Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt, Dale Herbort
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
- The 112th National Western Mining Conference will take place in Denver on February 9-11. We will have an NTTT booth there.

MCR Report
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. Currently working advertising this event.
- 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.
- MCR AMD Workshop in Evansville, Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment of AMD in April 13 & 14, 2010.
- Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR was involved with a conference call with OSM representatives from AR and the OSU researchers on their plans for conducting their field research.
- EPA CCB Rulemaking – MCR staff have been providing input to HDQ for OMB on comments on the proposed EPA rulemaking that would remove the beneficial use category for mine placement and require that disposal would constitute a hazardous waste designation. OMB has extended the Federal comment period by 30 days. MCR staff will participate in a conference call with OMB, DOE, DOI, and DOT today on the issue.
- FY 2010 Applied Science Status – We received 46 proposals, 26 AR, 9 WR, and 11 MR. A CD with the proposals has been sent to AR so that they can be placed on a controlled access website. The proposal review should be able to begin the week of January 25.

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 Mine Reclamation joint conference (ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer)** is ongoing. Conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Information on registration and program 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**

• The **NTTP Steering Committee** is scheduled to meet on February 3 & 4. This meeting will cover the NTTP 2011 Needs Survey, FY 2009 and 2010 accomplishments, and projections of the effects of current oversight efforts on the training programs.

• There are **three new members on the NTTP Steering Committee**: Butch Lambert (VA) has taken the place of Benny Wampler; Randy Johnson (AL) will be taking the place of Melvin Hodgkiss; and Paul Ehret (OSM-MR) will be taking the place of Len Meier. NTTP expresses its appreciation for the contributions made by Melvin, Len and Benny to the Steering Committee.

• NTTP will be working with Pennsylvania on some administrative issues concerning **out-of-state travel**. NTTP encourages all program participants to provide prompt administrative paperwork to the program for training participation to assist us with meeting those needs.

• NTTP is doing better on **distribution of travel packets and payments** and looks forward to continued improvements.

• Several **course revision meetings and course “dry-run” presentations** are scheduled:
  - The revision team for the **Underground Mining Technology** course met last week to update course materials;
  - The **Geology and Geochemistry** course revision team is currently meeting for course updates;
  - The **Acid Forming Materials Geology and Geochemistry** course dry-run is scheduled for Feb. 2-5; and
  - The **SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures** course has scheduled a dry-run for February 22-26.

• **Two course date changes** include the Bonding Workshop: Cost Estimation that will be postponed from 2/23-25 until after June of this year; and the Quantitative Hydrogeology class scheduled for 5/20-23 is being moved to the week of August 30.

**HEADQUARTERS Report**

• Underground Mine Mapping proposals for FY’10 are due Feb 5th. The PTRs and Josh continue to work on the corrective actions identified from the ICR. We have agreed on the standardization of numerous reports, and are developing reporting files for use on the NTTT website.

**TIPS Report**
• TIPS continues to send out the new Memorandum of Understanding for use of TIPS software and equipment to States and Tribes. The package includes a separate agreement for use of the AutoCAD software as well. These documents go to the Director of each state program.

IMCC Report
• IMCC has been working on providing extensive comments to OSM on stream buffer zones and proposed changes to oversight. IMCC has stated it’s objections to any oversight realignment that would negatively impact NTTP, TIPS, and NTTT.

WEIB Report
• National Western Mining Conference in Denver (February 9-11). Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety will post a booth, and will present annual reclamation awards with the Colorado Mining Association at the luncheon of February 11, 2010.
• WEIB filed comments with OSM regarding the pending oversight changes. Comment letter dated December 15, 2010.
• State mandated furloughs are causing Colorado to withdraw students from allocated training seats during furlough weeks.

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

• The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

Exhibit Schedule
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008/2009.
• 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 March 9, 2010 at 1:00 PM CST.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt, Dale Herbort
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – Rick Chancellor, John Koerth
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• WR is involved with oversight.

MCR Report
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. Currently working advertising this event.
• 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.
• MCR AMD Workshop in Evansville, Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment of AMD in April 13 & 14, 2010. 33 participants registered from 6 MCR states 1 AR state, 3 OSM, 1 USFS, and 4 consultants.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR was involved with a conference call with OSM representatives from AR and the OSU researchers on their plans for conducting their field research.
• EPA CCB Rulemaking – MCR staff have been providing input to HDQ for OMB on comments on the proposed EPA rulemaking that would remove the beneficial use category for mine placement and require that disposal would constitute a hazardous waste designation. OMB has extended the Federal comment period by 30 days. EPA has announced it will publish a proposed rule April 15.

