

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
January 17, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski

HDQ –

MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader),

CLT –

WR – Duane Matt

NTTP – Ann Walker, Al Whitehouse

TIPS –

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

WR Report

- Our technical transfer team will be reviewing all of the **applied science proposals** (including all of the underground proposals).
- Our instructors will be working with Veronika Eskova regarding the **TIPS blending learning initiative**.
- We are in the process of revising our **technical assistance request process**.
- We will be attending both the SME conference February 12-14, 2008 in Salt Lake City and the NWMC/CMA conferences in Denver February 24-27, 2008. Web access for registration is at the following:

SME: <http://www.smenet.org/meetings/details/?meeting=2008%20SME%20Annual%20Meeting%20%26%20Exhibit>

NWMC/CMA: http://www.coloradomining.org/nu_conferences.php

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held sometime in FY 2009 with a one day field trip and a two day forum. The team is investigating sites in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. This may become complicated by a recent petition from the Southern Environmental Law Center requesting OSM and USFWS to revisit the 1996 Biological Opinion over concerns related to protecting species associated with Mountain Top Mining in Appalachia.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held sometime in FY 2009 after the OSM CCB final rule is published. The steering committee continues to investigate locations in both the eastern and western U.S.
- **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 the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. The letter of intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008.
- **Coal Ash Professional Training Course (EERC)** Kim Vories will be an instructor at this course in San Antonio, TX March 11-13, 2008. His talk will be on the regulatory and technical issues related to CCB placement at coal mines.
- **Beneficial Use of Industrial Materials Summit** Kim Vories was asked by EPA Solid Waste to be a speaker at this event in Denver, CO March 31-April 3, 2008. His talk will be on the regulatory and technical issues related to CCB placement at coal mines.

AR Report:

- **ARTT team meeting** is set for February 12-13, 2008 in Columbus OH. The main purpose is to develop ranking of the 2008 Applied Science proposals. The September 2008 ARTT Team meeting to be scheduled
- Appalachia Region is planning a number of Technology Transfer Events in 2008. Technology Transfer displays and presentations are planned for:
 - Engineer's Week- February 15-16, 2008, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA.
 - West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting, April 22-23, 2008, Morgantown, WV
 - American Society of Mine Reclamation (ASMR) June 16-19, 2008, Richmond VA
 - Pa Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, August 12-14, 2008, State College, PA
 - National Chemistry Week, October, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA

ARTT team has requested OSM develop a blasting venue; ARTT Team to discuss scope of this event and coordination with other entities at their February meeting. Anticipated date for the event is November 2008.

NTTP Report

- NTTP is doing an analysis to determine how feasible it is to offer ix **unscheduled courses for the State of Ohio new hires**.
- NTTP is doing the final layout work on the **career series course listings booklet** to be used by both TIPS and NTTP course participants. The Incentives Program and Recruitment Brochure is ready for implementation.

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).

HEADQUARTERS Report

- 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 February 13 in Atlanta.

IMCC Report

- No new developments to report. IMCC is in the process of reviewing and providing input on the applied science proposals for FY 08.

WEIB Report

- No new initiatives or activities to report at this time. Review of Applied Science proposals will occur by the deadline, and hopefully in coordination with the WRTT review activities.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- SME conference, Salt Lake City February 12-14, 2008 by WR
- Engineer's Week, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA February 15-16, 2008 by AR
- NWMC/CMA conferences, Denver February 24-27, 2008 by WR
- Geospatial Forum, Atlanta, Georgia March 24-28, 2008 by TIPS
- West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting, Morgantown April 22-23, 2008 by AR
- ASMR Richmond, VA June 16-19, 2008 by AR (National Coordination)
- Pa Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR
- GSA Houston, TX October 5-8, 2008 by MCR (National Coordination)
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR

ACTION ITEMS

- **Applied Science Final Reports for FY 2005 and FY 2006.** Quarterly technical reports are due to Kim Vories by April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31. Technical reports that are missing are as follows:
- **Applied Science Reporting Guidelines** At the July OSM TT meeting, a work group was formed lead by **Lois Uranowski** to develop these guidance documents. The group began working on this the last week of September.
- **Applied Science Solicitation FY 2008.** Thanks to the efforts of Lois & Arielle from AR the Web Access to the proposals is now up and running.
- The **NTTT annual meeting** will be February 20-21, 2008. The revised agenda is attached.

Next conference call will be established at our annual meeting February 20-21, 2008.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
February 20-21, 2008

Participants

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

WR Report

- WR will be attending the NWMC/CMA conference in Denver February 24-27, 2008. Web access for registration is at the following:
NWMC/CMA: http://www.coloradomining.org/nu_conferences.php
- WR will be attending the Geospatial Conference the last week of March.
- WR will be hosting its annual regional technology transfer team meeting the week of April 21st in Santa Fe, NM. This meeting will involve all states and tribes as well as OSM field offices in the WR.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held sometime in FY 2009 with a one day field trip and a two day forum. The team is investigating sites in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. This may become complicated by a recent petition from the Southern Environmental Law Center requesting OSM and USFWS to revisit the 1996 Biological Opinion over concerns related to protecting species associated with Mountain Top Mining in Appalachia.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held sometime in FY 2009 after the OSM CCB final rule is published. The steering committee continues to investigate locations in both the eastern and western U.S.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event in 2009 near Bristol, VA.
- **Reforestation** – The MCR is planning to hold two meetings (Terre Haute, IN & Austin, TX) this summer with Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. The letter of

intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008. Ohio has made the decision to fund the research.

- **Coal Ash Professional Training Course (EERC)** Kim Vories will be an instructor at this course in San Antonio, TX March 11-13, 2008. His talk will be on the regulatory and technical issues related to CCB placement at coal mines.
- **Beneficial Use of Industrial Materials Summit** Kim Vories was asked by EPA Solid Waste to be a speaker at this event in Denver, CO March 31-April 3, 2008. His talk will be on the regulatory and technical issues related to CCB placement at coal mines.

AR Report:

- The ARTT team met on February 12-13, 2008 in Columbus Ohio. The priority of this meeting was to **rank the 2008 Applied Science Proposals**. Other business conducted included team reports, planning for future technology transfer venues, and discussion of the 2009 Applied Science initiative. The ARTT fall meeting dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop for November 2008**. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team will develop a survey to be sent to state blasting experts to determine priority topical sessions.
- The ARTT team has endorsed a **2009 AML technical workshop**, development of the technical sessions and logistics has commenced.
- OSM ARTT will have a **display at the West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting**, April 22-23, 2008, Morgantown, WV
- OSM NTTT will jointly be a **Gold Sponsor for the American Society of Mine Reclamation (ASMR) Conference** on June 16-19, 2008 in Richmond VA. It is anticipated that all three OSM regions will be present.
- ARTT will be a **sponsor for the Pennsylvania Watershed Coalition Annual Conference**, August 12-14, 2008 in State College, PA

NTTP Report

- NTTP is currently developing a new course on **Acid-Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden**.
- NTTP is continuing to determine ways to offer six **unscheduled courses for the State of Ohio new hires**.
- **OSM's Asia Pacific Partnership**. The Department of State will fund a short trip to India for two OSM people, Peter Michael and David Lane, to assist the Indian Government with waste pile slope stability problems they are having in two coalfields. Following the mine visits and consultations, the two will teach a short course on slope stability. The trip is planned for mid- April 2008.

