To: URGWOM Technical Team Members

Date: September 20, 2021

Subject: Notes of the September 14, 2021 URGWOM Technical Team Meeting

These notes summarize the items discussed during the September 14, 2021 Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model (URGWOM) Technical Team meeting. The meeting began at 9:00 am and was conducted as an on-line collaboration hosted by the Corps of Engineers using the Corps' WebEx account. All those participating in the meeting introduced themselves and their names and affiliation are listed on the last page of these meeting notes.

This month's meeting agenda topics include reports changes on to the Colorado portion of URGWOM, simplified Lower Rio Grande demand, a follow-up on adding the Santa Fe River system to the model, RiverWare updates and enhancements and general updates on ongoing URGWOM related activities from the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Interstate Stream Commission. Phil noted that the USGS is not able to attend today's meeting but that Dave Moeser requested that he be placed on the agenda for a presentation for next month's meeting.

Phil reported that Marc Sidlow would be returning to work part time (20 hrs. per week) with the Albuquerque District at the end of the month. Phil also reported that Marc's old position has been filled and the individual would begin working by November 1, 2021.

Nick began a discussion on the disabling of the Colorado portion of the model by summarizing the two methods currently used in the model to forecast the Lobatos flow. These include 1) routing of forecasted inflow values and the accounting of diversion and return flow using the water right solver with the remainder arriving at Lobatos, and 2) develop a forecasted flow at Lobatos based on Compact delivery requirements and the selection of an historic hydrograph that matches the current year Compact delivery forecast volume. Nick presented hydrographs showing that both methods will meet the Compact delivery requirements at Lobatos but with different shapes. Nick reported that there are ways to disable the Colorado portion of the model by revising existing scripts, or another alternative would be to delete all of the Colorado objects, rules and edit the initialization rules. Planning runs could be based on direct input of Lobatos flow data if the Colorado portion were disabled. After additional discussion, Lucas indicated that it may be best to leave Colorado in the model for now. Reclamation will be using the Colorado portion of the model in the Basin Study and he suggested that the Technical Team could revisit this question sometime in the future.

Lucas reported on the following updates that Reclamation has made to the model (version 8.3);

- Modified the maximum Abiquiu account storage;
- Reduced the maximum ESA release rate from 500 cfs to 200 cfs;

- Updated the DMI's to enable the use the latest DSS database file;
- Modified the script layout to take advantage of changes in model version 8.3 that will allow easier access to commonly used scripts;
- Added a new AOP script that would provide for the disabling of the Lower Rio Grande portion of the model and sets the Elephant Butte hydroelectric power plant optimization; this change saved about 6 KB in storage requirements and the run time has been reduced by about one minute;

Lucas reported that by using the second method described above for the Lobatos inflow forecast and turning off the Colorado portion of the model will reduce the model run time by about 50 seconds. When both the Colorado and Lower Rio Grande portions of the model are disabled, the run time for an AOP model is reduced by one-half. Lucas will add the scripts to disable the Colorado and Lower Rio Grande portions in the next update.

#### Other updates include:

- Implement changes to the Colorado portion of the model by adding a script to enable the elimination of the use of the water right solver in Colorado;
- Modified (lowered) the minimum flow used for the Middle Rio Grande target flows, which changes were made in consultation with representatives of the MRGCD;
- Modified the Caballo storage due to implementation of the Elephant Butte power plant optimization;

Lucas will include a report on model updates or changes made to the model at each future Technical Team meeting.

Lucas presented information on the alternative Lower Rio Grande release method compared to the pattern based and demand based releases currently used in the model. The alternative method would be used when quick runs are to be made when the Lower Rio Grande portion of the model is disabled. Lucas presented several hydrographs showing the results of releases made using the various methods for the 1975-2014 period. Based on his review, Lucas observed that the model may be over-estimating inflow to Elephant Butte, that the Alternative method results in satisfactory results during dry and moderate water supply years, but the alternative inflow method does not simulate inflow well during wet years when compared to the other two methods. Lucas also noted that when using the pattern-based release method, the release goes to zero in 2014, perhaps due to a problem with the accounting of carry-over storage in Elephant Butte.

The Pattern based release will not function properly when the Lower Rio Grande is disabled as the Caballo Reservoir release will result in unreliable values. Nick reported that the believed that the rules could be edited to improve the model simulation of Caballo releases when the Lower Rio Grande portion of the model is disabled. Also, when running the current model

configuration for years prior to the adoption of the 2008 Rio Grande Project Operating Agreement model simulation of flow for years prior to 2008 will not reliably simulate historic flows.

Lucas solicited comments from Technical Team members on the addition of the Santa Fe River system to the model. He reported that the return flow options (Alternative A or B) have been removed from the model and Santa Fe return flow will not be added until the City decides on the preferred option; an NMOSE return flow credit permit application has not been filed as of this time. The addition of Santa Fe system to the model will result in a better representation of Abiquiu Reservoir Article VI and Article VII storage and release values, although the Santa Fe system will be switched off (disconnected from model) by default.

Cindy reported that the NMISC has asked Hydros to review the plan for disabling the Colorado portion of the model and provide a review of the addition of the Santa Fe River system to the model. Cindy inquired about the reason why the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility diversion from the Rio Grande is not located in the correct reach of the Rio Grande. Cindy will check with Nabil to see if he has an answer to this question.

The next meeting of the Technical Team is scheduled for October 12, 2021, although it is possible that the meeting could be changed to October 19, 2021. Phil will send to the Technical Team information about the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory regarding incorporating high resolution data into runoff forecasts.

There being no additional matters to be brought before the Team, the meeting was adjourned at about 10:15 am.

#### ATTENDANCE LIST URGWOM TECHNICAL TEAM MEETING September 14, 2021

NAME REPRESENTING

Phillip Carrillo USACE

William Miller Southwest Water Design/USACE Contractor

Mike Brown Tetra Tech/USACE Contractor

Frederick Shean ABCWUA

Lucas BarrettBureau of ReclamationMichele Estrada LopezBureau of ReclamationAndrew GelderloosBureau of ReclamationJerry MelendezBureau of ReclamationCarolyn DonnellyBureau of Reclamation

David Neumann CADSWES

Nick Mander Hydros Consulting John Carron Hydros Consulting

Zhuping Sheng Paso del Norte Watershed Council

Guillermo Martinez Intera

Brian Westfall Keller-Bliesner Engineering

Cindy Stokes NM Interstate Stream Commission



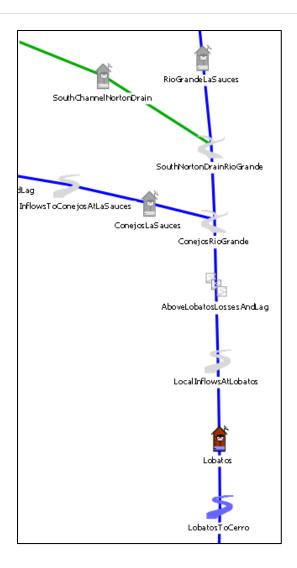
# Turning off or removing Colorado from URGWOM

Hydros Consulting Inc. August 19, 2021

#### **Purpose**



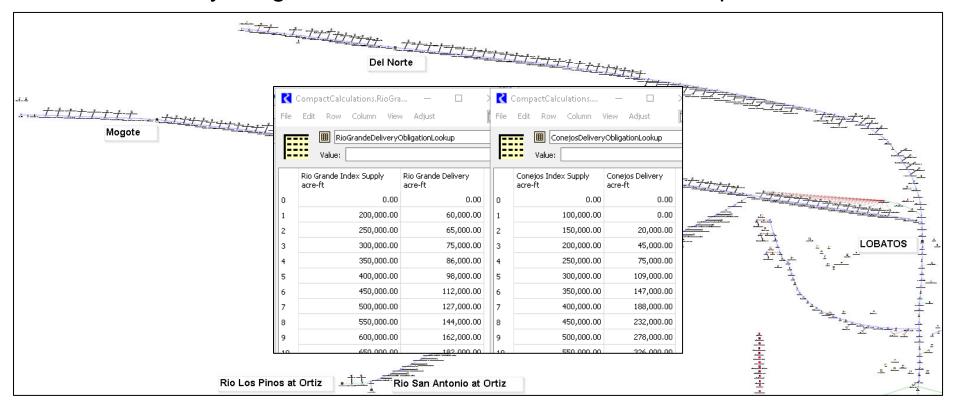
- BOR mentioned during the 8/10/21 Tech Tech meeting that they're occasionally interested in turning off the Colorado portion of URGWOM (to help speed up runtime).
- NMISC also has this interest
- USACE is interested in deleting the Colorado portion of URGWOM







