

TIPS Steering Committee Meeting

Office of Surface Mining

May 8-10, 2007

Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center, Denver, CO

Next meeting dates:

TIPS 2008 Annual Steering Committee Meeting – Mid-Continent Region

Begin: 05/13/2008

End: 05/15/2008

Location: Mid-Continent -- City to be determined

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## List of Attendees

### TIPS Steering Committee Members:

Louis Hamm (OSM-WR)  
David Berry (not in attendance) (CO)  
Bill Card (OSM-AR/KFO)  
Bill Clark (OSM-WR)  
John Craynon (OSM-WR)  
Tim Dieringer (OSM-AR/KFO)  
Jeff Fleishman (OSM-WR/CFO)  
Eldrich Frazier representing Roy Morrison (OSM-HQ)  
Neil Harrington (MT)  
Bill Joseph representing Ervin Barchenger (OSM-MCR)  
Allen Klein (OSM-WR)  
Richard Koehler (NM)  
Greg Melton (AR)  
Scott Roberts (PA)  
Mark Schlimgen (TX)  
Mike Shank representing for Larry Evans (WV)  
Mike Sharp (OK)  
Ann Walker representing Sarah Donnelly (OSM-HQ)  
Tim Wilson (TX)  
Bill Winters representing Robert McKenzie (OSM-AR)

### TIPS Steering Committee Planning members:

Karyn Evans (OSM-WR)  
Bill Joseph (OSM-MCR)  
Dawn Trudeau (OSM-WR)  
Bill Winters (OSM-AR)

### Meeting Minutes:

Jessica Villanueva (OSM-WR)

### Other attendees:

Paul Clark (OSM-WR)  
Nick Grant (OSM-MCR)  
Dianne Osborne (OSM-WR)  
Dan Rivers (OSM-WR)  
Steve Trujillo (OSM-WR)  
Robert Welsh (OSM-WR)  
Alan Wilhelm (OSM-WR)

## Welcome and Introductions: Allen Klein

Lou Hamm - Please state what you do, who you support, and where you were 20 years ago.

- ✿ Jessica Villanueva – Administrative Support Assistant for the Technology Management Division at the Western Region. 20 years ago was transitioning to the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and was 11 years old.
- ✿ Dawn Trudeau – Administrative Support Specialist for TIPS at the Western Region. 20 years ago worked at Safeway in the accounting Department
- ✿ Nick Grant – Natural Resources Specialist for the Mid Continent region. 20 years ago was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade.
- ✿ Dianne Osborne – Remote sensing specialist at the Western Region. 20 years ago was in Alaska doing vegetation mapping for the park service
- ✿ Karyn Evans – TIPS Training Team Leader at the Western Region. 20 years ago was moving from Michigan to Nevada, had 13 years of government but was selling Tupperware and taking care of her young children.
- ✿ Alan Wilhelm – Mining Engineer working in the GIS area for the Western Region. 20 years ago was working for Tennessee Valley Authority in Casper, WY modeling Uranium.
- ✿ Bill Card – Geographer with OSM in Knoxville. 20 years ago was working for OSM doing inspections. Was already 36 years old and had been doing GIS work for 10 years
- ✿ Steve Trujillo – Budget Analyst for the Western Region. Handle Billie’s checkbook on a daily basis. 20 years ago he was working for the Department of Air force and expecting his first son to be born.
- ✿ Dan Rivers – IT Branch Chief for the Western Region. Offer support to TIPS. 20 years ago was in North Korea.
- ✿ Al Klein – Regional Director for the Western Region. 20 years ago was in Denver in Western Region, at that time was titled the Western Technical Center.
- ✿ Mike Shank – West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection representing Larry Evans. 20 years ago was in Korea in the Army
- ✿ Scott Roberts – Assistant Director for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. 20 Years ago was working with the bond release re-vegetation success.
- ✿ John Craynon – Chief for the Division of Regulatory Support for OSM Headquarters in Washington, DC. 20 years ago was working as a foreign country specialist for France.
- ✿ Neil Harrington – Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Chief for the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. 20 years ago was at the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the state of Montana as a soil scientist. Was at the tail end of a project that was part of a contingent of American’s and Canadian’s. There was one person from OSM, Mel Granburg that was there. There is another operation now that is trying to get a mine started, kind of like Déjà vu
- ✿ Ann Walker – Technical Training Specialist for the National Technical Training Program for OSM Headquarters in Washington, DC representing Sarah Donnelly. 20 years ago she worked for the US Army as an education specialist. Designing training programs for the weapons program.
- ✿ Greg Melton – Inspection Engineer for the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality - 20 years ago was not quite yet a state employee was working for a private engineering company.

- ✿ Tim Wilson – Professional Geologist with the Kansas Department of Health and Energy. 20 years ago was between wives one and two. Managing production in a foundry.
- ✿ Tim Derringer – Field office director with OSM in Knoxville, TN. 20 years ago was new employee of OSM.
- ✿ Rich Frazier – Chief Information office for OSM Headquarters in Washington DC. 20 years ago was new employee with the Directors office of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- ✿ Rick Koehler – GIS Manager for the New Mexico Energy and Minerals Natural Resources. 20 years ago was working for Texas Eastern as a highly deviated driller for Amoco. Was a very scary moment. Very moment that the Saudi's opened up the pipeline and the cost of oil plummeted. Was months away from joining the state.
- ✿ Mike Sharp – Director of the Information Technology Decision for the Oklahoma Conservation Commission. 20 years ago was making a budget presentation for the OK agency.
- ✿ Mark Schlimgen – Management Inspection and Enforcement for the Texas Surface Mining & Reclamation. 20 years ago was a CAD Draftsman for OSM.
- ✿ Bill Winters – Hydrologist with OSM in Pittsburgh, PA. 20 years ago was a Senior year in College, and was either completing finals, looking for Budweiser or looking for Ibruprohin.
- ✿ Bill Joseph – Branch Chief for OSM in Alton, IL. 20 years ago playing with the first TIPS workstation as a Kansas state employee, received the new high end workstation. Waiting for the guys from Denver to hook up the servers. Suit cases were brought by Greg & Lou that had tools and wires and stuff. Hooked up CAD onto the workstation.
- ✿ Jeff Fleishman – Field Office Director for OSM in Casper, WY (for 10 months now). 20 years ago was in Mississippi on a ship called the USS Antietam.
- ✿ Lou – TIPS & Technical Transfer Branch Chief for OSM in Denver, CO. 20 years ago was a member of TIPS along with Keith Kirk, Greg Morlock, Jack Generaux, Dale Spangenberg, Pat Acker, Mara Dean, Ann Stewart, Joe Galetovic. They were the original TIPS Team members. There was a memorandum dated February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1988 from the Deputy Director Robert Boldt introducing the TIPS program that had started about 5 months earlier.
- ✿ Robert Welsh – Mobile Computing Specialist for OSM in the WR. 20 years ago was putting together a nursery and studying valley fills in WV using a DOS program called SB-Slope.
- ✿ Billie Clark – Division Chief for the Technology Management Division for OSM in WR. 20 years ago was working for MMS on the tail end of a one year project that was headed by Jim Casing. Was looking for another job because he was tired of bean counting at MMS. Pete Rutledge called him up and offered him a job in September of 1987. Was working with USGS when OSM was created and vowed that he would never work for OSM because they were transitioning the stuff from USGS to OSM.
- ✿ Paul Clark – Service Manager – 20 years ago was a freshman in high school. Was not the buff young man that you see here today, was a runt and was probably getting beat up.

