

Recap of the March 27 2012 NW-AIRQUEST Conference Call

On the call:

Agency	Participants
WA Ecology	Ranil Dhammapala, Sarah Clouse, Clint Bowman, Jeff Johnston, Sally Otterson
National Park Service	Janice Peterson
WSU	Joe Vaughan, Serena Chung, Farren Herron-Thorpe
EPA Region X	Bob Kotchenruther
Environment Canada	Robert Nissen
Idaho DEQ	Bruce Louks
Oregon DEQ	Phil Allen, Wes Risher
BC Ministry of Environment	Warren McCormick
PSCAA	Erik Saganic
YRCAA	Hasan Tahat

Agenda Items

- Workgroup updates
 1. AIRPACT-4 workgroup
 - Put together a status document dated March 10th, and Bob circulated it.
 - There was a problem with the 24-hour nightly run due to error in the inline plume-rise emission code that caused CMAQ to crash, apparently only after Feb 28 during a leap year. Serena received a bug fix from EPA and AIRPACT-4 has caught up and is running daily again.
 - Bob is close to consolidating responses to AIRPACT-4 survey and summarizing everyone's interests. Will send out a Doodle Poll to set up a conference call with everyone to talk to WSU about results of summary responses.
 - AIRPACT-4 is not producing graphics on the web at present. The page is not a static page; it is being worked on daily.
 - WSU is working toward doing some historic AIRPACT-4 runs to simulate the Boise study period of December 2008 and January 2009.
 2. Emissions Inventory workgroup
 - Looking at doing 2011 EI and getting states and Canada to be on the same page especially on larger source categories.
 - Sally will be looking at surrogates for temporal and special allocation. A sub-group will be looking at updating MOVES model to reflect meteorology.

- Joe presented results of wildfire experimentation to his quarterly meeting and reported testing on operational functionality. Haven't gotten into actual testing as of yet.
- Looking at Smartfire vs. Older Bluesky on AIRPACT-3 for fires from 2007-2008. First test is using the default traverse of Bluesky framework. Would like suggestions from AirFire lab on a second test. Canada is wondering if their wildfires are going to be included. This is a discussion that needs to include Steve Sakiyama.

3. EPA GEOSS workgroup

- Currently Jennifer Hinds is developing a website for AIRPACT-4 using Google maps framework. Same background map will be used for the GEOSS project. Users can click on and off different layers. Exporting site specific satellite values to incorporate into project's AirNow- sourced monitor data for users to output. No roll out date as of yet.

4. Wildfire workgroup

- Wants to roll same things over into AIRPACT-4 as they make progress on testing.

5. Other

- Question on wildfire incorporation into AIRPACT-4 by Clint: Will it be ready for summertime? Answer: Might be there, but emissions might not be reliable predictors. Would rather focus more on testing.

- Online survey results

- 12 responses
- If you want a summarized version of responses, email Ranil.
- WRF useful for forecasting
- AIRPACT : 8 hour ozone main item of interest, 24 hour pm important to some
- CLEARSKY: Low scores, of little use, not worth investing in, default scenarios at least give you an idea of where plume is, but only when it touches the ground.
- WRF: 4 kilometer run needs to be earlier, more vertical resolution at lower layers

- AIRPACT: Many asked for 4 kilometer run.
- Discussion: Doesn't seem to tell us anything new. Joe would like a copy of the summary.

- Annual meeting planning and agenda
 - June 6-8. Ranil sent out an email with meeting logistics, parking, hotel, meeting at WSU, etc.
 - Agenda items so far. If you have more, please send to Ranil.
 - Creating an area wide PM map.
 - Business items
 - Finalize WSU work plan
 - Update from AIRPACT-4 workgroup
 - What are our goals, discussion on how to make products more useful for smoke managers, other users.
 - Idaho Near-road NO₂ pilot program update

- Any other business
 - Clearsky issue: Update by Bruce & Jeff– Monday 2nd 10 am PST conference call.
 - Variety of discussions about Clearsky and users shrinking and problems with forecast. Call last week decided that Clearsky won't be funded in 2013. Conversations are still ongoing in WA, to request the Air Directors to shift funds to AIRPACT.
 - Smoke managers find it useful and would like to find a way to put the Clearsky functionality into AIRPACT-4.
 - Idea: Maybe explore using the Bluesky framework to process ag fires in a manner similar to the way wildfires are processed. Maybe run

AIRPACT-4 in tracer only mode for quick turn-around, to handle gaming scenarios.

- Environ Canada can't access AIRPACT and are unable to contribute to workgroup. Has to do with restrictions to UW servers keeping Environ Canada from accessing graphics.
- Roundtable
 - Ranil – creating background maps of monitors spatially interpolated with AIRPACT predictions for all 3 states (WA, OR, ID), but will require some collaboration. OR interested, ID had previously indicated their interest.
 - Canada – Will be watching federal budget update, which comes out on Thursday. Overall cuts ~5-10% and the air department could be severely impacted. Bruce Ainslie joining group as senior modeler.