

# WRTT Conference Call

October 22, 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 posted!
- The official handout for national Geospatial conference has been distributed. The announcement is also available at [www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)
- OSMRE participated in the National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Programs (NAAML) in Bloomington, IN the week of 10/07/07.
- OSMRE will be participating in the upcoming annual Geological Society of America (GSA) conference in Denver, CO the week of 10/28/07.

## WRTT

- WRTT Annual Meeting – Tentatively set for the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at the Hilton Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM.  
*Strike the word tentatively. The meeting is set for the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008.*
- WRTT Annual Meeting: Last year's topic was "Geospatial Technologies and Mobile Computing applications for Bond Release" This year's topic will stick with the Geospatial theme. How about concentrating on the Remote Sensing part of that theme? I still have not received any comments/suggestions on topics for the conference as of this meeting.....  
*OSMRE will go ahead and draft a preliminary schedule and will e-mail it to all of the WRTT members to review.*
- WRTT Annual Meeting: With no input on this topic, we may go ahead and draft up an agenda and send it out for comment.  
*Ditto.*
- WRTT Website Area – Continue discussion on how the team would like to exchange information and utilize the Tech Transfer website. Any new ideas?  
*Russ mentioned that more geomorphic information needed to be posted and that there needed to be some ways to find out who is an official contact for a topic such a geomorphic reclamation.*
- A short explanation on why the "top 5 priority topics" did not end up on the newest Applied Science Cooperative Agreement solicitation.  
*Paul explained why the top 5 priority topics were not included in this year's solicitation.*

- 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.  
All ideas will be accepted via phone call, e-mail or personally drafted letter.

### Conferences/Workshops/Forums

- 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.

Drainage issues at the Usibelli coal mine.

Arizona (Navajo Title IV): Madeline Roanhorse.

No report

Arizona (Navajo Title V): John Stucker.

No report.

Arizona (Hopi Title IV and V): Norman Honie/Randy Poleahla.

All staff will be attending the upcoming GPS training.

Colorado: Sandy Brown/Jeff Graves.

The mobile applications are up and running and are currently being used by the Colorado program.

Montana: Angela McDannel.

Montana is advertising for a new hydrologist. Otherwise, busy and business as usual.

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

Title V: Inspection training is anticipated for one staff member in advance of the tribal primacy issue. Title IV: The Crow tribe is pursuing a certification of completion for their AML program. They anticipate receiving their certification by the end of the year.

New Mexico: David Clark/James Smith.

Title V: NM is currently working on a bond release at the McKinley Mine. Title IV: NM mentioned that their program received a national AML award (congratulations!). Their program is currently attempting to purchase a Rico GPS Bluetooth enabled camera.

North Dakota: Guy Welch/Kraig Nelson.

Title V: ND is currently using the RTK unit for numerous projects. Title IV: The program is currently addressing a large spoil pile and a large sinkhole.

Utah: Steve Fluke.

UT is participating in a safety committee meeting in regards to the Crandall Mine disaster. UT hired a new employee (Jenny Miles) to replace the position recently vacated by Amber Fortner.

Wyoming: Marcelo Calle.

WY is currently revising a permit in the Lander, WY office. The permit will be using the natural regrade software as part of its reclamation process. A database is being developed for use in inspection duties.

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

The Albuquerque Area Office will be participating in the McKinley Mine bond release.

Casper Field Office: Alan Boehms.

The Casper Field Office is currently involved in bond releases taking place in MT on both the Absaloka Mine and the Spring Creek Mine. They are also involved in AML reclamation projects, specifically, an AML emergency in ND.

Denver Field Division: Howard Strand.

OSMRE and TransAlta Centralia Mining are in the process of negotiating a settlement agreement for submission to the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

Denver Program Support Division: Heather Erickson.

No Report

TIPS: Lou Hamm.

TIPS has distributed slot assignments for upcoming FY08 TIPS classes. TIPS has a collaborative agreement with Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute and will be holding a class there for SIPI students, tribal employees and OSM employees who support the tribes during May of 2008.

## **Technical Assistance & Training**

### **TIPS/NTTP Training Program Information**

- See the TIPS Training website for additional information at [www.tips.osmre.gov/training/index.asp](http://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](http://www.tips.osmre.gov/training/tips_html/links_nttp.asp)
- See the DOI Learn website at [www.doilearn.gov](http://www.doilearn.gov)
- Slot assignments have been distributed to the states, tribes and OSM training contacts for FY08 TIPS classes. Training contacts are notifying their employees of slots assigned, and registering their employees for classes in DOI Learn by December 3. In early January, 2008, if slots are not claimed, TIPS will release a listing of all available slots in TIPS classes. All personnel have the opportunity to request permission from

- their supervisor to enroll in a class with slots available and upon approval, request their training contact process a course enrollment form in DOI Learn.
- The TIPS Training website is currently being updated and will be complete by mid-November. In the meantime, those interested in current course descriptions of TIPS classes should go to the DOI Learn website (<https://doilearn.doi.gov/index.cfm?CFID=234163&CFTOKEN=72132901>), click on the “Public Catalog Login” and type “OSM-TIPS” in the search box. All TIPS courses will be listed and course descriptions can be found by clicking on the course name.
  - 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 November 2007.
- RTK unit was recently used in the state of NM. It has just been delivered to the state of ND. Next in line for the RTK unit is the Navajo Nation.
- Needs? Wants?

### **Hardware & Software**

- TIPS software distributions.

**Next Meeting: Monday, November 19th**