

George Washington Carver Center (GWCC)
USDA-ARS
5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Room 4-2240
Beltsville, MD, 20705

Participants: Matt Römken, ARS; John R. Gray, USGS; Tim Randle, USBR; Bob Boyd, BLM; Michael Ebberly, FS; Mark Landers, USGS; Kevin Laurent, USGS; Meg Jonas, USACE; Jerry Bernard, NRCS; Larry Arneson, FHWA; Doug Curtis, NPS; Matt Collins, NOAA; Craig Goodwin, BLM.

Participants by teleconference and webex: Joe Schubauer-Berigan, (phone) EPA; Paula Maker (phone); Doug Glysson, (phone) USGS; Jerry McFaul, (phone) USGS; Jenifer Bracewell, (phone) USGS; Jerry Webb, (phone) USGS; Marian Muste, Colorado State University.

AGENDA, with embedded notes:

9:45 Call to Order. Welcome, SOS Chair. Roll call. **Römken**

10:05 Review Agenda and Changes. **Römken**
A few additions, time permitting.

10:15 Review and Approval Minutes of the Sept. 28, 2010 Mtg. **Römken**
No additions or deletions, Tim Randle **moved** to approve, **seconded** by Mark Landers. **Unanimous approval.**

10:35 Review SOS Mission Statement. **Gray**

John led a brief discussion and overview. The issue is actually focused on the purpose statement on the SOS website and not specifically a mission statement. Tim Randle also provided some review notes. Doug Glysson and Jerry Webb also provided some background. Jerry Webb maintained that any change to the purpose or mission statement should only be done if the Terms of Reference are opened for editing. One option is not to have a purpose statement on the web site. The reason for a purpose statement derives from the desire by the ACWI to have a simple one-sentence purpose statement on the front of each ACWI's subcommittee's web sites. After discussion, it was **moved** by Tim Randle to accept the following condensation of the TOR purpose statement from previous SOS meeting, including a link to the Terms of Reference, for use on the web site:

"The Subcommittee on Sedimentation of the Advisory Committee on Water Information promotes collaboration on the sediment issues, and advances in information gathering, storing, and sharing, for decision making about natural resources management and environmental protection ([see Terms of Reference for details](#))."

The motion was **seconded** by John Gray. Jerry Webb discussed that any further changes in the purpose statement should be reflected in appropriate changes and edits to the Terms of Reference. After additional discussion, the **Motion passed unanimously.**

11:00 RESSED Status Report from USGS National Center.

Gray

John Gray gave a brief historical report on the development of the database. Jenifer Bracewell and Kevin Laurent have been developing the RESSED database (<http://ida.water.usgs.gov/ressed/>). Jenifer Bracewell provided a RESSED update via Webex powerpoint slide show. Nearly all of the RESSED Filemaker Pro team were all on the line for the discussion. This is a follow up to the June 28 presentation given in Las Vegas.

Development of the ACCESS database continues, with more development of a logical schema. In 2008, USACE has put out a data call to their 300+ reservoirs with a desire to have all of that information included in the new, more logical database that forms RESSED. Filemaker Pro is the application that makes the database accessible through the web. Matt Römken mentioned the CEAP Project. Bob Boyd mentioned that the NRI was being extended to public lands. Reference to Graf, Wohl, Sinha, and Sabo (2010), Sedimentation and sustainability of western American Reservoirs, Water Resour. Res. 46, W12535, USGS. Kevin Laurent gave an overview of the development of RESSED. A large effort is to modify the database into something more logical and modern. Jenifer provided overview of user interface.

Future plans. After the current COE-USGS project to render RESSED updatable and to produce custom reports ends – by summer 2011 – no more activity outside the COE-USGS sphere is planned due to an apparent lack of support funds. Alpha testing will continue with USACE and perhaps also with USBR reservoirs. Beta testing will probably not go forward unless adequate funding sources become available.

The following paragraph was prepared by Meg Jonas of ERDC, ACE, and was included in the minutes. This information might be helpful to the potential user of the RESSED data base.

The following items have been accomplished:

- USGS (Kevin Laurent) has developed a new schema for the database. This was necessary to create a modern, updatable database. This task was not anticipated, but was required because the original data had been transferred from one database to another without planning or strategy, over a period of a couple of decades.
- The fields from the Corps data call have been incorporated into the database. In some cases, this information has been combined with pre-existing fields. In other cases, new fields had to be developed.
- Input parameters have been determined, along with methods of input (drop-down fields, comment fields, etc.)

