

Volume 1, Issue 4, October 2007

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**Upcoming Meetings:**

- SOH - October 18, 2007 – FERC Building, Washington, DC

## Welcome from the Chair

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those of you who were able to attend our July 26 meeting and to extend a special thank you to our featured speakers, Drs. William Logan and Eric Wood for their presentation “Integrating Ground-based, Space-based, and Airborne Observations for Water Studies.” Dr. Logan is the senior staff officer at the National Research Council’s Committee on Hydrologic Science (COHS). Dr. Wood is a professor at Princeton University, Chair of COHS and Vice Chair of the Committee on Integrated Observations for Hydrologic and Related Sciences (IOHRS). COHS is a standing committee within the Water Science and Technology Board (WSTB) designed to address research and educational opportunities in the hydrologic sciences. IOHRS conducts a study under the auspices of COHS that focuses on key issues rather than specific recommendations. Each of these gentlemen presented major issues with which both COHS and the IOHRS are interested and concerned. Their slides will be posted for everyone’s reference on the SOH’s web site shortly.

As everyone is aware, the SOH is committed to achieving its defined purpose by networking with diverse governmental agencies private sector and other interest groups in the area of hydrology. The above presentation is just a typical example of how the SOH strives to enhance its external vertical and horizontal connections with ACWI

and other hydrology related groups. All the while, we continue to promote our internal networking by communication, coordination, cooperation and collaboration through meetings, email, newsletters and participation in working groups. Since January of this year, the SOH has made a few innovative changes to its standard meeting agenda - namely, soliciting organizational member’s questions and/or topics for discussion prior to the meeting so a smooth integration of these items can be accomplished in the time allotted. This has benefited us all by providing members with more time to discuss issues of concern and also the opportunity for technical expert presentations. We have also intentionally included in all meetings an extended short break to effectively increase interaction between members. The SOH will continue to take any innovative suggestions that will help improve its efficient operation.

While working with the SOH in my capacity, I have noticed all members embody the same core values of honor, professionalism, and commitment. I have also found first-hand that we all have worked together as team players and have taken the stance of “We are here to make a difference and to do good.” The SOH’s working groups help emphasize our defined functions by taking concrete steps to achieve our goals and fulfilling our promised mission. I believe our individual unselfish volunteerism has become the essential factor in contributing to our high morale and group accomplishment.

This has been particularly recognized by many current and former members of the SOH. For example, Bill Merkel has organized a new GIS working group, Claudia Hoeft has become an associate newsletter editor. I see the existing working group chairs as “brave people” in the subcommittee. They are brave to do meaningful tasks to serve the purpose of the SOH. Those members have really made a difference to the SOH in its accomplishments and increased publicity. To cultivate the culture of serving the SOH, the subcommittee will continue identifying good ideas to provide more opportunities for such “brave” members down the road.

It has been my privilege and duty to be granted the opportunity to serve the SOH in the past four years first as vice chair and then as chair. My term as chair is now drawing to an end and it was my fortune to gain the members’ support, encouragement, advice and assistance to fulfill the SOH’s mission in a collective way. Achievements in the past two years sustain a foundational principle of devotional service the previous chairs Don Frevert and others laid down. We are partners in the promise of this committee. I applaud you all for your

contributions in many ways to make this committee productive. Your efforts to inspire others to reach for the great promise of our committee are greatly appreciated. What you did ultimately to serve public interests deserves sincere respect. Let each of us continue looking out not only for individual interests, but also for the interests of others.

With the new leadership of Steve Blanchard of USGS and Mary Greene of OSM in October, let’s all look ahead and continue our efforts to fulfill our important mission and to continue reaching many new milestones. My acknowledgement is extended to the ACWI’s support to meet our needs, especially from the executive secretary Toni Johnson, and to my FERC supervisors who allow me to take the opportunity to serve the SOH and its members.

Dear members, thank you again, you make my job much easier!

Best wishes,

Samuel Lin, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE  
Chair, The SOH

### About the Subcommittee on Hydrology

The Purpose of the Subcommittee on Hydrology is “To improve the availability and reliability of surface-water quantity information needed for hazard mitigation, water supply and demand management, and environmental protection.” All members who join the SOH share in and support this common purpose as a network to fulfill our

mission as defined in the Terms of Reference. The subcommittee is currently chaired by Dr. Sam Lin of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Dr. Lin can be reached by phone at (202) 502-8881 or by e-mail at [ShyangChin.Lin@ferc.gov](mailto:ShyangChin.Lin@ferc.gov).

