

FLAHG – Proposal to Amend the HFE Protocol & Other Considerations

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Our Charge

The FLAHG is charged with working with GCMRC to draft an outline and a full proposal for amending the HFE protocol. In doing so, the FLAHG should consider the information developed by GCMRC in response to the Secretary's Designee's August 18, 2022 request to evaluate high-flow experiments under low-elevations/low-flows and any other pertinent information to evaluate the accounting window.

The proposal should consider the science, approach, and compliance elements that may be needed to make changes to the protocol. An outline of the proposal is requested by the Spring TWG meeting and the full proposal by the Summer TWG meeting.

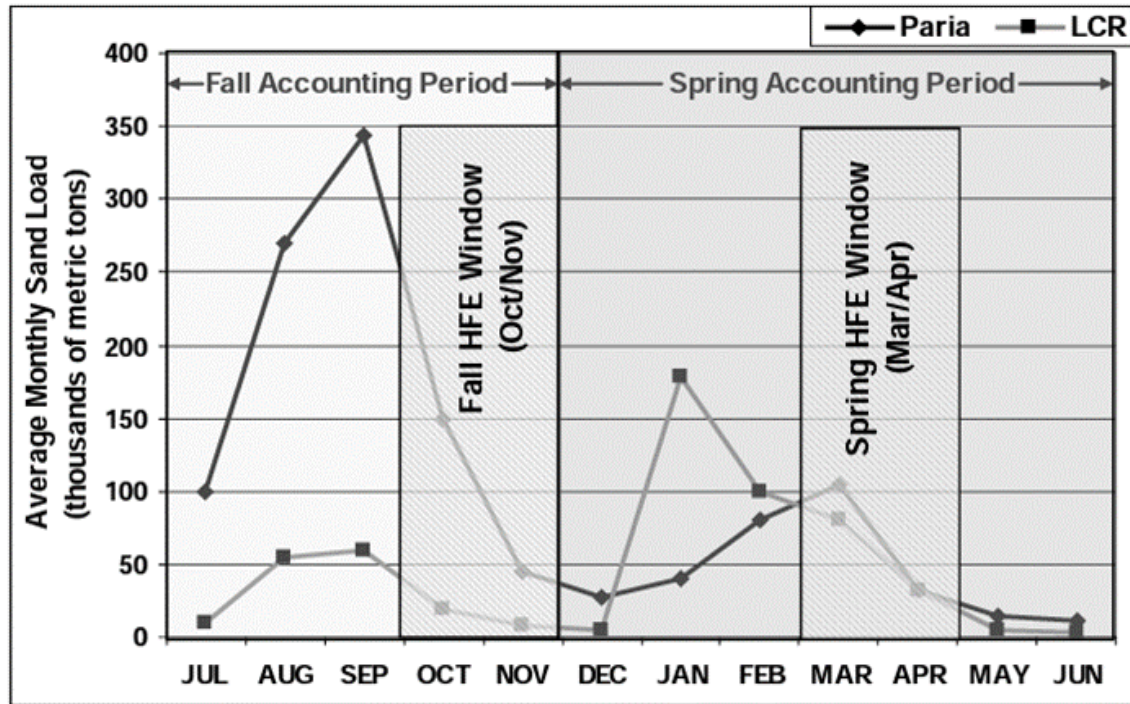


Activities Leading Up to Today

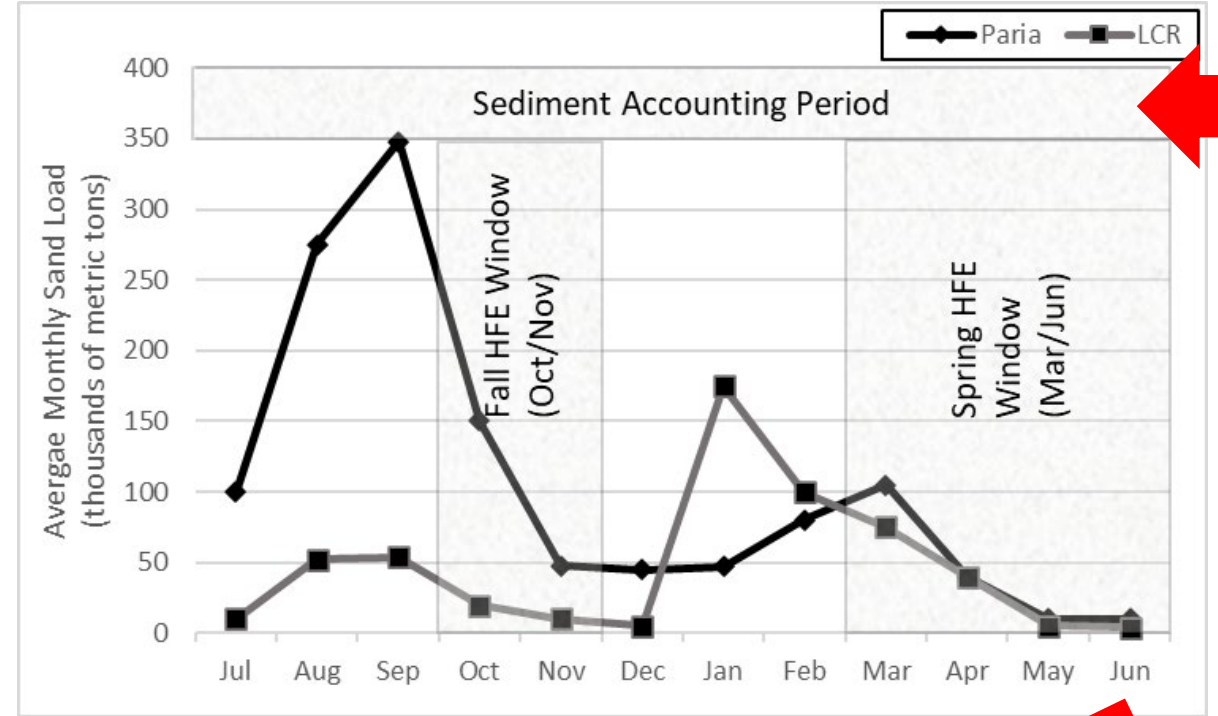
- Conducted a Kickoff Call (3/29)
- Central Google Drive repository
- Consulted with Solicitor regarding the charge/compliance
- LTEMP Review as requested by FLAHG sub-team (4/10)
- Presented overview @ April TWG
- Presented update @ June TWG
- **Meanwhile, drafting the proposal document (spearheaded by Larry/Craig/Paul, with much editing input from Laura and Emily, then review/participation by many – THANK YOU!)**



Existing Protocol



Proposed Protocol



Proposed Changes

Existing Protocol

- Two sediment accounting periods
 - Fall: Jul-Nov
 - Spring: Dec-Jun
- HFE implementation windows
 - Fall: Oct-Nov
 - Spring: Mar-Apr

New Protocol

- One sediment accounting period
 - Jul-Jun
- HFE implementation windows
 - Fall: Oct-Nov
 - Spring: Mar-Jun
- Consideration of potential sediment rollover options



Changes that have been generally accepted by FLAHG

