**BLUF:** Cherry Creek Dam, operated by the Omaha District **US Army Corps of Engineers** (USACE), undertakes a pressure flushing event annually. This flush is done by the Tri-Lakes O&M staff to ensure that deposited sediment does not affect the operability of the discharge gates. This project proposes to take advantage of the 2017 flush, partner with the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) on a case study, and include the 2018 flush in a comprehensive review of the benefits and impacts of reservoir flushing in the context of Regional Sediment Management.





# Approach (including Tools/Models/Data Used)

- Bureau of Reclamation has a 2-yr research unit on pressure flushing
- Team with BoR, USGS, City of Denver, and Denver Water to monitor and measure the pressure flush in May 2017 and May 2018
- Low flow flush (250cfs per gate) in 17
- High flow flush (1350cfs per gate) in 18
- BoR will complete multidimensional models for pressure flushing predication
- BoR providing multibeam surveys and reservoir sed samples
- Will develop a sed budget for flush and examine flush efficiency – with a goal of reducing the water needed for flushing











### 2017 Cherry Creek Flushing Operation Schedule

### Tues May 23, 2017

Scheduled	Task	Actual	Actual
Time (MDT)		Start Time	End Time
2:30pm	Gate 1 release 50 cfs and leave at 50 cfs overnight. Notes:		

### Wed May 24, 2017

Scheduled Time (MDT)	Task	Actual Start Time	Actual End Time
8:55	Gate 1 closed. Notes:		
9am	Gate 3 release 250 cfs for 15 minutes. Notes:		
9:15	Gate 3 closed. Notes:		
9:20	Gate 1 release 250 cfs for 15 minutes. Notes:		
9:35	Gate 1 closed. Notes:		
9:40	Gate 2 release 250 cfs for 15 minutes. Notes:		
9:55	Gate 2 closed. Notes:		
10am	Gate 4 release 250 cfs for 15 minutes. Notes:		
10:15	Gate 4 closed. Notes:		
10:20	Gate 5 release 250 cfs for 45 minutes for USGS flow measurement. Notes:		
11:05	Gate 5 closed. Notes:		
11:10	Reset to required State release. Notes:		



Gate Settings (for one service gate) at lake elevation ~ 5550 ft-msl. 50 cfs release = 0.20 feet 250 cfs release = 1.00 feet



### **Partners**

### **Participant Contacts**

#### US Army Corps of Engineers, Cherry Creek Dam Flush Operations

Joe Maxwell	Operations Project Mgr	720-982-6020
Scott Franklin	Civil Engineer	303-507-1368
Tim Rose	Ranger, Natural Resources	720-276-5303
Carl Voss	Engineer Tech	303-507-7443
Sandor Rebek	Engineer Tech	720-988-0365
Clyde Ullrich	Maintenance	720-816-5301

#### US Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha Water Control

Katie Seefus Civil Engineer 402-995-2309	· ·		
-	Katie Seefus	Civil Engineer	402-995-2309

#### US Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha Sediment Engineering

Dan Pridal	Hydraulic Engineer, Sediment Section Chief	402-995-2336
Paul Boyd	Hydraulic Engineer	402-253-6752
Bill Williams	Hydraulic Engineer	402-995-2920

#### Cherry Creek State Park

Jason Trujillo Park Manager 303-518-1659	lason Trujillo	urk Manager	303-518-1659
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#### City of Denver, Cherry Creek and Trail downstream of Cherry Creek Dam

Erick Anderson	Parks & Rec, Chief Inspector, Citywide Ops	303-514-3380
Joe Alire	Parks & Rec, Operations Supervisor	303-916-4421
	Park Rangers Hotline	303-331-4050
	Police Dept, Emergency	911
	Police Dept, Non-Emergency	720-913-2000

#### US Bureau of Reclamation, Sediment and River Hydraulics Group

Kent Collins	Hydraulic Engineer	303-868-0572
Blair Greimann	Hydraulic Engineer	303-517-8130

#### USGS

Greg Smith	Lakewood Field Office Chief	303-941-0550





### Value to the Nation

- Pressure flushing used at more reservoirs than first thought
- Most times the flush magnitude and duration is an historic SWAG
- Being able to model pressure flushing will allow better prediction of flush efficiency, possibly reducing water usage.
- May be a viable management action for other reservoirs

### Schedule

This week – surveys and sed samples in reservoir
23May – downstream channel surveys
24May – flush and post surveys





# RSM-U Workshop on Reservoir Management

# August 15-17, 2017 RMC, Lakewood, CO



US Army Corps of Engineers BUILDING STRONG®

# Supply – Demand Graphs

# 2% drought condition

# Kansas Basin Projected Water Supply Storage and Demand

Supply (Available - MGD) - - Supply (State-Owned - MGD) - Demand (MGD)





