INTRODUCTION

**Bottom-Up Approach to Vulnerability Analysis**

Utah State University, is undertaking a bottom-up approach (Brown et al. 2012) to assess vulnerability of the District’s water system to climate, streamflow, demographic operational, and other factors identified. The bottom-up approach identifies individual factors and combination of factors where the water system succeeds and fails to meet delivery criteria. The bottom-up approach will identifies key thresholds that tip system from more vulnerabilities. The bottom-up assessment will work as follows.

1. **Identify Factors that Affect System Vulnerability.** Six key factors have been identified for use in the vulnerability assessment study. The factors identified as follows:

1 –Hydrology

2 – Population Growth

3 – Per-Capita Water Use

4 – Agricultural-to-Urban Water Transfers

5 – Landscape Evapotranspiration

6 – Reservoir Sedimentation

7– Reservoir Evaporation and Reservoir Precipitation

For each factor that may affect system vulnerability, a range of values are selected to test.

1. **Develop Scenarios.** Sampling is used to select particular combinations of factors and levels ensure that scenarios will reveal important tradeoffs among factors.
2. **Run RiverWare Model.** To analyze the effect of the selected factors on the District’s water system RiverWare model input files are developed. For each scenario, model input files are created containing the necessary hydrologic, demographic, water use target, and water management input to run UDWRe’s RiverWare model for the Weber River Basin, UDWR will run its RiverWare model for the Weber Basin and generate standard outputs including streamflow, reservoir storage, water deliveries and shortages. These results are disaggregated using time and location.

*Intro to intro* Throughout the past decade more research has gone into droughts into determining how they will occur (Reference). The severity of a drought and it effect on mankind in the modern world is based on how long the drought is the and how drastic the drought is. ***A summarization of a drought vulnerability study (Author, 20xx).***

A bunch of steps can be taken to battle droughts. Conservation being the main step, in addition to system upgrades and management. Over time people have increased in conservation (possibly Utah’s conservation goals ) (Utah.gov, 20xx).

The purpose of this study is to assess the vulnerability of the Weber River Basin water supply system, using a bottom-up approach (Brown et. al. 2012). The vulnerability is assessed based on the District’s vulnerability to changing streamflow, demographics, per-capita water usage and other identified factors.

These factors will be assessed to determine what combination of factors will result in a predefined system failure. The metrics and definition of system failure include values that are below set values found in the reliability, the resilience, and the vulnerability of the system (Loucks et al.,2005). Reliability, resilience and vulnerability are calculated as shown in Equations 1, 2 and 3.

Reliability =

= (1)

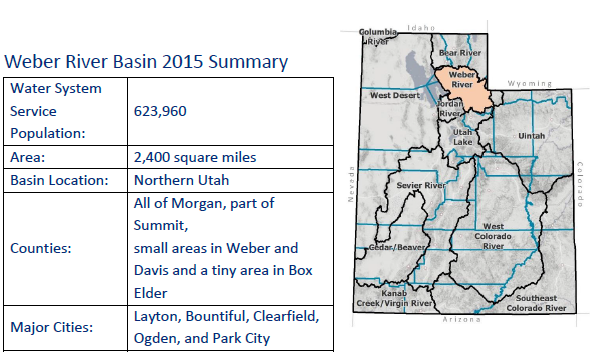
Resilience = (2)

Vulnerability = (3)

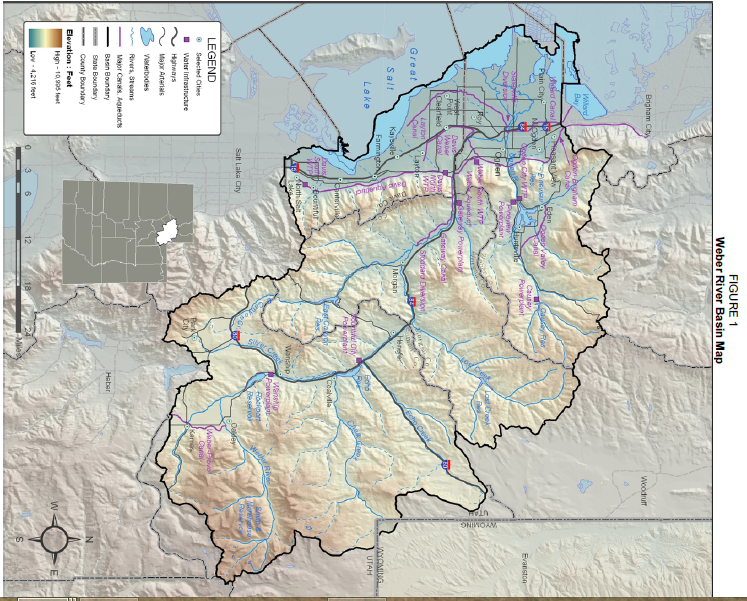
Weber Conservancy district has determined in prior studies that their current water system will be able to manage a two-year drought, going from full reservoirs to empty reservoirs with no inflows (WBCD, 2009??). This study takes a more in-depth approach considering a variety of inflows (drought periods/ severity), and the resulting effects on the system. Finding where the stressed areas of the system are.

