

30 May 2008

Memorandum

To: Tim Schneider (HMT Project Manager)
From: Dr. Gary Carter and Dr. Marty Ralph (HMT Management Council)
Re: Directive to initiate and focus HMT-Southeast (HMT-SE) Planning

After significant consideration, we request the following steps be taken to advance the next Regional Implementation of HMT:

1) Focus HMT-SE on the Tar-Neuse River Basins in the Carolinas, and begin implementation in FY10

The Southeastern US is faced with serious flooding when tropical storms make landfall, and can suffer from complex winter season precipitation involving rain, snow, and freezing rain. Selection of the Tar-Neuse River Basins is made based on several considerations (represented by joint efforts of the NOAA/Weather & Water/ST&I and HYD Programs):

- the region extends from coastal estuaries to the summit of the Appalachian Mountains, and thus encompasses the geographic conditions required
- the region experiences the types of storms that have been the focus of planning for HMT's next Regional Implementation
- leverages efforts through NOAA's Sea Grant program (CI-Flow) and the NOAA in the Carolinas program
- establishes strong coordination between HMT and CERIS (Coastal Estuary River Information System)

2) Conduct an HMT-SE Planning Workshop in North Carolina early in FY09

(October-November, 2008). The workshop should engage those groups represented in the HMT Management Structure, other key NOAA components (Regional HQ, RFC, WFO, NinC, etc.) as well as important stakeholders. The workshop will focus on experimental design, organized around the five HMT Major Activity Areas and programmatic linkages. The outcome of the workshop should be a substantial implementation plan (document) that will guide HMT-SE planning.

Thank you for your efforts on the project and for your response to these actions.

Cc: HMT Advisory Panel