



MEMORANDUM

TO: Megan Holcomb, Colorado Water Conservation Board
FROM: John Carron, Hydros Consulting Inc.
SUBJECT: WSRF Status Report – Colorado River Risk Study Phase II
DATE: July 7, 2017
CC: Eric Kuhn, Colorado River District

This progress report is being provided to the CWCB in compliance with the reporting requirements set forth in the final Statement of Work. This progress report covers the first two months of the contract period, from April 11 – June 10, 2017.

During the reporting period, we held three webinars, including kickoff webinars for both the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Outreach Committee (OC). The purpose of the two kickoff webinars was primarily to bring the project participants and other interested parties up to speed on the work done in Phase I, and to lay the groundwork for the two tasks to be addressed in Phase II. A second TAC meeting was held on June 8 as a follow-up to the OC meeting, and to finalize initial scenario runs for task 1. These meetings were well attended, with the majority of the TAC members attending one or both of the TAC webinars, and approximately 25 participants for the OC webinar.

With respect to the technical work itself, our focus during this reporting period was to revisit certain aspects of the CRSS modeling performed in Phase I and complete additional modeling runs that were requested during Phase I, but that were not completed due to time and budget limitations. These activities all fall under Task 1 of Phase II.

These scenarios include:

1. Evaluation of the potential effectiveness of a water bank in avoiding critical elevations at Lake Powell
2. Utilization of paleo-hydrology records to better understand where our current period-of-record and climate change hydrology sets compare to reconstructed events from the paleo (tree-ring) hydrologic record.
3. Perform a sensitivity analysis of the model with respect to initial conditions and demands. Both of these variables are expected to impact the magnitude and timing of shortages in the modeling.

Based on feedback from the TAC, we finalized a set of CRSS runs and will be conducting those runs during June and July.



Task 2 addresses questions regarding the use of StateMod/CDSS, either alone or in conjunction with CRSS, in addressing and further refining the analysis of risk and uncertainty. This task did not see any activity in the reporting period. We anticipate initiating work on Task 2 sometime in Late July or Early August.

Attachments

PDF files of the three webinars are included as part of this report, as attachments delivered electronically via email.