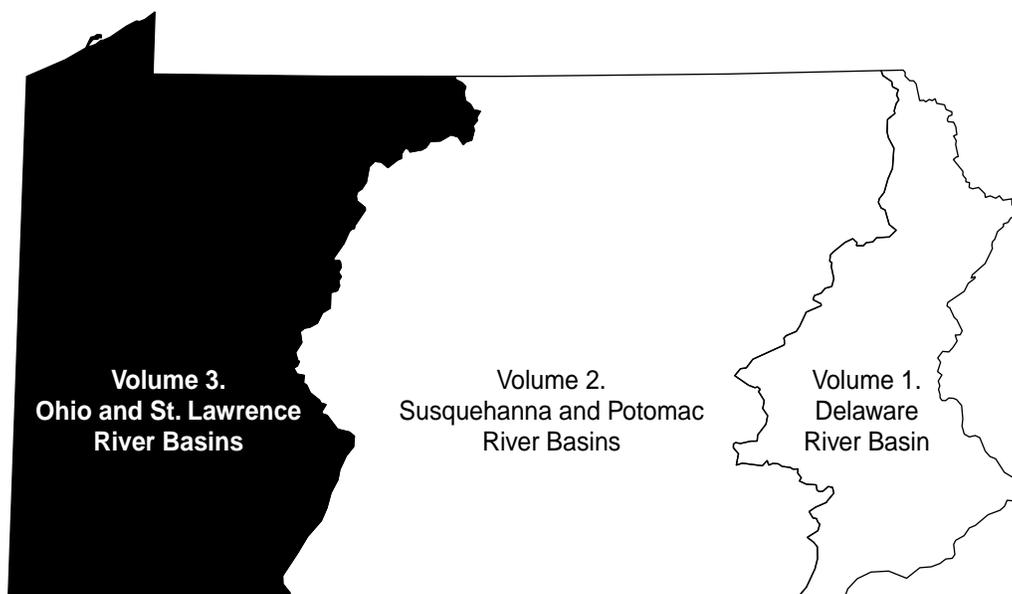


# Water Resources Data Pennsylvania Water Year 2002

## Volume 3. Ohio and St. Lawrence River Basins

By Raymond W. Siwicki

Water-Data Report PA-02-3



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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2003

## PREFACE

This volume of the annual hydrologic data report of Pennsylvania is one of a series of annual reports that document hydrologic data gathered from the U.S. Geological Survey's surface- and ground-water data-collection networks in each State, Puerto Rico, and the Trust Territories. These records of streamflow, ground-water levels, and quality of water provide the hydrologic information needed by State, local, and Federal agencies, and the private sector for developing and managing our Nation's land and water resources. Hydrologic data for Pennsylvania are contained in 3 volumes.

- Volume 1. Delaware River Basin
- Volume 2. Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins
- Volume 3. Ohio and St. Lawrence River Basins

Volume 3 was prepared in cooperation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other agencies under the general supervision of William H. Werkheiser, District Chief, Pennsylvania District; Robert A. Hainly, Assistant District Chief for Hydrologic Surveillance and Data Management; Raymond W. Siwicki, Chief of the Hydrologic Surveillance Program, Pittsburgh, and Steven McAuley, Chief, Pittsburgh Project Office. It is the product of a team effort by dedicated personnel of the U.S. Geological Survey who collected, compiled, analyzed, verified, and organized the data, and who typed, edited, and assembled the report. In addition to the author, who had primary responsibility for assuring that the information contained herein is accurate, complete, and adheres to Geological Survey policy and established guidelines, the following individuals contributed significantly to the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data:

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[Letters after station name designate type of data: (d) discharge, (c) chemical, (e) elevation, gage heights, or contents.]

**OHIO RIVER BASIN**

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## SURFACE-WATER STATIONS, IN DOWNSTREAM ORDER, FOR WHICH RECORDS ARE PUBLISHED IN THIS VOLUME

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**SURFACE-WATER STATIONS, IN DOWNSTREAM ORDER, FOR WHICH RECORDS ARE PUBLISHED IN THIS VOLUME**

**OHIO RIVER BASIN**--Continued

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**GROUND-WATER WELLS, BY COUNTY, FOR WHICH RECORDS ARE PUBLISHED IN THIS VOLUME**

(Letters after local well number designate type of data: (l) water level)

**GROUND-WATER RECORDS**

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The following continuous-record surface-water discharge stations (listed by downstream order) have been discontinued. Daily streamflow records were collected and published for the period of record shown for each station. Discontinued stations with less than 3 years of record have not been included. Information regarding these stations may be obtained from the District Office at the address given on the back of the title page of this report.

**DISCONTINUED CONTINUOUS-RECORD SURFACE-WATER DISCHARGE STATIONS**

Station name	Station number	Drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Period of record (water years)
OHIO AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASINS			
Newell Creek near Port Allegany	03008000	7.79	1966-78
Potato Creek at Smethport	03009680	160	1975-95
Allegheny River at Larabee	03010000	530	1921 1926-39
Kinzua Creek at Dewdrop	03012000	171	1909-16
Allegheny River at Kinzua Dam	03012550	2,180	1936-91
Jackson Run near North Warren	03015280	12.8	1963-78
Allegheny River at Warren	03015310*	3,131	1989-94
Tionesta Creek at Sheffield	03016500	128	1942-46
South Branch Tionesta Creek at Barnes	03017000	85.3	1942-46
Tionesta Creek at Lynch	03017500*	233	1938-79
Tionesta Creek at Mayburg	03018000	307	1942-46
Tionesta Creek at Butler Bridge (near Nebraska)	03018500	420	1919-23
Tionesta Creek at Nebraska	03019000	469	1910-11 1924-40
Tionesta Creek at Tionesta Dam	03020000	479	1941-91
Oil Creek near Rouseville	03021000	315	1910-32
West Branch French Creek near Lowville	03021410	52.3	1975-93
French Creek at Carters Corners	03021500	208	1910-71
French Creek near Union City	03021520	221	1972-91
Little Conneauttee Creek near McKean	03021700	3.60	1961-78
French Creek at Venango	03022000*	597	1939-46
French Creek at Saegerstown	03022500	629	1921-39
Woodcock Creek at Blooming Valley	03022540*	31.1	1975-95
Woodcock Creek at Woodcock Creek Dam	03022554	45.6	1975-91
Cussewago Creek near Meadville	03023000	90.2	1911-38
French Creek at Carlton	03023500	998	1908-25

**DISCONTINUED CONTINUOUS-RECORD SURFACE-WATER DISCHARGE STATIONS**—Continued

Station name	Station number	Drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Period of record (water years)
Sugar Creek at Wyattville	03024500	153	1910-16
Sugar Creek at Sugarcreek	03025000*	166	1933-79
Patchel Run near Franklin	03025200	5.69	1965-78
E. Branch Clarion River at E. Branch Clarion River Dam	03027500	73.2	1949-91
Clarion River at Johnsonburg	03028500*	204	1946-95
Clarion River at Ridgway	03029000*	303	1941-53
Toms Run at Cooksburg	03029400	12.6	1960-78
Clarion River near Clarion	03030000	930	1919-23
Clarion River at Callensburg	03030852*	1,163	1979-85
Clarion River at St. Petersburg	03031000	1,246	1942-53,1974-75
Big Run near Sprinkle Mills	03031950	7.38	1964-81
Allegheny River near Rimer	03033000	8,389	1939-45
Stump Creek at Cramer	03033500	22.1	1942-46
Mahoning Creek at Dayton	03035000	321	1921-40
Mahoning Creek at Mahoning Creek Dam	03036000	344	1939-91
Crooked Creek at Creekside	03037000	67.6	1942-46
South Branch Plum Creek at Five Points	03037350	33.3	1996-98
South Branch Plum Creek at Willet	03037500	30.0	1942-46
Crooked Creek at Crooked Creek Dam	03039000	278	1910-91
Clear Run near Buckstown	03039200	3.68	1965-78
Stony Creek at Hollsopple	03039500	244	1937-40
North Fork Bens Creek at North Fork Reservoir	03039925	3.45	1985,1988-98
Little Conemaugh River at East Conemaugh	03041000*	183	1939-95
Little Yellow Creek near Strongstown	03042200	7.36	1961-78,1987-88
Yellow Creek near Penn Run	03042250	50.4	1964-67
Blacklick Creek at Blacklick	03043000	390	1908-51
Conemaugh River at Tunnelton	03044000	1,358	1940-91
Loyalhanna Creek at New Alexandria	03045500	265	1920-23,1926-40
Loyalhanna Creek at Loyalhanna Dam	03047000	292	1940-91
Kiskiminetas River at Avonmore	03047500	1,723	1908-37