TIPS Report

- TIPS is meeting about half of the **training requests** received. We do not have the Instructors, travel funding, and Administrative staff support to meet all requests. The TIPS training schedule is available on the TIPS website at www.tips.osmre.gov.

- The **Geospatial Conference** will take place on March 25-27 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. All things geospatial related the SMCRA both ongoing and proposed will be discussed. This meeting is also the annual meeting of the National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee's Data Stewards. Technology Transfer will have a booth at this conference. Managers in addition to technology specialists are encouraged to attend as the direction of geospatial data in SMCRA will be discussed. Information can be found on the TIPS website at (www.tips.osmre.gov).

HEADQUARTERS Report

- **Proposed Rule on CCB placement** in draft and solicitor review. Will send to Assistant Secretary in Early March and publish by the end of June.
- EPA plans to have a **proposed rule on non-SMCRA mine placement** on the same schedule.

IMCC Report

- No new items. IMCC is working on the development of **potential benchmarking workshops for 2008** and beyond, including electronic permitting and mine subsidence insurance programs. IMCC has expressed interest in working with OSM on a blasting conference. IMCC is also working on a noncoal minerals report that may be of interest to OSM and others. It should be published this spring.

WEIB Report

- The Western Interstate Energy Board, Reclamation Committee has broadened the scope and title for this committee. The new name is the **Energy Minerals Reclamation Committee**. This change occurred to accommodate consideration of the booming uranium industry in the western states. David Berry was appointed to be Chairman of the committee (replacing Rick Chancellor because Rick is the new the head of the Wyoming Title IV Program). Bill Brancard was appointed to be the Vice Chairman of the committee.
- WIEB will conduct an annual meeting in coordination with OSM management to be scheduled sometime in mid to late summer.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- NWMC/CMA conferences, Denver February 24-27, 2008 by WR
- Geospatial Forum, Atlanta, Georgia March 24-28, 2008 by TIPS
- West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting, Morgantown April 22-23, 2008 by AR
- ASMR Richmond, VA June 16-19, 2008 by AR (National Coordination)
- Pa Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR
- GSA Houston, TX October 5-8, 2008 by MCR (National Coordination)
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR

ACTION ITEMS

- **Applied Science Final Reports for FY 2005 and FY 2006.** Quarterly technical reports are due to Kim Vories by April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31. ALL QUARTERLY REPORTS ARE DUE FOR ALL PROPOSALS AS OF JANUARY 31, 2008!!!!
- **Applied Science Reporting Guidelines** At the July OSM TT meeting, a work group was formed lead by **Lois Uranowski** to develop these guidance documents.
- **Applied Science Solicitation FY 2008.** The team completed its consensus review of the 2008 proposals and submitted its recommendations to the CLT on February 21, 2008. **John Crayon** will provide statistical input on the solicitation process. **Erv Barchenger** will analyze the ranking results to determine if the review would have changed based on the entire team just ranking their top 15 priorities. **Kim Vories** will prepare a package of documents to transmit the 2008 results to the CLT.
- **Applied Science Technical Note Format** – **John Crayon** will develop a format for developing on page Technical Notes for completed Applied Science Projects.
- **Applied Science National Forum** – At the next conference call the team will continue to discuss ideas for a National Applied Science Forum focusing on accomplishments to date, value of products produced, and possible future directions.
- **Applied Science Solicitation for FY 2009** – **Lois Uranowski** will obtain a solicitor review of the non-disclosure document. **Greg Conrad and Dave Berry** need to obtain state input on the proposal to focus FY 2009 and beyond solicitations on specific high priority issues in time for a decision prior to the FY 2009 solicitation.
- **Annual OSM Internal Technology Transfer Team Meeting** – **John Crayon** will work on obtaining a meeting room and other logisitics so that the team could meet either the week of July 21 or August 11. Potential agenda items includes improvements in exhibits, future workshops and forums, technical notes and other formats and mechanisms to distribute Applied Science Results, improving outreach, and plans for the ASMR Symposium in Billings Montana in 2009.

Next conference call will be March 19, 2008 at 1:00 PM CST.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
March 19, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski

HDQ – Fred Block

MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Nick Grant

CLT –

WR – Duane Matt

NTTP –

TIPS – Lou Hamm

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

WR Report

- **An “all hands” inspector meeting** took place the week of February 19-22, 2008. One of the meeting highlights was a presentation on Geomorphic Reclamation (given by our engineer and hydrologist). Other field related issues such as consistency, workload and use of technology in the field were also discussed.
- OSM held a **workshop on GIS/GPS** for the state of WY.
- The **WRTT annual conference** is still slated for the week of April 21st. Final plans for the conference are almost complete.
- Everyone in WRTT finished up working on planning for the upcoming **Geospatial conference!**

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in the summer of 2009 in the Charleston/Beckley WV area with a half day field trip and a two and half day forum.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held July 14-16, or 21-23 of 2009 in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30 or 21-23, 2009 near Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Reforestation** – The MCR is planning to hold two meetings (June 26, Terre Haute, IN & July 22, Austin, TX) with Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. The letter of intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008. Ohio has made the decision to fund the research.

- **Beneficial Use of Industrial Materials Summit** Kim Vories was asked by EPA Solid Waste to be a speaker at this event in Denver, CO March 31-April 3, 2008. His talk will be on the regulatory and technical issues related to CCB placement at coal mines.

AR Report:

- **A 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- OSM ARTT will have a **display at the West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting**, April 22-23, 2008, Morgantown, WV
- OSM NTTT will jointly be a **Gold Sponsor for the American Society of Mine Reclamation (ASMR) Conference** on June 16-19, 2008 in Richmond VA. It is anticipated that all three OSM regions will jointly run the display and represent NTTT.
- The **ARRI conference** will be August 5-7 at Chief Logan State Park in WV. Information circulars will be mailed in a few weeks.
- ARTT will be a **sponsor for the Pennsylvania Watershed Coalition Annual Conference**, August 12-14, 2008 in State College, PA
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is developing an topical agenda and meeting logistics.

NTTP Report

- No report.

TIPS Report

- The **Geospatial Conference** will take place on March 25-27 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. All things geospatial related the SMCRA both ongoing and proposed will be discussed. This meeting is also the annual meeting of the **National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee's Data Stewards**. Technology Transfer will have a booth at this conference. Managers in addition to technology specialists are encouraged to attend as the direction of geospatial data in SMCRA will be discussed. Information can be found on the TIPS website at (www.tips.osmre.gov).
- Billie Clark and Lou Hamm served as guest speakers in the **ITMT meeting** this morning to discuss the business needs of OSM in relation to increased security mandates from the Department of the Interior. These mandates are beginning to severely impact the ability for business to be conducted in OSM and other agencies in Interior. The full support of TIPS was offered in an effort to document the effect on business and to support efforts by the OCIO to communicate the issues to the Department.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- The recommendations for FY'08 UGMM project funding has been forwarded to the AD-PS. Memos have been created for notifying the successful and unsuccessful applicants of the funding outcomes.
- Aided the WR in manning the Tech Transfer booth at the annual SME Convention.

