

# **Remote Sensing Applications Working Group, Meeting Minutes\***

25 March 2003, 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM, NASA HQ Room MIC5B

Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction

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*\*as approved by co-chairs*

**Co-Chairs:** Rosalind Helz, USGS  
Steve Ambrose, NASA

**Attendees:**

**USGS**

John Pallister, USGS  
Rosalind Helz, USGS  
Brenda Jones, USGS EDC (by phone)

**NOAA/NESDIS**

Cheryl Bertoia, NOAA/NIC (by phone)  
Peter Colohan, NOAA/GRS  
William Pichel, NOAA/NESDIS (by phone)

**NASA**

Craig Dobson, NASA HQ  
Jim McGuire, NASA IPO  
John LaBrecque, NASA HQ  
Steve Ambrose, NASA HQ

## **I. Call to Order**

Rosalind Helz called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and led a round of participant introductions.

## **II. Discussion of SAR Briefing for the Senate Natural Hazard Caucus**

Roz Helz and John Pallister led a discussion on the straw-man outline for the SAR briefing, which had been circulated to the full RSAWG email list on March 11. Helz solicited input on the content of each of the three 10-minute presentations: 1) SAR imagery uses, 2) interferometry applications, and 3) a review of background, data access issues and next steps for SAR. Cheryl Bertoia gave a very useful summary of the operational status of sea ice monitoring, which appears to be the single-most mature hazard application of SAR imagery. After some comments on the substance of each presentation, such as recommending the inclusion of topography in the second presentation, the discussion turned to identifying potential candidates for introducing the briefing and giving each presentation. (Helz noted in this discussion that chosen presenters would, of course, have significant input to the content of each presentation.) The following names were among those identified as possible candidates for each:

Introduction: Fawwaz Ulaby, Sean Solomon, Roger Smith  
Presentation 1: Cheryl Bertoia, Pablo Clemente-Colon, Bill Pichel  
Presentation 2: Dan Dzurisin, Mark Simons, David Sandwell  
Presentation 3: Bernard Minster, Mark Simons, Ben Holt

The group agreed that a non-federal government person would be best for the third presentation. In addition to the possible speakers identified above, the group discussed including invited experts in the audience, and identified a number of possible candidates.

No speakers or other invited experts have been approached yet, pending SDR and OSTP approval of the briefing.

**Actions:**

- Helz will finalize draft outline and submit to SDR/OSTP for review and approval on April 3
- after SDR/OSTP approval, Helz will give the summary to David Applegate, and ask for tentative dates.
- Helz and others will follow up with candidates regarding presentations once tentative dates have been established.

**III. SAR White Paper Version 4**

John LaBrecque led a discussion of the latest version of the SAR white paper, circulated on 3/23/03. Pallister submitted additional comments to LaBrecque before the meeting, which were welcome. The group agreed the paper was ready for submission (in text-only form) to the SDR. On a discussion of process, the group agreed that the paper should be considered separately from the briefing. LaBrecque solicited final comments and graphic images for inclusion in the paper.

**Actions:**

- All: Submit final comments by COB Thursday 3/27, and graphic images as soon as possible.
- LaBrecque/Helz: Report out paper to SDR Chair for distribution at the April 3 SDR meeting.

**IV. Next Meeting**

The group agreed to meet again on April 17, 2003, time and place TBD. The topic will be a presentation on the International Charter, to be given by GRS.

**Actions:**

- Colohan offered to explore the possibility of NOAA hosting the meeting at Main Commerce (Hoover Bldg).
- Helz will send around an inquiry to ask the extended email list whether they prefer NASA HQ or Main Commerce as the meeting site.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.