

Peer Review Plan

Analysis of RiverWare Model, Umatilla River Basin, Oregon

Date: December 14, 2020

Originating office: Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region, Regional Office, 1150 N Curtis Rd., Boise, ID, 83706

Reclamation roles:

Director or delegated manager: Lorri Gray, Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation

Peer Review Lead: Sophie Wilderotter, Civil Engineer (Hydrologic), Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation

Subject and Purpose: A RiverWare Model was developed and calibrated for the Umatilla River Basin in Oregon. It was refined and reviewed under the guidance of the Umatilla Field Office (UFO). The model was developed with the intention of being used as a tool in future studies. This Peer Review Plan is intended to document reviews conducted on the model assumptions and output.

Impact of Dissemination: The modeling output is expected to meet the definition of influential scientific information requiring internal or external peer review, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review (70 FR 2664-2677) and Reclamation Manual Peer Review of Scientific Information and Assessments Policy (CMP P14).

Peer Review Scope: The modeling assumptions and output are the subject of the peer review. Peer reviewers were asked to provide responses relative to the following questions:

1. Are any assumptions tolerable and clearly explained in the documentation of the modeling analysis?
2. Does the output adequately reflect current field operations and are any deviations in the assumptions and output clearly documented?
3. Does the documentation clearly show the calibration of the model and is the calibration acceptable? Does the document adequately characterize the modeled and historical differences?

The scope of this review does not include the selection of RiverWare as the appropriate tool for this analysis, or the RiverWare software itself because these have all been previously reviewed. The scope also did not include the model itself, as it was reviewed internally consistent with the Baseline Hydrologic Models Batch Peer Review plan (June 2021).

Timing of Review: Review for the model is anticipated to be complete by December 31, 2020.

Methodology of Review: Reviews will be conducted by individuals. The identities of the reviewers will be disclosed in the final Peer Review Summary. The peer review process will not provide opportunities for public participation.

Reviews will be conducted by Oregon Department of Water Resources staff hydrologists with many years of experience in the Umatilla Basin and with interpreting model results. Reviews will also be conducted by contractors for the Irrigation Districts within the Umatilla River Basin and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservoir (CTUIR). Given the varying degree of interests and the broad knowledge of the reviewers, it was determined that this group met the requirements for this review.

Number of Peer Reviewers: At least three reviewers will be used from the groups described above.

Reviewer Selection Process: Reviewers will be selected based on their knowledge and experience in the Basin and their understanding of hydrologic processes. All reviewers either have many years of experience in the basin or in hydrologic analysis.

Delivery of Findings: Findings will be delivered via a provided Excel spreadsheet. Each reviewer will also provide a summary paragraph with any major findings to be included in the review report.

Response to Peer Review: A summary paragraph from each reviewer will be published on the Reclamation's peer review website (<http://www.usbr.gov/main/qoi/peeragenda.html>) along with a response if there were any major concerns.

Federal Register Notice: Federal Register notices will not be provided announcing the formation of a peer review team and completion of the final report.

Applicability of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA): This peer review is not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) because the review does not involve open meetings or committee chartering and reviewers are being asked to provide individual reviews on the subject matter. Reclamation is not seeking consensus advice from the reviewers as a group.

Agency contact:

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