

Behind the scenes

2: Merging the networks



e-Bulletin #12

In this issue I provide an update of what has been going on behind the scenes in early October, including a visit to the Environment Agency to merge and streamline the models, and an informative walkover of the catchment with Professor Newson.

In this bulletin:

- Merging and streamlining the models
- *Fourth modelling workshop: Tuesday 29th October*

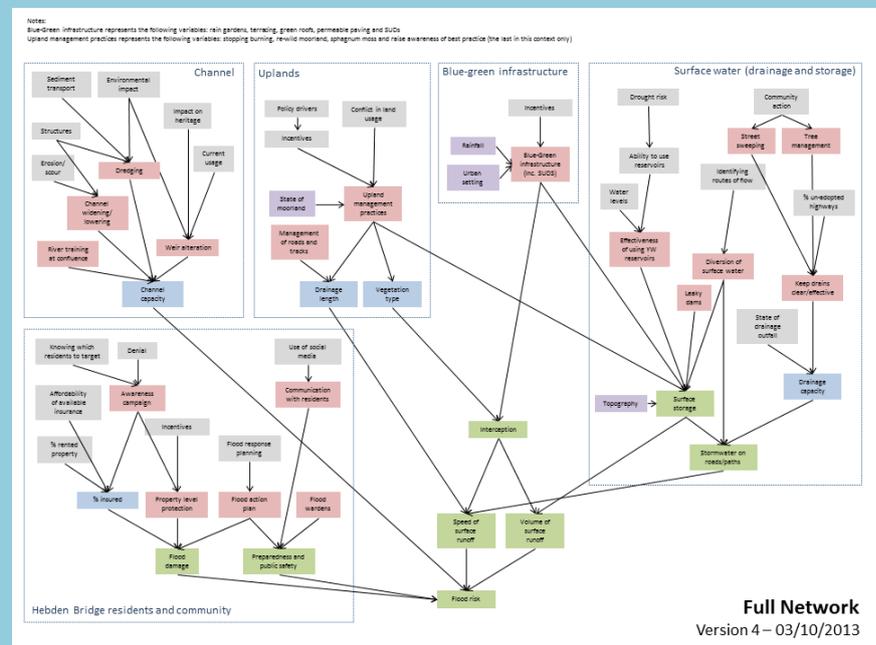
Fourth modelling workshop

The fourth modelling workshop in Hebden Bridge will take place on Tuesday 29th October at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. In this workshop we will:

- **Setting states for each variable**
These are conditions that each variable can be in, for example 'water quality' might be poor, good or excellent. Most variables will have two states.
- **Defining the nature of the relationships**
We need to understand the nature of the relationships between variables (the arrows). We will do this by selecting and/or creating a rough sketch graph of the relationships' shape.

I look forward to seeing many of you there. Please RSVP if you have not yet done so.

Over the last two weeks I have been looking over the good work that was carried out in the third workshop, checking the model structure and making sure that the relationships all made sense. In the workshop, it became evident that in order to work on the model more efficiently, it would be useful to merge the two groups' networks into one. This means that in future workshops, we will be able to split up the workload between small groups and cover more ground.



Last week I visited the Environment Agency offices in Leeds to meet with both Andrew and John to spend time looking at streamlining and merging the yellow and green group models. A preview of the resulting network is shown above, and I have attached a larger version to this e-mail so that you can have a look at it in detail. Hopefully you will see that many of the model elements from both groups are preserved. You will also see there have been some changes.

We have tried, where possible to group similar variables, in order that no variable has too many feeding into it. Doing this will make the next stage of the process much more straightforward.

I welcome any comments on the final network via e-mail before the fourth workshop. Have a good look through and see if you think everyone's ideas have been fully incorporated.