

Minutes
LTRMP A-Team Conference Call
August 5, 2010
10:00 – 11:45 am

Participants: Illinois – John Chick, Rob Maher, Greg Sass
Iowa – Kirk Hansen, Dave Bierman
Minnesota – Kevin Stauffer (chair), Walt Popp
Missouri – Janet Sternburg, Bob Hrabik
Wisconsin – Terry Dukerschein
COE – Karen Hagerty, David Potter, Kat McCain, Len Kring
USGS – Barry Johnson, Jennie Sauer, Nate De Jager, Brian Ickes
USFWS –
USEPA – Bill Franz

Agenda: Roll call, introduction – Stauffer
Program updates
Indicators ad hoc update – Hagerty
Field Station Accomplishment List - discussion
Open discussion, other topics, agency updates
Next meeting plans

Program Updates

Karen Hagerty (COE)

- Gave an update on the FY11 budget outlook. President and House budgets are at 21.15 million, Senate at 19.0. Planning is proceeding at the higher level for now, which would put LTRMP funding at about 6.4 million. Final budget probably won't happen until the next Congress.
- Bathymetry field work is 100% done and will start seeing deliverables over the next few months. Three contracts for LiDar have been issued. EMP funds will cover Pools 15-19 and ARRA funds will cover the rest of the system.

Barry Johnson (UMESC)

- Construction has begun on a new wing at UMESC. Should take about a year to complete and will include a new conference room.
- Land Cover/Land Use flights began yesterday in Pool 26. Ben Lubinski and Jim Rogala will be collecting the imagery. Should take 3-4 weeks to finish all flights.
- USGS's Water Resources Division conducted its periodic review of the Wisconsin Water Science Center in July. Review was very positive. A written report, with recommendations, will be forth coming and shared with the partnership

EMPCC updates

- EMPCC has decided to move forward with an HREP Strategic Plan, similar to the one that was completed for LTRMP. This will include a "program neutral" exploration of project identification and prioritization.
- Report to Congress update. Drafts have been submitted to UMRBA and they will pull together a compiled draft. Anticipated time frame is to have draft out to partnership by end of August and

completed RTC to MVD by December 1. Some policy related topics are being split off into the Implementation Issues Assessment (IIA). The IIA will address: a) NGOs as cost share partners, b) cost sharing, c) HREP operations and maintenance, d) delegated authority, e) land acquisition, f) LTRMP program implementation, g) HREP planning and prioritization, h) HREP evaluation, i) trends/emerging issues, and j) EMP's habitat project types.

Indicators ad hoc update – Karen Hagerty reported that the Indicators group has not met since the last A-Team meetings. Sub-groups have mostly completed their work and a conference call is scheduled for September 30. (now changed to October 6)

Field Station Products List

A draft of the products list had been distributed to A-Team following the April meeting and Kevin Stauffer had incorporated comments into a revised draft. Stauffer asked the group if this was a valuable effort to continue, and the consensus was positive. Additional discussion on format and content followed. Stauffer will send out another revised draft based on the discussion and a final version should be approved at the next A-Team meeting.

Next meeting

The A-Team agreed to hold the next meeting in Alton, IL. Stauffer will work with John Chick to arrange the meeting facility. (Date has now been set for December 1-2 at the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center)