

Announcements

January 24th and 25th Natural Background Senior Staff Workshop in Denver, CO

February 6th – 8th WGA Regional Haze Planning in Tempe, AZ

February 21st and 22nd FEJF Meeting in Las Vegas, NV

March 15, NBTT Policy Maker Workshop in Tempe, AZ

Vacancy / Members

Tribal Representative with agricultural experience needed – Darrell Russell is no longer with the Colorado River Tribes, and no longer with the FEJF.

WRAP Technical Center Issues

IOC & MTF has spent the last nine months with the SO₂ annex to the GVCTC indicating how to achieve a 70% reduction in SO₂ levels by 2018, through a market trading program. Annex is up for approval by the EPA. 309 SIP's due 2003, including technical analysis.

WRAP Planning team (IOC/TOC and Forum Co-Chairs) meeting in SLC last week
All forums present to discuss key tasks

RFP's submitted to WRAP for a regional modeling center. Decision soon.

\$5,000,000 preliminary allocated for FY02.

A special workgroup, including states as tribes, was formed to manage the model center.

WRAP R & D Committee Workshop in Las Vegas next week to examine fugitive dust

Communication Committee contracted to develop a speakers bureau.

EPA initiated a process to get communication going among the 5 regional planning organizations to discuss Regional Haze.

Meeting Feb 6-8 in Tempe, AZ to discuss Regional Haze planning efforts.

Participants will be state, federal, and tribal partners with EPA.

Jenifer Louder is no longer the webmaster for the WGA. The position has been filled, and Brad Bissey is available at: webmaster@wrapair.org

IOC/TOC - The TOC has recently fallen apart. An environmental representative is needed for the IOC, and an industry representative is needed for the TOC.

Agricultural Alternatives to Burning Contract

ERG of CA contracted for Agricultural Burning Alternatives. The cost of the contract is approximately \$120,000.

Timeline:

Draft report on crop identification – March (What is grown and what percent is burned)

Draft GIS coverage – May

Accountability Mechanisms - (late 2001)

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Data resolution at the county level.

Funding

Only \$165,000 currently committed to contracts

Substantial amount of money set aside to the things that need to be done

Deadlines: Goal to have everything to states in a year and half so that the states will have another year and a half to implement Regional Haze SIPS. Dec. 31, 2003 SIP deadline.

Natural Background TT

Carl Gossard

Workshops –

2 workshops

-Senior Staff (January 24,25)

Objective: To utilize senior staff members to review, critique, and modify a draft methodology to classify fire, and the guidelines for tracking each fire's visibility impairment classification

-Policy Maker (March 15)

Objective: To evaluate and modify the classification method and identify policy implications of its implementation.

- Senior Staff Workshop

Discussion:

For 309 states, reasonable progress will be demonstrated through the implementation of enhanced smoke management programs.

How will wildfire emissions affect other emissions sources, especially wildfire emissions that are deemed anthropogenic. In this circumstance, those emissions will represent a “wildcard” for all other sources that are trying to demonstrate reductions.

Are there any structural flaws or other topics that need to be addressed in the Workshop?

Concerns:

Implications should be stated up front - Dennis Haddow and Dick Hayslip to address classifications in terms of regulatory framework, visibility, and implications. Most issues will be presented in the prework and white papers so that folks will be educated and will be able to make educated decisions (Pat Cummins).

Flow diagram showing progress would be a good idea. (Tom Pace)

FEJF Consensus met SS Workshop materials

- Policy Workshop Brainstorm Session
Rebecca Reynolds

Policy Makers to endorse the Decision Tree and Classifications

- Resolve the Undecided Classifications from the January Staff Workshop
- Is the Decision Tree consistent with the RHR, CAA

Review the Policy Implication of the Classifications and identify those that may pose challenges to implementing the Decision Tree

- Visibility goals versus Ecosystem Restoration
- The equity among other regulated entities and between types of emissions
- Legislative barriers
- Resources: costs, infrastructure, technological issues
- National consistency
- Public/Media
- Technological Tasks

Draft Agenda Items:

- Review January Results
- Resolve Classifications
- Policy Implication of Implementation
- Endorse Moving Forward

Insight:

Classify emissions into high, med and low as sorting mechanism for discussion priority
“De minimis” level determination.

