

IWRRI CV SESSION NOTES, 7/15/02

1) Talked to Karl about the new model boundaries and the reasons for them. No problem; he understands that the changes are for model convenience, not to model trib basins.

2) Tributary underflow. John, Bryce, Allan and I decided that the best approach is to select some sample basins and to do a trib underflow analysis on those basins. We selected Oakley Fan, Little Lost and the Hailey area (Big Wood, Little Wood and Silver Cr.). This gives us two tribs where the boundary is the same as the old model and one new one. John will review available literature, pull published numbers for these tribs and do some Darcy estimates for all three. We also decided that John would pull water levels on either side of the trib boundaries, looking for evidence of seasonal changes in gradient. John agreed to present his analysis of these three basins at our July 15 video conference.

Allan and John Doherty spent some considerable time trying to use trib underflow as a calibration parameter. It looks like that approach will not work. [Why not?] Probably about the best we can hope to do during calibration is to fix trib underflow at various levels, parameterizing the model with each level, and then quantify the impact trib underflow has on the response functions.

Suggested fixing at high, medium, low values rather than specifying fixed underflow. John to provide analysis of gradients at trib basins at next CV session.

3) Design Documents – need to get a report from Bryce on status of each one sent out to date; comments received and responded to; procedure if significant changes occur. Also not sure if I have the latest version of the list of design documents.

Bryce will send copies of completed DD's. Donna and Bryce will revisit list of documents and provide me with an updated one as well as a tracking spreadsheet.

4) Response to Sullivan – still on Karl's desk; will e-mail him today and request a response.

On a related matter, Donna will respond to Brendecke's latest letter (2 months old) as soon as possible.

5) Webpage development – Tony Morse, our webmaster, has been gone a lot this summer and his efforts have been fragmented. He will be preparing initial home page for ESPA Project as well as several content pages.

I will send an outline of website organization for review and comment, as well as for suggestions on content, authorship.

6) Cooperative Agreement CON 562 is at the U of I for signature, funding as requested. Charge to CON 484 until those funds exhausted, then charge to CON562.

Handling Oakleaf, PRISM and Doherty as separate contracts. Requested PC, CO, and OE – direct and indirect costs are covered in new contract for FY2003.

7) Discretization of river reaches

Allen Wylie described his efforts to match aquifer heads using a variety of reaches. Best results from having two sub-reaches in the Ashton to St. Anthony reach, for a total of ten reaches. In our project objectives we discussed having sixteen reaches; justification for having less will need to be brought out at the next Project Review meeting.

Model seems to be functioning well with new 1-mi.² grid. L&G solver works very well.

8) Time discretization of the model.

Bottom line: results are best using 5 month irrigation season/7 month non-irrigation season timesteps centered on the month of July.

9) Model in confined or unconfined mode

Model solutions are quicker and more stable when run in confined mode. If necessary, model can be run in unconfined mode once calibrated. This should be a topic for the next Project Review.

10) Gaging on Rexburg/St. Anthony Canals – Paul stated that he had not received the courtesy of a reply despite two e-mails and two phone calls to Mike Rasmussen. Gaging these two return-flow sites may be a dead issue.

11) Summary of spring mass measurement is needed from USGS – Donna will follow-up with Annette.

12) Brenda – PRISM data is expected to be available on ftp site later this week. Diversion return spreadsheet is 95% complete; waiting on consultation with Bob S. and Dick Lutz regarding how miscellaneous diversions are measured/estimated. Donna pointed out that Brendecke had a minor issue with the method used to determine misc. diversions, so we need to justify and document this methodology if it's the best we can do with the data we have. If Brendecke has a better method, we're open to try it.

13) Miscellaneous

- Donna and Bryce meeting with Jim Oakleaf in Twin Falls this week, hopefully to complete as much of project as possible. Jim's last day with USBR is August 3. Jim has indicated that he realistically probably cannot engage in much contract work sooner than six months after moving to U of WY. This could present some problems for task completion for the recharge tool.
- Cooperative Agreement CON562 is at U of I for signature, for the amount budgeted by IWRRI for FY2003. However, since funds remain in CON484, continue to charge to that until funds exhausted, then charge to CON562. PRISM purchase, Oakleaf contract and Doherty contract are handled as separate IDWR administered contracts.
- Next CV session: July 26 (tentative, based on John L.'s availability)
- Next Project Review meeting: Paul to determine general availability of attendees for Oct 10-11 or Oct 17-18