**DISCONTINUED CONTINUOUS-RECORD SURFACE-WATER DISCHARGE STATIONS**—Continued

Station name	Station number	Drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Period of record (water years)
Deer Creek near Dorseyville	03049646	27.0	1996-98
Monongahela River at Point Marion	03063000	2,720	1937-55
Stony Fork Tributary near Gibbon Glade	03070420	0.93	1977-95
Stony Fork near Elliottsville	03070455	7.44	1977-85
Monongahela River at Greensboro	03072500	<sup>a</sup> 4,367	1939-95
Georges Creek at Smithfield	03072590	16.3	1964-78
Tenmile Creek near Clarksville	03072840	133	1969-79
South Fork Tenmile Creek at Jefferson	03073000	180	1932-95
Dunlap Creek at Allison	03074000	33.1	1943-51
Lick Run at Hopwood	03074300	3.80	1967-78
Youghiogeny River at Youghiogeny River Dam	03077500	436	1940-91
Big Piney Run near Salisbury	03078500	24.5	1932-70
Youghiogeny River at Ohiopyle	03081500	1,062	1928-50
Poplar Run near Normalville	03082200	9.27	1962-78
Green Lick Run at Green Lick Reservoir	03083000	3.07	1942-79
Abers Creek near Murrysville	03084000	4.39	1949-93
Turtle Creek at Trafford	03084500	55.9	1921-52
Chartiers Creek at Crafton	03085500	270	1972-75
Big Sewickley Creek near Ambridge	03086100	15.6	1968-78
Shenango River near Turnersville	03100000	152	1912-22
Sugar Run at Pymatuning Dam	03101000	8.59	1934-55
Shenango River near Jamestown	03102000	181	1920-34
Pymatuning Creek near Orangeville	03103000	169	1914-23,1926-63
Shenango River at Sharpsville	03103500	584	1938-91
Shenango River at Sharon	03104000	608	1910-38
Shenango River at New Castle	03104500*	792	1910-11,1913-34
Cool Spring Creek near Jackson Center	03104580	13.0	1962-68
Harthegig Run near Greenfield	03104760	2.26	1969-81
Neshannock Creek at Eastbrook	03105000	228	1918-23
Wolf Creek near Slippery Rock	03106140	86.6	1977-82

**DISCONTINUED CONTINUOUS-RECORD SURFACE-WATER DISCHARGE STATIONS**—Continued

Station name	Station number	Drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Period of record (water years)
Ohio River at Montgomery Island Dam	03108500	<sup>b</sup> 22,960	1941-51
Brush Run near Buffalo	03111150	10.3	1961-78,1983-85
Enlow Fork near West Finley	03111585	38.1	1979-85
Raccoon Creek near West Springfield	04213040	2.53	1969-94

\* Currently operated as a partial-record station.

<sup>a</sup> Formerly published as 4,407.

<sup>b</sup> About.

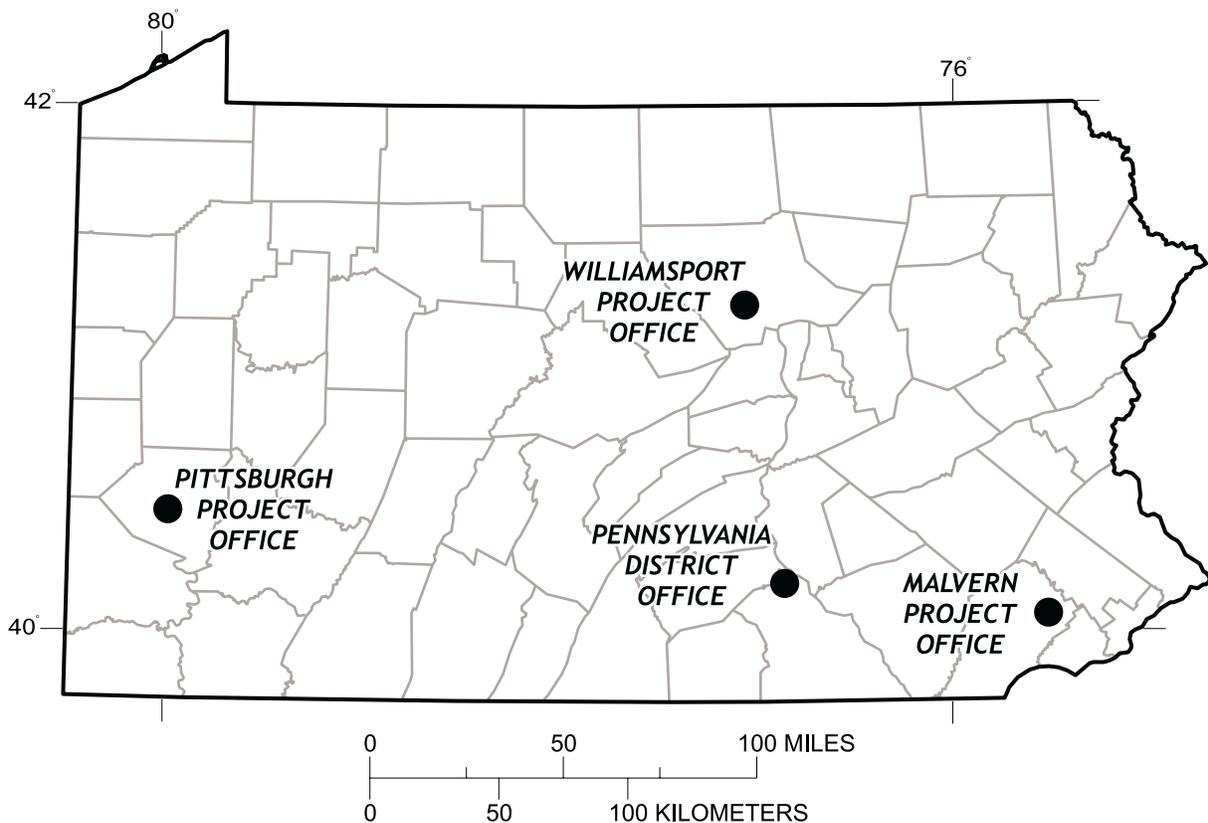
The following continuous-record water-quality stations (listed by downstream order) have been discontinued. Daily records were collected and published for the period shown for each constituent. Discontinued stations with less than 3 years of record, or stations with data collection less than daily, have not been included. If a station had one constituent with 3 or more years of record, all constituents having daily values will be listed for that station regardless of the length of record. Information regarding these stations may be obtained from the District Office at the address given on the back of the title page of this report.

The following are used to identify the record type: SC (specific conductance); pH; Temp (water temperature); Sed (sediment concentration and discharge).

#### DISCONTINUED CONTINUOUS-RECORD SURFACE-WATER-QUALITY STATIONS

Station name	Station number	Drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Type of Record	Period of record (water years)
OHIO AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASINS				
Brokenstraw Creek at Youngsville	03015500	321	Sed	1969-70
Oil Creek at Rouseville	03020500	300	Sed	1971-72
Clarion River at Cooksburg	03029500	807	Sed	1971-73
Redbank Creek at St. Charles	03032500	528	Sed	1969-70,1977-79
Beaver Run near Troutville	03033222	2.21	Sed	1980-81
East Branch Mahoning Creek near Big Run	03033225	29.6	Sed	1979-81
Stonycreek River at Ferndale	03040000	451	Sed Temp SC,pH	1978-79 1978-79,1997-98 1997-98
Loyalhanna Creek at Kingston	03045000	172	Sed	1970-77
Allegheny River at New Kensington	03049625	11,500	SC Temp Sed	1975-81 1975-81,1997-98 1977-79
Stony Fork Tributary near Gibbon Glade	03070420	0.93	Sed,Temp,SC,pH	1978-88
Stony Fork near Elliottsville	03070455	7.44	Sed,Temp,SC,pH	1978-85
Whiteley Creek near Kirby	03072670	5.95	Sed	1979-82
Castile Run at Clarksville	03073030	6.21	Sed	1980-81
Champion Run at Melcroft	03082120	13.8	Sed	1986-87
Poplar Run near Normalville	03082190	8.83	Sed,Temp,SC,pH	1986-88
Indian Creek at White Bridge	03082237	91.2	Temp,SC,pH	1986-87
Monongahela River at Braddock	03085000	7,337	Temp SC Sed	1973-79,1997-98 1973-75 1973-79
Enlow Fork near West Finley	03111585	38.1	Sed	1980-85

# PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATIONS AND ADDRESSES



**Pennsylvania District Office:**  
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## INTRODUCTION

The Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with State, municipal, and Federal agencies, collects a large amount of data pertaining to the water resources of Pennsylvania each water year. These data, accumulated during many water years, constitute a valuable data base for developing an improved understanding of the water resources of the State. To make these data readily available to interested parties outside the Geological Survey, these data are published annually in this report series entitled "Water Resources Data - Pennsylvania, Volumes 1, 2, and 3." Volume 1 contains data for the Delaware River Basin; Volume 2, the Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins; and Volume 3, the Ohio and St. Lawrence River Basins.

This report, Volume 3, contains: (1) discharge records for 60 continuous-record streamflow-gaging stations, 5 partial-record stations, and 13 special study and miscellaneous streamflow sites; (2) elevation and contents records for 11 lakes and reservoirs; (3) water-quality records for 23 streamflow gaging stations and 33 ungaged streamsites; (4) water-level records for 23 ground-water network observation wells; and, (5) water-quality analyses at 28 special study ground-water wells. Additional water data collected at various sites not involved in the systematic data-collection program may also be presented.

Publications similar to this report are published annually by the Geological Survey for all States. For the purpose of archiving, these official reports have an identification number consisting of the two-letter State abbreviation, the last two digits of the water year, and the volume number. For example, this volume is identified as "U.S. Geological Survey Water-Data Report PA-02-3." These water-data reports, beginning with the 1971 water year, are for sale as paper copy or microfiche by the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161.