The Weber Basin Water Conservancy District Characteristics

The area considered for this project includes all areas which are provided water by the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District. The Weber Basin Water Conservancy District, located on the Northern part of Utah, is a non-profit legal agency in charge of the distribution and sale of water for the people within a five-county area. The district includes parts of Box Elder and Summit Counties and most of Davis, Morgan, and Weber Counties (WBWCD, 2013). As of 2015 the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District services 623,960 people, within an area of 2,400 square miles (UDNR, 2018). The Weber Basin Water Conservancy District was created for the management of water resources developed under the Weber Basin Project which was authorized by the federal government in 1949.



**Figure 0.0 Weber River Basin 2015 Summary (UDWR, 2018)**



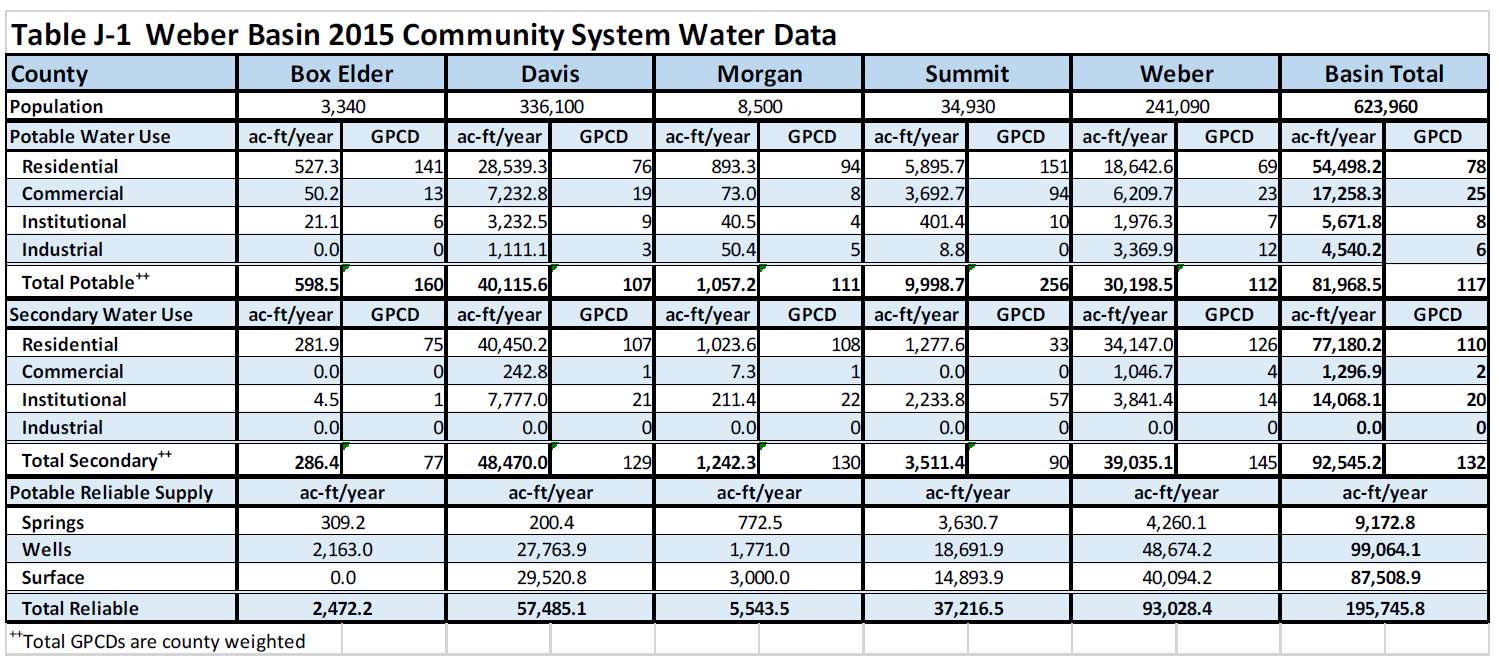
Drought Vulnerability Scenarios (intro to project?)

