Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Len Meier
CLT – Erv Barchenger
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor

WR Report
The western region tech transfer group continues to prepare for two upcoming conferences:
- The SME/CMA conference to be held February 22-25, 2009 in Denver, CO.
- The ASMR/BLRS/WRTT combined conference to be held May 30-June 5, 2009 in Billings, MT.

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 a request for 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](https://www.dce.siu.edu/index.php/Conferences/Geomorphic-Reclamation-and-Natural-Stream-Design-at-Coal-Mines).
- **Ohio State University CCB Research** – MCR has been working with the OSM CCB regional team at the request of OSU to begin cooperating on an Ohio CCB research initiative to conduct case studies on the use of FGD in mine reclamation. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.
- **Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group** – *Draft guidelines have been developed. OSM will send to Field Offices for comment. FWS will send to area offices for comment. Last round of comments to be incorporated and document distributed by end of March.* IN Bat Recovery Plan Final by Summer 2009.
- **BCI MOU** - MCR has been working with Bat Conservation International to renew the earlier 5-year agreement. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.
AR Report:
- University of Pittsburgh is holding, a briefing January 15, 2009 on the **Consol Mining Map Project**. Partnering with Consol Energy, Inc., PA Department of Environmental Resources and OSM, the University is preserving old mine maps and working with the other partners to digitally preserve these maps.
- OSM Tennessee has recently completed a **financial forecasting manual** that lays out yearly planning for long-term mine water treatment trust funds.
- **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 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- 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.

NTTP Report *(Need an Update by Sarah)*
- No report provided.

TIPS Report
- A new **Appalachian Region TIPS Coordinator** has been appointed. Eric Perry has been selected to replace Bill Winters.
- The **2009 TIPS Steering Committee** meeting will take place in Nashville, TN on May 19-21.
- TIPS has acquired some new Service Managers; therefore, a meeting of all TIPS Service Managers was held in Pittsburgh, PA during the first week of December to coordinate and discuss tasks, and bring the new Service Managers up to speed with their expected tasks.

HEADQUARTERS Report *(Need and Update by John)*
- The **proposed rule for mine placement of CCBs** will not be out until sometime in the new administration.
- 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.

IMCC Report - "No new updates"
- **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**
- No new events to report.

**NAAMLP Report**
- The **Winter Business Meeting** of the NAAMLP will be held in Oklahoma City March 17 and 18 at the Courtyard by Marriott.

**Exhibit Schedule**
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- Geomorphic Reclamation and Natural Stream Design at Coal Mines Forum April 28-30, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Conference, Billings, MT May 30-June 5, 2009 by WR (National Coordination)
- NAAMLP 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 February 12, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Len Meier
CLT – Bill Joseph
WR –
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB –
NAAMLP –

WR Report
- The annual Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration Meeting (held in conjunction with the Colorado Mining Association) will take place February 22-25 in Denver, CO. Both MCRTT and ARTT have either sent materials or are in the process of sending materials for our OSMRE-NTTT booth. Additional personnel from both MCRTT and ARTT are encouraged to attend the meeting and staff the booth!
- A planning meeting for the upcoming American Society of Mining and Reclamation conference (held in conjunction with the Billings Land Reclamation Symposium and the annual Western Region Technology Transfer Team) is taking place February 11-12 in Billings, MT. Coordination for the OSMRE-NTTT booth will begin at a later date.
- Ranking and review FY2009 applied science cooperative proposals continues to take place.

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 a request for over 30 Federal Employee authorization. 78 registered to date. The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30, 2009 in Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum. On line registration is available at: https://www.dce.siu.edu/index.php/Conferences/Geomorphic-Reclamation-and-Natural-Stream-Design-at-Coal-Mines.
- Ohio State University CCB Research – MCR has been working with the OSM CCB regional team at the request of OSU to begin cooperating on an Ohio CCB research initiative to conduct case studies on the use of FGD in mine reclamation. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.
- Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group – Draft guidelines have been developed. OSM will send to Field Offices for comment. FWS will send to area offices for comment.
Last round of comments to be incorporated and document distributed by end of March. IN Bat Recovery Plan Final by Summer 2009.

- **BCI MOU** - MCR has been working with Bat Conservation International to renew the earlier 5-year agreement. MCR is preparing a draft MOU for this effort.

**AR Report:**

- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The dates 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 2009 AML technical workshop,** for August 2009 concentrating on mine pools and their impacts on the state AML program.

- 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.

- The graphics staff has been working with Technical Representatives on six completed Applied Science projects to develop **Project Summary fact sheets.** These fact sheets will be posted on the NTTT web site, emailed to technology transfer teams and OSM managers and printed versions will be available at Technology Transfer events and conferences. Purpose of these flyers is to give our states and shareholders a quick-read of the projects findings and importance to the reclamation community.

**NTTP Report (Need an Update by Sarah)**

- No report provided.