- If a Lobatos forecast is not input (NRCS usually doesn't release a Lobatos forecast), then URGWOM computes a Lobatos forecast which is exactly equal to the Compact delivery obligation
- The delivery obligation is based on Forecasted flows upstream:

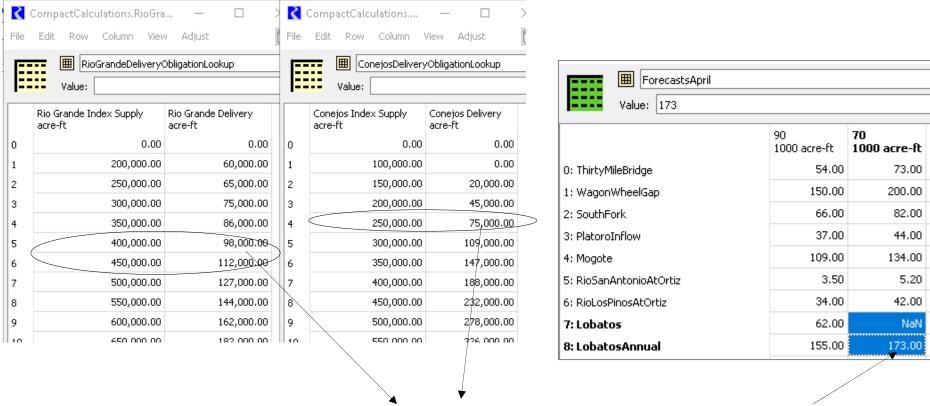




## C o n s u I t i n g

#### **Example: April 2021 Lobatos Annual Forecast**

- The 70% annual NRCS forecast for Del Norte is 424 KAF
- The 70% annual Forecast for the Conejos is 255 KAF

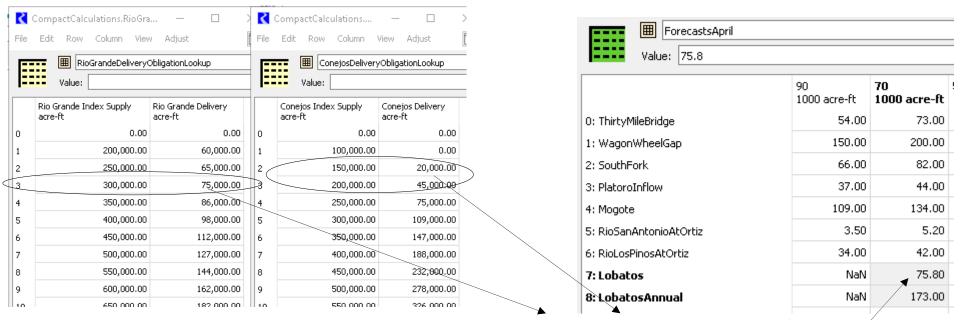


- Lobatos delivery obligation is 105 + 78 = 183 10 adjustment = 173 KAF
- THIS Lobatos delivery obligation is used as the LOBATOS FORECAST

### Hydros Consulting

#### **Example: April 2021 Lobatos April-July Forecast**

- 70% annual NRCS forecast for Del Norte is 424 KAF, MINUS 63 KAF Jan 1-March 31 gaged flow, minus 51 KAF October 1 – December 31 forecasted flow = 424 – 63 – 51 = 310 KAF
- The 70% annual Forecast for the Conejos is 255 KAF, MINUS 60 KAF Jan 1- March 31 gaged flow, minus 22 KAF October 1 December 31 forecasted flow = 255–60 22 = 173 KAF



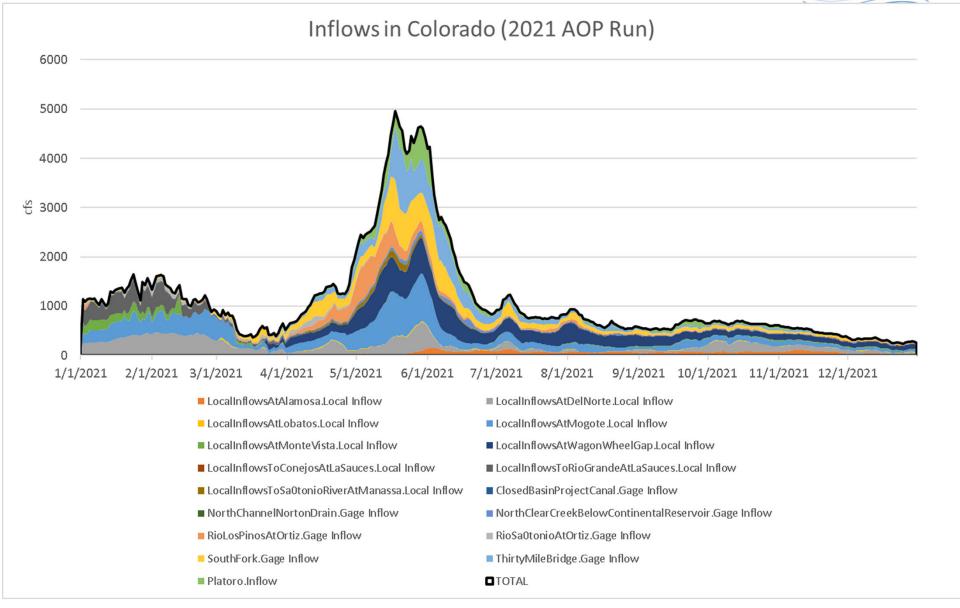
 The Lobatos Apr-Jul delivery obligation is 77 + 31 = 108 X 70% (assume 70% of Apr-Oct Lobatos flow occurs Apr-July) = 75.8 KAF

## 2 Methods for creating hydrograph at Lobatos

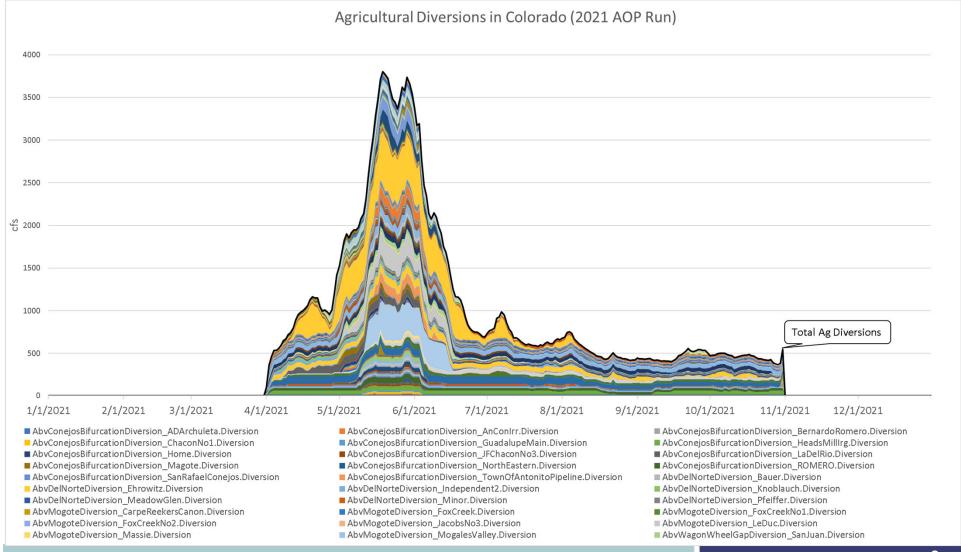


- Lobatos annual delivery obligation: 173 KAF
- URGWOM will always meet this obligation, but has 2 methods for shaping the hydrograph at Lobatos:
- 1) Method 1 requires that Colorado is explicitly modeled.
  - Forecasted inflows are modeled throughout Colorado
  - Agricultural diversions are modeled throughout Colorado (but limited by the RiverWare water rights solver so that the 173 KAF is delivered)

