

MEETING NOTES  
UPPER RIO GRANDE WATER OPERATIONS MODEL  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

NM INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION  
5550 SAN ANTONIO DR NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

June 11, 2012

An attendance list and meeting agenda are attached.

The attendants discussed the Membership List, United States Geological Survey (USGS) gage priorities, Watershed Modeling, Observed vs. Modeled Annual Operating Plan (AOP) values, Calibration, and 50-year runs.

The Membership List will be updated to include Anders Lundahl for New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission for the Technical Team. Also, Craig Cotten's spelling of his last name will be corrected. The updated list will be sent out to all members.

Topics of discussion on the USGS Gage Priorities included reviewing the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) Schematic, USGS website and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Reservoir Summaries. The US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will replace and maintain the gage below Heron and the new gage data will be published by USGS. It was requested that the La Sauses S gage be replaced by Rio Grande at La Sauses on Reservoir Summaries. Also, it was requested that the San Marcial Low Flow data be added to the USACE Reservoir Summaries. USACE will investigate these requests. Once the new Biological Opinion is in place, gage priorities may change.

The Watershed Modeling was initiated by previous USACE and New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC) Technical Team members. This work will be completed by a contractor with funding from USACE in federal Fiscal Year 2013 due to the workload of current Technical Team members. The model will include rainfall-runoff methods and snowmelt-runoff methods in an HMS model. USACE will advance Corps Water Management System (CWMS) in Upper Rio Grande Basin by developing and adding an HMS model and by integrating the URGWOM RiverWare model. In real-time, the HMS model will provide an alternative to flow forecasts provided by the West Gulf River Forecast Center (WGRFC).

The USACE presented April 1<sup>st</sup> Observed versus Modeled AOP values for Storage and Inflow and Outflow for Heron, El Vado, Abiquiu, Cochiti, Jemez, Elephant Butte and Caballo reservoirs. Also, flows for Lobatos, Embudo, Otowi, Central, and San Acacia were modeled. The Mar-Jul Observed Volume and Selected NRCS Mar-Jul Forecast Volume was presented for Rio Grande nr

Lobatos, Red River blw Fish Hatchery, Rio Pueblo de Taos at Los Cordovas, Embudo Creek at Dixon, El Vado Inflow, Rio Grande at Otowi, Total Jemez Inflow and Rio Grande at San Marcial. The modeled was very close to observed in most cases; however, Jemez and Rio Pueblo de Taos won't meet forecasts. A copy of the presentation will be posted on the website, <https://spa.usace.afpims.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/URGWOM.aspx>.

NMISC presented calibration efforts for URGWOM. A qualitative review of available historical data is continuing for wasteway flows. Wasteway flows will be very important for improving the simulation of river flows at low flows and for representing the timing and extent of river drying. The Open Water Evaporation rates and Riparian ET rates were computed by Technical Team members. Canal seepage rates are being changed based on GIS data from MRGCD and the MRGCD Decision Support System.

NMISC was conducting a 50-year test run and found an inefficiency. Center for Advanced Decision Support for Water and Environmental Systems (CADSWES) reviewed the model and identified and addressed a performance issue related to hypothetical simulation in RiverWare which is used in URGWOM to identify upstream flows needed for downstream targets. The fix included in RiverWare version 6.2.1 made 50-year runs possible within a couple of hours. The next step is to develop sequences for 1950 – 2010.

It was requested that El Paso Reclamation use URGWOM results instead of the approach currently being used by that office.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held December 18, 2012 at 1:30 pm.

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held October 24, 2012 at 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

URGWOM Executive Committee Meeting

June 11, 2012

Attendance List

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Carolyn Donnelly	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Amy Louise	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District
Rolf Schmidt-Petersen	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Nabil Shafike	NM Interstate Stream Commission
Marc Sidlow	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District
Mark Yuska	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District



Executive Committee Meeting

June 11, 2012 – 8:30 am to 10:00 am

Conference Room – New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission,

5550 San Antonio Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

Agenda

1. Membership List for EC, Advisory Committee & Technical Team
2. USGS Gage Priorities
3. Watershed Modeling
4. Observed vs. modeled AOP values
5. Calibration
6. 50-Year Runs
7. Other Business
8. Next Meeting Date