After October 18, 2007, the new SOH Chair, Steve Blanchard of the U. S. Geological Survey can be contacted by phone at 703-648-5629 or by email at [sfblanch@usgs.gov](mailto:sfblanch@usgs.gov)

<http://acwi.gov/hydrology/>

The Subcommittee on Hydrology reports to the Advisory Committee on Water Information that operates under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Detailed information about the subcommittee can be found at:

## Work Group Reports

### Work Group Updates:

The Subcommittee currently supports three active work groups and is in the process of adding a fourth. The active work groups focus on:

- Hydrologic Frequency Analysis
- Hydrologic Modeling and
- Satellite Telemetry
- Hydrology and Hydrologic GIS Applications

### *Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Workgroup*

The overall goal of the Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Workgroup is to recommend procedures to increase the usefulness of the current guidelines for Hydrologic Frequency Analysis computations (e.g. Bulletin 17B) and to evaluate other procedures for frequency analysis of hydrologic phenomena. The workgroup forwards draft papers and recommendations to the Subcommittee on Hydrology of ACWI for appropriate action.

The Workgroup considers frequency computation issues for all quantity aspects of the surface-water component of the

hydrologic cycle including stream flow, lake and reservoir storage and estuaries. The Workgroup considers policies, programs, and activities for the collection, analysis, assessment, archiving, distribution, reporting and use of frequency computation of stream flow, and related information in accordance with all applicable federal laws, regulations, and guidelines.

Additional information on the activities of the work group can be obtained from Will Thomas. He can be reached by e-mail at [WTHOMAS@mbakercorp.com](mailto:WTHOMAS@mbakercorp.com).

### ***Hydrologic Modeling Work Group***

The Hydrologic Modeling Work Group met by teleconference on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>.

A request for proposals for the 2010 Joint Federal Interagency Conference (JFIC) was sent out on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Responses were due August 20<sup>th</sup> and will be reviewed by the end of September. The JFIC organizing committee will present a short list of three or four possible sites to the Hydrology and Sedimentation Subcommittees at their October meetings and site visits will be made during the fall and winter with a final site selection to be made in the spring of 2008.

The format of the 2010 conference will be similar to the 2006 conference in that it will combine the fourth Federal Interagency Hydrologic Modeling Conference and the ninth Federal Interagency Sedimentation Conference.

Additional information on the activities of the work group can be obtained from Don Frevert. He can be reached by phone at (303) 445-2473 or by e-mail at [dfrevert@do.usbr.gov](mailto:dfrevert@do.usbr.gov).

### ***Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group***

The Satellite Telemetry Interagency Working Group (STIWG) is jointly sponsored by the Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (ICMSSR) and the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI). STIWG reports directly to the Committee for Environmental Services, Operations and Research Needs (C/ESORN) of the ICMSSR and the Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH) of ACWI.

The STIWG is a user group for the GOES Data Collection System (GOES DCS). The STIWG advises the manager of the Satellite Data Collection System of the National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service (NESDIS) on matters concerning satellite data relay user

requirements as they relate to hydrologic, meteorologic, oceanic, and other environmental data; will promote current information exchange including the sharing of data, research and development results, and other technical information among agencies; and will undertake projects to benefit the GOES DCS community.

The STIWG is subject to the direction of and reports activities to the C/ESORN and the SOH of ACWI in order to facilitate the integration of satellite data relay user requirements with the design and operation of satellites and ground systems.

Additional information on the activities of the work group can be obtained from Bonnie Wyatt. She can be reached by email at: [bonniewyatt@fs.fed.us](mailto:bonniewyatt@fs.fed.us).

## *Hydrologic and Hydraulic GIS Applications Work Group (H2GISAWG)*

The members of the SOH voted to approve the formation of the Hydrologic and Hydraulic GIS Applications Work Group at the July 26, 2007 meeting.

The Workgroup will consist of application developers and users. The GIS data community is well developed and organized and use of GIS data and applications is growing at a steady rate. Numerous federal and non-federal employees would like to learn about both GIS data and its application in H&H. The Work Group will provide a forum for the GIS user community to exchange information regarding the variety of data and applications that are available, how to access the data and applications, and how to receive training and support. The Work Group will also provide an opportunity to publicize and educate others with respect to H&H GIS applications which have been developed.

The H&H GIS Applications Work Group will prepare a report that contains the following:

1. List and summarize public domain GIS applications (including data requirements) in H&H developed and supported by participating federal and other agencies.
2. Contacts for each application for those interested in obtaining them.
3. Plan for transferring the applications to interested users.
  - A. Web site list.
  - B. Training opportunities.
  - C. Technical sessions at the 2010 Federal Interagency Hydrologic Modeling Conference to present papers, computer

demonstrations, short courses, etc.

4. Recommendations for future improvement and/or development of hydrologic and hydraulic GIS applications which are needed by federal and other agencies.