The annual series of Water Data Reports for Pennsylvania began with the 1961 water-year report and contained only data relating to quantities of surface water. With the 1964 water year, a companion report (part 2) was introduced that contained only data relating to water quality. Beginning with the 1975 water year the report was changed to three volumes (by river basin), with each volume containing data on quantities of surface water, quality of surface and ground water, and ground-water levels.

Prior to the introduction of this series and for several years concurrent with it, water-resources data for Pennsylvania were published in U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Papers. Data on stream discharge and stage, and on lake or reservoir contents and stage, through September 1960, were published annually under the title "Surface-Water Supply of the United States," which was released in numbered parts as determined by natural drainage basins. For the 1961-70 water years, these data were published in two 5-year reports. Data prior to 1961 are included in two reports: "Compilation of Records of Surface Waters of the United States through 1950," and "Compilation of Records of Surface Waters of the United States, October 1950 to September 1960." Data for Pennsylvania are published in Parts 1, 3, and 4. Data on chemical quality, temperature, and suspended sediment for the 1941-70 water years were published annually under the title "Quality of Surface Waters of the United States," and ground-water levels for the 1935-74 water years were published annually under the title "Ground-Water Levels in the United States." The above mentioned Water-Supply Papers may be consulted in the libraries of the principal cities of the United States and may be purchased from the U.S. Geological Survey, Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225.

Information for ordering specific reports may be obtained from the Pennsylvania District Office at the address on the back of the title page or by phoning the Scientific and Technical Products Section at (717) 730-6940. Information on the availability of unpublished data or statistical analyses may be obtained from the District Information Specialist by telephone at (717) 730-6916 or by FAX at (717) 730-6997.

## COOPERATION

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and organizations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have had cooperative agreements for the systematic collection of surface-water records during the periods 1919-21 and 1931 to date, water-quality records from 1944 to date, and ground-water records from 1925 to date. Organizations that supplied data are acknowledged in station manuscripts. Organizations that assisted in collecting data for this report through cooperative agreements with the USGS are listed below.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection, David E. Hess, Secretary, through the following:  
 Office of Water Management, Christine Martin, Deputy Secretary;  
 Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management, Frederick Marrocco, Director;  
 Bureau of Watershed Management, Stuart I. Gansell, Director;  
 Bureau of Waterways Engineering, Michael Conway, Director.

Allegheny County Airport Authority, Richard C. Belotti, Director of Planning.  
 Harmony Water Authority, David Szakelyhidi, Chairman.  
 Indiana County Municipal Services Authority, Michael Duffalo, Executive Director.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Licensee:  
 Reliant Energy, Mid-Atlantic Power

**COOPERATION**--Continued

The following Federal agency assisted in the data-collection program by providing funds or services: Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Pittsburgh District.

The following organizations aided in collecting records: Allegheny Power Service Corp. and Latrobe Municipal Authority.

**SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS**

**Surface Water**

Streamflows in the Upper Ohio and St. Lawrence River Basins during water year 2002 were below normal. The annual measured streamflow was 77 percent of the median of the 1961-90 annual mean streamflow at the Ohio River index gaging station, Oil Creek at Rouseville, Pa. (station 03020500).

The monthly mean streamflow (fig. 1) was above normal for May, normal for the months of October, December, January, February, April, June, July, and below normal for all the other months of the year. Several of the months defined as normal had mean streamflow that were near the long-term 25-percentile flow. For the purposes of this analysis, an above normal streamflow is defined as flow greater than the long-term 75 percent flow, and below normal streamflow is flow less than the long-term 25 percent flow.

For the last several years, a period of severe drought, followed by short-term partial recovery has occurred throughout the state, and this year is no exception. Although there were several months in the year where a recovery in streamflow began to occur, the streamflow at the Ohio River Basin index station indicates that the major trend for this year was one of partial recovery followed by short periods of drought. Most of the recovery of streamflows occurred in the winter and spring of 2001-2002, and then, with the exception of July, the remaining period of the year showed streamflow below normal. The index station streamflow for the months of August and September was below normal indicating a trend seen in previous years.

A comparison of the monthly and yearly mean streamflow during the 2002 water year with that of the 1961-90 reference period for Oil Creek at Rouseville, Pa., is shown in figure 1.

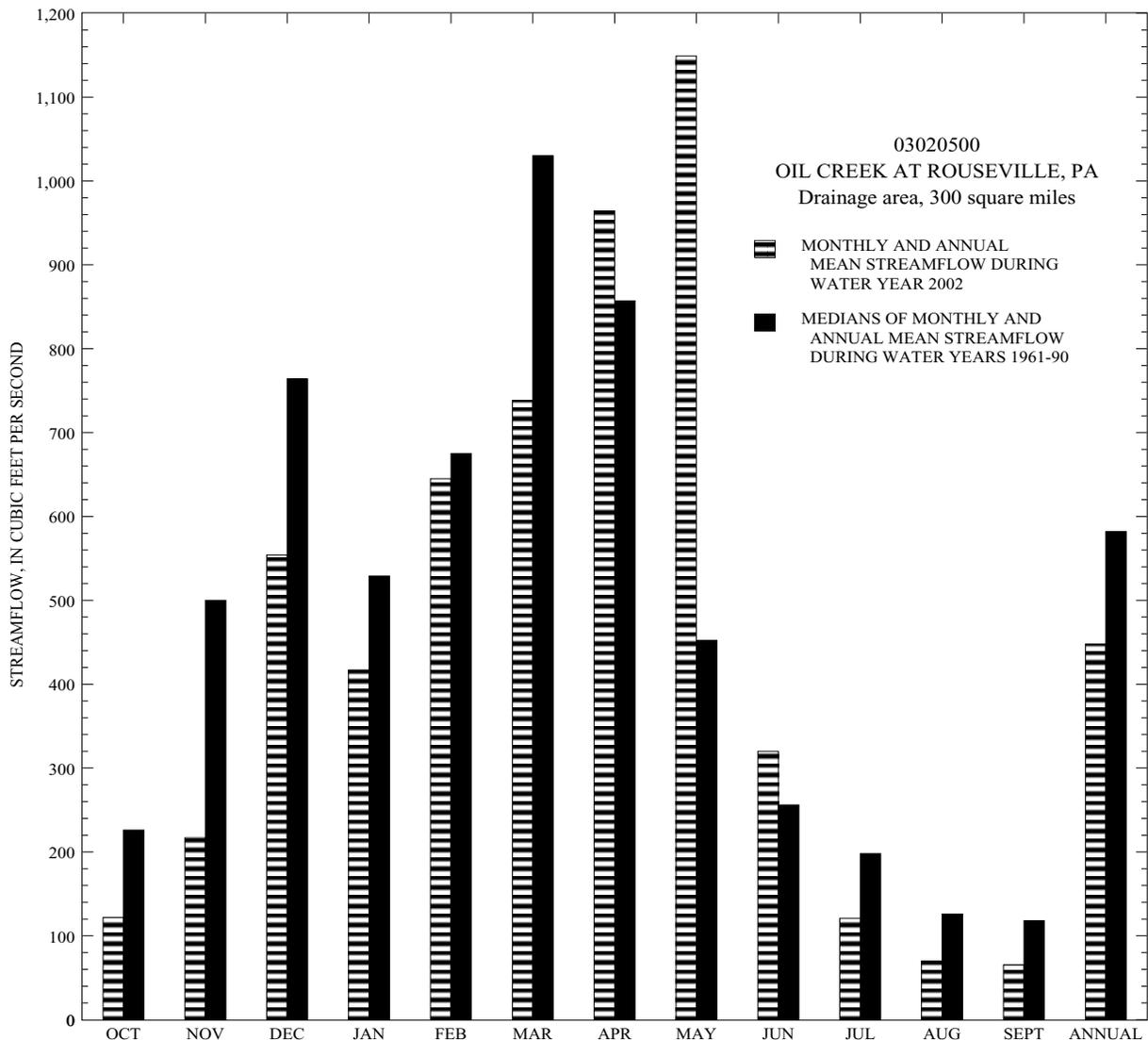


Figure 1.--Comparison of monthly and annual mean streamflow during water year 2002 with the medians of monthly and annual mean streamflow during water years 1961-90.

**SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS****Ground Water**

During the 2002 water year, ground-water levels reached annual highs in most observation wells during the late winter or spring and reached annual lows during October and November of 2001 and September 2002. Water levels during the 2002 water year for 15 network wells were averaged by season and compared to the long-term water level for these seasons (fig. 2). Long-term water levels were calculated from records ranging from 20 to 65 years in length.

In the fall of 2002 water year, seasonal water levels were above normal in one well, normal in seven wells, below normal in six wells, and much-below normal in one well (fig. 2). During the winter, water levels were normal or higher in 11 wells and below-normal in 1 well and much-below normal in 3 wells.

Period of record high water levels were observed in May at BV 156, BT 311, FO 11, WR 50, and WE 300. Precipitation records in these counties indicated 1 to 3 inches of precipitation above normal for May. In March and April, precipitation in these five counties was also about 0.5 inch above normal for each of the 2 months. This wet period of 3 months resulted in above normal recharge to the ground-water system causing the period of record high water levels at the five wells. In the spring, water levels were much-above normal in four wells, above normal in five wells, normal in four wells, and below normal in two wells.

