about tech transfer and our goals.
- We attended the **GSA convention** in Denver, CO last week. Again, the booth was a success. We debuted our VLL (Very Large Laptops) and prominently displayed them to the world. We ran an ArcGIS demo plus showed folks our NTTT webpage. The GSA convention was the largest convention we've attended this year.
- We are participating in the **National State Teachers Association conference** this week.
- We are participating in the **Adams County Career fair** next week.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee to plan for a forum will hold its first conference call November 27. MCR & AR management have begun discussions with FWS management on ways to improve consistency between FWS districts.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee held its first conference call October 18 to begin planning for a forum in FY 2009.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee held its first conference call to begin planning for a forum on November 6.
- **Geological Society of America** October 28-30 Denver CO. MCR staff presented a paper on CCBs in Coal Mining to Mitigate AMD. The session included a number of talks from important CCB speakers.
- **Indiana Society of Mining & Reclamation Symposium** December 3-5, 2007 Jasper, IN. MCR staff will present a talk on the status of the Indiana bat, a workshop on Habitat assessment, a workshop on bioassessment of streams, a workshop on water data collection, and provide a technology transfer exhibit.

### AR Report:

- ARTT completed the **National Chemistry Week** outreach event (October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>) at the Carnegie Science Center where over 2000 students, teachers, parents and public were treated to demonstrations and hands-on experiments about acid mine drainage.
- In line with our endeavor to include **more AML in ARTT**, Lois spoke at the NAAMLPLP business meeting on October 11th in Bloomington, IN. The objective was two-fold: to encourage their submission of Applied Science Proposals and to obtain a Title 4 member on the ARTT Team. John Carey from MDBOM was selected for a one-year term to be that representative.
- **NTTT Website:** Decision was made to post the notes from every NTTT conference call and meeting. TT Calendar to include all events listed on Fred Block's NTTT calendar. Limited interest meetings will be so noted.

### NTTP Report

- No Report this month.

### TIPS Report

- Abstracts for the **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta, GA on March 24-28, 2008 are under review and consideration for final acceptance and grouping into topical subject themes for the conference. Information can be found on the TIPS website at ([www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)).
- We are beginning an initiative to develop a new informational video about the work that OSM does. The intent is to produce a DVD about five to ten minutes in length describing OSM's mission and showing various employees carrying out that mission in many of the vocations that OSM employs. The video could be used at recruitment activities, Technology Transfer events, or to distribute to the public.

### HEADQUARTERS Report

- **Indiana Bats**-Headquarters has received input from the regions and is in the process of setting up a meeting with FWS and advising on discussions at the Secretary of Interior level.
- **Minority College Outreach**- Looking for participation in the Applied Science program and with the Geospatial conference this year.
- **Underground Mine Mapping**-A conference call with the Underground Mine Map Steering Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 4. The meeting will produce a final draft of the FY'08 Solicitation for proposals. The final date for proposal submission has been pushed back to January 2. Ranking/Rating has been pushed back to February 7. Solicitation distribution will take place next week.

- **Migratory Birds**-Headquarters is setting up a meeting with FWS to propose the creation of an MOU with regard to Migratory Birds.
- **OSM Website** OSM has begun working on a completely new website. The ITMT team wants to develop technical web pages that would be combined with the tech transfer website.
- **CCB Rule** The draft proposed rule has been developed and sent to the States for discussion. The draft preamble should be ready soon.

### IMCC Report

- **IMCC Mid-Year Meeting** -- was held on October 16 and 17 in Park City, UT. In addition to IMCC member states, OSM Director Brent Wahlquist and the three Regional Directors attended. Several issues of common interest were discussed including OSM's proposed rules implementing the 2006 AML amendments; funding for state Title V and IV programs; pending OSM rulemakings; coal combustion wastes; blaster certification; PHC/CHIA resource document; NPDES permits at bond forfeiture sites; and regional protection plans for threatened and endangered species.
- **Benchmarking Workshop** -- Plans are in place for IMCC's benchmarking workshop on "**Surface and Ground Water Database Development and Use in Mining Regulatory Programs**" to be held on December 4 and 5 in New Orleans. Approximately 55 state and federal government agency personnel are expected. There will be 12 presentations during the workshop from various states and from OSM. Registration information is available from IMCC.

### WEIB Report

- WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC on various national and regional issues including Title V grants, AML, OSM proposed rulemakings, training and benchmarking efforts. WIEB continues to encourage more involvement from western interests with the Applied Science process.

### Exhibit Schedule

The TT calendar will be revised to include the OSM exhibit plan.

- Geological Society of America, Denver, CO October 28-30 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 3-4 by MCR
- Geospatial Forum, Atlanta, Georgia March 24-28, 2008 by TIPS?
- [ASMR Richmond, VA June 2008 by AR \(National Coordination\)](#)

Next conference call will be December 18, 2007 at 1 PM CST.