IMCC Report

- IMCC has recently scheduled several future meeting dates and sites. The **2008 Mid-Year Meeting** will be in St. Louis at the Crowne Plaza Downtown Hotel on November 18 and 19. The **2009 Annual Meeting** will be held at the Captain Cook Hotel in downtown Anchorage, Alaska from April 26 - 29.
- Both IMCC and WIEB are soliciting input from their respective member states regarding whether the **Applied Science program should focus on 1 - 3 national priorities** for future solicitations, or whether we should leave the field fairly open for a larger variety of topics and proposals. State input is requested by April 1.
- IMCC will run the idea of a **National NTTT Forum** by the member states at the upcoming annual meeting in May in Jackson, WY. If the states feel that a forum is necessary, IMCC will consider organizing this, in cooperation with OSM. We will also discuss the value and use of "Technical Notes" in place of (or in addition to) a National Forum. Hopefully we will have a prototype of the technical notes by the May meeting.

WEIB Report

- No new WIEB events at this time. Gathering state comments regarding the issue of Applied Science prioritization, comments due April 1.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- Geospatial Forum, Atlanta, Georgia March 24-28, 2008 by TIPS
- West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting, Morgantown April 22-23, 2008 by AR
- ASMR Richmond, VA June 16-19, 2008 by AR (National Coordination)
- PA Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR
- GSA Houston, TX October 5-8, 2008 (National Coordination)
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAMLCP Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR

Next conference call will be April 18, 2008 at 9:00 AM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
April 18, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
CLT – Brent Wahlquist, Sterling Rideout
WR – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Ann Walker
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry

WR Report

- The **Annual Meeting of the Western Region Technical Team** will take place next week in Santa Fe, NM. The meeting is centered upon Geospatial and Remote Sensing technology and includes a field trip to the Cerillos Hills area.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in the summer of 2009 in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum. There will be a dry run of the field trip in July.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held July 14-16, or 21-23 of 2009 in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30 or 21-23, 2009 near Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Reforestation** – The MCR is planning to hold two meetings (June 26, Terre Haute, IN & July 22, Austin, TX) with Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. The letter of intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008. Ohio has made the decision to fund the research.
- **Applied Science Administrative Training** – All three regions will participate in a conference call May 29 at 8 AM CDT that will include grants staff and regional technical staff involved with administration of the applied science projects. We will be conducting training concerning the implementation of the revised FAM chapters, TSR-4 Guidance Document, and Report Guidance documents.

AR Report:

- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- OSM ARTT will have a **display at the West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting**, April 22-23, 2008, Morgantown, WV
- OSM NTTT will jointly be a **Gold Sponsor for the American Society of Mine Reclamation (ASMR) Conference** on June 16-19, 2008 in Richmond VA. It is anticipated that all three OSM regions will jointly run the display and represent NTTT.
- The **ARRI conference** will be August 5-7 at Chief Logan State Park in WV. Information circulars will be mailed in a few weeks.
- ARTT will be a **sponsor for the Pennsylvania Watershed Coalition Annual Conference**, August 12-14, 2008 in State College, PA
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is developing a topical agenda and meeting logistics.

NTTP Report

- NTTP has held 22 **training sessions** thus far (mid-year). An additional 30 sessions are scheduled to be held.
- NTTP is in the process of having **printed the following products**: TIPS and NTTP recruitment brochure, TIPS and NTTP's Career Series Guide and The revised Basic Inspection Workbook.
- NTTP is working on the analysis, design, and development of the new instructor led **Basic Inspection Course**.

TIPS Report

- The **TIPS Steering Committee meeting** is May 13-15 in St. Charles, MO.
- TIPS is assisting **NTTP in the course survey and the course catalog publication**.
- The **Geospatial Conference** in Atlanta on March 25-27 was a great success. Remote Sensing technology and how it is used to solve SMCRA issues at both State and OSM offices across the nation was featured. There were 143 people that attended the conference and over ten percent were Managers. Remarks throughout the conference were very favorable about the value of the conference and the insight into new ideas regarding the use of geospatial technology to resolve both regulatory and reclamation issues.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- FY'08 UGMM results were that 7 of 18 proposals were selected for funding for \$235,000. Five in AR and two in WR.

IMCC Report

- Planning continues for **IMCC's annual meeting** in Jackson, WY from May 18 - 21. Several OSM managers will attend and attendance from the states is looking very good. The member states will discuss next steps for benchmarking workshops at the meeting.
- **Benchmarking workshops:** IMCC is working with the state of Ohio on a potential workshop on mine subsidence insurance programs and with the commonwealth of Virginia on a potential workshop on electronic permitting.

WEIB Report

- Planning for the **2008 annual western states/OSM meeting** is ongoing. The meeting will likely occur in August or September. Location selection is pending.
- **WIEB representation vacancies** exist on the TIPS, Geospatial and NTTP Steering Committees. The nomination process is pending at this time.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- West Virginia Mine Drainage Task force Meeting, Morgantown April 22-23, 2008 by AR
- ASMR Richmond, VA June 16-19, 2008 by AR (National Coordination)
- PA Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR
- NASLR, Champion, PA September 14-17, 2008 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAML P Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by MCR

CLT Report

- **Brent Wahlquist** discussed the concerns raised in his April 7, 2008 memo to the team on the **Applied Science Program**. The National team was in a consensus of agreement with Brent on his three principles for the Applied Science Program. The team discussed at length the specific suggestions made by Brent for restructuring the NTTT and the Applied Science Program and the solicitation package. The team reached a consensus on the following changes:
 - (1) the only voting members of the Applied Science Program would be the OSM representatives from WR, AR, MCR, HDQ, TIPS and the States would be represented by a specific Applied Science Program representative each from the West, Midwest, and Appalachia;
 - (2) the NTTT would now include from OSM AR, WR, MCR, HDQ, TIPS, NTTP and from outside OSM the IMCC, WEIB, and NAAML P;
 - (3) each regional technology transfer team will be asked to determine the top two Title IV and V applied science priorities for FY 2009 for that region and these priorities will be submitted to the CLT for concurrence; and
 - (4) **Kim Vories** will produce a draft solicitation package for FY 2009 with changes based on today's discussion with Brent for review by the team prior to the next conference call.

Next conference call will be May 27, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
May 27, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski

HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Fred Block

MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)

CLT –

WR – Duane Matt

NTTP –

TIPS – Lou Hamm

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report

- The WRTT section of the **NTTT webpage** has been updated. We added power point presentations, notes and the agenda from our most recent WRTT conference held in Santa Fe, NM. Content continues to be added/changed to both the NTTT and WRTT pages by our content person.
- Planning continues with both ARTT and MCRTT on the upcoming **ASMR conference**.
- **Service Managers** continue with both their normal SM duties and teaching NTTP and TIPS classes.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in August of 2009 in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum. There will be a dry run of the field trip in July.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held July 14-16, or 21-23 of 2009 in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30 or 21-23, 2009 near Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Reforestation** – The MCR is planning to hold two meetings (June 26, Terre Haute, IN & July 22, Austin, TX) with Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. The letter of intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008. The advisory team met May 9 to discuss the priorities of the first years efforts.