**TIPS Report**

- The **TIPS Steering Committee** meeting will take place in Nashville, TN May 19-21.

- TIPS continues to pursue the following initiatives directed by the TIPS Steering Committee:
  - TIPS will revise the Memorandum of Agreement, regarding the use of TIPS software licenses, with States and Tribes for the first time in approximately 9-years. The new memorandum will address the fact that TIPS equipment provided to States and Tribes becomes the property of the receiving State or Tribe. It will also address the Steering Committee’s issue of tracking TIPS software use by requiring all TIPS customer sites to install the KeyServer licensing software on each computer that uses TIPS software. KeyServer is currently required for licensing of all TIPS software with the exception of ArcGIS, AutoCAD, Earthvision, ERDAS, and ER-Mapper; this will expand this requirement.
  - TIPS is progressing with the initiative to make TIPS software tools available via download from the TIPS website. A new server will be purchased to enable this capability.
  - TIPS recently made its first Podcast available on the TIPS website.

**HEADQUARTERS Report (Need an Update by John)**
IMCC Report

- **Benchmarking Workshop on E-permitting and Mobile Computing** -- the workshop is moving forward. We have identified the presenters and the format and protocol for the workshop. It will take place over two days, with the first day devoted to presentations from five key states (VA, KY, WV, UT and TN (OSM)) and the second day consisting of breakout sessions where attendees will be able to learn in more detail how these states have structured and operated their respective e-permitting systems. The workshop will be held in the Chicago area and will take place in late July or early August.

- **Benchmarking Conference Call on Water Quality Implementation Issues** -- IMCC sponsored a benchmarking-type conference call on February 5 with 25 state participants to discuss a handful of water quality implementation issues, including the Stream Buffer Zone rule; an EPA proposed rule on turbidity; a recent WV Federal Court decision on NPDES requirements applicable to bond forfeiture sites (and potentially AML projects); and recent efforts by WV to define the term "material damage" in the context of cumulative hydrologic impact assessments. Future conference calls are anticipated as issues arise.

- **IMCC Conference Call on Mine Placement of CCBs** -- IMCC also sponsored a conference call on January 29 with 33 participating state and OSM personnel during which we discussed OSM's draft proposed rule on CCBs and recent action at the national level concerning coal ash impoundments (in light of the TVA Kingston impoundment failure), including a hearing on new legislation introduced by Rep. Nick Rahall of WV concerning impoundments (H.R. 493).

WEIB Report

- No new events to report.

NAAMLP Report

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Exhibit Schedule

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MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader), Len Meier
WR – Duane Matt
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB –
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor

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

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

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

NTTP Report

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

TIPS Report

- TIPS is re-drafting it’s **Memorandum of Agreement** with each state and tribe to reflect two important changes:
  - The change instituted in the OSM budget appropriation of 2005 that all TIPS equipment transferred to states or tribes becomes the property of that state or tribe.
  - Installation of the KeyServer license serving software, currently required for most TIPS software to run, will be required for installation on all computers that run TIPS software.
The requirement in the current MOA for compliance with all software license agreements is still applicable and has not changed.

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

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

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

**WEIB Report**
- WEB is in support of the idea to distribute the Applied Science reviews as presented. Suggests that WRTT solicit some help from western state folks to assist Dave Clark.

- WIEB has no events scheduled at this time.

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

**Exhibit Schedule**
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
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- 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)
• NAAMLP Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)
• GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)

Next meeting will take place in San Antonio, TX April 8 & 9, 2009.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ –
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
WR –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP –
NTTP –

WR Report
- The **ASMR and Billings Land Reclamation Symposium** was conducted last week and was a great success. A workshop on Remote Sensing and Mobile Computing Tools was held on Saturday, and the WRTT Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday. A discussion of the OSM Geospatial efforts including those of the National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee to bring all SMCRA partners up to the ability to develop a geospatial database of their coal mining operations, including AML. The group’s ASTM standards efforts were also briefed to the WRTT members.
- A talk on successful mine reclamation efforts is underway by Henry Austin for the **Colorado Coal Club**, for their luncheon today.

MCR Report
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** Participants rated the event a 4.0 or very satisfied. 192 registered. Will place the power points on the NTTT website in June with the able assistance of Lois and her staff. Working on the publication.
- **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.
- **Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group – Final guidelines have been developed.** Could be a public announcement by end of June.
- **White Nose Syndrome** – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **MCR AMD Workshop in Indiana** – Plans underway for a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment in April of 2010.

**AR Report:**

- The **ARTT Team (bi annual) meeting** has been scheduled for September 15-17, 2009 in Kingsport, TN. The meeting will present findings from Applied Science Projects and technical studies as well as updates on technology transfer activities, both nationally and regionally.