AR Report:
• The AMD Water Treatment Workshop for AML was held March 2-4, 2010 in Morgantown, WV with about 34 state and OSM staff participating. The workshop contained panel and “lessons learned” discussions that will assist the AR states in their efforts to maximize the positive impacts of water treatment and source minimization to affected watersheds while considering the most effective cost solutions.
• Core team planning the 2010 ASMR Mine Reclamation joint conference (ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer) is ongoing. Conference will be
NTTP Report

- The NTTP Steering Committee met on February 3 & 4. The upcoming needs survey was discussed as were the 2008-2009 training year accomplishments and strategic planning for FY 2011 and beyond.
- The development team for the Acid Forming Materials Geology and Geochemistry course met Feb. 2-5 to continue with course development.
- The development team for the SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures course conducted a dry-run February 22-26. The dry run included presentations of the course lecture modules, descriptions of the planned classroom and field exercises and an overview of the course module sequencing. There were eight state and OSM reviewers during the week representing all Regions and both Title IV and V programs.
- The instruction team for the Enforcement Tools and Applications course is scheduled to meet the week of March 15 to discuss needed revisions to the course.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- UGMM Current status: The time to submit proposals closed Feb 5th. 11 proposals were received. A website for electronic distribution is being completed. The regional Grants Financial Specialists will need to review their respective proposals for completeness (as required by the new Guidance Document). On 3/19, after the GFS approve the proposals, they will be distributed either electronically or hard copy to each voting member of the UGMM Steering Committee for ranking. On 4/12, the recommendations will be forwarded to the CLT.

TIPS Report

- No report.

IMCC Report

- No report

WEIB Report

- No report

NAAMLP Report

- The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

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• TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2010, by MCR
• ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next meeting will take place April 7, 2010 in San Antonio, TX.
NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
April 7, 2010
8 - 11 AM Central Time

Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt, Dale Herbort, Vernon Maldonado
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – John Koerth, Tom Henderson
MR Jerry Heltsley
WR Dave Clark
AR Paul Rothman
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• April 22, 2010 Presentation by MT and CO of new collaborative E-Permitting process called BrassCap to OSM.
• New Mexico is imaging all of its old files and graphics and will make it available in house on a searchable intranet. It will be crawler searchable.
• Navajo Nation DNR has invited OSM AML to partner in their 5-year strategic plan. April 12, 2010 they will hold a conference to initiate the cooperative effort.

MCR Report
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. Currently working advertising this event.
• 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.
• MCR AMD Workshop in Evansville, Indiana – Plans are progressing on a regional workshop focusing on passive treatment of AMD in April 13 & 14, 2010. 56 participants registered from 6 MCR states 1 AR state, 3 OSM, 1 USFS, and 4 consultants.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR was involved with a conference call with OSM representatives from AR and the OSU researchers on their plans for conducting their field research.
• EPA CCB Rulemaking – MCR staff have been providing input to HDQ for OMB on comments on the proposed EPA rulemaking that would remove the beneficial use category for mine placement and require that disposal would constitute a hazardous waste designation. OMB has extended the Federal comment period by 30 days. EPA has announced it will publish a proposed rule April 15.
AR Report:

- Core team planning the 2010 JSMR Mine Reclamation joint conference (ASMR, ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer) is ongoing. Conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Information on registration and program can be found at http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/
- NAAMLP Conference in Scranton, PA AR will coordinate the exhibit.
- ARTT fall meeting in August.

NTTP Report

- The NTTP Steering Committee met on February 3 & 4.
- The development team for the SMCRA Principles and Filed Procedures course conducted a Dry Run of the course the week of February 22-26. The State and OSM reviewers were Sandy Brown (CO), Steve Herbert (INAML), Butch Lambert (VA), Lewis Halstead (WV), Alani Taylor (OSMTUL), Fred Klimas (OSM-Knoxville) and Glenn Waugh (OSM-Olympia)
- The development team for the new Acid Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden conducted a dry run of the new course in February.
- Sarah Donnelly recently notified the Federal, State and Tribal Program Directors informing them of the upcoming pilot offering of the SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures course. She also inquired that if they had training space allocations for the scheduled Principles of Inspection (POI) courses for this year, would they like those nominees to instead attend the SMCRA Principles Course. After receipt of their input regarding this new course, the decisions will be made relative to the scheduling of this year’s POI courses.
- The week of April 6-9 saw the presentation of the AML Reclamations Projects Course with the additions of some of the update information and modules from the course revision efforts.

HEADQUARTERS Report

Status of on EPA rulemaking concerning CCBs
Status of Stream protection rulemaking
Status of hiring a new hydrologist

TIPS Report

- Training schedule in progress.
- Series of courses with Adams State College in Alamosa, CO: Mobile Computing and Autocad courses. Assisting in E-learning modification of existing courses with software assistance. Will provide mechanism for earning full college credits for TIPS courses.
- GIS strategy development with NCMGC that has memberships in all states. Goal is to have all mine data in every state available in GIS format.

IMCC Report

- No report

WEIB Report
NAAMLP Report

- The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

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The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2010.