Current applications of participating agencies will be reviewed and summarized. Included in the list to be reviewed and summarized are:

- EPA Basins
- HEC Geo-HMS and HEC Geo-RAS
- NRCS Geo-Hydro (GIS hydrologic model interface)
- ESRI ArcHydro tools
- ARS Automated Geospatial Watershed Assessment Tool (AGWA)

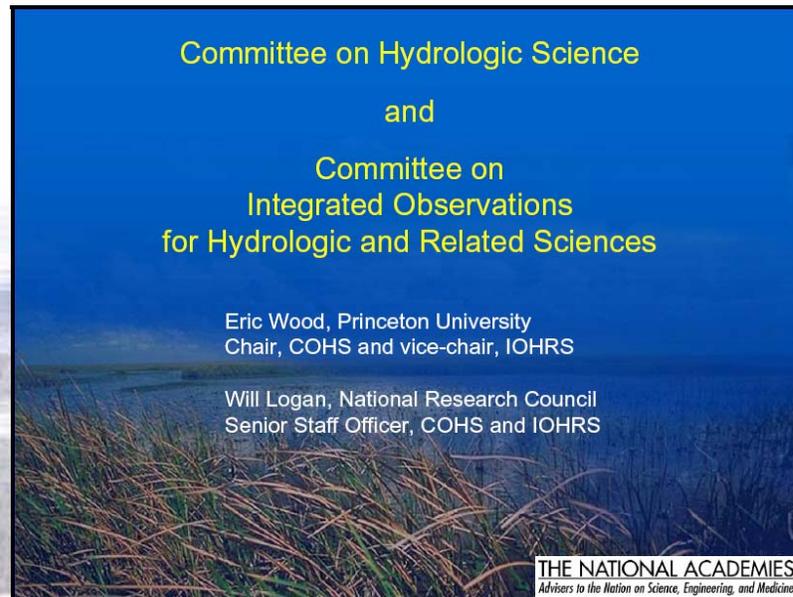
Since the Work Group is just forming, there are opportunities for members of the Work Group to provide input pertaining to the organization, operation, and planning of work to be performed.

Representatives of federal agencies, state agencies, and others are invited to participate in the Work Group. It is expected that the workgroup will conduct its business via telephone, E-mail, and meetings in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The first teleconference was held September 26, 2007.

More detailed information on the new Work Group can be accessed from the web site: <http://acwi.gov/hydrology/h2gisa/> For additional information on the Work Group or to become a member please contact Bill Merkel. He can be reached at (301)-504-3956 or by e-mail at [William.Merkel@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:William.Merkel@wdc.usda.gov).

## Public Awareness

### National Research Council



The senior staff of the National Research Council (NRC), Dr. Will Logan, shown below, who is responsible for the Committee on Integrated Observations for Hydrologic and Related Sciences (COHS) provided an informative presentation on the “Integrating ground-based, space-based, and airborne observations for water studies”. Additional information is available on-line at: <http://www.nationalacademies.org/nrc/>



## Latest News from Member Organizations

### *National Hydrologic Warning Council*



Over 200 participants attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference and Exposition of the National Hydrologic Warning Council, June 11-14, 2007 in Savannah, Georgia. The theme was “Building Bridges to Hydrologic Warning Partnerships.” NHWC President Kevin Stewart proclaimed that it was the largest program ever. In addition to the many papers, there were 28 exhibitors which was also a record number. Once again, the NESDES Satellite Telemetry Working Group and Technical Working Group held their meetings in conjunction with the NHWC Conference. The conference agenda consisted of plenary and concurrent workshops. Several sessions had “standing room only”, reinforcing the participants’ interest in the subject matter.

The keynote speakers were Dr. Robert Hirsch, Chief Hydrologist of the U.S. Geological Survey and Dr. Gary Carter, Director for the Office of Hydrologic Development, National Weather Service. Their topics were “The role of USGS in Flood Warning Information” and “NOAA’s Integrated Water Resources Service”, respectively. Dr. Greg Forbes, Severe Weather Expert from The Weather Channel, was the luncheon speaker. His specialty is dangerous thunderstorm weather hazards such as tornadoes, damaging winds, hail, floods and lightning.

One highlight of the conference was a workshop entitled: “30-Year Anniversary of Local Flood Warning Systems—A Historical Perspective.” The presentation charted the early development of flood detection in the United States using rare photographs from the period and identifying other key developments over the past 30 years that have been instrumental in advancing this technology. It depicted the outstanding partnerships among the various levels of government and the private sector that represent the essence of the National Hydrologic Warning Council. Several sessions focused on ways to further improve flood warning services through the delivery of clear, easy to interpret information to emergency managers and decision-makers, thus enhancing their capability to protect lives and mitigate flood damages. The



increasing use of electronic flood inundation mapping for flood threat detection is one very promising example cited in both keynote presentations.

Socially, the afternoon preceding the conference started with a fun-filled scramble golf tournament for six highly charged foursomes. The next day offered a full day of workshops that were packed with participants, ending with an evening icebreaker event—a Low-Country Boil (*dinner under a tent in historic Johnson Square featuring regional food*) that turned out to be one of the conference's major highlights. A very well attended Awards Banquet has held on the final day of the

conference. Delightful music was available at the two evening events. Discussions during the breaks in the exhibit area offered wonderful opportunities for participants to socialize and exchange valuable information on flood warning systems.

Colorado will be hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference and Exposition of the National Hydrologic Warning Council in June of 2009.

