 

Fire & Smoke Work Group meeting notes – Feb. 18,2021

Attendees

Rhonda- MT DEQ

Mary Uhl – WESTAR

Molly Birnbaum – AK DEC?

Amber Potts – WY DEQ

Darla Potter – WY DEQ

Irwin Singleton, NM AQB Planning Section

Julie Merkel - MT Permitting Section

Bob Spillers – NM AQB

Coleen Campbell - CO APCD

Jason Alberich - WA DoE

Margaret Miller – OR DEQ

Peter Brewer – OR DEQ

Kristen Martin - OR DEQ, WESTAR Tech Committee Cochair

Sheryl Fontaine - NV DEP

Rachel A. - WA DoE

David Grant - WA DoE

Paul Goodfellow - AK DEC

Mark Boyle - ID DEQ

Sara Strachan - ID DEQ

Julie Simpson - Nez Perce Tribe, Co-Chair WRAP TSC

Kirk Baker - EPA OAQPS

Randall Ruddick - EPA R10

Jeff Vukovich - OAQPS, Sector lead fire for NEI

Tom Moore – WRAP / WESTAR

Bob Kotchenruther – meeting introduction

* Original FSWG was organized to deliver technical products for RH planning
* Still lots of things to work on in terms of regional coordination for fire and smoke

Paul and Rhonda- Overview of new FSWG Workplan Scope

Report on [Conceptual Model For Long-Term Fire Data Support (wrapair2.org)](http://www.wrapair2.org/ConceptModelFire.aspx) project

* Matt Mavko – Fire data quality standards and metadata standards are not as rigorous as those for other EI source sectors. There is a need for vetted, metadata rich datasets for a variety of modeling and analysis. We have a core science team, all practitioners who manage fire emissions data.
* CST Looking at current state of tools, identifying gaps of where to go next, meeting notes and action items are available on project webpage. One basic idea is to cut through the noise, there is an unbelievable amount of data and products out there. Despite this there are a lot of unknowns and challenges to integrating different datasets.
* There’s a lot of good work on this already, we are looking at refining metadata for each step, as well as a distribution system for the results. Examples of applications: SMP, NEI, SIPs and EER demos. Not inventing new services, but to point people in the right direction to existing tools and best practices.
* Questions:
  + Jeff V: Is this wildfire only? Matt: No, WF, RX, and Ag is all being looked at. Bob: In fact that holds true for the workgroup as a whole.
  + Mark B: Are we prioritizing Rx? I had a concern that we’re on a wildfire focused track and leave other things behind. Matt: No, this is a big picture effort, and also we want to get a handle on some of the things we want to do with the data. What you mention is an important application of the information. Finding sources for real-time data to feed emission considerations will be great for our smoke management implementation efforts
  + Margaret Miller: Are you looking at how data is collected for fuel loading and for fuels consumed? Is there a method all states should be using? Matt – Yes, definitely. Rhonda- if it would be helpful to have a history lesson on fire EI’s, let’s put one together. Is BlueSky adopting a new method of recording SCCs so it includes piling burning? Paul - I can reach out on that question Margaret, not sure where they are in the process.

FSWG Workplan Scope Review

* Tom: Regarding the deliverables/responsibilities, those are pretty high level, and we’re interested in having the workgroup members flesh out what should be included for each of the three- emissions/modeling, coordination, EE support.
* Bob- Let’s take a couple weeks to solicit your feedback on our documents and try to have another call in a month.
* Julie Simpson - Perhaps the Tribal Data workgroup could re-invigorate participation here from Tribes, also we need to look at doing the same for local agencies.
* Randall Ruddick- Please add me to the list
* Bob- A great homework item would be for folks to consider who else should be invited to these meetings.

**Next meeting Monday March 15th at 1200 Mtn/1100 Pacific**