- **Stray Gas Workshop** will be held on November 4-6, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA. This workshop will focus on the scientific basis for assessment of and various types of fingerprinting for stray or fugitive gases. Gas accumulation can lead to problems where the fugitive nature of gases is a major safety concern. Tools and strategies for investigating stray gases, along with case histories, will be presented by scientists and specialists whose work has focused on the origins, mitigation, and accumulation of gases. The workshop will have emphasis on carbon dioxide and methane; the implications for safety, mitigation, and management of subsurface resources also will be addressed. Sponsors for the workshop are USGA, Pittsburgh Geological Society, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and OSM. Further information can be found at [http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas2/](http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas2/)

- **Appalachia Region Reforestation Initiative** (ARRI) will hold the 3rd Annual reforestation conference in Jenny Wiley State Park, near in Prestonsburg, KY August 4-6, 2009. Web site for this event is [http://arri.osmre.gov/Events/AN_CONF/MLRC2009.htm](http://arri.osmre.gov/Events/AN_CONF/MLRC2009.htm)

**NTTP Report** No Report this period

**TIPS Report**

- The **TIPS Steering Committee** was conducted on May 19-21 in Nashville, TN. There were two decisions:
  1. The Draft Memorandum of Agreement for the use of TIPS tools by state and tribal offices was approved with the exception of West Virginia and possibly Montana because they the CITRIX Networking system. This means that the wording for their agreements will need to be altered to reflect their networking of TIPS software.
  2. AqQA software was approved as a substitute for AquaChem as core software.

- Three **overarching priorities and issues** for TIPS were discussed:
  1. TIPS is at its limit in the number of current initiatives. No more work can be taken on without dropping something, unless additional resources are acquired. Suggestions included:
     a. Recruit more state people to assist by:
        i. Serving as a TIPS Instructor – including teaching courses to all in house co-workers after receiving training themselves.
        ii. Serving on TIPS Success Teams.
        iii. Serving as a TIPS office contact.
     b. Develop a matrix to manage TIPS growth
  2. Develop a “Virtual Presence” – A web site with public access to SMCRA geospatial data. A national mining and reclamation map was discussed along with the NGA pilot project.
• **Keep the training coming!** The initiative to provide more onsite courses this past year has worked very well – keep it up! Encourage customer sites to help more by providing more instructors to both NTTP and TIPS, and get those customers that have attended a training class to train their co-workers back at their office.

**HEADQUARTERS Report** (No report this period)

**IMCC Report**
- The IMCC Benchmarking Workshop on E-permitting and mobile computing is still scheduled for the end of October in Chicago. Final plans will be made in July when the steering committee meets again.
- The Mid-Continent states and OSM had a successful **regional meeting** in St. Louis on June 2 and 3, at which several NTTP updates were provided.
- The Appalachian Regional states/OSM meeting is June 9 and 10 in Pittsburgh.

**WEIB Report**
- The **2009 Western Region States/OSM management meeting** is on hold until further notice. We hope to schedule the next meeting once a new OSM Director is appointed.

**NAAMLP Report**
- The **2009 Annual NAAMLP Conference** will be held in Rogers, Arkansas September 27 – 30. The conference is hosted by the State Programs of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. The registration, schedule and information on the tours can be found at the NAAMLP web site.

**Exhibit Schedule**
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
- NAAMLP Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October by MCR
- TMRA, Boerne, TX, October 17-20 by MCR
- GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 7-8 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **July 8, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST**.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – Fred Block, Josh Rockwell, Al Whitehouse
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
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WR Report
• The feedback from the western region concerning the latest ASMR/BLRS meeting was fantastic. Everyone enjoyed our NTTT booth. We had numerous comments on how good our material was, our posters and especially the personnel manning the booth. We also received glowing reviews of our WRTT meeting (which was held in conjunction with the ASMR/BLRS meeting). The meeting was very informative and productive for all that attended. The Western Region has notified and congratulated its applied science cooperative agreement awardees of their impending funding dispersements so that they may begin their project work.

MCR Report
• Geomorphic Reclamation Workshops. MCR is trying to develop one to several State specific geomorphic workshops. We have had requests from Alabama, Mississippi, and Kansas.
• 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.
• Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group – Final guidelines have been developed. Could be a public announcement July 21.
• White Nose Syndrome – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.
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MCR AMD Workshop in Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment in April 13 & 14, 2010.

NAAMLP Annual Meeting Rogers AR – September 27-30, 2009 MCR will be presenting several talks and coordinating an exhibit for this meeting.

AR Report:

The ARTT Team (bi annual) meeting has been scheduled for September 15-17, 2009 in Kingsport, TN. The meeting will present findings from Applied Science Projects and technical studies as well as updates on technology transfer activities, both nationally and regionally.

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NTTP Report No Report this period

TIPS Report

TIPS has added a table of software to the TIPS website including version, date of the latest update, and software manager information (http://www.tips.osmre.gov/pdf/software/Resources_CurrentCoreSoftware.pdf).

