

WRTT Conference Call

December 17th, 2007

Monday 1:30 PM (MST)

Call: (877) 931-2837: Passcode: 128 093

National: MCRTT: ARTT

- National Technology Transfer Website (Still under development but available to view: <http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov>).
- Applied Science Cooperative Agreement Solicitations are due January 2nd, 2008!

WRTT

- WRTT Annual Meeting –To be held the week of April 21st, 2008 at the Hilton Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM.
- WRTT Draft Agenda: See attached agenda. If you have any comments/suggestions, please e-mail me and we'll discuss on the next call. Duane stated that any/all comments would be accepted via e-mail for discussion on the next call. Tonya suggested all feedback is good and that we might possibly want to get specific needs from each state to make such a presentation more focused for each states needs. Alan suggested that notes/handouts be available for everyone in advance of the meeting. Angela suggested we film the meeting.
- WRTT Website Area – Continue discussion on how the team would like to exchange information and utilize the Tech Transfer website. Any new ideas?
- The WRTT will solicit from states ideas on the **skill sets the states would like OSM to acquire** as the agency replaces retiring employees. Advice thus far: hydrology expertise; blasting expertise. I have not received anything new ideas lately.....
- Jerry White, OSMRE-AAO, wanted to get feedback on the possibility of using a Cropcam as a remote sensing tool.

Conferences/Workshops/Forums

- February 12-14: Colorado Mining Association 110th Conference: Denver, CO.
- February 24-27: Society of Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) Conference: Salt Lake City, UT.
- March 24-28: OSM 2008 Geospatial Conference: Atlanta, GA.
- April 22-24: WRTT conference: Santa Fe, NM.

WRTT Member Reports/Information

Alaska: Russ Kirkham.

Russ mentioned that public meetings were going to take place regarding the Chuitna mine. A decision on the issues surrounding the mine should be made by next year. Continuing work being done at the Usibelli mine (rip-rap access).

Arizona (Navajo Title IV): Madeline Roanhorse (Melvin Yazzie):

No report, but present. Just observing....

Arizona (Navajo Title V): John Stucker

Two title V folks attended the IMCC benchmarking workshop in New Orleans, LA. Still working on tribal primacy.

Arizona (Hopi Title IV and V): Norman Honie

No report.

Colorado: Sandy Brown/Jeff Graves.

Attended the IMCC benchmarking workshop in New Orleans, LA.

Montana: Angela McDannel.

Still working on putting together a good database. Other than that, busy with normal activities.

Montana (Crow Title IV and V): Marvin Falls Down

No report.

New Mexico: David Clark/James Smith.

Rick Koehler is now the department wide GIS lead. An amendment package concerning public notice procedures was submitted to OSMRE. James stated that a bid was placed on an AML site. They are also using the GPS camera.

North Dakota: Guy Welch/Kraig Nelson.

Mr. Gunderson has joined the ND staff. All 4 mines in the area are adding acreage. 3800 acres of land available for bond release. Updates are taking place to the revegetation guidelines. Craig mentioned that they are still using the RTK unit. Fieldwork has now ended.

Utah: Steve Fluke/Jeanny Miles.

Lila Canyon mine proceedings are done. Jeanny is working on standardization of the database. She requested information from the group.

Wyoming: Marcelo Calle/Carol Bilbrough.

Carol noted that Don McKenzie is their new Title V administrator. She stated that they've received 3 applied science cooperative agreement proposals. Kathy Ogle attended the IMCC benchmarking workshop in New Orleans, LA. BP is working on an UG coal gasification project.

Program Support Division/Field Operations: Rick Holbrook/Jerry White.

Jerry brought up the idea of using a drone for remote sensing work.

www.cropcam.com.

Casper Field Office: Alan Boehms.

Alan said their office was busy working on the AML funding issue. Crow AML is now certified. A new inspector will be hired on as of February, 2008.

Denver Field Division: Howard Strand/Ginger Kaldenbach.

The DFD has put in a request for a team (both Title IV and V representatives) to be assembled to do some GPS/remote sensing work on the Centralia mine in WA (and any other site in WA that might need GPS work). This work will include: Making sure backfilling and grading meet post mine topography spelled out in the permit, and, mapping of AMD seeps.

Denver Program Support Division: Heather Erickson.

Quarterly Coordination Meetings with Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe
Participate in Wyoming Land Quality Board Hearings in Casper, WY
Continue coordination and outreach on AML guidance decision with NM and Tribes

Finalize the San Juan Mine mining plan decision document for the Deep Lease extension, if solicitor's review comments are received.

Attend the meeting of the EIS cooperating agencies in Salt Lake City, UT, for brainstorming sessions to develop Alternatives for analysis in the Alton Mine coal leasing EIS

TIPS: Lou Hamm/Bob Welsh.

No report.

Technical Assistance & Training

TIPS/NTTP Training Program Information

- See the TIPS Training website for additional information at www.tips.osmre.gov/training/index.asp
- See the NTTP Training website for additional information at www.tips.osmre.gov/training/tips_html/links_nttp.asp
- See the DOI Learn website at www.doilearn.gov
- All course enrollments for slot assignments should have been processed through DOI Learn by now. In January, 2008 we will notify training contacts regarding any slots available in classes.
- Check out the downloadable .PDF TIPS class schedule on the TIPS Training website. It contains information about all TIPS classes, including course descriptions and pre-requisites.
- TIPS will offer a mobile computing class on the campus of Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI), in Albuquerque, NM. The "*Trimble GeoXT, TerraSync and PF Office: Mobile Computing for Reclamation*" class will be held on May 20-22, 2008, and is open to SIPI students, OSM tribal customers, and OSM employees who support the tribes. In recent months, TIPS and SIPI have been involved in collaborative relationship building by sharing expertise and knowledge with each other. Plans are to expand TIPS class offerings at SIPI as the opportunity arises and budget is available.

Point of Contact: Karyn Evans, 303.844.1400, ext. 1492

- Wyoming GIS and AutoCAD focused class, targeted for March 2008.
- Navajo Nation GPS and ArcGIS on the job training (OJT) targeted for January 2008.
- RTK unit is currently being used by the state of ND. Next in line for the RTK unit is the Navajo Nation.
- TIPS TIMES Newsletter September 2007 issue is available on the TIPS website Home page in the “What’s New Rubric” (top right corner on the Home page).
- Needs? Wants?

Hardware & Software

- TIPS software distributions. All should have (or will receive) the following:
 - SEDCAD 4 update
 - Galena 5.0 update

Next Meeting: Monday, January 14th, 2008