Salinity Projection Model for USBR, Yuma Area Office

Steve Setzer Hydros Consulting Inc. August 27, 2013







Acknowledgments



- Yuma Area Office (YAO) Water Operations Group
 - Hong Nguyen-DeCorse, Ed Virden, Aaron Marshall, Iris Lopez, Jacob Davis, Sal Teposte
- Carol Marra Consulting, Inc. Imperial Dam & Desilting Works
 - Hydrologic Database (HDB)



Overview



- Minute No. 242 of the 1944 Treaty with the Republic of Mexico
- Salinity and groundwater management
- RiverWare Salinity Projection Model





YAO Area of Responsibility









- International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Minute No. 242 – Permanent and Definitive Solution to the International Problem of the Salinity of the Colorado River
- Referring to annual volume of 1.5 MAF of Colorado River water guaranteed to Mexico under the 1944 Treaty:
 - Delivery of 1.36 MAF at the Northerly International Boundary with Mexico (NIB) shall have annual average salinity of no more than 115 PPM +/- 30 PPM over the annual average salinity of Colorado River water arriving at Imperial Dam (aka Salinity Differential)
 - Delivery at the Southerly International Border (SIB) of 140,000 AF will continue to have annual salinity substantially the same as customarily delivered there





- Salinity differential of less than 145 ppm at end of calendar year
 - Difference between annual, flow-weighted average salinity of water arriving at NIB and water arriving at Imperial Dam





Groundwater Pumping and Salinity Management



- Saline groundwater 1,000 2,500 PPM (1,600 1,800 ppm typical average)
- 22 wells in South Gila well field (modeled)
- 38 wells in Yuma Valley/Mesa area (modeled)
- Groundwater must be pumped to keep water table below the root zone (plus buffer zone)
- Ideally, would like to deliver pumped groundwater to NIB to count towards 1.36 MAF requirement
- This increases salinity differential

Groundwater Pumping and Salinity Management



- Ideally, run all groundwater pumping wells and send to river for delivery at NIB
- Last resort but best avoided: Order fresh water from Parker Dam to send to NIB to decrease differential. Not ideal because these deliveries would be in excess of order at NIB
- If projected salinity differential is too high, turn off wells or re-route drainage channels and/or conduit to SIB
- Salinity Projection Model Objective: Plan operation of well fields to stay below 145 ppm end-of-year salinity differential and avoid excess flows at NIB







Model Requirements



- Current projection process requires at least three different spreadsheets and manual data entry
 - Spreadsheet for well field calculations, spreadsheet to manage orders and projected flow arriving at Imperial Dam, projection spreadsheet (salinity differential calculations)

Objectives:

- All calculations in one place
- Automated data entry
- Automatic projection calculations
- Easy to vary projections and run "What if?" scenarios to determine model sensitivity and reliability of projected salinity differential

RiverWare Model



- Monthly timestep
- January 1 December 31
 - January current month: observed data
 - Current month December 31: projected data
- Automated connection with HDB

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	Flow Below Imperial Dam	acre-ft/month	30,466	15,156	21,658	24,129	30,480	29,510	21,862	22,038	20,234	19,173	18,942	19,847	
l i	How Below Imperial Dam PPM	ppm	711	684	650	649	660	651	666	681	688	703	720	744	
11	M DPOCs	acre-ft/month	2,384	3,291	3,996	4,536	747	4,437	3,924	4,207	4,071	4,207	4,071	4,207	
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	A Californial WW	acre-ft/month	7,627	7,577	2,619	1,316	14, 193	28,988	5,534	38,662	38,771	3,689	38,909	50,193	
	California WW PPM	ppm	721	705	652	646	661	654	666	681	688	703	720	744	
	M Yuma Mesa Conduit	acre-ft/month	1,209	1,876	1,842	564	337	326	1,381	1,381	1,337	1,381	1,337	1,381	
	M Yuma Mesa Conduit PPM	ppm	2,020	1,876	1,860	1,730	1,730	1,730	1,792	1,792	1,792	1,792	1,792	1,792	
	M Pilot Knob	acre-ft/month	81,636	103,279	126,228	119,345	10,028	0	47,726	0	0	0	0	0	
	M Pilot Knob PPM	ppm	715	681	651	649	665	0	666	0	0	0	0	0	
	Other Measured Flows	acre-ft/month	6,436	5,287	6,499	6,666	7,600	7,124	7,379	7,379	7,736	8,608	8,331	8,608	
	Other Measured Flows PPM	ppm	1,123	1,070	1,190	1,149	1,146	1,063	1,090	1,090	1,070	1,120	1,170	1,220	-
	Unmeasured Flows	acre-ft/month	2,302	11,263	15,393	15,114	21,111	15,220	11,675	19,281	18,189	17,926	15,595	8,580	=
	Unmeasured Flows PPM	ppm	3,498	1,434	1,041	1,010	1,074	951	2,080	1,180	1,000	1,180	1,460	1,430	
	Northerly International Boundary	acre-ft/month	132,060	147,729	178,235	171,669	84,496	85,607	99,481	92,948	90,337	54,984	87,184	92,816	
	Northerly International Boundary PPM	ppm	814	794	741	731	824	800	923	881	848	1,031	959	912	
	Cooper WW	acre-ft/month	208	154	183	154	70	85	74	128	222	591	389	259	
	Cooper WW PPM	ppm	719	680	652	646	659	652	666	681	688	703	720	744	
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	M Tijuana PPM	ppm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	703	0	0	
	IBWC Min 319	acre-ft/month	0	0	10,717	28,270	14,652	11,496	0	0	0	0	0	0	
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	Colorado River Above Imperial Dam	acre-ft/month	354,744	374,658	555,253	639,233	546,545	517,051	554,409	482,362	447,907	392,053	336,121	273,557	
	Colorado River Above Imperial Dam PPM	ppm	714.0	679.0	650.0	649.0	660.0	652.0	666.0	680.6	688.5	702.9	720.0	743.5	
	🖄 Salinity Differential	ppm	99.9	114.9	85.8	70.5	139.8	130.5	257.2	200.3	158.7	321.9	238.4	168.0	
	🖄 Cumulative Salinity Differential	ppm	99.9	107.3	100.0	92.1	98.9	103.3	119.0	125.6	127.7	135.5	142.7	145.6	
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- WQ Modeling from Lake Mead to Imperial Dam to improve salinity projections
- Extend model to Southerly International Boundary
- Enhanced projection features (multiple traces)
- Automated connection to groundwater model