The revised Memorandum of Agreement for TIPS software usage is on temporary hold while the State of West Virginia develops changes for their network requirements.

We have 12 TIPS classes left through the end of September. All are on schedule.

The Training survey that Sarah spoke of produced some very interesting results including that 62% of TIPS instructors have taught for less than three years. In addition, 59% of respondents will NOT retire for seven years or more.

TIPS personnel and specialists have been diverted lately to a geospatial plan effort for the Bureau. The “GeoMine” is in prototype stage and includes the location of all current mines nationwide, as well as AML sites, and historic underground sites.

HEADQUARTERS Report

The CLT agreed to fund the top 9 recommended Underground Mine Mapping projects for this fiscal year. The projects total $259,483. The CLT has not decided on partial funding for project number 10. Each Region is currently working on their respective
Cooperative Agreements. The AR should be complete within 2-weeks, the MCR by July 22\textsuperscript{nd}, and the WR has not returned my call as of this report.

IMCC Report
- Work continues on the \textbf{benchmarking workshop} scheduled for late October on \textbf{e-permitting and mobile computing}. A conference call of the presenters at the workshop is set for July 23. At that time, a final decision will be made on moving forward with the workshop. We may decide to send out a pre-registration memo first to gauge participation in light of state travel restrictions.

- OSM has decided to reconstitute the \textbf{OSM/State Oversight Steering Committee} in an effort to respond to some of the short term actions required of OSM under the EPA/Interior/Corps MOU and Interagency Action Plan released on June 11. Both Greg Conrad and David Berry will be heavily involved with the work of the Committee, which may limit their participation on the NTTT in the short term.

WEIB Report
- The \textbf{2009 Western Region States/OSM management meeting} is on hold until further notice. We hope to schedule the next meeting once a new OSM Director is appointed.

NAAMLP Report
- The \textbf{2009 Annual NAAMLP Conference} will be held in Rogers, Arkansas September 27 – 30. The conference is hosted by the State Programs of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. The registration, schedule and information on the tours can be found at the NAAMLP web site.

Exhibit Schedule
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
- \textbf{NAAMLP Conference}, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 1-2, 2009 by MCR
- TMRA, Boerne, TX, October 17-20 by MCR
- GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 7-8 by MCR

Next conference call will take place \textbf{August 18, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST}. 
Wayne Van Buren reported that the NAAML P has 35 technical papers for the upcoming annual meeting in Rogers AR September 28-30, 2009. Online registration is available. Contact Wayne or Tim Wilson for more details.

Laura Montgrain submitted a report for the AMD Workshop for April 13-14, 2010 in Evansville, Indiana. The team is currently making arrangements with the event hotel. The team should have a lot more information about the field sites and program at the next call. Contact Larry Lewis at (217) 524-6513 if you want to be involved in the planning of this event.

Event themes currently under consideration include:

- Planning for AMD remediation. Bring us your problem in terms of water quality values, flow, etc., including physical constraints, and let the group work on and discuss the problem.
- Update on work in your state including planned or completed.
- Bio-reactors: successes, limitations and failures, issues, etc.

State Specific Geomorphic Reclamation Workshops Mississippi and Kansas has expressed an interest in conducting a more region specific training session focusing on technologies that would useful in Midwestern settings. Stan Thieling said that Mississippi might consider holding such an
event in 2010 and will get back with Kim after they have a chance to discuss it internally. Marlene Spence will communicate with Murray Balk to see if Kansas is still interested.

ONGOING EFFORTS

1. **OSM CCB Rulemaking** OMB has returned the proposed rule to OSM with the instructions that it must be resubmitted for publication during the next administration.

2. **2009 NAAMLP Conference** will be September 24-30, 2009 in Rogers, AR


4. **Indiana Bat Coordination Meetings** – This effort concerns improving consistency and effectiveness of protection and enhancement plans for Indiana Bats on SMCRA mine sites under the 1996 Biological Opinion. The Press Release is still scheduled for July.

5. **Protecting Bats at Coal Mines Forum.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held the fall of 2010 in Charleston, WV with a full day field trip and a 2.5 day forum.

6. **White Nose Syndrome** – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.

7. **CCB Placement after new OSM CCB Rule Forum.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held during the last half of July 2011 in Morgantown, WV with a full day field trip and two day forum following publication of a proposed rule.

8. **American Society of Mining and Reclamation (ASMR) Annual Meeting** – The AR staff will be the hosts in Pittsburgh, PA in 2010.

9. **IMCC** Work continues on the benchmarking workshop scheduled for late October on e-permitting and mobile computing. A conference call of the presenters at the workshop is set for July 23. At that time, a final decision will be made on moving forward with the workshop. We may decide to send out a pre-registration memo first to gauge participation in light of state travel restrictions.


