Subcommittee on Sedimentation
Teleconference/Webinar
Thursday, January 24, 2013
10:00 AM, MST
Agenda

A representative from UCOWR or the Corps of Engineers will be responsible for the notes of this meeting, as provided in the notes from the June, 2012, meeting establishing the note-taking rotation. This must be worked out before the meeting so that we are ready to start right in. Thank you in advance.

10:00 Roll call

OLD BUSINESS:

10:10 Review and approve minutes from the August 20, 2012 meeting in Port Angeles Garsjo

10:15 REServoir SEDimentation Gray
Accepted by USGS as a maintenance-level base-funded project at $75K/year (ongoing). Only caveat...if USGS program WaterSmart funding is cut if/when a 2013 budget is enacted, RESSED support might suffer.

Will include briefing from John Gray on September 6, 2012, presentation via WebEx to the Western States Federal Advisory Support Team.

10:40 Reservoir Sustainability Tim Randle/John Gray

Propose SOS initiate (1) formation of a National Reservoir Sedimentation Team, (2) implementation of a national training program on reservoir science and management; and (3) development of web-based storage and retrieval protocols for high-density reservoir-sedimentation datasets. Will review journal publication suggested as a foundation to help educate managers on the value of further reservoir sustainability research.

Other suggestions included identifying issues and solutions at the county or water district level, and advancing the issue through ASCE-Environmental and Water Resource Institute to the governing board. It was suggested that SOS submit a reservoir sustainability resolution to ACWI asking the federal government to begin reservoir sustainability planning at selected reservoirs throughout the country, with possible creation of a national reservoir sustainability team. Also suggested was developing a communication plan and a SOS reservoir sedimentation score card for each agency.

“Taking the broad perspective...the momentum that started with the SOS RESSED effort substantially increased in July as part of this reservoir sustainability workshop, and it should not be lost. The Subcommittee on Sedimentation needs to pay special heed to the outcomes of the workshop and perhaps work proactively with the Advisory Committee on Water Information, Department of the Interior, House of Representatives, etc., to act on the steps/recommendations from the workshop. It’s up to us...let us not fail our constituency...the American Public.”

--- John R. Gray

Presentations from the workshop are available at:
ftp://ftp.usbr.gov/tsc/mdelcau/ReservoirSustainabilityWorkshop/Presentations/
The Federal Sedimentation and Hydrologic Modeling Conference is scheduled for March 23-27, 2014 in Reno, Nevada. The Call for Papers has been sent out, and the subcommittees will meet March 26 or 27, 2013, at the Peppermill in Reno.

NEW BUSINESS

National Stream Morphology Data Exchange

Report on December 20 teleconference re: follow-up on the proposal submitted to the Water Resources Institutes program last year (unfunded), and potential prospect for support through NASA ROSES/SWOT programs (see Nos. 1 & 2 end of this section).

USGS Chief Scientist for Water Jerad Bales, who is on a committee with NASA, reported that there is some interest in the program, and it likely will be a topic of discussion at one of NASA's upcoming meetings.

We may opt to submit proposals to both IWR ("framing" proposal resubmission after beefing up) and NASA's ROSES program (presumably full proposal, phase 1 frame, phase 2 implement). Former would require relatively minimal effort on Marion's part to 'spiff up' and resubmit. The USGS can't submit such proposals to IWR. The NASA proposal would be more difficult as it should include what it takes to create an operational database, and not just the background work to set it up. Amanda Cox has volunteered to handle this.

Marian will report on his query about NOAA's Integrated Water Resources Sciences and Services Consortium.

John will report on his endeavor to set up a meeting with a NASA employee versed in ROSES, Research Opportunities in the Space and Earth Sciences, or SWOT, Surface Water and Ocean and Ocean Topography Mission.

1. NASA "SWOT" MISSION (http://swot.jpl.nasa.gov/mission/): NASA's "Surface Water Ocean Topography" Mission deals in part with efforts to gauge streamflow via satellites. For this program, NASA needs ground-truth data, presumably on channel morphology, etc. There is a potential link between NSMDE concept and SWOT, as much of this x-section data will be captured by a NSMDE-type program, i.e., our selling point is "cheap way to get a lot of expensive data."

2. NASA "ROSES" PROGRAM (http://science.nasa.gov/researchers/sara/grant-solicitations/): This proposal-driven program funds projects at "hundreds of thousands of dollars level" (Jerad). This may be a good avenue to pursue with a reformatted version of the proposal submitted to the Water Resources Institute last year. NASA "ROSES" proposals have a deadline of March 1, 2013. Understand that "ROSES" proposals must address a mission...see #1.

ACWI Monitoring Challenges Workgroup
Explanation of the minutes I have been forwarding from this workgroup.

12:25  Update on October FISP meeting in Lakewood and Poudre River field trip    Cox/Gray

12:30  USGS training, Sediment Data-Collection Techniques, March 18-22, 2013, Castle Rock, WA. Participants from SOS and Technical Committee/FISP agencies (and selected other organizations) are welcome.

12:35  SOS Awards    Gray

Next meeting: Peppermill Hotel, March 26 or 27, Reno, NV