- Output capabilities are being developed. For instance, data can be output to Excel format with a one-click command. The user can view Corps reservoirs only, by selecting one button.
- Reporting capabilities are being developed. USGS has developed the ability to plot the area-elevation-capacity curve. This is useful in reports, and also in error-checking data.
- Documentation. USGS is building in self-documentation, that is, definitions are coded into the database, and are visible when the user "hovers" over a value or field selection.
- Data Logging. An automatic data log is included for reviewing when data was modified.
- XML output is included.

John Gray gave a summary presentation to the federal interagency Subcommittee on Sedimentation (23 Feb 2011, Beltsville, MD). The powerpoint shows examples of the schema, input, output. The last few slides show a good example of the use of the plotted area-capacity curves to catch an error in data entry.

Next steps are further work on refining the database input and output to accurately reflect the reservoir management needs of the COE, and to improve effectiveness and ease of use. This is a joint effort among USGS, ERDC-CHL, and the Omaha District Hydrologic Engineering Branch (alpha tester).

12:00 LUNCH

13:00 Status Report, Morphology Database Workshop.

Collins

Interest to develop a database to store, and share publicly, stream morphology data for the benefit of various sectors (stream restoration, transportation, floodplain management, research, etc.) has been discussed by the SOS for over a year. At the September, 2010, SOS meeting, the geomorphology database work group was asked to develop a proposal for partial SOS support to hold a Stream Morphology Database Workshop. Faith Fitzpatrick (USGS), John Gray (USGS), and Matt Collins (NOAA) circulated a proposal to the SOS on 11/22/2010 and it was approved without any dissenters on 11/29/2010. The SOS agreed to allocate up to \$8.8K to hold the workshop.

The organizers have been busy planning the workshop since that time, focusing on these activities:

- selecting a location (**Madison, WI**, USGS Water Science Center--actually in Middleton, WI next door)
- developing an agenda

- developing a list of invited speakers and attendees (with input from work group and full SOS)

-identifying dates (**April 27-28 are the chosen dates** based on availability indicated by potential attendees)

Next steps: develop final attendees/speakers list, circulate to SOS for review (target for circulation/SOS response, Feb 28/Mar 4); send out final invitations (target: Mar 11)

Discussion: Jerry Bernard raised the concern of what entity could actually follow through on the development of such a database and gave RESSED as an example of an effort that was started and is difficult to sustain. Matt Collins indicated that the work group recognized that concern but agreed that a workshop to explore potential scope, scale, and cost options was worth the effort because there is strong interest in such a product from a wide variety of federal (and other) user groups. John Gray gave further supporting rationale and Marian Muste also noted that the profusion of instruments for taking topographic and bathymetric measurements, and corresponding data types, made such a discussion imperative and timely.

Marian suggested we invite a representative from IWRSS and particularly recommended Don Kline (NOAA).

13:20 Federal Interagency Sedimentation Project Report (FISP). Landers
Mark Landers is with the Georgia Water Science Center, USGS, and is the FISP Leader. The FISP severed its association with the SOS when the SOS became a full FACA subcommittee. FISP began in 1939 to provide coordination and standardization in sampling sediment. Work continues on the design, manufacturing, and calibration of physical sediment samplers for suspended, bed material load, and bed load. A new P6 point sampler has been recently developed to replace the old P61 (each sampler required its own calibration criteria). Past few years have focused on indirect or surrogate measurement of sediment. Research has been funded by some member agencies of the SOS, which comprise the Technical Committee. Research and manufacturing continue at the HIF, Bay St. Louis, MS. Products include bed material imager for particle size analysis, laser diffraction analysis for concentration and particle size, multibeam sonar system for measuring bedload, National Center for Physical Acoustics (NCPA) dedicated acoustic device for storage and transmission of data. Goal is to continue to develop good indirect or surrogate methods matched with well-designed research involving physical samplers to verify their accuracy over a range of physical environments and range of grain sizes.

13:40 Technical Committee Summary. Landers/Gray
John Gray is the Technical Committee Chair. See the previous section.

14:00 JFIC Report. Bernard

Joint Federal Interagency Conferences Report (JFIC)

Reported by Jerry Bernard and Doug Glysson.

Financial closeout for the 2nd JFIC, June 2010, conference has been completed, with about \$19K deposited in the SOS and SOH accounts.

Recurring bills are being paid from the SOS account for the following items:

- a. Cell phone
- b. Uploadthingy (storage reduced during interim between gearing up for 3rd JFIC)
- c. Thriva (system for managing registrations for any SOS or SOH-sponsored conference, including 2nd JFIC and 3rd JFIC)

ACTION ITEM: Need operational summaries from 2nd JFIC for each of the following chairs and program coordinators. The summary should include details about how the function was planned, what tools were used, what worked well, what didn't, and what would you do differently for the next JFIC. This information will be vital for the planners of the 3rd JFIC, so that the next chairmen and program coordinators don't have to "reinvent the wheel." Kudos to Jeff Harris for posting his summary on the Uploadthingy.