The RiverWare model has 19 inflow gage objects. RiverWare inputs the gage object data using a monthly time frame. These inflow values are what are used to show the variability of hydrology for the district. Three types of inflow data are used to show the range of inflow values. 1- Historically observed data. 2- Paleoflow reconstructed data, and 3- Projected Climate data constructed by the Western Water Assessment, and the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District.

30 years of inflow data was used as the inflow input parameter. A study was done to help select the inflow sample size. A range of sample sizes from 1 year to 60 years was considered. See Figures… It was determined that the 30 year sample size provides a good representation

Increased population scenarios 2015, 2070, and 2150 (build out scenario from 2011 WBWCD TAZ study).

Per Capita Secondary and Per Capita Municipal water use projections are from the 2025 water usage goals of Utah (Utah.gov), and an arbitrary 40% total per capita water usage reduced. Industrial water use is lumped in with Municipal water per capita due to the great variation in the industrial water use among the different district service areas (WBWCD, 2013).



Agricultural Conversion to Municipal Water Use: Primarily looking at the decreased amount of agricultural use as Municipal water is calculated using population and per capita amounts. Considering WBWCD 2016 report on increased Population and the Division of Water Resources current study into Agricultural water use conversion over the entire state of Utah. Much of the Division of Water Resources data and methodology is from the Wasatch Front Regional Council’s population planning for the Wasatch Front. Other resources describing agricultural conversion is Endter-Wada et al., 2019 report on Urbanization.

Evapotranspiration, study done. Evapotranspiration can vary largely throughout the district. A 15% change in outdoor water usage is implemented as the top range for the effect that evapotranspiration could change water usage. The University of Utah found that climate change is projected to increase temperatures throughout the district which will increase the amount of evapotranspiration. But additionally, climate change will increase the amount of rainfall. Therefore, it was concluded that households may increase their per-capita water usage in the future due to plants and surfaces losing more water, or households may decrease their per-capita usage due to the increase of rainfall. To represent the range of possible events outdoor per-capita usage is modeled as increasing by 15%, staying the same and decreasing 15%.

Sedimentation flows into reservoirs can reduce reservoir storage drastically. “Projections indicate future increases in wildfire will cause sediment yields to at least double in 35% of western watersheds by 2050” (Sankey et al., 2017). “1% of watersheds are projected to have > 1000% increases in sediment yield” (Sankey et al., 2017). Increased sedimentation in the Western United States is a growing issue as wildfires.

The variability of sedimentation yields into reservoirs is extremely large. The sedimentation is based on the individual characteristics of each watershed and reservoir (Moody and Martin, 2001, 2009). Without doing individual sediment flow study for each watershed no precise values for the effect on the Districts system can are implemented. Therefore, a range of possible sedimentation values is arbitrarily selected for this study. The range of a 0% percent reduction to 50% reservoir capacity. The implementation of reservoir capacity percent reduction is within the Weber River Basin Water Conservancy RiverWare water system simulation program. Implementation of the reservoir capacity implemented within the reservoir data object.

RiverWare

RiverWare is a water resource/ water system modeling software. ***Description (RiverWare/Colorado State, 20xx).***The Utah Division of Water Resources (under the DNR), constructed a RiverWare model for the Weber River Basin in 20XX. This is the model used for this study.

The model is run through a MRM (Multi Run Model) part of the program. The MRM …

METHODOLOGY

The first step…

RiverWare Model

The RiverWare model used in this study of the Weber Basin Conservancy District water system is based on the Utah Division of Water Resources Weber River Model. Originally designed from the Utah Division of Water Resources FORTRAN Model. “As mentioned, the Weber River Model has been updated, within the last several years to the RiverWare platform. This update has more easily allowed the opportunity to explore alternative scenarios with the model. Making adjustments to rules, reservoirs, inflows, demands, etc.”

Demand Computations

Demand is input into the RiverWare Model using an Annual Demand Values for 20 different service areas defined in the original Fortran Model. ***Input Table-5 from the UDWR RiverWare Model Description.*** (McGettigan and Melcher, 2018). For the bottom-up approach a range of Annual Demands is found after pre-analysis of subfactors. To compute different scenarios of demands, several subfactors are implemented. These subfactors are: population, per-capita indoor water usage, per-capita outdoor water usage, evapotranspiration and agricultural conversion.