The wet spring of 2002 was followed by a dry summer with precipitation deficits reported for July, August, and September at almost all counties in western Pennsylvania. The highest precipitation deficit for Pennsylvania for the month of August was a negative 2.9 inches in Crawford County. Because of the deficit precipitation during the summer and subsequent below normal ground-water recharge, most of the wells dropped to a lower category of water-level status during the summer when compared to the spring water levels. During the summer, water levels were above normal in 1 well, normal in 10 wells, and below normal in 3 wells and much-below normal in 1 well.

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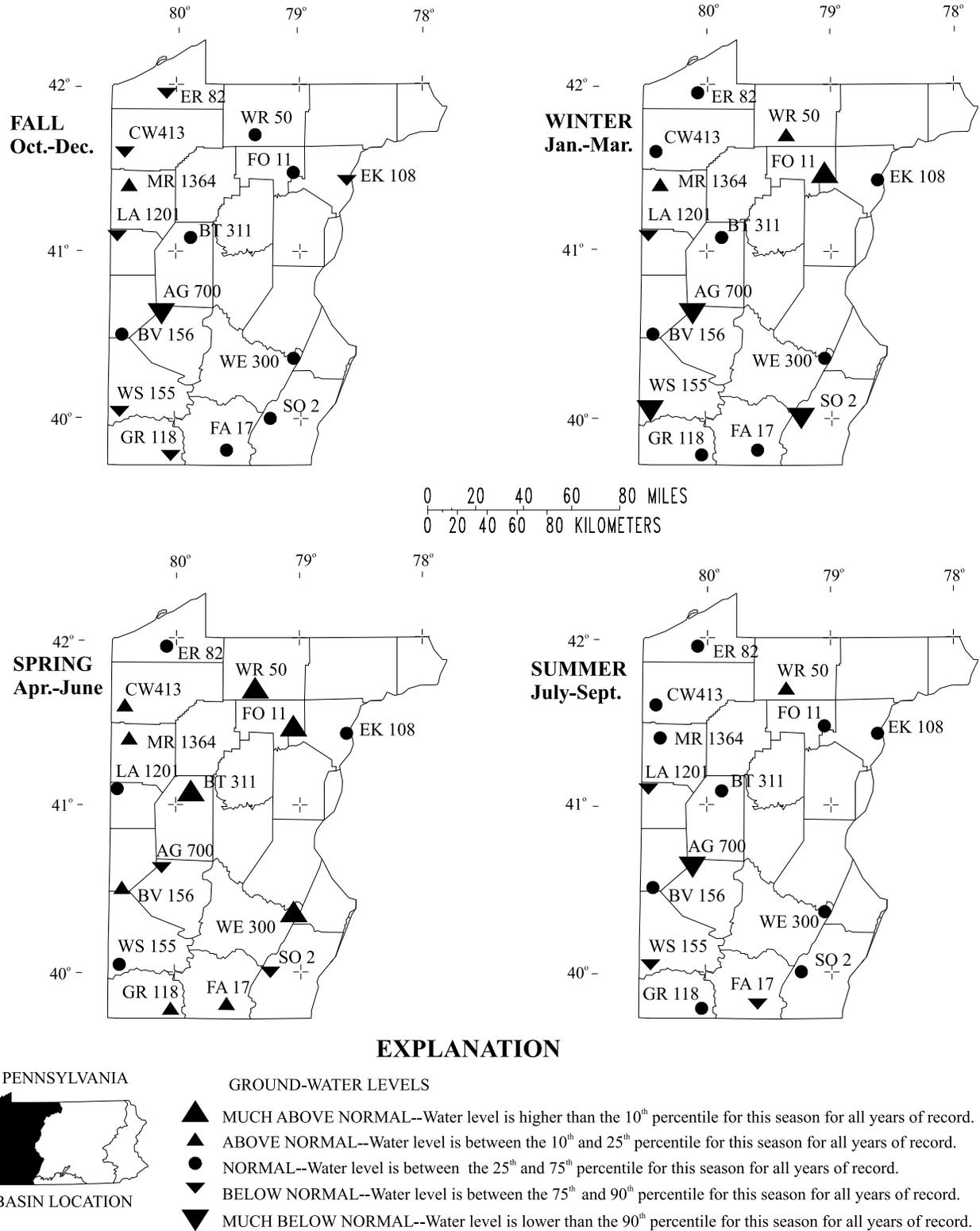


Figure 2.--Relation between 2002 seasonal mean ground-water levels and long-term mean ground-water levels [Seasonal percentile values were determined by ranking the average monthly water levels for each month in the season from highest to lowest for all years of record and averaging the ranks for the three months. A water level that is higher than the seasonal 10th percentile value would be expected to occur only once in a ten-year period. Conversely, a water level that is lower than the seasonal 90th percentile value also would be expected to occur only once during a ten-year period.]

### SPECIAL NETWORKS AND PROGRAMS

The **Hydrologic Bench-Mark Network** is a network of 50 sites in small drainage basins around the country whose purpose is to provide consistent data on the streamflow representative undeveloped watersheds nationwide, and to provide analyses on a continuing basis to compare and contrast conditions observed in basins more obviously affected by human activities. At 10 of these sites, water-quality information is being gathered on major ions and nutrients, primarily to assess the affects of acid deposition on stream chemistry. Additional information on the Hydrologic Benchmark Program can be found at <http://water.usgs.gov/hbn/>.

The **National Stream-Quality Accounting Network** (NASQAN) monitors the water quality of large rivers within the Nation's largest river basins. From 1995 through 1999, a network of approximately 40 stations were operated in the Mississippi, Columbia, Colorado, and Rio Grande. From 2000 through 2004, sampling was reduced to a few index stations on the Colorado and Columbia so that a network of 5 stations could be implemented on the Yukon River. Samples are collected with sufficient frequency that the flux of a wide range of constituents can be estimated. The objective of NASQAN is to characterize the water quality of these large rivers by measuring concentration and mass transport of a wide range of dissolved and suspended constituents, including nutrients, major ions, dissolved and sediment-bound heavy metals, common pesticides, and inorganic and organic forms of carbon. This information will be used (1) to describe the long-term trends and changes in concentration and transport of these constituents; (2) to test findings of the National Water-Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA); (3) to characterize processes unique to large-river systems such as storage and re-mobilization of sediments and associated contaminants; and (4) to refine existing estimates of off-continent transport of water, sediment, and chemicals for assessing human effects on the world's oceans and for determining global cycles of carbon, nutrients, and other chemicals. Additional information about the NASQAN Program can be found at [<http://water.usgs.gov/nasqan/>].

The **National Atmospheric Deposition Program/National Trends Network** (NADP/NTN) provides continuous measurement and assessment of the chemical constituents in precipitation throughout the United States. As the lead federal agency, the USGS works together with over 100 organizations to provide a long-term, spatial and temporal record of atmospheric deposition generated from a network of 225 precipitation chemistry monitoring sites. This long-term, nationally consistent monitoring program, coupled with ecosystem research, provides critical information toward a national scorecard to evaluate the effectiveness of ongoing and future regulations intended to reduce atmospheric emissions and subsequent impacts to the Nation's land and water resources. Reports and other information on the NADP/NTN Program, as well as all data from the individual sites, can be found at [<http://bqs.usgs.gov/acidrain/>].

The **National Water-Quality Assessment** (NAWQA) Program of the U.S. Geological Survey is a long-term program with goals to describe the status and trends of water-quality conditions for a large, representative part of the Nation's ground- and surface-water resources; provide an improved understanding of the primary natural and human factors affecting these observed conditions and trends; and provide information that supports development and evaluation of management, regulatory, and monitoring decisions by other agencies.

Assessment activities are being conducted in 59 study units (major watersheds and aquifer systems) that represent a wide range of environmental settings nationwide and that account for a large percentage of the Nation's water use. A wide array of chemical constituents will be measured in ground water, surface water, streambed sediments, and fish tissues. The coordinated application of comparative hydrologic studies at a wide range of spatial and temporal scales will provide information for decision making by water-resources managers and a foundation for aggregation and comparison of findings to address water-quality issues of regional and national interest.

Communication and coordination between USGS personnel and other local, State, and federal interests are critical components of the NAWQA Program. Each study unit has a local liaison committee consisting of representatives from key federal, State, and local water-resources agencies, Indian nations, and universities in the study unit. Liaison committees typically meet semiannually to discuss their information needs, monitoring plans and progress, desired information products, and opportunities to collaborate efforts among the agencies. Additional information about the NAWQA Program can be found at [<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/>].

### EXPLANATION OF THE RECORDS

The surface-water and ground-water records in this report are for the 2002 water year that began October 1, 2001, and ended September 30, 2002. A calendar of the water year is provided on the inside of the front cover. The records contain streamflow data, stage and content data for lakes and reservoirs, water-quality data for streamflow stations, and ground-water-level data. The location of these stations and wells are shown in figures throughout the report. The following sections of the introductory text are presented to provide users with a more detailed explanation of how these hydrologic data published in this report were collected, analyzed, computed, and arranged for presentation.

#### Station Identification Numbers

Each data station in this report, whether a streamsite or a well, is assigned a unique identification number. This number is unique in that it applies specifically to a given station and to no other. The number usually is assigned when a station is first established and is retained for that station indefinitely. The systems used by the U.S. Geological Survey to assign identification numbers for surface-water stations and for ground-water well sites differ, but both are based on geographic location. The "downstream order" system is used for regular surface-water stations and the "latitude-longitude" system is used for wells and, in Pennsylvania, for some miscellaneous surface-water sites where only random water-quality samples or discharge measurements are made.