11. **Stray Gas Workshop** will be held on November 4-6, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA. This workshop will focus on the scientific basis for assessment of and various types of fingerprinting for stray or fugitive gases. Gas accumulation can lead to problems where the fugitive nature of gases is a major safety concern. Tools and strategies for investigating stray gases, along with case histories, will be presented by scientists and specialists whose work has focused on the origins, mitigation, and accumulation of gases. The workshop will have emphasis on carbon dioxide and methane; the implications for safety, mitigation, and management of subsurface resources also will be addressed. Sponsors for the workshop are USGA, Pittsburgh Geological Society, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and OSM. Further information can be found at [http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas/](http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas/)

12. The new OSM Technology Transfer Website is a work in progress and can be accessed at [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov). or by going to the MCR website at [www.merc.osmre.gov](http://www.merc.osmre.gov) and under the Links list clicking on “NT3 OSM Technology Transfer.” Please visit the applied science page to view final reports for past projects.

13. **Next Conference Call** will be scheduled for September 22, 2009 at 10 AM CDT.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – Fred Block
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
WR –
TIPS – Lou Hamm
IMCC --
WEIB –
NAAMLP –
NTTP – Tom Hines

WR and TIPS Report

- TIPS Team members from all regions have been contributing to geospatial planning for the Bureau. They have been instrumental in the cooperative development of a geospatial strategic plan to coordinate all things geospatial in OSM. This plan will be discussed with OSM’s Core Leadership Team in the coming weeks.
- The Western Region videographer is working on the AML Award’s video for the upcoming NAAMLP Conference in Arkansas.
- Volunteers from the Western Region’s Denver office and the Denver Finance Center helped to staff the information booth in the Mining Pavilion at the Taste of Colorado event over Labor Day Weekend. Over 500,000 visitors attended the annual festival at Denver’s Civic Center Park.
- TIPS is completing the hiring of a Remote Sensing Specialist in the Denver Office. The new hire is expected to join OSM in October.

MCR Report

- Geomorphic Reclamation Workshops. MCR is trying to develop one to several State specific geomorphic workshops. We have had requests from Alabama, Mississippi, and Kansas.
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. A field trip dry run and investigation of possible hotels was conducted September 1-2, 2009.
- Indiana Bat Coordination Work Group – The Interior News Release was published September 2, 2009.
- White Nose Syndrome – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.
- 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.
- 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 2011.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR has sent a letter to OSU committing to providing technical assistance as requested.

• MCR AMD Workshop in Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment in April 13 & 14, 2010.

• NAAMLP Annual Meeting Rogers AR – September 27-30, 2009 MCR will be presenting several talks and coordinating an exhibit for this meeting.

• MCR APPLIED SCIENCE HIGH PRIORITY TOPIC 2010 – The regional team selected the following: Advances in Passive Treatment of Acid Mine Drainage including but not limited to the development of aeration devices that do not require power from the grid.

AR Report:

• The ARTT Team (bi annual) meeting will be held September 15-17, 2009 in Kingsport, TN. The meeting will present findings from Applied Science Projects and technical studies as well as updates on technology transfer activities, both nationally and regionally.

• Stray Gas Workshop will be held on November 4-6, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA. This workshop will focus on the scientific basis for assessment of and various types of fingerprinting for stray or fugitive gases. Gas accumulation can lead to problems where the fugitive nature of gases is a major safety concern. Tools and strategies for investigating stray gases, along with case histories, will be presented by scientists and specialists whose work has focused on the origins, mitigation, and accumulation of gases. The workshop will have emphasis on carbon dioxide and methane; the implications for safety, mitigation, and management of subsurface resources also will be addressed. Sponsors for the workshop are USGA, Pittsburgh Geological Society, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and OSM. Further information can be found at http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas2/.

• Planning team for the AML Water Treatment Workshop for AML scheduled for March 2010 in Morgantown, WV has been busy developing the agenda and speakers for this 2 day meeting.

• Core team planning the 2010 ASMR joint conference with ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer has been meeting to plan this huge event. The conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Information including the CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (due October 19th) can be found at http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/

NTTP Report

• NTTP trained approximately 1000 students in 2009 and plans for the same numbers in 2010. This is possible only through the support of your offices and staff and the willing support and participation of the State and Tribal agencies.

• NTTP has been working on completing the training space allocations for the 2010 that will be out in the next week or two. The agency training contacts have been notified that
they need to submit their nominations to NTTP for the two early classes to be held in October and November.

- The **Orientation Course** (for OSM participants only) will be held in October with 40 participants and there are a number of course development meetings and course pilots that have been planned for the coming year. They include: Revision Meetings for the Geology and Geochemistry Course; Revision and Update of the AML Reclamation Projects Course; Revision of the Underground Mining Technology Course; Course Pilot of the Acid Forming Materials: Soils & Overburden Class; and a Dry Run and Pilot of the SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures (Field Course).

