

SUBCOMMITTEE on SEDIMENTATION
Teleconference Minutes
January 24, 2012
Noon, Central time

Request and thank volunteer for 2012 note taking Garsjo
Paula Makar will take minutes for this meeting but we still will need someone for the next.

The meeting was called to order just after 12:00. Present were:

- Marie Marshall Garsjo, Chair, and retired geologist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) National Design, Construction and Soil Mechanics Center, Fort Worth, TX
- Jerry Bernard, retired NRCS National Geologist, and Joint Federal Interagency Sedimentation and Hydrology Conference (SEDHYD); Washington D.C.
- Amanda Cox, Research Scientist in Hydraulics Lab, Colorado Water Resources Research Institute, Colorado State University (CWRRI)
- Alan Ellsworth, Water Resources Division Liaison for National Park Service (NPS), Washington D.C.
- Jon Fripp, Stream Mechanics Engineer, NRCS alternate, Fort Worth, TX
- John R. Gray, National Sediment Specialist, Office of Surface Water, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- Doug Glysson, Hydrologist, Office of Water Quality, USGS, Washington D.C., and SEDHYD
- Meg Jonas, Assistant Levee Safety Program Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE), Washington D.C.
- Paula Makar, Hydraulics Engineer, Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Denver, CO
- Paul Makowski, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Washington D.C.
- Marian Muste, Research Engineer and Liaison for Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc (CUASHI), Iowa City, IA
- Tim Randle, Manager of the Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group, BOR, Lakewood, CO
- Matt Römken, Director National Sedimentation Lab, and Researcher in erosion processes, Agricultural Research Center (ARS), Oxford MS

OLD BUSINESS

Review agenda, any changes?

None presented.

Accept minutes of October 2011 meeting

Garsjo/Gray

John and Amanda will send the discussed rewordings to Marie, minutes are accepted as amended.

National Stream Morphology Database (NSMD)

John R. Gray

The workgroup formed an adhoc subgroup to investigate the feasibility of using an existing Database as the database management system for any NSMD that might be developed. This on-going project is based upon the results of a workshop held in April, 2011. The group will report back with suggestions at the April 5 SoS meeting, to be held April 5, 2012. The subgroup is led by Marie Peppler, USGS-Madison. Committee members are:

Pete Ruhl, USGS

Eric Hersch, UT-CUAHSI

Nate Booth, USGS, Integrated Water Resources Science and Services (IWRSS)

Amanda Cox, CSU, CWRRRI

Bob Hansis, WI DNR, retired

Laura Keefer, IL State Water Survey

Kurt Wille, Reclamation

Jon Fripp, NRCS

Chester Watson, CSU, retired

Marian Muste, UI

Venkatesh Merwade, Purdue

The workgroup submitted a summary in April 2012 for publication in AGU Eos. Jerry Bernard provided a colleague review of the draft news brief, which will be authored by Matt Collins, Faith Fitzpatrick, Marie Peppler, Joe Schubauer-Berigan, and John R. Gray. The draft is available upon request.

RESSED 21

John R. Gray

John reported that the US Army Corps of Engineers provided \$69,000 to support their mission-critical work (data entry and report generation) in 2010; and Reclamation provided \$80,000 in September 2011 for use in FY 2012. Late last year RESSED went into beta testing at the Omaha District, USACE. The RESSED application is being altered based on results of the Beta tests (March 2012). The RESSED team hopes to present the results of these efforts at an upcoming USACE-USGS quarterly meeting.

Efforts in support of the Bureau of Reclamation focus primarily on uploading about 100 existing reservoir bathymetric surveys in quasi-form-34 format that are currently in spreadsheet format. A decision will be made on whether this will be a one-time conversion, or one for which there may be a long-time/enduring need. If a one-time conversion, the RESSED team may opt for a low-tech and least-expensive approach of having a student key the spreadsheet data into RESSED.

Tim reported on a phone conference he and Jan Oliver of Reclamation had with the USGS RESSED programming team of Kevin Laurent and Jennifer Bracewell. He reported that the spreadsheet template may not be as good an idea as originally thought, because of software version changes which may not upload correctly. They are looking at other options. Tim complimented USGS on doing a "wonderful job" on the RESSED project.

Regarding the desire to port to RESSED water- and/or sediment-quality information from the Bureau spreadsheets: These data would almost certainly be stored more appropriately in a database such as the National Water Information System of the USGS (see: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>). This is a policy issue that needs to be discussed within the USGS prior to bringing it to the SoS.

