MARS Council Meeting Summary

General Information	
Date/Time:	Thursday, May 1, 2008, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Location:	SSMC-3, Room 13836

Attendees:
NMFS –Tonya Coleman, Mark Blades
NMFS OCIO – Ajith Abraham, Marina Rubina, Sonny Tallaprgada, Rahul Dayal
NWS – Mary Rieck, John Lord, Gerald Stark, Penny Schmiedeberg
OAR – Sylvia Scott, Cindy Loitsch, Eugene Burger
NOS – Carmen Solis, Renee Galloway
NESDIS – Jim Lewis
Program Support – Peter Boyle
NMAO – Gerald Thomas
NOAA/OCIO – Diana Smith

Follow-up from March 20th MARS Council Meeting

CCR System – Suggested changes were approved and the MARS Team is moving forward to implement.

User Account Procedures – Tonya Coleman and Gerald Stark distributed a draft version of the updated User Account procedures. It was requested that each LO review the document and provide feedback before the next council meeting. Changes will be reviewed through the working group assigned to update the user account form.

General Discussion

CCR# 58 - Variance Reporting – Penny Schmiedeberg provided a demo of the new NOAA Variance Report. It was agreed by the group to perform a short pilot test on the new feature before moving forward and/or presenting to Jim LeDuc. LOs are encouraged to participate in the pilot test by sending an email with a list of testers to Gerald Stark. Access and instructions will be provided as soon as these names are received. The test has a short turn around as we need to receive feedback from the LO's before the next Council meeting.

NOA118 Report Discrepancy – Several users have noticed that the CBS Data warehouse 118 Report does not match with the MARS 118 report. The underlying cause of this problem is that the report cannot be filtered by a single ORG1. An action has been taken to evaluate the problem – CCR pending.

CCR Status

Data Entry Module

CCR#	Description	Discussion	Comments/Actions
50	Default NFC project/task	Most LOs agreed to use the new column (Dist_Sub_Level) on the personnel form. It was agreed that the current default accounting would not be used if field is null.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.
54	Research ways to kick user off the system when MARS is performing nightly downloads	The issue seems to center around the budget module within the Data Entry component of the application. The MARS team is currently testing a time-out function.	
241	NFC Download process changes	The recommended CCR will change the Data Entry download of NFC Data from once per pay period to a daily process, thus improving the accuracy of NFC data within the Data Entry component of MARS. This change will also affect the projection notification process. Users will receive emails on a daily basis if changes in NFC have occurred.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.
242	Remove repetition on Org Selection on the Report Selection parameter pages	Requested by Software Team.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council - Priority 2.
265	Update out-year projects/OPT conversion procedures to minimize number of invalid codes carried to the current year data.	Current year OPT's are rolled over to the next FY in order to develop spending plans and labor projections. Once NOAA provides an enacted budget and the valid accounting codes are available in CBS, MARS will attempt to validate and/or deactivate the OPT's. The major concern or problem with this process is how to eliminate the invalid data within both	Mary Rieck (NWS) would like to evaluate the impact and the best way to proceed before any decision is decided on. Feedback will be provided by the next Council meeting.

		components of MARS.	
243	Add functionality to run report 76	The Last Log-in date was added to the report to show the period of inactivity. If a user has not used the account within 90 days action will be taken to deactivate the account.	Approved and deployed to production.

Reporting and Querying Module

CCR#	Description	Discussion	Comments/Actions
58	Create an "Interactive" NOAA Variance Report	See above	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.
66	Install and test Business Objects Service Pack 3	Analysis of feature complete. Significant software configuration changes will be necessary. Work in progress.	
70	Workforce Management reports	Completed 12 Reports and 2 are pending. Additional columns to be added to Empview universe. Adhoc universe in progress Presentation to be provided in the future to the council.	
182	Changes to the NOAA 118 FMC ORG YTD report	Program Support made a request to replace the FMC/ORG report with the NOAA 118 by Organization. The modifications to the report will provide the added flexibility of selecting data at any level of the organization.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.
221 & 222	Federal Desktop Core Configuration (FDCC) Controls	All NOAA line offices need to implement FDCC controls. The council has requested that the MARS Reporting & Query team evaluate the impact for all LO's.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council. A duplicate CCR was entered – 221 & 222. Please remove one.
261	NWS Financial Statement High Level	Penny provided a demo of an existing report that is currently in use by NWS. A request was made by NOS to provide the	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.

		same report for all of NOAA/MARS.	
262	NWS Financial Statement Daily Report	Penny provided a demo of an existing report that is currently in use by NWS. A request was made by NOS to provide the same report for all of NOAA/MARS.	Approval to proceed was granted by the council.
263	Virtual FMC's		Additional discussions required.
264	Addendum to CCR #203		Put on Hold by OAR.