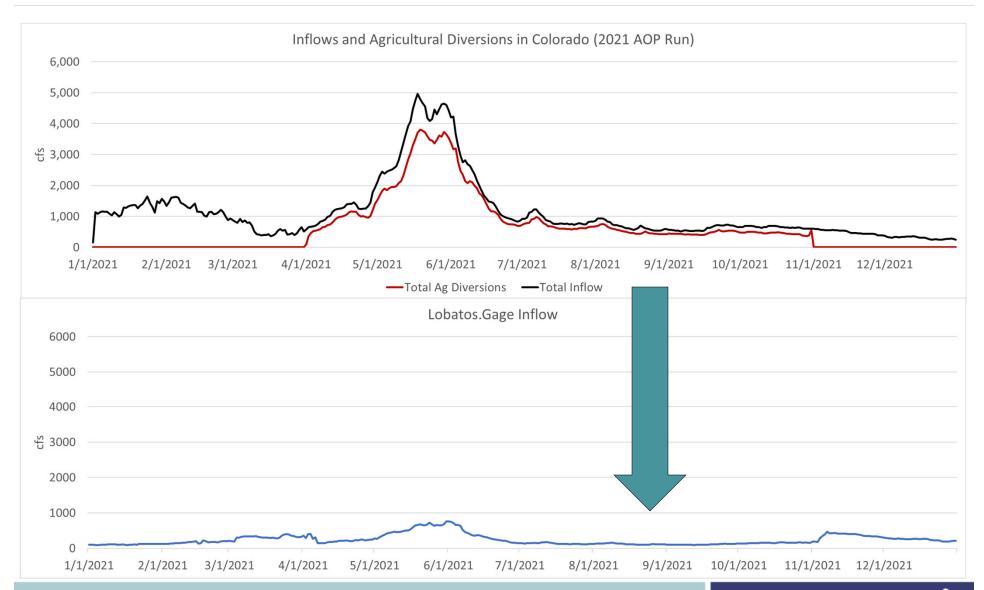








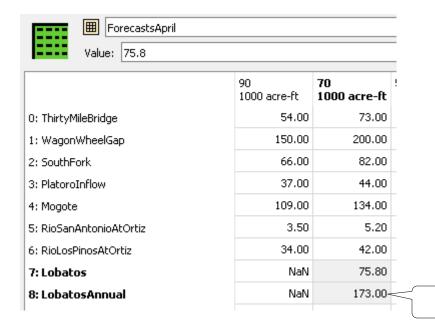




#### Method 2



- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Method for shaping the Lobatos hydrograph does not require Colorado to be modeled
- Same Lobatos forecasts as before...

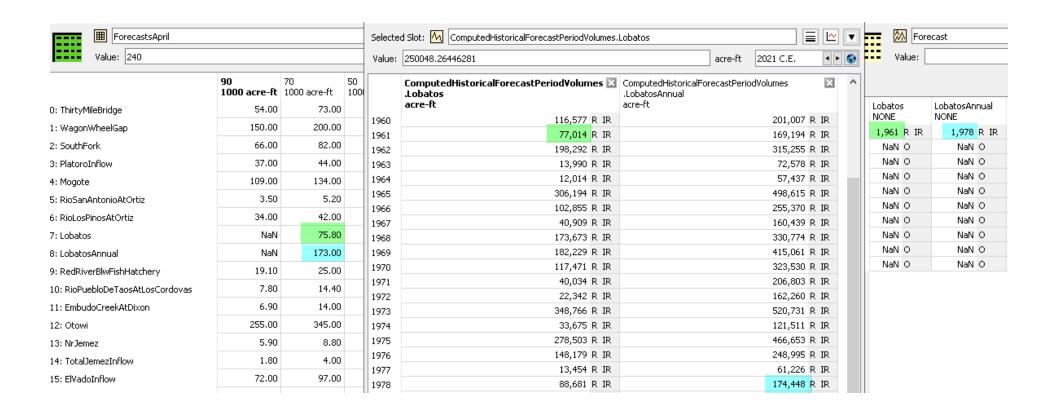


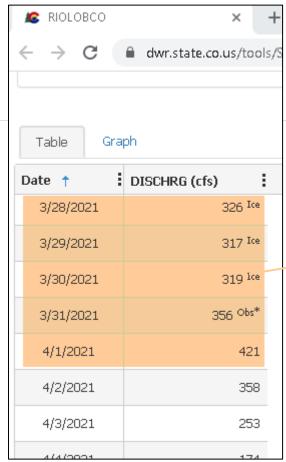
Annual delivery obligation



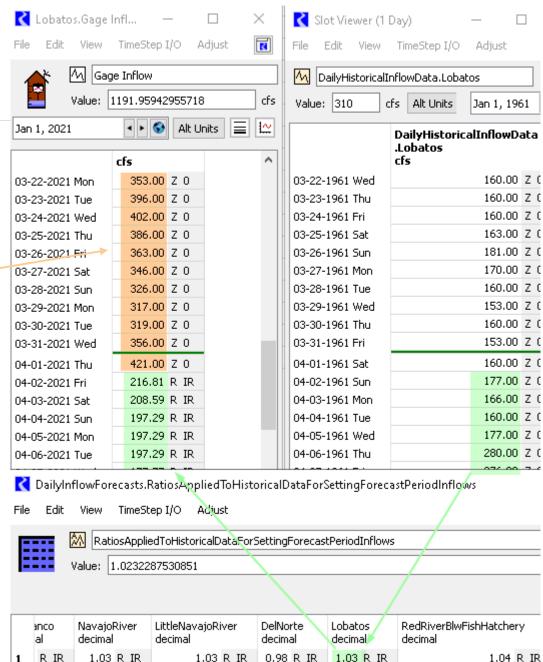


## ...but instead of routing flows down from Colorado, URGWOM matches these 2 NRCS forecasts with the closest historical years



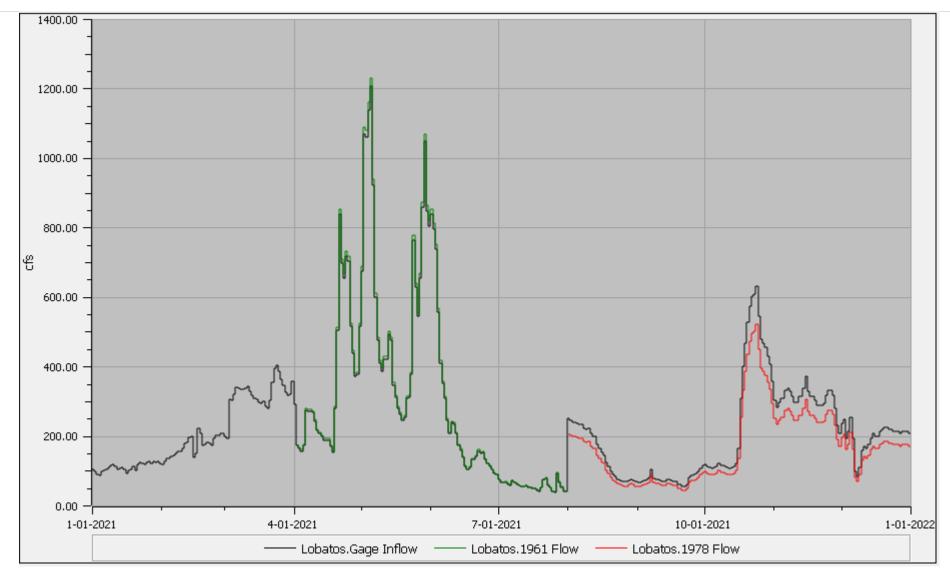


The hydrograph that arrives at Lobatos is the gaged hydrograph year-to-date, and then a scaled hydrograph from the matched historical year



