

Approved Dec 4, 2007



San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program  
Hydrology Committee Conference Call  
June 12, 2007

**Member/Alternates Present**

Pat Page, Chairman  
Ron Bliesner  
Rick Cox  
Dave Frick  
Steve Harris  
Aaron Chavez for Randy Kirkpatrick  
Bill Miller  
Chuck Lawler  
Brian Westfall  
Pat Turney  
John Whipple  
Steve Cullinan

**Not in attendance**

Ray Alvarado  
John Simons  
Mike Hamman  
John Leeper

Jeff Cole

**Program Management**

David Campbell

Joann Perea-Richmann

**Other Interested Parties**

Dave King

**Representing**

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Keller-Bliesner Engineering (BIA)  
Water Development  
Ayres Associates  
Water Development  
Water Development  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
Keller-Bliesner Engineering  
Interstate Stream Commission  
State of New Mexico  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Region 2

Colorado Water Conservation Board  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
Navajo Nation Dept. of Water  
Resources  
Navajo Nation Dept. of Water  
Resources

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Region 2, Program Coordinator

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Region 2, Program Support Assistant

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

### **1. Introductions and review and approval of agenda items**

Add discussions on operations modeling on current depletions Navajo operating rules, suggestion to CC on flow recommendations, peer review suggestions on how the model is being used.  
Send memo to HC from Paul Holden on the BC conclusion that temperature modification device is not needed for recovery of Pikeminnow.

### **2. Review and Approval of Sept 12 & Dec 5, 2006 and Apr 7 Meeting Summaries**

Committee members will provide summary comments by June 30.

### **3. Review of Action Item Log**

- ❖ Review and discussion of action items
- ❖ Discussion on John Whipple request for historic and baseline depletions in Colorado. Pat will contact Ray to see where the State of Colorado is with this request.

### **4. Budget and Status Report**

- ❖ \$30,000 will be used in updating data thru 2005 and to incorporate recommendations from the HC as a result of Reclamation's analysis of Statemod. .
- ❖ Still waiting on NM's analysis of San Juan-Chama and StateMod
- ❖ There's a balance of \$36,000 left.

### **5. Update/Status on Generation 3 (Gen3) Model Issues/Analysis and Schedule for Completion**

- ❖ A memorandum comparing the differences between Generation 2 and 3 was provided. This memorandum by Ron Bliener is attached.
- ❖ Status of Gen3 completion to report to CC for recommendation for approval. Data update has not materialized but will be completed soon. Direction is needed on how San Juan Chama concerns should be addressed.
- ❖ It was determined that the Navajo Dam gates cannot pass the Maximum flow recommendation of 5,000 cfs. The maximum is 4,800. It was decided to model this limitation.
- ❖ NMISC concerns regarding SJC Project need to be provided to Hydrology Committee for review and consideration
  - Action: Pat Page will request SJ Chama baseline depletion from Colorado
  - Operation and Maintenance of Gen3 model will be discussed by the Coordination Committee, Reclamation, and the Service.
    - The HC will then need guidance from the BC & CC on how they want future flow recommendation used.
  - Recommendation from Steve Harris:
    - Information from Colorado will be needed at some later time. At some point, recommend that both Colorado and New Mexico re-evaluate their baseline depletions to see if they are appropriate.

### **6. Long Term Operation and Maintenance of the Model**

- ❖ At the April HC meeting it was announced that once Gen3 was completed, Reclamation would turn the model over to the Service and/or Program for long term O&M. Since then the BoR has retracted their statement on this.

Therefore, BoR will continue to maintain the model with conditions that are currently being developed.

- ❖ Pat announced that John Simons would be retiring next year. Pat has selected a replacement for John and the new person will be on board in January. Dave King is eligible for retirement and thus tech transfer on the model is becoming even more important.

## **7. Hydrologic Conditions Discussion**

Navajo Reservoir water supply is sufficient to provide a full supply to project users and therefore no water supply shortages are predicted for this year.

## **8. Navajo Reservoir Operations**

Spring Release: In anticipation of a potential early spring runoff, the peak release occurred earlier than in previous years. Ramp up began on Monday, April 30th, reached 5,000 cfs on Thursday, May 3rd. Ramp down began on Thursday, May 17th, held at 3,300 cfs for the weekend, then on Monday May 21 continued decreasing and reaching 1,250 cfs on Thursday, May 24th. Releases will continue at 1250 cfs until inflows recede.

