

HOOD RIVER BASIN STUDY STATUS UPDATE

February Update

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February 1, 2014 Status Update

This document provides an update for work completed during the month of January 2014 on the Hood River Water Planning Group's (HRWPG) efforts associated with the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Hood River Basin Study and the Oregon Department of Water Resources (OWRD) Hood River Basin Surface Water Storage Feasibility Study. The objectives outlined in Reclamation's Plan of Study for this effort are:

1. Define current and future basin water supply and demands, with consideration of potential climate change impacts;
2. Determine the potential impacts of climate change on the performance of current water delivery systems (e.g., infrastructure and operations);
3. Develop options to maintain viable water delivery systems for adequate water supplies in the future; and
4. Conduct an analysis and modeling scenarios of the options developed, summarize findings and make recommendations on preferred options.

The Hood River Basin Study is conducted with Reclamation and Hood River County (HRC) through in-kind services and the OWRD study was contracted to Herrera, Watershed Professionals Network (WPN), and Normandeau with coordination of the two studies by HRC. The studies have similar objectives and the key tasks from these studies overlap so Table 1 clarifies each task and the parties involved with completing each task. In the following sections, each task is briefly defined and the to-date progress associated with each task is described.

Table 1. Key tasks associated with the Reclamation and OWRD studies and the responsible parties associated with each].

Key Task	Responsible Party
Groundwater Modeling	Reclamation with assistance by HRC
Climate Change Analysis	Reclamation and WPN
Water Storage Assessment	Reclamation, WPN with assistance by HRC
In-stream Flow Assessment	Normandeau
Water Needs Assessment	Herrera/WPN
Water Conservation Assessment	Herrera/WPN
Water Resources Modeling	Reclamation

OVERALL CONSIDERATIONS

1. February 12 meeting will include an update on the final results of the water resource modeling efforts and distribution of the outline for the main report.

GROUNDWATER MODELING (JENNIFER JOHNSON, JON ROCHA)

COMPLETED

1. Technical review of the groundwater technical memorandum was completed by the USGS.

NEXT STEPS

1. Finalize edits.
2. Coordinate with Technical Writing staff in Reclamation and distribute to Hood River stakeholders for review and comment.

DHSVM (TAYLOR DIXON, BOB LOUNSBURY)

COMPLETED

1. Complete.

NEXT STEPS

1. Continue working on documentation.

CLIMATE CHANGE ANALYSIS (JON ROCHA, TAYLOR DIXON)

COMPLETED

1. Internal draft review process complete. Edits currently being completed.

NEXT STEPS

1. Coordinate with Technical Writing staff in Reclamation and distribute to Hood River stakeholders for review and comment.

WATER RESOURCE MODELING (TAYLOR DIXON)

COMPLETED

1. Prepared and analyzed results of baseline, more warming/dry scenario, and more warming/dry scenario with each water resource alternative according to agreed-upon metrics.
2. Utilized preliminary results to identify and correct potential model errors and/or inadequate representations of basin features, and to highlight significant vs. insignificant metrics.
3. Developed external computer codes (i.e. scripts) to automate and standardize statistical summaries of results.

NEXT STEPS

1. Prepare results for less warming/wet and median climate scenarios with water resource alternatives according to designed workflow.
2. Continue working on documentation.

REPORT WRITING (ALL)

COMPLETED

1. Continue to draft main report.

NEXT STEPS

1. Continue working on documentation.

WATER STORAGE ASSESSMENT (DOUG BENNETT AND ROGER WRIGHT)

COMPLETED

1. Task completed.

NEXT STEPS

1. Results from Water Storage Assessment are being used in the water resource modeling effort.

IN-STREAM FLOW ASSESSMENT (NORMANDEAU)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS

WATER NEEDS ASSESSMENT (HERRERA/WPN)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS

INTERACTIVE MAP OF HOOD RIVER BASIN (GOOGLE EARTH OR ARC EXPLORER)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS

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WATER CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT (HERRERA/WPN)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS

GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM (HRC/MATTIE)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS

CROP AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM INVENTORY (HRC/MATTIE)

COMPLETED

NEXT STEPS