

Rattlesnake Creek Model Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

June 10, 2008

Attendees: USFWS: Megan Estep, Rachel Laubhan, and Don Anderson; KWO: Susan Stover; KFB: Kent Askren; Balleau and Associates: Peter Balleau and Steve Silver; SSPA: Steve Larson and Alex Spiliotopoulos; GMD 5: Sharon Falk; KWF: Steven Sorensen; KDA-DWR: David Barfield, Bruce Falk, Tina Alder, Andrew Lyon, and Lisa Sader.

The meeting began with discussion about the GMD#5 decision to model their entire district. David Barfield talked about how he believes this is the way to go, as all parties interested in the Rattlesnake Creek will still be able to get what they need from the model, while making the model more applicable for GMD#5 and DWR. Peter Balleau and Balleau Groundwater, INC. will contract with GMD#5 and be the lead modelers for the project, while S.S. Papadopoulos and Associates will contract with DWR to peer review the model.

Modeling of the Pawnee-Buckner basin was discussed, but it was determined that that modeling effort should be separate from the GMD#5 modeling effort. Sharon supported the separation of the two modeling efforts.

A few technical issues were addressed, specifically the use of the Farm Package and the Multi-Well Node Package. The Farm Package will be used on a trial basis and evaluated against the external methods of calculating pumping and return flows that is used in other models built in Kansas. The Multi-Well Node Package was discussed. Steve Larson talked about the need to be very careful when using this package, as accurate water level elevations are needed, and not just the change in water levels. This package will need to be discussed in more detail in the future. The grid cell size for the model was stated to be ½ mile by ½ mile, so that there would be ¼ square mile cells. This is about as small as farm processes in this area are broken down into, so this grid cell size makes sense to use.

A Memorandum of Agreement will be worked on that will take care of all the contractual matters. The TAC process will still be utilized. The schedule for this effort was discussed, and it was decided that a few months were needed up front for setting up the data and evaluating the Modflow packages. The timeline for the Pawnee-Buckner modeling effort is still to be determined.

The next meeting was set for July 14th, 2008 at 9:30a.m. central standard time. DWR will send a reminder e-mail a few days before the meeting with the call in information.