Emissions Speciation

Bill Malm

Website Reference

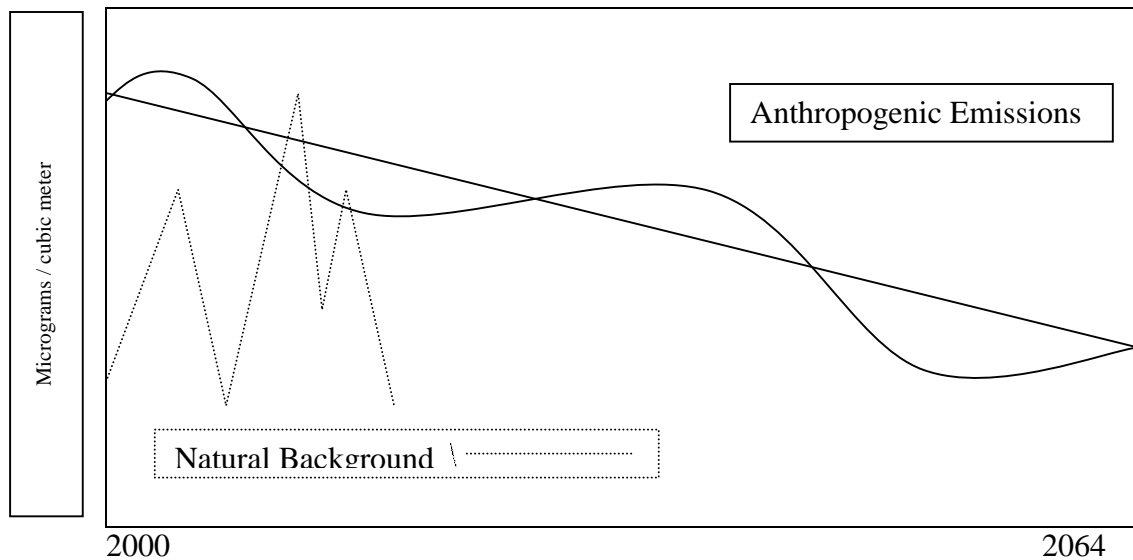
Improve Monitoring Network Information:

West fairly clean

- About half of fine particulate matter in the west is organic, whereas in the East, over half is composed of sulfate
- On the haziest days in the west, organics increase by about 15%. In the East, sulfates increase by about 30%.
- On dirty years, increase in organics and soil, and fine matter (FM)
- Trend in Organics (10 years) is increasing in the west
- Trend in Sulfates are decreasing in the west, except in AZ and MM
- Visibility in the west is getting better in some areas, worse in others
- Extinction coefficients and acres burned in the west follow the similar trends, and on a state by state basis, over a ten year average, appear to make up substantial portions of organic carbon in the air, although non-wildfire Emissions appear to make up the majority of organic carbon.

Need an analytical technique to determine the apportionment of wildfire smoke to non-wildfire smoke that is quick, efficient, and economical. Not currently available.

R &D Forum – may be able to write up some grant proposals based on the need to develop this analytical technique.



Natural background will fluctuate, as will natural and anthropogenic sources. Anthropogenic sources must demonstrate reasonable progress towards emissions reduction with time.

2064 goal will probably be a management-contrived number. There has been some assessment of natural levels (GCVTC), not just management levels (cohesive strategies).

Breakout session –

Decision Tree finalized

- Language has been cleaned up
- Changes made to diagram logic

Specifically,

- Intensively managed vegetation (short duration intensive grazing, ag lands, tree farm, rangeland, vegetation manipulation for ORV use)

- Natural Vegetation (season long grazing)

Tribal Smoke Management Programs – BSMP TT Diane Riley & Scot Kuehn
Fonda Swimmer ITEP <http://www.cet.nau.edu/~itep/>

Project Overview

Phase I

- 247 tribes contacted (baseline information)
- Questions not specific/data reporting incomplete

Phase II

- Additional assistance from Paul Mountcastle, (Bill Malone, John Graves)
- Prioritization of contacting Tribes
- Question Revisions
- Follow-up: Data Security, Logistics

Distinction Between Phases

- Phase I: no specific definition/questions for SMP's
- Phase II work begins after October 17, 2000
- Lengthy Revision process following Phase I
- Phase II: better assessment instrument
- Anticipate higher quality data collection/results

Progress Report

- 32 questionnaires completed (14 tribes burn, 7 have a SMP)
- 21 contact-pending
- 184 yet to be contacted in Phase II

Priorities

As specified in the SOW, priorities are as followed:

- Finding tribes not identified during Phase I
- Re-verifying Phase I information
- Initial person contacted may not be correct person to accurately answer questions

ITEP Contact Information

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Estimated March Completion Date

Tribal Surveys Discussion

With regards to the tribal smp's, summarize information using pie charts each question having a yes or no answer for all the tribes (using no names). That way, there should be no private information problems, and ITEP could share information among the tribes. All other questions would be summarized in a fashion using TT direction.