# Paonia Reservoir, 1961





# Paonia Reservoir, October 2014

Reservoir is 25% full of sediment

Source: Collins and Kimbrel, 2015 //3rdJFIC/Contents/9C-Collins.pdf

aov/sos/pu

# Why does it matter to RSM?

- Many of our inland river systems are sediment starved
- That sediment is being collected in reservoirs
- The reservoir and river system are interconnected – any management action for reservoirs has a direct regional effect on downstream river channels, including navigation channels and ports, marinas,





# Why Do a Workshop on Reservoir Management?

- Significant growth globally in active management of sediment in reservoirs – likely the result of reduced benefits due to age.
- Management agencies (USACE, Reclamation, NRCS, States) are increasingly looking to regain reservoir storage capacity to slow the loss of benefit
- Education of decision makers on the benefits/impact of the sediment management methods can lead to more flexible
   implementation.





# Who it is for?

- The content will be focused on the methods most commonly used for reservoir management.
- Regulatory, Planning, Ops Managers are the focus audience (non-Fed partners at Fed invite)
- An engineering workshop on assessment and numerical modeling of reservoir management methods is expected in 2018.

# Management Options w/Case Studies

- Sediment yield reduction
- Sediment bypass
- Sediment pass-through (routing, sluicing)
- Drawdown flushing
- Pressure flushing
- Hydrosuction

sediment downstream

Pass

Reactionary

- Inlet extension
- Density current venting
- Hydraulically assisted density current venting
- Sediment focusing
- Dredging
- Reallocation
- New reservoirs/dam raises





# Workshop Details:

- August 15-17, 2017
- 4<sup>th</sup> FI. Large Conf. Room @ Risk Management Center – Lakewood, CO
- No tuition!
- Instructors:
  - ► Dr. John Shelley, NWK
  - ► Dr. Paul Boyd, NWO
  - ► Dr. Ian Floyd, ERDC-CHL



Mr. Travis Dahl, ERDC-CHL



- Two days of classroom instruction
- Working demos
- Tour of the Reclamation Physical Modeling Lab at Denver Fed Center
- Site Visit and Case Study review of Pressure Flushing at Cherry Creek Dam





# Getting the word out!

- Promotional materials
- Distribution through RSM list
- Regulatory and Planning Chiefs in NWO will push to district counterparts
- Set up a registration site w/RSM





### Reservoir Sediment Management Workshop for Planners, Regulators, and Managers Aug 15th-17th, 2017



US Army Corps of Engineers

USACE Risk Management Center, Lakewood, CO

### Why attend?



Over half of the large dams in the United States are more than 50 years old. Impacts from sediment accumulation are having significant impacts on the benefits we all take for granted from reservoirs. The current strategy to "trap and store" sediment while starving downstream channels is not sustainable and will lead to both a dramatic increase in operations and maintenance costs and an eventual complete loss of reservoir benefits. Reservoir sediment management is becoming a necessity with a goal of eventual reservoir sustainability. Regulators, planners, and managers need to be prepared to make informed decisions about reservoir sediment management activities.

#### Workshop Topics:

The workshop will focus on the "big picture" of the impacts of reservoir sediment accumulation, the array of potential solutions, screening methods for sediment management options, and the reservoir management, environmental, and operational implications of both problems and solutions. The workshop will include large group lectures, breakout groups, case studies, hands-on demonstrations, and a site visit.

#### Who should attend:

Regulators, managers, planners, operators, and others who want to better understand the problems and solutions for reservoir sediment management are encouraged to attend.

#### Can non-Corps people attend?

State and Local agency personnel are welcomed with a USACE host.

Tuition: No tuition cost to participants.

#### Workshop Location:

Peck Conference Room—4th Floor USACE Risk Management Center 12596 West Bayaud, Suite 400 Lakewood, CO 80228

For Additional Information, Contact: Paul Boyd, NWO, 402-995-2350 paul.m.boyd@usace.army.mil John Shelley, NWK, 816-389-2310 john.shelley@usace.army.mil





Cherry Creek Dam and Reservoir

Sponsor: This workshop is being supported by the USACE Regional Sediment Management (RSM) program, which aims to develop a systems approach to deliberately manage sediments in a manner that maximizes natural and economic efficiencies to contribute to sustainable water resource projects, environments, and communities. Find out more at: http://rsm.usace.army.mil/

Sign up at: https://operations.erdc.dren.mil/nav/rsm.cfm?Step=1 by 31 July 2017



