# Minutes – Souris River Project meeting: 2011-11-17

## Attendance:

Stuart Hamilton – Aquatic Infromatics

Touraj Farahmand – Aquatic Informatics

Laura De Cicco - USGS

Alex Joseph - Cybera

Lingling Liu - WSC

Jeff Woodward - SWA

Dave Sibley - USGS

Bob Harrison - MWS

Russ Boals – International Souris River Board

## Project Planning – Identification of Data assets to be included within scope of the project:

**MWS:**

1. Flood outlooks – seasonal forecasts published in February and March.
2. Hydrometric gauges on tributaries to the Souris

**USGS:**

1. Discharge for locations in the Souris River watershed
2. Water Levels for locations in the Souris River watershed
3. Rating curves for locations in Souris River watershed?
4. Field observations – rating measurements in the Souris River watershed

**NOAA:**

1. John Halquist was not present to speak to the NOAA data assets to be included in the project. Action item for Stu Hamilton to follow up with John to find out.

**SWA:**

1. Discharge
2. Water Level
3. Rating curves?
4. Field Observations
5. Forecasts
6. Reservoir operations?
7. Snowpack?

**WSC:**

1. Discharge
2. Water Level
3. Rating curves?
4. Field observations

## Discussion

Laura identified rating curves as a data asset to be included in the project. Touraj responded that it may be unlikely that the WaterML2.0 structure will accommodate rating curves within the time-frame of this project. This discussion will need to be fed back into the waterml-2.0 SWG for clarification. Rating curves are listed as data assets for this project with a question mark.

Lingling expressed concern about what will be exposed, to whom, from the WSC database. This led into a wider discussion on user-level permissions, data qualities (grades, flags, approval levels, notes etc.), data disclaimers, trust relations between agencies, and corporate policy on limiting liability. It is unclear whether WaterML2.0 has a structure that is adequate for the purpose of filtering sub-standard data in a get request, or for differentiating data based on end-user authentication (e.g. can raw data be shared based on an established trust relation but filtered from an anonymous request?).

Bob asked about reservoir operations data and suggested that the US National Fish and Wildlife Service should be able to provide relevant data. It is not at all clear whether reservoir operations data can be encoded in WaterML2.0. Including this type of data as in scope for this project is with a large questions mark. This question will need to be asked of the WaterML2.0 SWG. Russ said he would contact USNFWS to see if they would be interested in participating.

Jeff said that SWA has snowpack data that could be shared. It is not clear if this type of data can be encoded in WaterML2.0. A large question mark is also put on including this type of data in scope of the project. Again, this is a question for the WaterML2.0 SWG.

Touraj and Stu offered to draft a project plan based on the objectives discussed today. The draft plan would be put on the wiki site by the end of next week for group input.

There was consensus that bi-weekly meetings should be scheduled to manage the project. The next meeting will be Wednesday November 30 at 8:00 am PST (UTC-8).