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- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2010, by MCR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next conference call will take place May 25 at 1 PM Central, 2010.
NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY
May 25, 2010
1:00 – 1:30 PM Central Time

Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski, David Lane
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – John Koerth
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• WR will be sending Henry Austin to help man the OSM booth at the ASMR conference in Pittsburgh, PA

MCR Report
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. 45 participants registered to date.
• 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.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – Research is now entering Stage 2 which is field implementation. MCR was involved with a conference call with OSM representatives from AR and the OSU researchers on their plans for conducting their field research.
• EPA CCB Rulemaking – EPA published its proposed rule on regulating CCB landfills and impoundments. They have a 90 day comment period. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement.
• White-Nose Syndrome & IN bat update: As of April 28, 2010, biologists within the states of NY, VT, NJ, PA, VA, WV, TN, and MO had confirmed (or suspected) the presence of Geomyces destructans/White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) within a minimum of 30 Indiana bat hibernacula (Andy King USFWS).

From 2007 to 2009, the overall Indiana bat population declined by approximately 17% (approx. loss of 80,346 bats). This is the first observed decline since 2001. During the three previous biennial survey periods from 2001-2003, 2003-2005 and 2005-2007, the range-wide population had increased by 10.8%, 16.9%, and 10.1%, respectively. Between 2007 and 2009, it appears the increasing trend stopped and the overall population began to decline (Andy King USFWS).
AR Report:

- Final planning the 2010 ASMR Mine Reclamation joint conference (ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer) is ongoing. Conference will be held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. Registration presently at 300+. Information on registration and program can be found at http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/.
- ARTT Fall meeting to be held August 31 - September 2, 2010 at Pipestem, WV.

NTTP Report

- The NTTP Steering Committee is scheduled for July 28-29, 2010. The committee will review the results from the FY 2011 training needs survey and make tentative plans for the FY 2011 schedule.
- Those scheduled for the September Principles of Inspection Course were invited to attend either the May session or the pilot session of the new SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures class which will be held on September 13-24 in Columbus, Ohio. Program Directors nationwide have been notified of the spaces allocated for this initial class and information will be sent out shortly.
- A special session of the Coal Field Communications class was presented to personnel from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources April 13-15.
- Special sessions of the Effective Writing Class will be held for Indiana in June and for OSM’s Casper Field Office in Kentucky.
- A special session of the Coalfield Communications class will be held in Hazard, Kentucky later this year for Kentucky blasting specialists.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- Status of on EPA rulemaking concerning CCBs
- Status of Stream protection rulemaking
- Status of hiring a new hydrologist
- UGMM proposal analysis has been send to management.

TIPS Report

- Training schedule is on the TIPS website (www.tips.osmre.gov).
- TIPS Steering Committee Meeting was held last week. TIPS has been assigned responsibility for the Bureau Geospatial Initiative. Much of the preliminary work for this initiative has been accomplished through the National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee that TIPS has sponsored for more than five years.

IMCC Report

- IMCC have identified some very worthy topics for potential future benchmarking sessions, but at this point, funding is needed before we can proceed.

WEIB Report

- WIEB and OSM will be meeting in Salt Lake City (Annual Western States/OSM Leadership meeting) June 15-16, 2010.

NAAMLP Report
- The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

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- 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 June 22 at 1 PM Central, 2010.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – John Koerth
Attendees in **Bold**

**WR Report**
- No report this period.

**MCR Report**
- **Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV.**
  50 participants registered to date.
- **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.
- **Ohio State University CCB Research** – OSU is working on securing the permit for the high-volume FGD gypsum demo project near Conesville power plant of AEP. Placement of FGD gypsum is expected begin in late summer or early fall. Background monitoring is already in progress.
- **EPA CCR Rulemaking** – EPA published its proposed rule on June 21, 2010 on regulating CCR landfills and impoundments. They have a 90 day comment period. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement. EPA has defined minefilling as pertaining only to coal mining. ACAA plans to request an additional 120 days.
- **White-Nose Syndrome update:** Biologists within the states of NY, VT, NJ, PA, VA, WV, TN, MO and OK had confirmed (or suspected) the presence of *Geomycetes destructans/White-Nose Syndrome (WNS).*

**AR Report:**
- The **2010 Joint Mine reclamation Conference with OSM-ARRI, PA Watershed Coalitions and AR Technology Transfer** was held June 5-11, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA. The 340 attendees was kept busy trying to determine which of the approximately 100 presentations, technical tours and seminars to attend. The presentations and technical papers will be posted on the conference web site [http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/](http://www.pghminingreclamationconf.com/) as well as on ASMR site: [http://dept.ca.uky.edu/asmr/W/](http://dept.ca.uky.edu/asmr/W/)
• **ARTT Fall meeting** to be held August 31- September 2, 2010 at Pipestem State Park, WV. Technical agenda is being developed

**NTTP Report**

• A letter was sent last week to the national training contacts identifying space allocations and requesting nominations for the upcoming **SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures** course planned for September 13-24, 2010

• If you who have not responded to the **2011 Training Needs Survey**, please do so as soon as possible.

