South Carolina Surface Water Quantity Modeling Project

Saluda Basin Meeting No. 1 – Model Framework

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Project Purpose

- Build surface water quantity models capable of:
 - Accounting for inflows and outflows from a basin
 - Accurately simulating streamflows and reservoir levels over the historical inflow record
 - Conducting "What if" scenarios to evaluate future water demands, management strategies and system performance.



- Developed in response to an increasing need for a desktop tool to facilitate regional and statewide water allocation analysis
- Calculates physically and legally available water, diversions, storage consumption and return flows at user-defined nodes
- Used to support large-scale planning studies in Colorado, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas



The Simplified Water Allocation Model is...

- a water accounting tool
- a WHAT-IF simulation model
- a network flow model that traces water through a natural stream network, simulating withdrawals, discharges, storage, and hydroelectric operations
- not precipitation-runoff model (e.g., HEC-HMS)
- not a hydraulic model (e.g. HEC-RAS)
- not a water quality model (e.g., QUAL2K)
- not an optimization model
- not a groundwater flow model (e.g., MODFLOW)

The Models Can Be Used To...

- Determine surface-water availability
- Predict where and when future water shortages would occur
- Test alternative water management strategies, new operating rules, and "what-if" scenarios
- Consolidate hydrologic data
- Evaluate the impacts of future withdrawals on instream flow needs
- Evaluate interbasin transfers
- Support development of Drought Management Plans
- Compare managed flows to natural flows

River Basin Flow and Operations Models

Similarities between SWAM, OASIS, CHEOPS, and RiverWare:

- Used in major river basin studies and/or statewide water plans
- Operating Rules of varying complexity
- Monthly and Daily Timesteps
- Visual Depiction of the River Network

Unique Features:

SWAM

- Familiar and adaptable environment: Visual Basic and Spreadsheets
- Built in functions for reservoirs, river operations, discharges, irrigation, return flows, etc.

OASIS

- Built in Probability Analysis for Real-Time Ops
- Optimization toward objectives in each timestep

CHEOPS

- Tailored specifically for hydropower
 - Energy Calculations
 - Reservoir Tracking
- Familiar Visual Basic programming

RiverWare

- Fully linked graphical network development
- 3 modes:
 - Pure simulation
 - Rules-based simulation
 - Optimization

- Object-oriented tool in which a river basin and all of its influences can be linked into a network with user defined priorities
- Resides within Microsoft Excel



HOME

INSERT

PAGELAYOUT

FORMULAS

- Intuitive & Resides within and interfaces directly with
 Transparent Microsoft Excel
- Ease-of-Use Point-and-click setup and output access
- Simple & Mass balance calculations, but handles
 Robust operating rules, use priorities, etc.

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• Supports multiple layers of complexity for development of a range of systems, for example...

A Reservoir Object can include:

- 1. Basic hydrology dependent calculations
- 2. Operational rules of varying complexity such as prescribed releases, conditional releases, or hydrology dependent releases.

	Reservoir
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Reservoir			
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SWAM Model Main Screen

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Saluda River Basin

MODELING DATA REQUIREMENTS

Data Collected for Model Development

- USGS daily flow records
- Historical daily rainfall and evaporation rates
- Historical Operational Data
 - Withdrawals (municipal, industrial, agricultural, golf courses)
 - Discharges
 - Reservoir elevation
- Reservoir bathymetry and operating rules
- Subbasin characteristics (GIS)
 - Drainage area
 - Land use
 - Basin slope

Saluda River Basin
UNIMPAIRED FLOWS (UIF)

UIF Definition and Uses

- **Definition:** Estimate of natural <u>historic</u> streamflow in the absence of human intervention in the river channel:
 - Storage
 - Withdrawals
 - Discharges and Return Flow

• Unimpaired Flow =

Measured Gage Flow + River Withdrawals + Reservoir Withdrawals – Discharge to Reservoirs – Return Flow + Reservoir Surface Evaporation – Reservoir Surface Precipitation + Upstream change in Reservoir Storage + Runoff from Previously Unsubmerged Area

- Fundamental input to the model at headwater nodes and tributary nodes
- Comparative basis for model results.

Primary UIF Data Sources

Documented

- USGS Gage flows
- DHEC records of M&I withdrawals and discharges
- Reservoir operator records of water levels
- Reported agricultural withdrawals
- GIS Data layers

Estimated

- Direct contact with users regarding historic use patterns
- Operational hindcasting
- Agricultural water use modeling

Basinwide UIF Calculation Process

Stepwise Procedure for UIF Calculation - Saluda Basin



Step 2: Extension of UIFs for USGS Gages throughout the LONGEST Period of Record



Four Steps in UIF Calculation Process

- Step 1: UIFs for USGS Gages for individual periods of record
 - Involves extension of operational data
- Step 2: Extension of UIFs for USGS Gages through the LONGEST period of record
- Step 3: Correlation between ungaged basins and gaged basins
- Step 4: UIFs for ungaged basins



Sample UIF Results (Draft)

Model Tributary Objects Secondary Tribs. Primary Tribs Major Branches Saluda and Congaree 1000 Vaterbodies (Saluda) SC Basins Other UIF Catchments USGS UIF Catchments 100 CFS 10 1 Jan-00 Apr-00 Jul-00 Oct-00 Jan-02 Oct-02 Jan-03 Apr-03 Oct-03 Oct-05 Apr-01 Oct-01 Apr-02 Jul-02 Jul-03 Apr-04 Oct-04 Jan-05 Apr-05 Jan-01 Jul-01 Jan-04 Jul-04 Jul-05 Jan-06 -UIF -Gaged

SLD01: South Saluda River downstream of Table Rock Reservoir

SLD19: Little River near Silverstreet



Saluda River Basin

OVERVIEW OF MODEL FRAMEWORK

Saluda Basin – Major Streams & Reservoirs



Saluda Basin – Major Branches



Saluda Basin – Primary Tributaries



Saluda Basin Withdrawals – Public Water Supply





Saluda Basin Withdrawals– Industrial & Mining



Saluda Basin Withdrawals – Energy





Saluda Basin Withdrawals – Agriculture





Saluda Basin Withdrawals – Golf Courses



Saluda Basin Discharges



Interbasin Transfers





Saluda Basin – SWAM Framework



Saluda River Basin
MODEL SETUP

Tributary Input Form



Reservoir Input Form

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Agricultural Water User Input Forms

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Instream Flow Input Form

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Saluda River Basin
MODEL VALIDATION

SWAM Calibration/Validation

- Calibration targets = downstream flow gage records
- Calibration parameters =
 - reach gains/losses,
 - ungaged flow records,
 - reservoir operations
 - ag return flow percentages, locations, lags
- Performance metrics =
 - Annual avg flows (overall water balance)
 - Monthly avg flows (seasonality)
 - Flow percentile distributions (variability, extreme events)
 - Flow timeseries (specific timings, operations)
 - Reservoir storage timeseries

Calibration Result Graphs