- **Applied Science Administrative Training** – All three regions will participate in a conference call May 29 at 8 AM CDT that will include grants staff and regional technical staff involved with administration of the applied science projects. We will be conducting training concerning the implementation of the revised FAM chapters, TSR-4 Guidance Document, and Report Guidance documents.
- **White Nose Syndrome** Hundreds of thousands of American bats, including at least five species, are dying from a mysterious condition. Referred to as White-Nose Syndrome (WNS), to date it has been reported from five states (New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania), reportedly killing up to 95% of the bats in several affected winter colonies. Entire species are potentially threatened if we cannot solve this puzzle. *There will be a special agency briefing and strategy session June 9-10 in Albany New York.*
- **Applied Science High Priorities for FY 2009** The Director of OSM has tasked each region to come up with two high priority applied science topics for FY 2009 by June 13. Proposals received under these topics will receive extra points in the selection process. In order to accomplish this, I am requesting that: (1) each team member, (2) each OSM regional office, and (3) the MCR office *provide your recommendation for the highest priority topic for the region for FY 2009 and send it to me ASAP by no later than May 23.* On May 27 I will send each of you the results of this effort. *On May 29 at 10 AM CDT we will have a conference call and reach a consensus on the two highest priorities*
- **ASMR Annual Meeting June 16-18, 2008** in Richmond, Va. OSM will be a gold level sponsor and exhibitor. Kim Vories will be giving a talk on the Indiana Bat and Paul Behum will be presenting a paper on the design of a passive AMD treatment system for the Enos Coal Refuse site in Indiana.

AR Report:

- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- OSM NTTT will jointly be a **Gold Sponsor for the American Society of Mine Reclamation (ASMR) Conference** on June 16-19, 2008 in Richmond VA. It is anticipated that all three OSM regions will jointly run the display and represent NTTT.
- The **ARRI conference** will be August 5-7 at Chief Logan State Park in WV. Information circulars will be mailed in a few weeks.
- ARTT will be a **sponsor for the Pennsylvania Watershed Coalition Annual Conference**, August 12-14, 2008 in State College, PA
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is developing a topical agenda and meeting logistics.

NTTP Report No report this month.

TIPS Report

- **Summary From the 2008 TIPS Annual Steering Committee Meeting**

DECISIONS BY THE COMMITTEE

1. TIPS will purchase additional copies of Trimble Pathfinder.
2. ER-Mapper is approved as TIPS core software. We will use the three licenses that TIPS currently owns.
3. Rockware is approved as TIPS core software. Paul Behum is directed to purchase the necessary software extras for the five copies that TIPS owns. The software additions are \$350 per copy for a total of \$1750.
4. TIPS will continue to fund the NCMGC initiative in the 2009 budget.
5. The Committee supports adding PHREEQ to the AMD Modules, without TIPS funding. Bob McKenzie will pursue the procedures to make this happen.

OTHER ISSUES THAT CAME UP:

1. A team was put together to develop strategies and methods for providing geospatial tools to TIPS customers – This will make it easier for folks to use technical geospatial tools that are not used to them.
2. TIPS is tasked with developing a better way to distribute software, preferably via the web.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- Carmen Fells is attending the **Society of Wetland Scientists** meeting in DC this week. Program Support is a Copper-level sponsor of the SWS annual meeting this year.
- John Craynon will be a **keynote speaker at the ASMR** meeting in Richmond, Virginia in a few weeks. John and others from his staff will be attending.
- Josh Rockwell and John will participate in a conference call with the CLT on Friday, May 30 regarding the **FY 2008 underground mine mapping initiative projects** to be funded. The available funding for projects is less than in previous years due to adjustments in the applied science funding made by the Director. As such, the highest ranking projects do not include any from the Mid-Continent Region.
- John Craynon and Eric Perry from ARO will be meeting with WVU to finalize the **FY 2008 cooperative agreement in support of ADTI**. The Coal Mining Sector of ADTI held a meeting in Morgantown in conjunction with the West Virginia Mine Drainage Symposium. Eric serves as chair of the CMS and John is the chair of the ADTI Operations Committee which includes the CMS and the Metals Mining Sector.

- A new draft of the preamble and rule language for the **CCB placement rule** has been prepared. Adjustments are being made to the economic analysis and the environmental assessment. It is anticipated that the package should enter surnaming in the next couple of weeks.

IMCC Report

- **IMCC Annual Meeting:** The **IMCC Annual Meeting** in Jackson, WY went very well. Approximately 50 state and federal regulatory personnel attended and the agenda included a discussion of several OSM issues, including the FY 2009 budget, Title IV and Title V grants, key OSM rulemakings, and an update on NTTT activities.
- **IMCC Benchmarking Activity:** IMCC is currently looking at the potential for several future benchmarking workshops or roundtable discussions on the following topics: mine subsidence insurance; electronic permitting; and water quality issues associated with Clean Water Act implementation.
- **NTTT Applied Science Forum:** IMCC also discussed the potential of working with OSM to sponsor some type of forum that would allow interested parties to learn more about the applied science projects that have been completed over the past several years. NTTT members agreed that some sort of tech transfer opportunity is appropriate to disseminate the results of these projects, be it an OSM sponsored forum/workshop or a listing of other meetings that would be appropriate (such as ASMR, the WV Acid Drainage Workshop, SME, etc.). IMCC expressed its willingness to work with OSM to facilitate these gatherings.
- **State Reps for Applied Science Review Team:** IMCC is prepared to work with OSM to select state representatives from the Appalachian and Mid-Continent regions for this team and welcomed OSM's input regarding appropriate state members from the regional teams to serve in this capacity.

WEIB Report

- The **annual western states/OSM management meeting** is tentatively scheduled for September 24 and 25, 2008 in Denver.
- **WIEB seats** are currently vacant on the TIPS, Geospatial and NTTP Steering Committees. Nominations are pending.
- It is recommended that a representative should be nominated by the WRTT to serve as the **western states reviewer and vote for the applied science proposal process**. The WRTT will discuss the nomination during the next WRTT meeting. David Berry will continue to serve as the WIEB representative to the NTTT.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- ASMR Richmond, VA June 16-19, 2008 by AR (National Coordination)
- PA Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR

- NASLR, Champion, PA September 14-17, 2008 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- TMRA, Corpus Cristi, TX, October 12-15 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAML P Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)

ACTION ITEMS

- **Applied Science Final Reports for FY 2005 and FY 2006.** Quarterly technical reports are due to Kim Vories by April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31.
- **Applied Science Solicitation FY 2008.** Letters to the unsuccessful proposals were sent out April 11. The grants team has been told to work on the successful cooperative agreements but we have not yet received funding from HDQ.
- **Applied Science Technical Note Format – Lois Uranowski** is working on a format for developing on page Technical Notes for completed Applied Science Projects. She will send out a draft for the team to review.
- **Applied Science Solicitation for FY 2009 – Kim Vories** has attached drafts of the FY 2009 Solicitation documents for the team to review. Comments are due back to Kim by **June 13, 2008.** **Lois Uranowski** has obtained a solicitor review of the non-disclosure document. The solicitor found that the document was well done and did not see any problems.
- **Annual OSM Internal Technology Transfer Team Meeting – John Crayon** is working on obtaining a meeting room and other logistics so that the team could meet the week of August 11 in the DC area. OSM team members need to relay the number of participants from their area to Angie Poole-Walker ASAP. Potential agenda items includes improvements in exhibits, future workshops and forums, technical notes and other formats and mechanisms to distribute Applied Science Results, improving outreach, and plans for the ASMR Symposium in Billings Montana in 2009.

