



Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

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September 18, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Moscow UI Facilities Services Center, Jack's Creek Meeting Room

Attendance

X	UI: Michael Holthaus, Water Systems Manager	X	WSU: Mike Leonas, Project Manager, Capital Planning & Dev.
X	UI: Joe Kline, Director, Utilities and Engineering	X	WSU: Rob Corcoran, Asst Dir, Arch, Engr & Const Services
X	Moscow: Tom Scallorn, Water Dept Superintendent	X	Pullman: Mark Workman (Chair), Director of Public Works
X	Moscow: Walter Steed, City Council Member		Pullman: Art Garro, Maintenance & Operations Superintendent
X	Moscow: Les MacDonald, Director of Public Works	X	Pullman: Barney Waldrop, City Council Member
X	Latah County: Paul Kimmell (Vice- Chair), County Representative		Whitman County: Mark Storey, Director of Public Works
	Latah County: Tom Stroschein, County Commissioner		Whitman County: Jerry Finch, County Commissioner
X	Colfax: Carl Thompson, City Administrator		Colfax: Andy Rogers, Public Works Supervisor

Visitors and Others

Kathleen Warnick; Guy Gregory, WDOE; Bob Haynes, IDWR; Beth Clark, Landau Assoc; David Hall, Palouse Water Conservation Network; Mary Rosen, Palouse Conservation District; Chuck Harris, UI WoW; Steve Robischon, PBAC

Call to Order

Paul Kimmell, PBAC Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM.

1) Approval of the July 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The July minutes were approved by consensus.

2) Presentation - "The Palouse Basin Participatory Model Pilot Project" – Allyson Beall

Beall presented a preview of the presentation planned for the Water Summit. PBAC members asked questions about and commented upon aspects of the presentation that they would like to have modified. Beall will make the agreed upon modifications and present the final product at the October 7 Summit.

3) Unfinished Business -

Pullman/WSU Wastewater Reclamation Project – Elson Floyd Letters

Robischon displayed copies of the letter PBAC/CAG sent to and the response received from President Floyd. Workman reported that representatives from Pullman and the CAG are working on a FAQ about the project. Several noted that the largest challenge to the project is the current fiscal situation in the State of Washington.

Continuation of Grande Ronde Monitoring/Testing Project

Continuation of the project was tentatively approved at the PBAC April meeting, but a suitable graduate student has not yet been identified to conduct the research. The cost of the project may be higher than initially estimated, as PBAC may no longer qualify for an overhead waiver on new projects. The group passed a motion to extend their tentative approval at least until next semester in hopes of securing the commitment of a student researcher at that time.

Data Logger Status

Robischon displayed a listing of 57 data loggers that have been or are being used on the Palouse. Not all of the loggers belong to PBAC – 4 are owned by WDOE. Data logger purchase dates range from the most recent purchase in August 2008 back to the first loggers purchased in 1999. It is not apparent that age is the primary factor in logger failure. As the IDWR Monitoring Well completion project has purchased 4 new loggers, there are now four spares that can be utilized as necessary. Robischon indicated he will be looking more closely at the logger performance and the overall monitoring program in hopes of streamlining and improving the process.

4) New Business –

Conference Travel for Osiensky/Bennett

Robischon displayed emails from Osiensky requesting travel reimbursement for a trip to Boise where Bennett will make a presentation on the Wanapum monitoring/testing project (at the 2008 Groundwater Connections Conference). The travel budget in the Wanapum project does not contain sufficient funds to cover expenses, so Osiensky is requesting that funds be transferred from the Grande Ronde monitoring/testing project. The group agreed to fund the request, and added an admonishment to Osiensky for not submitting the request either well in advance or as part of the original project scope. The group also required that the presentation include up-front materials describing PBAC and its mission, as well as an acknowledgement of its continuing financial contributions to the research.

