

## **Hydrology/Hydraulics GIS Applications Workgroup**

### **Minutes of teleconference April 24, 2008**

Attended: John Hunter, Steve Haley, Mary Greene, Nebiyu Tiruneh, Zhida Song-James, Bill Merkel, notekeeper

**Membership changes:** We would like to welcome Mary Greene (Office of Surface Mining) and Steve Haley (American Forests) as new members.

#### **Web Pages:**

The web page for the workgroup is: <http://acwi.gov/hydrology/h2gisa/>

The web page for the Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH) is: <http://acwi.gov/hydrology>

The new list of members will be updated ASAP. These teleconference minutes will be added to the web page.

#### **AWRA GIS and Water Resources Conference**

A very interesting conference was held in March which was attended by Work Group members Bill Merkel and Dan Wickwire. Certain of the presentations were recorded and are available as a Podcast. To access these presentations, please visit the web site [www.awra.org](http://www.awra.org) and on the right side of the window select "Listen to Session Podcasts". There is a list of presentations which may be selected. There is one by David Maidment.

Some interesting web sites presented at the conference were:

<http://nsdi.epa.gov/waters> NHD Plus application

[www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus) Hazus (hazard analysis) application

[www.epa.gov/waterscience/basins](http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/basins) EPA Basins Version 4.0

Bill gave a presentation on activities of the Work Group. The power point presentation will be attached to the minutes.

#### **Questionnaire:**

The latest version of the questionnaire is posted on the Work Group web page. Some completed questionnaires have been returned. A completed questionnaire for USGS StreamStats will be attached to these minutes.

The scope of applications which are desired is rather broad. The variety of interests in GIS applications is already very broad. Also with a broad scope is the stage of development and support of various GIS applications as well as their technical complexity.

What happens when we get a set of questionnaires returned ? Several options were discussed. A list with web links is preferred. Who will host the web site is still in question. The USGS hosts the current Work Group web site but may or may not be able to support a longer term, more active web site. The Work Group needs to consider options for organizing the information to make it most user-friendly. For example, dividing the applications into categories and providing opportunity for users to post comments on specific tools would be helpful.

### **Live Meeting**

For the last several teleconferences, the concept of a “live meeting” was discussed. It would be beneficial if work group members could demonstrate (15 to 20 minutes) some GIS applications during the regular teleconferences. Zhida Song-James has participated in such meetings in the past. Her corporation has an arrangement to operate Microsoft Office Live Meeting. She needs information on date, time, length of meeting, who will be the presenter, and number of participants in order to set up the meeting with IT coordinators. We would like to know how many Work Group members can participate in such a meeting. For the next teleconference, members are requested to dial into the regular telephone contact. This can provide the audio portion. If we can see the screen of the presenter, that should provide the video portion.

### **Coordinate with other committees:**

The Hydrologic Modeling Workgroup has set up a web link to a variety of hydrologic models. The link is <http://hydrologicmodels.tamu.edu/> . Jennifer completed a search of this list of models for any which may use GIS data or interface with a GIS. Certain models which are public domain may be potential candidates of interest to the Work Group. After some investigation, questionnaires should be sent to the model supporters.

FEMA maintains a list of hydrologic and hydraulic models. When the Work Group considers how to organize and format information on GIS-related models, their format may be helpful.

The following link was supplied by Zhida Song-James. This is the link to FEMA's accepted model list

[http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/en\\_mod1.shtm#1](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/en_mod1.shtm#1)

**Action Items from Teleconference:**

1. Workgroup members are requested to respond whether they can participate in a Microsoft Office Live Meeting by June 1. After that, instructions may be prepared and distributed to the workgroup. This will have a limited test before the next teleconference.
2. Workgroup members are requested to continue distributing questionnaires within their respective agencies.
3. If anyone would like to investigate which models on the TAMU web site would be of interest to the Work Group, please let Bill know.

**Next teleconference:** Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 11:00 AM eastern time.

**Attachments to minutes:** Power point presentation on Work Group activities, example questionnaire for StreamStats.