

ATG Conference Call Feb 12, 2009

Two major items:

- What to bring to March meeting in Miles City.
- What direction are we going to go to meet the second objective of the Charter.

Dave Peterson USGS

- Summary of results from Interpretive Report. (electronic draft should be out soon, maybe next week)

Hanna Griscom – WYNDD

- Funding is running out end of Feb. 2009

Robert McDougal – USGS

- Matt Bobo will attend ATG meeting, Robert would like to attend the May IWG meeting.
- Matt will have results of habitat/vegetation classification work. Quantifying aquatic habitat vs. flows over several flow regimens.

Data should address Charter objectives and plan priorities.

At the March meeting:

Dave Peterson – concentrate on the Powder River

Aida Farag – chronic effects analyses with numbers. Has a lot of chemistry data, may need to work with a statistician; two possibilities: WEST and Mark Alersoc (U of Missouri).

Matt Bobo - results of habitat/vegetation classification work.

Windy Davis – thesis results

Hanna Griscolm – overall monitoring plan, water quality monitoring, species distribution maps.

Bryce Maxwell – will have some monitoring/mitigation ideas.

2009: Work and Funding - Critical Needs

Aida Farag

- statistical help

Dale Tribby

- BLM in MT wants to know what and where we know, funds directed to those areas. Is data from 06-07 in workable format to present to the IWG??
- 28 K for USGS to work-up 06-07 data approved on phone call. Dale and Dave would work out the obligation details.

Based on our first day in Miles City we should be able to turn our attention to the next phase of data collection based on what we know, don't know, and need to know. We'll discuss the following projects:

Projects:

- USGS monitoring (written proposal submitted)
- Based on March meeting: Focus on mainstem Powder and Tongue tribbs?
Prioritize collections of fish inverts, algae and see what scaled back monitoring effort is needed and warranted?
 - WYNDD – second year of herp. study. \$52,000 of 2nd year, BLM Wyoming has funds committed.
- Based on March meeting: changes?
 - Gretchen Meyer USGS – remote sensing third year work cost about \$50,000 for 2 flights to give trends in aquatic habitat,
 - Aerocam flight would be free, image analysis would be the cost.
- Based on March meeting: expand on upland vegetation mapping, address invasive species, terrain models, erosion modeling?
 - McDougal has imagery of 75 miles of Powder River. Aerocam data from below Burger Draw Station is available for use. Gretchen will send this data to Diane Adams in Buffalo BLM office.
- Based on March meeting: How do we use this information

Other projects for out-years:

Aida:

- Trace metals, sediments and holding ponds could be analyzed, would require about \$60-70,000 in 2010.