

Notes from URGWOM Steering Committee Meeting; January 9, 2003; 10:00 AM; Corps of Engineers Conference Room, Albuquerque

In Attendance:

Cyndie Abeyta, USFWS

Steve Bowser, USBR

Ellen Dietrich, SAIC/Corps

Don Gallegos, Corps

Conrad Keyes, Jr., Consultant to Corps

William J. Miller, WJM Engineering,
Inc./Corps

Nancy Purdy, USBR

D. Michael Roark, USGS

Jack Veenhuis, USGS

Dave Wilkins, USGS

- ❖ Dave Wilkins chaired the meeting and provided an update on URGWOM development, including the Planning Model and Technical Team activities. He distributed a handout summarizing the points that is appended to these notes. Discussion of the handout is noted below.
 - The Technical Team is working on determining which values are constants in the model and which need to be entered using a DMI. Some slots in the model must have values entered for every day, while others only need end-of-year values. A DMI that can be used to run any Water Ops model for any year is being developed. Developing this DMI is also requiring an evaluation of data in the databases. It is expected that a variation of this DMI will be used in running selected years of the Planning Model.
 - Model data for 1996 was supplied to Weston Solutions to accompany the field data in the example model and will be added to the web site.
 - Mark Yuska and Ed Kandl are testing the Nambe Falls accounting, which should be completed soon.
 - The Technical Team is testing the rules related to the spillway and channel capacity at Cochiti. The problem with the Cochiti rules was found when the model flows at Albuquerque did not change with varying releases out of Cochiti.
 - Bill Miller described the contents of the draft “big document” referenced in the Technical Team status notes.
 - The document, recently delivered to Gail Stockton, contains 17 memos and documents. It is also available on CD and will be posted on the URGWOM web site.
 - The printout of the rules is the largest document in the set.
 - Other documents include Rio Grande Compact accounting, revisions of documents previously available, and comments from the Technical Review Committee.
 - Don Gallegos described his work using URGWOM to evaluate San Juan-Chama releases for the ESA work.
 - Don ran the accounting data through the model and determined that the first year looks good.
 - In the second and third years, more water is released than is in the system, so they need to reset the parameters or otherwise fix this problem.

- Don will run the forecast model this week for 2003 water accounting and operations.
- ❖ Don reviewed a table in a handout that lists maximum storage amounts and elevations at Abiquiu Reservoir on specific dates from 1975 through 1995. The table documents that conservation storage up to 100,000 acre-feet is feasible and would still meet downstream needs, when water is available. It also demonstrates that waivers through August would be workable.
- ❖ Steve Bowser reported on the development of HDB(2).
 - The new workstation at USBR reduced the run time for the URGWOM Accounting Model from 30 minutes to 3 minutes.
 - There have been weekly teleconferences with CADSWES to collect information and help design the database.
 - Completion of Phase I, modifying HDB(2) to accept accounting data, is planned by the end of March.
 - Phase II, the development of the accounting design in HDB(2), will begin in April. Phase II was funded for \$150,000, half of which was provided by the USBR Albuquerque Area Office.
 - They expect that HDB(2) will be fully functional in Albuquerque by the middle of next year.
- ❖ Other items discussed include the following.
 - MMS: Jack Veenhuis reported that the development of the data for the Rio Chama sites has been completed. Other work includes revisions of watershed delineations to correspond to the forecast sites. A forecast using MMS will be completed this year.
 - A replacement for Marc Sidlow on the URGWOM Technical Team was advertised and applications have been submitted.
 - Conrad Keyes reported that USBR-El Paso and EPWU have provided funding to the Paso del Norte Watershed Council to support evaluation of databases. They have not yet selected a database to use, but plan to link to other sources also.
 - The goal is to set up a web-based database that would be located on the WRRI web site. In addition to water operations data, it will contain information on biological resources, GIS, agriculture, and other topics related to water management and operation.
 - The database development group consists of Bobby Creel of WRRI, Zhuping Sheng of Texas A&M, and Chris Brown of NMSU.
 - The Watershed Council may soon have a Program Coordinator's position available.
- ❖ **The next meeting of the URGWOM Steering Committee will be held on February 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the Corps' conference room.**

STATUS OF URGWOM TECH TEAM ACTIVITIES—DAVE WILKINS

- Developing a DMI that can be used to run a WaterOps model for any year.
- Evaluating existing data in databases to assure data needed for the Planning model is available.
- Brad is working on the reconciliation problem. He has fixed 2 problems that deal with Abiquiu and there is at least one with Nambe.
- Will need to develop a scheme for letter water (delivery requests) and MRGCD demands for use in the Planning Model. Data are associated with the USBR Green Book and only 1995,1996,and 2000 data are available.
- Have provided Weston Solutions with model data for 1996 that corresponds with historic data provided previously.
- Heron pan evaporation, pool elevation, and precipitation for 80-84 has been digitized, checked, and synthesized as needed.
- Nambe Falls accounting passed test for 2002, but needs further testing.
- Getting Accounting Model set up for 2003. Will be ready sometime next week.
- Bill Miller provided copies of our assembled draft "big document".
- Don provided input on ESA runs in mid December.
- Have not done any Forecast runs for the MMS test.
- Continue to test Rules at Cochiti.