Next conference call will be July 2, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
July 2, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – Josh Rockwell
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
CLT –
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report

- The Western Region office will be coordinating the booth logistics for **MineEXPO 2008** which is taking place in Las Vegas, NV September 22-24. The theme of the booth will be based on personal suggestions recommended by our director, Brent Wahlquist. The booth is being coordinated nationally with input from all OSM regions and will be staffed by representatives from all OSM regions. Contact Duane Matt for details.
- The Western Region office will be coordinating the booth logistics for the upcoming **NAAMLPL conference** to be held in Durango, CO October 26-29. This display will be coordinated nationally with input from all of the OSM regions. Contact Paul Clark for details.

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in August of 2009 in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum. There will be a dry run of the field trip in July.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held July 14-16, or 21-23 of 2009 in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30 or 21-23, 2009 near Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum.
- **Reforestation – Use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the MCR** was the topic of discussion at a meeting on June 26, 2008 in Terre Haute, Indiana. Invited participants from the Upper Midwest mining states, academia, and industry discussed options for expanding the use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in these States. The group plans to conduct field visits to FRA demonstration sites in Ohio and will begin working on plans for demonstrations on mined land in Illinois and Indiana. The MCR is planning on holding a similar meeting July 22, in Austin, TX with Midwestern reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to the Lower Midwestern States.

- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. Recently OSU has requested information on literature about mine reclamation with FGD east of the Mississippi.
- **Applied Science Administrative Training** – All three regions participated in a conference call May 29 that included grants staff and regional technical staff involved with administration of the applied science projects. We conducted training concerning the implementation of the revised FAM chapters, TSR-4 Guidance Document, and Report Guidance documents.
- **Science Strategy Meeting on the White Nose Syndrome in Bats** – PTSB staff member Kim Vories attended this meeting, June 9-11, 2008 in Albany New York. There were about 100 people in attendance representing US FWS, Bat Conservation International, OSM, university biologists, and representative State staffs from New York and surrounding States. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the participants on the scientific findings to date and to develop both scientific and management strategies for determining the cause, potential effects and mitigative strategies, and management options. Kim attended to ensure that the OSM Bats and Mines Initiative takes into account the latest research findings regarding this important health risk to bats. Six species of bats have been impacted including the endangered Indiana bat, a species of significant interest in 14 coal mining states. While the disease has not yet been positively verified from coal producing states, where it has been found, mortality rates have exceeded 90% in some hibernacula. The national Indiana bat census will be taking place during early 2009 and will include observations to determine the extent to which the syndrome is impacting other states.
- **Indiana Bat Coordination Meeting** – PTSB chief, Len Meier met with other OSM, State and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) participants to kick off the initial meeting of the Indiana Bat Working Group in Atlanta, Georgia Tuesday, June 10, 2008. This meeting follows up discussions between OSM and FWS management regarding improving consistency and effectiveness of protection and enhancement plans for Indiana Bats on SMCRA mine sites under the 1996 Biological Opinion. Len worked with Lois Uranowski from the OSM Appalachian Region and FWS leadership to kick off the working group meeting by discussing historical perspectives of the Indiana bat issue, regional consistency, expectations for the workgroup and an explanation of the team charter. The work group accepted the draft charter developed by the Management group and began work on the effort. Indications are that the workgroup was well on the way to meeting the goals at the end of the first meeting. OSM members on the Working Group are Ian Dye and Craig Walker. State members are Tim Taylor from Indiana, Richard Wahrer from Kentucky and Bob Fala from West Virginia. State members were chosen by the Interstate Mining Compact Commission.
- **American Society of Mining and Reclamation (ASMR) Annual Meeting** – MCR staff played important roles at the ASMR Annual Meeting June 14-18, 2008 in Richmond, Virginia. There were 225 participants at this meeting. During the event, OSM technology transfer staff provided an exhibit on current technology transfer initiatives.

Kim participated in the National Executive Council meetings on June 15 and 18 where it was confirmed that the society will hold meetings in Billings MT in 2009, Pittsburgh, PA in 2010, and Bismarck, ND in 2011. Kim presented a paper on Indiana bats and coal mining trends to an audience of 75 to 80 that sparked an excellent discussion session. Paul Behum presented an excellent paper on passive treatment of AMD.

AR Report:

- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- The **ARRI conference** will be August 5-7 at Chief Logan State Park in WV. Information circulars are available. Registration can be made through our ARRI website (<http://arri.osmre.gov/>).
- ARTT will be a **sponsor for the Pennsylvania Watershed Coalition Annual Conference**, August 12-14, 2008 in State College, PA (<http://2008.treatminewater.com/>)
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD. Agenda is being developed.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event. (http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/minres/BMR/conference/2008_NASLR_conference.htm)
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is completing the agenda and meeting logistics.
- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The week-long event will be held in Pittsburgh, PA.

NTTP Report No report this month.

TIPS Report

- **Software Courses.** The Galena slope stability software course was taught in Alton last week. The SedCAD sediment transport modeling software course will be taught in Denver next week. In two weeks SurvCAD will be taught in Alton and ArcGIS will be taught in Pittsburgh. AutoCAD will be taught in Pittsburgh in three weeks.
- TIPS has begun a pilot project to develop a working agreement with the **National Geospatial Intelligence** agency to obtain Remote Sensing imagery for coal fields nationwide. The pilot project will take place over one-year with the cooperation of the US Geological Survey. The anticipated result will be access for OSM-TIPS to satellite and aerial imagery at greatly reduced pricing, and possibly and no cost. This is a project that will positively impact the way that state, tribal, and OSM offices conduct their SMCRA business.
- TIPS will participate in an **Instructor Advisory Council** teleconference next week (Tuesday). The meeting will include discussions of:

- Professional Development credit from NTTP and TIPS classes,
- Training as incentives awards,
- Instructor recruitment initiatives, and
- development of a new Inspection Field Course.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- A new draft of the preamble and rule language for the **CCB placement rule** has been prepared. Adjustments are being made to the economic analysis and the environmental assessment. It is anticipated that the package should enter surnaming in the next couple of weeks.

IMCC Report

- **IMCC Benchmarking Activity:** IMCC is currently looking at the potential for several future benchmarking workshops or roundtable discussions on the following topics: mine subsidence insurance; electronic permitting; and water quality issues associated with Clean Water Act implementation.
- **NTTT Applied Science Forum:** IMCC also discussed the potential of working with OSM to sponsor some type of forum that would allow interested parties to learn more about the applied science projects that have been completed over the past several years. NTTT members agreed that some sort of tech transfer opportunity is appropriate to disseminate the results of these projects, be it an OSM sponsored forum/workshop or a listing of other meetings that would be appropriate (such as ASMR, the WV Acid Drainage Workshop, SME, etc.). IMCC expressed its willingness to work with OSM to facilitate these gatherings.
- **State Reps for Applied Science Review Team:** IMCC is prepared to work with OSM to select state representatives from the Appalachian and Mid-Continent regions for this team and welcomed OSM's input regarding appropriate state members from the regional teams to serve in this capacity.

