



Jun 26th, 9:00 AM - 10:20 AM

Hydrological and Hydraulic Modelling in Magdalena River

Jorge Luis Sanchez-Lozano

Brigham Young University, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena, jsanch3z@byu.edu

Jorge Alberto Escobar-Vargas

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, jorge-escobar@javeriana.edu.co

Diego Estiben Beltran-Calderon

Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena, dbcaturra@gmail.com

Felipe Ardila-Camelo

Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena, felipeardilac@gmail.com

Jose Javier Oliveros-Acosta

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena, jose.oliveros@javeriana.edu.co

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/iemssconference>

Sanchez-Lozano, Jorge Luis; Escobar-Vargas, Jorge Alberto; Beltran-Calderon, Diego Estiben; Ardila-Camelo, Felipe; Oliveros-Acosta, Jose Javier; Cardona-Almeida, Cesar Antonio; and Garay-Bohorquez, Cesar Ignacio, "Hydrological and Hydraulic Modelling in Magdalena River" (2018). *International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software*. 10.

<https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/iemssconference/2018/Stream-F/10>

This Oral Presentation (in session) is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil and Environmental Engineering at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software by an authorized administrator of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Presenter/Author Information

Jorge Luis Sanchez-Lozano, Jorge Alberto Escobar-Vargas, Diego Estiben Beltran-Calderon, Felipe Ardila-Camelo, Jose Javier Oliveros-Acosta, Cesar Antonio Cardona-Almeida, and Cesar Ignacio Garay-Bohorquez

Hydrological and Hydraulic Modelling in Magdalena River

Jorge Luis Sanchez-Lozano¹, Jorge Alberto Escobar-Vargas², Diego Estiben Beltran-Calderon³, Felipe Ardila-Camelo⁴, Jose Javier Oliveros-Acosta⁵, Cesar Antonio Cardona-Almeida⁶, Cesar Ignacio Garay-Bohorquez⁷

¹Brigham Young University, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena
(jsanch3z@byu.edu)

²Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Universidad Nacional de Colombia
(jorge-escobar@javeriana.edu.co)

³ Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena (dbcaturra@gmail.com)

⁴ Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena (felipeardilac@gmail.com)

⁵Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena
(jose.oliveros@javeriana.edu.co)

⁶Corporación Universidad de la Costa, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena
(ccardona5@cuc.edu.co)

⁷Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Corporación Centro de Investigación Científica del Río Magdalena
(cesar_garay@javeriana.edu.co)

Abstract: The Magdalena River is the most important river in Colombia. It has a length of 1,500km, drains a catchment of 257,000km² and is home to 38 million people. The Magdalena River Research Center has conducted the Program for Magdalena River Modelling to improve their understanding of the river system. Within this modelling program, a SOBEK hydraulic model was constructed for the middle and lower basin of the Magdalena River (900km) with a one-dimensional component that represents the main channel system and a two-dimensional component for the floodplains and other inundation areas externally coupled to a WFLOW hydrological model that represents the discharges in tributaries. This coupled modelling was used to reproduce the behaviour of middle and lower Magdalena River in the time period between 1 Jan 2010 and 31 Mar 2011. Furthermore, a sensitivity and uncertainty analysis were carried out to evaluate the accuracy of the coupled modelling results. The hydraulic and hydrological modelling allowed us to reproduce the behaviour of the Magdalena River and its tributaries, although the model is limited by the uncertainty in climatological maps, cross sections, 2D DEM, dikes/levees/embankments as well as the measurements (zero level of the gauging stations) and rating curves. Comparisons between observed and calculated hydrographs showed a good model ability in representing the discharges and water levels regime of the middle and lower Magdalena River and its tributaries, emphasizing its value as a tool for understanding and predicting the system behaviour. The proposed modeling of the hydrological and hydraulic processes, provides a valuable tool for understanding ecosystem functioning and assessing its resilience to anthropogenic pressure, climate change, and climate variability. This kind of coupled modelling could be used in different scenarios in the Magdalena River and can be replicated in other rivers and considered in conjunction with other topics of interest, such as water quality, sediment transport, and aquatic habitat modeling.

Keywords: Hydrological Modeling; Wflow; Hydraulic Modeling; SOBEK; coupled hydrological and hydraulic modelling; Magdalena River.