Article contributed by Gene Stallings, pictures courtesy of Kevin G. Stewart, President of the National Hydrologic Warning Council, [nhwc.udfcd.org](http://nhwc.udfcd.org)



### *Hydrologic Modeling Inventory*



The Bureau of Reclamation and Texas A&M University recently launched the Hydrologic Modeling Inventory website in the Texas A&M domain. The inventory is a collaborative effort between Texas A&M and Reclamation to provide basic information on a variety of hydrologic models to practitioners in the academic, governmental and private sectors.

The questionnaires were originally posted on a Bureau of Reclamation website, but in 2007 the website was moved to the Texas A&M domain to facilitate support and maintenance. Developers have been contacted in subsequent years to update the information on their respective models and new models continue to be added as appropriate.

The effort was started in 1999 as a collaborative effort between Louisiana State University and the Bureau of Reclamation. Developers of well known models were contacted by Dr. Vijay P. Singh, Dr. Donald K. Frevert and several other Bureau of Reclamation staff members. Each developer was invited to fill out a questionnaire providing basic information including the capabilities of their model, input requirements, output information, assumptions, hardware requirements and contact information.

Readers are invited to visit the inventory website at:

<http://hydrologicmodels.tamu.edu/>

Those wishing to provide information on new models or other models not listed should contact either Dr. Singh or Dr. Frevert at: [vsingh@tamu.edu](mailto:vsingh@tamu.edu) or [dfrevert@do.usbr.gov](mailto:dfrevert@do.usbr.gov) respectively.

Comments and suggestions for the website are also welcome.

## Technological Advances

### *Update on HIS (Hydrologic Information System)*



The HIS or Hydrologic Information System was introduced to the SOH by Prof. David Maidment, University of Texas – Austin in a presentation to the group this spring. This effort is supported by the National Science Foundation through CUAHSI, the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Sciences, Inc. NSF support for HIS efforts was renewed for five years in the fall of 2006.

The primary goals of HIS are:

**Data Access** - provide rapid access to a large volume of high-quality hydrologic data;

**Hydrologic Observatories** - develop a digital watershed framework for synthesizing data and models for a hydrologic region;

**Hydrologic Science** - strengthen place-based hydrologic science by supporting the representation of hydrologic processes with equations by an enhanced capacity to describe hydrologic environments quantitatively with data;

**Hydrologic Education** - quantify and visualize the movement of water and chemicals in a hydrologic environment continuously in space and time.

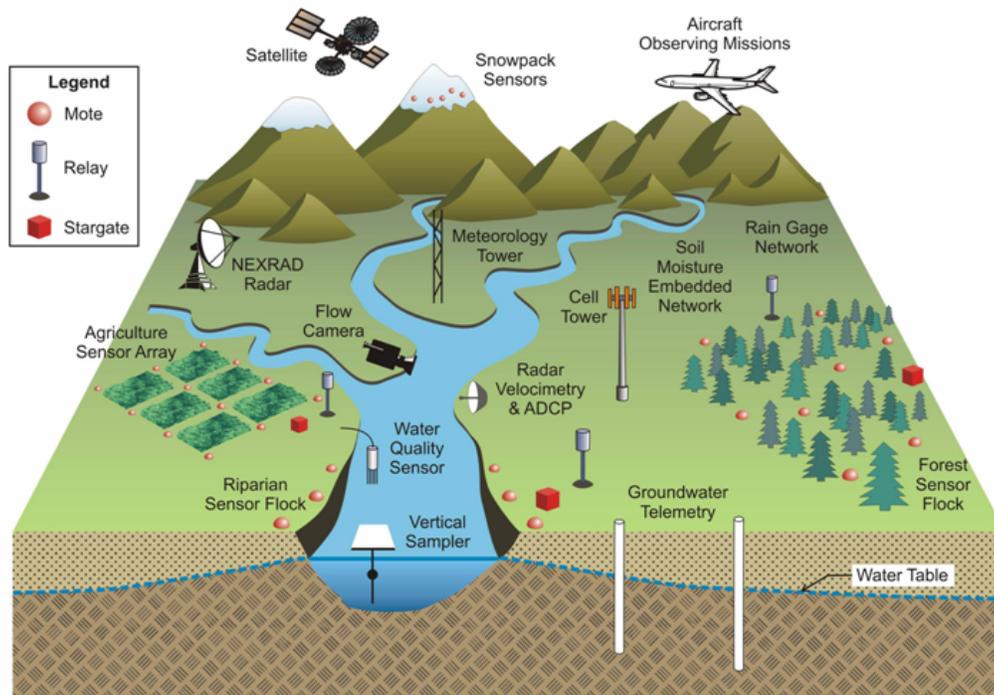
A variety of information on the system and current news can be found at the HIS home

page at: <http://www.cuahsi.org/his/>. The HIS is being designed to provide access not only to typical hydrology, water quality, and meteorological data (e.g. stream discharge, water temperature, sediment concentration, air temperature, wind speed and direction, humidity, etc.) but also attributed map based (Geographic Information Systems – GIS) data that is commonly used to characterize a watershed (e.g. land cover, soils, topography, stream networks, etc.).