#### Success Team updates: Lou Hamm

What we now call the "Success Teams" is an effort begun last year to insure that the largest functions of TIPS are driven by teams composed of both OSM and state experts

representing all regions of the country. This ensures that the national character of TIPS carries through each of TIPS major functions areas, and those are: CAD, Mobile Computing, Remote Sensing, GIS, Hydrology, training and the Geospatial Committee.

#### CAD: Bill Joseph

Team members are Teresa Baker (PA), Dan Hause (IN), Jeff King (PA), Joe Matyus (PA), Doug Mullins (VA), Harry Ranney (CO), Mike Sharp (OK), Travis Wooton (TX), Tonya Blackburn (OSM WR), Lisa Chavel (OSM AR), Heather Erickson (OSM WR), Tom Mastaller (OSM AR), Randall Mills (OSM MCR), and Stephanie Self (OSM MCR).

✱ Mission – The mission of the TIPS CAD Team is to develop and maintain effective training and technical assistance for Autodesk and Carlson software distributed and supported by the TIPS program.

✱ Team Structure:

1. State/OSM members
2. OSM members are assigned roles of Team Leader, Software Manager, and Budget Manager.
3. Any member may hold role as Course Manager, currently there are three.
4. Team will hold face-to-face meeting at a minimum bi-annually and will hold teleconferences at a minimum every quarter.
5. Changes to structure/charter must be made through team consensus.

✱ Accomplishments

1. Successful development/implementation of new team structure.
2. Re-development of 5 courses.
3. Development of 1 new course (Raster Design).
4. Beginning development of two new courses, one online and one classroom (Natural Re-grade).
5. Development and instruction of two on-site training courses.
6. Evaluation and distribution of 2007 release for Autodesk and Carlson.
7. Funded attendance for 10 members at 2006 Autodesk User's Conference.
8. Trained 3 members in Autodesk Civil 3D.
9. Continued evaluation of Autodesk's Civil 3D and Map Guide Server.
10. Begin evaluation of Autodesk Design Review.

✱ Software Status

1. Currently supported:
  - ✱ Autodesk Raster Design 2005/2007
2. Key Features:
  1. Accurate raster to vector conversion tools.
  2. Raster editing and drawing cleanup tools.
  3. Raster data analysis.
3. Currently Supported:
  - ✱ Carlson SurvCADD 2005/2006
  - ✱ Carlson Mining 2007
4. Key Features:
  - ✱ Built on AutoCAD
  - ✱ Surface modeling tools.
  - ✱ Design options work from actual surface topography, geologic data and equipment parameters.

- ☀ License Status
  1. Autodesk Map 3D (45)
  2. Autodesk Raster Design (20)
  3. Carlson SurvCADD/Carlson Mining Modules
    - ☀ DTM Road (300)
    - ☀ Survey (300)
    - ☀ Hydrology (100)
  4. Autodesk Civil 3D (7 – prototyping)
  5. Autodesk Map Guide Server (10 seat intranet prototyping)
  
- ☀ FY 2007 Courses
  1. CAD Application for Permitting and Reclamation (2)
  2. Advanced AutoCAD for Permitting and Reclamation (1)
  3. Autodesk Map for Permitting and Reclamation (1)
  4. Autodesk Map with Raster Design for Underground and Surface Mine Mapping (2)
  5. SurvCADD for Permitting and Reclamation (2)
  6. Advanced SurvCADD for Permitting and Reclamation (1)
- ☀ Currently each course is undergoing re-development for 2007 release of each software package.
- ☀ Innovation
  1. Natural re-grade
  2. Autodesk Civil 3D
    - ☀ Evaluation of software for replacement of Carlson products.
    - ☀ Includes all AutoCAD Map Function.
    - ☀ Allows for quicker evaluation and implementation of design edits on projects.
    - ☀ Analyze contours, slope, elevation and watershed areas.
  3. Autodesk Design Review
    - ☀ Currently evaluation software.
    - ☀ Streamlines review of designs with simple tools to review, compare, mark up and track changes.
    - ☀ Allows for geo-referencing within file while editing.
    - ☀ Ability to combine project data such as images and specifications in a single file.
    - ☀ Integration with Autodesk software, so users can overlay changes and comments on the original computer-aided design (CAD) file.
- ☀ Autodesk User's Conference
  1. Attendance by 10 team members
  2. Participated in beta testing for Map 3D
  3. Took part in various labs for TIPS supported Autodesk software.
  4. Met with Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Land Management CAD users to discuss CAD activities.
  5. Working towards to creation of an Enterprise License Agreement between Autodesk and DOI, and the formation of a DOI CAD Committee.
- ☀ Budget
  1. Focused on software maintenance and education of members.
  2. Annual funding:
    - ☀ Annual Autodesk User's Conference attendance.
    - ☀ Carlson Annual User's Meeting attendance

- ✳ Vendor-based training for members.
- ✳ Annual Team Meeting.
- ✳ ESRI User's Conference attendance.

## GIS: Alan Wilhelm

Team members are Dave Agnor (OSM CHFO), Janine Ferarese (OSM WR), Jo Gault (OSM KFO), Bruce Johnson (ND), Daniel Kestner (VA), Kwang Min Kim (OSM MCR), and Alan Wilhelm (OSM WR).

### ☀ Summary of Mission Statement

1. The mission of the TIPS GIS team is to research, evaluate, promote and support the use of GIS technologies in SMCRA business practices.
2. The team will provide guidance, training, and software to make GIS data and tools available to all SMCRA programs.
3. Team course development and training in GIS techniques and technology will focus on the practical use of TIPS core GIS software for mining and reclamation applications.