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CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY  
December 18, 2007

Participants

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MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Nick Grant, Len Meier, Bill Joseph

CLT – Brent Wahlquist, Erv Barchenger

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WEIB –

Director Comments

Brent Wahlquist addressed the group outlining his goals for the agency in terms of the Applied Science program. He asked the NTTT to identify priority areas that would focus the Applied Science Solicitation on an annual basis on national themes that would support these goals for FY 2009 and beyond. The task of identifying the themes resides with the NTTT. Themes might be different from year to year and might include, for example, reclamation/Reforestation in one year and water quality in another year. Examples of topics in the Reclamation/reforestation theme might include:

- Establishment of forests for the future on reclaimed land
- Restoration of the American Chestnut on reclaimed land
- Promotion of natural ecosystems following mining through promoting biodiversity
- Improved methods for determination of revegetation success

WR Report

- We continue to assist with getting our customers all the information they need to get their **Applied Science Cooperative Agreements/Underground Cooperative Agreements** submitted on time.
- Duane has been tasked with reviewing or assisting with two different **technical documents**: 1. “Coal Research and Development” report done by the national research council, and, 2. “Environments Protection Standards and Practices” being done by the national commission on energy policy.
- Tonya attended the **Autodesk University conference**.
- Paul worked on the **TIPS and TMD budget**. He also is reviewing the FAM.
- All the service managers continue with their normal duties.
- Lori Windle is working on a national **“what does OSMRE do?” video**. She is also continuing to work on the “30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SMCRA” video. TMD was told to give Lori ideas on any tech transfer issues/projects we may have to give her.

## MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee to plan for a forum held its first conference call November 27. Regional inconsistencies continue. A forum is being planned for FY 2009 with a one day field trip and a two day forum. Looking at sites in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** At its most recent conference call the steering committee continued investigating locations in both the eastern and western U.S. The forum is planned to occur after the release of the OSM final rule sometime in 2009.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event in 2009 and looking at sites near Charleston WV and Bristol, VA.
- **Reforestation** – The MCR is planning to conduct a survey of Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for a regional AMD AML workshop similar to the one held in Illinois in 2007. It would be located near Fort Smith AR in September of 2008.
- **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. A letter of intent has been drafted and sent to HDQ for signature.

## AR Report:

- **Appalachia Region Tech Transfer** is in the planning status for activities for 2008 including sponsoring the ASMR conference in Richmond, VA (June 14-19, 2008), ARTT AML workshop in October/November, ARRI conference in August, 2 ARTT team meetings, and attendance/sponsorship of other venues.
- **Final reports from two 2005 Applied Science Projects** are now available: “Demonstrate the Potential for Large-Scale Carbon Sequestration by Reforestation of Mined Lands Using Managed Forests” (*James Burger, VA Tech*) and “Development of a Field Procedure to Evaluate the Reforestation Potential of Reclaimed Surface-Mined Land” (*Richard Sweigard, University of Kentucky*)

## NTTP Report

- OSM will begin an international educational effort in Guatemala on mine inspection and small scale mining.

## TIPS Report

- Abstracts for the **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta, GA on March 24-28, 2008 are under review and consideration for final acceptance and grouping into topical subject themes for the conference. Information can be found on the TIPS website at ([www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)).

## HEADQUARTERS Report

- Several **MHEI schools** (Spelman College, Florida International University, Florida A&M) have contacted HQ about participation in the applied science program. They have sent abstracts for a total of 7 possible proposals and are seeking input on getting endorsement letters from state regulatory or AML agencies.
- Work is progressing on development of an **MOU with the migratory bird program** of the FWS. The MOU would focus on OSM's commitment to work with FWS on ways to enhance protection of habitat and migratory birds as a part of the surface mining program.
- HQ is working with the AR and the MCR on scheduling a meeting with FWS regional personnel related to **Indiana bats and other T&E species issues**. The meeting is currently tentatively scheduled for mid-February in Atlanta.

## IMCC Report

- IMCC sponsored a benchmarking workshop on **Surface and Ground Water Database Development and Use** in State Mining Regulatory Programs on December 4 and 5 in New Orleans. There were 55 attendees from 21 states and two tribes, as well as representatives from OSM and the Ground Water Protection Council. The workshop received an overall rating of 4.6 out of 5, with 30 of 51 respondents giving the workshop a 5 and 35 of 51 respondents rating the workshop as highly useful or essential to their work. IMCC will be distributing a CD with all of the powerpoint presentations in early January.

## WEIB Report

- No report this month.

## Exhibit Schedule

The TT calendar will be revised to include the OSM exhibit plan.

- Geospatial Forum, Atlanta, Georgia March 24-28, 2008 by TIPS
- [ASMR Richmond, VA June 2008 by AR \(National Coordination\)](#)
- [GSA Houston, TX October 5-8, 2008 by MCR \(National Coordination\)](#)

Next conference call will be January 17, 2008 at 1 PM CST.