NEFAP Executive Committee (NEFAP EC) And Field Activities Committee (FAC) Meeting Summary August 9, 2018

1. Roll call:

Kirstin Diagle (Chair, NEFAP EC) and Shannon Swantek (Chair, FAC) call the meeting to order on August 9, 2018 at 1pm Central. Attendance - there were 7 NEFAP EC committee members present (Kirstin Diagle, Paul Bergeron, Shawn Kassner, Keith Klemm, Cheryl Morton (for Geneva Bowman), Tracy Szerszen and Nilda Cox) and 5 FAC committee members present (Shannon Swantek, Tyler Sullen, Keith Klemm, Kevin Holbrooks, and Marlene Moore).

2. NEFAP EC

Kirstin provided an overview of the NEFAP EC (see slides in Attachment A). She also provided information on stakeholder input and the NEFAP EC and FAC response.

3. FAC

Shannon provided an overview of the FAC (see slides in Attachment A).

4. Field Activities Accreditation Task Force

Paul provided an over of the Task Force (see slides in Attachment A).

5. NEFAP Marketing/Strategic Planning Subcommittee

See slide in Attachment A. This group was originally formed based on the TNI Strategic Plan. This group has not been active for quite some time, Justin Brown has recently taken the lead of this subcommittee and it will begin work this next month.

6. Differentiating the Field Standard from ISO 17025

To move the program forward, we need to distinguish it from ISO. People want more clarification. Are there other markets that could be interested?

Louisiana has recognized NEFAP, but there are states that cannot accept accreditation activity outside of government activity based on their regulations. Louisiana has a dual program and that is why they have more flexibility. The Task Force will be looking into ways to overcome this stale mate. They are looking for ideas from others.

Kim Watson thinks the Standard needs more guidance language.

Homeland Security has added guidance on sampling - how to develop sampling plans, etc ... How do we collaborate with them in the future? Does some of this need to be in the Standard?

Elizabeth West - Some labs have SOPs where they incorporate reference methods.

Marlene – Need to talk about ISO/IEC 17011 and ISO/IEC 17025. Flexible scopes are possible in ISO/IEC 17011. Don't need air, water, and solids. Show the NELAP group that flexible scopes can work. Based more on technology.

To move NEFAP forward we might not be totally aligned with NELAP. NEFAP is a different Program and has many different stakeholders.

Shannon asked the meeting attendees if they want the same restraints on the field standard as the States in NELAP? There were mixed comments, but in general the response was no.

Mike Shepherd – As much as he would like it to fold into NELAP, they don't want any part of it. The mind set needs to change.

Shawn – The ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 Standard helps NEFAP. It makes it clear sampling is part of the Standard.

Marlene – When they hear TNI they think NEFAP is like NELAP. Some people stay away from NELAP because they don't like how proscriptive it is.

Mohan – Asked if the lab will have to deal with multiple accreditation? Would they need NEFAP and NELAP. This is still being determined.

Kim – Until NELAP says they will recognize NEFAP, this organization needs to continue on their own.

Tracy – NEFAP should stay aligned with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Kim – DoD, TNI, NEFAP - you should be able to go to one place.

Cheryl – She is working on establishing a sampling program. It will probably not be under NEFAP.

Kirstin – we want to add value to the NEFAP Standard. It is still consistent with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Things that could be added to the Standard include: DQOs Sampling Cleaning validation for equipment Container guidance Statistical Design

It was asked if we can survey FSMOs about their needs before we get started on the Standard? What would make the Standard more valuable?

Bruce Wickworth, Sampler 11 years – There are essential things in sampling plans that could be touched on. Sometimes the sampling design is regulated. How do you start a plan from scratch? Sometimes you need to see some results before you can finalize the best plan.

How do you determine that the sampler is competent?

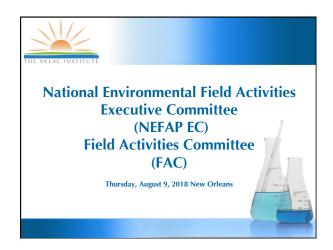
7. Action Items

Action items can be viewed in Attachment B.

