

Land and Water SWATeam Meeting

Tuesday, March 31st 2020

3:00 pm via Zoom

Members in attendance: Art Schmidt (Co-Chair), Eliana Brown (Staff), Jamie Ellis (Staff), Allen Parrish (Staff), Mallory Mahen (Clerk)

Members not attending: Reid David Christianson (Co-Chair), Rabin Bhattarai (Faculty), Bruce Branham (Faculty), Brent Lewis (Staff), Ella Liskiewicz (Student), Vikram Muthuvel (Student), Claire Samojedny (Student)

Agenda:

1. Discuss/revise any new recommendations
2. Add comments to recommendations
3. Prioritize objectives/recommendations for the fall

Meeting:

1. Revision of the recommendation for a sustainability data repository/online dashboard
 - a. Wording and grammar changes added
 - b. Need for publication efforts
 - i. Researchers and professors will have to know that this is available as a resource to both post and view data
 - c. Distinction from F&S's *Energy Dashboard*
 - i. Example: the proposed repository can include GIS data
 - d. Possibility for repository to support wifi-enabled sensors
 - i. Much of the data that can be added to the repository will not be updated in real-time, but this issue could support the transition to wifi-enabled sensors with real-time updating capability
2. Comments of support added from Eliana Brown and Allen Parrish
3. 2020 iCAP objectives revisited for possible recommendations
 - a. Monitoring fuel consumption as a strategy to reduce fuel consumption by 10% by 2025
 - i. Make this data available to facilitate decision making
 - ii. This is something all departments should be interested in as it can lead to reduced fuel costs
 1. All fuel pumps on campus can be monitored
 - iii. From a land and water standpoint, the focus should be on monitoring farm diesel or fuel used for land management
 1. Off-road diesel can be easily tracked
 2. Tillage tools/systems, but would need more research
 - iv. Opportunities for collaboration across SWATeams

1. Reducing fuel consumption will have a big impact on sustainability and is not necessarily something only the Land and Water team should be interested in/responsible for
- b. Consider ways to reduce fuel consumed in pumping and treating water and wastewater
- c. Renovation and conversion of some of the low mow areas to a low prairie or meadow, with an emphasis on pollinator support as a strategy to increase carbon sequestration by 2025
 - i. Observation of possible reduced bird deaths would support evidence for biodiversity- additional benefit beyond sequestration
 1. Look into SSC funded project for further information on this
- d. Irrigated land taken off municipal water sources and install wells or alternate water sources based on needs of the research as a strategy to establish water infrastructure management by 2025
 - i. Prioritize a recommendation about this
 - ii. Possibly can include animal confinement centers that do not necessarily need potable water
- e. Reduce infiltration and inflow to sanitary sewer system

Action Items:

1. Add comments to Data Repository recommendation
2. Continue to generate ideas for recommendations, or even begin to write recommendations
 - a. After the Spring semester deadline for recommendations, the next deadline for recommendations will be November 2020
 - b. The team can submit recommendations on a rolling basis before this date
 - c. Work does not have to end because the Spring deadline has passed
3. Mallory will talk to Meredith and other SWATeam clerks about collaborative recommendations across SWATeams
4. There will be a meeting the last week of April to wrap up the semester and review draft iCAP chapter