### ☀ Summary of Team Charter

1. Consist of State, Tribal and OSM members who are experienced in the use of GIS technology.
2. Team will consist of following Coordinators/Managers:
  - ☀ Training – Ferarese, Kestner, and Agnor
  - ☀ Software – Wilhelm, Kestner, and Johnson
  - ☀ Budget – Wilhelm and Kim
  - ☀ Web/Marketing – Kim

### ☀ Team Goals

1. Increase use of GIS Technologies among TIPS users.
2. Promote feedback on effective GIS technologies from users.
3. Educate the TIPS GIS user base on the application of the technology.
4. Inform the TIPS user community of GIS project achievements.
5. Provide the most current versions of GIS core software.

### ☀ Software Status

1. Arc Info Desktop ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
2. 3D Analyst ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
3. Spatial Analyst ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
4. Survey Analyst ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 60 licenses
5. Arc Scan ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
6. Geostatistical Analyst ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
7. Data Interoperability ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 4 licenses
8. Maplex ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
9. Network Analyst ver. 9.2 – Concurrent Use – 75 licenses
10. Arc View ver 9.2 – Single Use – 15 copies deployed
11. Arc Editor ver 9.2 – Single Use – no deployment
12. ArcGIS Server Advanced Enterprise ver. 9.2 – 8 copies deployed
13. Arc Pad ver 7.01 – Single Use – 142 copies deployed – 38 copies not deployed.

### ☀ GIS Training Courses

1. Underground Mine Mapping with GIS
  - ☀ One class held in FY07
  - ☀ ArcGIS portion of class needs to be updated to 9.2
2. Introduction to ArcGIS for Mining and Reclamation
  - ☀ Four classes in FY07
  - ☀ Course to be updated from ver. 9.1 to ver. 9.2 in FY07
3. ArcGIS Spatial Analyst for Mining and Reclamation

- ✱ One class held in FY07
  - 4. ESRI Online courses
    - ✱ 92 different courses available
    - ✱ 89 courses issued so far for FY07
  - 5. GIS Data Flow course for WY being developed for FY08
    - ✱ Course may become standard TIPS course after WY delivery
- ✱ GIS R & D Activity
  1. Google Earth – application for sharing SMCRA GIS data
  2. TIPS tools
    - ✱ Arc Map Customization
    - ✱ Application based
  3. Data Sharing Prototype
    - ✱ GeoDataBase/ArcServer
    - ✱ Outside Web Services
    - ✱ Data Interoperability
- ✱ GIS Budget
  1. DOI/ESRI Enterprise Agreement - \$72,500
  2. ESRI User Conference - \$25,000
  3. GIS Team Meetings - \$5,000
  4. 2 Interoperability extension - \$4,000
  5. 60 copies of Arc PAD - \$16,500

#### Remote Sensing: Dianne Osborne

Team members are Tonya Blackburn (OSM WR), Roger Calhoun (OSM CHFO), Bill Card (OSM KFO), Mike Dunn (OSM AR), Larry Evans (WV), Kwang Min Kim (OSM MCR), Russell Kirkham (AK), Rade Orell (OSM AFO), and Dianne Osborne (OSM WR).

- ✱ TIPS Remote Sensing Team Mission:
- ✱ To support accomplishment of the TIPS strategic plan
- ✱ TIPS Remote Sensing Team Charter
  1. Developed in October 2006 and includes: Team Name, Purpose, Background, Mission, Deliverables
  2. A remote sensing operational plan will be updated by the team every two years. The plan will be revised annually
  3. Stakeholders
  4. Team member Roles
    - ✱ Team Leader...will be responsible for briefing ...and the TIPS Steering Committee annually on all team decisions and activities
    - ✱ Team Course Manager
    - ✱ Team Software Manager
    - ✱ Team Sponsor Role
    - ✱ Team Web-site Content Manager
    - ✱ Team Management Representative
    - ✱ Team Research and Development Coordinator
    - ✱ Team Duties
    - ✱ Authority

- ☀ Reporting...a synopsis of minutes provided for the TIPS Steering Committee annually
- ☀ Remote Sensing Operations Plan 2007 – 2008
  1. Provide practical advanced tools and techniques to improve the efficiency and effectiveness un the implementation of SMCRA
  2. Promote and support the use of remote sensing technologies to achieve the requirements of SMCRA throughout OSM offices, State, and Tribes
  3. Develop and Integrate remote sensing technologies into everyday activities associated with SMCRA operations to improve decision making and conserve resources
- ☀ TIPS Remote Sensing Team Strategies
  1. Demonstrate and document the cost effectiveness of applying remote sensing technologies to SMCRA operations
  2. Provide technical assistance and guidance to OSM, State and Tribal SMCRA programs on Remote Sensing projects and activities
  3. Provide guidance and assistance to OSM, State and Tribal offices in identifying and acquiring remote sensing data and other resources to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of remote sensing resource use
  4. Provide guidance and recommendations to the TIPS team regarding TIPS core software, and training to support remote sensing in SMCRA organizations
  5. Evaluate emerging technologies and conduct prototypical investigation in the remote sensing arena
  6. Conduct technology transfer and outreach to promote the use of remote sensing technologies in SMCRA programs
  7. Identify, develop and maintain effective training courses on remote sensing technologies in support of the TIPS Training program
  8. Develop simple to use tools and techniques so that non-remote sensing staff can utilize remote sensing technologies in their every-day work.
- ☀ TIPS Remote Sensing Team Innovation
  1. Using Spectral Classification and Training Techniques to Identify Acid Mine Drainage Locations in Muddy Creek Watershed, West Virginia
    - ☀ WV Department of Environmental Protection
  2. Assessing Reforestation on Reclaimed Indiana Surface Coal Mine Sites Using Geospatial Technology.
    - ☀ A Remote Sensing Proposal for Analysis of Reclaimed Indiana Bat Habitat Conditions
    - ☀ Partners – OSM MCR / SIUE / USFWS
  3. Assessing the use of High Resolution Satellite Imagery to Inventory Abandoned Mine Land Features and Classify Post Mining Land Use
    - ☀ A Remote Sensing Project Plan to Support the State of Virginia Department of Mines Minerals and Energy Performance Measures Reporting Process
    - ☀ Partners – OSM TIPS / VA DMME
  4. Using Remote Sensing to Evaluate Approximate Original Contour Reclamation
    - ☀ Partners – OSM AR / OSM LFO / KY DNR
  5. Assessing the use of High Resolution Satellite Imagery to Identify Water Quality Trends and Classify Post Mining Land Use
    - ☀ Partners – OSM KFO / MTU / TN DEQ