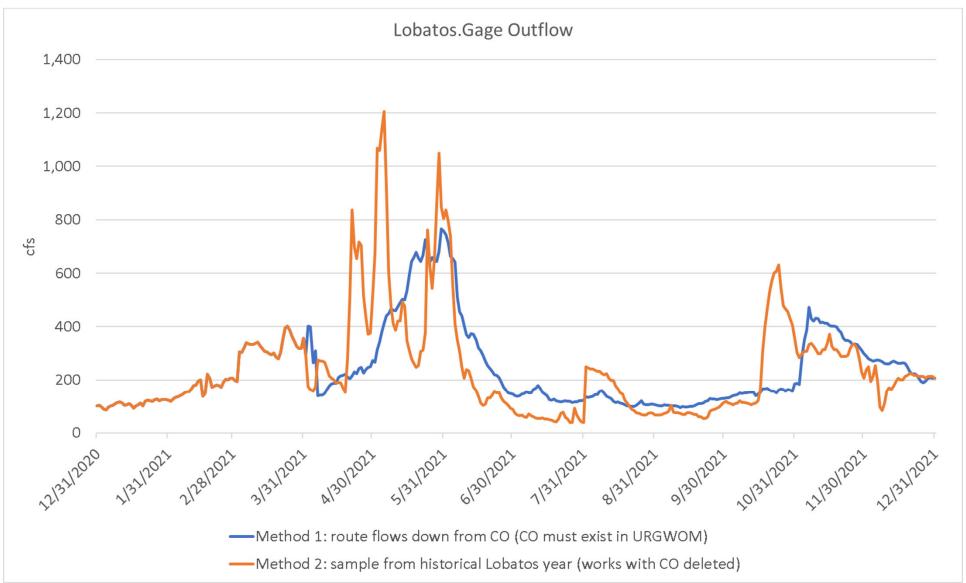
# Lobatos Hydrograph (with Colorado Disabled):





