

Ecological Response and Outreach Subcommittee

**NADP Spring Meeting
Asilomar Conference Center
Pacific Grove, CA
April 14 - 16, 2015**

Meeting Minutes

Minutes taken by Andrew Johnson

Participants:

Tom Butler, Cornell University (4/14, 4/15)
David Gay, NADP Program Office (4/14, 4/15)
Cindy Huber, (4/15)
Andrew Johnson, ME DEP (4/14, 4/15)
Eladio Knipping, EPRI (4/15)
Bob Larson, NADP Program Office (4/14)
Jason Lynch, EPA (4/14, 4/15)
Claire O'Dea, USFS (4/15)
Pam Padgett, USFS (4/14, 4/15)
Chris Rogers, AMEC (4/14)
Chuck Sams, USFS (4/14, 4/15)

Pam called the meeting to order at 1:40PM on April 14 after the group decided to meet outside (in the sunshine!).

Pam asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the fall 2014 meeting in Indianapolis, IN. Jason moved to accept them as submitted; Bob seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously approving the fall minutes.

Old Business:

1. Status of updating the “Nitrogen in the Nation’s Rain” brochure: John Walker has not been able to make any progress on this topic since the fall meeting. It was confirmed that an outline had been completed that identified what areas of the brochure were in need of being updated. Tom Butler volunteered to head-up this effort (thank you, Tom!). Pam will provide Tom with a copy of the update outline and he will then touch base with John for any additional information, suggestions, etc. Tom’s goal is to have an updated final brochure for this fall.

2. NADP Quarterly e-Newsletter: The second issue is anticipated to be distributed in a few weeks. Bob shared that he has some ideas of how to expand the content of future issues. Among the suggestions mentioned were: a story about nitrogen in the Mississippi River (by Ray Knighton); highlight/feature a particular deposition site, a map

(Jason mentioned a CLAD map on surface water acidity is an interesting one), a research project/effort and a published paper in each issue. A brief discussion ensued about keeping in mind who the e-newsletter's audience is in response to the degree of technical details that any e-newsletter article should include. Also, the next issue (and probably again in the third issue) will contain a blurb about the international Acid Rain 2015 conference taking place in Rochester, NY during October 19 – 23.

It was mentioned how it has been observed that fertilizer production plants are “popping up like mushrooms” in areas of the country where natural gas is being used as a feedstock for ammonia. The question was asked if any NADP data could be used to assess environmental impacts resulting from these operations. Food for thought.

3. Policy for new publications / “for-profit” publication announcements in the NADP e-newsletter. Final decision from Executive Committee?: Last fall EROS presented its policy recommendation to the Executive Committee (EC). The Fall meeting notes indicate that EC will allow a general announcement, but that it approve on a case-by-case basis.

4. NADP Governance Document – update from Chris Rogers: Chris Rogers provided a summary review of the proposed changes/edits to the NADP Governance Document (see specifics below).

- ◇ p. 1 – NPAP references removed;
- ◇ p. 4 – NADP organizational charts have been updated to reflect those changes;
- ◇ p. 5 – Executive Committee voting members list has been updated accordingly;
- ◇ p. 8 – language describing who the voting members of the Budget Advisory Committee are has been improved;
- ◇ p. 9 - confirmed that the recommendation to organizationally change the Data Management and Analysis Subcommittee (DMAS) to the Data Management Advisory Group (DMAG) has happened, and language here will reflect that.

The discussion then turned to the planning of the spring meetings and how best to utilize the days/times available. There seemed to be a consensus of keeping it to just 4 days instead of increasing to 5 days. Suggested that one day (8AM – 8PM) be devoted to the two science committees, where they would each have a 6-hour block of meeting time per committee with 2 overlapping hours (1 hour from each committee's meeting block) for a joint session. The location and dates of the next spring meeting were confirmed: Madison, WI, Monday April 25 – Wednesday April 27 (with EC on the 28th). The process of calling for agendas and their coordination was then discussed at some length. Pam was willing to resurrect past efforts at earlier and better coordination among the committees/subcommittees by having a conference call in August of the chairs. This conversation eventually evolved into the recommendation of drafting a SOP for committee/subcommittee chairs to follow and make it part of the Governance Document, perhaps as an Appendix. Pam, Jason and Chris volunteered to work

together on drafting such an SOP. Therefore, the following motion was passed to present at Thursday's Executive Committee meeting as part of EROS's report:

Motion: Meeting coordination among the standing subcommittees, science committees, and the Executive Committee.

- a. EROS joined by CLAD will prepare a standard operating procedure for committee chairs to provide guidance and timelines for preparing meeting agendas, coordinating agenda items among the different committees, and distributing agendas to the membership. The SOP will also include timelines for finalizing meeting minutes and submitting the minutes to the Program Office for posting on the website.
- b. The Past Chair to the Executive Committee will be responsible for coordination of the spring and fall standing subcommittees, science committees, and the Executive Committee agendas, and ensure that the timelines are followed. This will most likely be done by conference call at least one month prior to the meeting.

The SOP will be presented to the Executive Committee at the fall 2015 meeting for final approval. A trial-run of the SOP will be conducted prior to the fall meeting.

5. Topic Modeling Project – Ray Knighton and David Gay: Since Ray was not able to attend or participate in today's meeting and David was not present at this point in the agenda, this item was not discussed and was tabled for later consideration at a future meeting.

6. Residual Old Business Items: No items were brought up or presented.

New Business:

1. Remote Access to Meetings: Pam described some of the difficulties and challenges of remotely participating in meetings using existing capabilities (i.e. usually just a speaker phone located in the meeting room). It was mentioned that many university have existing rooms already set up for making audio and video connections with remote locations. Bob Larsen and David Gay will do some brainstorming on how to make better remote audio/video connections work via NADP's contracts with hotels hosting our meetings. EROS will continue to ask the Program Office to explore improved means of remote access to meetings.

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 3:46PM.

Pam called the meeting back to order at 8:45AM on April 15.

2. Acid Rain 2015 Conference – updates and requests: David reported that as of last week 12 people had registered for the conference. They are hoping for at least 500 attendees, which would put the costs in the black. Doug Burns has identified who all of the keynote speakers will be and determined what the various session topics will be. The early registration fee is \$395.00.

3. Assistance to CLAD): A discussion took place with members of CLAD regarding how EROS could help them disseminate their data and information about critical loads. A draft paper containing maps using critical load data was shared with the group. Visualization of data is what a map product achieves and is also a great tool for helping to identify data gaps in addition to educating the public about the topic. An article on critical loads for the second newsletter was also mentioned. Jason shared some of the challenges presented in aggregating various types and formats of critical load data into a single map. CLAD likes the format of the NADP annual map summary publication, which includes multiple maps with printed text that puts each map in context. The pros and cons of a printed version versus an electronic version were discussed. Also, the frequency and ease of redoing maps with updated data were considered.

Jason made the following motion, which was seconded by Claire:

MOTION: EROS proposes that the Executive Committee support the printing of a booklet of critical load maps with the assistance and resources of the Program Office.

4. Science Committee on Urban Air Monitoring (SCUAM): Pam provided an update on the status of SCUAM. Some funding has been obtained to help move the effort forward. Current thinking is these sites would be a part of an existing NADP network (e.g. a subset of NTN sites?) where they would be granted a waiver from the existing siting criteria in order to be located in urban areas, on top of buildings, etc. Overall design considerations of this urban site network are now being considered and discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58AM.