6. Assessing the use of IFSAR and LIDAR Imagery for the Detection of High wall Features
  - ☀ Partners – OSM AR / WV DEP
7. Mine Site Evaluation Using Remote Sensing Technologies
  - ☀ OSM CHFO
- ☀ TIPS Remote Sensing Team Accomplishments
  1. Phase I - Project Planning – underway for all projects
  2. Phase II – Data Acquisition – all image acquisitions taking place this season.
  3. Phase III – Project Development – different phases for each project underway. Field work taking place this season. Image analysis started for imagery that has been delivered.
- ☀ Software Status
 

April/May 2007: Erdas Imagine 9.1, Image Analysis for ArcGIS 9.2, Stereo Analyst for ArcGIS 9.2
- ☀ License Status
  1. Erdas Imagine 9.1 – 5 licenses
    - ☀ LPS, Stereo Analyst, Virtual GIS and Auto Sync Modules. Delta Cue Demo. MrSID purchases in FY08.
  2. Image Analysis for ArcGIS 9.2 – 4 licenses
  3. Stereo Analyst for ArcGIS 9.2 – 4 licenses
  4. Feature Analyst for ArcGIS 4.1 – 1 license
- ☀ Course Status
  1. Image Analysis for ArcGIS 9.2: June 2007 and November 2007
  2. Erdas Imagine 9.1: Ongoing vendor based training for advanced image processing
  3. Begin online Image Analysis for ArcGIS Course Development

#### Hydrology: Bill Winters

Team members are Tim Walter (TX), Mike Sheehan (WV), Mary Greene (OSM WR), Rob Liddle (OSM KFO), Kathy Muller-Ogle (WY), Debbie Dale (OSM MCR), and Bill Winters (OSM AR).

Hydrology Team Purpose: Team established to guide the Hydrology program into the future

1. Software, hardware, training, hydrologic issues associated with TIPS training. Team represents the interests, ideas and solutions of the larger “Hydrology Realm” States, Tribes, and OSM
2. Hydrology Team Accomplishments
  - Charter: Completed – 3/07
  - Budget: Draft – 3/07
  - Work Plan: WIP, expected completion – 6/1/07
3. Software Issues
  - AquaChem - V 5.0 will not work, currently evaluating work arounds
  - Licensing - All license agreements on file
  - Upgrades
4. Large Watershed Team
  - Reformed in Feb 2007 – Rick Mann (Team leader), Paul Behum
  - Accomplishments

5. Communication
  - Email contact list
  - DOI's Subcommittee's on Hydrology, Spatial Water Data
6. Training Issues - Course Managers – AquaChem, AQTESOLV
7. Newsletter Articles
8. Hydrology Team Directions
  - Future Directions: Hydrology website, Software Evaluation, AqQa, MIKE Flood, WCMS/GMS Integration
9. Training
  - AqQA
  - AquaChem
10. Geochemical Questionnaire Results

### Mobile Computing: Robert Welsh

Team members are Jon Brandt (TX), Leslie Bright (VA), Alan Boehms (OSM CFO), Ken Eltschlager (OSM AR), Kale Horton (OSM MCR), Russ Kirkham (AK), Tom Mastaller (OSM AR), and Robert Welsh (OSM WR).

1. What is TIPS Mobile Computing?
  - TIPS-supplied computing tablet or handheld device in the field
  - TIPS-supplies Mobile GIS or CAD software on-board
  - Displays background imagery
  - GPS – enabled
2. Mobile Computing Team Mission
  - “To research, evaluation, promote and support the use of innovation, effective mobile computing and geospatial technologies to facilitate monitoring and documentation of compliance in the reclamation of SMCRA-eligible mined lands.
  - ... provide the knowledge, software, and hardware to make geospatial data and tools available at the point-of-use: the active or abandoned mine site and other affected areas.”
3. Mobile Computing (MC) Team Goals
  - Increase use of, and feedback about mobile geospatial technologies among TIPS users
  - Educate the TIPS Mobile computing user base on the application of the technology
  - Inform the TIPS user community on TIPS customer MC project achievements
4. MC Team Alignment with TIPS Strategic Plan
  - MC Team supports both TIPS Strategic Goals
  - The MC Team works to “promote and support the use of scientific and engineering tools...” by providing and supporting MC HW/SW and delivering workshops, MC Blog, website page
  - MC Team contributes towards “Operate effective training program” by developing and instructing highly-rated training courses for Arc PAD, Garmin and Trimble HW/SW.
  - Eight classes will be delivered in FY07, including two customer-site special request classes.
5. 2006 SC Guidance
  - Prioritize 06 MC survey allocations by “technology seed and emergency” needs
  - Distribution was prioritized with input from MC team and Service Managers
  - Provide more MC training

Additional Arc PAD, TerraSync, and GPS Analyst training courses and MC workshops were presented, RTK training, in MT and NM

6. Expand the MC Initiative
  - ☀ \$38K FY07 Budget
  - ☀ MC Blog, Webpage, TIPS Newsletter, ESRI UC paper
  - ☀ RTK GPS acquisition for Western TIPS region
  - ☀ MC Team added three state members, Jon Brandt (TX), Russ Kirkham (AK), and Les Bright (VA)
7. TIPS Mobile Computing HW/SW Budget
  - a. FY03 = \$103,830
  - b. FY04 = \$124,700
  - c. FY05 = \$144,700
  - d. FY06 = \$209,000
  - e. FY07 = \$38,000
8. FY07 TIPS MC Survey

FY06 survey had \$700K requests, \$500K high priority  
Delivered \$209K in HW/SW  
FY07 allocation had \$38K in the kitty
9. FY07 MC Work plan

Conduct new survey, rank results by seed technology and emergency priorities  
Distribute HW/SW purchased with \$38K  
Additional training classes in TerraSync and RTK  
ASMR MC Workshop, ESRI UC paper, IL, and OSM BFO, TFO short courses  
Prototype Topcon GMS-2, ProXH/Zephyr antenna, GPS Analyst SW, GPS Accuracy testing  
Assist state, tribes and OSM offices with projects (WY GIS, MT AML Inventory, WGIS)  
Maintain and expand Blog, and website, assign Software Managers  
FY08 Geospatial workshop input

### Steering Committee Decisions

- ▶ MC Team recommends adding TopoFusion and ArcCorrect as TIPS Core Software  
TOPOFusion supports Garmin GPS handhelds by managing the GPS data with imagery. TIPS currently has a license agreement that allows agency use and extends to students completing the TIPS Garmin class.  
ArcCorrect allows Arc PAD users to correct GPS position in shape files. TIPS has provided 6 single use copies to Arc PAD users
- ▶ No one opposed to the proposals from Robert Welsh about adding TopoFusion and ArcCorrect as TIPS Core Software. (Emphasis on new software)

### Software Report: Lou Hamm for Cathy McNish

We want to be able to track all of the software. We do not have a procedure to do that.