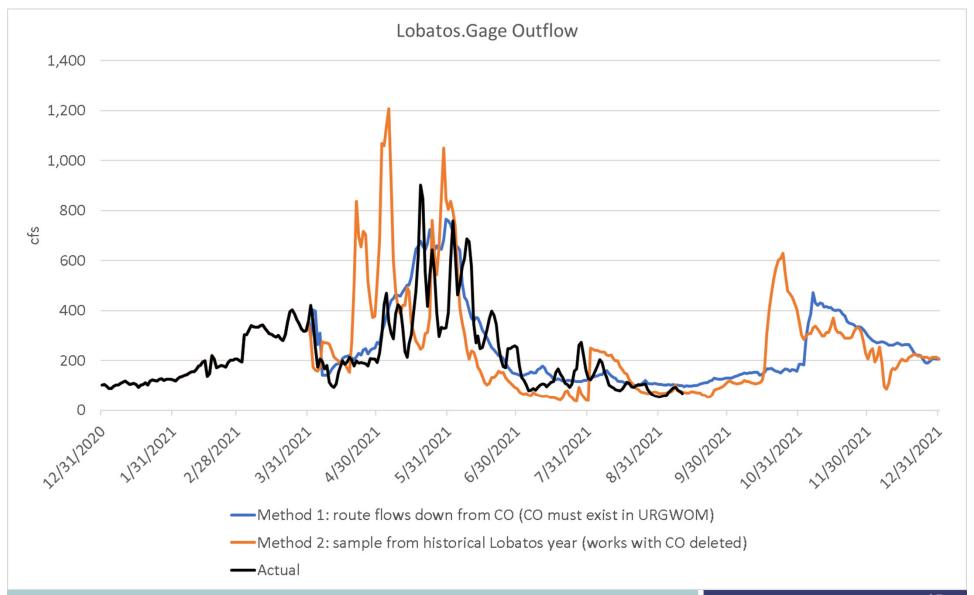
#### Method 1 versus Method 2





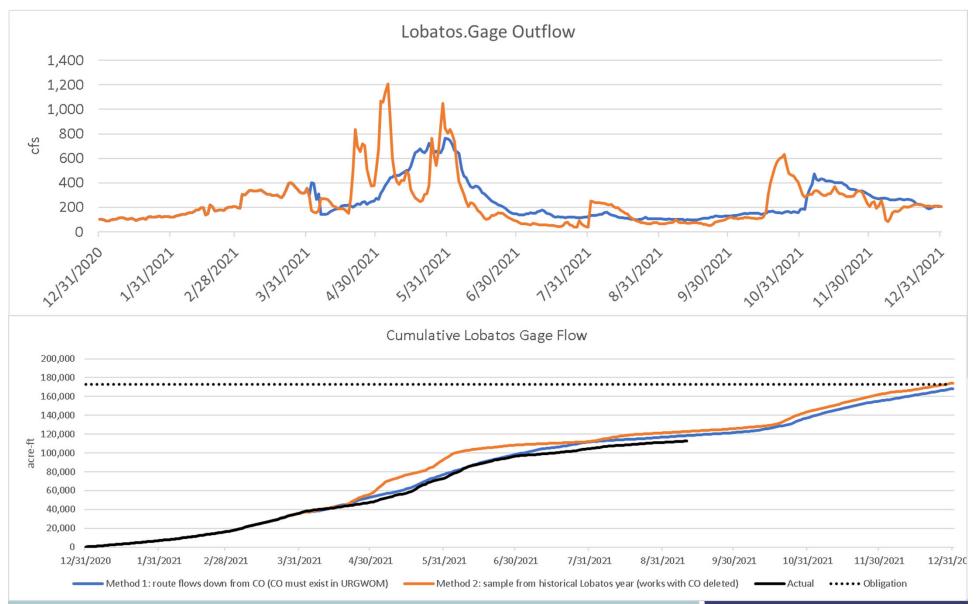
### Method 1 vs. method 2





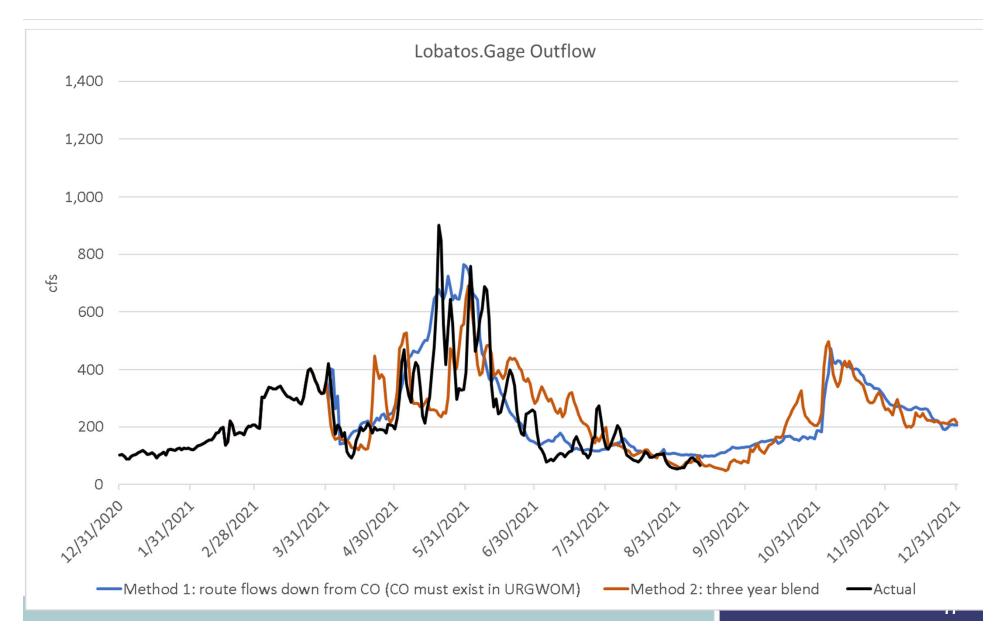
### Hydros Consulting

#### Method 1 vs. method 2



#### Method 1 vs. method 2









#### URGWOM can already run with Colorado disabled, in both Planning and AOP runs:

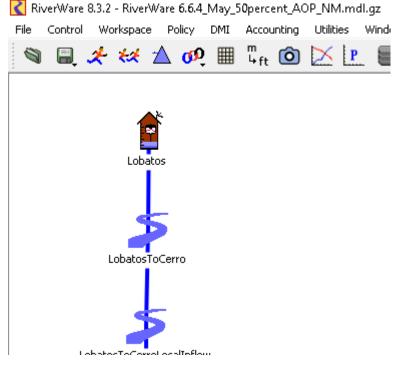
- Prepare for Planning Application Run from Accounting Application using Model Historical Data Objects
- Prepare for Planning Application Run from Accounting Application using Model Historical Data Objects\_CO and LRG Disabled
- Prepare for Planning Application Run with Initial Conditions from Spreadsheet and using Model Historical Data Objects
- 🐃 Dranara for Dianning Application Dun with Initial Conditions from Spreadsheet and DSS Datahase DMI to import data
- Prepare for Annual Operating Plan (AOP) Run
- Prepare for Annual Operating Plan (AOP) Run with Colorado Portion Disabled and Lobitos Forecast Input
- Prepare for Annual Operating Plan (AOP) Run with Colorado Portion Enabled and Lobatos Forecast Input
- Proposo for Applied Operating Plan (AOP) Plun Including Pool Time Data





Delete every object above Lobatos (like the 2015 AOP run, before Colorado portion was added). Only difference is that in 2015, a Lobatos forecast had to be INPUT (but now it can be estimated by URGWOM).

 Will need to edit/remove many data objects, DMIs, and DSS file





#### **How to delete Colorado**

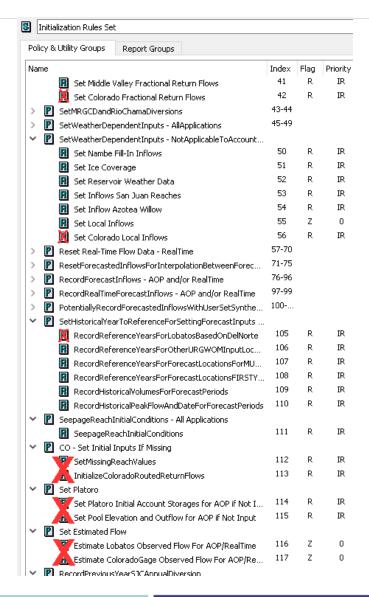
Delete 40 rules (rules 227- 266)

	_				
	P	======Colorado Rules=====		V	Policy Group
~	P	Set Colorado Diversions			Policy Group
		■ SetRioGrandePhysicalDiversionRequestedAmounts	227		Rule
		R SetConejosPhysicalDiversionRequestedAmounts	228		Rule
		■ SetRioGrandeDiversionAccounts	229		Rule
		R SetConejosDiversionAccounts	230		Rule
		R SetRioGrandeAccountsToZeroForNonIrrigationSeason	231	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetConejosAccountsToZeroForNonIrrigationSeason	232	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetUpstreamRioSanAntonioRioLosPinosPassthroughAcc	233		Rule
		R SetRioGrandePassthroughAccountsFromUpstreamGages	234		Rule
	_	R SetPlatoroPassthroughAccounts	235	<b>/</b>	Rule
~	P	Platoro Storage Accounting		<b>/</b>	Policy Group
		■ UpdateCOCreditStorage	236	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetTransferToDirectFlowStorage	237	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetTransferFromRelinquishedWaterStorage	238	<b>/</b>	Rule
		SetAvailableCORelinquishedCompactCredits	239	<b>/</b>	Rule
		ComputeConejosProjectStorageRelease	240 241	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetTransferToConejosProjectStorage		<b>/</b>	Rule
		ComputeCORelinquishedWaterRelease	242 243	<b>/</b>	Rule
	<b>(50)</b>	R SetTransferToRelinquishedWaterStorage	243	<b>/</b>	Rule
~		Platoro Flood Control Policy	244	4	Policy Group
		R PlatoroFloodControl R PlatoroOutflowRestrictions	245		Rule Rule
		RecordMaxOutflowsForChannelCapacities	246	5	Rule Rule
		R SetPlatoroOutflowToGetBelowAllowableStorageReserva	247	5	Rule
		R ComputePlatoroOutflowToGetBelowAllowableStorageRe	248	2	Rule
		R ComputeAllowableStorageReservation	249	<i>&gt;</i>	Rule
		R Compute Platoro Forecast Index	250	<i>&gt;</i>	Rule
		R SetPlatoroOutflowToGetBelowFloodPool	251	<b>&gt;</b>	Rule
		R ComputedPlatoroOutflowToGetBelowFloodPool	252	<i>&gt;</i>	Rule
		R ComputeCumulativeMogoteNaturalVolume	253	Ž	Rule
		R ComputePlatoroChangeInStorage	254	Ž	Rule
~	P	Platoro Conservation Storage Policy		<i></i>	Policy Group
	_	R AdjustPlatoroOutflow	255	<i></i>	Rule
		R ComputePlatoroOutflowsForMinFlowAndMinPool	256		Rule
		ReleaseRelinguishedWaterByYearEnd	257	<i></i>	Rule
		R SetPlatoroOutflow	258	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetPlatoroCWCDDemand	259	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R ComputePlatoroCWCDDemand	260	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R ComputeReducedDiversionRequestsBelowPlatoro	261	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetPlatoroMaxAnnualInflowDate	262	<b>/</b>	Rule
		■ ComputeCWCDReleaseTargetAsFractionMaxConservati	263	<b>/</b>	Rule
~	P	— Set Colorado Diversion Requests		<b>/</b>	Policy Group
		■ ModifyConejosInitialRequests	264	<b>/</b>	Rule
		R SetRioGrandeInitialRequests	265		Rule
		R SetConejosInitialRequests	266	<b>/</b>	Rule





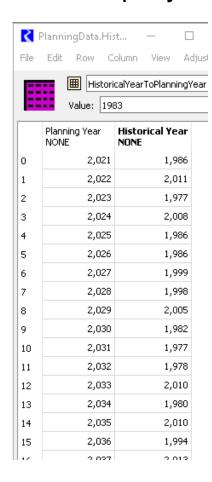
- Delete 9 Initialization Rules
  - Will need to edit many other initialization rules





#### Planning Runs with CO disabled or deleted

Planning Run can function right now if CO is disabled. Lobatos samples gage data from the input years:



### Planning Runs with CO disabled or deleted



- NMISC and BOR would like a different option for Planning Runs (Rio Grande Basin Study):
- Input hydrologic traces for the Rio Grande and Conejos Index Gages in Colorado. Even if these gages were deleted from the model, we could input these data on data objects:

## 100s of hydrologic Traces from:

1) USGS PRMS model

- 2) NCAR LOCA data
- 3) BCSD GCM data run through VIC

	DailyInflowForecasts X .DelNorte cfs		DailyInflowForecasts X .Mogote cfs		DailyInflowForecasts .RioLosPinosAtOrtiz cfs		DailyInflowForecasts .RioSanAntonioAtOrtiz cfs		
01-03-2050 Mon	161.67 I		31.00	I	12.17	I	1.57	I	
01-04-2050 Tue	158.33 I		27.00	I	11.83	I	1.67	I	
01-05-2050 Wed	161.67 I		26.67	I	10.50	I	1.50 1	I	
01-06-2050 Thu	161.67 I		28.00	I	10.17	I	1.30 1	I	
01-07-2050 F	155.00 I		33.00	I	10.50	I	1.40 1	I	
	161.00 I		32.00	I	10.50	I	1.53 1	I	
01-09-2050 9 📶	163.33 I		31.67	I	11.17	I	1.57	I	
01-10-2050 Mon	170.00 I		32.00	I	11.50	I	1.50 1	I	
01-11-2050 Tue	171.67 I		36.00	I	12.83	I	1.50 1	I	
01-12-2050 Wed	173.33 I		32.00	I	13.17	I	1.47	I	
01-13-2050 Thu	168.33 I		30.33	I	14.83	I	1.33 1	I	
01_14_2050 Fri	163 33 T		31 33	T	14 17	T	1 20 1	T	