A briefing on RESSED and other sediment-related issues was requested by David L. Wegner, Senior Democratic Staff, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, on January 30, 2012. John and his USGS colleague Eric Evenson, Coordinator of the USGS WaterSMART Program, will provide the briefing and report back to the SoS.

Reclamation is working with Meg Jonas, USACE, on computations and other issues with the RESSED format. Reclamation has suggested new fields and would like comments from the USACE. Jan Oliver will send the new fields such as “original planned sediment volume” etc. to Meg.

Sediments Hydro-Acoustics Workshop

John R. Gray

This workshop is set for March 20-22, 2012 at the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV. As of March 14, there were 61 registrants, including 28 from Federal agencies. See: <http://www.cuahsi.org/ws-hydroacoustics.html>; direct any questions to John.

Joint Federal Interagency Sedimentation and Hydrology (SEDHYD) conference

Glysson

Doug announced that he will retire on May 3, 2012, but will continue to work on the SEDHYD conference.

There were nine responses to the conference RFP: five from Reno (Mar-Apr), three from Las Vegas (May-June), and one from New Orleans (end of July) coming in at per diem rates. The site selection committee (Doug, Paula, Jerry B, Jerry W, and Tim) will review and respond to the proposals and expect to do site visits later this FY. Marie would like to be kept in the loop as the conference decisions are made.

Doug Glysson will serve as overall conference Chair. Jerry Bernard will serve as the Technical Program Coordinator, under whom Tim Randle will serve as the FISC Chair and Jerry Webb will serve as FIHMC Chair. Marie Garsjo will serve as the FISC Technical Program Chair. Amanda will check on her availability to be AV chair.

The question was raised on how much technology we'll have at conference, such as smart phone apps for the agenda, conference layout etc.? Many of the hotels offer free wifi and the committee will add this to the consideration. Jerry B will set up a plan for announcements, etc., for the conference. The committee needs to either reactivate “Uploadthingy”, which was used

to upload papers and presentations at the last FISC meeting, or find another site on which to collect abstracts, papers, and presentations.

Reservoir Sustainability Workshop

Tim Randle

This workshop will be held in Lakewood, Colorado, on July 10-12, 2012. Travel should be planned the day before and the day after (July 9 and 13). The workshop will focus on the following topics:

- Existing and Future Reservoirs Sedimentation Issues
- Frequency and Extent of Reservoir Sediment Monitoring
- Reservoir Sustainability Options
- Applicability and Cost of Reservoir Sediment Management Options
- Environmental Effects of Reservoir Sediment Management Options
- Policy Implications

There will not be a field trip to Strontia Springs Reservoir because the dredging operation has ceased. Each SOS organization should identify who might attend as their representative and send the information to Tim by end of February along with the representative's contact info.

NEW BUSINESS

New Chair—how can I help?

Garsjo

Suggestions for Marie:

- Call everyone NOT on teleconference
- Track action items and provide reminders
- Revisit membership list (Amanda)

Marie would like updates on sub-subcommittee activities – especially before each meeting.

Prospectus 2007 – 2012

Garsjo

Marie reminded the committee that it is 2012, the last of the 5-year 'life' of the current prospectus. The prospectus is available on the SOS website. Last time, the review process was quite extensive so it would be best to update only what is needed. Marie will head up a potential workgroup if needed.

Agency comments on the prospectus are needed by two weeks before next meeting (March 23). Marie will provide guidelines for input.

Spring SOS meeting

Garsjo/Gray

The meeting will be held Thursday, April 5, USGS National Center room 2A-405 in Reston, Virginia. For those unable to attend in person, access the WebEx via:

<https://usgs.webex.com/usgs/j.php?ED=172946762&UID=482426167&RT=MiMxMQ%3D%3D>,

and dial into the teleconference: 703.648.4848 code 27513

Summer SOS meeting

Final as approved April 5, 2012

June 21, location to-be-determined (it will be WebEx'ed).

Potential SOS meeting in August or September:

The Fall meeting of the SoS is tentatively planned for Port Angeles with a side trip to Elwha Dam. The Elwha Science Symposium will be held this year on Aug 21-23 at Port Angeles. We could have an Aug 20, 2012 SOS meeting and participate in the field trip on August 21.

John R. Gray thanked Marie and Jerry B for their continuing involvement in SOS after retirement.

The meeting was adjourned just after 1:00 PM.