

North Ada County Technical Working Group Meeting
Wednesday, January 27, 2010
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

1) Introductions/Attendance:

List of attendees and affiliation... (posted on NAC website)

2) Presentation of Results of Modeling Contract w/ Donna Cosgrove (D. Cosgrove):

- Assessment of existing ground water models & water budgets in Treasure Valley area. Provide guidance to IDWR for CAMP process regarding modeling needs.
- Reviewed Lindgren TV Model (1982), TVHP Model (2004), U of I Model of M-3 Project Area (2007), & Pacific Ground-water Group Model of M-3 Eagle Area (2008).
- Overview of general modeling background and properties.
- Summary information regarding each model.
- Presentation slides provided as handout during meeting.
- Ultimate recommendation to update existing TVHP model.

3) Bureau of Reclamation modeling efforts (J. Johnson/RD Schmidt):

- USBR & IWRRI (U of I) project to evaluate climate change effects on reservoir & river systems interaction with ground water.
- Plan to use MODSIM (climate + surface water) & MODFLOW (ground water)
- TVHP model enhancement planned for ground water portion of this project:
 - convert steady state to transient (multi-year time dependent) model
 - populate model with single year average monthly water level data
 - run multi-year until reach equilibrium
 - plan to use TVHP model boundary conditions (as they are now) as much as possible, but open to suggestions
 - possible consolidate existing TVHP model layers, upper most layer may/may not be unconfined
- Average monthly aquifer recharge & discharge data:
 - GIS based water budget data
 - BOR report 1967 to 1997 data (report on website, 2006 report updated 2008)
 - idea is that ground water levels fluctuate consistently dependent upon ground water pumping and canal seepage year to year. Can calibrate model with average water levels determined from 1967 to 1997 data.
- Have 2 years to complete project. Ground water model complete by 2011. Climate scenarios piece complete by 2012.

4) Open discussion of future modeling efforts in the Treasure Valley (group discussion):

- Christian Petrich = Competing models is a bad idea, especially if used for water administration. ESPA & Rathdrum both examples of success stories where consensus of several interested parties considered during model development.

= Transient model introduces potential for error.

= TVHP model enhancement should consider to what degree water moving to the north (towards the Payette).

- Jennifer Johnson = Ultimate goal of USBR & IWRRRI project is to combine surface water, ground water, and economic factors/pieces and time is a key. I.e. have very strict time line to follow for this large project, ground water model being only one piece of project.

- John Thornton = Any chance “heads” of involved entities can talk and possible agree on more time to make the project better?

- RD Schmidt = LIDAR data may help USBR & IWRRRI project.

- Helen Harrington = Transient model useful to decide influence of climate and other factors.

5) Updates on Current Investigations (D. Owsley):

- Insufficient time during meeting for D. Owsley’s presentation. Slides provided as a handout during the meeting. Committee can email or call D. Owsley with any questions.

a) Surface Water measurements

i) USGS stream gage contract

ii) Drain return measurements

iii) Boise River seepage contract

b) Geochemical investigation

i) Status of analytical results

ii) Projected/updated timeline

c) Geophysics investigation

i) Field work is complete, data is being processed

ii) Draft report due March, Final report due May, 2010

iii) Presentation at upcoming TWG meeting

d) Water Level monitoring network

i) Winter measurements 2009

ii) Incorporation of USGS CO-OP wells

e) Monitoring well status for Friendship Park wells

i) Technical Specification are being internally reviewed

ii) Access agreement is being reviewed by city attorneys

iii) Bid will be released upon review

6) Final remarks, future topics to discuss:

- Next NACTWG meeting (likely in March) hopefully Geochemical data/study results available for presentation/discussion (USGS). Preliminary results from the geophysics survey (CGISS).