**HEADQUARTERS Report**  Report not provided.

**IMCC Report**

- IMCC is moving forward with the **benchmarking workshop on e-permitting and mobile computing**. It is set for October 28 and 29 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Chicago. We are expecting between 50 and 65 attendees. We encourage all potential attendees (state and federal) to register ASAP so we can get a better handle on our numbers and any travel reimbursement requirements.

**WEIB Report**

- David Berry (CO) and Chris Yde (MT) are representing the western states to the OSM Oversight Steering Committee.
- WIEB has not yet scheduled the **annual western states/OSM management meeting**, pending appointment of a new OSM Director.

**NAAMLP Report**

- The **2009 Annual NAAMLP Conference** will be held in Rogers, Arkansas September 27 – 30. The conference is hosted by the State Programs of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. The registration, schedule and information on the tours can be found at the NAAMLP web site.

**Exhibit Schedule**

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

- NAAMLP Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)
- GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 7-8 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **October 14, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST**.
MEETING SUMMARY
MCR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
STEERING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

DATE: September 22, 2009
TIME: 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM CDT

ATTENDEES:
Alabama AML:
Alabama Surface Mining: Randall Johnson
Arkansas Mining Division: Greg Melton, Wayne Van Buren
Illinois Office of Mines and Minerals:
Illinois AML: Larry Lewis
Indiana Division of Reclamation:
Indiana AML:
Iowa Mining and Minerals Bureau:
Kansas Surface Mining Section: Tim Wilson, Murray Balk
Louisiana Injection and Mining Division:
Mississippi Coal Mining Division: Stan Thieling, Lonnie Barrier, Mike Bograd
Missouri Land Reclamation Program:
Oklahoma AML:
Oklahoma Department of Mines:
Texas Mining and Reclamation Division:
OSM MCR: Kimery Vories,
OSM BFO:
OSM TFO:
OSM IFO:

Significant updates in bold italics
Wayne Van Buren and Tim Wilson reported that registration for the upcoming NAAMLPl meeting in Rogers AR September 28-30, 2009 should be around 150. Everything looks well for the field trips and conference.

Larry Lewis AMD Workshop 2010 Update April 13-14, 2010 Evansville IN. Each day will include part of each day in the field & classroom. Field transportation will be provided. Theme will emphasize passive treatment bio-reactors. Need more talks of this and other current topics. Contact Larry with any suggestions.

State Specific Geomorphic Reclamation Workshops Mississippi and Kansas has expressed an interest in conducting a more region specific training session focusing on technologies that would useful in Midwestern settings. Kim plans to get Nick Grant involved in planning these for 2010 as soon as he gets back to work in mid-October.

ONGOING EFFORTS

1. CCC Letter of Intent to Sue OSM to take over PA program related to placement of CCBs at coal mines
2. 3 Environmental groups Letter of Intent to Sue EPA related failure to regulate water quality from CCB impoundments and landfills.
3. EPA CCB proposed rule to OMB on landfills and impoundments.
4. OSM CCB Rulemaking OMB has returned the proposed rule to OSM with the instructions that it must be resubmitted for publication during the next administration.
6. Indiana Bat Coordination Meetings – The Press Release was announced September 2. The guidance plan will be posted on the NTTT website.
5. Protecting Bats at Coal Mines Forum. The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held the fall of 2010 in Charleston, WV with a full day field trip and a 2.5 day forum.
6. White Nose Syndrome – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.
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11. The new OSM Technology Transfer Website is a work in progress and can be accessed at www.techtransfer.osmre.gov, or by going to the MCR website at www.mercosmre.gov and under the Links list clicking on “NT^3 OSM Technology Transfer.” Please visit the applied science page to view final reports for past projects.
12. Next Conference Call will be scheduled for November 12, 2009 at 10 AM CDT.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• We are currently coordinating staffing the booths for the upcoming SME and CMA meetings. Coordination is still taking place for the GSA meeting. We happily coordinated with MCR to set up the booth at this year’s NAAMLP conference.

MCR Report
• Geomorphic Reclamation Workshops. MCR is trying to develop one to several State specific geomorphic workshops. We have had requests from Alabama, Mississippi, and Kansas.
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 30-Sept 3, 2009 Charleston, WV. Currently working on field trip logistics and contracts, hotel contract, and event program.
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• 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.
• 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 2011.
• PA CCB Regulatory Program Presentation November 5 Harrisburg, PA. PA will make a half day presentation to OSM staff on how their regulatory program works and what are the results.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR has sent a letter to OSU committing to providing technical assistance as requested.
• MCR AMD Workshop in Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment in April 13 & 14, 2010.
• **NAAMLP Annual Meeting Rogers AR – September 27-30, 2009** MCR presented several talks and coordinating an exhibit for this meeting.

