

OEH Flood Model Review

NSW Floodplain Development

Background

The NSW Department of Natural Resources (DNR) (now Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH)) engaged Manly Hydraulics Laboratory (MHL) to prepare a report summarising the features, applications and limitations of hydrologic and hydraulic computer modelling software commonly used in floodplain risk management in NSW.

The need for the review stems from the advancements in hydrologic and hydraulic modelling software packages in recent years and the need to keep local councils and OEH flood officers up-to-date and informed on these developments.

Project Scope

The aim of the project was not only to provide information on specific hydrologic and hydraulic software packages, but also provide a basic level of understanding of the theory behind flood modelling practice including hydrologic and hydraulic processes, modelling techniques, data requirements and model uncertainties.

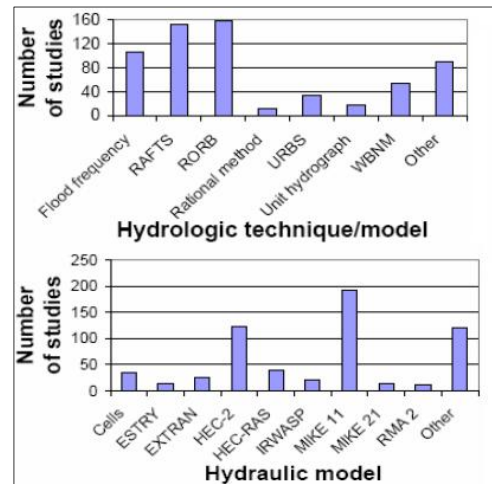
Our Role

The role of MHL was to compile and present the information gathered from a wide range of sources, including an extensive literature review and model-specific information from user/technical manuals.

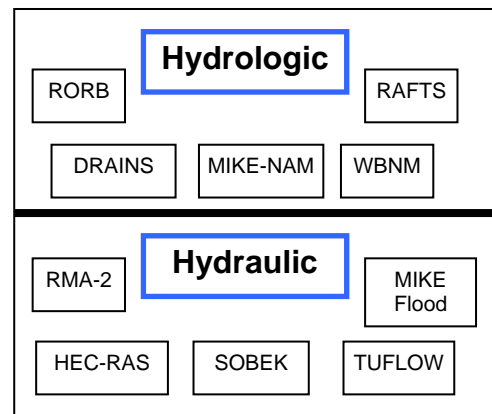
MHL also worked with OEH staff to undertake surveys, reviews and meetings with key members of the NSW flood modelling community including model providers, interpreters and users. In this way the review aimed to actively engage the NSW flood modelling community.

Outcomes

This project has produced a valuable resource for the NSW flood modelling community which provides an easily accessible, centralised source of information on the flood modelling process and commonly used hydrologic and hydraulic software modelling packages.



Frequency of flood model usage



Software packages reviewed

The report has been widely distributed through its presentation at the NSW FMA conference and remains available for free download over the internet.