

**Meeting Notes: Northwest Environmental Data-network Steering Committee and PNAMP  
Data Management Work Group Meeting**

**Time:** 2006-11-01 from 9:00 to 4:00

Location: Conference Room: Northwest Power and Conservation Council  
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
503-222-5161 or 800-452-5161

**Present:**

John Piccininni (BPA), Bruce Schmidt (StreamNet), Tom Pansky (BPA), Peter Paquet (NPCC), Tom O'Neil (NWHI), Phil Roger (CRITFC), Tom Iverson (CBFWF), Michael Newsom (USBR) Stewart Toshach (NED). On Phone: Jen Bayer (USGS), David Tetta (EPA), Jim Geiselman (BPA), Joy Paulus (Wa IAC).

**Please Mark Your Calendars for Next Meetings:**

2006 - Dec. 6,

2007 - Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July (no formal meeting), Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5.

All meetings will be held in the Conference room of the NPCC, Portland, Oregon.

**NED AGENDA ITEMS**

1) Introductions (See above)

2) Changes to “*Best Practices for Reporting Locational and Time Related Data.*” The proposed change – to report date using the International Standards Organization format of YYYY-MM-DD instead of MM-DD-YYYY was discussed, and the Steering Committee agreed to finalizing the Best Practices document on this basis. Joy Paulus will ask for time on the PNW-RGIC agenda to discuss the final best practices.

3) Comments on “*Best Practices for Data Dictionary Definitions and Usage*” and “*Check List for Organizing Field Collection and Management of Data*”. The Steering Committee agreed that both of these documents are ready for release. Need to add brief background statements to the “*Check List for Organizing Field Collection and Management of Data*” and provide version #'s for all docs.

4) Development of NED proposal, to the Council, for regional level pilot or prototype efforts. There was considerable discussion on the proposal for the Council and how it would relate to other efforts in the region. The comments are summarized below:

- Table I is a key document to explain the document more broadly but there is currently too much emphasis on the Data Center Proposal and not enough emphasis on the NED work plan elements.
- Introduce a new column for the NED work plan elements and show where these elements are consistent with the Data Center Proposal.
- Provide an additional column for resource and funding needs.
- Correct the paragraph numbering in the draft
- Indicate which items are NED baseline and which are not
- Consider adding an appendix for terminology
- Consider separating out kinds of activities in the table
  - Core NED elements in one table
  - Pilot elements in a separate table
- Tasks will need to be converted into work elements in Pisces so what will this translation be like.
- Follow up on whether or not the NED Portal is duplicative of the EPA “Waters” web site. Note: The result of the follow up is that the NED Portal is not duplicative of the EPA “Waters” web site which does not provide for the functionality of the NED Portal.

5) Update on proposals for data management from StreamNet and NWHI in response to the CBFWA review.

#### StreamNet:

Bruce reported briefly on the StreamNet 2 day facilitated meeting to develop a response to needed identified at the CBFWA data management workshop.

The current plan is to focus efforts to explore how to capture derived data on VSP and focus on fish populations and fish productivity over 6 sub-basins. The work of the ISEMP project would be reviewed as a part of this effort. The presumption is to begin work with data rich situations – where data collection is already happening. The revised focus could result in some other current categories of effort being dropped.

There was a question from Jim Geiselman about how the StreamNet priorities were being set, for these new tasks – and Bruce thought the consensus of the StreamNet SC is to focus on what is important to the management agencies. Another question concerned how much of the StreamNet budget came from the States to match the approx \$2M in BPA funding. Bruce said that the amounts varied considerably from State to State and where not known exactly.

John Piccininni was concerned about how much support for CSMEP was included in the proposal. Bruce said that a small amount was included, but much less than CSMEP expects. About \$50K has also been identified from StreamNet for PNAMP inventory work.

#### Northwest Habitat Institute:

Tom O’Neil summarized the effort within the Institute to respond to the issues raised by participants at the CBFWA retreat and to prepare a funding request based on that input. Specific topics are still under consideration. Most of the effort is on improving terrestrial information. No additional questions came from the CBFWA comment period after the workshop.

6) Report on PNW-RGIC October, 2006 Meeting and request of information. Deferred until December NED Meeting.

7) Progress with NED Portal. Deferred until next NED Meeting

8) Metadata Training Opportunities with USGS. Currently about 15 individuals have expressed interest in the training. Vivian Hutchison from the USGS will be taking a lead on organizing the training.

9) Short Updates: Deferred until next NED Meeting

- Using the List Serve to comment on NED document/s
- International Columbia River Basin Center of Knowledge
- OFWIM Conference
- Fed Caucus Data Needs

#### **B. PNAMP DATA MANAGEMENT AGENDA ITEMS**

1) Protocol Manager Testing. PNAMP protocol management testing is proceeding with a meeting planned for November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006

2) Status of review and editing of *Data Management Needs for Regional Project Tracking to Support Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring*. Following receipt of comments from PNAMP reviewers the document has been modified by the authors, Steve Katz, Katie Barnas and Stewart Toshach to address the comments and has been sent back to PNAMP for their information.

### **C. AFTERNOON WORKSESSION 1:00 through 4:00**

- 1) The afternnon work session was used for a detailed ongoing discussion about the proposed NED work plan. The goal for the work plan is to present it to the NPCC for it's December meeting. In practice this means that the plan will need to be completed by November 30<sup>th</sup> for the materials to be included in the Council's Information Packet. Stewart will work with Peter Paquet to revise the proposed work plan based on the comments received.
- 2) Decisions on NED Portal Index/Directory, home-page materials, data channel management and formal Portal launch. Deferred until the next NED Meeting.