

Notes from URGWOM Steering Committee Meeting; May 9, 2002; 10:00 AM; Corps of Engineers Conference Room, Albuquerque

In Attendance:

Steven Bowser, USBR	Nabil Shafike, NMISC
Ellen Dietrich, SAIC/Corps	Gail Stockton, Corps
Conrad Keyes, Jr., Consultant to Corps	Tim J. Ward, UNM
Bill Miller, WJM Engineering, Inc./Corps	Dave Wilkins, USGS

- ❖ Dave Wilkins chaired the meeting and reviewed the handout that summarizes Technical Team activities and URGWOM status. The handout is appended to the end of these notes. The questions and discussion are summarized below.
 - The Technical Team is working to ensure that the Water Operations Model can handle the low flows expected this summer. This is also a priority for conservation accounting in the Accounting Model.
 - **Carole Thomas will give a presentation on the calibration and validation process at the June 13 Steering Committee meeting.**
 - Tim Ward asked if the Technical Team has had time to compare the MMS forecast to the NRCS forecast.
 - They have not had a chance to compare the forecasts in detail, but Gail thought that MMS forecasts less flow and is generally more conservative. Dave received the current MMS forecast and commented that they plan to conduct a sensitivity analysis to compare it to the NRCS forecast.
 - Carole and Nabil Shafike have developed an analysis to calculate the error in the gage data.
- ❖ Bill Miller circulated the outline of the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan that was updated according to the comments he received from the Steering Committee.
 - The outline contains two main sections: one addresses the process for checking the data and database, the other documents the procedures for model testing.
 - In order to develop the outline into a plan, Bill requested that another meeting of the subcommittee be held. In advance of the meeting, Bill will circulate the current outline to the subcommittee members.
 - After this meeting, planned for **May 28** from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at a Corps meeting room, **Bill will compile the comments and develop a draft plan.**
- ❖ Steve Bowser provided an update on the status of HDB development for use with URGWOM.
 - Steve received a proposal from CADSWES to modify HDB to accept accounting data. He hopes to fund this effort through some reallocated science and technology funds that may be available from the Platte River project.
 - The USBR plans to standardize HDB so that it has consistent content, input, and output as an Oracle application in UNIX.

❖ Other agenda items

- Gail distributed a copy of the letter to Willem Shreüder from LTC Midkiff of the Corps, which explained the Steering Committee's response to Shreüder's request for release of URGWOM, source code, and recent accounting data.
- Bill reported that a technical memorandum on Rio Grande accounting was sent to the Compact Commission engineer-advisors, but he has not received a response.
- Al Brower, technical leader for the ET Toolbox in the Denver USBR office, has announced his retirement. A replacement is under consideration. The continuation of the ET Toolbox work is important to URGWOM because the land cover and riparian vegetation maps need to be updated to document the major changes in vegetation and their effect on river flows that have occurred below Bernardo over the last 10 to 15 years.

 ❖ **The next meeting of the URGWOM Steering Committee will be held on June 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the Corps.**

STATUS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE URGWOM PROJECT—May 9, 2002

- Checking and verifying WaterOps model rules
- Adding Rio Grande Conservation account to WaterOps model and developing rules to set inflows and releases from the Rio Grande Conservation account in conjunction with inflow and outflow from the regular Rio Grande account. Has been mostly implemented.
- Modified Forecast model to allow proportioning (increasing or decreasing) hydrographs after the forecast period (August – December).
- Modifying Account and WaterOps models (and associated dmi control files for new method slots) with updated account names for middle valley diversions.
- A draft report describing the current calibration and validation process for the middle valley model was prepared and is in review. This report will replace the old documentation describing the calibration and validation process.
- Year 2001 data entry process - Rio Chama acequia diversion data and EPA wastewater data are entered into DSS. USGS streamflow data are ready to be downloaded as of May 15.
- Differences between measured-historical flow and modeled flow can be wholly accounted for by streamflow gage error about 60% of the time in the reach Cochiti Reservoir to Central Avenue, and about 30% of the time in the reach Cochiti Reservoir to San Marcial.
- Mean cross-sectional streamflow and losses from Cochiti Reservoir to each successive downstream reach in the Middle Valley were calculated by month for the 1996 period of record, for the 1985-99 period of record, and for the 1995-99 period of record.
- Have a MODFLOW model running that has separate features for the river, riverside drains, interior drains, and canals.
- Getting Model Viewer tamed in order to look at model results using visualization and animation.
- Have City of Albuquerque pumpage data through 2001.