TIPS was not able to track SurvCADD because it was stacked on top of AutoCAD license manager. Greg Morlock created a way to track SurvCADD.

ArcGIS will NOT be tracked in the future by iti license managing software.

The only suggestion that Lou has for keeping track of who is using the software is by sending out a survey. Does anyone have any other ideas?

Rich Frazier stated the XP has the capability to track who is logging on the software.

Lou stated that it has to be done at that location and maybe that area's network person can fill out the survey by using that tool. We need these numbers for business purposes to fund the software.

John C stated that OMB wants everything to look the same across the government; some of the questions that we may need to ask for purposes of TIPS might not meet OMB's standards.

The folks at OMB do not understand the software information. There is a challenge because OMB has two sides. The management side can tell the budget side to take away money if we do not comply with the paper reduction act. It would take six to nine months to get a survey or questionnaire to be approved. It cannot be reworded because if you ask more than 9 people the same question, it has to go through the OMB for approval.

Tim Wilson asked what if only 50% of people respond to the survey.

Mike Sharp stated that there could be a count of how many people used what software, maybe buy using a TIPS start-up icon that would automatically send it to OSM.

Tim Wilson stated that they have problems with the license servers and they need to call the IT shop to open the firewall.

Rick Koehler suggested what about a log file and having the computers scanned or launching a script.

Dan Rivers stated this is getting more difficult rather than easier. OMB is requiring us to report more metrics. This is becoming a moving target, because the IP address may change when being logged on several times during the day. Rich Frazier stated that the report may be captured through the DNS System.

Action Item - Check with Greg Morlock and the IT Staff to arrange for each of the customer sites to track the software status through an operating system and to have those reports sent to us via the internet.

#### Last Year's Steering Committee Meeting Action Item Update and Feedback: Lou Hamm

#### TIPS Team Goals: Create consistent installation procedures across all products

##### Priority

Continue Testing hardware and software on the cutting edge of technology and provide examples to customers with the greatest need. Provide seed emerging technology that can be evaluated by the customer. Make emergency fund monies available to purchase replacement of hardware that breaks

##### TIPS Team Goals

Create consistent installation procedures across all products. Same comment for distribution. Continue to provide emerging technology tools. Establish emergency funds nationwide.

**Lead/Team Members**

Cathy McNish (Lead)  
Mary Greene  
Harry Morris  
Tonya Blackburn

**Task**

Update software installation instructions – evaluate software instructions on the website, prepare a Project Plan to make instructions complete and consistent.  
Establish emergency fund in TIPS budget.

**Status as of 05/07**

Final Checklist approved

**Discussion for 2007 Steering Committee**

Have made it a policy that if technology is needed then we would buy the seeding technology. If the equipment is useful then they would buy more of the equipment for themselves. TIPS should not be in the hardware distribution business.  
As part of last year's steering committee, TIPS has set aside \$50,000 for emergency funds. Kansas was provided a new plotter from the Emergency Funds that were available.

**TIPS Team Goals: Clearly define roles for teams and service managers**

**Priority**

Increase Service Manager's involvement. Standardized job descriptions for the service managers. Have the service manager more informed on the new software and hardware available.

**Lead/Team Members**

Len Meier (Lead), Lois Uranowski, Bill Winters, Paul Clark

**Task**

Establish a Service Manager Workgroup. Develop changes to the charter concerning Service Manager duties. Service Manager role needs to be more proactive. There should be a periodic Service Manager meeting. TIPS road show should be centered around the customer site, but include national experts as necessary.

**Status as of 05/07**

The four team members completed changes to the Service Manager duties on 2/6/07, and that version was distributed to ALL Service Manager on 2/9/07 for review.

**Discussion for 2007 Steering Committee**

1. Service manager workgroup was created and they meet regularly. There is a service manager team.

2. Re-wrote the Service manager duties in the charter. Lou asked the committee if they had seen those changes.
  - o Greg M cannot say that there are any improvements, but is quite satisfied.
  - o Neil H has a new SM, he cannot say that there is a difference but the staff is happy that they had a visit from the SM.
  - o Scott R has no problems at all
3. The OSM managers have tasked each SM to become familiar with the offices and staff that they visit.
4. What are your plans now and for the future? They are to represent you and advocate those positions to TIPS and to the TIPS budget.
5. \$16,700 has been set aside for service manager visits. \$22,500 is remaining in the Emergency funds
6. Li-Tai Bilbao is the SM for Headquarters.

#### **TIPS Team Goals: Cooperation with NTTP to develop training tracks**

##### **Priority**

Provide career path course system spanning the range from introductory classes to advanced classes tied to prerequisite classes. Make a clear sequence of courses.

Lead/Team Members: Karyn Evans

##### **Task**

Develop prerequisites for TIPS courses in cooperation with NTTP

##### **Status as of 05/07**

Underway – NTTP and TIPS Training are in full cooperation.

##### **Discussion for 2007 Steering Committee**

An instructors advisory group has been formed by Sarah Donnelly w/ NTTP, examples are: before you take a TIPS class in certain hydrology software you need to take a prerequisite course from NTTP. Ann and Sarah are working with Tom Hines who is representing the instructor advisory group as well as working with Karyn Evans

#### **TIPS Team Goals: Increase number of courses dealing with field tools**

##### **Priority**

Provide more training to field-oriented disciplines. Develop these courses such that those trained can train others in their respective offices.

Lead/Team Members

Karyn Evans

##### **Task**

Provide and deliver more courses to reach field personnel. Increase courses in Mobile Computing devices. Distribute new technology equipment to encourage field technologies.

### Status as of 05/07

Underway through increased Garmin classes and continuing Arc Pad classes. Mobile computing Team is distributing technology where it has not been available before.

