

# WRTT Conference Call

## Title IV and V

September 19th, 2011

Monday 11:00 PM Mountain Time

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

### WRTT

#### TIPS, Technology Transfer, Training and General Information:

- Please check out the updated **TIPS** website for recent updates! These are located in the “What’s New?” section of the page. **\*Note: A new version of the TIPS website will be unveiled soon (TBA). Please check the site frequently.**  
<http://www.tips.osmre.gov>
- Please check out the updated **NTTT** website for recent updates! These are located at: <http://www.techtransfer.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>
- If you plan on attending this year’s AML conference, please visit our booth! More information for this conference can be found at:  
[http://naamlp.net/2011\\_conference/main.htm](http://naamlp.net/2011_conference/main.htm)
- Suggestions for our upcoming OSMRE Service Manager meeting.

#### Discussion Topic:

OSMRE, and our respective Technology Management Branch (TMD), strive to work with all states, tribes, and OSMRE field office in an effort to promote the following:

- Training Program
- Software and Hardware
- Research and Development
- Technical Assistance upon request

As well as:

- Publications of Forum Proceedings and Workshops
- CDs and Videos
- Information Websites
- Brochures and literature
- NTTP Program
- TIPS Program
- IMCC Benchmarking
- Technical Interactive Forums and Workshops

**Note:** This information was taken from both the TIPS and Technology Transfer charters (which you can access from the websites listed in the previous section of this agenda).

One issue our division currently became involved in is e-permitting. The head of our OSMRE-TMD division (Billie Clark) and the branch chief of the OSMRE-IT division (Dan Rivers) recently attended a meeting in Montana. The meeting was titled “The Western Region Collaborative ePermitting Project” and was formed to explore the potential for acquisition and cost-sharing of an ePermitting software solution.

This meeting was an example how we are attempting to work collaboratively with the states and tribes and fulfill our obligations as an organization. We have other meetings in the works.

Question: Do you like this collaborative approach, or, would you prefer OSMRE make a decision and present their idea to you in a “top down” manner? In regards to the ePermitting meeting: Did you participate in this ePermitting meeting? If so, was the meeting worthwhile? Were you provided clear guidance from OSM and/or other meeting organizers what to expect and how to prepare and present? Were you provided clear guidance on how this ePermitting forum will continue, or, will guidance be a result of the collaborative meeting?

The meeting began with MT stating that they thought collaboration was always a good way to approach matters. TIPS stated that “collaboration” with the states/tribes and TIPS and Technology Transfer may be different that “collaboration” from the Denver Field Division/Program Support Division and states/tribes. MT stated that no feedback from anyone may indicate that things are going very well. TIPS stated that a new applied science solicitation will be going out this year and will be available on the technology transfer website. MT suggested the use of “Linked-In”. CO stated that these meetings were great places to extend our resources.

The meeting took a slightly different tone and shifted towards e-permitting- especially with the new e-permitting initiative underway between Montana, Colorado and Wyoming. UT stated that they have been working on e-permitting for some time. UT thought that the latest e-permitting meeting was a good thing and a great goal for

OSMRE to work collaboratively- as they have been doing on this issue- with the states/tribes. They also thought that OSMRE should be working collaboratively and not tell the states/tribes what to do. UT thought that the compatibility between programs existed and that the time was right for e-permitting. TIPS stated that the TIPS/Technology Transfer program has always been part of the e-permitting process and that e-permitting was never just a program support or field division initiative. NM stated that they remembered this was the case back in the “old days”. ND asked the question “How do you make a company become part of the e-permitting process”? Is there a policy or a set of guidelines published out there that states just how to do this? NM said that they just required the company to turn in permitting materials in an “acceptable” format. This format was determined by the director.

The discussion finished up with general software questions. MT asked if TIPS was still distributing ERDAS. TIPS answered that it was still available. Objective and Apollo modules will also soon be available. UT stated that they had received a message from OSMRE- Mid-Continent that ArcMAP and ArcGIS 10 were available. TIPS responded by saying that the newest version had major bugs and we were awaiting fixes from ESRI before distributing it. ESRI products are still available upon request. UT stated that one of their departments had just purchased ArcGIS 10 licenses. NM stated they were already using ArcGIS 10.

## **WRTT Member Reports/Information**

Alaska: Not present

Arizona (Navajo): Title V: Have seven folks and are trying to hire three more. The Navajo Nation Title V program is still pursuing primacy. They have recently run into some legal issues that are holding up the process.

Arizona (Hopi): Not present.

Colorado: Title V: Is still short a few people and need to fill those positions. They have recently received two new permit applications, are working on two permit revisions and are working on bond applications.

Montana: Title IV: Working on AMD, subsidence and coal fire projects.

Montana (Crow): Not present.

New Mexico: Title IV: Just had a display at the state fair! They are currently advertising for a new construction project via the RFP method.

Title V: Just completed follow-up Phase I bond releases. One was a 1000 ac bond release in York Canyon. An experiment at the La Plata mine is ongoing involving temporary sediment control in sub watersheds and measuring the amount of sediment flowing from these sub watersheds. A meeting will be taking place in October to discuss the ongoing fly ash study.

North Dakota: Title V: Just returned from the e-permitting meeting in MT. They are still trying to fill Steve Schroeder's position. They just finished a bond release inspection.

Title IV: Four major projects.

Utah: Title IV: Coal fire construction project. Planning for next year's projects is ongoing. Monies for non-coal projects will be obtained from BLM. Coal projects (SMCRA related) will still be obtained from OSMRE.

Title V: Two new hydrologists were recently hired. The board is expected to make a decision on perpetual treatment of the discharge at Crandall Canyon. A new permit (Kinney #2 in Scofield) is waiting on a bond before any mining can proceed.

Wyoming: Not present.

Casper Field Office: Not present.

Program Support Division/Albuquerque Area Office/Farmington Area Office: Not present.

Denver Field Division/ Olympia Area Office: Annual reporting is ongoing. The OSM inspector in Olympia, WA has retired. The new interns in the division will finish up their summer work this month.

TIPS: TIPS just purchased a new X-Ray Fluorescence meter.

**Next Call: October 18th, 2011**