

## Recap of the March 20, 2007, NW-AIRQUEST Conference Call

### On the call:

- Washington State University (Joe)
- EPA (Herman, Bob, & Jeff)
- National Park Service (Elizabeth)
- Washington Department of Ecology (Sally, Clint, Tom, Gail & Ranil)
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (Rick, Wei, Yayi, & Chris)
- BC Environment (Steve)

### ■ Conference Call Agenda Items:

#### January 24 Conference Call Minutes Approval -

- Agreed the minutes from the call held January 24, 2007 were OK as submitted with name corrections to Joe Vaughan for posting on the Web

#### Working Group Activities -

1. Joe - AIRPACT recently received a significant upgrade and there have been significant Web developments and updates made.
2. Bruce - Speciation group conference calls have been discussed and even a possible face-to-face meeting bandied about to include Steve up in BC and their similar group. No further mention.
  - a. Steve and Bob added later that this should be going again in a couple weeks and that they had been working with Kathy Himes to get things running.
3. Bruce - Liaison group received a summary from Jan Hastings after the Air Directors meeting for contact and updates from NW-AIRQUEST in the future. The Air Directors expect an information packet to include the following: who are the users of NW-AIRQUEST products, want a list of contacts at user agencies so they might contact them and ask about shared funding of product production.
  - a. Bruce added that he will e-mail each organization in NW-AIRQUEST to get a lead that will survey and determine this information for the information packet and added that Rich Stedman (sp?) had volunteered to help them write up and create the packet.
  - b. It was then discussed on the phone that we put Web tracking in place on the product sites to see who the users are (Webalizer?). We also will need to identify a process that will find projects that bring about further collaboration in NW-AIRQUEST. Two were mentioned - modeling for critical loads in Cascades NP for NPS through WSU and Puget Sound deposition study with WSU modeling. Joe asked if Bruce can deliver to the group an outline that might help us identify what sort of collaborative projects might be out there and he agreed that something like this would be available in three to four weeks.

#### Open Forum -

- 1) Herman Wong from EPA - Discussed a Region 10 workshop that he and others would like to combine that workshop with the NW-AIRQUEST annual meeting and the MM% meeting and do it all in Seattle the week of October 15-18 with a theme that runs through all three meetings. The combining of meetings is in an effort to reduce travel costs and to share within the region. It was discussed that this combined meeting would conflict with the PNWIS meeting in Boise scheduled for October 18 - 20. It was then decided we'd post the theme of the three-meeting combination and the descriptive paragraph Herman supplied NW-AIRQUEST and we'd use online survey

software to better determine a date change for the joined meetings in Seattle. Joe agreed to set-up the online survey of dates. The alternate dates discussed were October 8-12 and October 29 - November 2. Here is the theme / verbiage supplied by Herman and read on the conference call:

***Technical Challenges for Air Quality Modeling in the Pacific Northwest: Exploring Regional Problems with National Implications***

*Are the meteorology, physics, and chemistry contained in the state-of-the-science air quality models adequate to support the policies, regulations and guidelines for the new ozone and PM air quality standards? Air quality modeling for domains in the Pacific Northwest presents a set of technical difficulties that highlight larger issues of national significance. Among these are: predicting a PBL, capturing the effects of complex terrain, identifying and understanding localized PM hot spots, dealing with NH3 emissions uncertainties, and forecasting and evaluating air quality in local and regional domains under climate change conditions. The Pacific Northwest scientific and policy communities during a 15-18 October 2007 meeting in Seattle, WA, intend to explore and discuss these and other issues, to rank their priority for the regional and national modeling efforts, to identify work planned or already underway in the Pacific Northwest and nationally that addresses them, and to chart forward paths on any orphan problems.*

2) Steve Sakiyama from BC - Discussed a workshop that proposed a pilot to extend BlueSkyRains into BC and part of Alberta for smoke safety. The workshop discussion included an effort to try to stitch together Canadian products with BlueSkyRains and extend the domain into BC and Alberta. Gem-Lam, a 2.5km-grid Canadian model would be utilized and provided meteorological data would be tied to BlueSkyRains with GIS layers and fire data, including land use information already shared.

-- Joe Vaughan at WSU added that Paul Willis (sp?) in BC did mention Clearsky work for agricultural burning and a similar expansion of that product into BC like BlueSkyRains. The comparing of meteorology was added and that an MM5 converter exists.

**Next Call -**

- The week of May 1 - 5 is six weeks out. We discussed making the conference calls every eight weeks and static (i.e., first Tuesday of every other month at 2 p.m. MT) and then we decided to see how the online survey for the combined meeting went and would apply that technology to the NW-AIRQUEST conference call scheduling to ensure we had the maximum in participation. It was agreed.
  - Please send agenda items to Chris for this call

Also, if anything above is not accurate, needs further embellishment, or your notes have items I missed completely, please send them in so we can make the needed changes and approve the minutes.