From:	Axelrad, Don
To:	borem@usgs.gov; gilmourc@si.edu
Subject:	Hg and S Workshop
Date:	Wednesday, April 29, 2009 5:52:46 PM
Attachments:	AGENDA Second Annual Workshop on Mercury and Sulfur in South Florida Wetlands 2009_03_24.pdf Hotel for Mercury and Sulfur Workshop.doc

---

Bill, Cindy,

Welcome back Bill!

As you may be aware, the SFWMD is covering the travel costs to bring to the Hg and S Workshop, Leon Lamers, and Irv Mendelssohn.

These two scientists are outside reviewers for 2 of the 3 main areas of discussion at the workshop (internal eutrophication and sulfide toxicity to plants); the third area of course being sulfur effects on mercury methylation.

Ronnie Best has kindly agreed to bring 1 or 2 scientists with expertise on sulfur effects on mercury methylation to the workshop (contingent on costs and budget).

1. Let's us 3 (you 2) decide who to recommend to Ronnie; Brian Branfireun and/or Jeff Jeremiason (or other?)

2. We then need to decide what responsibilities we wish to assign to Branfireun and/or Jeremiason (Ronnie spoke to Mark Gabriel re this and I'm sure he has ideas).

3. Then we need to determine the cost of bringing Branfireun and/or Jeremiason to the Workshop.

Lamers and Mendelssohn have the following responsibilities (to Mark Gabriel, SFWMD) re the Workshop:
(1) Critically review the (DeBusk) work plan *An Evaluation of the Role of Sulfate in South Florida Wetlands*;
(2) Provide an oral presentation on a workshop related topic; and
(3) Actively participate in the content of the workshop and help provide final conclusions and recommendations.

Branfireun and/or Jeremiason will have different responsibilities as there is no 'S effects on Hg methylation' component in DeBusk's scope.

Let's do a quick conf call on this when you get settled in Bill.

Don Axelrad

Donald M. Axelrad, Ph.D.
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Office: (850) 245-8072

Mobile: (850) 443-4626

From: G. Ronnie Best [mailto:ronnie_best@usgs.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2009 4:12 PM
To: Axelrad, Don
Cc: borem@usgs.gov
Subject: Re: Hg and S Workshop

Don,

I agree with the recommendation that we have expert reviewers for all the major questions (topics) we wish to cover in the review and follow-up workshop report. The 'review' and 'workshop report' should be thorough, balanced, independent and shared with all organizing agencies. Within those guidelines, YES, I feel USGS can find funds to cover expenses of an additional reviewer (two, if necessary). However, I do need an estimate of the cost.

Please follow-up as appropriate and keep me posted. Since I would like to get Bill's input on this recommendation, I am cc'ing this message to Bill Orem.

With Best Regards,

Ronnie

G. Ronnie Best, PhD, PWS (Ronnie_Best@usgs.gov)
Coordinator, Greater Everglades Priority Ecosystems Science
United States Geological Survey
c/o University of Florida/IFAS, Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center
3205 College Ave.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314-7719
Phone: 954 577 6354 Fax: 954 577 6347
Cell: 954 658 4676

==========

From:	"Axelrad, Don" <Don.Axelrad@dep.state.fl.us>
To:	<Ronnie_Best@usgs.gov>
Date:	04/27/2009 02:17 PM
Subject:	Hg and S Workshop

Ronnie,

As you may be aware, the SFWMD is covering the travel costs to bring to the Hg and S Workshop:
Leon Lamers, Assistant Professor, Department of Ecology, University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands; and,
Irv Mendelssohn, Professor, Wetland Biogeochemistry Institute, Louisiana State University.

Leon and Irv are accomplished scientists in the areas of internal eutrophication (sulfate-induced N, P, DOC release from sediments) and sulfide toxicity to plants, respectively.

These two scientists are outside reviewers for 2 of the 3 main areas of discussion at the workshop; the third area being sulfur effects on mercury methylation.
(Lamers and Mendelssohn are writing some kind of workshop report re their areas of expertise for the SFWMD)

I had asked Mark Gabriel of the SFWMD to consider bringing a scientist with S and Hg expertise, but SFWMD lacks the funds.

In case you have extra travel funds, I having spoken to Cindy Gilmour (Bill is away in Europe) have determined that either Brian Branfireun or Jeff Jeremiason (contact details below) could review/comment on S and Hg science at the workshop. If you had such funds, either Cindy or I would contact Brian or Jeff.

I much appreciate you covering Frank Nearhoof and my costs for the Workshop; we will keep these costs low as we are driving to the Workshop in an FDEP car (no cost to USGS) and returning to Tallahassee the evening of the last day of the workshop.

Don Axelrad
FDEP

Brian Branfireun,
Associate Professor
Department of Geography
University of Toronto
brian.branfireun@utoronto.ca
http://eratos.erin.utoronto.ca/branfireun/
905-569-4649

Jeff Jeremiason,
Assistant Professor
Environmental Studies Program and Chemistry Department
Gustavus Adolphus College
Saint Peter, MN 56082
jjeremia@gustavus.edu
507-933-6235

==========

Donald M. Axelrad, Ph.D.
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Office: (850) 245-8072
Mobile: (850) 443-4626