

EMWoG Telephone Conference Call
Thursday August 9, 2007, 4.00-5.00 pm EDT
Minutes and Action Items

Present: Phil Wannamaker, Rob Evans, Shane Ingate, Gary Egbert, Dean Livelybrooks, Steve Park,

Apologies: Kevin Mickus, Adam Schultz, Martyn Unsworth

Minutes of previous telecon

Group approved May 10 and Jun 14 minutes, and will be placed on the EMScope web site.

2007 Calendar

- AGU abstracts due Sep 6
- GSA Oct 28-31
- IRIS CoCom/BoD Nov 6-8
- NSF Review of EarthScope Nov 14-15
- USAAC meeting Dec 8-9
- AGU Dec 10-14
- IRIS Workshop, Jun 4-6 2008, Stevenson, WA
- Induction Workshop, Sep 15-20 2008, Beijing

Next telecon (second Thursday of the month)

- Thu 13 Sep 2007 4-5 pm EDT.

Action Item Status from 6/14/07

- **Action:** Ingate to explore 2-step process for broader-community endorsement of future transportable experiments.
- **Resolution:** *Wannamaker reports that NSF has agreed to fund a EarthScope proposal to fund a workshop for ~20 on June 3, 2009 prior to the IRIS Workshop.*

- **Action:** Potential new members include Paul Bedrosian (USGS), Chet Weiss (VaTech), Jim Craven (GSC) and Jose Romo (CICESE).
- **Resolution:** *Pending.*

- **Action:** Ingate to contact Park and encourage forward movement and updating (to reflect CascadiaEM) of the EOS paper, and to obtain legacy metadata.
- **Resolution:** *Park reports EOS paper withdrawn because it was out-of-date. Update with CascadiaEM field season. Wannamaker suggests not waiting until the end of CascadiaEM. Paul Bedrosian has not supplied the coordinates of his experiment; Ingate will follow up.*

- **Action:** Ingate will contact Carol Finn at USGS. Schultz recommends a field trip to FRD to check it for suitability.

- **Resolution:** *Completed. Finn and Jeff Love are very open to the idea of co-location. Schultz and Ingate were to visit FRD 7/22/07 but was cancelled at the last moment. Next date for site visit is August 22. Ingate reports that permitting will have to allow for the telluric lines to cross both USGS and NOAA property.*

Action Item Status from 5/10/07

- **Action:** Egbert to prepare a brief proposal to complete higher-level data products for the DMC through the end of the MREFC (Sep 2008).
- **Resolution:** *Pending.*

Action Item Status from 12/11/06

- Schultz to contact M. Kitchens (GSY-USA) about privately-owned 80 acres in Michigan as a potential Backbone site.
- **Resolution:** *On-going.* Discussion with Kitchens have commenced, as well as with the ANSS operator in WI.
- Egbert to provide to GSY-USA MATLAB routines for plotting uploaded NIMS data when in the field. Egbert and GSY-USA to agree on a format for meta-data collected in the field.
- **Resolution:** *Completed. GSY-USA was briefed on the use of the new system during the workshop in Corvallis in June.*

CascadiaEM Status

Ingate reports that > 33 sites have been fielded with only 2 problematic sites (one due to animal). Egbert announces that preliminary indications are that the data at very-long periods (~20,000 sec) are not as good as last year. Group discussed the reasons and suggested the following as causal:

- Hungarian electrodes not buried as deep or as “wet” as last year’s Park electrodes;
- Current CascadiaEM sites are at higher geomagnetic latitudes than ORPP;
- New NIMS are not as good as the older, EMSOC systems;
- Solar activity is down from last year.

Group suggested that the Hungarian electrodes have been used with great satisfaction in other experiments, but not at such low frequencies. Group suggests that Livelybrooks to supervise the use by GSY of a Russian Bucket and bentonite slurry during his next oversight trip.

Data are in the IRIS DMC and accessible through usual tools. Value-added data products (transfer functions) are being worked upon by Egbert and his team.

Group did discuss the fallout of the Schlumberger buy-out of GSY. Group feels that the merger was driven by Schlumberger’s need to take on ocean bottom MT. One upside is that GSY now has vehicle liability insurance when the vehicle is used off road. The down side is that the future of WINLINK is uncertain.

Action Item: Bear boxes, currently stored at OSU, should be returned to Park.

Future direction of EMScope Management

Ingate announced that he will be leaving IRIS Aug 31 to take up a position in Socorro. Details of a plan for transitioning EMScope management is under review and will be released shortly. Ingate is expected to stay on “in the wings” for a couple of months after his last day to assist with the transitioning. With the current success of the transportable experiment(s), there is renewed interest and confidence in EMScope from upper levels of EarthScope management, and so it is hoped that the days of big funding battles may be over.