

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY

- **Overall Goal – from purpose statement:**

“To improve the availability and reliability of surface water quantity information needed for hazard mitigation, water supply and demand management, and environmental protection”

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY

Meetings Held Quarterly

- Spring, 2005 in Reno, NV
- Summer, 2005 in Washington, DC
- Fall, 2005 in Washington, DC
- Winter 2006 in Washington, DC
- Next Meeting March 31, 2006 in Reno, NV in conjunction with 2006 Federal Interagency Joint Conference

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY

Present Officers

- S. Samuel Lin, FERC, Chair
- Steve Blanchard, USGS, Vice-Chair

(Terms Extend through September, 2007)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY

- **Current Member Organizations**

- Agricultural Research Service
- American Forests
- Association of State Floodplain Managers
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Defenders of Property Rights
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Federal Highway Administration

- **Current Member Organizations (cont.)**

- National Hydrologic Warning Council
- National Science Foundation
- National Weather Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Forest Service
- US Geological Survey

(Total: 17 – 13 Federal agencies and
4 interest groups)

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Current Work Groups

- Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Work Group,
 - Will Thomas (Michael Baker and Associates), Chair
- Hydrologic Modeling Work Group,
 - Donald Frevert (BOR), Chair
- Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group,
 - Stan Brua (Corps of Engineers), Chair

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Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Work Group

- Most Recent Meeting – November 14-15, 2005
- Work group formed to address three main issues:
 - Preparing a list of “Frequently Asked Questions and Answers” about Bulletin 17B - Guidelines For Determining Flood Flow Frequency (Interagency Advisory Committee on Water Data, 1982)
 - Developing guidance for “Flood Frequency Estimates” on ungaged watersheds
 - Developing guidance for “Flood Frequency Analysis” for regulated watersheds
- List of “Frequently Asked Questions and Answers” on Bulletin 17B posted on the work group web site
- Paper entitled “Evaluation of Flood Frequency Estimates for Ungaged Watershed” posted on the work group web site

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Hydrologic Frequency Analysis Work Group (cont.)

- 29 of 43 Bulletin 17B references are on the USGS web site under the Office of Surface Water
- Ongoing Tasks:
 - Preparing report on flood frequency analysis for regulated watersheds
 - Developing a plan to test new statistical procedures for Bulletin 17B

Benefit: Provides a forum for discussion of flood frequency analysis issues among experts throughout the country and a mechanism for developing improved techniques

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Hydrologic Modeling Work Group

- Most Recent Meeting – April, 2005 in Reno
- Conference Call held on January 9, 2006
- Next Conference Call – January 30, 2006
- Held 2nd Federal Interagency Hydrologic Modeling Conference
 - July 28 – August 1, 2002 in Las Vegas, NV
 - Attended by approximately 350 participants from
 - Federal, State and Local Governments
 - Private Industry
 - Stakeholder Groups
 - Universities or Research Institutes
 - Approximately 160 Technical Presentations and 40 Posters
 - Five Short Courses on State-of-the-Art Technology – all well attended

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Hydrologic Modeling Work Group (cont.)

–Next Hydrologic Modeling Conference Scheduled for
April 2-6, 2006

- Planning now complete and hotel arrangements made
- Format will be joint conference with Federal Interagency Sedimentation Conference (FISC)
- Approximately 250 oral presentations – half on Hydrologic Modeling and half on Sedimentation
- Approximately 30 posters and 10 demonstrations
- Ten short courses and four field trips offered
- Registration website now open
- Proceedings and Book of Abstracts to be done January 31
- Information Site: <http://www.jfic.org/>

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- **Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group**
 - Chartered jointly by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM) and the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI).
 - Reports to OFCM's Committee for Environmental Services, Operations and Research Needs (C/ESORN) and ACWI's Subcommittee on Hydrology.
 - Acts as a user's group for major users of the GOES DCS.
 - Coordinates funding for user-desired improvements to the GOES DCS.
 - Members include BOR, USGS, Corps of Engineers, BLM, Forest Service , NOAA, and others.
 - Met twice during 2005 (Sacramento, CA in May; Baltimore, MD in Nov)

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Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group (cont.)

Major Activities in 2005

- Presented concerns for the GOES-DCS system at a NOAA Stakeholders meeting in March.
- Developed a funding agreement template to enable STIWG agencies to fund the DOMSAT component of the GOES-DCS, in light of new funding requirements.
- Coordinated funding from OFCM to pre-pay the DOMSAT contract through FY 08.
- Continued to investigate the needs for a DCP with 2-way satellite communication capabilities. This would enable isolated land and marine based DCP's to be programmed remotely. A SBIR proposal to conceptually develop a low cost, low power and reliable DCP transceiver was submitted by NOAA/NOS and approved. The GOES-R satellite requirements for these DCP's were also investigated and identified.

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Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group (cont.)

Major Activities in 2005 (cont.)

- STIWG member agencies invested considerable effort and resources toward the “cooperative” development of a web-based Emergency Data Distribution Network (EDDN) to resolve many of STIWG’s GOES-DCS backup concerns. The EDDN would enable users to receive DCP data on a short-term basis during non-satellite related GOES-DCS outages at Wallops. The EDDN would utilize networked Direct Readout Ground Stations (DRGS’s) and central data repositories operated by STIWG agencies.
 - Successful prototype was developed by COE. Interagency firewall issues still need to be addressed.
 - An inventory of suitable STIWG agency DRGS’s was conducted.
 - A joint USGS/NESDIS project to develop full DRGS capabilities at USGS’s EROS facility in Sioux Falls, SD has been proposed and is currently being evaluated.

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Satellite Telemetry Interagency Work Group (cont.)

Major Activities in 2005 (cont.)

- STIWG members continue to be concerned about the future of the GOES-DCS program, in light of a NOAA RFI to the private sector soliciting input for a “new approach” and, more recently, a recommendation by NOAA to examine the transitioning of its own observing networks to commercial satellite. A document is currently being prepared for submittal to STIWG parent committees to (1) address the criticality of the GOES-DCS for member agencies and others, (2) present STIWG concerns, and (3) request guidance on ways to strengthen relationships with NOAA and become more involved in NOAA’s budgeting and strategic planning processes.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HYDROLOGY

Key Websites:

- <http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/hydrology/index.html>
for general subcommittee information
- http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/hydrology/hydrol_members.html
for rosters
- <http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/hydrology/mtsconfwkshops/index.html>
for conference and workshop information