

GMD 5 Model Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

June 30th, 2009

Attendees: USFWS: Megan Estep, Rachel Laubhan, and Don Anderson; GMD#5: Sharon Falk; Balleau Groundwater, Inc.: Peter Balleau, Dave Romero, and Steve Silver; KWO: Susan Stover; SSPA: Steve Larson; KDA-DWR: Jeff Lanterman, Darci Paull, Lisa Allen, Sam Perkins, Chris Beightel, and Andrew Lyon.

All model files can be found at <ftp.gmd5.org> , log in with the user name “gmd5model”, and the password “Partners”.

The meeting began with remarks by Peter about how this meeting was primarily meant for the peer reviewers to give feedback to BGW on what concerns they had. Steve Silver talked about some new features that were introduced into the model, mainly using the LANDSAT imagery to calculate CIR.

The method of using LANDSAT imagery to calculate a CIR for each irrigated tract and comparing that value to the metered pumping to determine the return flows was the issue that much of the discussion in the meeting revolved around. Steve Silver and Dave Romero went into detail to explain exactly how this method works, and how it is applied to different time periods, such as when we have LANDSAT imagery and when we don't, and when we have metered pumping and when we don't. It was decided at the end of the meeting that BGW would put together a bulleted list of how this method is applied, as having the steps written out would help others to understand the process.

DWR did express concern about how much higher the return flow values were compared to the numbers used in the Mid Ark model or numbers based on published irrigation system efficiencies. DWR will contact KGS about the basis of the return flow percentages used in the Mid Ark model and will send those findings to the group. Hopefully the write up of the method that is being employed by BGW will give everyone a better understanding of how the return flows are currently being calculated and help resolve this issue.

Steve Larson brought up the issue of using a scaling factor in years of extremely high recharge to help get enough water into the model in these years. This is a problem that has been encountered in other models in Kansas, and the use of the scaling factor has been used to successfully correct this problem. It was discussed that these factors can have a spatial component as well, so that we will be able to add the water when and where we need it.

The next meeting was set for September 9th, 2009 at 9:30 am cst.

Action Items:

1. BGW will make sure that all model files on the ftp site are the most up to date versions of those files.
2. SSPA will transmit information to BGW on the scaling factor to address recharge in very wet and dry years.
3. DWR will contact KGS about how the percentage values for return flows were calculated in the Mid Ark model and will transmit findings to the group.