• The **OSM New Employee Orientation Course** will be scheduled either the week of October 25th or November 1.

• The **National Technical Training Program Steering Committee** will be holding their summer meeting on July 28 and 29. The Committee will be reviewing the results of this year’s Training Needs Survey, reviewing proposed changes to several courses and considering development of new ones in addition to other topics such as program accomplishments.

• Two special sessions of the **Effective Writing** course are planned based on specific need requests: One in Indiana on June 23-24 and one in Casper, WY on August 31-Sept. 1

**HEADQUARTERS Report**

No report this period.

**TIPS Report (Lou Please send report)**

• TIPS has filled its **GIS position** by hiring Janine Ferarese. We will fill Janine’s vacancy by hiring a Federal Career Intern at the GS-5,7,9 level with promotion potential to GS-12. If anyone knows of a qualified GIS Geographer that would be interested in this Denver position please have them send a resume to Lou Hamm as soon as possible. The position will be filled in the next two weeks.

• The TIPS “**E-Tools for Permitting and Reclamation**” class is underway in Denver this week.

• TIPS courses have been approved for full **college credits from Adams State University**, Alamosa Colorado. Anyone who wished to receive full college semester hour credits for the TIPS course that they attend has only to pay a fee of $55 per qualifying credit hour.

**IMCC Report**

• **IMCC/STATES Meetings**: OSM’s Western Region and states held a productive meeting on June 15 and 16 in Salt Lake City at which a variety of topics were discussed including oversight, technical support, technical training, the GeoMine pilot project, pending OSM rulemakings, and various AML issues. A similar meeting of OSM’s Appalachian Region and states will be held the week of June 28 in Pittsburgh. Many of the same issues will be discussed and there will also be a meeting of the key data stewards who will be involved with the GeoMine pilot project.

• IMCC is currently involved with or **monitoring several key issues** for the states including OSM’s newest oversight improvement action reports; proposed AML legislation (H.R. 5479 and S. 2830), EPA’s coal combustion residues (coal ash) proposed
rule, and a recent reprogramming request from OSM concerning moneys in the FY 2010 appropriation.

WEIB Report
- No report this time period.

NAAMLP Report
- The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

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Next conference call will take place at 1 PM Central, July 15, 2010.
Participants
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HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
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WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker
IMCC – Greg Conrad
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Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• No report this period.

MCR Report
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. 62 participants registered to date.
• 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. OSM management is considering a signing ceremony at the Bat Forum.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – OSU is working on securing the permit for the high-volume FGD gypsum demo project near Conesville power plant of AEP. Placement of FGD gypsum is expected begin in late summer or early fall. Background monitoring is already in progress.
• EPA CCR Rulemaking – EPA published its proposed rule on June 21, 2010 on regulating CCR landfills and impoundments. They have a 90 day comment period. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement. EPA has defined minefilling as pertaining only to coal mining. ACAA plans to request an additional 120 days.
• MCR Natural Stream Design (NSD) Workshop: A steering committee consisting of members from OSM, Illinois and Indiana program staff, Corps of Engineers, industry, and academia are developing a workshop exploring the unique nature and challenges of reclaiming streams in the Midwest. This three day event will take place May 17-19, 2011 in Mt Vernon, IL and will include field visits to stream restoration sites in Southern Illinois and Southwestern Indiana.

AR Report:
• ARTT Semi-Annual meeting to be held August 31- September 2, 2010 at Pipe Stem State Park, WV. Final plans and technical agenda are being made. The program will include technical presentations of findings from 2 or 3 Applied Science projects and a
demonstration of West Virginia DEP’s precipitation model for determining rainfall events.

NTTP Report

- The **SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures Course** is preparing for it pilot class and we anticipate a student group of 32 students to attend. It will be held from September 13-25, in Columbus, Ohio.
- The **2011 Training Needs Survey** results will be analyzed in the coming weeks and reported to the NTTP Steering Committee July 28 & 29.
- The **OSM NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION COURSE** has been scheduled for the last week of October.
- The NTTP Steering Committee will consider the potential for course revisions and/or new courses relative to the upcoming modifications of the stream protection standards.
- NTTP through the Steering Committee will also consider the potential need for a new course covering **Mine Gases**.
- The Steering Committee will also be considering the implications to the training program relative to **upcoming budget considerations**.

HEADQUARTERS Report

No report this period.

TIPS Report

- TIPS Training has obtained **certification from Adams State College** in Alamosa, Colorado for full college credits on many of the TIPS training classes. This is in addition to Professional Development hours for engineers, and the continuing education credits available for both NTTP and TIPS classes.
- **TIPS training classes** continue as the year winds down, including a slope stability class that was held in Denver this week.
- The Appalachian Region is generously purchasing **digital cameras with geotagging capability** for OSM inspectors, so that each digital photograph will have geospatial tagging information that can readily place the photograph on a digital map. Although not yet ordered, these cameras should be in the hands of OSM inspectors in the coming months. Plans for training in their use have not yet been developed.