## Planning Runs with CO disabled or deleted



Once we have flow data for these index gages, we can come up with the Lobatos delivery obligation each year, match that obligation with a historical year's delivery, and deliver that amount at Lobatos (with the hydrograph shaped based on the historical year), just like a do in AOP runs

ForecastsApril  Value: 240					d Slot: M ComputedHistoricalForecastPeriodVolumes.				
Value: 240					250048.26446281	acre-ft 2021 C.E.	4 ▶ 6	value:	
	90 1000 acre-ft	70 1000 acre-ft	50 1000		ComputedHistoricalForecastPeriodYolumes  Lobatos	.LobatosAnnual	× ′		
0: ThirtyMileBridge	54.00	73.00		1960	acre-ft 116,577 R IR	acre-ft 201,007	D TD	Lobatos NONE	LobatosAnnual NONE
1: WagonWheelGap	150.00	200.00		1961	77,014 R IR	169,194		1,961 R IR	
2: SouthFork	66.00	82.00		1962	198,292 R IR	315,255		NaN O	NaN O
3: PlatoroInflow	37.00	44.00		1963	13,990 R IR	72,578		NaN O	NaN O
4: Mogote	109.00	134.00		1964	12,014 R IR	57,437	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
5: RioSanAntonioAtOrtiz	3.50	5.20		1965	306,194 R IR	498,615	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
6: RioLosPinosAtOrtiz	34,00	42.00		1966	102,855 R IR	255,370	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
				1967	40,909 R IR	160,439		NaN O	NaN O
7: Lobatos	NaN	75.80		1968	173,673 R IR	330,774	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
8: LobatosAnnual	NaN	173.00		1969	182,229 R IR	415,061	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
9: RedRiverBlwFishHatchery	19.10	25.00		1970	117,471 R IR	323,530	R IR	NaN O	NaN O
10: RioPuebloDeTaosAtLosCordovas	7.80	14.40		1971	40,034 R IR	206,803			
11: EmbudoCreekAtDixon	6,90	14.00		1972	22,342 R IR	162,260			
11: EmbudocreekAcDixon				1973	348,766 R IR	520,731	R IR		
12: Otowi	255.00	345.00		1974	33,675 R IR	121,511	R IR		
13: NrJemez	5.90	8.80		1975	278,503 R IR	466,653			
14: TotalJemezInflow	1.80	4.00		1976	148,179 R IR	248,995			
15: ElVadoInflow	72.00	97.00		1977	13,454 R IR	61,226			
201 211 2222111011	12.00	21.100		1978	88,681 R IR	174,448	R IR		

#### Conclusion



- 1. Colorado can be deleted, but leaves us without one of the options for shaping the Lobatos hydrograph in AOP runs
- 2. URGWOM will need to be edited to meet the Lobatos obligation every year in a Planning Run

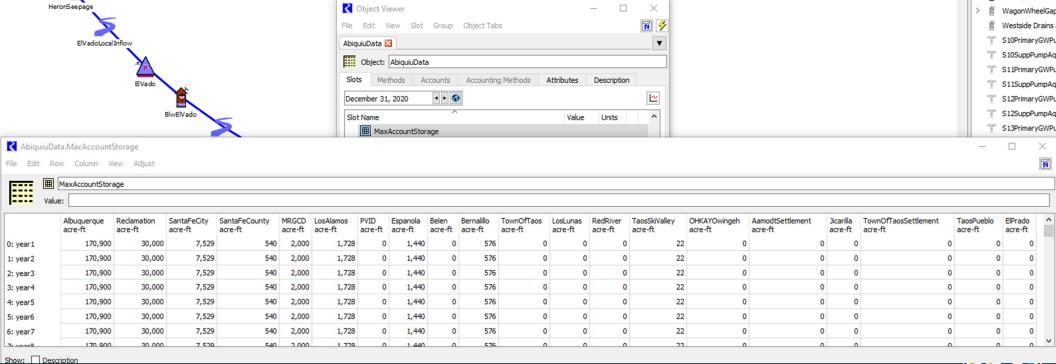


# Updates to URGWOM



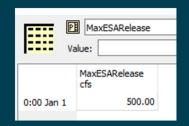
# URGWOM\_8.3\_08-18-21

### **Modified Max Account Storage**

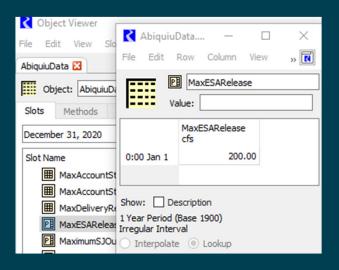




### Reduced Max ESA Release

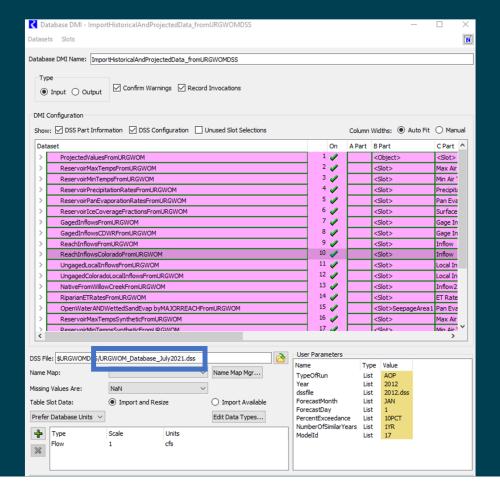








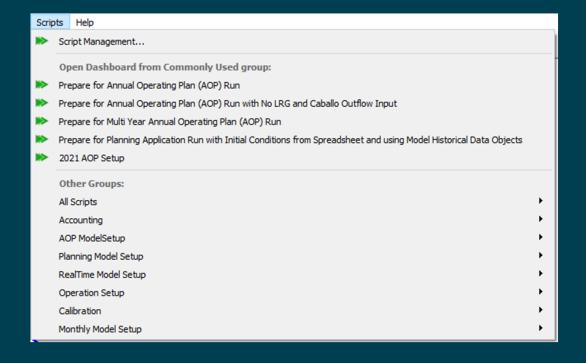
### Changed DMIs to use updated DSS





### **Modified Script Layout**

If there are any changes that anyone would like to see, please let me know.

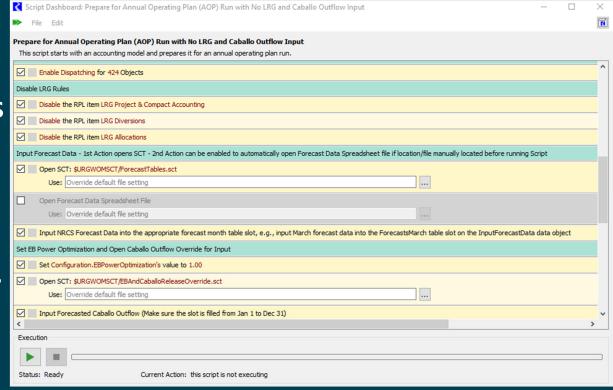




### Added New AOP Script

- No LRG required
- Uses

   EBPowerOptimizations
   which requires input
   for flows in Caballo
   override release
- Saved ~6,000 KB of size and ~1 min faster to run





### Side Note: Created another AOP Script

- This script is the same as above but disables CO and lets the model calculate the water needed to get to Lobatos, skipping all the diversions and the water rights solver.
- Reduces the model run time a further 50 seconds (170 sec total for September AOP run, ~40% faster than with CO and LRG) and size by ~1,500 KB (could be more if the CO data was separated out when being brought in, but I don't believe it is worth the effort)
- This script will be added (or replace the above script) in the next update