Joint Conference Chair	G. Douglas Glysson, USGS	
Operations Chair	Paula Makar, USBR	
Proceedings Coordinator	Francisco Simões, USGS	
Poster/Demo Coordinator	Tim Randle, USBR	
Registration	Jeff Rieker, USBR	
Exhibits	Joe Treadway, USGS	
Short Course Coordinator	Jayantha Obeysekera, South Florida Water Mgt. District	
Computer-A/V Coordinator	Jeff Harris, USACE	
Field Trip Coordinator	Tim Rowe, USGS	
Student Program	Richard Hawkins, University of AZ	
Spousal and Guest Program	Cassie Klumpp, USBR	
Conference Chairs	Don Frevert, USBR (ret.)	Jerry M. Bernard, NRCS
Technical Program Chairs	Don Woodward, NRCS	Jerry W. Webb, USACE

ACTION ITEM: The 3rd JFIC is slated for 2014. In keeping with the ACWI's approval and support for the SOS and the SOH to hold their respectively technical conferences jointly, it would be appropriate for the SOS to formally vote to conduct the 3rd JFIC in 2014 jointly with the SOH. Jerry Bernard made a **motion** to hold the next Sedimentation and Hydrologic Modeling

Conferences Jointly as the 3rd JFIC. The motion was **seconded** by John Gray, and passed with **unanimous approval**. It was suggested that the SOH also vote on this.

ACTION ITEM: Assuming that the previous vote is to conduct the 3rd JFIC, a Site Selection Team should be nominated and activated to begin the process of finding a location for the next joint conference.

Jerry Bernard made a **motion** to nominate the following people to serve on the 3rd JFIC Site Selection Team: Conference Chair, Doug Glysson; Operations Chair, Paula Makar; Overall Technical Program Chair, Jerry Bernard; Hydrology Conference Chair, Jerry Webb. The motion was **seconded** by Tim Randle, and passed with **unanimous approval**.

It was noted that the Sedimentation side of the 3rdJFIC does not yet have a volunteer for Chair, nor Technical Program Chair. These will need to be identified soon.

ACTION ITEM: Tim Randle noted that the FISC site selection committee used sound criteria and judgment for selecting the Riveria Hotel in Las Vegas, NV for the June 2010 conference (e.g., capacity of the hotel and conference facility, nearby major airport, field-trip options, and cost). Tim suggested that the Subcommittee decide if additional criteria should be developed and provided to the site selection committee before they begin their work to select the site of the 2014 conference. Each member organization was asked to forward any proposals for additional site selection criteria to Matt Römkins in time for the SOS conference call in May 2011.

A short list of potential locations/cities should be identified as a starting point. Potential cities should have good local SOS-membership support, field trip opportunities, transportation hub, appropriate facility size and layout, reasonable costs for catering, reasonable per diem rates, etc. Much discussion focused on the fact that the last two JFICs were held in Nevada. Jerry Bernard and Doug Glysson noted that a prime criterion was overall cost, and that was the primary reason that the conferences were held in Reno and Las Vegas. SOS members are requested to forward any nominations of potential cities or venues, keeping in mind the above criteria. Results should be forwarded on to the SOH for their concurrence.

14:20 Other Reports.

Anyone

Tim Randle (Reclamation) suggested that SOS may wish to establish a workgroup that would begin exploring best practices that could be employed by agencies and dam owners to achieve reservoir sustainability from a sediment perspective. Jerry Webb made such a **motion, seconded** by Tim Randle, that such a workgroup be established. The motion was passed by the Subcommittee **unanimously**. The following people agreed to serve on the workgroup: Tim Randle (Reclamation), Meg Jonas (USACE), Robert Boyd (BLM), Jerry Bernard (NRCS). In the absence of sustainable sediment management practices, reservoirs are destined to one day fill with sediment and no longer serve their original purpose.

Matt Römkins noted that a Miss Stackpoole, USGS, sent him a letter asking for information on carbon storage in reservoirs.

Tim Randle, USBR, noted that the dam removal sediment guidelines continuing to move forward for draft by the end of this year.

14:50 Date and Place of Next SOS Meeting.

Römkens

Next meeting by teleconference and webinar, one hour, May.

Next face-to-face mtg. October, Lakeland, CO, at Federal Highway office (near Federal Center)

15:00 Adjourn.