

MEETING NOTES  
UPPER RIO GRANDE WATER OPERATION MODEL  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, FIELD OFFICE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

Marc Sidlow called the meeting to order at about 10:00 am and reported that the last meeting of the URGWOM Steering Committee was approximately three months ago. Those in attendance and those participating in the meeting via telephone conference call introduced themselves. An attendance list is attached.

Marc reported on the activities of the Technical Team. Items reported on included development of a new method for simulating open-water and wetted sand losses, a new model object framework for lower basin model has been developed and is under review, the new URGWOM web-page has been developed and is under going in-house review by the Corps, improvements and upgrades to the monthly model, the Team will be scheduling a meeting with CADSWES to develop a real-time water operations model framework, the review of the watershed models has been completed, organization of the water quality subcommittee is ongoing, PHVA modeling effort is continuing, CADSWES is preparing a report on ruleset review due in one month, and work to implement Pueblo Indian Prior and Paramount storage and release simulation in RiverWare is underway.

Craig Burroughs briefed the Steering Committee on the status of the PHVA modeling effort. The work involves studying how supplemental water releases are made and how simulation results compare with historic flows. Current efforts include development of supplemental water release step-down capability and development of operating safety factors. As to follow-up work, this work will focus on exploring alternative approaches that might result in simulations that better match existing policy.

Eddie Zagona presented a brief outline on RiverWare capability to model water quality. RiverWare is capable of simulating salinity, temperature and dissolved oxygen using mixed or layered based solution approaches. RiverWare is object oriented and solves on a step-by-step basis. There followed a discussion on the applicability of RiverWare in modeling water quality in the middle Rio Grande. Eddie also reported that CADSWES had earlier performed a reconnaissance survey of available and applicable salinity data in the Rio Grande. The results of this review revealed that there is inadequate data to correlate salinity concentrations with streamflow in a manner that could be used to simulate modeling.

Cyndie Abeyta introduced Dave Van Horn who presented to the Steering Committee a report on the water quality data collection program cooperatively sponsored by the Corps, the Fish and Wildlife Service and UNM. The two year program collected

continuous water quality data at stations along the middle Rio Grande. Dave described the location, constituents measured and presented the results of analyses of several of the of the data. He reported that the data are available for review via the Sevietta LTER website.

Under other business, Scott Anderholm reported that he is organizing a working group to evaluate water quality data and modeling needs in the Rio Grande.

The next meeting of the URGWOM Steering Committee is scheduled for January 14, 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55.

Attendance List  
 URGWOM Steering Committee Meeting  
 September 10, 2008

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Steve Kissock	Corps of Engineers
Jen Bachus	Fish and Wildlife Service
Joel Lusk	Fish and Wildlife Service
Conrad Keyes, Jr.	Corps Consultant
Zhuping Sheng	TAMU – PdNWC
Warren Sharp	USBR, Albuquerque
Nabil Shafike	NMISC
Cynthia Abeyta	Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill Tai	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Jesse Roach	Sandia National Lab
William J. Miller	Consulting Engineer
Jennifer Wellman	Pueblo of Santa Ana
Scott Anderholm	U. S. Geological Survey
David Van Horn	UNM Dept. of Biology
Roxanne Candelario-Ley	UNM Dept of Biology
Edie Zagona	CADSWES
Chris Banet	Bureau of Indian Affairs, Albuquerque
Bobby Creel	NMSU – WRRI
Craig Burroughs	B H&H, Inc.
 Via telephone: Hillary Brineger	  NMSU Dept. of Agriculture