#### Downstream-Order System

Since October 1, 1950, the order of listing hydrologic-station records in Survey reports is in a downstream direction along the main stream. All stations on a tributary entering upstream from a main-stream station are listed before that station. A station on a tributary that enters between two main-stream stations is listed between them. A similar order is followed in listing stations on first rank, second rank, and other ranks of tributaries. The rank of any tributary on which a station is situated with respect to the stream to which it is immediately tributary is indicated by an indentation in a list of stations in the front of the report. Each indentation represents one rank. This downstream-order system of indentation shows which stations are on tributaries between any two stations and the rank of the tributary on which each station is situated.

The station-identification number is assigned in downstream order. In assigning station numbers, no distinction is made between partial-record stations and continuous-record stations; therefore, the station number for a partial-record station indicates downstream-order position in a list made up of both types of stations. Gaps are left in the series of numbers to allow for new stations that may be established; hence, the numbers are not consecutive. A station number can be from 8 to 15 digits in length and normally appears to the left of the station name. For example, an 8-digit number for a station such as 03020500, includes a 2-digit part number "03" plus a 6-digit downstream-order number "020500." The part number designates major river basins; for example, part "03" is the Ohio and St. Lawrence River Basins.

#### Latitude-Longitude System

The identification numbers for wells and miscellaneous surface-water sites are assigned based on the grid system of latitude and longitude. The system provides the geographic location of the well or miscellaneous site and a unique number for each site. The number consists of 15 digits. The first six digits denote the degrees, minutes, and seconds of latitude, the next seven digits denote the degrees, minutes, and seconds of longitude, and the last two digits (assigned sequentially) identify the wells or other sites within a 1-second grid (fig. 3).

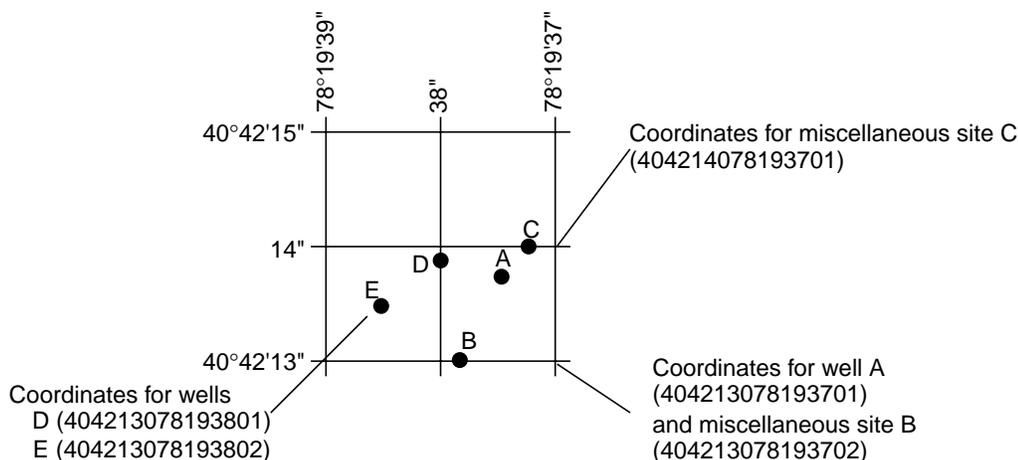


Figure 3.--System for numbering wells and miscellaneous sites (latitude and longitude).

A local well number is also assigned to the wells and consists of a 2-letter abbreviation of the county in which the well is located and a sequential number assigned at the time the well was scheduled.

### **Records of Stage and Water Discharge**

Records of stage and water discharge may be continuous or partial. Continuous records of discharge are those obtained using a continuous stage-recording device through which either instantaneous water discharges may be computed for any time, or mean discharges may be computed for any period of time, during the period of record. Because daily mean discharges or end-of-day contents for reservoirs commonly are published for such stations, they are referred to as "*daily stations*" or "*continuous-record stations*."

By contrast, partial records are obtained through discrete measurements without using a continuous stage-recording device and pertain only to a few flow characteristics, or perhaps only one. The nature of the partial record is indicated by table titles such as "*Crest-stage partial-record stations*," or "*Low-flow partial-record stations*." Records of miscellaneous discharge measurements or of measurements from special studies, such as low-flow seepage studies, may be considered as partial records, but they are presented separately in this report. Location of all continuous-record and partial-record stations for which data are given in this report are shown in figures 4 and 5.

### **Data Collection and Computation**

Those data obtained at a continuous-record gaging station on a stream consist of a continuous record of stage, individual measurements of discharge throughout a range of stages, and notations regarding factors that may affect the relation between stage and discharge. These data, together with supplemental information, such as weather records, are used to compute daily discharges. Continuous records of stage are obtained with analog recorders that trace continuous graphs of stage, with solid-state electronic data loggers, or with data collection platforms (DCPs) that electronically record and transmit the data via satellite to ground receiving stations. Measurements of discharge are made with current meters using methods adopted by the Geological Survey as a result of experience accumulated since 1880. These methods are described in standard textbooks, in Water-Supply Paper 2175, and the U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations (TWRIs), Book 3, Chapter A1 through A19 and Book 8, Chapters A2 and B2. The methods are consistent with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards and generally follow the standards of the International Organization for Standards (ISO).

In computing discharge records, results of individual measurements are plotted against the corresponding stages, and stage-discharge relation curves are then constructed. From these curves, rating tables indicating the approximate discharge for any stage within the range of the measurements are prepared. If it is necessary to define extremes of discharge outside the range of the current-meter measurements, the curves are extended using: (1) logarithmic plotting; (2) velocity-area studies; (3) results of indirect measurements of peak discharge, such as slope-area or contracted-opening measurements, and computations of flow-over-dams or weirs; or (4) step-backwater techniques.

Daily mean discharges are computed by applying each recorded stage value (gage height) to the stage-discharge curves or tables. If the stage-discharge relation is subject to change because of frequent or continual change in the physical features that form the control, the daily mean discharge is determined by the shifting-control method, in which correction factors based on the individual discharge measurements and notes of the personnel making the measurements are applied to the gage heights before the discharges are determined from the curves or tables. This shifting-control method also is used if the stage-discharge relation is changed temporarily because of aquatic growth or debris on the control. For some stations, formation of ice in the winter may so obscure the stage-discharge relation that daily mean discharges must be estimated from other information such as temperature and precipitation records, notes of observations, and records for other stations in the same or nearby basins for comparable periods.

At some stream-gaging stations, the stage-discharge relation is affected by the backwater from reservoirs, tributary streams, or other sources. This necessitates the use of the slope method in which the slope or fall in a reach of the stream is a factor in computing discharge. The slope or fall is obtained by means of an auxiliary gage set at some distance from the base gage. At some stations, the stage-discharge relation is affected by changing stage; at these stations, the rate of change in stage is used as a factor to compute discharge.

When computing records of lake or reservoir contents, it is necessary to have available from surveys, curves or tables defining the relation between stage and content. The application of stage to the stage-content curves or tables gives the contents from which daily, monthly, or yearly changes then are determined. If the stage-content relation changes because of deposition of sediment in the lake or reservoir, periodic surveys may be necessary to redefine the relation. Even when this is done, the contents computed may increase in error as the time elapsed since the last survey increases. Discharges over lake or reservoir spillways are computed from stage-discharge relation much as other stream discharges are computed.

For some gaging stations, there are periods when no gage-height data are collected or when the recorded gage height is so imprecise or incorrect that it cannot be used to compute daily mean discharge or end-of-day contents. This happens when the recorder stops or otherwise fails to operate properly, intakes are plugged, the float is frozen in the well, or for various other reasons. For such periods, the daily discharges are estimated from the recorded range in stage, previous or following record, discharge measurements, weather records, and comparison with other station records from the same or nearby basins. Likewise, daily contents may be estimated from operator's logs, previous or following record, inflow-outflow studies, and other information. Information explaining how estimated daily-discharge values are identified in station records is included in the next two sections, "*Data Presentation*" (REMARKS paragraph) and "*Identifying Estimated Daily Discharge*."

### Data Presentation

The records published for each continuous-record surface-water discharge station (gaging station) consist of four parts; (1) the manuscript or station description; (2) the data table of daily mean discharge values for the current water year with summary data; (3) a tabular statistical summary of monthly mean flow data for a designated period; and (4) a summary statistics table for a designated period that includes statistical data of annual, daily, and instantaneous flows as well as data pertaining to annual runoff, 7-day low-flow minimums, and flow duration.

#### Station manuscript

For each continuous-record station, the manuscript provides, under various headings, descriptive information such as station location, period of record, historical extremes outside the period of record, record accuracy, and other remarks pertinent to station operation and regulation. The following comments, as appropriate, clarify information presented under the various headings of the station description.

**LOCATION.**--Information on locations is obtained from the most accurate maps available. The location of the gaging station with respect to the cultural and physical features in the vicinity and with respect to the reference place mentioned in the station name is given. River mileages, listed for only a few stations, were determined by methods given in "*River Mileage Measurement*," Bulletin 14, Revision of October 1968, prepared by the Water Resources Council or were provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**DRAINAGE AREA.**--Drainage areas are measured using the most accurate maps available. Because the type of maps available varies from one drainage basin to another, the accuracy of drainage areas likewise varies. Drainage areas are updated as better maps become available.