### Discussion for 2007 Steering Committee

- Increased mobile computing tools and software.
- Have developed a Garmin course which has provided a very low cost tool to the customer sites.
- Has the committee noticed the difference?
  - Mark S stated that with the two courses that were mentioned are very popular with their staff. Bob W mentioned during his presentation that they are providing workshops at events.
  - Mike S stated that they are going to be providing their employees with Garmin's. When the customers show initiative, they are using the tools out in the field.

### TIPS Team Goals: Utilize Web Resources

#### Priority

Develop a bottom to top network for communication of TIPS issues and opportunities. Perhaps a web-notice customers can access to see if servers are down.

#### Lead/Team Members

Veronika Eskova (Lead), Cathy McNish, Greg Morlock, AR Representative

#### Task

- Maintain a dynamic and effective website. Use the web more efficiently, create a discussion thread website. Include a facilitator from every team (i.e. hydrology, remote sensing) to answer the questions on the blog.
- A possibility is to create a "my space model", establish formal venue to exchange information between disciplines – specific users; better utilize SharePoint (blog or external SharePoint)
- Discuss with Dan about having Mike B participate on the team

### Status as of 05/07

### Discussion for 2007 Steering Committee

- Web specialty group has been set up but has not developed a customer website if the servers were to go down
- The customers do not check the web if the servers go down, they usually call. Bill Joseph had a comment that if patches are sent then sometimes the server goes down, how are we to notify the states know when the servers go down. Lou states that the service managers need to notify all of their customers. Dan mentioned that the patches will be changed from running during start up to running in the evening instead. Mike Dunn is doing a fine job by reporting the outages.

Tell the SM work group to get in touch with their coordinator (Lou, Bill W, & Bill J) to put their state contacts on the list to the headquarters helpdesk people. Those three persons will get the list to the helpdesk in Headquarters for the e-mailing of patches and etc. The service

managers need to know how to get a hold of Rich's shop. Extended outages will be placed on the web. Mark Moore needs to be part of the discussion/conversation/messages of server redundancy.

### MCR completed TIPS Road Shows

The road shows are not being done in the other regions right now. SM visits or road show visits needs to be done in a standard way (not just one on one or assembly style). Scott stated that it needs to be custom and have all of the employees in one room and talk about Title IV and Title V. Bill Winters stated that he has been to Knoxville, California, and Cambria. Cambria's staff approach is different than other offices. Knoxville needs one on one with loading software on the desktop. The problem is that the state people are busy and may not have the time to sit down and listen to the road show all day. Ohio has six offices and they all want to go to the same office for the road show.

### More Robust Service Manager Role

Service Manager duties are laid out in the charter. Lou is craving feedback regarding the role of their service manager.

Better communication of success stories – utilize the web better and promote through the TIPS Road show. There is an agreement to share technology transfer resources. What you see in this room from the poster is the tech transfer web-site – [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov). You can get to the site, but it is not completely ready yet. TIPS is one part of the Tech transfer role. The Tech Transfer group is required to provide the information about NTTP, TIPS, and other OSM information that involves better communications.

Mary Greene is assigned to gather success stories from our customers. Billie needs to get success stories such as using TIPS tools to get a job done successfully. Sandy from the State of Colorado provided Billie and Dave Berry with a success story. Bob's mobile computing team is doing a fantastic job with gathering success stories. When we provide the office with the seeded technology we are asking for success stories, such as if the equipment is helpful or not helpful, what can be done better and etc.

John C – Mike Gauldin has recorded the success stories regarding TIPS in the annual report that is given to the people on Capital Hill for budgetary issues. We are getting good results from people.

### Marketing TIPS

Chairman of the TIPS Steering committee gave us marching orders to market TIPS. We are marketing TIPS through the Technology Transfer. Booths will be at the conferences and have information about TIPS, NTTP, and everything that OSM offers. AML association meeting needs to have TIPS marketed. Dawn has great plans for what she wants to do with the Marketing aspect. She is being overworked.

Tech transfer people need to know about the business meeting at the Indianapolis AML meeting during the first week in October. John Husted from Ohio will be putting together the agenda and should be contacted for TTTB to be added to the agenda.

DOI Geospatial Modernization Blueprint (GMBT) presented by Robert Welsh

Geospatial Activities Report presented by Bill Card

Budget Report presented by Steve Trujillo

NTTP Training Program Report presented by Ann Walker

TIPS Training Program Report presented by Karyn Evans

## Appalachian Regional Constituent Report Panel

### PA TIPS History

- ✱ Difficulty with early TIPS software
  - ✱ Used other tools to solve issues
  - ✱ Mike D. was used for pressing issues
- ✱ Currently Title IV is leaving TIPS users
  - ✱ Reduction in operating budget by 20% / 5 Years
- ✱ Training programs help step to the plate for state training
- ✱ 1.2 B on priority 1 & 2 sites
- ✱ How best to use technology to efficiently fix problems

### Scott Roberts representing KY, PA, MD, & OH

Succession – a lot of older employees that are retiring

- ✱ Staff reduction through attrition
- ✱ Will add title IV staff – they will need to be trained

Technology Empower Progress

- ✱ Remote Sensing helps reduce oversight costs
- ✱ Seeding Technology
  - Best way of “efficiently” use/find better work products
  - Example – Blasting, GPS, GIS

Blending NTTP and TIPS

- ✱ Producing more efficient work force due to synergistic effects
  - Examples – CEU's / certification = more money

Title IV – PA & KY

- ✱ Need to more efficiently use resources
- ✱ 30% set aside
  - How to get job done now
  - Don't expect money to always be there
- ✱ Cost of cleaning up streams is much higher than money available
- ✱ Find efficient ways to reclaim existing sites

New Consistency – OH, PA

- ✱ Citizens Groups
  - Getting grants to fix watersheds
  - New “group” of students for NTTP & TIPS

### Mike Shank for Larry Evans representing WV & VA

Partnering with TIPS/NTTP to efficiently utilize resources

- ☀ Arc toolbars customized for SMCRA application

TIPS License acquisition time – 4 minutes

- ☀ Limits casual use of ArcGIS
- ☀ WV using more Google Earth applications
- ☀ Suggest using Arc Server rather than Google Earth
- ☀ Looking at browser application for lightweight applications and introduce users to GIS products

Remote sensing – WV, VA

- ☀ Working TIPS staff to efficiently use resources

GeoXT GPS Receiver – TIPS – WV

- ☀ Increased use, working well

GPS Camera – WV

- ☀ Single enclosed GPS unit
- ☀ Records position of pictures
- ☀ Any TIPS involvement with database/GPS elements
  - a. Facilitate class to agency experts for project collaboration – VA

### Western Regional Constituent Report Panel

### Rick Koehler representing NM & UT

Utah: Please pursue simple user interfaces.