ITEP would be in charge of summarizing the data.

Letter from the FEJF that will explain how the information will be used and the process for securing the data should be sent to Bill Grantham, who would disperse the letter to the tribes. This should resolve any problems with security.

Tribal survey in progress – TT preparation of draft letter to ITEP for tribes requesting that material be made available to wrap and may become public information.

Wild land SMP Survey Report from EC/R –BSMP TT

- Final Submitted Nov 10, 2000. Posted on the FEJF Website
- Most states reported, although four states did not. The report met the objectives of the proposal.

Wild land survey results will be sent out to directors Deb Kinsley will make addition hardcopies as needed. **Jim Russell and Bob Palzer would like a hardcopy.**

Summary table with questions along one axis and states along the other might be useful and fairly easy to put together. In addition, perhaps some sort of statistical summary using percentages of occurrences per question.

Summarize responses by topic for development of recommendations

TT will prepare a summary report (with recommendations?) for BSMP by end of January. Draft report to FEJF in February.

Possible Components of a BSMP –

Pre burn planning

Alternatives to burning
Public Review/Program

Operations

Preburn
Postburn Report

Preburn Information Gathering

Authorization - Required as a minimum for classification of a BSMP
Emission Reduction Techniques
Post Burn
Clearing house of Burn/Emission Data

Training

Review of Program

Public Education

Title

Agricultural Lands SMP Surveys from EC/R

Agland survey in progress

Sent out to states and counties.

Questions to be reviewed by Friday Dec 8, with 30 out of 42 surveys still out.

Follow-up:

Alaska – Pete Pinal County – Mark Yuma County – Mark California – Dave Sacramento – Dave SJVAPCD – Dave SCAQMD – Florida – Pete Hawaii – Pete Louisiana - Diane Nebraska - Diane Nevada – Scott Lovelock Valley – Scott	Oregon – Mike Umatilla – Mike Union – Mike Williamette Valley –Mike Jefferson – Mike South Carolina – Scott Washington – Mark Walla-Walla County – Mark SW County – Mark NW County - Mark Benton County - Mark
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Concerns: Problem with the survey - responses to wild land SMP questions are included in aglands SMP survey responses. Will contact EC/R to clean up the questions.

Discussion:

In mitigating short-term smoke impacts, needs to be coordination between the burn permitting authorities, based on the timing, location, and amount of burning activity that occurs on both wild land and agricultural burning activities.

ESMP TT Report – Pete Lahm

No meetings or activities scheduled

The flowchart and workplan elements for ESMP’s are similar to those of the BSMP’s. Subsequently, there is a necessity to develop BSMP recommendations first, and those recommendations will then be used in the ESMP recommendation development. Challenges for both ESMP and BSMP TT are nuisance, NAAQS, and visibility.

Alternatives to Wildland Burning TT –Shelley Nolde

Status of RFP - Needs to get out soon. Incorporated all issues through the implementation plan.

May be some collaboration with CA regarding alternatives to wild land burning who is working on determining alternatives pursuant to Title 17, which covers smoke management for both wild land and agricultural burning.

Emissions TT – Pete Lahm

Collaborating with EPA to determine emission factors. Also, there has been recent discussion of fuel assessment and compilation of various methods that may be used to determine emissions calculation for each of the fuel types.

Status of July and Annual 1996 Emissions Inventory has been slowed due to discrepancies with wildfire databases. Essentially, FS, DOI, Wild land Fire Statistics, and wildfire occurrence databases demonstrate significant differences in the number of fires, and the number of acres burned throughout the 11 western states and across the nation for 1996. It may be possible to link the databases together to satisfy model requirements.

In addition, 209's may be collected from GACS to obtain, specifically:

- Fire Name
- Veg Type
- NFDRS Fuel Model
- Fuel loading (if available)
- Fire Behavior
- Date
- Acres
- Any and all location data
- Unit designation

The possibility of obtaining 209's will be discussed on conference call on Friday, Dec 15, 9:00 am Pacific time.

Also, a quick assessment of Prescribed fire activity will be made for July 1996. Accordingly, an assumption will be made whether or not rx fire emissions were significant. In addition, an assessment will be made on agricultural burning based on fire restrictions throughout the west.