WEIB Report

- **Western states and tribes** will meet with OSM management in Denver September 16-17, 2008. The western states will also meet to discuss ongoing uranium mining issues beginning in the afternoon of September 17 through the morning of September 18. Agenda items are still pending consideration and definition.
- Deb Bell of Colorado has been appointed as the new **WIEB representative** to the TIPS Geospatial Team. Deb replaces Rick Koehler of New Mexico. The vacant WIEB seat on the TIPS Steering Committee remains vacant as additional work occurs to solicit willing participants.

NAAML P Report

- The NAAML P in conjunction with the IMCC AML Committee will hold a meeting July 29 and 30th in St Louis to prepare comments on OSM's recently published proposed rule

concerning the AML Program. The proposed rules are in response to the 2006 amendment to **SMCRA reauthorizing the AML fee**.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- PA Watershed Coalition Annual Conference, State College August 12-14, 2008 by AR
- NASLR, Champion, PA September 14-17, 2008 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 6-8 by MCR
- TMRA, Corpus Cristi, TX, October 12-15 by MCR
- GSA, Houston, TX October 2008 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAML P Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 1-3 by MCR
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Conference, Billings, MT June , 2009 by WR (National Coordination)

Next conference call will be August 21, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
August 21, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
CLT –
WR –
NTTP –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report No report this month

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in August of 2009 in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum. This forum may need to be delayed until 2010 in order to give the USFWS to finalize its recovery plan and for the FWS/OSM/State T & E team time to complete its work on national consistency for permitting.
- **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. The forum is currently on hold waiting for the publication of the OSM proposed rule.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** 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. An event hotel has been selected.
- **Reforestation – Use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the MCR** was the topic of discussion at a meeting held July 22, 2008 in Austin, TX. It included representatives from academia, industry, and the States of TX, MS, AL, and LA. The participants provided valuable input on state specific considerations related to the use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the Lower Midwest. Most of these states have been using modified FRA approach to reforestation for many years. Emphasis is placed on use of coarse textured soils that are less vulnerable to compaction, planting a dense vegetative cover to protect from erosion during intense rainfall events, use of commercial pine species for use in commercial forestry, and machine planting for uniform high level of survival and low cost.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 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. Recently OSU

has requested information on literature about mine reclamation with FGD east of the Mississippi.

- **Indiana Bat Coordination Meeting** – PTSB chief, Len Meier met with other OSM, State and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) participants to kick off the initial meeting of the Indiana Bat Working Group in Atlanta, Georgia Tuesday, June 10, 2008. This meeting follows up discussions between OSM and FWS management regarding improving consistency and effectiveness of protection and enhancement plans for Indiana Bats on SMCRA mine sites under the 1996 Biological Opinion. OSM members on the Working Group are Ian Dye and Craig Walker. State members are Tim Taylor from Indiana, Richard Wahrer from Kentucky and Bob Fala from West Virginia. State members were chosen by the Interstate Mining Compact Commission.

AR Report:

- A **workshop to transfer learned technology from 2 Applied Science Projects** was held August 9-10, 2008 in Knoxville, TN. The subject centered on a developed methodology to predict sediment loads in watersheds. “The first project “Development of a Rapid Geomorphic Assessment Technique to Support the CHIA/PHC Process: A Focus on Model Improvement for Estimating Sediment Loads” explored whether a rapid geomorphic assessment technique can be applied effectively, identifying stream channel stability and the degree to which different landscape disturbances contribute to that stability. The second phased project was titled “Method Development for Watershed Sediment Budgets to Support CHIA/PHC Process: A Focus on Sediment Modeling for Estimating Sediment Loads”. This project made the CHIA\PHC process more efficient and defensible under a complex set of potential sediment load generators in a watershed (e.g., logging, mine lands, landslides, haul roads, off-road vehicles). The 2-day workshop focused on applying the computer modeling and included a field trip where the modeled parameters were tested and field-verified.
- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD. Agenda is being developed.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event.(http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/minres/BMR/conference/2008_NASLR_confere nce.htm)
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is completing the agenda and meeting logistics.
- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The week-long event will be held in Pittsburgh, PA.

NTTP Report No report this month.

TIPS Report

- A new **TIPS Steering Committee member** has been added – Our new member is Don McKenzie, Director of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- **CCB placement rule** is in a solicitor's for a review of NEPA. After signature by Assistant Secretary for Interior it will go to OMB for review.
- **Dam Safety** – There will be a meeting in Pittsburgh next week to go over the new Dam Safety Manual and begin a regular oversight review process.

IMCC Report

- We are moving forward with the development of two **potential benchmarking workshops** -- one on ePermitting and mobile computing and another on mining education opportunities in the public participation process. A steering committee has been formed to assist IMCC staff in developing the agenda for the ePermitting workshop. The steering committee met via conference call for the first time on July 28. The first step will be the development of a survey of the states concerning ePermitting and mobile computing. Once responses are received, a report will be developed and a final decision will be made about proceeding with the workshop. Agenda development will follow. A separate steering committee has been formed to develop an agenda for the benchmarking workshop on minerals education and public outreach. A conference call is scheduled for August 25.

WEIB Report

- **Western States /OSM meeting** in Denver September 16-17, 2008
- **Western States uranium meeting** in Denver September 17-18, 2008
- New western states **representative to the TIPS Steering Committee** is Don McKenzie (Wyoming)
- Open western states **representative seat on NTTP Steering Committee**
- WRTT designated Dave Clark (New Mexico) as the **western states applied science project reviewer**, with concurrence from David Berry.

NAAML P Report

- **Annual Conference** of the NAAML P is scheduled for October 26 through October 29 in Durango, Colorado at the Double Tree Hotel.
- The **2009 meeting** will be hosted by several states from the Mid Continent Region and will be held in Rogers, Arkansas.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- NASLR, Champion, PA September 14-17, 2008 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 2-3 by MCR
- TMRA, Corpus Cristi, TX, October 12-15 by MCR
- GSA, Houston, TX October 2008 by MCR

- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAML P Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 8-10 by MCR
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Conference, Billings, MT June , 2009 by WR (National Coordination)
- NAAML P Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)

Next conference call will be September 30, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
September 30, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ –
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
CLT –
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP – Ann Walker
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB –
NAAMLTP – Rick Chancellor

WR Report

- **MINExpo 08:** The MINExpo 08 took place September 22-24 in Las Vegas, NV. The conference was a huge success. Over 42,000 people attended the conference. A short write-up about the conference will be sent out at a later date.
- **NAAMLTP:** Conference planning is ongoing. Please contact Paul Clark at: #303-293-5065 for details about booth coordination, questions about Durango, etc.

