

Meeting Notes

New Mexico E-Flow Workshop Planning Team Meeting #3

December 11, 2009-TetraTech office, Santa Fe

Attending: Shann Stringer, Alan Hamilton, Adrian Oglesby, Anna Hamilton, Craig Roepke, Gretel Follingstad, Dave Groenfeldt, Susan Kelly, Stephanie Carman, Susan Rich, Claudia Borchert, Steve Harris.

1. MARCH 15, 2010 Workshop Program Panels and Moderators-Tom Annear (Wyoming G&F) has agreed to give an overview on State of E-Flow Science: Making Flow Determinations;

Kevin Mayes (Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept) and Melinda Kassen (CO Trout Unlimited) have agreed to participate in the Neighboring States' Programs: Where They are, How They Got There panel. Steve has calls out to invite two other potential participants-Linda Bassi (CO Water Conservation Board's Program Director) and Thomas Hardy (one of the authors of the NSF publication on the Texas Program). *Would Reed Benson moderate this panel?*

Adrian Oglesby (NM Nature Conservancy) and Claudia Borchert (City of Santa Fe) will present on the Existing New Mexico Flow-related Programs panel. Craig Roepke will try to find a presenter on ISC's Strategic Water Reserve. *Still need a moderator for this panel.*

Stakeholder Values, Concerns and Perspectives on E-Flows Protection panel: five presentations representing Tribal, Acequia, Farmer, Developer, Irrigation District concerns. Steve and Adrian are working on recruiting the Tribal panelist. Janet Jarratt has been asked to participate in Farmer slot. Dave Groeneldt will contact Paula Garcia to give Acequia view. Susan Kelly will inquire after a Development panelist. Steve will contact EBID to secure District panelist. *Still need a moderator for this panel.*

Who could present an overview of challenges/benefits? Sandra Postel, Johanna Prukop?

2. Study Design and Data Resources panel-discussion of approaches for assembling various data to be compared with flow alteration (IHA). The decision is complex and still-evolving. It was suggested that members of the Planning Team assume responsibility for various issues and associated data (GIS format). These might be presented in brief presentations (maps) in an afternoon Plenary Session. Workshop participants would then breakout into discussion groups to refine study objectives and conduct.

A major question is whether the following team members can and will commit to shepherding their areas of concern through to completion of the NM E-Flows Study.?

Nine Data Categories and corresponding Leads are:

Aquatic Species of Concern-Stephanie Carman (CWCS)

Riparian Condition-Steve Harris (consults Estevan Muldavin)
Upper Watershed Condition-Susan Rich (on-going NMSF study)
Agro-ecosystem Condition-Steve Harris (consults NMSU/NMDA experts)
Geomorphic-Paul Tasjian, Shann Stringer (EMAP, stream condition, levees)
Surface-connected Aquifers-Craig Roepke (CMAs, rapid drawdown)
Surface Water Quality-Karen Menentray (303 (d) list)
Climate/Drought Vulnerability-Gretel Follingstad (population projections)
River Gauge Data/Index of Hydrologic Alteration-Adrian Oglesby
Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Data – Shann Stringer

River gauges used in Study will be selected by breakout participants at Workshop. TNC will present a sample IHA (Embudo gauge?).

Combine categories into 3-4 breakout groups?

Further input on data categories is welcome now, still others may emerge from Workshop.

3. Workshop Enrollment, Logistics- The room will accommodate only 100 participants, max. This is a "special invitation event". Leann will help with Legislator List. Utton Center will be the registrar. A waiting list should be maintained for interested non-invitees and/or if enrollment tops 100.

4. Invitation List-A list of about 60 prospective participants is contained in the next message. If you would take a moment to consider who else should be invited, it would be greatly appreciated. E-mail your contributions to Steve, por favor.

5. Budget and Funding-Out of state presenters will require travel and lodging reimbursement. Lunch and breaks are additional items. Budget estimate is \$7000-\$8000. Conservation Voters of New Mexico have agreed to act as major sponsors. This leaves about \$4000 to be raised. A moderate fee will be charged to participants (~\$40 each).

NOTE: Shann has initiated a group and forum on the State Forestry "All About Watersheds" website. He is in the process of populating our site with background papers, which may be useful/interesting to you. Link to join: <http://allaboutwatersheds.org/groups/EFWG/group-news/RSS>

ACTION ITEMS: You probably have one! Please, check through notes, above. Steve will ask Reed B. and Karen M. if they are willing to take on their tasks.

NEXT MEETING: Steve will Doodle the list for an early-mid January meeting date.