Prof. Maidment and CUASHI are currently cooperating with USGS under an MOU so that USGS hydrologic data will be accessible over the HIS. USGS is currently testing a “GetValues” web-based function for NWIS Daily Values that was developed under this MOU. The process to develop MOUs with both EPA and NOAA’s National Climate Data Center (NCDC) are also underway.

On the international front, the severe drought in Australia has prompted a major effort to effectively and efficiently assemble and serve data from the over 40

different stream gauging networks that exist in Australia. Australia will use the HIS framework developed by Prof. Maidment to construct an Australian national HIS.



**WATERS Network** will employ a variety of technologically advanced methods, many gathering data in real-time, to measure water-related environmental processes in natural and human-dominated systems.

Source: <http://www.cuahsi.org/his/ppt/00-brezonik-austin-20061115.pps>

### *EPA's New BASINS 4.0 GIS and Modeling Software*



EPA's [BASINS](#) GIS and modeling software has a new look and feel. The latest release, BASINS version 4.0, has now been integrated with the open-source GIS software [MAPWINDOW](#).

Unlike earlier releases, BASINS 4 runs on a non-proprietary, open source GIS architecture which provides a cost-effective

alternative to expensive GIS software and improves upon the earlier BASINS 3 capabilities.

BASINS was developed to make watershed and water quality studies easier by bringing key data and analytical components together to quickly assess large amounts of point and non-point source data. Users can

apply assessment and planning tools, and run a variety of water quality models.

As in earlier versions of BASINS, users can download data from the web, build and edit their GIS projects, delineate watersheds, build customized databases as input for the models, and develop watershed characterization reports.

BASINS 4.0 is the first of a series of planned updates integrated with MAPWINDOW. BASINS 4 includes the existing [WinHSPF](#) and PLOAD models that BASINS 3 users are familiar with. WinHSPF estimates land use specific nonpoint source loadings for selected pollutants at a watershed.

The Parameter Estimation Tool (PEST) in WinHSPF is also integrated into BASINS 4. It automates the model calibration process and allows users to quantify the uncertainty associated with specific model predictions.

WinHSPF can also be used with EPA's aquatic ecosystem model [AQUATOX](#), to analyze the effects of pollutants on the aquatic biota in the receiving waters.

Another new feature of BASINS 4 is the Windows based Climate Assessment Tool.

This has been integrated with WinHSPF to assess the potential impacts of changing weather conditions due to climate on stream flow and pollutant loads.

Access to data is now fully web based using the Data Download tool. The user specifies the geographic area through the GIS view, and the software downloads selected data from EPA, USGS, and other Internet locations. After the GIS data are downloaded, they are automatically extracted, projected to the GIS project map.

The BASINS Team is working with AQUA TERRA Consultants, Idaho State University, and Texas A&M University to further expand the use of open-source GIS with watershed modeling. The Team is currently working on integrating SWAT with MAPWINDOW. [SWAT](#) is a popular watershed model from the USDA that is used for predicting changes in agricultural land management practices on water, sediment, and chemical loadings on waterbodies.

For additional information about BASINS please contact [basins@epa.gov](mailto:basins@epa.gov) or visit the BASINS home page <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/basins/>

## Upcoming Conferences

### *Technical Exhibition and Conference of the Water Environment Federation*



The Water Environment Federation will hold its 80<sup>th</sup> annual technical Exhibition and Conference at the San Diego Convention Center October 13-17, 2007. Water quality related topics such as coastal issues, collection systems, contaminants,

disaster planning, facility operations and industrial issues will be discussed. Additional information on the conference can be found at:

<http://www.weftec.org/home.htm>

### *Jointly held ECOR-4 and EC-DNAPL-2 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

The Second European Conference on Dense Nonaqueous Phase Liquids and the Fourth European Conference on Oxidation and Reduction Technologies for in situ Soil and Groundwater will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mercure Hotel Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

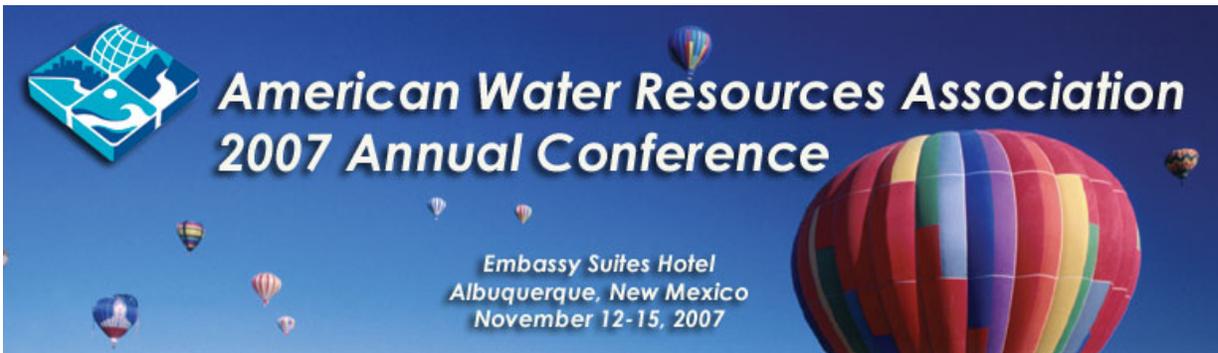
Major topics include:

