

Letter on 2006 Regional Data Workshop:

All,

We are now planning for a two day 2006 Regional Data Workshop. As you know, this years workshop, convened on May 25th and 26th was entitled:

Beyond Ad-Hoc: Organizing, Administering, and Funding a Northwest Environmental Data Network

Within the NED group we have begun to discuss a theme/topic and dates for a 2006 workshop (we are proposing May 24th and 25th, 2006 in Portland).

In general, for 2006, we want to move the discussion from planning for regional data networking, to a focus on accomplishments and challenges: eg What are regional data collectors, managers and analysts doing? What tools and methodologies are being used or developed? What works well and what does not? What do you need help with? What have you got that can help others? Do others in other regions have approaches that you want to know about? What about spatial data? What about QA?QC and the Federal Data Quality Act?

We have a small budget for this event and expect to be able to support a limited amount of distant-travel and a guest key-note speaker. If you have ideas about who we could invite as a special guest speaker please let us know.

Discussion about the 2006 workshop is on the agenda (copy below) for our next NED meeting on January 4th 2006 (at around 9:45 a.m.) and you are invited to join this discussion. Alternatively, you could give me a call (206 860 3495) or e-mail me to share your ideas about this upcoming event, what you would like to see it accomplish and any needs that you may have that we could try to meet.

Also, please forward to others who may be interested.

Finally, if you missed seeing the White Paper products from the 2005 workshop they are posted on the Council's web site at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/ned/Default.asp>

Thanks,

Steawart Toshach

NED Co-Coordinator