

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
MEETING SUMMARY  
August 21, 2008

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski  
HDQ – John Craynon  
MCR – Kim Vories (Team Leader)  
CLT –  
WR –  
NTTP –  
TIPS – Lou Hamm  
IMCC – Greg Conrad  
WEIB – Dave Berry  
NAAMLPL – Rick Chancellor

WR Report No report this month

MCR Report

- **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in August of 2009 in the Charleston WV area with a one day field trip and a two day forum. This forum may need to be delayed until 2010 in order to give the USFWS to finalize its recovery plan and for the FWS/OSM/State T & E team time to complete its work on national consistency for permitting.
- **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held in Morgantown, WV with a one day field trip and a two day forum. The forum is currently on hold waiting for the publication of the OSM proposed rule.
- **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for an event April 28-30, 2009 in Bristol, VA with a one day field trip and a two day forum. An event hotel has been selected.
- **Reforestation – Use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the MCR** was the topic of discussion at a meeting held July 22, 2008 in Austin, TX. It included representatives from academia, industry, and the States of TX, MS, AL, and LA. The participants provided valuable input on state specific considerations related to the use of the Forestry Reclamation Approach in the Lower Midwest. Most of these states have been using modified FRA approach to reforestation for many years. Emphasis is placed on use of coarse textured soils that are less vulnerable to compaction, planting a dense vegetative cover to protect from erosion during intense rainfall events, use of commercial pine species for use in commercial forestry, and machine planting for uniform high level of survival and low cost.
- **Regional AMD Workshop** – The AMD work group is planning for the third regional AMD AML workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 2008.
- **Ohio State University CCB Research** – MCR has been working with the OSM CCB regional team at the request of OSU to begin cooperating on an Ohio CCB research initiative to conduct case studies on the use of FGD in mine reclamation. Recently OSU

has requested information on literature about mine reclamation with FGD east of the Mississippi.

- **Indiana Bat Coordination Meeting** – PTSB chief, Len Meier met with other OSM, State and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) participants to kick off the initial meeting of the Indiana Bat Working Group in Atlanta, Georgia Tuesday, June 10, 2008. This meeting follows up discussions between OSM and FWS management regarding improving consistency and effectiveness of protection and enhancement plans for Indiana Bats on SMCRA mine sites under the 1996 Biological Opinion. OSM members on the Working Group are Ian Dye and Craig Walker. State members are Tim Taylor from Indiana, Richard Wahrer from Kentucky and Bob Fala from West Virginia. State members were chosen by the Interstate Mining Compact Commission.

#### AR Report:

- A **workshop to transfer learned technology from 2 Applied Science Projects** was held August 9-10, 2008 in Knoxville, TN. The subject centered on a developed methodology to predict sediment loads in watersheds. “The first project “Development of a Rapid Geomorphic Assessment Technique to Support the CHIA/PHC Process: A Focus on Model Improvement for Estimating Sediment Loads” explored whether a rapid geomorphic assessment technique can be applied effectively, identifying stream channel stability and the degree to which different landscape disturbances contribute to that stability. The second phased project was titled “Method Development for Watershed Sediment Budgets to Support CHIA/PHC Process: A Focus on Sediment Modeling for Estimating Sediment Loads”. This project made the CHIA\PHC process more efficient and defensible under a complex set of potential sediment load generators in a watershed (e.g., logging, mine lands, landslides, haul roads, off-road vehicles). The 2-day workshop focused on applying the computer modeling and included a field trip where the modeled parameters were tested and field-verified.
- **Planning is underway for a 2009 AML technical workshop** highlighting innovative techniques to solve AML remediation projects.
- The **ARTT fall meeting** dates have been set for September 9-11, 2008 in Annapolis, MD. Agenda is being developed.
- **National Association of State Land Reclamationists** will have their 36th annual meeting on September 14-17, 2008 at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Champion, PA. ARTT will be a sponsor of this event.( [http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/minres/BMR/conference/2008\\_NASLR\\_confere nce.htm](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/minres/BMR/conference/2008_NASLR_confere nce.htm))
- ARTT is planning a **blasting workshop** for November 18-20, 2008. Event logistics and session development is underway. The planning team is completing the agenda and meeting logistics.
- **The 2010 ASMR Conference** will be co-hosted by ARTT. The week-long event will be held in Pittsburgh, PA.