**Population**

Population include values for each county, a base case of the 2015 population and the projected 2070 population and 2150 population. The total scenario populations for the District for each year are shown in Table #.0

**Table #.0 – Total District Population Values Used**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Denotation for Change** | **Population (Persons)** | **Reference** |
| Same | 623,960 | (UDWR, 2015) |
| Increase | 978,500 | (WBCD, 2013) |
| Drastic Increase | 1,263,000 | (WBCD, 2013) |

Population is implemented.

**Service Areas and Populations per Service Area**

The district’s RiverWare model consists of 20 Service Areas

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service Areas** | **Historic Annual Demands 2003-2013 (ac-ft)** | | |
| **AVG** | **MAX** | **2nd** |
| SA1 Weber Provo Diversion Canal | 35500 | 67700 | 61000 |
| SA2 Oakley to Wanship | 31300 | 40600 | 39600 |
| SA3 Wanship to Echo | 10800 | 12700 | 11900 |
| SA4 Echo to Devils Slide | 9000 | 9800 | 9700 |
| SA5 Lost Creek | 6300 | 8600 | 7400 |
| SA6 Devils Slide to Stoddard | 21700 | 24900 | 24300 |
| SA7 Park City | 6600 | 6600 | 6600 |
| SA8 East Canyon | 10800 | 13000 | 11500 |
| SA9 Stoddard To Gateway | 1500 | 1800 | 1800 |
| SA10 Gateway Canal | 88600 | 101000 | 95800 |
| SA11 Davis Weber Canal | 61900 | 82500 | 80300 |
| SA12 Weber Basin Project Ogden Valley | 26800 | 31700 | 31200 |
| SA13 Ogden Brigham and S Ogden Highline Canals | 30700 | 34400 | 32400 |
| SA14 Ogden River Below Pineview | 23300 | 26700 | 24100 |
| SA15 Slaterville | 73400 | 102500 | 87000 |
| SA16 Warren Canal | 19000 | 23200 | 20900 |
| SA17 Ogden Bay Bird Refuge | 60500 | 60500 | 60500 |
| SA18 GSL Minerals | 12800 | 17100 | 16400 |
| SA19 Gateway to Slaterville | 18200 | 24300 | 21600 |
| SA20 Additional WB Demand\*\* | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTALS** | **548700** | **689600** | **644000** |
| *\*Annual demands come from WBWCD records, not Water Rights* | |  |  |
| *\*Used for potential growth scenario modeling* |  |  |  |

Per-Capita Usage Changes

Sedimentation Scenarios

Sedimentation is …

There are two types of sedimentation, long-term sedimentation & short-term sedimentation. Long-term sedimentation is the accumulation of sediment through normal processes over large periods of time. For example, the filling of a reservoir with sediment taking decades in not hundreds of years. Short-term sedimentation is the quick accumulation of sediment over a short period of time. A typical short-term sediment time period is the movement of sediment during one or two storms. Short-term sedimentation is largely attributed to flashfloods, and particularly floods after wildfires. With wildfire severity becoming a larger issue in the Western United States the sedimentation due to fires. The effect of these wildfires is being taken into account in this study. See Figure ## (Depicting wild fire severity)

**Figure #.# (*Wildfire severity)* Murphy, 2017?**

Sedimentation varies to the extreme and is largely dependent upon watershed characteristics and in the case of sedimentation due to fires wildfire characteristics. Because of the high variability it can be hard simulate for the entire district. For this study both long-term and short-term sedimentation time periods are considered. By using a bottom up approach, we consider a range of values that should provide a good representation of sedimentation types.

No study of sedimentation has currently been done for the District.

The district has eight reservoirs objects depicting the districts 9 reservoirs (See Table #). According to the Patrick Belmont and Brendon Murphy sedimentation due to fires has a high impact on reservoir volume. The range of values selected for sedimentations effect on the system include a 0% change to reservoir volume, 10% decrease in reservoir volume and 30% decrease in reservoir volume. These values of decreased reservoir volume are implemented in RiverWare for the whole 30 years that are simulated.

Belmont and Murphy, 2019 suggest that the small reservoirs withing the district such as Smith & Morehouse and Casey are more severely impacted by sedimentation. They stated that 100% of the reservoir could be affected by a short-term sedimentation event. Echo reservoir 10% reservoir reduction is on the upper end of how reservoirs could be affected.

Therefore, the selected ranges of sedimentation are a good bottom up approach.