

Streamflow Information Network Collaborative – Subcommittee to ACWI-SOH
Conference Call Notes
May 19, 2016

Agenda

- Roll Call
- Introductions
- Review comments on Draft of the Working Group Charter
- Goals of the Working Group
- Establish a timeline (monthly conference calls and yearly meeting)
- Schedule next call

The call started at 11 EDT/10 CDT/9 MDT/8 PDT

Attendees

Doug Yeskis, USGS
Robert Mason, USGS
Bob Boyd, BLM-Denver
Seyoum Asamenaw, FERC
Will Thomas, Michael Baker International
Sam Lin, FERC
Jack Felbinger, OSM
David Carter, OSMRE
Claudia Hoeft, NRCS
David Green, NASA
Ryan Mueller, Executive Director, ICWP
Thomas Nicholson, NRC
David Raff, Bureau of Reclamation
Sean Ramach, USEPA
Sara Larsen, WSWC
Peter Evans, Emeritus, Interstate Council on Water Policy
Dave Goodrich, USDA, ARS

Notes

No Specific comments on Charter for the Collaborative.

Discussion on how to share documents. Initial thoughts of setting up GOOGLE Document Sharing and Sharepoint sites are problematic with certain federal agency security. Since the ACWI-SOH group uses a web page set up and hosted under ACWI, should this be the location where collaborative documents can be set up and shared with the group. Doug will check with Carole Lewis USGS/ACWI.

Discussion on developing specific objectives for this collaborative. Open discussion on potential objectives for this collaborative and Doug queried group since this group is diverse and this is “streamflow information” workgroup, not just streamgaging. No specific objectives were forthcoming, other than previous discussion Doug had with a USEPA person who was not going to be able to make the call, and discussed the need for temperature. We discussed whether one of the objectives for the Collaborative would be how to more effectively share data; move to a more inclusive national streamflow network; etc. Someone mentioned a CAUHSI portal which is now known as HYDROSHARE (?) (<http://hydrodesktop.codeplex.com/>) hosted out of Utah? We also discussed recommendations from

the ACWI Work Group (Peter Evan's was chair) issued a report dated 9-30-2014. This workgroup was convened with expected cuts to plan for shrinking in place. Fortunately, the major cuts did not happen. A copy of the report is attached.

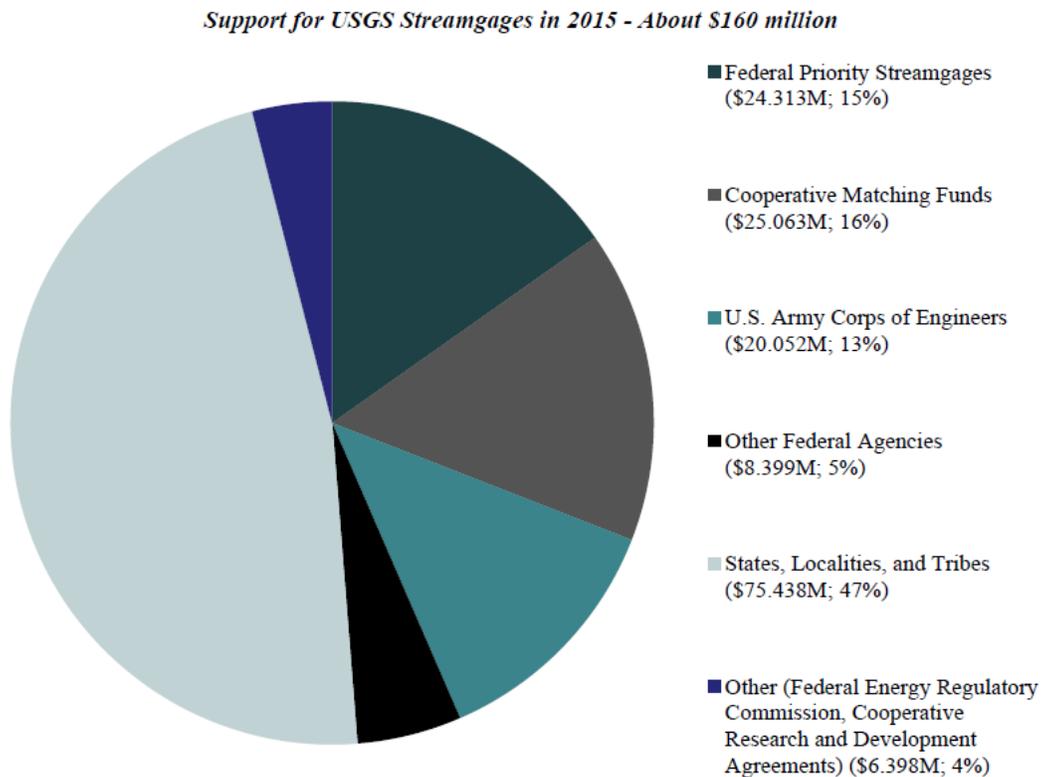
There was also a discussion of the USGS National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP), which Doug explained is now folded up under the Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program (GWSIP), which he is the national coordinator (www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/water/groundwater).

. The USGS, Water Mission Area currently has 4 programs, which are:

- Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program (GWSIP)
- National Water Quality Program (NWQP)
- Water Availability and Use Science Program (WAUSP)
- Water Resources Research Institute (WRI) Program

These programs were to consolidate and increase communication effectiveness in describing the USGS program. As an example, streamgages were funded within 4 different programs, but now is consolidated under one program (the GWSIP). Now almost all of the streamgage network is under the GWSIP, with gages funded with State, Regional, Tribal, and Local funding that can be matched with USGS Cooperative Matching Funds and additional streamgages funded with USGS Federal Priority Streamgages, which uses the same criteria as the old NSIP. The website is still up, and is: <http://water.usgs.gov/nsip/> but later this summer or early fall, will be migrated over and updated as a part of the new USGS web sites.

For Fiscal Year 2015, the following diagram illustrates how the USGS National Streamflow Network is funded:



Source: The United States Department of Interior Budget Justifications and Performance Information Fiscal Year 2017

For the next call, this topic will be the main focus of the discussion and if people have specific items to suggest prior to the call, please send them to Doug who will compile them and present during the next call.

Discussion on co-chair. Bob Boyd, BLM-Denver volunteered. Several people thought we should wait until Objectives are refined to see if they or others might be a co-chair. So, this was tabled until after specific objectives for the workgroup are developed.

Setting up next conference call and face-to-face meeting: The group expressed that we should go with monthly calls initially, and look for a face-to-face meeting opportunities in the future. We discussed possible other groups to reach out to, specifically the River Basin Commissions, States, etc. We should explore how to bring them into the collaboration. Peter or Ryan mentioned that during the White House Summit, there was a commitment for bringing together stakeholders for 2 meetings over the next 2 years. Meeting locations are to be determined. We discussed several other options, including a roundtable meeting in DC next March, Upper Missouri States meeting in St. Paul, MN in September/October timeframe, etc. This will be followed up during next call. Doug will also check when the next in person ACWI meeting will be.

The next conference call will be set up on June 20 based on most people's concurrence. Doug promised to send out a Doodle Poll for that date, and a couple of other dates as an alternative.

Call lasted approximately 50 minutes and adjourn.