5) PBAC Projects Progress Report

Robischon reported that project work on the Grande Ronde monitoring/testing project is complete, and Aaren Fiedler plans to defend his thesis this fall. A graduate student has not yet been identified to conduct the continuation of the project (ASR Impacts). Scallorn reported that representatives from Boart Longyear will be in town beginning next week to place a packer in the bottom of the well and pump test Moscow Well 2 in an attempt to identify the sand source that caused a pump failure earlier this year. Once the testing at Well 2 is completed, the firm will remobilize to the Moscow cemetery and redevelop the (new) Cemetery well.

6) Citizens Advisory Group Report

Robischon displayed biography materials for Susan Wilson, a proposed addition to the CAG as Idaho rural representative to the group. A motion was passed by the group to approve Susan's addition as an official member of the CAG.

7) Budget Report

Robischon displayed the FY09 budget that projects (based upon current commitments) a reserve of approximately \$250,000 at fiscal year end. Robischon noted that \$5,100 of expenses against the Grande Ronde (Fiedler) project had been incurred but not expensed during FY08 and so they show up as FY09 expenses.

8) Other Reports and Announcements –

WRIA 34

Rosen announced the next WRIA meeting will be held the second Wednesday in October, preceded by a South Fork TMDL meeting. The draft Detailed Implementation Plan is due out soon. Thompson noted that North Fork instream flow meetings are also ongoing. Robischon noted that Phil Brown had presented results from the Kamiak Butte study indicating that, at the basalt-quartzite contact identified on the McIntosh property, a clay layer at the bottom of the basalt would likely preclude enhanced infiltration at that location. At other locations further up Kamiak Butte the contact was not found in the test pits that were excavated.

Water Summit Planning Report

Robischon summarized the latest draft agenda for the Summit, and Kimmell provided details of some expected highlights, including speeches by the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation (Robert Johnson) and the former Director of the Bureau of Land Management (Patrick Shea).

SF Palouse River TMDL

MacDonald reported that the South Fork Palouse River Water Quality Advisory Group (SFPRWQAG) group met and reviewed remaining fecal coliform information from portions of the basin. At next month's meeting, the group plans to begin discussing implementation and how best levels might be reduced.

Hawkins Stateline Project Status

MacDonald reported recent activities related to the joint powers agreement between Moscow and Whitman County. The Idaho Attorney General's Office has responded to a request from Moscow reinforcing the requirement for such an agreement. Whitman County sent a letter to Moscow identifying concerns in the draft agreement related to governance details and proposed water rates. The Moscow City Council responded that they are willing to discuss the governance issues, but are not willing to negotiate the rates. Haynes indicated that, absent a joint powers agreement, IDWR would deny Moscow's application to extend its service area into Washington to include the Stateline Project.

Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for October 16 in Pullman

9) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Submitted for review and approved at the September 16, 2008 PBAC meeting,

