

WREN Meeting Minutes (FINAL)
December 2, 2014
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
National Wind Technology Center
Louisville, Colorado, USA

Attendees:

Ireland*	Shane McGuinness	BirdWatch Ireland
Norway*	Roel May	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research – NINA
Portugal*	Joana Bernardino	Bio3
Switzerland*	Hans Buser	nateco AG
United Kingdom	Finlay Bennet	Marine Scotland Science
United States	Karin Sinclair (Operating Agent) Elise DeGeorge Sam Rooney	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
	Patrick Gilman Jocelyn Brown-Saracino	U.S. Department of Energy
	Andrea Copping	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

*Participated via webinar

Expected outcomes of meeting were as follows:

- 1. Feedback on WRENHub design and determine next steps**
- 2. Determine next white paper topics**
- 3. Brainstorm themes/presenters for webinar series**
- 4. Determine panel focus for CWW**
- 5. Determine next steps for survey activity**
- 6. Begin preliminary planning for in-person meeting in Berlin (March 13, 2015)**
- 7. Determine hosts for 2016 in-person meetings**
- 8. Refine Work Package and Action Items timelines**

Below is a summary of the topics discussed during the meeting. All presentations referenced are provided as attachments to the email that includes these minutes. They will also be posted on the IEA Wind Task 34 site until they can be migrated over to the WRENHub.

Initial Review of WREN Work Package

We reviewed the work package to assess the status of our commitments. We discussed each specific activity during the course of the meeting. At the end of the meeting, we made slight adjustments to the work package schedule. One activity that was not a planned topic of discussion was the regulatory assessment table. As there are several new member countries, we have an opportunity to expand the information in the table. **ACTION:** OA to resend RA table



and countries will fill out before the meeting in Berlin. The RA table will be discussed during the Berlin meeting.

Overview of WRENHub Status

Andrea provided a presentation on the status of WRENHub development. It is currently available in a beta form for review. **ACTION:** Andrea will ensure all members and interested participants will have access to WRENHub to review and provide feedback.

White Papers

Status of Adaptive Management Paper

Jocelyn provided a presentation on the process and status of the AM white paper development. We discussed the interview approach used to gather examples of how adaptive management is utilized in monitoring and mitigating impacts to wildlife at wind farms. While the effort thus far has focused on US examples, the paper should ideally have an international scope. To expand the scope of information available for the analysis, the interview questions and related information will be distributed to WREN members and each country is requested to conduct similar interviews to enhance the geographic scope of our coverage as time allows. **ACTION1:** OA will distribute AM interview information, AM cover email message, and AM questions. **ACTION2:** Member nations are asked to conduct similar interviews and provide responses to Jocelyn by 2/20/15.

Next Paper Topic

We also discussed interest in beginning to develop the next topical paper. The group agreed to focus on the Individual to Population topic, with Hans/Finlay/Roel to co-lead the initial effort. We also discussed interest in moving forward with the Green vs Green topic if resources allow. Others interested in being part of the Individual to Population topic writing team should let OA know. **ACTION1:** OA to send out 2-pager previously written on the Individual to Population topic. **ACTION2:** Let OA know if you are interested in being on the team to draft this paper.

Webinar Series

Elise led a discussion on the webinar series, with special focus on identifying themes/proposed presenters for future webinars. This discussion was continued in the afternoon. Future webinar topics include the following:

- Our understanding of population risk modeling and collision risk modeling and where these two intersect. The group discussed potentially presenting USFWS's Bayesian approach used for eagle permitting including the related assumptions. This webinar could also cover the importance of encouraging more collaboration between population modeling and effect/collision risk modeling.
- Strike modeling, including different scales of avoidance behavior. This could be covered in part by the British Trust for Ornithology.



- Displacement/barrier effects, which effectively does the same thing as collision modeling. This webinar could include a case study on sage grouse and/or greater or lesser prairie chickens.

ACTION: Ideas for topics and speakers should be sent to OA to help develop future webinars.

Discuss WREN Panel Focus for CWW

The group discussed how best to use the 80-minute session set aside during the CWW for WREN. A workshop was proposed, which would provide the audience with a summary of the white paper topics WREN members have proposed to work on and use a breakout format for attendees to consider four questions being used during interviews to gather information from stakeholders. This feedback is used to inform the development of the adaptive management white paper. **ACTION:** Details of the proposed workshop will be submitted to CWW for consideration.

Stakeholder Survey Results

Hans provided an overview of the process and results of the in-country survey in Switzerland. New member countries and interested countries will be asked to complete the survey prior to our next meeting in Berlin (March 13, 2015) where further discussion is planned. **ACTION1:** Hans will send OA a final presentation for posting on the IEA Wind Task 34 site. **ACTION2:** OA to resend survey. Countries that are able should complete surveys and return to OA by the end of February 2015 so that the information is available for discussion during the March 13 meeting in Berlin. We will discuss next steps on what to do with the surveys during that meeting.

Discuss Preliminary Details on 2015 Meeting in Switzerland

Hans provided a description of hosting the meeting in the autumn, 2015, and proposed to hold it in Bern. The group expressed its intent to hold a white paper workshop in conjunction with the WREN meeting. Additionally, Hans asked if the group would like to provide a presentation on WREN to the Suisse Eole and if an excursion would be of interest. In both cases, the group was interested. Therefore, the meeting is likely to be 3 or 4 days. To assist with planning the meeting, Hans needs to know dates to pursue as soon as possible. If the meeting is held in Bern, dates that are NOT available are October 28 and November 18. **ACTION:** OA will send out **Doodle schedule** which all member countries are requested to complete as soon as possible to provide feedback to Switzerland.

Begin planning for Berlin WREN Meeting

The next WREN in-person meeting is planned for March 13, 2015, immediately after the CWW in Berlin, Germany. The group wondered if there were any side trips that would be of interest/value that could be set up. **ACTION1:** Check with Johann about an excursion opportunity. If possible, this may extend the meeting by another day. **ACTION2:** A conference



call will be scheduled to discuss final planning details for the meeting. **ACTION3**. A draft agenda will be developed ahead of the meeting.

Identify Host Countries for 2016 In-person Meetings

Hosts for a spring and fall meeting in 2016 will need to be identified. Any country that has not yet hosted WREN is asked to consider whether they can host a meeting in 2016. We will discuss this again during the meeting in Berlin. Scotland has agreed to host if needed, although WREN held a meeting in Newcastle in 2014. **ACTION**: Let OA know if you are able to host a meeting in 2016.

Continued discussion

We continued our discussion on the webinar series, identifying a number of other potential topics. They are summarized above.

Review Current Work Package

We reviewed the work package schedule and noted that while most activities are on schedule a few are behind. We decided to address all activities on the agenda during the meeting and then revisit the work package to determine if any schedule modifications are warranted. Ultimately, several slight modifications were made to the work package schedule; however, details on the original schedule will be retained. **ACTION**: OA to have updated work package posted on IEA Wind Task 34 site.

Attachments

1. Revised Work Package
2. WRENHub presentation
3. AM white paper presentation
4. AM interview information, AM cover email message; AM questions
5. White paper topic linkage paper
6. 2-pager on Individual v Population
7. Webinar series summary paper
8. Proposed WREN workshop at CWW
9. Survey presentation from Switzerland
10. WREN (IEA Wind Task 34) survey
11. Regulatory Assessment survey table