- Single annual sediment accounting period that still resets on July 1
- Extend Spring HFE implementation window
- Mechanism for “rolling over” sediment from one accounting period or implementation window to the next.
- For example, P&I Team can recommend deferring a Fall HFE and still use Fall sediment for a Spring HFE



Things that won't change via our proposal...

- P&I Team process
- Magnitude or duration of Fall, Spring, Extended-duration Fall, or Proactive Spring HFEs
- Can still implement a Fall HFE and a Spring HFE in the same water year if triggered
- Accounting period resets on July 1
- Only one HFE per implementation window
- Using the lower bound uncertainty values in HFE modeling



Other changes proposed by FLAHG that have had discussion but not pursued

- 2-year sediment accounting period
- Open sediment accounting period
- Monthly volume trigger for a Proactive Spring HFE instead of an annual volume trigger
- Implementation/authorization outside the SEIS process



General Outline of the FLAHG Proposal Doc

1. Introduction

2. Problem Statement and Objectives

3. Background

- System History
- Declining Reservoir Elevations
- Current Sandbar Conditions

4. HFE Elements for Consideration

5. Proposed Revisions to the HFE Protocol

- The Original 2011 HFE Protocol
- Current Sediment Accounting Periods and the HFE Implementation Windows
- Proposed changes to the modeling component and analysis phases
- HFE Protocol Revisions in Relation to LTEMP Resource Goals

6. Spring HFEs and Potential Impacts to Other LTEMP Resources

Figures/Tables/References

(26 pages we don't need to look at today...)



With Regards to the FLAHG Charge...

- The TWG has approved moving this proposal forward to the AMWG by consensus.



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