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.
- **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.
- **Coal Combustion and Gasification Products Journal** The University of Kentucky has announced that they will be publishing a new scientific peer reviewed journal in response to the need identified by the National Academy of Science. Kim Vories has been invited to serve on the editorial board.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** 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. An event hotel has been selected. A flyer has been produced to advertise the forum. On line registration should be available at www.dce.siu.edu early in October.
- **Reforestation – Use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the MCR** The MCR is participating in a tour of the Ohio FRA approach on October 22. There are about 70 participants expected.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The MCR conducted its third regional AMD AML workshop in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 2008. There were 40 participants. Considerable interest was generated about progress with bioreactors for passive treatment. A fourth event is being planned in Indiana in Spring of 2010.
- **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** – The team plans to have a work product by the end of the calendar year.

AR Report:

- A special class will be held November 13-14, 2008 in Pittsburgh at the AR Computer Classroom to present the findings of the 2007 Applied Science Project titled “**Enhancing Mine Subsidence Prediction and Control Methodologies for Long-Term Landscape Stability**” conducted by Virginia Tech. This class is being supported by TIPS and is geared to those who conduct subsidence prediction modeling.
- An **Ohio reforestation tour** will be conducted October 22, 2008 with 70 participants scheduled to attend including the OSM Director Brent Wahlquist.
- The **ARTT fall meeting** was held September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD. Presentations/discussions included team reports, Update on ASTM Data Standards, Causation of Delbarton Mine Blowout, 2009 Applied Science review process, update on TIPS, NTT and IMCC, USGS GIS AML Database and team discussion on future workshops.
- AR will participate in **National Chemistry Week** held at the Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA on October 17-18, 2008. The event serves to outreach to disadvantaged schools about technical careers with hands-on demonstrations of mining and OSM’s role in regulating environmental impacts, specifically acid mine drainage.
- **Final report** has been received and posted on the NTT website for the 2006 project titled “Development of a Rapid Geomorphic Assessment Technique to Support the CHIA/PHC Process: A Focus on Model Improvement for Estimating Sediment Loads” investigated by University of Tennessee.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development are being finalized.
- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The week-long event will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. In October 2008, a team will visit conference/hotel facilities to select the location for the event.
- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.

NTTP Report

- NTTP reported that they are in the process of scheduling **54 course sessions for FY 09** and allocating spaces for attendances to States, Tribes and Federal Personnel.
- **NTTP’s budget** will remain the same except for personnel increases that will need to be taken into consideration.
- A special **Underground Mining session** is being held for the State of Kentucky the week of September 30, 2008 through October 3, 2008 in Prestonsburg, Kentucky at the Jenny Wiley State Resort and State Park.
- NTTP will offer a special **Instructor Training session** for the Navajos on October 5, 2008 through October 10, 2008.

- NTTP has planned a meeting for the **Instructor Advisory Committee** for October 22 through October 24, 2008 in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- NTTP will offer **OSM's New Employee Orientation Program** on October 22, 2008 through October 24, 2008 in Washington, DC and La Vale, Maryland for the field tour.

TIPS Report

- TIPS has added new **Service Managers** in the Appalachian Region and will hold a coordination teleconference with Appalachian Region Service Managers this week. We will follow with a meeting of all Service Managers in November or December. Service Manager duties and expectations will be discussed as well as providing information for Service Managers to share concerning the technological tools that TIPS provides.
- A teleconference with **Training Coordinators** nationally will be held on October 15th. Representatives from both TIPS and NTTP will join in the conference to discuss training issues and coordination.
- TIPS and NTTP continue coordinating services and TIPS will host the entire **Training Catalog** on the TIPS website. Look for the catalog soon at <http://www.tips.osmre.gov/training/>.

HEADQUARTERS Report No report this month.

IMCC Report

- **Benchmarking Workshop on E-Permitting and Mobile Computing** -- IMCC has sent out a survey to interested and affected states regarding the status of their e-Permitting initiatives and the use of mobile computing technology. To date, we have had 20 responses. IMCC is in the process of gathering and reporting on the responses. After that, the Steering Committee will meet to determine whether the workshop should move forward and how it should be structured. There is some concern about money/permission for states to travel to these types of conferences, given recent state freezes on all travel and on all hiring. We may have to reevaluate the timing of the workshop in light of this reality.
- **Roundtable Discussion on Minerals Education and Public Participation in the Permitting Process** -- IMCC continues to develop an agenda for this workshop. Several states have expressed an interest in participating in such a discussion. We are attempting to determine the best time and location for the discussion, given the above considerations.

WEIB Report

- The annual **Western States/OSM leadership meeting** took place in Denver on September 16 and 17, 2008. A Western States Uranium meeting followed on September 17 and 18, 2008.

NAAML P Report

- Planning continues to move forward for the **Annual NAAML P conference** for the end of October. Currently there are 225 people registered and more are expected before the start of the conference. A draft conference schedule including a list of presentations was sent out to the group.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- TMRA, Corpus Cristi, TX, October 12-15 by MCR
- GSA, Houston, TX October 2008 by MCR
- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAMLN Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 8-10 by MCR
- 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)
- NAAMLN Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)

Next conference call will be November 4, 2008 at 1:00 PM CST.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
November 4, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ –
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
CLT –
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLTP –

WR Report

- The **NAAMLTP conference** was a success. All three regions were represented at the booth as well as HQ. The main items promoted at the booth were: 1. The availability of the downhole camera system and other shared equipment, 2. AMD Treat Software, 3. Applied Science Cooperative Agreements, 4. Geomorphic Forum, and, 5. The ASMR/Billings Land Symposium.
- A **service manager meeting** will take place in Pittsburgh December 10-11, 2008.
- Planning for the **ASMR/Billings Meeting** is ongoing.
- Duane asked for clarification of the **scoring process for the 2009 Applied Science Cooperative Agreements**.

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.
- **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.** 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. After the field trip dry run a number of logistics challenges will need to be overcome to bring it off. 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** – The team plans to have a work product by the end of the calendar year.

AR Report:

- A special class will be held November 13-14, 2008 in Pittsburgh at the AR Computer Classroom to present the findings of the 2007 Applied Science Project titled “**Enhancing Mine Subsidence Prediction and Control Methodologies for Long-Term Landscape Stability**” conducted by Virginia Tech. This class is being supported by TIPS and is geared to those who conduct subsidence prediction modeling.
- AR participated in **National Chemistry Week** on October 17-18, 2008 held at the Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA on. Turnout was enormous with over 2200 folks attending in those two days. On the first day, over 1200 students from disadvantaged schools, elementary to high school, were treated to science hands-on demonstrations. The OSM booth centered on coal mining and OSM’s role in regulating environmental impacts, specifically acid mine drainage.
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development have been finalized.
- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The week-long event will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. Other hosts include ARRI, Stream Restoration Inc. and Western Pennsylvania Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation. Potential conference/hotel facilities for the event have been visited and proposals are being solicited.
- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.

NTTP Report

- No report provided.