IMCC Report

- IMCC is working with TIPS to develop a prototype program relating to the gathering of state data and information to support **the Geomine project**. Meetings and briefings have been held over the past several months and a meeting between the potential federal partners (OSM, EPA, and Fish and Wildlife) and the states will take place in early August to continue discussions about the nature and scope of the project.

WEIB Report

- WIEB/OSM Leadership meeting occurred in Salt Lake City, Utah June 15 and June 16, 2010.

NAAMLP Report
• The 32nd **Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference** will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, **September 19-22, 2010**. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the **Hilton Scranton & Conference Center**. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: [http://naamlp.net/](http://naamlp.net/)

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- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

**ACTION ITEMS**
1. **Applied Science FY 2010.** OSM management has notified the top five scoring proposals of their desire to fund them either with year-end funding or with FY 2011 applied science funds. FY 2010 applied science funds are being used to support the EIS for the Stream Protection Rulemaking.

2. **Future Applied Science Solicitation:** The team discussed the following topics related to the next solicitation cycle:
   - Timing of solicitation in terms of being able to award funding in relation to proposer planning, hiring and field season scheduling.
   - One part versus and two part solicitation.
   - Timing of the next available funding.
   - Selection of high priority topics.
   - Discussion on clarification of MHEI program
   - Need for a State Endorsement Letter
   - Response to Montclair State University Proposers

After an extensive discussion on the above topics, the team was in favor of:
- A new schedule of the solicitation to time award funding early in the calendar year to coincide with investigator hiring, field season scheduling and planning.
- Reduce the number of proposals to only those that meet a narrowly defined set of high priority topics.
- Eliminate the ranking process so that a quantitative assessment of each proposal is possible.
- Provide a list of qualifying MHEP institutions for the solicitation year on the website.
- No extra points will be assigned to MHEP institutions. The solicitation will spell out that OSM will evaluate the awarding of MHEP proposals separately from the other proposals and may choose to fund the highest scoring MHEP proposal.
- Eliminate the need for a State Endorsement letter as this has become a burden to State programs that seems to add little to no value to the process.

Kim will develop a draft solicitation package that incorporates the directions established by the team for review at our next conference call.

Next conference call will take place at 1 PM Central, August 19, 2010.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski, Arielle Avishai, David Lane
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader), Len Meier
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – John Koerth
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
• The Western Region Technology Transfer will be providing SMCRA related materials at a Mining Educational Booth at the “Taste of Colorado” event over Labor Day weekend.

MCR Report
• Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. 75 forum and 61 field trip participants registered to date.
• 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.
• Ohio State University CCB Research – OSU is working on securing the permit for the high-volume FGD gypsum demo project near Conesville power plant of AEP. Placement of FGD gypsum is expected to begin in late summer or early fall. Background monitoring is already in progress.
• EPA CCR Rulemaking – EPA published its proposed rule on June 21, 2010 on regulating CCR landfills and impoundments. They have a 90 day comment period. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement. EPA has defined minefilling as pertaining only to coal mining. ACAA has requested an additional 120 day comment period. EPA announced a 60 day extension of the comment period to November 19, 2010.
• MCR Natural Stream Design (NSD) Workshop: A steering committee consisting of members from OSM, Illinois and Indiana program staff, Corps of Engineers, industry, and academia are developing a workshop exploring the unique nature and challenges of reclaiming streams in the Midwest. This three day event will take place May 17-19, 2011 in Mt Vernon, IL and will include field visits to stream restoration sites in Southern Illinois and Southwestern Indiana.
AR Report:

- **ARTT Semi-Annual meeting** to be held August 31 - September 2, 2010 at Pipe Stem State Park, WV. Final plans and technical agenda are being made. The program will include technical presentations of findings from 2 or 3 Applied Science projects and a demonstration of West Virginia DEP’s precipitation model for determining rainfall events.

NTTP Report

- The **SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures Course** will be held from September 13-24, in Columbus, Ohio.
- The **2011 Training Needs Survey** results have been submitted and are being analyzed for course planning for FY2011.
- The **NTTP Steering Committee** met on July 28 & 29. In addition to reviewing FY 2011 Needs Survey results, the Committee approved next steps in developing a Biological Assessment course, a course on Mine Gases, a course on Impoundments, and sponsoring of instructor travel for Reforestation Workshops. Meetings will be held in early Fall 2010 for the Biological Assessment and Mine Gas courses. NTTP needs to follow up with Greg Conrad and John Craynon to see what information may already be available on these courses in terms of current state procedures, processes, and needs.
- The **OSM NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION COURSE** is scheduled for November 2-5, 2010.
- The new **Acid Forming Materials: Soils & Overburden** course will be presented October 18-22, 2010 in Carbondale, Illinois.
- **ITC** will not be held in Fall 2010 as there are not a sufficient number of instructors available for a session. A class might be held later in the year if there are sufficient students.

