

**COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, OPERATIONS, AND RESEARCH NEEDS (CESORN)**

**WORKING GROUP FOR WEATHER INFORMATION FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
(WG/WIST)**

WG/WIST MEMORANDUM 05-03

May 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: WG/WIST Members

FROM: Frank L. Estis
 Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Draft Record of Actions for WG/WIST Meeting 05-03

I have prepared for your review the attached draft Record of Actions for the WG/WIST Meeting 05-03 held on April 28, 2005. If you have any changes or additions, please call or send them to me as soon as possible. My telephone number is (301) 427-2002 and my e-mail address is frank.estis@noaa.gov.

Attachment

WG/WIST MEMBERS

DHS - Dr. Jonathan Berkson, DHS/USCG
- Mr. John Gambel, DHS/FEMA
DOC - Mr. Mike Campbell, NOAA/NWS, Co-Chairperson
- Mr. Charlie Challstrom, NOAA/NOS
DOD - Col Mark Weadon, US Air Force
- Mr. Robert Freeman, US Navy
DOE - Ms. Ella McNeil, DOE/EM-11
DOI - Mr. Lewis Moore, DOI/BUREC
DOT - Mr. Paul Pisano, DOT/FHWA, Co-Chairperson
- Ms. Jo Strang, DOT/FRA
- Mr. Chris Flanigan, DOT/FMCSA
- Ms. Charlene Wilder, DOT/FTA
- Mr. Donald Carver, DOT/FAA
EPA - Mr. Robert Gilliam, EPA
NASA - Dr. Martin Frederick, NASA
- Dr. William D. Graham, NASA
NSF - Ms. Pamela Stephens, NSF/ATM
NTSB - Mr. Donald Eick, NTSB/AS-30
OMB - Ms. Erin Wuchte, OMB/EOP
USDA - Mr. Bradley Rippey, USDA/OCE

cc:

WG/WIST Mailing List
OFCM Staff

**COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES, OPERATIONS, AND RESEARCH NEEDS (CESORN)**

**WORKING GROUP FOR WEATHER INFORMATION FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
(WG/WIST)**

Record of Actions Meeting 05-03

April 28, 2005

Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology
Large Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

DHS -
DOC - Mr. Mike Campbell, NOAA/NWS, Co-Chairperson
DOD - Col. Mark Weadon, US Air Force
DOE -
DOI -
DOT - Mr. Paul Pisano, DOT/FHWA, Co-Chairperson
- Mr. Michael Rossetti, DOT/Volpe Center
- Mr. Chris Flanigan, DOT/FMCSA
EPA - Mr. Robert Gilliam, Atmospheric Modeling Div.
NASA -
NSF -
NTSB - Mr. Donald Eick, AS-30
OMB -
USDA -

Mr. Frank Estis, Executive Secretary

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

DHS -
DOC: - Dr. Jim O'Sullivan, NOAA/NWS/OST

DOD: -

DOE: -

DOI: -

DOT: - Ms. Lynette Goodwin, DOT/FHWA (Mitretek Systems)

EPA -

NASA: -

NSF: -

NTSB -

OMB -

USDA -

1. **OPENING REMARKS**

Co-Chairs, Paul Pisano and Mike Campbell, called the WG/WIST meeting to order. All attendees introduced themselves.

The Executive Secretary, Frank Estis, reviewed the administrative information for the meeting and outlined the proposed meeting agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented.

Paul Pisano then provided some opening comments:

- NOAA-FHWA MOU is working its way through NOAA and FHWA final coordination and it is hoped that a signing might take place in May or June.
- The annual ITS America meeting is coming up in Phoenix, AZ, May 2-4, 2005.
 - There will be a special executive Session devoted to weather and ITS
- DOT is considering forming an internal working group to coordinate on weather information for surface transportation issues...still very preliminary thoughts on this idea.