**PERIOD OF RECORD.**--This indicates the period for which records have been published for the station or for an equivalent station. An equivalent station is one that was in operation at a time that the present station was not and whose location was such that its streamflow can reasonably be considered equivalent to the streamflow at the present station.

**REVISED RECORDS.**--Because of new information, published records occasionally are found to be incorrect, and revisions are printed in later reports. Listed under this heading are all the reports in which revisions have been published for the station and the water years to which the revisions apply. If a revision did not include daily, monthly, or annual figures of discharge, that fact is noted after the year dates as follows; "(M)" means that only the instantaneous maximum discharge was revised; "(m)" that only the instantaneous minimum was revised; and "(P)" that only peak discharges were revised. If the drainage area has been revised, the report in which the most recently revised figure was first published is given.

**GAGE.**--The type of gage in current use, the datum of the current gage referred to sea level (see Definition of Terms), and a condensed history of the types, locations, and datums of previous gages are given under this heading.

**REMARKS.**--This paragraph is used to present information relative to the accuracy of the records, to special methods of computation, and to conditions that affect natural flow at the station. For reservoir stations, information is given on the dam forming the reservoir, the capacity, outlet works and spillway, and purpose and use of the reservoir.

**COOPERATION.**--Records provided by a cooperating organization or obtained for the U.S. Geological Survey by a cooperating organization are identified here.

**EXTREMES OUTSIDE PERIOD OF RECORD.**--Included here is information concerning major floods or unusually low flows that occurred outside the stated period of record. The information may or may not have been obtained by the U.S. Geological Survey.

**PEAK DISCHARGES FOR CURRENT YEAR.**--Peaks given here are similar to those found in the summary statistics table, except the peak discharge listing may include secondary peaks. For stations meeting certain criteria, all peak discharges and stages occurring during the water year and greater than a selected base discharge (see Definition of Terms) are presented under this heading. The peaks greater than the base discharge, excluding the highest one, are referred to as secondary peaks. Peak discharges are not published for streams for which the peaks are subject to substantial control by man. The time of occurrence for peaks is expressed in 24-hour local standard time. For example, 12:30 a.m. is 0030, and 1:30 p.m. is 1330.

**REVISIONS.**--If a critical error in published records is discovered, a revision is included in the first report published following discovery of the error.

Although rare, occasionally the records of a discontinued gaging station may need revision. Because, for these stations, there would be no current or, possibly, future station manuscript published to document the revision in a "*Revised Records*" entry, users of data for these stations who obtained the record from previously published data reports may wish to contact the District Office (address given on the back of the title page of this report) to determine if the published records were ever revised after the station was discontinued. Of course, if those data for a discontinued station were obtained by computer retrieval, these data would be current and accurate because published revisions of data are always accompanied by revisions of those data in computer storage.

Beginning with the 1991 annual State Data report, headings for AVERAGE DISCHARGE, EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD, and EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR have been deleted and the information contained in these paragraphs, except for the listing of secondary instantaneous peak discharges in the PEAK DISCHARGES FOR CURRENT YEAR paragraph, is now presented in the tabular summaries following the discharge table or in the REMARKS paragraph, as appropriate. No changes have been made to the data presentations of lake contents.

#### **Data table of daily mean values**

The daily table of discharge records for stream-gaging stations gives mean discharge for each day of the water year. In the monthly summary for the table, the line headed "TOTAL" gives the sum of the daily figures for each month; the line headed "MEAN" gives the average flow in cubic feet per second for the month; and the lines headed "MAX" and "MIN" give the maximum and minimum daily mean discharges, respectively, for each month. Discharge for the month also is usually expressed in cubic feet per second per square mile (line headed "CFSM"); or in inches (line headed "IN."). Figures for cubic feet per second per square mile and runoff in inches may be omitted if there is extensive regulation or diversion or if the drainage area includes large noncontributing areas. At some stations streamflow is affected by regulation or diversion. The monthly adjusting figure for known regulation or diversion may be shown at the bottom of the daily values table or in the appropriate lake or reservoir table.

#### **Statistics of monthly mean data**

A tabular summary of the mean (line headed "MEAN"), maximum (line headed "MAX"), and minimum (line headed "MIN") of monthly mean flows for each month for a designated period is provided below the daily values table. The water years of the first occurrence of the maximum and minimum monthly flows are provided immediately below those figures. The designated period will be expressed as "FOR WATER YEARS \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, BY WATER YEAR (WY)," and will list the first and last water years of the range of years selected from the PERIOD OF RECORD paragraph in the station manuscript. It will consist of all of the station record within the specified water years, inclusive, including complete months of record for partial water years, if any, and may coincide with the period of record for the station. The water years for which the statistics are computed will be consecutive, unless a break in the station record is indicated in the manuscript.

#### **Summary statistics**

A table titled "SUMMARY STATISTICS" follows the statistics of monthly mean data tabulation. This table consists of four columns, with the first column containing the line headings of the statistics being reported. The table provides a statistical summary of yearly, daily, and instantaneous flows, not only for the current water year but also for the previous calendar year and for a designated period, as appropriate. The designated period selected, "WATER YEARS \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_," will consist of all of the station record within the specified water years, inclusive, including complete months of record for partial water years, if any, and may coincide with the period of record for the station. The water years for which the statistics are computed will be consecutive, unless a break in the station record is indicated in the manuscript. All of the calculations for the statistical characteristics designated ANNUAL (See line headings below.), except for the "ANNUAL 7-DAY MINIMUM" statistic, are calculated for the designated period using complete water years. The other statistical characteristics may be calculated using partial water years.

The date or water year, as appropriate, of the first occurrence of each statistic reporting extreme values of discharge is provided adjacent to the statistic. Repeated occurrences may be noted in the REMARKS paragraph of the manuscript or in footnotes. Because the designated period for the statistics may not be the same as the period of record published in the manuscript, occasionally the dates of occurrence listed for the daily and instantaneous extremes may not be within the designated period. Selected streamflow duration statistics and runoff data are also given. Runoff data may be omitted if there is extensive regulation or diversion of flow in the drainage basin.

The summary statistics data, as appropriate, are provided with each continuous record of discharge. The following comments clarify information presented under the various line headings of the summary statistics table.

ANNUAL TOTAL.--The sum of the daily mean values of discharge for the year. At some stations the annual total discharge may be affected by reservoir storage or diversion. The monthly adjusting figures for known regulation or diversions may be shown 1) at the bottom of the daily values table, or 2) in the appropriate lake or reservoir table.

ANNUAL MEAN.--The arithmetic mean of the individual daily mean discharges for the year noted or for the designated period. At some stations the annual total discharge may be affected by reservoir storage or diversion. The monthly adjusting figures for known regulation or diversions may be shown 1) at the bottom of the daily values table, or 2) in the appropriate lake or reservoir table.

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HIGHEST ANNUAL MEAN.--The maximum annual mean discharge occurring for the designated period.

LOWEST ANNUAL MEAN.--The minimum annual mean discharge occurring for the designated period.

HIGHEST DAILY MEAN.--The maximum daily mean discharge for the year or for the designated period.

LOWEST DAILY MEAN.--The minimum daily mean discharge for the year or for the designated period.

ANNUAL 7-DAY MINIMUM.--The lowest mean discharge for 7 consecutive days for a calendar year or a water year. Note that most low-flow frequency analyses of annual 7-day minimum flows use a climatic year (April 1 - March 31). The date shown in the summary statistics table is the initial date of the 7-day period. (This value should not be confused with the 7-day 10-year, low-flow statistic.)

MAXIMUM PEAK FLOW.--The maximum instantaneous peak discharge occurring for the water year or designated period. Occasionally the maximum flow for a year may occur at midnight at the beginning or end of the year, on a recession from or rise toward a higher peak in the adjoining year. In this case, the maximum peak flow is given in the table and the maximum flow may be reported in a footnote or in the REMARKS paragraph in the manuscript.

MAXIMUM PEAK STAGE.--The maximum instantaneous peak stage occurring for the water year or designated period. Occasionally the maximum stage for a year may occur at midnight at the beginning or end of the year, on a recession from or rise toward a higher peak in the adjoining year. In this case, the maximum peak stage is given in the table and the maximum stage may be reported in the REMARKS paragraph in the manuscript or in a footnote. If the dates of occurrence of the maximum peak stage and maximum peak flow are different, the REMARKS paragraph in the manuscript or a footnote may be used to provide further information.

INSTANTANEOUS LOW FLOW.--The minimum instantaneous discharge occurring for the water year or for the designated period.

ANNUAL RUNOFF.--Indicates the total quantity of water in runoff for a drainage area for the year. Runoff figures may be omitted if there is extensive regulation or diversion. Data reports may use any of the following units of measurements in presenting annual runoff data:

Acre-foot (AC-FT) is the quantity of water required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot and is equal to 43,560 cubic feet or about 326,000 gallons or 1,233 cubic meters.

Cubic feet per second per square mile (CFSM) is the average number of cubic feet of water flowing per second from each square mile of area drained, assuming the runoff is distributed uniformly in time and area.

Inches (IN.,in.) indicates the depth to which the drainage area would be covered if all of the runoff for a given time period were uniformly distributed on it.