**AR Report:**

• Completed **Applied Science Project final** report has been posted on [http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov/NTTMainSite/appliedscience/AScompleted.shtm](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov/NTTMainSite/appliedscience/AScompleted.shtm)  
  Title of report is **Monitoring of Pittsburgh Seam Mine Water and Hydrogeology in Northern West Virginia**

• The **ARTT Team (bi annual) meeting** was held September 15-17, 2009 in Kingsport, TN. The meeting presented findings from Applied Science Projects and technical studies as well as updates on technology transfer activities, both nationally and regionally.

• **Stray Gas Workshop** will be held on November 4-6, 2009 in Pittsburgh, PA. This workshop will focus on the scientific basis for assessment of and various types of fingerprinting for stray or fugitive gases. Gas accumulation can lead to problems where the fugitive nature of gases is a major safety concern. Tools and strategies for investigating stray gases, along with case histories, will be presented by scientists and specialists whose work has focused on the origins, mitigation, and accumulation of gases. The workshop will have emphasis on carbon dioxide and methane; the implications for safety, mitigation, and management of subsurface resources also will be addressed. Sponsors for the workshop are USGA, Pittsburgh Geological Society, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and OSM. Further information can be found at [http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas2/](http://pa.water.usgs.gov/stray_gas2/)

• Planning team for the **AML Water Treatment Workshop for AML** scheduled for March 2010 in Morgantown, WV has been busy developing the agenda and speakers for this 2 day meeting.

• Core team planning the **2010 ASMR joint conference with ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer** has been meeting to plan this huge event. The conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Information including the **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (due October 19th)** can be found at [http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/](http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/)

**NTTP Report**

• **The Stan Barnard Memorial Award** - This award was established in 2001 and is presented in memory of Stan Barnard (1958-1998). It is given to an individual who exhibits Stan-like qualities of outstanding dedication, commitment, and hard work toward the enhancement of the NAAMLP. This award was presented at the National Association of Abandoned Mine land Programs' annual conference. The 2009 winner is: **Steve Hohmann – Kentucky**

• **The Dave Bucknam Outstanding Instructor Award** - This award was first presented in 2006 in memory of Dave Bucknam (1941-2004). Any active or inactive state, tribal, or federal employee designated as an instructor by the OSM National Technical Training Program is eligible for the Dave Bucknam Outstanding Instructor Award. This individual must exhibit the special qualities of dedication, leadership, compassion, and commitment as epitomized by Dave Bucknam in promoting the training of state, tribal, and federal employees. This award was presented at the National Association of Abandoned Mine land Programs’ annual conference. The 2009 winner is: **Ed Carey**
The NTTP anticipates approximately 1050 participants in this coming year’s training with some 190 instructors and offerings of some 50 courses. NTTP developed a request form for those instances where the course managers and instructors need assistance from the states in locating feasible field exercise sites.

NTTP is planning the following course meetings, dry runs and pilots for the coming year: Geology and Geochemistry Course meeting; AML Reclamation Projects Course meeting; Underground Mining Technology Course revision meeting; Acid Forming Materials Course dry run (2/2); SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures Course dry run (2/23); Master Instructor’s Forum (4/27-29); Acid Forming Materials Course pilot (8/10); and SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures pilot in September. Sarah and Tom will be assisting the management duties for this year’s OSM Employees Orientation Course (10/20-23).

NTTP has completed the schedule of training courses for FY2010 and has distributed the space allocations to the nationwide training contacts. This class schedule will also be available on the TIPS web site in the near future.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- **EPA CCB Rule Plans for impoundments and landfill** meeting October 15 in Washington, DC. John & Sterling will attend and report.
- **International program** will continue and OSM will provide technical assistance.
- **UGMM 2010 solicitation** will have a Feb 5 due date.

TIPS Report

- Ken, Karyn, Jessica and Lou are meeting with AR staff about **TIPS improvements.** Arrangements to meet with MCR are to follow. TIPS is finalizing spending plans for 2010.

IMCC Report

- IMCC is primed to host its **benchmarking workshop on e-permitting and mobile computing** on October 28 and 29 in Chicago. We are expecting about 55 attendees and the presentations by the states of West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky, along with OSM-Tennessee, look to be excellent. We trust that the workshop will be a valuable and insightful exercise for all.

- IMCC will host its **Mid-Year meeting** the week of November 16 in Denver. It will be preceded by a "Summit of the States on the Regulation of Non-coal Minerals." We are expecting about 40 people to attend both events.

WEIB Report

- There are no Western Interstate Energy Board events scheduled at this time. WIEB continues to participate and coordinate with the IMCC. WIEB may schedule a **western states/OSM management meeting** after an OSM Director is confirmed.
• The **2009 Annual NAAMLP Conference** was held in Rogers, Arkansas September 27 – 30. The conference was hosted by the State Programs of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. One hundred fifty-one individuals were pre-registered.

