

Linking the USGS Nontidal Network Website and the CBP Nontidal Indicator Website

Ken Hyer and others, 19 September 2012

Background – Last year there was a disconnect between the results and interpretation provided by USGS for the Nontidal Network, and the results that were posted in the CBP page.

New Developments – The USGS has developed an interactive website for the dissemination of results and interpretation from the Nontidal Network (Load, Trend, Yield, as well as Indicators); the site also provides detailed information on the network, partners, methods, and input data.

Coordination need - We need to coordinate the release of material between the USGS Nontidal Network site and the CBP Indicators site to provide a consistent message that contains all the pertinent results from the network.

Approach

-The vision from the CBP perspective is that they do not wish to only link to our maps and products, nor do they wish to try and recreate our website from the raw data files - instead a the current goal is a hybrid approach that leverages and preserves the content of our mapping tool exactly, while still allowing it to be served within the context of the CBP interactive mapper. This approach would prevent the Bay Program from having to rebuild the presentation of our results, but results in a more useful tool than providing a series of static maps or linkages to our site - this approach will actually integrate our results into the interactive mapping tool that the CBP has, again, while preserving the layout, content, symbology and such that we have already developed within our page.

-We will have our full set of 2011 water year results ready for release soon; John Wolf and Andy Fitch (CBP) will work with Ken Hyer and Cassandra Ladino (USGS) will begin working through rebuilding a connection to our site using the 2010 results at a prototype.

-We discussed the addition of a fairly prominent link back to the USGS site for those users who are looking for more detailed information related the data and files used in the analysis (the CBP page is designed for the “typical” user of the CBP indicator website). I'd envision that the more technical users will need access to some of the more detailed content found on the USGS page.

-One challenge to the approach described above is related to the interpretive content that is included on our website that resides outside of the interactive map (for example, the load and trend summaries, links to the raw data files, the trend and load files, and such). It was partially the loss of this interpretive content in the past that resulted in the disconnect between the 2 sites. While John and Andy are handling the mapping component of this work, we'll also need to work with Katie Foreman and Nita Sylvester to include the additional interpretive elements, including.

- need to update the text on the CBP website:
- will need to attach excel files of the NTN Results to the CBP Website.
- will need to prepare an Analysis and Methods document for the CBP Website.
- We'll use links back to the USGS site for the most technical issues that cannot be readily summarized.