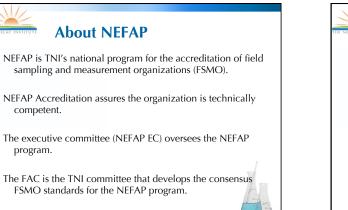
8. Next Meeting

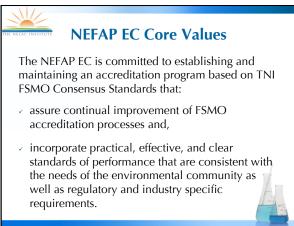
The next NEFAP EC meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2018 at 1pm Eastern. The next FAC meeting will be planned by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm Central.









NEFAP EC- Stakeholder Groups

17 Active Members & 6 Associate Members

- 7 FSMOs
- 3 ABs
- 7 Other
- 6 Associate Members



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Field Activities Committee – The mission of the TNI Field Activities Committee (FAC) is to develop standards for accrediting bodies and field sampling and measurement organizations. By engaging experts to develop consensus-based standards with the goal of improving the consistency of field methods and the quality of environmental data. providing technical assistance in developing guidance materials to facilitate adoption and use of these standards on a national and

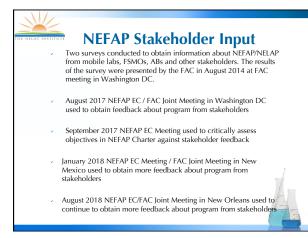
- facilitate adoption and use of these standards on a national and international level.
 Establishing and maintain an environment for standards
- development that ensures continuel improvement of standards that are aligned with the practical constraints of sampling and field measurement as well as regulatory and industry specific requirements.



(12 Associate members)



NEFAP Current State NEFAP accreditation and use of FSMO standards are lower than expectations Voluntary Program Accreditation Benefits not well recognized Inconsistencies in NELAP/NEFAP Accreditation process Lack of Visibility with Target Audience Competition from other established national and international quality system and accreditation programs.





What the Stakeholders Said

- > NEFAP is not required.
- The FSMO standards, which incorporate ISO/IEC 17025:2005, language verbatim, do not provide sufficient clarity for application of the ISO/IEC requirement to FSMO activities.
- The FSMO standards are too similar to ISO/IEC 17025 to justify NEFAP accreditation in addition to ISO accreditation.
- NEFAP is not known to FSMOs or those that use FSMOs; program marketing is missing target audience.

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What the Stakeholders Said

- There are inconsistencies between NEFAP and NELAP that must be resolved.
- > There is a need to develop a consistent accreditation process for mobile laboratories.
- NEFAP is not needed. ISO, GLP, GMP and other quality standards are sufficient for industry needs.





In May 2018, the TNI Board of Directors approved the NEFAP EC's request to establish the Field Activities Task Force.

This group is chartered to develop an organizational approach to field activities accreditation throughout all TNI programs including NELAP, TNI Environmental Laboratory Standard Recognition and NEFAP.

Field Activities Task Force

Under the direction of the TNI Board of Directors, the Field Activities Task Force will:

- Develop and recommend consistent policies for the accreditation of field activities; including the standardization of the approach to listing scopes of accreditation.
- Develop an organizational approach to field activities including mobile laboratories under multiple TNI programs and identify or clarify when each program is appropriate for accreditation.
- Recommend standard definition of mobile laboratories and field activities (e.g.; sampling, testing).



NEFAP EC & FAC Response

The NEFAP EC Strategic Planning/Marketing Subcommittee will assess the NEFAP plan against stakeholder input and adjust course as necessary to promote the goals of the program. The TNI Strategic Plan will also be reviewed and incorporated into this plan.

 Justin Brown will re-establish this subcommittee and begin work this summer.





NEFAP EC & FAC Response

The FAC has communicated intent to update the FSMO standards based on stakeholder input

- How do we add value to the FSMO Standards?
- Should the scope of the FSMO Standard be expanded into non-environmental areas?

How does the new version of ISO/IEC 17025 impact the FSMO Standards?

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