**Status of Proposals for NTTP New Courses**

**Impoundments:** Proposed by Rick Buckley from OSM Charleston Office. The Committee is generally in favor of offering this training but two things need to happen. First, we need to find out: 1.) what the legal structure and responsibility is in each state; 2.) what the need might be for inspectors and engineers; and 3.) what states already have procedures for staff to follow. Second, once needs are better determined the OSM Mine Impoundments team will draft a proposed agenda for the class.

**Mine Gas Workshop:** Proposed by Bill Ehler. The Committee is in favor of forming a team to develop an agenda that would include Day 1 on Basic Science; Day 2 on Problem-Solving; and possibly a half day on certification. Both the regulatory programs and NAAML were in favor of developing this class. Proposed team members include: Bill Ehler, John Mack and Dave Philbin from OSM’s AML Emergency Program; Ken Eltschalager and Jay Hawkins from OSM AR; Leslie Bright from VA; Fred Boliseri from PA; Randall Mills from OSM AR; Brent Robinson from the USGS in IN. A Western participant is needed. This is a large team so presumably there will be a core team and reviewers. A revised agenda will be presented at the next NTTP SC meeting in February.
**Biological Assessment:** The Committee requested that experts in this area assist the Committee in determining if the timing was right for a class and, if so, what topics should be included. Experts included Craig Walker and Jeff Coker from OSM KNFO office; Heather McDonald-Taylor from VA; Brian Loges and Nick Grant from OSM’s Alton office. After discussions, the Committee agreed that since the course would concentrate on techniques and tools there was no reason to wait for the final stream protection rule. The Committee requested that the team draft an agenda for consideration at the February NTTP SC meeting that includes discussion of techniques, tools, including calculating metrics, taxonomy, etc. As with the proposed Impoundments class, first we need to do outreach to the States to know: 1.) what are they doing now?; 2.) how much expertise do they have?; 3.) what are their perceived needs?; 4.) how much detail?; 5.) who will their students be (those involved in pre-mining, active, post-mining, engineering tasks?). In addition, there is a need for managers to be conversant in this area. Sarah will discuss with Greg Conrad how to best get this information from the States for this and the proposed Impoundments course.

**Stream Classification/Restoration:** The Committee asked the Biological Assessment course development team to consider whether this should be part of the Assessment course. All agreed that this was a huge topic and needed to be a separate course. Heather McDonald-Taylor will be the lead on this course. Since Heather will be heavily involved in the Assessment class, work on this class will not begin until the other class is completed.

**Communications—Outreach:** Once reports from the OSM Outreach team are finalized, the Committee will look to the team to make recommendations about whether the Coalfield Communications course should be adapted to special audiences (as we do in special sessions) or if there is a need for a new workshop or course.

**Status of NTTP Proposed Revisions**

The Committee agreed that with the exception of the above classes, no changes should be made to other classes including the Permitting Hydrology class (which addresses CHIA). The Committee also did not think the timing was right for a benchmarking or workshop.

**Additional NTTP Course Updates**

**Basic Inspection Workbook:** In addition to being available in hard copy, NTTP will make this workbook, including the self-test available on-line. No timeframe has yet been determined.

**Reforestation Workshop:** The OSM AR region requested that NTTP sponsor local area tree planting workshops for State and OSM staff as well as landowners and operators. In July 2009, the Committee approved funding of instructor travel for a limited number of these workshops. There are currently requests for workshops in WV, AL, PA, and OH. NTTP will sponsor one workshop this year and will work with AR staff (Patrick Angel) on the specifics of other workshops.
HEADQUARTERS Report
No report this period.

TIPS Report
- TIPS is working hard on directing efforts toward funding the Geomine geospatial efforts on behalf of OSM and the states.
- TIPS is upgrading the Training Center in the Appalachian Regional office to increase the student capacity from 12 to 16 students.
- TIPS has arranged to purchase a hand-held X-ray fluorescence analyzer for use on soils, rock material, and water to analyze element components. The device will be available nationwide to all SMCRA offices on a loan basis.
- TIPS Service Managers are completing visits to state and tribal offices over the next six weeks. Look for Service Manager visits to SMCRA sites over this time.

IMCC Report
- No Report this period

WEIB Report
- No Report this period.

