

Notes from CAT-II Meeting Tuesday April 28, 2009

Name of RFC representative in attendance:

APRFC	Ben Balk (Scott Lindsey absent)
MBRFC	Tom Gurss
NCRFC	Mike DeWeese
MARFC	Peter Ahnert
OHRFC	Tom Adams
LMRFC	Dave Reed
SERFC	John Feldt
WGRFC	Bob Corby
CBRFC	Michelle Schmidt

CAT members present:

CNRFC	Rob Hartman
NWRFC	Harold Opitz
NERFC	Rob Shedd

Also present:

Jon Roe, Chief, OHD HSEB
Chris Dietz, OHD HSEB, CHPS Project Manager
Dan Stein, Wyle
Randy Rieman, OCWWS HSD
Edwin Welles, Deltares

Document reference: "Baseline Operational Capability II For CAT RFCs", Version 20090421, distributed by Rob Hartman via the cat_2 infolist.

Agenda:

1. Action Item status update
 - 1.1. Deltares/Edwin reported that a new approach will be to issue a draft list of Techniques in operational use at CAT-II RFCs (due date Friday 5/1/09 COB); all RFCs should review the list and report back to Edwin (due date Friday 5/8/09 COB)
 - 1.2. Chris reported that some RFCs (CATs, primarily) still owe information on their IHABBS usage.

2. Continued discussion of the referenced BOC-II document

2.1. Section 26 Rating Tables:

- Deltares will handle whatever format the NWS requires; but we don't want to limit ourselves to the old NWSRFS format. NCRFC (Dan Pokorny) has developed an application to process ratings tables from the USGS and output in XML. NWRFC uses an alternative mechanism. NWRFC and NCRFC took an action to propose a single XML format, then provide examples of it to Deltares.
- Dave Reed has a requirements document which was developed a few years ago; he will forward to the list
- For BOC the ratings tables and processing will be done separately/outside of CHPS. FEWS has an internal XML schema to handle rating curves; it is being expanded to handle NWS requirements.

2.2. Section 27 "More..."

- LMRFC has a requirement to override the simulated time series at the downstream boundary by running an external script to generate a run-time MOD. This can be treated as a new forcings time series to be fed into FEWS.
- OHRFC has a requirement to ingest and use lock/dam gate settings which are pre-defined by the USACE. This is not an issue; FEWS can handle this (cf. NWRFC).
- OHRFC also uses snow model water equivalent produced by NOHRSC as observations for their own modeling. The data are fed into the NWSRFS pre-processed database via the OFS version of SHEF parser/poster. They do not go through the IHFS_DB. This will be a problem, as the OFS databases will disappear in CHPS. Several options are possible – the CAT needs to investigate further. Can either push the data into the IHFS_DB and have the modified ofsde extract for routine/standard ingest into CHPS; or RFC can convert data to SHEF and have the FEWS SHEF ingest module process it.
- Revisit IHABBS – several RFCs use IHABBS for basin delineation and for UHG development. It is desirable to use a common tool. IHABBS was developed/is maintained by NOHRSC but funding for enhancements has been limited in past years. Some sites stopped using it. APRFC is using an old Informix-based version. An alternative solution might be to use ArcGIS for basin delineations. As an aside, FEWS will accept shape files; note that the number of points defining a basin is not limited in FEWS the way it is in OFS. Basin definition and UHG development are both done outside of CHPS; Rob Hartman and Chris agreed to take this topic to the CAT for discussion.

3. Rob Hartman will update and distribute the BOC-II document based on discussions from this meeting.

4. Chris will distribute notes from this meeting.

5. **Next meeting:** The RFCs need a break from these weekly meetings. The buddy visits are about to begin. We would like to review progress approximately half way through, perhaps at the end of May. Concluded that we will meet on **Tuesday May 26 at 11:00 am EDT**. We will have completed 3 buddy visits by then.