- Site Characterization (DNAPL, LNAPL and Other Organic Contaminants)
- Injection Equipment and Application Systems
- Technology Screening and Testing

- Modeling, Risk Assessment and Fractured Bedrock Consideration
- Monitoring and Performance Evaluation
- Economics of Oxidation and Reduction Technologies
- Regulatory Issues



Conference information can be found at:  
<http://www.redoxtech.com/>



“After a six-year hiatus, the AWRA 43rd Annual Water Resources Conference returns to the Southwest and Albuquerque, where water seems perpetually in short supply. Since the 2001 meeting, water has become even more of an issue nationally and internationally as we grapple with

growth, drought, ESA issues, water marketing, water quality, and the specter of global warming; much is happening in response to these issues.”

[http://www.awra.org/meetings/New\\_Mexico2007/index.html](http://www.awra.org/meetings/New_Mexico2007/index.html)



88TH AMS ANNUAL MEETING

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 20 – 24 JANUARY 2008

American Meteorological Society

## 88th AMS Annual Meeting

New Orleans, LA  
20-24 January 2008

<http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/annual/call.html>

### AMS Short Course Methods in Climate Change Detection and Attribution, 20 January 2008, New Orleans, LA

The AMS Short Course on Methods in Climate Change Detection and Attribution sponsored by the AMS Committee on Climate Variability and Change will be held on 20 January 2008 preceding the 88th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. Preliminary programs,

registration, hotel, and general information will be posted on the AMS Web site ([www.ametsoc.org](http://www.ametsoc.org) <<http://www.ametsoc.org/>>)

The detection and attribution of anthropogenic climate change is made

difficult by natural climate variability. The goal of this course is to provide background information on the principles and procedures of climate change detection and attribution with introduction to advanced topics such as optimal fingerprint methods. The course is aimed at students and scientists who desire to know more about the details of statistical methods in detection and attribution studies. The course will be divided into three parts. The first will describe the fundamental issues in detection of climate change in the observed record. This will include issues such as data quality, homogeneity, and statistical methods for establishing that an observed change is significantly different than a change that might be due to natural variability. The second part will describe the statistical procedures and methods for testing multiple lines of evidence that the observed changes are inconsistent with changes due to natural variability and are

consistent with estimated responses due to combinations of natural and anthropogenic climate forcing. The final section will consist of discussion of the practical aspects of detection and attribution studies including variable selection, lessons learned, and interpretation of results such as those contained in the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report. Computer-based exercises are planned for parts one and two.

The course format consists of one day of lectures interspersed with two hands on computer exercises.

A luncheon will be provided during the short course as well as computer workstations.

For more information please contact: Dr. David R. Easterling, NOAA's National Climatic Data Center, 151 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801, [David.Easterling@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Easterling@noaa.gov)

### [22nd Conference on Hydrology, 20–24 January 2008, New Orleans, Louisiana](#)

The 22nd Conference on Hydrology, sponsored by the American Meteorological Society, and organized by the AMS Committee on Hydrology, will be held 20–24 January 2008, as part of the 88th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Preliminary programs, registration, hotel, and general information will be posted on the AMS Web site (<http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/annual/>).

Papers for this conference were solicited on: 1) land-atmosphere interactions; 2) advances in atmospheric reanalysis; 3) advances in remote sensing and data assimilation; 4) drought assessment and prediction; 5) weather to climate scale

flood forecasting; 6) water resources management and application; 7) global water and energy cycle prediction; 8) hydrological impacts of global change using integrated modeling and analysis; 9) applying GEOSS concepts to hydrometeorological observations.

All abstracts, extended abstracts and presentations will be available on the AMS Web site at no cost.

For additional information please contact the program chairperson, Bart Nijssen, 3TIER, 2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2100, Seattle, WA 98121, (P) 206 325 1573, (F) 206 325 1618, [bnijssen@3tiergroup.com](mailto:bnijssen@3tiergroup.com).

[20th Conference on Climate Variability and Change, 20–24 January 2008, New Orleans, Louisiana](#)

The 20th Conference on Climate Variability and Change (CVC), sponsored by the American Meteorological Society, and organized by the AMS Committee on Climate Variability and Change, will be held 20–24 January 2008, as part of the 88th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Preliminary programs, registration, hotel, and general information will be posted on the AMS Web site (<http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/annual/>).

