

Western Region Technology Transfer Conference Call Minutes

August 20th, 2007
Monday 1:30 PM (MDT)

National: MCRTT: ARTT

- National Technology Transfer Website (Under development but available to view: <http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov>).
- Applied Science Cooperative Agreement Solicitations will be available soon!
- Pete Rutledge is retiring as head of the Denver OSM program support division. Billie Clark will be assuming the position for the next 120 days.
- Lou Hamm and Dan Rivers will assume responsibility for the Technology Management Division during Billie Clark's absence.
- Brenda Steele will be the acting Field Operations branch manager for the next 120 days.
- Richard Holbrook will be the acting Field Office Director for OSM's Albuquerque Field Office in Albuquerque, NM for the next 120 days.

WRTT

- WRTT Annual Meeting – Further discussion on setting a time, date and location for the upcoming conference (April 2008 Santa Fe, NM).
[Dave Clark stated that the NM State Library in Santa Fe would be a great spot for the annual meeting. Dave will send out an e-mail stating the dates that the state library will be available in April. We figure the meeting itself should last two days. An optional field trip could be added on the 3rd day.](#)
- WRTT Annual Meeting: Last year's topic was "Geospatial Technologies and Mobile Computing applications for Bond Release" New Topic? Geospatial theme with a new twist?
[Suggestions for a topic should be sent to: \[dmatt@osmre.gov\]\(mailto:dmatt@osmre.gov\) as soon as possible so that this can be discussed on the next call. Topics such as the use of LIDAR and other remote sensing applications seemed to be a prevalent theme during the call.](#)
- WRTT Annual Meeting: Are we happy with last year's agenda style? Would anyone prefer another style?
[If anyone does not like the style in which last years conference was run, suggestions would be helpful.](#)
- Short discussion on why we need a list of each state's "hot topics".

- WRTT Website Area – Continue discussion on how the team would like to exchange information and utilize the Tech Transfer website. Any new ideas?
[Any suggestions are appreciated and will be passed on to the NTTT web team.](#)

Conferences/Workshops/Forums

- June 18-22: ESRI 2007 User Conference: San Diego, CA
- August 28-29: Western Region Leadership Meeting: Denver, CO
- September 5-7: Coal Mining and Aquatic Environment Symposium: Abingdon, VA
- September 9-13: National Association of State Land Reclamationists: Asheville, NC
- October 7-10: 29th Annual NAAMLPA National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Conference: Bloomington, Indiana
- October 28-31: Geological Society of America (GSA) conference: Denver, CO
- November 13-15: Benchmarking Workshop on surface and groundwater database development and use: New Orleans, LA
- November 26-30: Autodesk University Conference: Las Vegas, NV
- March 24-28: OSM 2008 Geospatial Conference: Atlanta, GA

WRTT Member Reports/Information

Alaska: Russ Kirkham: [No report. Absent.](#)

Colorado: Sandy Brown/Jeff Graves: [The title V program will be hiring a couple of folks. The state of CO has been busy doing bond releases and inspections. Title IV is doing initial field testing with the GeoXT and Fujitsu Tablets.](#)

Montana: Angela McDannel: [Angela and some of the staff are taking a web based training on the “blue marble” program. If you are interested, please contact her for more information on this software. The state of MT hired a new intern. Angela will be](#)

attending a hydrogeoanalyst software training in Ontario, Canada later this year.

New Mexico: David Clark/James Smith: The NM staff is currently using the RTK unit on the La Plata mine. The McKinley bond release package has been submitted. The use of photovoltaic cells has been proposed as a PMLU. If you are interested in this subject, call Dave.

North Dakota: Kraig Nelson: ND just completed an annual flyover of their reclamation sites. Kraig just attended a georeferencing workshop in WV. Kraig noted that ND is still trying to fill the Environmental Scientist III position and will soon be advertising for a programming position.

Utah: Lucy Malin: Amber's position has yet to be filled. Lucy stated that Steve Fluke would like to see more information on water rights and how that pertains to underground mining and surface mining. Lucy also stated that there was a coordinate problem within the state of UT. Some companies were using NAD 27 and others were using NAD 83.

Wyoming: Marcelo Calle: Marcelo noted that the AML project using dynamic compaction had been halted due to citizen protest. He also noted that the E-permitting/E-business model of doing business was taking place incrementally within the agency (with air quality and water quality being the first ones to begin implementing the model).

ABQ Field Office: Rick Holbrook. No report. Absent.

Casper Field Office: Alan Boehms. Alan stated that the CFO was busily working on the end of the year reports for both Title IV and Title V. He also stated that a new Reclamation Specialist job vacancy would be posted on USAJOBS very soon.

Denver Field Division: Howard Strand. Howard stated that his division was also working on year end reports. The TransAlta Mine in Centralia WA was still under a Show-Cause Order. Settlement talks with DFD took place on August 7 and 8, 2007 in Olympia, WA. Negotiations were ongoing. The John Henry mine had two outstanding NOV's and an assessment conference was scheduled to deal with those issues.

Western Region Program Support Division: Karen Jass: The Absaloka mine (North) has submitted a permit revision. The permit revision was

submitted electronically via .PDF file. The McKinley mine is using the natural regrade program for some of its reclamation. The Desert Rock power plant permit is being resubmitted. OSM is being sued by a select group of individuals concerning the Navajo Mine. The Black Mesa mine EIS is proceeding as planned.

Technical Assistance & Training

TIPS Training Program Information

- Don't forget about TIPS on-line courses: Blasting Log and Evaluation, Galena Slope Stability Analysis, and many ESRI GIS courses. See the TIPS Training website for additional information at www.tips.osmre.gov/training/index.asp.
- Wyoming GIS and AutoCAD focused class, targeted for March 2008.
- Navajo Nation GPS and ArcGIS on the job training (OJT) targeted for October 2007.
- Needs? Wants?

Hardware & Software

- TIPS software distributions. All should have (or will receive) the following:
 - Rockworks
 - Patched version of SEDCAD 4.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 17th