



**Science & Policy Committee
Conference Call, Thursday, June 11th, 2015**

Call to Order at 3:00 (EST) by Committee Chair, Andrew N. Sharpley sharpley@uark.edu

Five members were able to be on this month's call.

Jorge Delgado gave an update on the recent 2015 International Soil Conservation Organization Conference that was held in El Paso, TX. There were about 80 attendees with 46 oral and 20 poster presentations given by researchers from 16 different countries. Abstracts from the Conference are available at the following website - <http://tucson.ars.ag.gov/isco/isco18/index.html>. Jorge mentioned that there will likely be a proceedings from the Conference that contains extended abstracts of about 4 pages. Also, Mark Nearing is leading a special issue of *Catena* that has agreed to publish papers based on the Conference presentations (pending peer review).

The next Conference of ISCO will be in Leida, Spain (near Barcelona) in 2017. More information on that can be found at <http://tucson.ars.ag.gov/isco/isco18/index.html>. The SWCS was listed as a sponsor of the 2015 Conference and it is recommended that SWCS also sponsor the 2017 meeting. More information on ISCO can be found at <http://www.tucson.ars.ag.gov/isco/list-of-proceedings-previous-meetings/>.

John Peterson briefed the Committee on recent updates to the EPA definition of "Waters of the U.S." and mentioned activities that were ongoing to inform those interested and possibly affected.

Andy Manale presented details on the National Capital Soil and Water Conservation Chapter Conservation Society, selection of **Roberta Parry** as the 2015 recipient of the Norm Berg Conservation Legacy Award in recognition of her contributions as one of the most effective voices and forces for conservation in Washington, D.C. The award will be presented publicly at noon July 1, 2015 at EPA's Reagan Building (between 12th and 14th Streets on Pennsylvania Ave. in Washington, DC (from noon to 1pm).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm (CST).

The next meeting of the S&P Committee will be June 12th, 2015 at 3:00 pm EST.