Qualitative Indicator Analysis – Stakeholders

Basin Scale Water Balance

Although the individuals involved in this macrotheme are highly productive and successful in disseminating results in peer-reviewed literature, we recognize the need to perform research relevant to, and in partnership with, stakeholders and to disseminate research results beyond scientific literature. We have established close collaboration with water resource professionals including, but not limited to:

- the State Engineers Office in New Mexico,
- the City of El Paso Water Utilities,
- the Valles Caldera National Preserve and Trust,
- the Salt River Project (water resources for Phoenix).

Our research efforts are, in large part, guided by our interactions with these stakeholders, most of whom have become research partners. Several PI's in this macrotheme also contribute to the Master of Engineering program (UA) for continuing education and in the development of short courses for water professionals.

River Systems

Active and ongoing partnerships are continuing with the Upper San Pedro Partnership and The Nature Conservancy. These include conducting basic science for improved basin and system understanding, development of models to aide in decision-making, interpreting science for outreach efforts, and regular meetings with elected officials and land mangers. A significant effort was also initiated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Albuquerque to work on integrating SAHRA science with ACE riparian restoration efforts on the Rio Grande.

Integrated Modeling

Numerous meetings that involved direct and significant interaction between SAHRA scientists and stakeholders occurred during 2004, but we have no proper record of most of these interactions. A noteworthy meeting however, occurred in New Mexico between SAHRA researchers Brookshire and Boyle and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers based on which a Memorandum of Understanding was signed that gives SAHRA scientists access to research/operational versions of codes being developed by the MOU signatories. This MOU enabled us access to the Riverware/URGWOM code used by the NM State Engineers office for management of water transfers along the Rio Grande, which is critical to the water banking/markets modeling activity.