

WRTT Conference Call

Title V

November 22th, 2011

Tuesday 11:00 AM Mountain Standard Time

Call: 1-877-612-4949 Passcode: 8870122

WRTT

TIPS, Technology Transfer, Training and General Information:

- Please check out the updated **NTTT** website for recent updates! These are located at: <http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov>
- Please check out the updated **TIPS** website for recent updates! These are located in the “What’s New?” section of the page **Please check the site frequently:** <http://www.tips.osmre.gov>
- Check out the newly designed **OSMRE** website at: <http://www.osmre.gov>
- Check out the newly designed **OSMRE-WR** website at: <http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov>
- Please review the *new* **WRTT** *SharePoint* site at: <https://nttt.osmre.gov/TechTransfer/default.aspx>
- Upcoming events: <http://amd.osmre.gov/ttcalroot/TTCalendar.aspx>

Discussion Topic:

OSMRE’s TIPS program strives to consistently keep its customers (Tribes, States and OSMRE field offices) happy. One of the services we offer-free of charge- is the use of many new and innovative pieces of “loaner” equipment. We feel offering this service has always been a beneficial service to you.

Before sending any loaner equipment to you, we expect you to have training in the use of the equipment. Lately, due to budget issues and travel constraints, obtaining and offering this training has been an issue. One possible solution to this problem is to have onsite office/field demonstrations of the equipment.

Questions/comments?

Crow began the conversation by stating that the RTK unit had been sent to them twice. They recommended that the unit be packaged in a better manner as pieces of equipment had arrived broken. The RTK unit is running fine at this time. OSM noted that some of our equipment is getting older, and, that, if they did run into an issue to let us know immediately. OSM stressed to NOT take care of the issue yourself without notifying us first.

New Mexico stated that an onsite demonstration would be a good idea. Montana stated that they liked New Mexico's idea. Utah stated that maybe bringing one piece of equipment and doing a field demonstration would be very beneficial. Montana noted that John Sieving from the Casper Field Office- OSMRE did something just like that with the downhole camera of which was very beneficial to them. UT suggested demonstrating 2-3 pieces of equipment at a time would be beneficial. UT also asked if we demonstrated software. OSMRE stated that, if your service manager taught that class, they probably could do that. If not, then, probably not. Montana wondered if TIPS still paid for individuals to attend specific software classes. OSMRE noted that groundwater vistas was still being offered. Montana suggested that we (service managers) maybe try and identify- in advance- what each state might want us to demonstrate. Crow stated that maybe we talk about how to store equipment. Crow also asked if we still purchased geoscan research. OSMRE noted that Aquachem is now officially retired. OSMRE recommended states request more "in the field" projects.

WRTT Member Reports/Information

Alaska: **Absent.**

Arizona (Navajo): **Absent.**

Arizona (Hopi): **Absent.**

Colorado: **Absent.**

Montana: **A database application workshop took place in Billings, MT. The workshop attendees were from all western states and tribes. Baseline data was being gathered for the Otter Creek mine application. The Western Environmental Law Center and Sierra Club were suing the state of MT over possible water pollution. The OSMRE director received a letter from the Montana Environmental Information Center regarding oversight problems. Montana noted that the definition of material damage was being quantified numerically instead of by summary.**

Montana (Crow): **They need training via OSMRE's TIPS/NTTP programs. Since their staff already has folks well versed in certain pieces of equipment (i.e. RTK unit), those staff members are training everyone else in their office on the use of such equipment. They are trying to master data transfer from our loaner equipment to programs installed on their new computer equipment. Crow is working with the BIA to gain access to AML sites.**

New Mexico: **The sediment study on the La Plata mine (taking place on sites designed with Natural Regrade) is coming to a close. The company went ahead and paid for the study. Dave Clark is officially the Coal Program Manager.**

North Dakota: **Absent.**

Utah: **UT has noticed a downturn in the demand for coal. This is evidenced by the Westridge and Dugout mines laying off quite a few folks. BLM has reviewed the EIS for the new surface mine in the southern UT. The mine wants to expand to five times its size. The SUFCO mine applied to mine under a perennial stream.**

Wyoming: **Absent.**

Casper Field Office: **Absent.**

Program Support Division/Albuquerque Area Office/Farmington Area Office: **Permitting actions continue on McKinley, Navajo and Kayenta. OSMRE has been under pressure from many of the environmental/grassroots groups.**

Denver Field Division/ Olympia Area Office: **Absent.**

TIPS: **Absent.**

Next Call: December 13th, 2011