

FLAHG – Proposal to Amend the HFE Protocol

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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.

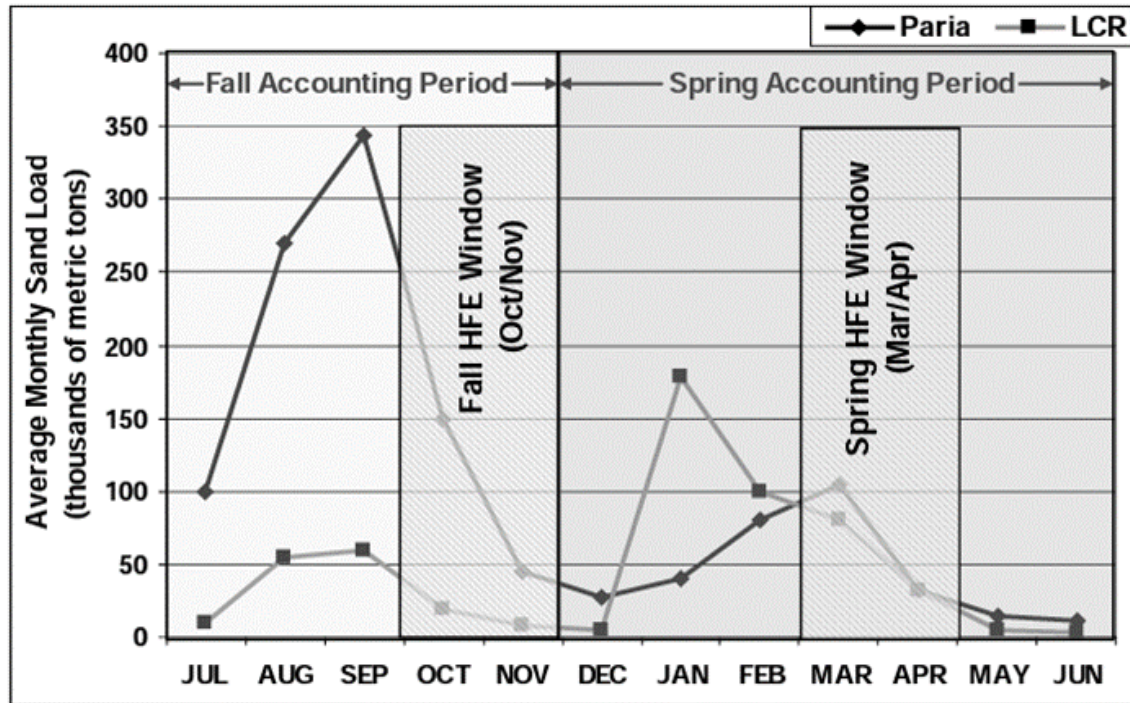


Activities Leading Up to June TWG

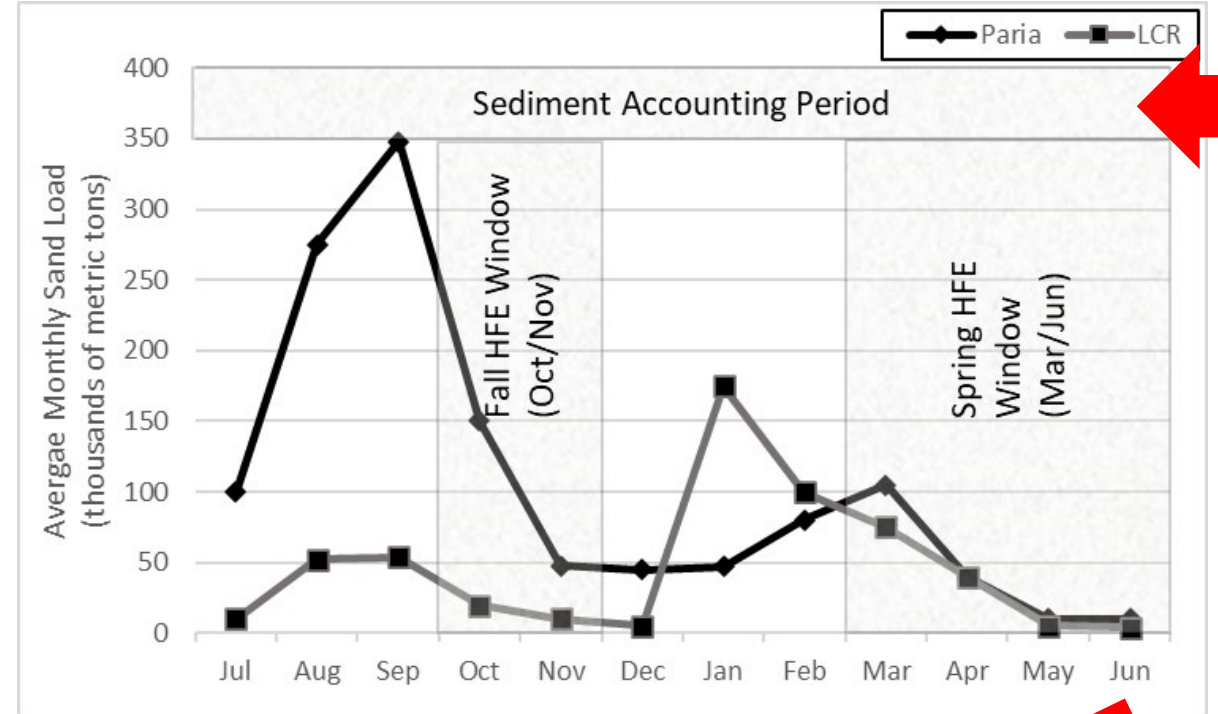
- Scheduled and Conducted a Kickoff Call (*Thank you, 24 attendees!*)
- Set up central Google Drive Folder – document repository
- Consulted with Solicitor regarding the charge/compliance
- Set up (and conducted – *THX Rob B!*) LTEMP Review as requested by FLAHG sub-team (4/10)
- Presented overview @ April TWG
- **Began 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



Changes that have been generally accepted by FLAHG

- Single annual sediment accounting period that still resets on July 1
- Extend Spring HFE implementation window
- 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



Things we know we need to continue to address:

- We have a lot of information about these, but need to continue to flush out details around...
- Resource Outcomes
- Compliance Pathways



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

- 2-year sediment accounting period
- Open sediment accounting period
- Carry over sediment to next accounting period if minimum estimate is positive
- Sediment accounting resets after an HFE
- Monthly volume trigger for a Proactive Spring HFE instead of an annual volume trigger



With Regards to the FLAHG Charge...

- Requesting TWG Feedback on the following...
- Continue to work on the proposal document in preparation for the August AMWG meeting
- Integrate any changes from TWG into the document



Life Depends on RiversSM