New Mexico

TIPS Rocks!!

Technology Transfer seems to be working

Thanks for Mobile Computing

### Neil Harrington representing MT, WY, & AK

Montana

1. Staff turnover
2. Check out ArcGIS?
3. High-end Groundwater Software – needed
  - ☀ Hydro Geo Analyst
4. Thanks for the RTK!
  - AML – Please tie cameras to field GIS

Alaska

Paul Clark their Service manager rocks!

Debbie McGinnis and the Technical Library rocks!

North Dakota

Use MrSID

AutoCAD Map 3D

☀ Send License please  
Using Remote sensing – want regular feed for vegetation studies  
Paul Clark their Service manager rocks!

Wyoming  
Custom M.C. inspection forms with pictures please  
AML – Natural re-grade training please

#### Mid-Continent Regional Constituent Report Panel

Mark Schlimgen representing TX, LA, & MS  
Tim Wilson representing KS, MO, IA, IL, & IN  
Greg Melton representing AR, OK-RA, OK-AML, AL-AR, & AL-AML  
Mike Sharp representing NAAML

#### Needs:

AL – 11 Arc Pad, AI-AML – Mobile Computing Devices, AR – 2 copies of Arc Pad  
-GeoExpress Lizard Tech – Imagery, -Carlson Point Cloud – module, Open source – map  
guide open source

Hardware: IL – Oversized flat panel monitors, IN – Tablet computer, KS – Like to give tablet  
to someone else (Property transfer issue), MO - Old Fujitsu's could go somewhere else  
(Property transfer issue), IN & MO – States have bought large format scanners, TX – Agency  
may start buying mobile devices

Software: Trend on Licenses, States using software, OH – needs help enterprise GIS, VA –  
TIPS set involved AMLIS

Training: DOI Learn Nominations for NTTIP – why do they need to be hard copy and have a  
signed copy? Slot E-mails are good, NM needs SurvCADD Training, HECRAS Training,  
ArcGIS Editor Training, Voided Check – this is a problem

#### Mobile Computing: OK-V- Relons for inspection

Hardware: AL-V- Need large workstation, MO-1055 plotter may die – Paul Behum, AK-Share  
TIPS equipment – IV&V Sharing

Public Relations: Need more success stories, Need hard copies of newsletters sent to  
states, Application Stories

Service Managers: Everything is okay

Remote Sensing: OK – Sonar device, Down hole camera – exp.

Workshop & Forums: SMCRA 21<sup>st</sup> Century – new one? This was a good workshop – let's  
do more.

TIPS Web-site: Improvements are good

TIPS Resources: Increase Training, AML training, need to make sure licenses are available,  
AR – Add Mobile devices & training, IN-Ramping up to spend funds (AML)

Geospatial Data: AL / V – need Arc Server/SDE

Tech Assistance: KS – 404 Wetland delineations

### OSM Constituent Report Panel

Rich Frazier representing Headquarters Office of the Chief Information Officer  
John Craynon representing Headquarters Program Support Division  
Bill Winters representing Appalachian Region  
Bill Joseph representing Mid-Continent Region  
Tim Dieringer representing Appalachian Region Field Offices and Knoxville Field Offices  
Billie Clark representing Western Region  
Jeff Fleischman representing Western Region Field Offices and Tribes

### Mid Continent Region

- Purchased PDA's/Mobile Computing equipment to seed technology. Training will be provided by Kale Horton and Min Kim (follow-up training in late summer or early fall)
- Regional responsibilities created for TIPS. (Bill Joseph and Len Meier's staff develop or teach TIPS classes)
- Road shows – go to states and educate staff on TIPS and Tech Transfer (action plans created by state as a result)

### Appalachian Region

- Regional responsibilities list – use as contact list
- Need more instructors; training 60% of students. Need Management Support?
- Requested feedback on AR training. What can we do to make it better? Let Bill Winters know
- Service managers encouraged to make visits to states
- Geospatial Database; Ohio willing to share their database. TIPS needs to consider database
- Geospatial Conference – GIS/GPS/Remote Sensing, Submit white paper of activities going on in state/tribe

### Appalachian Region Field Offices

- Technical/Inspection employees leaving; high turnover
- 2 to 3 years = ½ staff will be gone (in Knoxville)
- 4 to 6 years = entire staff will be gone (in Knoxville)
- Joint ventures – remote sensing
- GIS Strategic Plan – updated annually
- GIS Users Group Formed – Meet to discuss issues

-Exploration permit approved – Road Show was not built due to GIS

### Western Region

-Western Region GIS – Alan Wilhelm

- AML Reauthorization & Tribal Primacy will affect WR – tech support for remote sensing
- Tech assistance to FO's/Fed Lands Branch
- High Turnover in WR; new people picking up the ball and running with it

#### HQ OCIO:

- ITMT Goals – TIPS related
  - Mobile Computing
  - Enterprise services
  - Collaboration services
- VPN Services enhanced
- Wireless Technology – implementation by September 07
- Voice over IP Technology
- License requirements
- Upgraded IT Services; Future = Burst
- “YIPES” Network in future = 100 megabytes/second
- Upgrading all routers – Denver in next couple of weeks
- Instant Messaging

#### HQ PSD:

- View role as “ambassador” for TIPS
- Use TIPS tools to demonstrate TIPS value in presentations
- Staff interested in learning TIPS tools; support OSM/States/Tribes – as “reserve”
- 17 proposals received – will be making funding decision
- Staff to serve as instructors/course developers for NTTP/TIPS
- Josh – SDPS
- Li-Tai Bilbao - CAD/Hydrology Classes are of interest (Headquarters Service Manager)
- Hydrologist vacancy to hit streets soon

#### Western Region Field Offices:

##### Crow

- AML Program; Regulatory Program
- Trimble GeoXT being used

##### Navajo

- Installed new server

##### Hopi

- Training/Software/Hardware requested

##### CFO

- AutoCAD/ArcGIS being used.
- Alan Boehms supporting TIPS/NTTP as instructor
- Mr. SID/Auto Sync Software needed
- Staff turnover; new employee attending one TIPS or NTTP course per month

#### Strategic Plan

Was finalized after the meeting last year. It does not have many changes from last year.

Minor spelling errors identified for correction.