NAAMLP Report
- The 32nd Annual National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAMLP) Conference will be in Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 19-22, 2010. It will be hosted by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and will be held at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. Additional information may be found on the Association’s web page at: http://naamlp.net/

Exhibit Schedule
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2010.
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines Forum Charleston, WV, August 31- September 3, 2010 by MCR
- NASLR Annual Meeting Carbondale, IL Sept 14-15, 2010 by MCR
- NAAMLP Annual Meeting Scranton, PA Sept 19-22, 2010 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 7-8, 2010 by MCR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next conference call will take place at 1 PM Central, September 29, 2010.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski, Arielle Avishai, David Lane
HDQ – John Craynon, Josh Rockwell, Carmen Fells
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader),
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm Billie Clark
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAML – John Koerth
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
- We are completing the annual awards video for the regulatory programs.

MCR Report
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. 86 forum and 72 field trip participants. Currently working on the proceedings.
- Ohio State University CCB Research – OSU is working on securing the permit for the high-volume FGD gypsum demo project near Conesville power plant of AEP. Placement of FGD gypsum is expected to begin in late summer or early fall. Background monitoring is already in progress.
- EPA CCR Rulemaking – EPA published its proposed rule on June 21, 2010 on regulating CCR landfills and impoundments. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement. EPA has defined minefilling as pertaining only to coal mining. EPA announced a 60 day extension of the comment period to November 19, 2010. EPA is currently conducting Public hearings.
- MCR Natural Stream Design (NSD) Workshop: A steering committee consisting of members from OSM, Illinois and Indiana program staff, Corps of Engineers, industry, and academia are developing a workshop exploring the unique nature and challenges of reclaiming streams in the Midwest. This three day event will take place May 17-19, 2011 in Mt Vernon, IL and will include field visits to stream restoration sites in Southern Illinois and Southwestern Indiana.

AR Report:
- The ARTT held the Fall 2010 meeting at Pipestem State Park, WV August 31 to September 2. Representatives from all AR states were present. ARTT was fortunate to have in attendance several guests of note including Tom Shope, Regional Director; Greg Conrad, IMCC Executive Director, Roger Calhoun, Charleston WV FOD; and Lou Hamm, OSM TIPS Manager. Applied Science Principle Investigators Lee Daniels and James Kern provided presentations on completed projects. During the meeting the Team
identified 2 Applied Science Priority Topics. The final choice will be made during the ARTT monthly teleconference on October 4, 2010 and reported to Kim.

NTTP Report
- NTTP is completing the 2011 course schedule and will release it October 1
- The SMCRA Principles and Field Procedures Pilot course ended last week with 32 student participants. It was well received with the majority of the students rating it as "Highly Useful" or "Essential" to their current positions.
- The Pilot of the "Acid Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden" course will be held October 19-22 in Carbondale, Illinois
- A Coal Field Communications Course will be presented October 26-28 in Hazard, Ky
- The "Orientation Course" for new OSM employees will be held November 2-5 in Washington, DC & Maryland

HEADQUARTERS Report
- Congress passed a CR for the Period October 1 through December 3.
- Currently developing the FY’11 UGMM Solicitation. The timeline is as follows:

  February 5, 2010  Last date to submit an original paper copy along with one electronic copy of the proposal in PDF format to the OSM contact as indicated above.
  February 15, 2010  OSM Grants Team and Project Tech Reps review each proposal to verify coverage of financial requirements and technical adequacy.
  March 1, 2010  Verified proposals are forwarded to the UGMM Steering Committee to begin project review and rating.
  April 12, 2010  Project ratings by The Underground Mine Map Steering Committee, OSM regional members, OSM headquarters member, and the National Mine Map Repository member(s) will be completed.
  May 3, 2010  The Underground Mine Map Steering Committee will forward the consensus ranking to OSM’s Core Leadership Team for approval. (CLT)
  May 17, 2010  Funding decisions are made by OSM’s CLT.
  May 20, 2010  OSM will notify both successful and unsuccessful applicants.
  June 30, 2010  OSM will complete the cooperative agreements with the successful applicants.

TIPS Report
- Service Managers are completing their routine annual visits this week.
• TIPS is reviewing the travel cuts that have been made for FY2011. The TIPS Steering Committee will be consulted with as these decisions are made.

IMCC Report
• The states are primarily focused on three major initiatives at the current time: 1) OSM’s development of a draft EIS for the soon-to-be-proposed stream protection rule; 2) OSM’s oversight improvement actions initiative, and in particular the final three components regarding Ten Day Notices, corrective actions, and a revised Reg-8 oversight directive; and 3) EPA’s proposed rule on coal combustion residues. IMCC is also monitoring the FY 2011 budget as it continues through the appropriations process. A continuing resolution was approved on September 28 which will keep the government in business until December 3 at FY 2010 levels. IMCC is still hoping to see funding for benchmarking made available sometime in FY 2011, but for now this effort is on hold.

WEIB Report
• No specific events or meetings scheduled at this time. WIEB continues to work closely with IMCC to address the various OSM funding and oversight initiatives.

NAAMLP Report
• No report this month.