## URGWOM\_8.3\_08-27-21

### Implemented Nick's Fix to CO Portion

#### **AOP Run Conclusion**

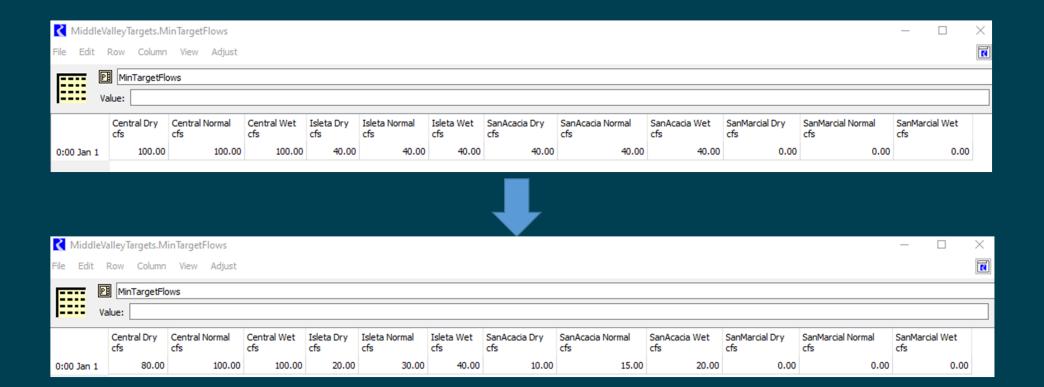


- Once all of these proposed changes are made, the Annual Compact Obligation will arrive at Lobatos, as Marc had mentioned.
- URGWOM seems to model everything as accurately as possible, given data availability
- However, the model user may choose to manually input their own inflow hydrographs, for many reasons, e.g.,
  - They don't agree with the timing of the URGWOM-computed hydrograph, since the pattern is based on a historical year
  - They don't agree with URGWOM's assumptions that CO will meet the compact requirement. They may want smaller Inflows.
  - 3) They may not agree with URGWOM's assumptions that many of the Colorado local inflows are based on the upstream Del Norte forecast
  - 4) They may not agree with URGWOM's assumption that all CO diverters try to divert 100% of their water right from April 1 – Oct 31 (except when curtailed by compact restrictions)



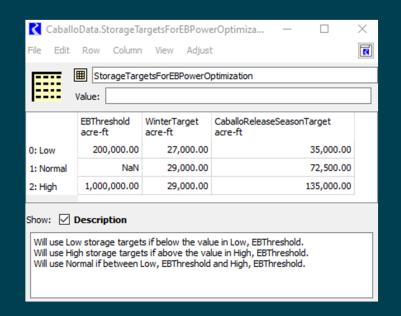


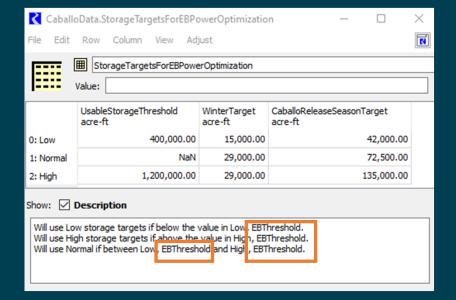
## **Modified MRG Targets**











Note to self: Change EBThreshold to UsableStorageThreshold in description



# Was this useful and do you want this for future meetings?



## Comparing Demand, Pattern, and Alternative LRG Releases

#### Purpose of this Analysis

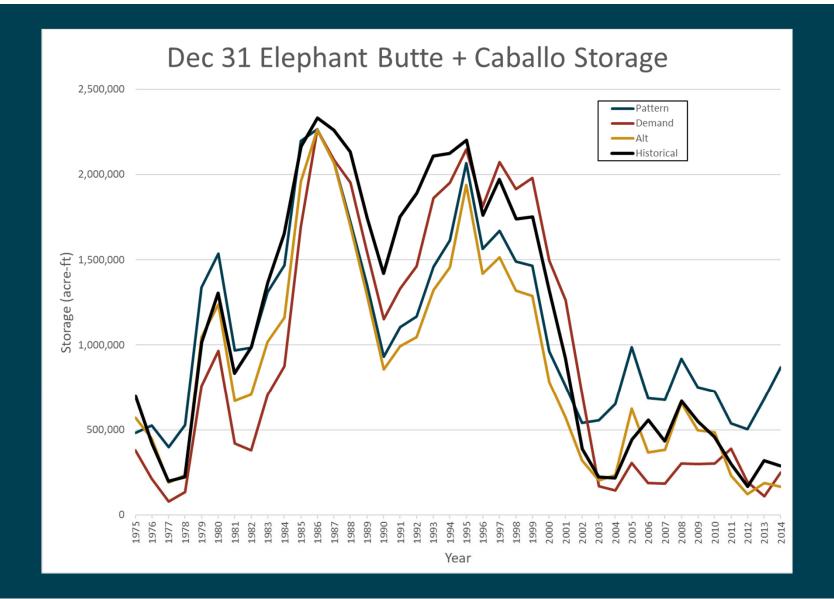
- Rio Grande Basin Study
- Nice to have a reliable method that doesn't require LRG portion of the model if data is unavailable, want quicker runs, or smaller file sizes.



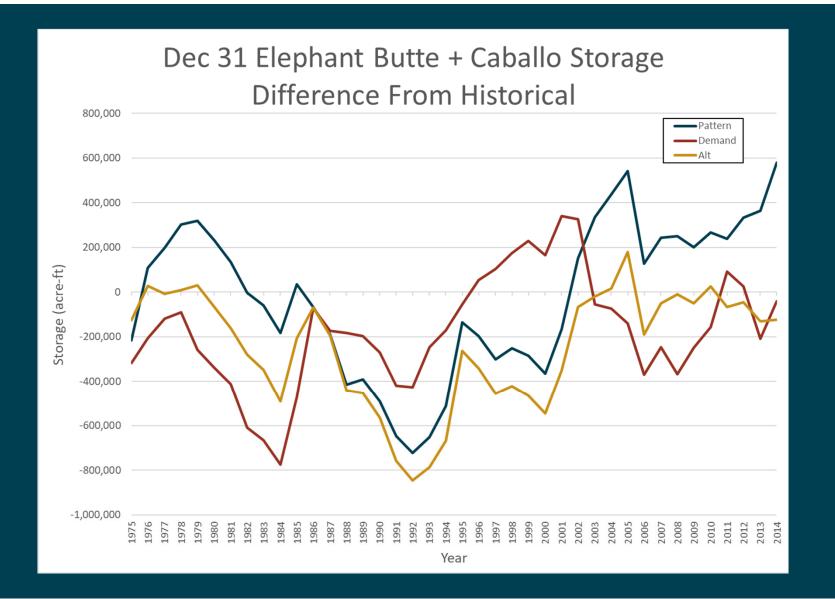
#### LRG Release Methods

- Pattern-Based
  - Uses dry/moderate/wet release schedule and multiplies it to "D3 Data.Total Usable Water Available for Current Year Allocation"
- Demand
  - Uses LRG diversion shortages to calculate release needed from Caballo.
- Alternative
  - Uses dry/moderate/wet release schedule and multiplies it to a linear equation that uses the correlation between EB inflow and EB and Caballo storage to Caballo release



