

SLEDS Progress – Email from John Gray
06/10/03

From: John Gray
06/10/2003 12:59 PM

To: Sandy K Williamson/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS

cc: Stephen F Blanchard/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS
Daniel J Gooding/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS

Sandy: Here's a quickie on progress/plans for SLEDS. Dan Gooding has provided some input; he indicates between this and the other information he provided to you directly that he was comfortable it would be covered. He's not available tomorrow.

I hope this is adequate. Look forward to talking to you tomorrow.

John///

WRD ADOPTS SLEDS: OSW Tech Memo 99.04, which provides guidelines from the 1998 Sediment Lab Chief's Meeting, states, "Effective immediately, SLEDS is the Water Resources Division's sole official sediment laboratory data- management software package. SLEDS will require support totaling about \$20K in FY1999 and about \$5K thereafter. The OSW will provide the requisite FY1999 support funds. SLEDS support in subsequent years will be provided by sediment laboratories used by the Division."

These were outcomes voted on by all present lab chiefs (excluding Kent Dodge, MT). Labs have not provided funding for SLEDS support.

SLEDS ADOPTED BY MOST SEDIMENT LABS: Notable exceptions are Iowa City and Kentucky productions labs (see FY03 SLEDS SUPPORT EFFORTS).

SIMPLESLEDS DEVELOPED, BUT NOT TESTED: The size programs resides only on SLEDS, SIMPLESLEDS was to be built only to handle concentrations and sand fine separations. Its my understanding Pam has been working with SLEDS size programs and is now seriously considering using SLEDS for all sample types including concentration and sand fines analysis. Effort to test SIMPLESLEDS have been put on hold for now.

SLEDS "TRAINING" AT IA: Allan Mlodnosky, CA Sediment Lab Chief, visited IA Lab as part of SW review. At OSW behest, he spent preponderance of time troubleshooting SLEDS for IA. Made considerable headway, which led to concerted collaboration between CVO SLEDS support guru Bill Johnson and IA. Pam Smith (6/9/03) has indicated that continued support by Bill Johnson should lead to SLEDS adoption by IA. Limitations include Pam's time.

FY03 SLEDS SUPPORT EFFORTS: OSW has \$15K earmarked for SLEDS support. CVO has a \$8K contract that in part addresses data linkages, in part addresses expressed needs of IA Lab. Intent is for concerted and proactive support to IA to resolve final needs for SLEDS adoption. This work is schedule for completion by the end of this fiscal year. At or near that time, proposal will be to port the "IA" (most recent) version of SLEDS to KY and work with them in similar fashion. This may include a visit by Bill Johnson or Allen Mlodnosky or another individual who may be able to provide hands-on support.

Work to port SLEDS to a PC platform is underway and will be completed in FY03.

NEED FOR NWIS-SLEDS-GCLAS LINKAGES: Discussions with Sandy Williamson (for NWIS), Dan Gooding (for SLEDS), and (indirectly) Greg Koltun (for GCLAS) initiate in Spring 2003 on subject. There

is a need to have programs communicating efficiently and capturing/storing appropriate data. SLEDs was structured with this in mind.

ELECTRONIC LOG-IN: Pioneered by QW, sediment group strongly prefers web-based log-in of samples by hydrographer, and perhaps use of bar coding by labs. Efficiency and data capture are key elements. SLEDs is currently adaptable to bar code scanners. CVO currently uses an robotic weighing system, that uses a NT Windows platform, that automatically streams data to the SLEDs database.