Exhibit Schedule
The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2010.
• NAAMLP Annual Meeting Scranton, PA Sept 19-22, 2010 by AR
• TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, Bryan, TX October 7-8, 2010 by MCR
• TMRA Annual Meeting Bastrop, TX October 24-27, 2010 by TFO
• ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next conference call will take place at 1 PM Central, November 10, 2010.
Participants
AR – Lois Uranowski, Arielle Avishai, David Lane
HDQ – Steve Sheffield, Josh Rockwell
MCR – Kimery Vories (Team Leader)
WR – Duane Matt
TIPS – Lou Hamm
NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker
IMCC – Greg Conrad
WEIB – Dave Berry
NAAMLP – John Koerth
Attendees in Bold

WR Report
- The Western Region Technology Transfer is preparing for the upcoming ASMR conference in Bismarck, North Dakota; June 12-16, 2011. One of the highlights will be a Bond Release workshop. The Western Region Technology Transfer will hold its annual meeting at the conference.

MCR Report
- Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV. 86 forum and 72 field trip participants. Currently working on the proceedings.
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AR Report:
- The ARTT conducted the monthly teleconference on November 1, 2010. Mr. Lighty of PA was attending a workshop and could not participate. All other representatives were present. Kentucky is taking part in reviewing the Stream Protection EIS and find that the
document needs a great deal of editing/correcting. The Tennessee Federal Program reported that the State of Tennessee submitted a Lands Unsuitable for Mining Petition for 160,000+ acres in the Northern Tennessee coal field.

- The Team discussed sponsoring one technology transfer workshop in 2011. Topics discussed were (1) Stream/Loss, (2) AOC Modeling and (3) Determining sediment depths using a Humminbird depth finder.

NTTP Report
- NTTP 2011 course schedule is available on the OSM website and has been distributed to the training contacts.
- The Pilot of the "Acid Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden" course was held October 19-22 in Carbondale, Illinois. This new course is designed to upgrade technical skills in the critical aspects of acid-forming material geology/mineralogy and weathering and it’s impacts on reclamation planning and mitigation of mine soil problems.
- A special session of the Coal Field Communications Course was presented October 26-28 in Hazard, Kentucky.
- The "Orientation Course" for new OSM employees was held November 2-5 in Washington, DC & Maryland with 25 new OSM employees participating.

HEADQUARTERS Report
- Steve Sheffield has taken over for John Craynon as the Headquarters team representative.
- The draft FY’11 UGMM Solicitation has been developed and is being reviewed by the UGMM Steering Committee members.
- During the week of November 15th, mass mailing distribution of the FY’11 UGMM Solicitation will be made. All Title IV/VI, prior PIs, etc. will be sent hardcopies of the solicitation.
- UGMM Proposals are due back to OSM February 4th.

TIPS Report
- TIPS has just released the training schedule for 2011. The classes have been reduced from 27 to 20 to accommodate OSM’s travel funding reduction. NTTP has reduced their classes as well. The schedule can be accessed on the TIPS website at www.tips.osmre.gov.
- TIPS personnel are working with the CIO’s office in Headquarters to get administrative logins on OSM’s new Windows 7 operating system so that TIPS personnel can assist state, tribal, and OSM offices with their TIPS applications. The CIO’s office is restricting administrative logins on the Windows 7 operating system in response to Inspector General requirements dealing with increased security on federal systems. TIPS and the CIO’s office have reached an agreement on a system that we believe can work for TIPS to provide the assistance needed.

IMCC Report
- The recent national and state elections will have significant impacts in the way we do business from both a regulatory and institutional perspective. We will likely begin to see several oversight and other investigatory actions in the House, as the Republican majority
flexes its newfound muscle. IMCC has seen several gubernatorial changes, which could impact state representation and priorities for action. At IMCC’s recent Mid-Year meeting, there was considerable discussion about funding for state travel to OSM training classes offered by NTTP and TIPS. IMCC will work with OSM to provide information and data regarding state staff turnovers related to retirements and other governmental decisions on hiring.

- IMCC continues to explore the potential for future benchmarking workshops with OSM. Hot topics include: 1) development and application of state narrative water quality standards for surface coal mining permits under SMCRA and the Clean Water Act and 2) enhanced financial assurance mechanisms for long-term or sensitive surface coal mining and reclamation operations, such as acid mine drainage and stream restoration/protection.

WEIB Report
- WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC on multiple national oversight and funding issues.

NAAMLP Report
- 2011 NAAMLP Annual Conference. October 9-12, 2011. Olympic Valley, California (Squaw Valley/Tahoe area). “The Gold and Silver States – the Legacy of Mining that Built the West.” Conference will be jointly hosted by California and Nevada AML programs. Conference tours will include AML sites in both California and Nevada. For information on California and Nevada AML programs check these web links: www.consrv.ca.gov/OMR/abandoned_mine_lands/index.htm; minerals.state.nv.us

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Next conference call will take place at 1 PM Central Time, January 4, 2011.