Steve Robischon, Executive Manager

The Palouse Basin Participatory Model Pilot Project

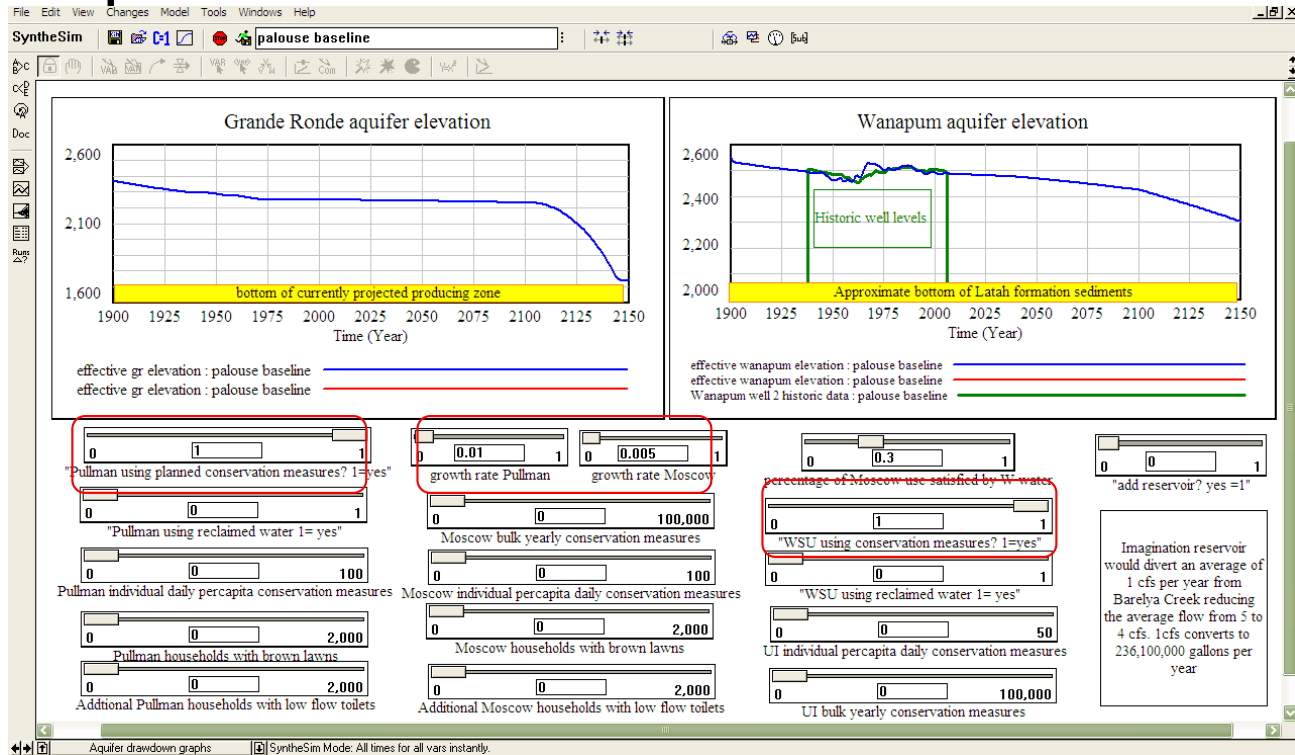
This model has been designed through a collaboration of representatives of the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee, their Citizens Advisory Group and the University of Idaho Waters of the West.

Model Version September 10, 2008

The purpose of the pilot project is to explore the use of participatory modeling as a potential decision support tool. This model is considered experimental.

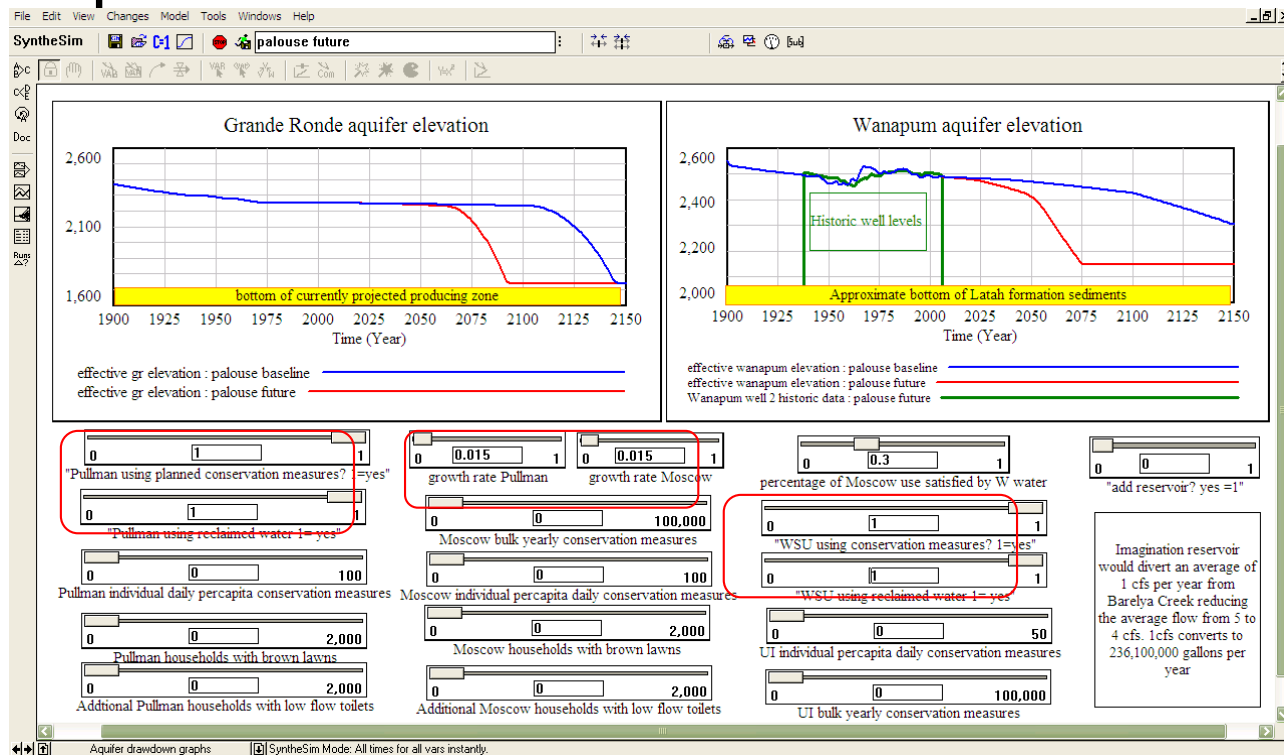
Scientific data contained herein has been verified and cited when at all possible. However due to the nature of the uncertainty that is inherent to many parameters contained in this model, assumptions have been made when necessary. Unless otherwise cited, the values contained in this model have not been validated by PBAC, the citizens advisory group or the University of Idaho Waters of the West.