The 2008 Annual Meeting is being organized around the broad theme of “Enhancing the Connectivity between Research and Applications for the Benefit of Society.” This is an important topic that will shape our weather, ocean, climate, and environmental enterprise for many years to come. Our nation’s economy, well-being, and national security will depend on successful efforts on the parts of all parties—academia, the private sector and government—in this area, and will require all of us to participate and be engaged in discussing how we might enhance the complex processes of the mutual interactions between research and applications. A Presidential Forum will consist of diverse presentations from the broad weather and climate enterprise on “Hurricanes, Climate, and Policy,” surrounded by a 2-day special session on this same subject. Papers for this conference are solicited on all aspects of observed and modeled climate variations and changes, with those addressing the broad themes of the Annual Meeting highly encouraged. A short session with invited speakers to present overviews of current climate sciences is under consideration. Specialty sessions currently being considered for this conference include:

**Climate Prediction:** Studies focusing on predictions of climate conditions on seasonal, interannual, and decadal time scales that could have potential benefits to the society. Examples include predictions of ENSO-related seasonal climate anomalies and decadal to centennial climate changes associated with projected anthropogenic forcing.

**African Climate:** Observational and modeling studies of climate variations and change over all regions of Africa, including connections to the global climate, diagnosis of physical processes, and roles of ocean/atmosphere and land/atmosphere interactions. (Please contact Kerry Cook [khc6@cornell.edu](mailto:khc6@cornell.edu) for more information on this session).

**Impacts of Climate Changes:** Studies to assess and quantify the impacts of climate variations and long-term changes on the society at local, regional and global scales. Such studies include the impacts of observed historical and predicted future changes in hurricane activities, storm tracks, precipitation, water resources, drought, floods, and soil moisture.

**Detection and attribution of climate change:** Observational, modeling and theoretical studies on the detection and attribution of long-term climate variations and changes (e.g., of the 20th century) on regional to global scales, including both natural and anthropogenic factors, the role of the oceans, and non-greenhouse anthropogenic forcing, such as land-use changes and air pollution. A short course on Detection and Attribution is scheduled on Sunday, 20 January (contact: [David.Easterling@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Easterling@noaa.gov)).

**Climate Model Development and Diagnostics:** Studies to evaluate climate model performance, diagnose their deficiencies, and develop new schemes to improve climate simulations. New studies to address large model biases in tropical precipitation and SST, clouds, atmospheric convection, the diurnal cycle, and sea-ice are encouraged. Papers related to the Climate of 20th Century (C20C) project and NOAA's Climate Test Bed (CTB) project are especially encouraged.

**General Climate Studies** that do not fit into the specialty sessions but are related to climate variability and changes, such as those on climate analysis method, data quality, new data sets, observation systems, etc.

**Joint sessions** will be held with Hydrology (on Advances in Atmospheric Reanalysis), with Tropical Meteorology (on Tropical Cyclones and Climate Change, contact: [Chris.Landsea@noaa.gov](mailto:Chris.Landsea@noaa.gov)), and possibly with other groups.

#### **West African Monsoon Modeling and Evaluation workshop:**

A one-day workshop on Sunday 20 January, sponsored by AMS CVC Committee and organized by Drs. Yongkang Xue ([yxue@geog.ucla.edu](mailto:yxue@geog.ucla.edu)), Bill Lau and Kerry Cook.

Based on input from a recent survey with AMS authors and input from the AMS STAC Chairpersons, a new fee structure has been put in place for the 2008 Annual Meeting. The \$90 abstract fee will now include the submission of your abstract, the posting of your extended abstract, and the uploading and recording of your presentation which will be archived on the AMS Web site. We will

no longer be producing a CD-ROM, allowing us to extend the deadline date for extended abstracts.

All abstracts, extended abstracts and presentations will be available on the AMS Web site at no cost.

For additional information please contact the program chairperson(s), Aiguo Dai ([adai@ucar.edu](mailto:adai@ucar.edu); 303-497-1357), John Roads ([jroads@ucsd.edu](mailto:jroads@ucsd.edu); 858-534-2099), and David Easterling ([David.Easterling@noaa.gov](mailto:David.Easterling@noaa.gov); 828-271-4675). (02/07; r3/07; r4/07; r6/07).



The Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement (**OSMRE**) in conjunction with the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (**IMCC**), National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (**NAAML**), and the Western Interstate Energy Board (**WIEB**) are

requesting abstracts for consideration for the "Incorporating Geospatial Technologies into **SMCRA** Business Processes" geospatial conference. 2008 Geospatial Conference Call for Abstracts, March 24-28, 2008 Atlanta, GA. Additional information is available at: <http://www.tips.osmre.gov/Geospatial2008/>



## Call for Papers

You are invited to present your research and share your knowledge at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. **Register and submit your abstract online between August 1, and October 31, 2007.** [Learn more»](#)

## About the Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers attracts more than 6,500 geographers and related professionals from around the world. Our meeting forum stimulates discussion about research, education, accomplishments, and developments in geography. Your participation is most welcome and encouraged. The 2008 Annual Meeting will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, at the [Marriott Copley Place](#) and [Westin Copley Place Hotel](#). <http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm>



**ConSoil 2008**

From 3-6 June 2008 the 10<sup>th</sup> International UFZ/TNO Conference on Soil-Water Systems “ConSoil 2008” will be held in Milano, Italy. This 10<sup>th</sup> edition is organised in co-operation with Provincia di Milano. The ConSoil conferences offer a platform to scientists, companies and authorities to present and exchange news and knowledge on soil-water systems.

