

**MEETING SUMMARY
MCR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
STEERING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

DATE: **March 15, 2011**
TIME: 10:00 AM to 10:15 AM CDT

ATTENDEES: In Bold

Alabama AML: Larry Barwick, Michael Vinson
Alabama Surface Mining: Randall Johnson
Arkansas Mining Division: **Greg Melton**, Wayne Van Buren
Illinois Office of Mines and Minerals: Dean Spindler
Illinois AML: **Larry Lewis**
Indiana Division of Reclamation: Todd Huff
Indiana AML: **Marvin Ellis, Laura Montgrain**
Iowa Mining and Minerals Bureau: Judith Krebsbach
Kansas Surface Mining Section: **Tim Wilson**, Marlene Spence, Murray Balk
Louisiana Injection and Mining Division: Dale Bergquist
Mississippi Coal Mining Division: **Stan Thieling, Lonnie Barrier**, Mike Bograd
Missouri Land Reclamation Program: Larry Teson
Oklahoma AML: Mike Sharp
Oklahoma Department of Mines: **Tekleab Tsegay**, Goran Randinovick
Texas Mining and Reclamation Division: **Mark Schlimgen**
OSM MCR: Kimery Vories, Nick Grant
OSM BFO: Sherry Wilson
OSM TFO: Al Clayborne
OSM IFO: Andrew Gilmore

Significant updates in bold italics

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. 130 registered for the event to date. 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. Information available on the internet at:

<http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov/NTTMainSite/Initiatives/Geomorph/2011/Geomorph2011.shtm>

According to OSM management, it is very unlikely that OSM will be able to provide State travel support to this event.

OSM is working with SIUC on making CEUs available. Contact Nick Grant for details.

OSM is planning on facilitating participation in the talks on May 18 through the use of MS Live Meeting capabilities. We will also be working on making video available on the NTTT website of highlights of the field trip.

Please contact Nick Grant if your State wants to participate via the MS Live Meeting (ngrant@osmre.gov).

ONGOING EFFORTS

1. **EPA CCR proposed rule to OMB on landfills and impoundments.** *EPA has published a proposed rule June 21, 2010 with two possible options, either under Subtitle C hazardous waste or Subtitle D solid waste. The comment period ended November 19, 2010. The EPA director stated that there will be no rulemaking in 2011.*
2. **OSM CCB Rulemaking** OSM management has requested the CCB rulemaking team be reactivated but no definite direction has been set. **SMCRA CCB Rulemaking: Planning for Implementation** – A topic for a national forum in 2013. The forum would focus on implementation of the new OSM CCB specific regulations following rulemaking by OSM and EPA.
 - a. A steering committee currently exists.
 - b. Following the publication of OSM's proposed rule plan to conduct the forum within 12-18 months of that publication.
3. **OSM Stream Protection Rulemaking** OSM is internally reviewing the proposed rule which is projected to be published in mid-late April of 2011. The EIS for the proposed rule should be published around the same time.
4. **Applied Science FY 2010. There will be no Applied Science solicitation in FY 2011 or 2012.**
5. **Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines Forum.** All of the papers for the proceedings are now in. Publication is planned for April. **Protecting Endangered Bats at Coal Mines** – A topic for a national forum in 2013-2014. Determine the impacts of Additional Listed bat species due to White-Nose Syndrome, the Final Recovery Plan for the Indiana bat, long term effects of the joint USFWS/OSM Indiana bat Guidance Document for SMCRA Permitting.
 - a. A steering committee currently exists
 - b. Following the publication of the USFWS Final Recovery Plan for the Indiana bat and the USFWS White-Nose Syndrome National Plan, plan to conduct a forum in 2013 or 2014.
5. **Restoration of Stream Quality and Function at SMCRA Coal Mines** – A topic for a national forum in 2012 or 2013. Determine the state of the science on prediction of overburden quality to mine related stream pollution, determine the science of the impact of post SMCRA mining to aquatic biology & T & E species by region, determine the science of stream water quality monitoring related to potential aquatic biology impact.
 - b. Nick Grant and David Lane should attend AR Stream Mitigation Workshop in April in order to recruit potential speakers and steering committee members.
 - c. After the above workshop develop a Steering Committee to plan the forum: Christy Johnson-Hughes FWS has volunteered to serve.
 - d. Initiate planning for a national technical forum to be held in mid 2012 or 2013 after OSM Stream Protection Rule is published.

- 6. Additional Tech Transfer Topics for Consideration:** (1) AR/MCR forum “*Impacts of Injection into Underground Mines*” Evaluate the science and issues related to placement of coal refuse and other materials injected into underground mines.

Status of AMLIS – According to OSM management the plan is to have AMLIS back up and running. No one knows a date certain yet.

- 7. Next Conference Call** will be scheduled for **June 1, 2011** at 10 AM CDT.