10 PERCENT EXCEEDS.--The discharge that has been exceeded 10 percent of the time for the designated period.

50 PERCENT EXCEEDS.--The discharge that has been exceeded 50 percent of the time for the designated period.

90 PERCENT EXCEEDS.--The discharge that has been exceeded 90 percent of the time for the designated period.

Data collected at partial-record stations follow the information for continuous-record sites. Data for partial-record discharge stations are presented in two tables. The first is a table of annual maximum stage and discharge at crest-stage stations, and the second is a table of discharge measurements at low-flow partial-record stations. The tables of partial-record stations are followed by a listing of discharge measurements made at sites other than continuous-record or partial-record stations. These measurements are generally made in times of drought or flood to give better areal coverage to those events. Those measurements and others collected for some special reason are called measurements at miscellaneous sites.

#### Identifying Estimated Daily Discharge

Beginning with the 1987 annual State data report, estimated daily discharge values published in the water-discharge tables are identified by flagging individual daily values with the letter symbol "e" and printing a table footnote, "e Estimated".

### Accuracy of the Records

The accuracy of streamflow records depends primarily on (1) The stability of the stage-discharge relation or, if the control is unstable, the frequency of discharge measurements; and (2) the accuracy of measurements of stage, measurements of discharge, and interpretation of records.

The accuracy attributed to the records is indicated under "REMARKS." "*Excellent*" means that about 95 percent of the daily discharges are within 5 percent of their true values; "*good*," within 10 percent; and "*fair*," within 15 percent. Records that do not meet the criteria mentioned are rated "*poor*." Different accuracies may be attributed to different parts of a given record.

Daily mean discharges in this report are given to the nearest hundredth of a cubic foot per second for values less than 1 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (cubic foot per second); to the nearest tenth from 1.0 to 10 ft<sup>3</sup>/s; to whole numbers from 10 to 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s; and to 3 significant figures when greater than 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s. The number of significant figures used is based solely on the magnitude of the discharge value. The same rounding rules apply to discharges listed for partial-record stations and miscellaneous sites.

Discharge at many stations, as indicated by the monthly mean, may not reflect natural runoff due to the effects of diversion, consumption, regulation by storage, increase or decrease in evaporation due to artificial causes, or to other factors. For such stations, figures of cubic feet per second per square mile and of runoff, in inches, are not published unless satisfactory adjustments can be made for diversions, for changes in contents of reservoirs, or for other changes incident to use and control. Evaporation from a reservoir is not included in the adjustments for changes in reservoir contents, unless it is so stated. Even at those stations where adjustments are made, large errors in computed runoff may occur if adjustments or losses are large in comparison with the observed discharge.

### Other Records Available

Information of a more detailed nature than that published for most of the gaging stations such as observations of water temperature, discharge measurements, gage-height records, and rating tables is on file in the District's offices. Most gaging-station records are available in computer-usable form and many statistical analyses have been made.

Information on the availability of unpublished data or statistical analyses may be obtained from the District Information Specialist (telephone (717) 730-6916).

### Records of Surface-Water Quality

Records of surface-water quality ordinarily are obtained at or near stream-gaging stations because interpretation of records of surface-water quality nearly always requires corresponding discharge data. Records of surface-water quality in this report may involve a variety of types of data and measurement frequencies.

### Classification of Records

Water-quality data for surface-water sites are grouped into one of three classifications. A continuing-record station is a site where data are collected on a regularly scheduled basis. Specifically, a continuing record station is a site which meets one or all of the following conditions: (1) When chemical samples are collected daily or monthly for 10 or more months during the water year. (2) When water temperature records include observations taken one or more times daily. (3) When sediment discharge records include periods for which sediment loads are computed and are considered to be representative of the runoff for the water year. A partial-record station is a site where limited water-quality data are collected systematically over a period of years. Frequency of sampling is usually less than quarterly. A miscellaneous sampling site is a location other than a continuing or partial-record station, where random samples are collected to give better areal coverage to define water-quality conditions in the river basin.

A careful distinction needs to be made between "*continuing records*" as used in this report and "*continuous recordings*," which refers to a continuous graph or a series of discrete values recorded at short intervals. Some records of water quality, such as temperature and specific conductance, may be obtained through continuous recordings; however, because of costs, most data are obtained only monthly or less frequently. Location of stations for which records on the quality of surface water appear in this report are shown in figures 4 and 5.

### Arrangement of Records

Water-quality records collected at a surface-water daily record station are published immediately following that record, regardless of the frequency of sample collection. Station number and name are the same for both records. Where a surface-water daily record station is not available or where the water quality differs significantly from that at the nearby surface-water station, the continuing water-quality record is published with its own station number and name in the regular downstream-order sequence. Water-quality data for partial-record stations and for miscellaneous sampling sites appear in separate tables following the table of discharge measurements at miscellaneous sites.

### On-site Measurements and Sample Collection

During the collection of water-quality data, assurance that the data obtained represent the in-situ quality of the water is a major concern. Certain measurements, such as water temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen, need to be made onsite when the samples are collected. To assure that measurements made in the laboratory also represent the in-situ water quality, carefully prescribed procedures need to be followed when collecting the samples, when treating the samples to prevent changes in quality pending analysis, and when shipping the samples to the laboratory. Procedures for on-site measurements and for collecting, treating, and shipping samples are given in publications on "Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations," Book 1, Chap. D2; Book 3, Chap. A1, A3, and A4; Book 9, Chap. A1-A9. These references are listed in the PUBLICATIONS ON TECHNIQUES OF WATER-RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS section of this report. These methods are consistent with ASTM standards and generally follow ISO standards. Also, detailed information on collecting, treating, and shipping samples may be obtained from the U.S. Geological Survey District Office.

One sample can define adequately the water quality at a given time if the mixture of solutes throughout the stream cross section is homogeneous. However, the concentration of solutes at different locations in the cross section may vary widely with different rates of water discharge, depending on the source of material and the turbulence and mixing of the stream. Some streams must be sampled through several vertical sections to obtain a representative sample needed for an accurate mean concentration and for use in calculating load. All samples collected for the National Water Quality Assessment Program (see Definition of Terms) are obtained from several verticals. Whether samples are obtained from the centroid of flow or from several verticals, depends on flow conditions and other factors that must be evaluated by the collector.

Chemical-quality data published in this report are considered to be the most representative values available for the stations listed. The values reported represent water-quality conditions at the time of sampling as much as possible, consistent with available sampling techniques and methods of analysis. In the rare case where an apparent inconsistency exists between a reported pH value and the relative abundance of carbon dioxide species (carbonate and bicarbonate), the inconsistency is the result of a slight uptake of carbon dioxide from the air by the sample between measurement of pH in the field and determination of carbonate and bicarbonate in the laboratory.

For chemical-quality stations equipped with digital monitors, the published records consist of daily maximum, minimum, and mean values for each constituent measured and are determined from data that are recorded at 15-, 30-, or 60-minute intervals by solid-state electronic data loggers, or with Data Collection Platforms (DCPs). More detailed records (measured values at a frequency greater than daily) may be obtained from the U.S. Geological Survey District Office at the address given on the back of the title page of this report or from [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/>].

### Water Temperature

Water temperatures are measured at most of the water-quality stations. At stations where recording instruments are used, maximum, minimum, and mean temperatures for each day are published and recorded data are available from the District Office or from [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/>]. In addition, water temperatures are measured at the time of discharge measurements for most water-discharge stations and are on file in the District's offices. For stations where water temperature is measured manually once or twice daily, it is usually measured at about the same time each day. Large streams have a small diurnal temperature change; temperatures in shallow streams may have a daily range of several degrees and may follow closely the changes in air temperature. Some streams may be affected by heated waste-water discharges.

### Sediment

Suspended-sediment concentrations are determined from samples collected by hand or by pump samplers. Hand samples utilize the appropriate sampler (dependent on stream depth and velocity) and are collected using the depth-integrating method at single or multiple verticals in the cross section. Samples collected by pump samplers use an intake set to a fixed location in the cross section. The intake is located at a site that best represents the entire cross section on the basis of simultaneous samples collected at various stages by the pumping sampler and by hand. During periods of rapidly changing flow or rapidly changing concentration, samples may have been collected more frequently (twice daily or, in some instances, every 15 minutes). The published sediment discharges for days of rapidly changing flow or concentration were computed by the subdivided-day method (time-discharge weighted average). Therefore, for those days when the published sediment discharge value differs from the value computed as the product of discharge, mean concentration, and the constant 0.0027, the reader can assume that the sediment discharge for that day was computed by the subdivided-day method. For periods when no samples were collected, daily discharges of suspended sediment were estimated on the basis of water discharge, sediment concentrations observed immediately before and after the periods, and suspended-sediment loads for other periods of similar discharge. Methods used in the computation of sediment records are described in the TWRI Book 3, Chapters C1 and C3. These methods are consistent with ASTM standards and generally follow ISO standards.

At other stations, suspended-sediment samples were collected periodically at many verticals in the stream cross section. Although data collected periodically may represent conditions only at the time of observations, such data are useful in establishing seasonal relations between quality and streamflow and in predicting long-term sediment-discharge characteristics of the stream.

In addition to the records of suspended-sediment discharge, records of the periodic measurements of the particle-size distribution of the suspended sediment and bed material are included for some stations.