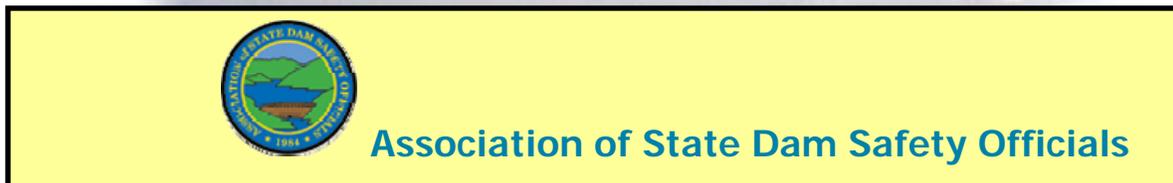
For detailed information on ConSoil and the Call for Abstracts: [www.consoil.de](http://www.consoil.de)

ConSoil 2008 is supported by  
[Provincia di Milano \(IT\)](#)  
[German Ministry of Education and Research \(BMBF/DE\)](#)  
[Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment \(VROM/NL\)](#)

**Call for Abstracts**

The Programme Committee invites those who wish to contribute to the conference to submit a poster.

**Deadline for submission the end of November 2007, to have a paper also in the proceedings. Posters can still be submitted after November 2007, but they will not have a paper listed in the proceedings.**



***Dam Safety '08 - September 7-11, 2008, Indian Wells, California***

ASDSO would like to welcome you to Dam Safety '08, one of the leading conferences in the United States dedicated to dam safety engineering and technology transfer.

Dam Safety 2008 will attract approximately 850 attendees from all 50

states plus Puerto Rico, and several foreign countries. ASDSO's annual conference offers a unique blend of training in both technical and practical dam safety applications, along with the opportunity to network with a variety of professionals representing all aspects of the dam safety community.

Watch this space for the details on the **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**, to open in

November, 2007. Additional information and updates are available on-line at: <http://damsafety.org/conferences/?p=8a505588-202e-4463-8fac-9b31475217ac>

Managing  
Flood Risk,  
Reliability &  
Vulnerability

Toronto 2005

6 - 8 May 2008  
Toronto, Canada

[www.flood2008.org](http://www.flood2008.org)

## 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Flood Defence

The Fourth International Symposium on Flood Defense will be held in Toronto, Canada May 6-8, 2008. Information about the conference is available at the web site:

<http://www.flood2008.org/flood/> .

The abstracts submitted to date have been primarily from Europe with very few from the North America. We have decided to unofficially extend the abstract submission date to 31 July or longer in order to generate more interest from the USA and Canada. ISFD1 and 3 were held in Europe and the second one was held in China. It looks as if the 5th will take place in Japan, so next May is the best chance for North America to shine. We hope to have about 400 people attending next year's event. Please consider submitting an abstract to the conference, and planning to attend.

**Editor's Corner:**

Thank you to those who provided news & information for this issue of the newsletter, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Great Thanks to Donald Frevert who has served as our inaugural Chief Editor. He is pictured below with Mary Greene at the July SOH meeting in Washington, DC. The SOH welcomes Mary Greene as Chief Editor and gives special thanks to Claudia Hoeft who has volunteered to serve as the Associate Editor for the coming year.

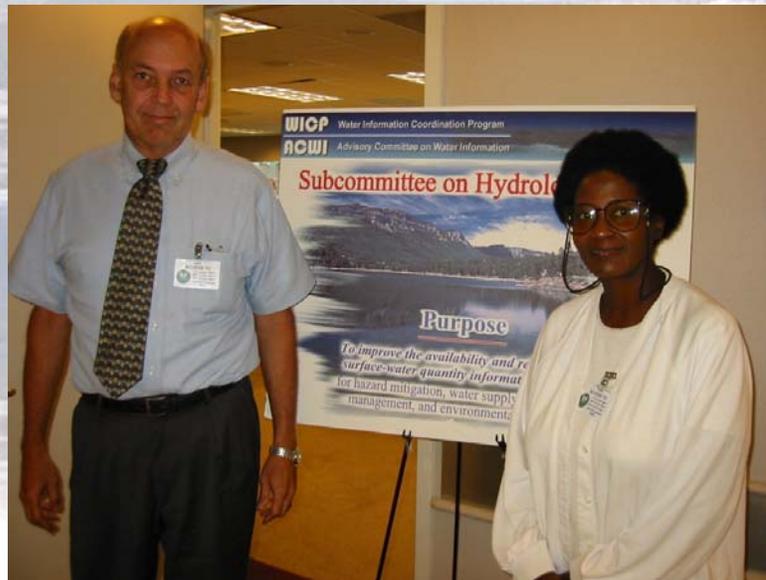
To submit articles for future issues, please contact:

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*Don Frevert, Bureau of Reclamation and Mary Greene, Office of Surface Mining at the July 2007 Subcommittee on Hydrology meeting in Washington, DC.*