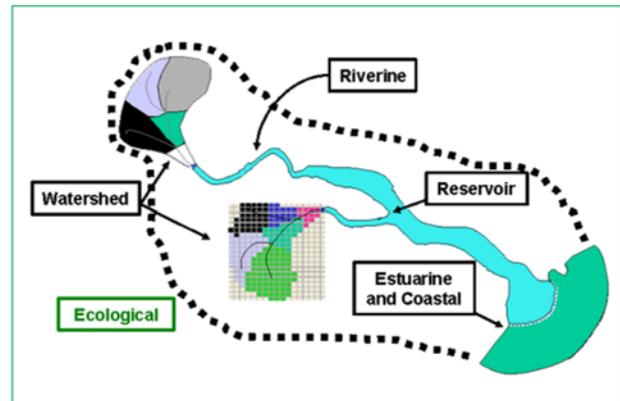




Tool Catalog

Description: A review of earlier tool catalogs revealed several compilations of modeling, assessment, evaluation, and planning tools as well as databases and decision support/graphical interfaces. These earlier catalogs focused on unique applications, data requirements, and outputs (e.g., watershed, receiving water, habitat index, ecological, or supporting system/database). Unfortunately, they were not uniformly organized or maintained and updated. The purpose of this effort is to solve these problems by developing a framework for comprehensive tool presentation and selection with maintenance and update capabilities.



Application: For purposes of this catalog, a tool is defined as a model, method, model framework, database, or classification system that is available for use by the Corps and its partners to address water resources challenges. In the catalog, this information is organized by capability, type, function, and structure. Additionally, recommendations for application are included. A prototype tool catalog will soon be deployed on the SWWRP Water Resources Depot. We encourage review and input by the Corps and its partners as well as tool developers.

Benefits: Many users find it easiest to discover the best tool or model by using a catalog that organizes the tools by capability. The prototype contains a reduced set of candidate tools and describes them in terms of their capability, type, function, structure and most appropriate application. In most cases, computer software and a user manual are associated with the tool and can be obtained by contacting the POC.

Future Capabilities: The information available within the tool catalog database will be incorporated into the SWWRP Decision Support System (DSS).

The SWWRP DSS assists project administrators, engineers, and developers in planning level and reconnaissance-based decisions prior to project execution. The system queries the user about project specifics, whether they be ecological, hydraulic, or sediment oriented, as well as certain constraints and priorities, and suggests valid tools, data sources, background information, and estimates for a given implementation. The intention is to improve communication between the tool builders and users, link tools to applications, and streamline the tool selection process.



Tool Catalog

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