### Steering Committee Decision

- ▶ The motion has been made by Tim Dieringer to accept the strategic plan. The motion has been seconded by John Craynon.

### Charter

Is very much as it was except there is one major revision in Section 2.03 Service manager workgroup. That section has been completely re-written.

### Steering Committee Decision

- ▶ The motion has been made by Greg Melton to accept the charter. The motion has been seconded by Mike Sharp.

### Meeting Conclusion/Comments

Rick Koehler got a nice long walk out of this meeting and exercise. Confirmation that the changes that were brought up are definitely on their way and TIPS has been responsive to the needs.

Mike Sharp - a lot of changes have been made and he would say that we have lived up to our name and have done some innovation. Talked about how to count beans in a different way. Talked about how we can improve.

Mark Schlimgen – agree that the last two meetings have been extremely productive. Thanks to Karyn for the productive business networking sessions.

Bill Winters – 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in attendance. The changes that were made last year with the whole program particularly with NTTIP and the transition went seamlessly. Thinks that the business networking is really good.

Bill Joseph – Communication is really good and the best it has been in years. The TIPS team has become a National Function.

Jeff Fleischman – very informative because he is new to TIPS and did not know all of the services and facets that are involved. Very productive by identifying needs and possible solutions to the problems

Rich Frasier– Had believed that TIPS was only hardware and software (what he had heard). Has learned a lot about the cooperation between OSM and the states. He thinks that it is really great that the customers think that TIPS is great and very beneficial to us all. He is an ambassador of making sure that the job is getting done correctly with the resources that he can provide. Thanks for inviting him to the meeting; he will do his best to be here next year.

Billie Clark– Is really interested in the success stories and who will make the commitment, Tim & Tim, and Mike, Mark. Thank you for the success stories. Send to Lou. Thanks Lou and the staff members to make this meeting run smoothly and taking care of the planning.

Tim Dieringer – This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and feels like a new comer. The agenda was done well. Only recommendation to consider in the future is to provide a little more time to provide feedback as managers to where TIPS is going.

Tim Wilson – He recognizes that his responsibility to the committee and the constituents should be done year round and not just in the spring before the meeting. He needs to keep discussing TIPS while he is attending other meetings.

Bob W – thinks that things were incredibly productive. A bit concerned about resources limitation. The team structure has certainly helped, but you need to understand as stakeholders that we are a small agency and that we have certain restrictions brought down by OMB and etc. Geospatial is running at the speed of light. We have a lot of demands beyond the traditional TIPS services.

Bill Card – Sees changes regarding funding that will drive us into certain areas. TIPS is successful but we are being restricted with funding and that is a problem. We have made tremendous strides and he thinks that there can be changes made. Technology is changing and we need to keep abreast of those changes. New tools are coming out that will be programmatic. Thanks Rich for being here. There is a lot of effort that goes into the planning, coordination, logistics, and etc. that go into this meeting and thank you for that. Proud to be here.

Steve Trujillo– Appreciate the opportunity that Bill Clark let him out of the office. Was glad to be able to put faces with names. I have learned a lot. Thank you for the opportunity.

Dan Rivers– Thanks for being here. Glad to hear that he can be called on for the Strategic plan. Good to see a group get together like this and glad that this group can communicate really well. They are looking to the future. It is a dynamic team that syncs well together and works well together. Get's their ideas out on the table. Thanks for inviting him.

Karyn Evans– Appreciate the opportunity for being here. Excited about the business networking and would suggest that it gets moved to the second day.

Greg Melton– Looks to him like the SM's will have their noses put to the grindstone and will be really recognizable in the future. Thinks that the state representatives can really help. Wants to re-emphasize that TIPS is not longer in the hardware business. What Mike is doing in OK is wonderful and could help out well. The partnering with wildlife organizations is wonderful. The business networking is a quality tool and gets great ideas on paper. It has been successful. Kudos to Dawn and Jessica about the admin.. staff. Some of the diversions that Dawn has come up with were great. Lou, fantastic job with facilitating. Thank you for leading TIPS.

Ann Walker– extreme pleasure for being here on behalf of NTTA for Sarah Donnelly. Has a wealth of information to take back with her. A significant thing has been brought to her that the TIPS SC can make a change and know what needs to be changed. Articulation is great.

Neil Harrington– this is his second meeting. He will take more away from this meeting than what he can give back. Felt like he has been in class this week, learning so much. The

networking here with the knowledge, skills, and abilities with all of the people here this week. A lot of information that he will take back and to see where he can contribute and following up on this to benefit from what he learned.

John Craynon – Came here to figure out how he and his staff can personally help TIPS. TIPS is one of the great success stories of how states and OSM work together as partners. John's staff can be an ambassador on how to make the mission more effective. Has three pages of things to do when he gets home. We have heard a lot about communication, it is like a dump truck and get overwhelmed by all of the information that is being dumped on us. Maybe spread this information out through the web-site or newsletter. Maybe there should be something that we can do on a more frequent basis instead of annually.

Bill Clark – increasing communication is something that we can definitely entertain.

Scott – Has 22 items on the to do list. A lot of those items will go back to Bill Winters. Steve mentioned we need to make sure that we have the budget and not depend solely on OSM funds. We need to step up to the plate to help get the resources. If Steve could provide numbers on a state by state basis it will help for the argument that needs to be fought. Fortunate to sit on OSM and NTTP steering committee's. Thank you for letting him come in and get some ideas.

Al Klein – great comments that have come from these discussions. Very important observation was made from Bill's comments. Need for resources was approved through the directors management team, 2002 was reorganized because the TIPS program has evolved. Bill is a tremendous leader and the team that he put together is a huge accomplishment. The most important thing that a manager and leader can do is to hire a great staff of people. Will be able to brief the assistant secretary on the successes of TIPS, internally lobbying is done by taking this information back to the secretary. Jeff Jarrett has noticed that there was a couple of million dollars that needed to be spent on technical issues. Our fixed costs are never fully funded. There are competitions between the functional areas of OSM. TIPS is not going to be getting any additional money. The success stories will help us lobby TIPS. Going to pursuing that type of preparation to let everyone know what TIPS and NTTP is. The western states meeting is this summer and TIPS will be on the agenda for overview direction.

Lou Hamm– shortly after he got the job and the steering committee he was asked to market TIPS. Thanks to the committee that set this up. Thanks to the very capable administrative staff. Thank you for being here and hope that this 20 year celebration has been good. We have commitments to you and will discuss these at the TIPS Team meeting.

Next meeting will be May 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> in Gulf Shores, MS.