

Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday October 7, 2010

Attendees:

ABRFC – Billy Olsen, Jeff McMurphy
CNRFC – Pete Fickenscher, Chris Mayo, Brett Whitin
NERFC – Rob Shedd, Ron Horwood, Alison MacNeil
NWRFC – Harold Opitz, Joe Intermill
NOHRSC – John Halquist
Deltares – Peter Gijbers
OCWWS HSD – Mark Glaudemans, Dave Riley
OHD – Jon Roe, Chris Dietz, Pedro Restrepo (briefly)

Pre-reading:

- None

1. Support Log - daily Beta test calls still ongoing; no need to cover the same ground twice in this meeting.

- ResSim - can CNRFC move forward with a BOC implementation given the recent info about ResSim's shortcomings in its Hotstart/Look-back capability? After some discussion, answer was Yes. This flaw in ResSim has no impact on results or CNRFC's ability to use it operationally. OHD will not proceed with tasking RMA to make ResSim design changes at this time. Other RFCs considering using ResSim (not a BOC requirement for anyone else) must factor this into their decision.
- The Beta test team decided today to put the "Run All" button back on the IFD for Patch #3. [This button was in the original IFD but subsequently removed. Deltares/Andre says the change is very simple.] For now it will be reinstated as it was before; details on specifics will be worked out later.
- Regarding the October release: Deltares requests the CAT install the official release when it comes out, rather than continue to exist with the pre-release + numerous patches. Peter will find out if there were any changes to the MC; if not then the CATs may not need to reinstall that component. All RFCs will place the official release on a test system first. Although it means extra work for their offices, the CAT agreed to do so.
- CNRFC plans to go operational next week.

Action: Peter to find out and report back if the official October release contains any changes to the MC.

2. Status of BOC release for CAT-II

- Release is currently scheduled for deployment to the CAT-II during the week of October 11 (12).
- NERFC will receive patch #3 on Friday 10/8; AB, CN, and NW will receive it Tues 10/12. We should include patch #3 in the deployment to CAT-II.
- CAT meeting in Taunton is Oct 20-22. HSD/RandyR will not be available to help with the installations on those days.
- NCRFC has been busy and has only recently installed the June release.
- Forecaster training for CBRFC and NCRFC is scheduled for week of Oct 25.
- CONCLUSION: the CAT agreed Deltares should delay the official BOC release to CAT-II by one week (to the week of 10/18). CBRFC will receive the release early in the week before the CAT meeting; HSD will provide support for them. Deltares will train CBRFC on the new release and will train the NCRFC staff on the old (June) release. NCRFC will hold off installing the release until after their training. Other CAT-II installations can begin any time during/after the week of Oct 25.

Action: HSD to confirm Randy's availability to install the new release at CBRFC on Oct 18-19.

3. Training Planning

- MarkG is leading future planning for CHPS training, working closely with NWSTC (Tessmer). NWSTC will focus on Configuration training first, using Deltares documentation as the basis. Peter will check on the state of the Online help (i.e., the Help button on the FEWS interface) – it might need scrubbing. The NWSTC could hire Deltares via a dedicated task to ‘train the trainer’.
- NWSTC will develop web-based modules, which will be accessible through CLC. They might also conduct complementary webinars. They will consider “reverse residence” classes, where the NWSTC visits the RFC, not the other way around. Scott Tessmer wants the NWSTC to conduct the first workshops in March; it's important these don't clash with CAT-II Forecaster training, which doesn't finish until the first week in February.
- Teresa Murphy is now the lead for CHPS training and will dedicate most of her efforts to this. NWSTC has just hired a new person (DaveH) who will focus on CHPS 100% of his time. Both of these would like to attend CAT-II Forecaster training at MBRFC if there's space (also possibly elsewhere). Teresa would additionally like to visit ABRFC to see their CHPS in operational use.
- NWSTC recently purchased its own hardware. Although HSD has offered to help NWSTC get up and running and troubleshoot some problems, HSD assured the CAT that it will **not** be at the expense of any RFC support.
- NWSTC is looking for guidance from the RFCs on CHPS training. MarkG is looking for nominees for a Training Advisory Group; one per CAT RFC. The group will advise the NWSTC regarding future CHPS training. There will not be a huge amount of work. Nominees should if possible have some CHPS experience across multiple areas, but initially it would focus on Configuration. Participants don't have to be senior staff. MarkG will send an email with more information. He requests nominations within 2 weeks.

Action: MarkG to send an email describing the Training Advisory Group

Action: Each CAT will nominate a representative for the new Training Advisory Group within 2 weeks.

Action: Peter will check on the state of the Online help (i.e., the Help button on the FEWS interface)

Next meeting: Thursday October 14, 2010