

**MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD**

**SUBJECT:** Savannah Harbor Expansion Project; SMART meeting

**DATE:** 12 December 2001

**LOCATION:** EPA, Atlanta

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Jim Greenfield	EPA
Paul Conrads	USGS
William Bailey	USACE
Danny Mendelsohn	ASA
Bo Ellis	ATM
Eduardo Yassuda	ASATM
Matt Goodrich	ATM

**BACKGROUND:** This was the second meeting of the Savannah Multi-Agency Review Team (SMART) to review and discuss ATM's progress on the hydrodynamic modeling that they are conducting for GPA on the Expansion Project. The SMART is composed of technical modeling experts from EPA (Jim Greenfield), USGS (Paul Conrads) representing the USFWS, and USACOE (Sung-Chan Kim), and myself. The NMFS is kept informed of the SMART meetings and any conclusions that are reached, but the NMFS has declined to participate directly, relying instead on the views of the USFWS. The SMART was formed to assist ATM/GPA in the final stages of their model development. The intention is for the SMART to meet on a regular basis to discuss direction, ideas, developments and generally to coordinate the calibration development activities.

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Danny Mendelsohn (ASA/ATM) gave an update of his efforts on the Hydro model calibration. He reported primarily on his efforts on the temperature portion of the model.
  - (A) He had tried the 25% shading of the upper river (Clyo to the harbor) that the SMART had recommended at its previous meeting. He said that the model's calculated values were still substantially higher than the data.
  - (B) The group suggested he try higher shading values, up to a 50% level. They thought that value would be acceptable since the river is relatively narrow with trees lining both banks.

- (C) No new input data had been obtained on the heat release for the SEPCO power plant in the harbor. ATM will check further to try to obtain or develop input values for this feature.
2. Danny then briefly discussed the salinity portion of the model.
    - (A) The group agreed that the model output should be in 1-hour time steps. More detailed information would not be particularly useful in evaluating impacts.
    - (B) The group agreed that Danny should adjust the model to correct for any error in phase before statistics are run on the calibration. In addition to reporting the statistic, the phase correction applied will be reported.
  3. At this point, the following looks reasonable as a schedule for progress on the Hydro model: Preliminary calibration in February and final calibration in March.
  4. Eduardo Yassuda (ASATM) then gave an update of his efforts on the Dissolved Oxygen model.
    - (A) He has begun reviewing the D.O. data.
    - (B) EPA/GADNR will provide upstream input data from their model of the Savannah River by the February meeting. ATM needs to include this in their model.
    - (C) Eduardo will also present statistics on the model performance in terms of D.O. deficit.
    - (D) The Corps will write (email) ATM requesting that model be capable of using 2 CBOD degradation rate constants. Including this capability now would save valuable time later if the initial calibration is inadequate using only a single rate. The modeler's time would be saved during the critical period later in the calibration process.
  5. The group agreed to meet again in February. The SMART would meet on the afternoon of the 12<sup>th</sup>, and the MTRG would meet on the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup>.

William Bailey  
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