Current Navajo Reservoir conditions for June 12, 2007 are:

WS = 6079.17 ft, content = 1,612,400 af (116% of 30-Yr average for this date in history), inflow = 3486 cfs, releases = 1266 cfs and NIIP div = 789 cfs.

Inflows and Forecast: Actual inflows for May were 80,000 af greater than the May forecast. The June final forecast for the modified unregulated forecast of Apr-Jul inflow increased from 480,000 af that was predicted in the May forecast to 590,000 af. This is 76% of the 30-Yr Average Modified Unregulated inflow. So it looks like April-July inflows will be around 100,000 greater than the May first forecast.

Once the runoff is over, base minimum release will be 750 cfs for the remainder of the irrigation season this year.

## **9. New Projects – Update from HC Members on any new projects on the horizon**

- ❖ Dry Gulch Reservoir consultation in (Region 6) is projected to begin 8-10 years down the road
- ❖ Desert Rock Coal Fire power plant will possibly be using water from the SJ River baseline

## **10. New Operating Rules for model**

- ❖ Steve Harris wanted explanation on the letter the BC committee sent out for operating of the model. The BC is still discussing this matter and it's not final.

**11. Appropriate use of Model**

- ❖ Some of the HC members feel that they should have some input on how the model is used. Pat Page stated that this is a Service call on how the model is used and the Coordination Committee is currently dealing with the issue.

**12. Review new action items**

- ❖ Please see action item list below

**13. Adjourn**

**Next Meeting**

September 11, 2007, Conference Call - 9am - Noon





**HYDROLOGY COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM LOG**  
(Updated June 22, 2007)

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Meeting/ Origination Date</i>	<i>Responsible Party</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Revised Date</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>
4	Add model runs and other information to the permanent hydrology website: <a href="http://uc.usbr.gov">http://uc.usbr.gov</a>	7/25/01	Erik Knight	Ongoing		
5	Model modification briefings.	7/25/01	Reclamation and Keller-Bliesner	Ongoing		
12	Any new data or methods incorporated into RiverWare or State Mod will be shared with the Hydrology Committee.	7/25/01	Keller-Bliesner and Reclamation	Ongoing		
34	Gage error analysis discussion: the Hydrology Committee still needs to determine whether big losses are due to daily deaggregation. The Committee has the option to re-evaluate losses once the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Generation model is complete. HC decided to live with gage error.	11/27/01	Pat Page need to have a discussion with USGS	Ongoing	Postponed until StateMod analysis is completed	
105	USGS agreed to give a presentation annually to the Hydrology Committee regarding the effectiveness of the gage readings.	8/5/03	USGS	June 13, 2006	Annually	
136	Coordinate documentation for depletion differences for Gen 2 & Gen 3	5-18-04	Ron Bliesner & Dave King	Completed		
139	Committee will report any new projects which will be coming up.	5-18-04	Hydrology Committee	Ongoing		

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140	Follow-up on (USGS) gage at Archuleta right-of-way	5-18-04	Pat Page	Pending		
141	Budget Report to include foot notes with explanation of expenditures.	11-9-05	Pat Page, Dave King and (HC comments)	Ongoing		
143	Ron will send Firm Yield Study 1989 Addendum and the model comparison results table to NM and CO on concerns with Gen3 .	09-12-06	Ron Bliesner	Ongoing		
144	BoR will work with NM and CO on their concerns with G3.	09-12-06	Pat Page/ John Whipple & Ray Alvarado	Ongoing		
145	CO to provide John Whipple with the statistical relations for regressions to get the natural flows for the period outside of records for diversion points in Gen3	09-12-06	Ray Alvarado	Pending		
146	John Whipple requested that Generation II be run with Navajo Gallup project plus a block of 52,000 ac feet.	12-5-06	HC	Pending		
147	John Whipple requested something in writing on Navajo Gallup project on the BA and BO notation on depletion; he indicated this does not set on precedence for other projects.	12-5-06		Pending		
148	<del>SJ Chama baseline depletion data will be requested from Eric Wilson in Colorado. Once this is received a memo will be draft for the Coordination Committee</del>	<del>06-12-07</del>	<del>Pat Page</del>	<del>Pending</del>		

