

**GREAT BASIN CESU
CONFERENCE CALL**

AGENDA

**July 7, 2009
2:00 PM**

- CESU Updates
 - Status of the GBEP
 - Approval of Strategic Plan
 - Addition of New Partners
 - DoD application
 - Army Corps of Engineers application
 - Role of Host Institution in coordinating the GB CESU
 - JFSP Planning Grant
 - New GB-CESU Brochure
 - Date and place for the next annual meeting
 - Restoring the West Conference 2009
 - Other items from partners
- Rang Narayanan
Rang Narayanan/Stam Johnson
- Peg Reese and Nora Devoe
Nora Devoe
- Nat Frazer

Great Basin CESU
Midyear Meeting July 7, 2009
2:00 – 4:00 pm

Members Present: Angie Evenden, Mark McKinstry, Mike Auerbach, Bruce Peterson, Eugene Schupp, Rang Narayanan, Sue Phillips, Salina Warden, Peg Reese, Paul Doescher, Nora Devoe, Kristine Schierenbeck.

Minutes:

- Rang Narayanan introduced Bruce Peterson (NRCS) and Sue Phillips (USDA) and welcomed them as new members.
- An update of Great Basin Research and Management Partnership activities was provided which included (1) an MOU is being signed, 2) a congressional briefing paper is being developed, 3) a charter is being prepared and 4) the website is being updated. Carol Schuler (USGS) is the chair of the executive board.
- An update on Dean David Thawley's health status was give by Rang Narayanan.
- The strategic plan was approved pending any minor editorial changes to be received in two weeks.
- Discussions involving adding new partners were extensive. Letters of interest by DoD, US Army Corps of Engineers and Antioch University New England in New Hampshire were considered and the concerns were discussed.
- Rang was charged with developing a set of guidelines for a new application process to be reviewed and approved by the executive committee. Applicants DoD and US ACE are to be informed of the new guidelines and asked to submit application materials. Antioch University New England will be contacted and encouraged to join their local CESU.
- A committee consisting of Kristine Schierenbeck (ARS), chair, Nora Devoe (BLM), Peg Reese (UNLV), Mike Auerbach (DRI) and Steve Caicco (USFWS) will examine criteria and set up a process for ensuring potential CESU projects are transparent within the CESU, conform to the scope of the CESU mission and are cooperative agreements. The committee will report back within a month.
- Stan Johnson made a presentation on the status of the Great Basin Environmental Program (GBEP) and indicated that travel funding will be available for CESU scientists to facilitate GBEP planning and the proposal process.
- The role of the host institution within the CESU was discussed by Peg Reese. Identifying mechanisms for funding the CESU administration are also to be a part of the charge of the above committee.
- Nora Devoe presented her Joint Fire Sciences Program planning grant proposal which received full support. She was asked to send out the proposal to members so that a support letter can be written on behalf of the CESU to JFSP.
- Eugene Schupp gave information on the Restoring the West Conference in Logan, Utah, October 27-28, 2009.
- A draft for the GBCESU brochure was presented and editorial corrections were received. It was approved for printing.
- Angie Evenden indicated that the CESU directory needs to be updated and Rang agreed to forward the current directory and seek revisions from members.
- The annual CESU meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on Monday, October 26. Rang will arrange meeting rooms.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.