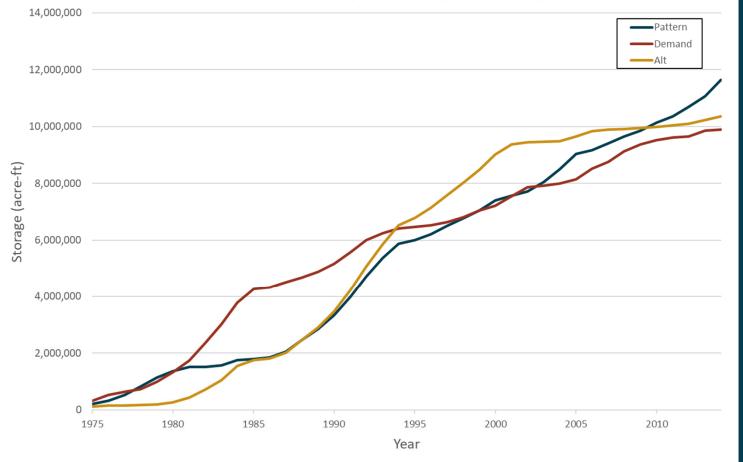




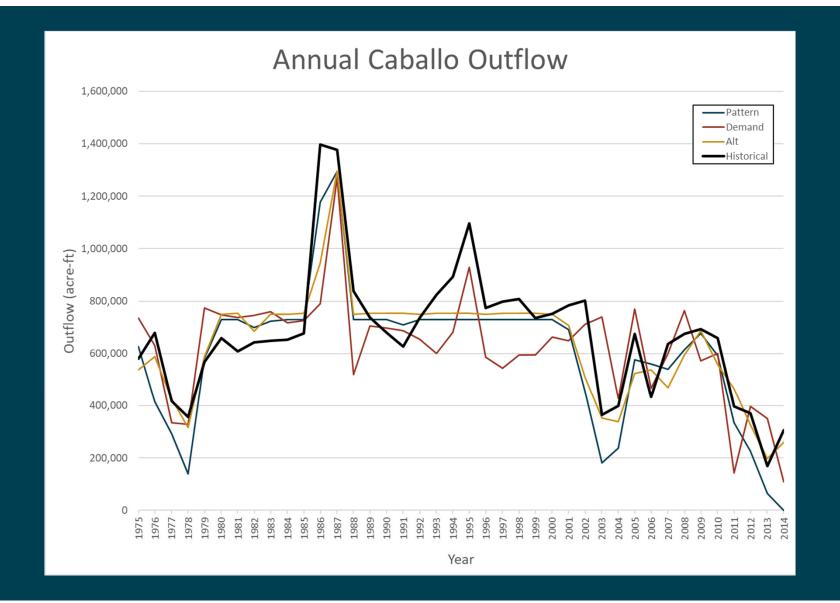














```
D3 Data.Total Usable Water Available for Current Year Allocation [EndOfMonth ()]

= IF (BeforeStopAllocationCalcDate ()) THEN

Max | Min | D3 Data.Total Usable Water Available for Release [EndOfMonth ()] - District Carryover Adjusted by Diversion Ratio () |

RGPMaxAnnualRelease ()

0.0000000 "acre-ft"

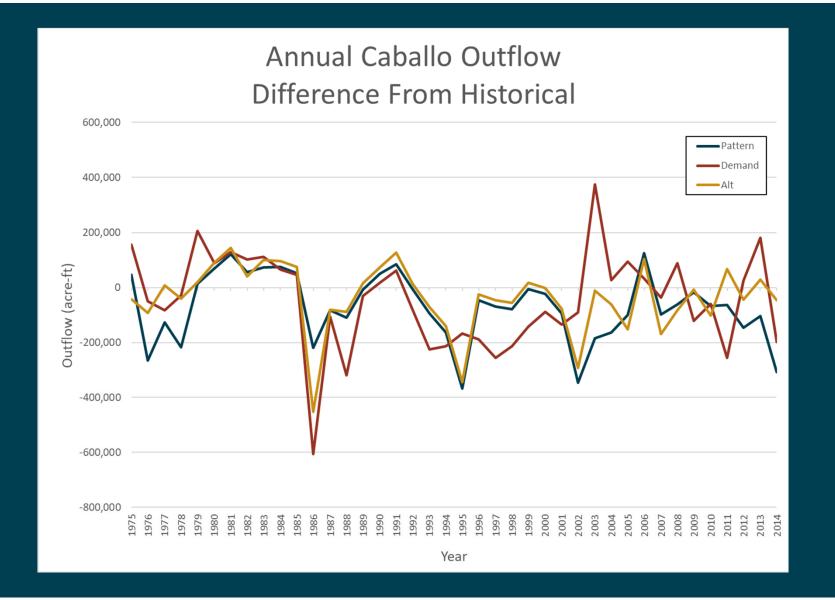
ELSE

0.0000000 "acre-ft"

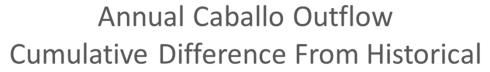
END IF
```

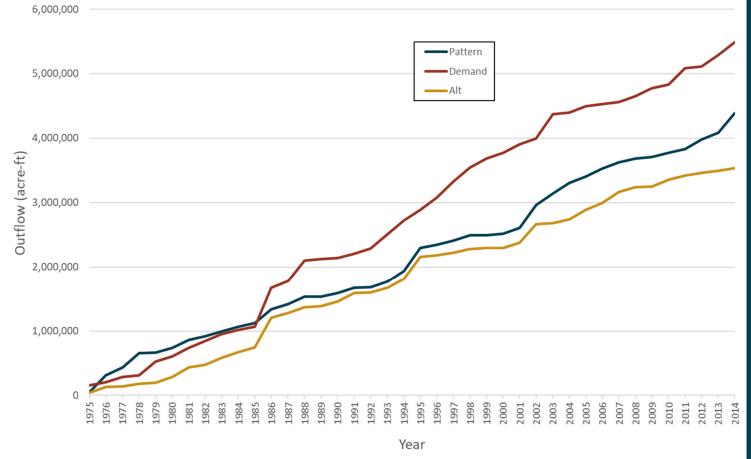
In 2014, there was more carryover than available water resulting in 0 "Total Usable Water Available for Current Year Allocation" which resulted in no releases for the Pattern-Based Method











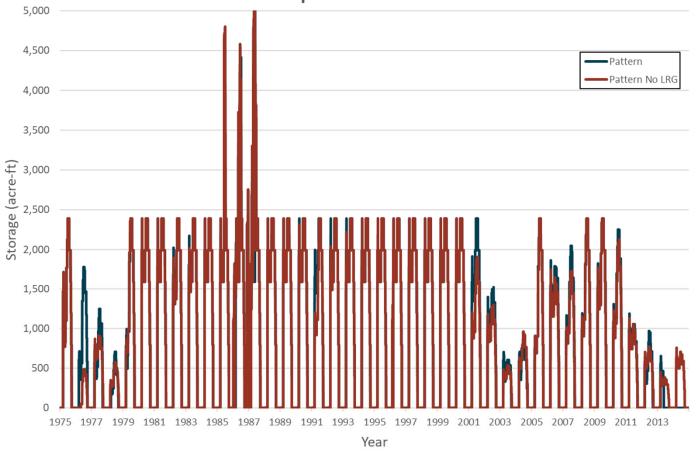


#### Pattern Based Release Without LRG

- Although Pattern Based release will run without LRG, it will not produce the intended results because it is tied to "D3 Data.Total Usable Water Available for Current Year Allocation" slot.
  - This slot uses accounting for EBID, EP1, and Mexico, which do not solve properly without the LRG on (without LRG on, those accounts never release water at Caballo)

\*side note: for a 1975-2014 planning run you save ~140 MB by not using LRG (~580 MB with/440 MB without)

#### Pattern Based Caballo Release LRG On Compared to LRG Off





#### Conclusions

- Add the alternative release to allow the model to calculate Caballo release without needing LRG.
- Pattern-based release may not be suitable if LRG is turned off.
- Look into the pattern-based release and if it is correctly calculating during certain scenarios (like in 2014) when LRG is on.
  - Does the model correctly allocate to EBID and EP1 in a pattern-based release?
- If Pattern-based release can only be utilized with LRG on, is it useful to have with demand release?



## Recent Thoughts on Adding Santa Fe to URWGOM

- Add Santa Fe City, but leave the BDD Pipeline and Option A and B out
  - Since BDD Pipeline is not currently operating and still being figured out on how it will be operated
  - Adding Santa Fe City should provide more realistic calls for water from Abiquiu based on their demand
    - Will also include any Article VI and VII releases
- Would have Santa Fe City off by default
- BDD Pipeline could be added later based on what decisions occur



#### **Extras**