TIPS Report

- The TIPS **Training Schedule for 2009** has not yet been published and will not be published for at least another two weeks while the detailed spending items of the TIPS budget are worked out on a national basis.
- A TIPS **Service Managers** meeting is scheduled for December 10 & 11 in Pittsburgh, PA. The meeting will educate five new Service Managers to their new role and allow them to interact with other Service Managers to discuss problems and solutions.
- In response to direction from the TIPS Steering Committee and a recent Internal Control Review of TIPS, the TIPS Team has developed a better method to **track the use of software licenses** provided by TIPS. The solution involves the use of the KeyServer software. KeyServer client is the license distribution software already in use at all TIPS customer sites to access many of the licenses that TIPS provides. This solution will require that the KeyServer client software be installed on all computers that use TIPS software. Accordingly the Memorandum of Agreement that TIPS has in place with all customer sites will have to be revised and re-signed by the manager at each customer site. The new MOA will be developed in the coming weeks and distributed to TIPS customer sites.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- No report this month.

IMCC Report

- **Benchmarking Workshop on E-Permitting and Mobile Computing** -- We have recently completed a compilation and overview report on the responses received from those states who participated in a survey by IMCC on E-Permitting and Mobile Computing. The sense of the Steering Committee in reviewing the report is that, while the report itself may be helpful to states, a follow up workshop would be particularly useful as a means of expanding upon the information contained in the responses and providing an opportunity for further discussion and interaction. We will therefore be moving ahead with the development of this workshop. Our plans tentatively call for a full three day workshop to be scheduled sometime in the first part of 2009 in a central location that will allow maximum participation by interested states. The format of the workshop will likely consist of a plenary session on Day 1 at which several key states with robust, well-developed E-permitting systems will present overviews of their programs using live demonstrations. Targeted states include VA, UT, WV, KY and TN (OSM's program). During the plenary session, each state would provide a general overview of its E-permitting system, while also addressing several key components of the system including such items as how maps are handled, electronic signatures, sharing information among users, and cost savings to the overall regulatory program. Following the plenary session, we will have several breakout sessions where attendees will have an opportunity to learn in greater detail about the various state E-permitting systems, from design to implementation. These sessions will also utilize live demonstrations and will provide for interactive discussion in smaller group settings to facilitate expanded Q and A among the participants. A copy of the report on E-permitting is available from IMCC.

WEIB Report

- No WIEB events. WIEB is working with IMCC to prepare transition documents for OSM.

NAAML P Report

- No report provided.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- ISMR Jasper, IN December 8-10 by MCR
- 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)

Next conference call will be December 4, 2008 at 1:00 PM CST.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
December 4, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski

HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Al Whitehouse, Fred Block

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

CLT –

WR – Duane Matt

NTTP –

TIPS – Lou Hamm

IMCC – Greg Conrad

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report

- A **service manager meeting** will take place in Pittsburgh December 10-11, 2008.
- Planning for the **ASMR/Billings Meeting** is ongoing.
- Continue to speak with several potential applicants for this year's Applied Science solicitation.

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.
- **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 over 30 Federal Employee authorization. 39 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** – The team plans to have a work product by February. 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 have just been set for June 5-12, 2010; the hotel in Pittsburgh, PA has been selected with contract

negotiations are in progress. Other hosts include ARRI, Stream Restoration Inc. and Western Pennsylvania Coalition of Abandoned Mine Reclamation.

- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- **Blasting Workshop** held November 8-10, 2008 had an attendance of 52 with 37 coming from Appalachian state programs and 15 from OSM. Presentations included topics like digital detonations, highwall profiling, evolution of crack gauges and measuring surface coal blast wave propagations using seismic arrays.
- The **ARTT Team (bi annual) meeting** has been scheduled for February 24-25, 2009 in Charleston, WV. The main goal of this meeting is to review and rank the 2009 Applied Science proposals. The AR rankings will be forwarded to the National Technology Transfer team for inclusion in the national ranking process.
- Roll out of new **OSMRE.gov web site** slated for December 12th. Several AR staff have been working over the past several months to provide graphics, site development and population. Responsible group is OSM communications in headquarters.

NTTP Report

- No report provided.

TIPS Report

- TIPS will be moving the Steering Committee meeting date for 2009 to either May 19-21 or June 16-18.
- TIPS is holding a meeting of the TIPS Service Managers next week in Pittsburgh, PA.
- The Appalachian Region will fill the vacancy of TIPS Appalachian Region contact that was left by Bill Winters in his promotion to Knoxville Management, by advertising an “Opportunity” to existing Pittsburgh staff.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- The **proposed rule for mine placement of CCBs** is at OMB for review and clearance. We are still hopeful that OMB will allow the rule to be published before the end of this Administration.
- John Craynon will be attending the **ISMR meeting** in Jasper, IN on December 8 and 9 and will make a presentation on the proposed CCB rule.
- HQ Division of Regulatory Support (DRS) will be sponsoring OSM’s participation at the **Geological Society of America meeting in Portland, OR** in October 2009. Staff will work with MCR to ensure that the reserved booth is utilized.
- John Craynon traveled to Atlanta to meet with **Spellman College** in relation to their work on their Applied Science project related to acid mine drainage.
- Steve Felch, who has been OSM’s Directive Coordinator in the Division of Administration, has been selected to be a **Program Analyst in the DRS**, in the position formerly occupied by Kathryn O’Toole, who retired in August. Steve will begin in the DRS effective December 7.
- The **Underground Mine Mapping (UGMM)** Steering Committee met and finalized the FY’09 Solicitation in November. Hardcopy mailings have been distributed to each Title IV & V point of contact. Electronic copies are being sent to each of the State Geologists. An electronic copy of the FY’09 Solicitation is available on the UGMM Initiative

webpage on the Tech Transfer website. The process is on schedule to supply the CLT with final recommendations in April.

IMCC Report

- **Benchmarking Workshop on E-Permitting:** IMCC will definitely be moving forward with this workshop, but will not hold it until July or August of 2009. State travel restrictions loom large in our ability to schedule this, and other, workshops and conferences. We are hopeful that things will have loosened up a bit by next summer. IMCC staff is working with a steering committee to develop the program.
- **Benchmarking Conference Call on Water Quality Implementation Issues:** IMCC plans to hold a conference call to engage in some benchmarking activity on the subject of water quality implementation issues under SMCRA and the Clean Water Act. This will be a first attempt at trying to do this via conference call. It is tentatively scheduled for the January/February timeframe. We will develop an agenda of key issues, which will be initiated with a brief discussion by an affected state and then discussion will follow for a limited time period. This may result in a series of calls on the subject matter.
- **Transition Team Report:** IMCC will submit two reports to the Interior Department Transition Team: one concerning OSM and the other focused on the other Interior bureaus that we interact with (USGS, BLM).

WEIB Report

- WIEB is working with IMCC on transition documents for the new federal administration. No specific events to report.

NAAMLPL Report

- Concern was expressed that many States are facing budget shortfalls. Approval for travel and funding for travel for state employees to attend technical transfer events may be difficult. OSM does provide assistance for hardship cases as funds allow. However, no funds are specifically earmarked for this purpose and OSM generally feels the States must be willing to contribute to technical transfer if the event is important to the State. While there is no disagreement with the concept, the severe nature of the current financial condition of most States may require changes to the current policy. Another option is to develop other means of doing tech transfer.

Exhibit Schedule

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

- ISMR Jasper, IN December 8-10 by MCR
- 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)
- NAAMLPL 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 conference call will be January 8, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST.