Minutes from CHPS Meeting Thursday August 5, 2010

Attendees:
ABRFC – Billy Olsen, Jeff McMurphy, Mike Pierce
CNRFC –Pete Fickensher
NERFC – Rob Shedd, David Vallee, Ron Horwood
NWRFC – Harold Opitz
NOHRSC – (absent)
Deltares – Peter Gijsbers
OCWWS HSD – Randy Rieman, Dave Riley
OHD – Pedro Restrepo, Chris Dietz

Pre-reading:
   o   Support Log distributed via chps_ops on August 4, 2010

1.   Health check on Support Log (major issues, show stoppers)

       ABRFC:
               We have a new issue, reported via the chps_ops list ("ImportGrids failing on MC00").
               The system is truncating the gridded data input. HSD saw it come in, and will look into it
               ASAP.

               We have a second issue where the sacbasef date doesn't change properly - it isn't making
               it into the update-states and has to be manually re-set. We're still investigating because
               it's possibly operator error. NE also saw those kinds of issues some time ago but they've
               mostly been cleared up for them.

       NERFC:
               No new issues. We're waiting for the patch to address SACCO problems. Peter reported
               the patch will hopefully be delivered by Deltares to HSD today; Randy will then release
               it to the CATs.

       NWRFC:
               Waiting for the patch. Will try spinning up the USACE interface tomorrow (Friday) for
               the Green River. There are some issues with generating output but they are not CHPS
               issues. If the trial works we'll go into true parallel operations on the Green River with
               CHPS primary/issuing products, and running on NWSRFS later in the morning. We still
               plan to go operational on August 19.

       CNRFC:
               We're not really putting a lot of pressure on the OC. Most of our efforts are going into
               the 10-year retrospective validation. We are finding some glitches in the migration. In a
               few cases we can't resolve the differences and are beginning to question the model
               migration. Examples are RESSNGL and SNOW-17. We suspect the snow model doesn't
               work the same in the rain-snow phase; when forcings are identical we see differences of
               5000 cfs in 60,000 cfs, which is significant. PeteF has been out 3 of the last 4 weeks, but
               he'll be back next Monday.

       Action: none.

2. Upcoming software patch

   Deltares apologizes for having introduced a problem (breaking SACCO mods) with the last patch. The change to improve performance when reading time series had an inadvertent side effect. Peter has tested the fix but it only seems to work for single basin scenario not multi-basin. Peter suspects Andre used ABRFC (no multi-basin example) for his testing and has provided Andre with the correct information.

   Additionally Deltares is finishing up some fixes for snow mods and sacbasef; Peter will test them today and hopes to include it in the same patch for release in the next day or so. NERFC and NWRFC are both dependent on the SACCO mods working properly. If Peter finds the snow and sacbasef fixes don't work, he will still go ahead and release the SACCO patch but will release the snow and sacbasef fixes in a different patch next week.

   Action: none.

3. Any other items?

   - The Advanced System Manager's training is coming up at the end of August (Aug 31 – Sept 2). ChrisM from CNRFC will have to miss the final morning. The training is being hosted by HSD. Attendees should meet in the 7th floor lab (which has a new card reader on its double doors - no more cipher lock).
   - Peter wanted to highlight that he recently sent out notes about making the standby systems function as duty systems in case of calamity. He hopes the instructions were good enough. He points out that if you experience an error you should be careful to not switch off synchronization – if you don't have sync running you'll never have use of your standby system which would be a sad waste of funds! ABRFC noted that during their MC00/import grids situation they were running parallel data ingest streams. They successfully got their 2nd MC up and running ~30 mins ago but when they went to use if they only had 4 days of future data. There's no error showing up in the data ingest for the 2nd MC. Peter said he would look into it after he's finished working on the patch release. Another issue…. ABRFC sets the 12 hour QPF time period to -6:+6 hours instead of 0:12 hours; but after the latest patch it was reset to 0:12 and they had to go back in and reset it to -6:+6. Peter will talk to Delft about that.
   - CAT presentations next week – no slide presentations are really necessary for the 5-10 minute status updates from the CAT RFCs. RobH is preparing slides for the 45min-1hour session on Beyond CHPS BOC/BOC-II. Rob said he has a couple of slides, as does David Vallee.

   Action: none.

Next meeting: No meeting next week (HIC conference); next meeting will be Thursday Aug 19, 2010