

Peer Review Plan

Date: 8/30/2017

Source Center: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Idaho Water Science Center
230 Collins Road
Boise, Idaho 83702

Title: Streamflow contributions from tribal lands to major river basins of the United States.

Subject and Purpose: While many studies on the tribal water resources of individual tribal lands in the United States (US) have been conducted, the importance of tribal water resources at a national scale has largely gone unrecognized because their sum total has not been quantified. This study provides a numerical estimate of major water budget components, on tribal lands within the conterminous US. Using existing national-scale models, precipitation, evapotranspiration, excess precipitation, streamflow, and water use were estimated. Tribal lands represent about 3.4 percent of the total land area of the conterminous US and on average account for 1.9 percent of precipitation, 2.4 percent of actual evapotranspiration, 0.95 percent of excess precipitation, 1.6 percent of water use, and 0.66 percent of emergent streamflow. Additionally, about 20.4 percent of US streamflow flows through or adjacent to tribal lands. In the Missouri River basin, streamflow through or adjacent to tribal lands accounts for nearly 50 percent of streamflow in this basin and accounts for over 90 percent of streamflow in the Upper and Lower Colorado River basins. On average, 5,600 million cubic meters of streamflow per year was produced on tribal lands in the Pacific Northwest region, nearly five times greater than tribal lands in any other region. Tribal lands in the Great Lakes, Missouri, Arkansas-White-Red, and California regions all produced between 1,000 and 1,400 million cubic meters per year of streamflow.

Impact of Dissemination: This information product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

Timing of Review (Including Deferrals): August – November 2017. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: The USGS-selected reviewers will be selected pursuant to Survey Manual chapter 502.3 –Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>). The journal-selected reviewers will be chosen based on the journal's selection requirements and procedures.

Expected Number of Reviewers: Three or more reviewers are anticipated.

Requisite Expertise: Hydrology.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No opportunity for public comment is formally incorporated for this product.

Agency Contact: peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov.