



Water Information Coordination Program

Advisory Committee on Water Information

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WATER INFORMATION

HYDROLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 6, 2000

The meeting was held in room 7000A of the Interior Building. Tom Yorke, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The following members and guest attended the meeting:

Name	Organization	Email Address
Tom Yorke	US Geological Survey	tyorke@usgs.gov
Douglas James	National Science Foundation	idjames@nsf.gov
Will Thomas	Assoc. of State Floodplain Managers	wthomas@mbakercorp.com
Mike Grimm	Federal Emergency Management Agency	michael.grimm@fema.gov
Tom Dietrich	National Weather Service	tom.dietrich@noaa.gov
Don Frevert	Bureau of Reclamation	dfrevert@do.usbr.gov
Don Woodward	Natural Resources Conservation Service	don.woodward@usda.gov
Gene Stallings	National Hydrologic Warning Council	EASPE@aol.com
Ming Tseng	Corps of Engineers	ming.tseng@usace.army.mil

The Subcommittee reviewed the minutes of the January 20, 2000 meeting and suggested a few minor revisions of the version previously distributed by email. The minutes as amended were approved.

Frequency Analysis: Don Woodward reported on the activities of the frequency analysis work group. Members have been communicating by email to work on the three major tasks of the work group. Bill Kirby and Jerry Coffey have agreed to compile the frequently asked questions (FAQs) about flood frequency analysis that were submitted by work group members.

The work group continues to discuss the guidance for the appropriate methodology for estimating base-flood levels in ungaged areas. Will Thomas and Rick McCuen will merge the comments into a new position paper for the purpose of focusing the issue. Members also are sending each other comments on what constitutes regulated flow so they can begin to address the frequency analysis of regulated streams and rivers. Comments are due April 20.

The Subcommittee discussed the feasibility of putting the 17B report on the Internet. Mike Grimm volunteered to have the report scanned and put on a FEMA server. Mike reported on

April 19 that the report had been scanned and posted to an interim web site. The 17B report is now available for downloading at http://www.fema.gov/mit/tsd/DL_flow.htm.

Hydrologic Modeling: Don Frevert and Ming Tseng reported on the hydrologic modeling work group. The next meeting will be on April 25 at the South Florida Water Management District offices in West Palm Beach, FL. They will be working on finalizing plans for the modeling workshop scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2000. Arlen Feldman is working on the final agenda. The workshop will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Tucson, AZ, and the University of Arizona will provide seminar services. Don will furnish the Subcommittee with a tentative list of workshop attendees.

Tom Yorke asked about the emphasis of the workshop and subsequent conference planned for 2002. The current focus is flow modeling, but Tom recommended that more emphasis be placed on water quality because of the multitude of TMDL issues. Don indicated that the EPA members were not attending the planning meetings because of tight budgets, but they were planning on attending the workshop.

Information Exchange:

USGS - Tom Yorke discussed the efforts to prioritize enhancements to the USGS streamgaging network. They now have a new web page to provide information on the status of the streamgaging network and the USGS real-time hazards initiative.

ASFPM - Will Thomas reminded Subcommittee members that the annual meeting of ASFPM will be held in Austin, Texas during the week of June 18. The preliminary agenda is at www.floods.org.

NSF - Doug James reported that he revised version of the National Assessment is now on the street.

NWS - Tom Dietrich provided an update on the reorganization of NWS headquarters. The Office of Hydrology will be split. The Operations staff will be assigned to the Meteorology, Water and Climate Division. The remaining staff will be in the Hydrologic Research Laboratory.

USBR - Don Frevert informed the Subcommittee that Watershed Management 2000 and Operation Management 2000 are part of the ASCE Conference in Ft. Collins, June 21-23. The url is www.asce.org/conferences/water2000.

COE - Ming Tseng reported that the Corps headquarters is moving to the GAO building on H St. The Engineering Division is moving to Ft. Belvoir. The moves should be completed by September 2000.

NRCS - Don Woodward noted that NRCS is working with USGS, BLM, and USFS on guidelines for delineating 5th and 6th level hydrologic units. Don also reported that there are two bills before Congress for rehabilitating dams. The Lucas Bill only addresses PL 566 projects.

The other bill addresses PL 566 projects and provides funds for the COE to rehabilitate all CCC and WPA facilities.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM. The next meeting will be held at 1:30 pm on July 6.

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URL: <http://acwi.gov/hydrology/minutes/Minutesa.apr2000final.pdf>