

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday March 19, 2009

Attendees:

ABRFC – Eric Jones, Mike Pierce, Jeff McMurphy
CNRFC – Rob Hartman
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Alison Gillis, Ron Horwood, Tom Econopouly
NWRFC – Joe Intermill
NOHRSC –
Deltares – Edwin Welles
OCWWS – Randy Rieman, Mary Mullusky
OHD – Pedro Restrepo, Joe Gofus, Chris Dietz

Pre-reading:

- Draft CAT workshop agenda, distributed on 3/18/09 via the chps_migration infolist

1. CAT migration status

General: the ongoing problem with the database “falling over” remains unresolved. It is the Deltares team’s top priority.

ABRFC: all forcings appear to be available now. FEWS is still having a problem ingesting GFE grids.

CNRFC: no update available.

NERFC: still working on the 2nd forecast group. Outstanding problems include:

1. Seems to be a problem with ResSngl and negative pool heights.
2. Migration scripts are creating cold states incorrectly on the live system
3. Pool elevations are mysteriously converted into river stages...
4. Ratings curves have offsets
5. Also noted that the memory chip was successfully reset; instructions were sent to RandyR.

NWRFC: 5 or 6 forecast groups migrated. In general still not running on live system due to database problem above, except for a few cases. Noticed that FEWS has problems with negative stages in the ratings table. Also looking into streamlining a few segments to get around some aliases and id mapping problems. Request that Deltares provide more documentation on the latter because it isn’t very clear. Have now entered Santiam forcings data from the start of the water year and completed some preliminary comparisons between the two techniques for generating MAPs. NWRFC still considers itself on target for meeting their self-imposed June completion date.

Action: Deltares to enhance CHPS migration instructions with improved information on aliases and id mapping.

2. Agenda for upcoming workshop (see attached file)

Suspect one hour for each CAT RFC to report on its migration status might be too much. Will reduce to 30-40 minutes and insert another agenda item (later suggested this spare slot could be dedicated to the CAT-II buddy visits. See item 3 below).

Request that the session on IPG (now known as CPG?) also address potential application to RVF reports. RVF is a pre-formatted text-based official user product (OUP).

Breaks will be included but experience dictates that they're best taken in an ad-hoc fashion, not pre-determined.

Action: Edwin to adjust the workshop agenda to reflect all suggested changes above.

3. CAT-II: "buddy" visits

Audience for these visits will vary from those who have never been exposed to CHPS to those who have some exposure. It might be a good idea to repeat some of the material already presented (e.g. at the Jan 8 monthly briefing). Do we know who attends these briefings? No - with such a large audience it's difficult to take roll calls.

The goal of the upcoming "buddy" visits is to get as much CAT-II exposure to Deltares as possible. The point of having CATs involved is to help CAT-IIs interpret and understand, to provide additional support, to describe their own experiences, and to give a "reality check" via their own unique perspectives.

Who's supposed to take the lead for these visits? Some think they should be led by Deltares not the CAT. Current proposal is that one of Edwin or Peter (not both at once) will represent Deltares; however if necessary Deltares will consider sending someone from NL.

We agreed to allocate time at the workshop to talk about this topic in more depth (this action reflected in the action for # 2 above).

Not sure whether the budget allows for one or two people from each CAT RFC traveling to their "buddy" sites – Chris will check.

Action: Chris to check whether the FY09 CHPS budget will cover 2 people traveling from the CAT RFCs to the CAT-II "buddy" RFCs.

4. Other

HEC-RAS training: the cat_2 infolist has seen a question circulating about opening up the training at NERFC to all RFCs via GoTo meetings (or similar). The risks include impact on the quality of local training, plus the additional burden on HSMB/Seann to accommodate

remote attendees. Any changes to the nature of this training must not impact CHPS BOC. Pedro took an action to speak to Seann about this.

For info: Deltares and Chris continue to work on the ensembles questionnaire distributed via the chps_migration infolist recently. All CAT RFCs have responded. Deltares will contact RobH to discuss CNRFC's responses in more detail.

For info: Chris submitted a proposal to the CAT to have the CCI (calibration) team blend with the IFD team to streamline the calibration display development process. The HSEB developer for CCI (Ai Vo) sat in on the IFD call this morning for this reason; as did the HSEB developer for CPG (product generator – Hank Herr) for the same reason.

Action: Pedro to talk to Seann Reed about opening up HEC-RAS training at NERFC in March to CAT-II RFCs.

Note: Action items from this and all previous meetings are contained in the "ActionItems" document maintained and distributed by Chris Dietz, OHD.

Next meeting: Thursday 3/26/09 at 11:00 am EDT.