

Welcome to the  
California Cooperative Snow  
Surveys  
54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

**Nov. 12-14, 2008**

**The Pines Resort**

**Bass Lake, CA**

# DWR Staff Introductions

## Snow Surveys Section

- Dave Rizzardo, Chief
- Frank Gehrke, Chief

## Forecasters

- Steve Nemeth
- John King
- Adam Schneider
- Andy Reising

## DFM – Hydrology and Flood Ops

- George Qualley, Chief Flood Mgmt.
- Gary Bardini, Chief Hydr. & Flood Ops
- Art Hinojosa, Chief Hydrology Branch
- Rick Louie, Reservoir Coord. Ops.
- John Deam, Gage/Course Maint.
- Jerry Nolan, Program Analyst
- Crystal Davis, Everything

# Meeting Agenda



## Thursday, Nov 13

Registration – see Crystal

0900-1015

Staff Reports

1015-1045

Break / Poster Session

1045-1215

Cooperator Reports

1215-1315

Lunch

1315-1445

Misc. Presentations  
(including Climate Outlook)

1445-1515

Break / Poster Session

1515-1645

More Presentations

1645

Adjourn

1800

Social Hour / Annual Banquet

## Friday, Nov. 14

0730-0900

Breakfast

0900-1130

Data Collection / Other Topics /  
Snow Notes

1130

Adjourn





# Announcement from Marianne Hallet, NRCS

2009 Westwide Snow Survey Training  
School



January 11-16, 2009



Granlibakken Conference Center

Tahoe City, California

Includes Snow Survival Training

for Snow Surveyors



Reservations by Dec. 11

1-800-543-3221

**PLEASE GRAB HANDOUT ON THE BACK TABLE**





# Do We Have Updated Contact Information for You or Your Agency?



Please Put Updated Contact  
Information on Contact Sheet at  
the Back of the Room

Or give us a business card



# CCSS Water Supply Modeling Forum

September 26, 2008  
hosted by SMUD

- 45 attendees representing 16 Agencies

Format:

Each agency gave 5-10 minute overview of their forecasting techniques

Moderated Discussions on:

- a. Disaggregating Seasonal Forecasts
- b. How to Improve Dry End Forecasts
- c. Use of and Improving Snow Melt Forecasts
- d. Typical Forecast Errors and how to deal with them

Small Group Discussions on:

- a. QC'ing and Archiving Snow Notes (discuss tomorrow morning)
- b. Dealing with Snow Pillow Data Issues



## Snow Surveys Section 2008 Highlights

- Developed an updated Lk. Frenchman and Lk. Davis forecast for SWP
- Began extensive work on PRMS calibration / updating for use on Feather watershed this spring
- Expanded Snow Course Maintenance Program and Created Maintenance database
- Trained 2 new DWR snow surveyors
- Developed Multi-User Forecasting System Interface (finally!)
- Developed 5-Station San Joaquin Precipitation Index (debuting this forecast season)
- Began Forecast Archiving Efforts – including snow notes
- Numerous B120 / WSI improvements
  - Late season snowmelt curves
  - Improved WY distribution methodology (we think)
  - Evaluated 80% confidence range changes from 2007
  - More Highlights in Staff Reports



## Snow Surveys Section Other Things We Do

- Provide Support to Management, Media, Academia, and even Foreign Governments
- Support the Climate Program and Statewide Drought Monitor Panel
- Represent DFM at various department meetings and committees
- Produce a number of reports available on CDEC
- Improving CCSS website on CDEC
- Recruit for DWR
- Write Chapter 8 of DWR Bulletin 132
- Teach “Hydrology Basics” Course
- Coordinate, present at, and attend various meetings and conferences
- Served on Floodplain Management Assoc. committee



To DO:

## Snow Surveys Section Workplan Highlights

All Sections of Hydrology and Flood Operations office have developed 5-year work plans

### Snow Surveys Highlights

- Employ use of PRMS in Feather, Yuba, and other watersheds for assistance with Snow Melt / Seasonal Forecasting Needs
- Explore new or different methods for producing Seasonal and WY Forecasts
- Develop Course Maintenance Action Plan
- Implement Multi-User Forecasting System
- Develop regional forecasting expertise within staff
- Continue to improve B120 / WSI forecasting technique
- Improve Customer Service / Satisfaction
- Ensure longevity of CCSS program
- Just in case...learn the Rain Dance...but need to learn calibration first