

Implementing Subcommittees
(and/or Routine Outreach Workshops and/or
Standard Periodic Reports to IMPROVE Data Users)

Tom Moore

WESTAR-WRAP

IMPROVE Steering Committee meeting – Nov. 10, 2021 | 135 pm MST

Focus on mechanisms for better communication

- So many ways that IMPROVE is an amazing resource!
- Better – more complete – transparent communication key to continued success
- Charter and process improvements will help with communication
- What could be done? Where are we at this point?
 - IMPROVE Steering Committee and supporting community can't and shouldn't have to do everything to address the communication of results from the network
 - Users can and are asking for more information
 - Communicate meaning and applications of data between users and IMPROVE community

Regional Haze trends

- Long-term, high-quality data from IMPROVE network
- Has been used to:
 - Attenuate model response to set future goals for visibility improvement
 - Track progress
 - Toward national visibility goal of remedying existing and preventing future human-caused impairment (by U.S. sources under control of state and local air agencies)
 - Often quite variable with both MIDs and Worst Days, year-to-year
 - With MID metric vs. Worst Days, monitored progress often greater than URP line
 - Makes one wonder about natural conditions as a goal in terms of fire and dust over nominal remaining ~40 years of the program, in the face of the multi-decadal challenges:
 - the changing climate – no normal now, status is disruption from past expectations
 - fuel loadings in our western forests and associated human mgmt. interventions
- Need to be able to explain what IMPROVE is measuring relative to setting future visibility goals

IMPROVE Workshops for Data Sharing and Feedback

- Assume annual Steering Committee meeting each Fall
- Spring (April) – hold data review meeting for users
 - assume 3-hour length
 - record / post
 - Address completeness for raw and Regional Haze metric data
 - Report data results from past year and most recent 5 years
 - By state / Class I area / groups where multiple SIPs address progress
 - Discuss QA/QC results
 - Invite participation and short talks by data users
 - Other...
- Summer (August) – hold network operations meeting for users
 - assume ~2 hours
 - record / post
 - Report on operational topics affecting data results from past year and most recent 5 years
 - What's changed - by state / Class I area / groups where multiple SIPs address progress – fire activity, other issues
 - Present and discuss operational issues at sites with important impacts on Regional Haze trend tracking
 - Address closing / relocation of sites
 - Report network operations and performance statistics
 - Invite participation and short talks by data users
 - Other...

Actions to implement improved communication

- Could be organized by Steering Committee via Subcommittee(s)?
- Could be a “Routine Outreach Workshop(s)”?
- Channeling Brett Gantt earlier today, would an on-line “Standard Periodic Report(s)” be a good way to support these actions?