2. **RECORD OF ACTIONS**

The Executive Secretary for the Committee previously sent out the ROA for meeting 05-02 on April 6, 2005, and received only a few recommended changes, which were incorporated into the latest copy that was provided committee members before meeting 05-03. The Committee accepted the revised ROA as the final version.

3. **MEETING DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

A. INFORMATION GATHERING ACTIVITY TO DOCUMENT WHAT WIST R&D WORK IS ALREADY GOING ON AND CROSS FEED THE INFORMATION TO ALL MEMBERS (ACTION ITEM 2005-1.4).

Frank Estis updated the WG/WIST on the status of the initial information gathering activity to find out what WIST R&D work is already going on and tabulate and cross feed the information to all members. Inputs already received from DOD and NASA. Everyone still has time to work this since the email request asked for the information to be turned in by May 13, 2005. An input template was provided to help organize the information for tabulation.

B. FINALIZE THE WG/WIST TOR (ACTION ITEM 2005-1.2).

The WG/WIST membership finalized and accepted the working group's TOR and requested the Executive Secretary to submit the TOR to the OFCM Deputy Coordinator and CESORN for approval and signature. The Executive Secretary will take action to get the TOR on the agenda for the next CESORN meeting.

C. FINALIZE WG/WIST VISION AND GOAL(S) (ACTION ITEM 2005-1.5).

The WG/WIST membership slightly revised, finalized and accepted the working group's vision and goals and requested the Executive Secretary to submit them to the CESORN for review and comment. The Executive Secretary will take action to get them on the agenda for the next CESORN meeting.

The final vision and goals are:

VISION: Safe and efficient movement of people and goods on the surface transportation system, whatever the weather.

GOALS:

1. Timely, accurate, relevant and accessible observed and predicted information on weather and resulting surface conditions that will support decisions that contribute to:

- **A reduction in weather-related surface transportation deaths, injuries, and property damage.**
- **Improved management of weather-related delays and operating costs.**
- **Mitigation of adverse impacts of surface transportation operations on the environment.**

2. Facilitate development and delivery of training and outreach materials to build capacity of surface transportation constituents.

An additional discussion developed about the scope of the WG/WIST activities. Just what transportation modes are included in WIST? **After discussion, the group agreed to use the WIST Report definitions of the six modes.** The W/WIST also agreed that the group needed to stay in touch with the JPDO's aviation work. **The WG also decided to not include aircraft de-icing in its WIST efforts.**

D. USING PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED R&D NEEDS LISTS AS A GUIDE, DETERMINE A PRELIMINARY STRUCTURE FOR THE WG/WIST R&D PLAN TO CLEARLY EXPRESS THE R&D PRIORITIES OF THE WIST COMMUNITY (Action Item 2005-1.3).

Using slides 14-21 from the meeting agenda slides, the WG discussed possible layouts for the WIST R&D needs matrix. The WG agreed that any matrix developed must allow all stakeholders to see their needs contained in the matrix. After much discussion, the WG decided the Executive Secretary would take action to combine the Modified CTRE and WIST matrix structures into one matrix, by:

- adding an entry for data archival for forensic efforts
- using CTRE row heading with WIST column headings
- adding a column for "Intermodal (ports and rail yards)"
- expanding the one word WIST mode descriptions to show the scope of each mode's activities
- striking the word "improved" in CTRE rows and combine "performance measures" and "weather-related accident reporting" into one row heading.

This new draft matrix would be sent to all WG members for review and comment.

E. REVIEW THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED R&D NEEDS LISTS AND SELECT A STRATEGY TO DETERMINE THE FEDERAL R&D NEEDS THAT WOULD BE THE FOCUS OF THE WIST R&D PLAN (Action Item 2005-1.3).

The WG members asked that R&D need ideas from the USWRP and NOAA-FHWA Partnering Plan be added to the WIST R&D Needs source documents listing on slide 22 of the meeting agenda slides.

The Executive Secretary presented a series of questions, on slide 23, to stimulate discussion on this topic, and presented a prioritization scheme (slide 24) used recently by the Federal AT&D community.