Action Number/Item	Who	Notes
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C2-03102009-01: Capture changes to BOC-II from this meeting; distribute updated version of BOC-II document	Rob Hartman	Closed (updated version emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03102009-02: Distribute “matrix” from the OHD (“national”) Forcings Team, which describes CAT strategy/requirements for transition to CHPS in the absence of NWSRFS pre-processors	Harold Opitz	Closed (matrix emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03102009-03: Each CAT-II RFC to prepare initial version of their entry for the Forcings “matrix”	CAT-II attendees	Closed (all responses received via email by 3/24/09)
C2-03102009-04: Get statement from Deltares whether FEWS has capability to identify sensitive/proprietary data that must be excluded from external reports (BOC requirement)	Harold Opitz	Closed (email exchanged on 3/17/09). Update 3/24/09: Chris to send to CAT-IIs the answer from Deltares for this AI
C2-03102009-05: Distribute notes from this meeting to the cat_2 infolist	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/10/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03172009-01: Distribute notes from this meeting to the cat_2 infolist	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/20/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03242009-01: distribute to all of the CAT-IIs instructions (also script?) originally developed by Joe Ostrowski for the purpose of identifying NWSRFS operations in active use	Chris Dietz	Closed (emailed on 3/25/09 to cat_2 infolist)
C2-03242009-02: review list of operations to make sure they’re accurate; please notify RobH if any critical operations are missing	All CAT-IIs	Closed (emails received)
C2-03242009-03: review list of operations in BOC-II doc to make sure it matches the original script output we gathered	Chris Dietz	Closed (emails received)
C2-03242009-04: update (correct, complete) the Software Migration Mapping document; distribute the updated version to the cat_2 infolist	Deltares/Edwin Welles	Open.
C2-03242009-05: Compile and distribute to the CAT-II a matrix showing every RFC’s response for AI # C2-03102009-03	OHD/TBD	Closed. Sent via email by Mark Glaudemans to cat_2 infolist on 3/27/2009

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C2-03242009-06: Time series output from HL-RDHM must ingestible into CHPS; HSMB will define a format (e.g., SHEF) for said HL-RDHM output and change the HL-RDHM software accordingly	OHD/HSMB	Open.
C2-03242009-07: For agenda April 7 meeting: report from NERFC on their investigation into a replacement HWG process.	Rob Shedd	Closed. Presented as part of the 4/9/09 monthly briefing.
C2-040720090-01: Find out status of Baseflow implementation in OHD (incl MODs)	Chris Dietz	Closed. Now irrelevant, since no RFC uses BASEFLOW.
C2-040720090-02: Check to see if cat_2 infolist is working correctly. NCRFC reports not receiving some mailings.	Chris Dietz	Closed per email from Mike DeWeese on 4/22/09.
C2-041420090-01: Send out an email on preparing for CHPS prototype hardware IP addresses	Randy Rieman	Open
C2-041420090-02: Send out documentation to cat_2 infolist on ER approach/procedures for RFC site backup	George McKillop	Closed by email to cat_2 infolist on 4/20/09.
C2-041420090-03: Send list of Techniques used to Chris (including esp)	CAT-II	Closed (OBE).
C2-041420090-04: Let Chris know if you use IHABBS and if so, which version	CAT-II	Open. 4/29/09: still waiting for info from ABRFC, NWRFC, CNRFC.
C2-04212009-01: Forward to the cat_2 list documentation on DailyQC's algorithm to fill in missing station data.	Mark Glaudemans	Open
C2-04212009-02: Come up with an alternative mechanism to define Techniques that are in operational use at all RFCs; solicit results from all RFCs	Deltares/Edwin, Joe Ostrowski	Closed. Report provided at meeting on 4/21/09
C2-04282009-01: Draft a list of Techniques and distribute to CAT-II	Deltares/Edwin	Open. Due date 5/1/09

Action Number/Item	Who	Notes
C2-04282009-02: Review and provide feedback on list of Techniques from AI # C2-04282009-01	CAT-II	Open. Due date 5/8/09
C2-04282009-03: Determine a single XML format for describing rating tables for ingest into CHPS; send examples using the agreed format to Deltares/Edwin	Harold, Mike DeWeese	Open.
C2-04282009-04: Distribute functional requirements document for USGS rating tables retrieval and processing.	Dave Reed	Closed. Forwarded to the cat_2 infolist on 4/28/09
C2-04282009-05: Come up with a proposal for ingesting NOHRSC SMWE data into CHPS to meet OHRFC's requirement	CAT	Open
C2-04282009-06: Add to the next CAT call agenda an item to discuss a national approach for alternative to IHABBS as a basin delineation and UHG development tool.	Chris	Open. Due date 4/30/09