

## SW PARC Conference Call 9/22/06

### Meeting Minutes:

After some issues related to phone reception quality, the meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. (PST).

**Participants:** Valerie Boyarski (AZGFD), Polly Conrad (NV), Ernest Garcia (PARC Fed. Agencies Coordinator), Tom Giermakowski, Matt Goode (U of A), Craig Ivanyi (ASDM), Larry Jones (USFS), Tom Jones (AZGFD), Steve Madsen (UT), Kari Schlick, Jay Thompson (BLM - CO), Frank Toupal (NRCS), Bruce Taubert (AZGFD/PARC), Brian Wooldridge (USFWS)

**Introduction:** Since we still have a few new members, a brief description of PARC (at national and regional levels) was offered.

**Discussion:** Revolved around two topics, increasing participation in SWPARC and developing the annual meeting for 2007.

- ❖ **Participation:** It was agreed that we need broader representation from all parts of the southwest region.
  - Notably absent were folks from OK and TX. In addition, the number of participants from several other states is still fairly low.
  - Need to identify major players not yet engaged in SWPARC, in industry, state, federal, NGO's
  - To increase state participation, Tom Jones will contact his counterparts in the other 7 states. Priya should be able to help on this level as well.
  - LJ mentioned that E will represent USFS for NM
  - JT will contact people in CO and suggested that SM might do the same in UT
  - Need contact list with affiliations for all SWPARC members
  - Using website (set up by TG) may assist with information transfer to new people
  
- ❖ **Annual Meeting '07:** It was agreed that the meeting should take place outside of AZ to avoid the appearance of SWPARC being AZ-centric.
  - Location - It was proposed and agreed to that Albuquerque, NM is centrally located within the southwest and would be a good choice.
  - Date - We agreed that it is important to hold this meeting in the first 5-6 months of 2007. Currently we are looking at April/May. Planning committee will explore dates
  - Meeting will probably run 2-3 days
  - Regarding timing of meeting, consideration should be given to: Momentum, academic calendar; field season; fire season, herping options, costs, venue availability

- Funding – some infrastructure support may be available, but should probably go to covering some of actual meeting costs. Other costs might be offset by sponsors, auctions, etc.
- Field trip options – TBD, but even if herping in the field isn't good, trips to Albuquerque Biopark (Zoo/Aquarium/Botanical Garden), International Rattlesnake Museum and other institutions might be options
- Other regions develop a central theme for their meetings and line up high quality speakers to present on such
- Probably best if the planning committee ask for people to pick specific tasks (logistics, operations, finance, etc.) so that everything is covered
- NW region has been able to get a university (for small fee) to handle registration, funds, lodging, etc. for their annual meeting

**Other Topics:**

- ❖ Format and use of conference calls – major amount of calls should be the planning committee developing '07 meeting. It was noted that we need some more names added to this committee to represent other states from the region

**Action Items:**

- ❖ Minutes to participants (with people's affiliation) (CI, MG)
- ❖ Distribute contact list to participants (CI)
  - Add to participant list (all)
- ❖ Flesh out website concept/use (TG)
- ❖ Formalize planning committee
- ❖ Begin exploring annual meeting venue options (TG, planning committee)

**Next Meeting:** To take place within next month, date TBA