# RHPWG Coordination / Glide Path Subcommittee

August 8, 2019 NOTES

1. Administrative

Notes are posted to the subcommittee page <https://www.wrapair2.org/RHP_coordination.aspx>. Please send edits to Elias who will finalize them and post them to the webpage.

1. Task Group Reporting
2. Trend Analysis/Natural Conditions – Task 1.2

Brandon McGuire (MT DEQ) and Joe Adloch (Air Resource Specialists, Inc.) will be giving a webinar on August 27 from 1-2:30 PM Mountain Time covering what they outlined in July, but with more details. The topics relate to Task 1.2 in the WRAP Work Plan: Trijonis Values and Natural Conditions; some open-ended ideas about future Fire Scenarios; Wildfire Smoke Thresholds analysis; and Species Trends analysis. Brandon and will summarize his work in a report to complete the task and some of the trend analysis may be put on the TSS, if not in a report.

1. Communication Framework Documents – Task 8.2

Emily Weissinger (RAMBOLL) and Elias Toon (ADEQ) reported the document is close to completion. It’s on the website, please give feedback to Emily Weissinger by August 15. There will be a joint conference call with the Tribal Data Work Group and the EPA and local air districts in August, then the document will be sent to the Regional Haze Planning Work Group for review and consensus in September.

1. TSS developments – Task 7.2/7.3

Ongoing behind-the-scenes work is occurring. The end goal is to post on the TSS or an interim location. There is no “freeze date” yet for the monitoring data. ARS has finished preparing the substitution data. The IMPROVE staff is working on an update to the “carbon” parameters – they are evaluating what an “extreme” carbon event is. Tom Moore and Ted Friesner and Shawn McClure at CIRA are working on a schedule.

The carbon mass values are used to derive light extinction. If the method changes for quantifying carbon mass, it could affect how the various guidance steps are quantified. Idaho and Montana have looked at different thresholds for the “carbon” e3 and may use something other than the 95th percentile. The change in carbon calculations through IMPROVE could be in 2020 or 2021. The planners want good science, but are also on a regulatory timeline. Time date data downloads so they won’t be confused with later data changes that may happen on the TSS.

* 1. TSS FAQ – Task 6.3

Please review the current document for grammar and structure as if it were a public-facing document by the next call (September.) The questions and answers should be general, but the direction is changing from an explanation of terms to a more technical guidance on data interpretation. Some feedback on the audience and the purpose is needed. Some terms, e.g. NCII may be used differently by different users, as an example of mixed explanations. Gail Tonnesen (EPA R8) gave another example, “benchmarks” needs to be explained in terms of progress towards goal and perhaps how the benchmarks are determined. Tom Moore (WRAP) suggested more discussion of cooperative federalism and what collaboration on regional haze planning means. Perhaps on the next call we can all step through the changes to the FAQS.

* 1. Quarter 3 informational webinar – Task 6.3

Jay Baker (UT DEQ) will take the lead on setting the date and topics for the next quarterly webinar, tentatively ”Understanding and Applying Modeling Results.” Topics might be modeling and four-factor analysis; will try to keep with the topics in the existing webinar schedule, including a review of what work contractors are doing. There will be a webinar August 22 to review Brandon McGuire’s work on thresholds and natural conditions with the smaller task groups. Emily Weissinger (Ramboll) will be meeting with two WORK Groups to finalize the Communications Framework Document.

1. Action Items (by deadlines):
   1. Review Communication Framework Documents by next August 15, 2019 and send edits to Elias/Emily
   2. Review TSS FAQ document by next call and send edits to Elias
   3. New Item – resolve question about what to do if there are only three years of data in the baseline (2000-2004)
2. Next meeting: **Sept 12, 2019**, 2:00 – 3:30pm MDT