

RTDF Steering Committee meeting draft minutes
5 May 2009, 10:00 – 11:30; Conference line: 916-657-4108
Room 215 on the second floor, 3500 Industrial Blvd, West Sacramento.

1. Introductions (All)

In person: Paul Hutton, Ted Swift, John Coburn, Joe Christen, Carol DiGiorgio, David Gonzalez, Jaclyn Pimental

On the phone: Karen Newton, Dennis Huff, Rich Losse, Owen Lu, Tony Liudzius, Bob Suits, Tracy Hinojosa, Bryant Giorgi

2. Updates

Monitoring

a) Update on field instruments, Field Unit news (David)

The Sievers oxidation total organic carbon analyzer at Hood on the Sacramento River has been giving more trouble than usual (it has generally been very reliable). The field crew will attempt to backflush a membrane more frequently; this seems to have worked. The Banks Shimadzu organic carbon analyzer has been operating well. The Vernalis Dionex anion analyzer has been malfunctioning. Data up until the malfunction are reliable: Anion values have decreased due to increased water flows due to VAMP (Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan).

The Hood station platform is being expanded to accommodate additional inter-agency studies (not necessarily involving the RTDF project). The platform metal-work and planking are all in place, but the rest of the project won't be completed until August: The Sac Yard crew has been called off to do their seasonal levee maintenance.

b) Update on Jones Pumping Plant Delta-Mendota Canal new carbon analyzer (David)

Jones PP organic carbon analyzer has been working 100%.

c) Update on feasibility of supplementing O'Neill water quality monitoring sites (David)

No news regarding O'Neill Forebay, except that Pam Borba prepared a video of water flow to send to Cindy Garcia and Dean Messer. The video was too big to send by FTP. Pam will be sending it on disk.

Forecasting

a) Delta Modeling activities (Bob Suits? Siqing? Tracy H? Others?)

Bob Suits: Siqing is working on the April allocation study and Aqueduct forecast. A water quality forecast consisting of four runs was done: 50% and 90% allocations, 1641, and 1641 + measurement modified (more conservative). Two runs were performed on the Aqueduct. The results are being checked; the forecast should be out soon; the Delta portion is done, examining the aqueduct results.

May will likely be the last seasonal forecast.

Tracy H: Amardeep finished fingerprint & weekly EC forecasts. Tracy's group met with O&M Records & Reports staff to develop aqueduct operations data. There will be a followup meeting this Thursday. Hydrodynamics data will be constructed for 1990-present.

Work plan modeling tasks (Carol): MWQI last Tuesday at OCO/JOC between BDO, OCO, MWQI, Metropolitan; Discussed summary of modeling capabilities so far, work path for next

steps. Talked about work items, will set up actual tasks this Friday (8 May). Paul said that one significant outcome was the idea of phasing: We will always be making incremental improvements, and phasing allows the work to be divided in manageable units. Will reflect first cut with updates. Otome will build in Gantt charts to keep track of tasks.

John Coburn asked about data access. Paul said that DWR will do the transfer internally from Tracy Pettit to Tracy Hinojosa's group. Metropolitan would like to get some of that data from Tracy P without problems for Tracy H.

Tony Liudzius expressed some thoughts for the 2009 Seasonal forecasts: DCO numbers from Tracy P to BDO. TL would like to see some numbers. TP still uncomfortable sharing that data; Tony's list is larger than Tracy P's list.

RTDF will produce seasonal forecast based on allocation studies.

Met would like to have "what if" capabilities on their own (allocation studies don't include water transfers). This would involve more studies than MWQI/RTDF; there would be an ongoing need for data.

Ted asked if there were other outputs from the model that users would like to see. Karen Newton: Dyer Reservoir output would be desirable, but mostly interested in Delta WQ results.

Data Dissemination (Joe Christen, Ted)

a) Changes to data flow infrastructure; SQL Server Action Request submitted (Dennis)

b) Ideas for RTDF Web site

Ted to call for volunteers before next meeting (discussion of format, content)

Cammy has draft MWQI web page constructed; RTDF link on main WQ page

Paul: Will there be mockups? Jaclyn: Yes, we can set it up to allow people to look them over.

3. Schedule next meeting date and time (June)

Next meeting: 2 June