

WEI Main Table Meeting #24: TWG update

Wednesday, November 24, 2021



TWG Update

- Reservoir tour
- Naturalized hydrgraph
- WEI climate change modelling update
- Technical memos
- Sturgeon update
- Issues scoping update



Reservoir Tour

- Jayson, Andy, Tim, Gary, Mike, and James Rakochy
- Tahtsa Narrows and Wisteria areas to look at fish, wildlife, and erosion
- Gary, Tim, Mike, and James described various fish and wildlife concerns and provided local observations
- Inspected shoreline erosion areas
- Identified opportunity to use citizen science to narrow some data gaps
- Summary memo has been distributed
- Another tour proposed in the spring during lower reservoir elevation



Reservoir Tour

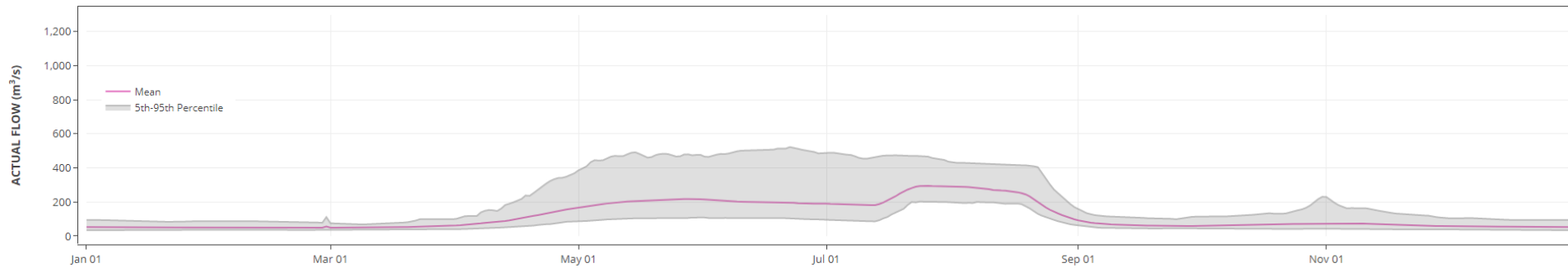


Reservoir Tour

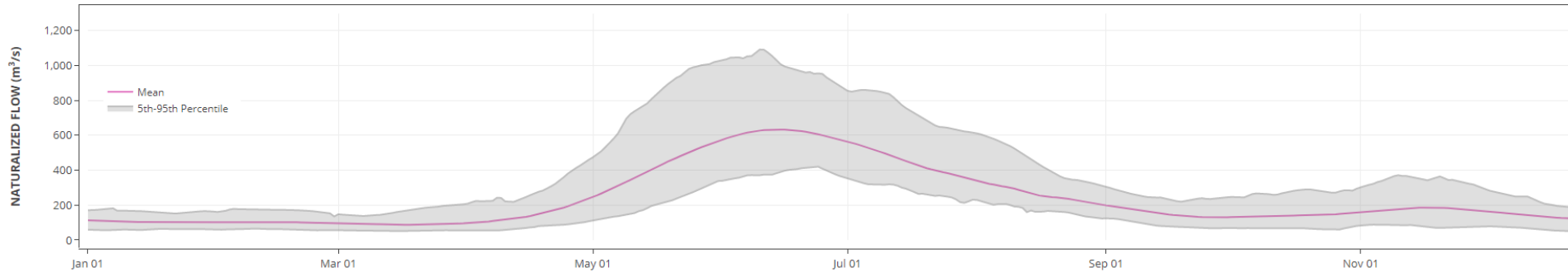


Naturalized Hydrograph

Actual Flows



Naturalized Flows



Climate Change

- Climate change modelling update
- Ongoing dialogue with UNBC, ETS, other researchers
- Preferred approach: integrated model
 - Climate change being built into RT reservoir model and river model
 - Includes temperature and precipitation
 - Anticipated spring 2022
- Alternative approach: piece-together model
 - Integrate interim climate change research and modeling
 - Identify a trigger (date) when we would pursue this option
- Next meeting on Friday Nov 26



Technical Memos

- Ecofish tasked by TWG to review/compile information for select complex interests/issues
- Draft memos under review by TWG
 - Naturalized Hydrograph
 - Wetlands
 - Wildlife
 - Caribou
 - Productivity
- Memos in progress:
 - Kemano Entrainment
 - Skins Lake Spillway Entrainment
 - Ramping
 - Salmon Water Temperature



Sturgeon

- Sturgeon clearly important to WEI and informing flow decisions
- Our approach has been to share information with NWSRI
- Moving forward, we want to
 - Strengthen our collaboration with NWSRI
 - Best understand how flow affects sturgeon
 - Consider broad range of options
 - Performance measures
 - Expert opinion
 - Adaptive management



Issues Scoping & Performance Measures

- Continue to scope issues, including full range of MT interests
 - 59 issues/groups of issues
 - Technical memos directly support 18 of the most complicated
 - Some data gaps and uncertainty
 - LIDAR and bathymetry
 - Additional research and memos
 - Additional experts Ecofish, Triton, NHC
 - Adaptive management
- Developing draft performance measures



TWG Next Steps

- Continue to integrate climate change
- Review and integrate other research and information
- Finalize technical/summary memos
- Continue to scope issues, develop PM
- Finalize reporting structure