Comments provided during the WG discussion on this topic included:

- must include a wide variety of people in such an effort to cover all the areas
- but must be careful or everything becomes a high priority
- it was suggested the WG use fatalities, injuries, and property damage figures as a way to help prioritize needs...this would also be consistent with the WG's goals

- Ms Goodwin was asked to provide these figures and the group would then comment on them
- it was also suggested the WG use the related weather factors to help describe the impact weather has in each of the areas of fatalities, injuries, and property damage
- WG should use documents generated by WIST, NRC, AMS, USWRP, etc. to gather a complete listing of WIST R&D needs
- the suggestion that the Executive Secretary compile a master WIST R&D needs list from all of the source documents
 - the needs should be grouped under the matrix row headings
 - also look at the Urban Met forum held last year by OFCM

F. AGENCY INPUTS AND NEW ITEMS.

DOC/NOAA (Mike Campbell and Jim O'Sullivan):

- NOAA is working to operationalize the MADIS developed by FSL
- Dr Mahoney will speak during the Executive session on weather at ITS American annual meeting in May
- The FY08 budget process is underway in NOAA and so far things look positive for the Surface Weather Program

DOT/FHWA (Paul Pisano):

- Clarus is the major area of interest
 - Clarus System Design Contract was awarded to Mixon Hill
 - next Clarus ICC meeting is planned for November 2005 in New Orleans, LA
- Next MDSS stakeholders meeting planned for October 2005 in Boulder, CO
- "Road Risk" DVD produced as a joint venture between FHWA and The Weather Channel...copies available, please contact the WG Executive Secretary or Paul Pisano to get one

DOD/USAF (Col. Mark Weadon):

- WIST expertise resides at TRANSCOM, and Col. Weadon will make sure they are engaged to support WG/WIST with input as needed

DOC/OFCM (Frank Estis):

- Mr. Williamson from OFCM will speak during session 28 at the ITS America annual meeting in May
- Mr. Williamson has also requested the WG/WIST develop an initial "WIST Research Initiative" by July 1, 2005, so the WG's efforts might have an impact on the FY07 and FY08 budget process. The group agreed to work up such an initiative if the NOAA-FHWA Partnering Plan might serve as the foundation for such a document.

4. **REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS**

The WG/WIST reviewed the actions from the previous meeting and updated the status of each. There were no new action items from Meeting 05-03.

ACTION ITEM 2005-1.2: The Executive Secretary will provide all WG/WIST members with a consolidated listing of all WIST Report recommendations so they can review them and determine if the TOR's paragraph 3a is too ambitious based on ICMSSR tasking actions from May 2004.

STATUS: CLOSED.

April 28th update: At the April 28th WG/WIST meeting, the WG/WIST members finalized and accepted the working group's TOR, and closed this action item.

ACTION ITEM 2005-1.3: The Executive Secretary will provide a synthesized R&D needs list so that WG members could review them and begin to determine the R&D needs that would be the focus of the WIST R&D Plan and start to build a structure for the R&D Plan to clearly express the priorities of the WIST community.

STATUS: OPEN

April 28th update: The WG/WIST decided to have the Executive Secretary to develop a matrix by combining two presented at the April 28th meeting for the whole group to critique at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM 2005-1.4: The Executive Secretary will work with the WG/WIST to perform an information gathering activity to find out what WIST R&D work is already going on and tabulate and cross feed the information to all members.

STATUS: OPEN

April 28th update: Inputs already received from DOD and NASA. Time is still available to work this since the email request asked for the information to be turned in by May 13, 2005. An input template was provided to help organize the information for tabulation.

ACTION ITEM 2005-1.5: WG/WIST members will review and comment on the draft vision and goals.

STATUS: CLOSED.

April 28th update: The WG/WIST membership slightly revised, finalized and accepted the working group's vision and goals and requested the Executive Secretary to submit them to the CESORN for review and comment, and closed this action item.

5. **NEXT MEETING.** Projected for early July 2005.