• The 2010 Winter Meeting will be held at Lajitas TX February 21-23.

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

• GSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR October 18-21, 2009 by HDQ (National coordination)

• ISMR Jasper, IN December 7-8 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **December 8, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST.**
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Fred Block, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
- A service manager visit was completed to the state of UT. The TIPS chief attended the meeting for support.
- A Minority Higher Education Program (MHEP) presentation was given at Adams state college in the state of Colorado. Contacts and follow-ups were made with both University of New Mexico and Salish Kootenai College.
- Applied Science Cooperative Agreement correspondence has been fairly heavy.
- Planning of OSM Technology Transfer booths for both the Society of Mining Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) and the Colorado Mining Association (CMA) are ongoing.
- Discussion on the proposed oversight effect and how it will affect the TIPS program are taking place. The Western Region Management Council (WRMC) is taking place this week and they will discuss TIPS involvement in future oversight operations.

MCR Report
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 30-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. Currently working on field trip logistics and contracts, hotel contract, and event program.
- White Nose Syndrome – Now occurs in 65 caves in 9 states. Killed up to 1 million bats since outbreak in 2007. Caves on Federal lands in 33 states have been closed. Many States are closing caves on State lands. Plans are being prepared to raise some endangered species (Virginia Big Eared Bat) in captivity in an attempt to save them.
- 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.
- 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 2011.
- Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR has sent a letter to OSU committing to providing technical assistance as requested.
• **MCR AMD Workshop in Indiana** – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment in *April 13 & 14, 2010.*

**AR Report:**

• The **AMD Water Treatment Workshop for AML** will be held March 2-4, 2010 in Morgantown, WV. The main objective of the workshop is to provide state AML professionals a platform to share technical practices for treating acid mine drainage.

• Core team planning the **2010 ASMR joint conference with ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer** has been meeting to plan this huge event. The conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Information including the **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS (due October 19th)** can be found at [http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/](http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/)

• The **ARTT team meeting** will be held February 24-25, 2010 in Charleston, WV; main purpose is to rank the Applied Science proposals.

**NTTP Report**

• Fifty **training course offerings** are planned for the NTTP FY2010 calendar.

• The **Instructor Training Course** was held November 1-6, 2009. Twenty new NTTP/TIPS instructors were added to instructor talent for the training programs.

• Ann Walker will be sending out the request letters to supervisors for instructors for FY 2010 probably by the end of this week.

• The **NTTP Steering Committee meeting** will be on Feb. 3-4 in New Orleans.

• NTTP will be inviting individuals to attend and critique the ‘dry run’ of the new **SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures course** Feb. 22-26.

**HEADQUARTERS Report**

• Due date for FY’10 UGMM proposals is February 5th. Next week Josh will be hosting a conference call with all UGMM PTRs to review the interim guidance document(s) as it relates to the UGMM program. We will also be discussing inclusion of a goals statement with the co-ops and developing standard reporting formats.

• Josh will be attending the MSHA, “Coal Impoundment Design Manual Meeting” next week. He will report back to NTTT with a summary. Attached is a copy of the agenda for this meeting. What is interesting is that MSHA is calling this an “Impoundment Design Manual,” and on the agenda, the document is titled “Engineering and Design Manual: Coal Refuse Disposal Facilities.” This course may just be specifically looking at the changes to the Impoundment areas of the total document.

**TIPS Report**

• It was proposed to buy more **ArcGIS licenses** as ESRI software has no license sharing.

• The **TIPS license server** for the west has moved to the federal center. It has been proposed to move the east server to Washington D.C. Headquarters.

• Discussion on the proposed **oversight effect** on the TIPS program showed us in a holding pattern for the time being. The Western Region Management Council (WRMC) is taking
place at this moment and they will discuss TIPS involvement in future oversight operations.

IMCC Report
- IMCC held its **benchmarking workshop on electronic permitting and mobile computing** on October 28 and 29 in Chicago at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. A total of 56 state and federal representatives attended the workshop which received an overall rating of 4.5 out of 5 for value and effectiveness. Many remarked that it was one of the best and most helpful training sessions that they have ever attended. IMCC thanks the NTTT for their assistance with the direction of the workshop. At this point, IMCC has expended all of its funding for this project and will not be able to hold additional workshops without receiving more in the way of OSM contract funding.

WEIB Report
- No report was provided.

NAAMLP Report
- The 2010 Winter Meeting will be held at Lajitas TX February 21-23, 2010.

Exhibit Schedule
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 7-8 by MCR
- ASMR Pittsburgh, PA June 7-10, 2010 AR (National Coordination)
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines Forum Charleston, WV, August 31- September 3, 2010 by MCR
- NAAMLP Annual Meeting Scanton, PA Sept 19-22, 2010 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, TX October , 2010 by MCR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2010, by MCR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **January 21, 2009 at 1:00 PM CST.**