NTTP Report No report this month.

### TIPS Report

- A new **TIPS Steering Committee member** has been added – Our new member is Don McKenzie, Director of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

### HEADQUARTERS Report

- **CCB placement rule** is in a solicitor's for a review of NEPA. After signature by Assistant Secretary for Interior it will go to OMB for review.
- **Dam Safety** – There will be a meeting in Pittsburgh next week to go over the new Dam Safety Manual and begin a regular oversight review process.

### IMCC Report

- We are moving forward with the development of two **potential benchmarking workshops** -- one on ePermitting and mobile computing and another on mining education opportunities in the public participation process. A steering committee has been formed to assist IMCC staff in developing the agenda for the ePermitting workshop. The steering committee met via conference call for the first time on July 28. The first step will be the development of a survey of the states concerning ePermitting and mobile computing. Once responses are received, a report will be developed and a final decision will be made about proceeding with the workshop. Agenda development will follow. A separate steering committee has been formed to develop an agenda for the benchmarking workshop on minerals education and public outreach. A conference call is scheduled for August 25.

### WEIB Report

- **Western States /OSM meeting** in Denver September 16-17, 2008
- **Western States uranium meeting** in Denver September 17-18, 2008
- New western states **representative to the TIPS Steering Committee** is Don McKenzie (Wyoming)
- Open western states **representative seat on NTTP Steering Committee**
- WRTT designated Dave Clark (New Mexico) as the **western states applied science project reviewer**, with concurrence from David Berry.

### NAAML P Report

- **Annual Conference** of the NAAML P is scheduled for October 26 through October 29 in Durango, Colorado at the Double Tree Hotel.
- The **2009 meeting** will be hosted by several states from the Mid Continent Region and will be held in Rogers, Arkansas.

### Exhibit Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2008.

- NASLR, Champion, PA September 14-17, 2008 by AR
- TX Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, October 2-3 by MCR
- TMRA, Corpus Cristi, TX, October 12-15 by MCR
- GSA, Houston, TX October 2008 by MCR

- National Chemistry Week, Pittsburgh, PA October, 2008 by AR
- NAAML P Conference, Durango, CO October 26-29, 2008 by WR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December 8-10 by MCR
- WOCA Conference, Lexington, KY May 4-7, 2009 by AR (National Coordination)
- ASMR Conference, Billings, MT June , 2009 by WR (National Coordination)
- NAAML P Conference, Rogers, AR September 24-30, 2009 by MCR (National Coordination)

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- **Applied Science Final Reports for FY 2005 and FY 2006.** Quarterly technical reports are due to Kim Vories by April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31.
- **Applied Science Solicitation FY 2008.** The last two AR grants should be awarded by the end of August.
- **Applied Science Project Summary Sheets:** One method to disseminate results from the OSM Applied Science Initiative is by developing summary sheets highlighting results of every completed project. A prototype of such a 2-page fact sheet has been reviewed by the team. A plan to have a fact sheet on all completed projects has been developed by the OSM N T T T team. A template will be provided to the regions by AR about September 1, 2008; content and photos for each completed project will be completed by October 1, 2008; and any assistance with the design graphics will be done by November 3, 2008. These summary sheets will be used at all our Technology Transfer events.
- **Applied Science Solicitation for FY 2009** – The team discussed changes to language on the process for review of proposals. Please see the attached draft solicitation and review and provide comment on the language in red font.

Next conference call will be September 30, 2008 at 1:00 PM CDT.