Baseline



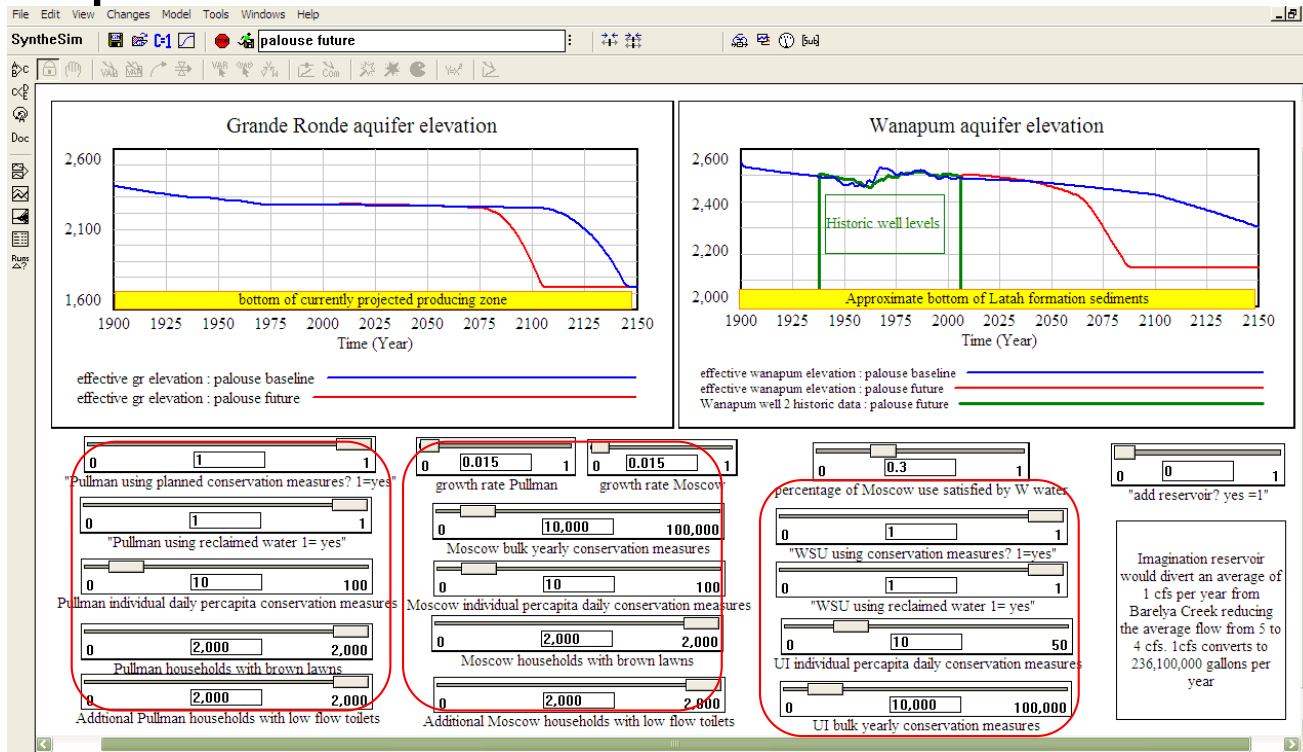


What if #1



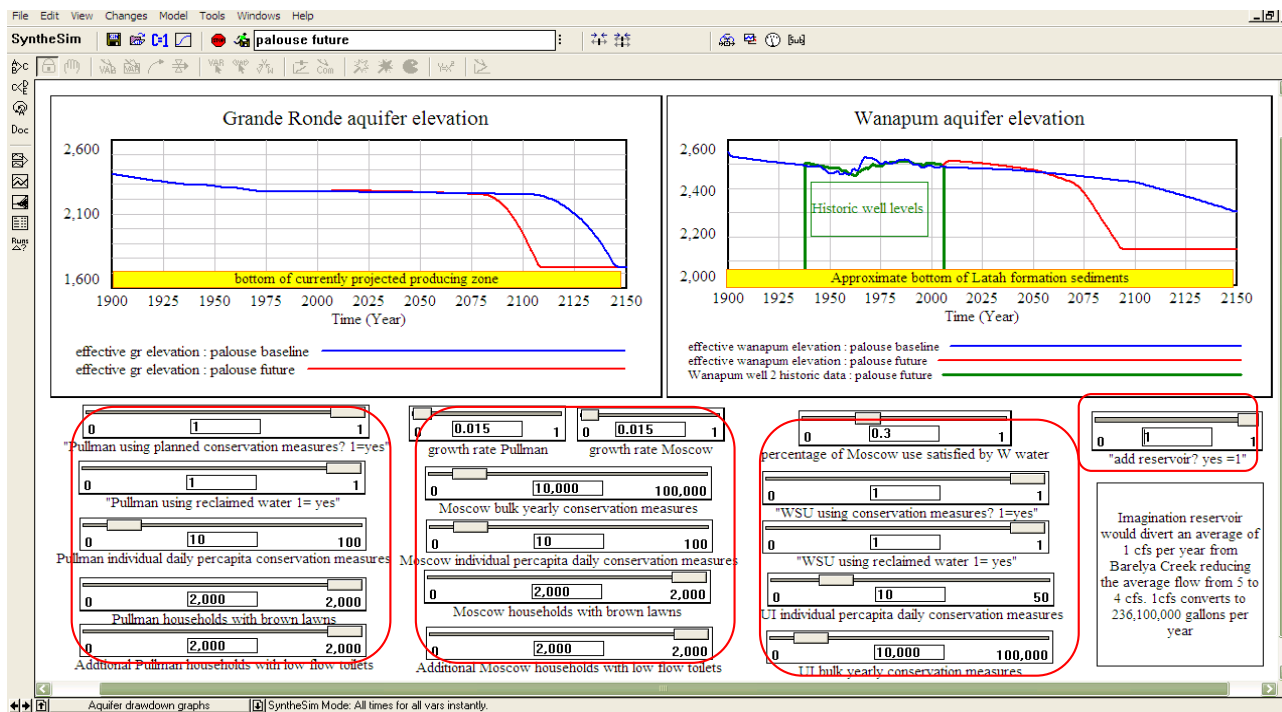


What if # 2



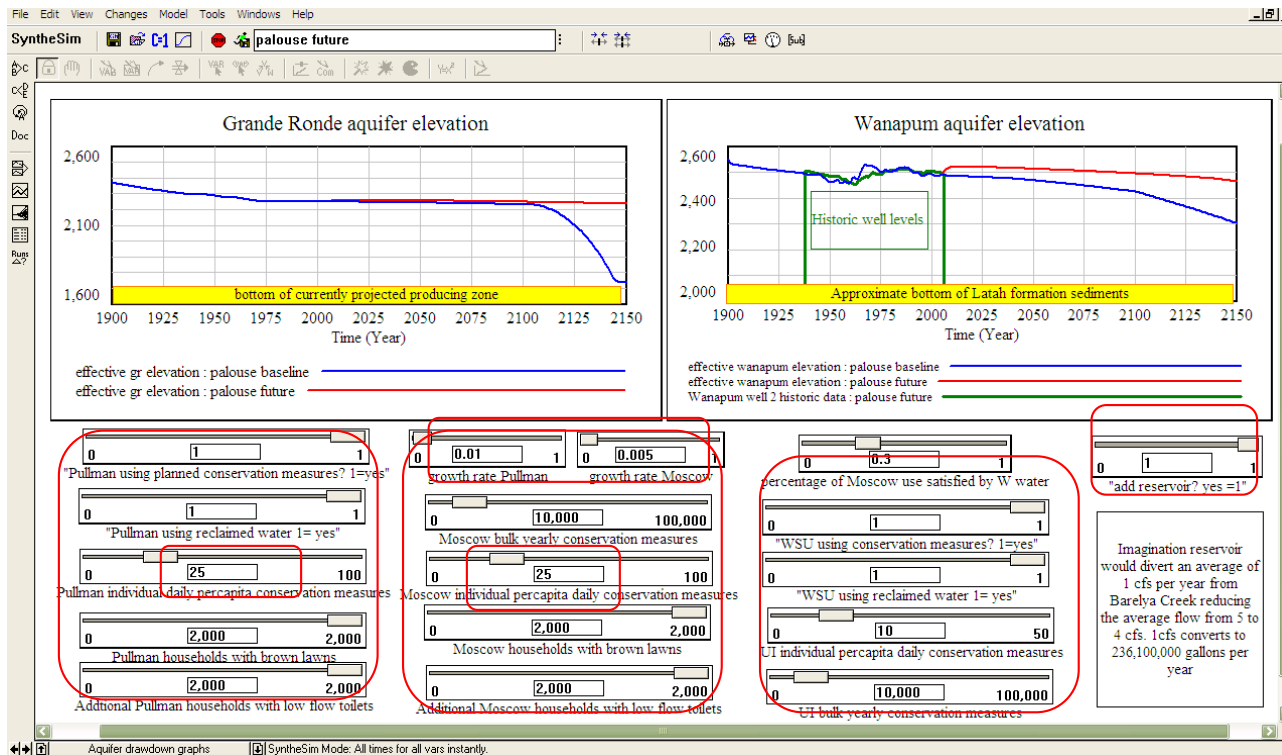


What if # 3





What if # 4





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Thank you to our participants:

Ree Brannon, Rob Corcoran, Kevin Gardes, Guy Gregory, David Hall, Suzanne Hamada, Helen Harrington, Kent Keller, Paul Kimmell, Joe Kline, Mike McVay, Cheryl Morgan, Ken Neely, Steve Robischon, Tom Scallorn, Julie Titone, and Mark Workman.

Thank you to our hydrologic advisors:

Jerry Fairley, Kent Keller, Jim Osiensky and Steve Robischon

UI Waters of the West

Participatory modeler: Allyson Beall

Hydrologic modeling support: Fritz Fiedler

Facilitation support: Jan Boll, Barb Cosens and Chuck Harris

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