

# WRTT Conference Call

February 11th, 2008

Monday 1:30 PM (MST)

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

## WRTT

### Topics of Interest:

1. **WRTT Annual Meeting:** To be held the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at the Hilton Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM. The room block is reserved under "WRTT". Phone number: #505-988-2811. The hotel does NOT provide a shuttle. You can call: Sandia Shuttle, 888.775.5696. The price is \$45 round-trip from the airport in Albuquerque.
2. **WRTT Draft Agenda:** The final draft agenda will be sent out next week for comments.
3. The Geospatial Conference in Atlanta, GA is coming up very soon (March 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>). We have a lack of participation from managers and data stewards. We need you to register. If you have any questions, please call Dawn Trudeau at: 303-844-1400 x1487.

### Discussion Topic:

The future of OSMRE seems to be as a support agency. Technology transfer covers a broad spectrum of topics such as: Equipment (aka seed technology), training, reference materials, workshops/forums, applied science cooperative agreements and support of OSM initiatives (to name a few). OSMRE is also still a Federal regulatory agency. The following questions need to be asked:

1. Should OSMRE focus primarily on technology transfer as their primary form of support to the states and tribes? Why? Why not?
2. Should OSM assert itself more as a regulatory agency? Why? Why not?

The overall response to both of these questions was predominately positive. The TIPS/NTTP classes were a big help to all. OSM assistance in rulemaking, amendments and general permit review was also a big plus. SMCRA is still the backbone of OSM and OSM has found a way to make their regulations work in a way that is more cooperative than authoritative.

### WRTT Member Reports/Information

Alaska: Russ Kirkham/Roger Allely.

Roger stated (via e-mail) that work continues on the Slipper Lake pile design.

Arizona (Navajo Title IV/V): Madeline Roanhorse/John Stucker

Melvin stated that the RTK unit was in use at Tuba City, AZ. John stated that they received the grant application from OSM. His group will be attending the Geofluc course in Albuquerque.

Arizona (Hopi Title IV and V): Norman Honie

No report.

Colorado: Sandy Brown/Jeff Graves.

Sandy stated that it was business as usual for Title V. Jeff stated that they were working on a RFP for an AML site in Colorado Springs, CO.

Montana: Angela McDannel/Heather Luinstra.

Angela stated that MT finally hired a new hydrologist. Heather stated that they were interested in using the RTK unit to map historical mining claims in heavily forested areas. AML is also interested in the use of the thermal camera (via on the ground and by aircraft).

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

No report.

New Mexico: David Clark/James Smith.

Dave stated it has been business as usual. James stated they were working on an RFP for uranium sites.

North Dakota: Guy Welch/Kraig Nelson.

Guy stated that there has been resistance to a proposed permit in ND.

Utah: Steve Fluke/Jeanny Miles.

Steve stated they continued long range planning for their department. He also stated Pam Gruba and Randy Harting were both leaving the program. Jeanny stated that they continued to work on a sequel database.

Wyoming: Carol Bilbrough/Marcelo Calle.

No report.

Program Support Division/Field Operations: Bob Postle/Jerry White.

No report.

Casper Field Office: Alan Boehms.

Alan stated that Title V continued with normal oversight duties. Title IV continued work on AML amendments and guidance documents. He stated that the E-tools workshop would be taking place soon. Tribal primacy talks are continuing.

Denver Field Division: Howard Strand.

Howard stated that a demonstration of Transalta's e-permit was happening in Denver.

Denver Program Support Division: Heather Erickson.

Heather stated (via e-mail) that a new division chief would be hired by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Until then, Billie Clark is the current acting Division chief. Foster Kirby is the acting NW Branch Chief and Rick Williamson is the acting SW branch chief.

TIPS: Lou Hamm

No report (though Lou stated that everyone needs to get signed up for the Geospatial Conference ASAP- especially managers).

## **Technical Assistance, Training and General Information**

All information regarding the TIPS/NTTP/TECHNOLGY TRANSFER programs can be found at the following websites:

- [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov)
- [www.tips.osmre.gov](http://www.tips.osmre.gov)
- [www.doilearn.gov](http://www.doilearn.gov)

**Next Meeting: Monday, March. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008**