### Laboratory Measurements

Sediment samples, samples for biochemical-oxygen demand (BOD), samples for indicator bacteria, and daily samples for specific conductance are analyzed locally. The remaining samples are analyzed in the Geological Survey laboratory in Denver, Colorado. If other laboratories are used, they are identified in the "Remarks" or "Cooperation" paragraph of each water-quality station manuscript. Methods used to analyze sediment samples and to compute sediment records are described in TWRI Book 5, Chapter C1. Methods used by the Geological Survey laboratories are given in the TWRI Book 1, Chapter D2; Book 3, Chapter C2; and Book 5, Chapters A1, A3, A4 and A5. These methods are consistent with ASTM standards and generally follow ISO standards. Methods used by other laboratories are approved by the U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division.

### Data Presentation

For continuing-record stations, information pertinent to the history of station operation is provided in descriptive headings preceding the tabular data. These descriptive headings give details regarding location, drainage area, period of record, type of data available, instrumentation, general remarks, cooperation, and extremes for constituents currently measured daily. Tables of chemical, physical, biological, radiochemical, and other data, obtained at a frequency less than daily are presented first. Tables of "daily values" of specific conductance, pH, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, and suspended sediment then follow in sequence.

In the descriptive headings, if the location is identical to that of the streamflow-gaging station, neither the LOCATION nor the DRAINAGE AREA statements are repeated. The following information, as appropriate, is provided with each continuous-record station. Comments that follow clarify information presented under the various headings of the station description.

LOCATION.--See Data Presentation under "*Records of Stage and Water Discharge*"; same comments apply.

DRAINAGE AREA.--See Data Presentation under "*Records of Stage and Water Discharge*"; same comments apply.

PERIOD OF RECORD.--This indicates the periods for which there are published water-quality records for the station. The periods are shown separately for records of constituents measured daily or continuously and those measured less often than daily. For those measured daily or continuously, periods of record are given for the constituents individually.

INSTRUMENTATION.--Information on instrumentation is given only if a water-quality monitor, temperature recorder, pumping sampler, or other sampling device is in operation at a station.

REMARKS.--Remarks provide added information pertinent to the collection, analysis, or computation of the records.

COOPERATION.--Records provided by a cooperating organization or obtained for the Geological Survey by a cooperating organization are identified here.

EXTREMES.--Maximums and minimums are given only for constituents measured daily or more frequently. None are given for constituents measured less frequently, because the true maximums or minimums may not have been sampled. Extremes, when given, are provided for both the period of record and for the current water year.

REVISIONS.--If errors in published water-quality records are discovered after publication, appropriate updates are made in the U.S. Geological Survey's distributed data system, NWIS, and subsequently to its web-based National data system, NWISWeb [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/>]. Because the usual volume of updates makes it impractical to document individual changes in the State data-report series or elsewhere, potential users of U.S. Geological Survey water-quality data are encouraged to obtain all required data from NWIS or NWISWeb to insure the most recent updates. Updates to NWISWeb are currently made on an annual basis.

The surface-water-quality records for partial-record stations and miscellaneous sampling sites are published in separate tables following the table of discharge measurements at miscellaneous sites. No descriptive statements are given for these records. Each station is published with its own station number and name in the regular downstream-order sequence.

### Accuracy of the Records

The accuracy of water-quality records at continuous-record water-quality stations depends primarily on (1) hydrologic environment; (2) seasonal conditions; (3) operating accuracy of the equipment; (4) fouling of the probes; (5) calibration drift in the equipment; and (6) maintenance frequency.

Beginning with the 2000 water year, an additional statement describing the accuracy attributed to the records is included under the "REMARKS" heading. After the record has been evaluated for reporting continuous data (table 1), one of the four accuracy classifications is applied to each measured physical property on a scale ranging from poor to excellent. Table 2 shows the criteria used in rating continuous water-quality records.

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In addition, beginning with the 2000 water year, the presentation of daily mean pH values has been discontinued and replaced by median pH values. (Wagner, R.J., Mattraw, H.C., Ritz, G.F., and Smith, B.A., 2000, Guidelines and standard procedures for continuous water-quality monitors—site selection, field operation, calibration, record computation, and reporting: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 00-4252, 53 p.).

Table 1.--Maximum allowable limits for continuous water-quality monitoring sensors.

Measured physical property	Maximum allowable limits for water-quality sensor values
Temperature	± 2.0°C
Specific conductance	± 30 percent
Dissolved oxygen	The greater of ± 2.0 mg/L or 20 percent
pH	± 2 pH units
Turbidity	± 30 percent

Table 2.--Rating continuous water-quality records.

Measured physical property	Ratings			
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Water temperature	≤ ± 0.2°C	>± 0.2 to 0.5°C	>± 0.5 to 0.8°C	>± 0.8°C
Specific conductance	≤ ± 3%	>± 3 to 10%	>± 10 to 15%	>± 15%
Dissolved oxygen	≤ ± 0.3 mg/L	>± 0.3 to 0.5 mg/L	>± 0.5 to 0.8 mg/L	>± 0.8 mg/L
pH	≤ ± 0.2 unit	>± 0.2 to 0.5 unit	>± 0.5 to 0.8 unit	>± 0.8 unit
Turbidity	≤ ± 5%	>± 5 to 10%	>± 10 to 15%	>± 15%

**Remark Codes**

The following remark codes may appear with the water-quality data in this report:

PRINTED OUTPUT

REMARK

- E,e Estimated value.
- > Actual value is known to be greater than the value shown.
- < Actual value is known to be less than the value shown.
- M Presence of material verified, but not quantified.
- N Presumptive evidence of presence of material.
- U Material specifically analyzed for, but not detected.
- A Value is an average.
- V Analyte was detected in both the environmental sample and the associated blanks.
- S Most probable value.

#### Dissolved Trace-Element Concentrations

NOTE.--Traditionally, dissolved trace-element concentrations have been reported at the microgram per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) level. Recent evidence, mostly from large rivers, indicates that actual dissolved-phase concentrations for a number of trace elements are within the range of 10's to 100's of nanograms per liter ( $\text{ng/L}$ ). Data above the  $\mu\text{g/L}$  level should be viewed with caution. Such data may actually represent elevated environmental concentrations from natural or human causes; however, these data could reflect contamination introduced during sampling, processing, or analysis. To confidently produce dissolved trace-element data with insignificant contamination, the U.S. Geological Survey began using new trace-element protocols at some stations in water year 1994.

#### Change in National Trends Network Procedures

NOTE.--Sample handling procedures at all National Trends Network stations were changed substantially on January 11, 1994, in order to reduce contamination from the sample shipping container. The data for samples before and after that date are different and not directly comparable. A tabular summary of the differences based on a special intercomparison study, is available from the NADP Program Office, Illinois State Water Survey, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, IL 61820-7459 (217-333-7873).

#### Water Quality-Control Data

Data generated from quality-control (QC) samples are a requisite for evaluating the quality of the sampling and processing techniques as well as data from the actual samples themselves. Without QC data, environmental sample data cannot be adequately interpreted because the errors associated with the sample data are unknown. The various types of QC samples collected by this district are described in the following section. Procedures have been established for the storage of water-quality-control data within the USGS. These procedures allow for storage of all derived QC data and are identified so that they can be related to corresponding environmental samples.

BLANK SAMPLES.--Blank samples are collected and analyzed to ensure that environmental samples have not been contaminated by the overall data-collection process. The blank solution used to develop specific types of blank samples is a solution that is free of the analytes of interest. Any measured value in a blank sample for an analyte (a specific component measured in a chemical analysis) that was absent in the blank solution is believed to be due to contamination. There are many types of blank samples possible, each designed to segregate a different part of the overall data-collection process. The types of blank samples collected in this district are:

Ambient blank--a blank solution that is put in the same type of sample container used for an environmental sample, kept with the set of sample bottles before sample collection, and opened at the site and exposed to the ambient conditions.

Field blank--a blank solution that is subjected to all aspects of sample collection, field processing, preservation, transportation, and laboratory handling as an environmental sample.

Trip blank--a blank solution that is put in the same type of sample container used for an environmental sample and kept with the set of samples bottles before and after sample collection.

Equipment blank--a blank solution that is processed through all equipment used for collecting and processing an environmental sample (similar to a field blank but normally done in the more controlled conditions of the office).

Sampler blank--a blank solution that is poured or pumped through the same field sampler used for collecting an environmental sample.

Filter blank--a blank solution that is filtered in the same manner and through the same filter apparatus used for an environmental sample.

Splitter blank--a blank solution that is mixed and separated using a field sample splitter in the same manner and through the same apparatus used for an environmental sample.

Preservation blank--a blank solution that is treated with the same preservatives used for an environmental sample.

Canister blank--a blank solution that is taken directly from a stainless steel canister just before the VOC sampler is submerged to obtain a field sample.

REFERENCE SAMPLES.--Reference material samples are solutions or materials having a known composition that is certified by a laboratory. Samples of reference material are submitted for analysis to ensure that an analytical method is accurate for the known properties of the reference material. Generally, the selected reference material properties are similar to the environmental sample properties.

**REPLICATE SAMPLES.**--Replicate samples are a set of environmental samples collected in a manner such that the samples are thought to be essentially identical in composition. Replicate is the general case for which a duplicate is the special case consisting of two samples. Replicate samples are collected and analyzed to establish the amount of variability in the data contributed by some part of the collection and analytical process. There are many types of replicate samples possible, each of which may yield slightly different results in a dynamic hydrologic setting, such as a flowing stream. The types of replicate samples collected in this district are:

Sequential samples--a type of replicate sample in which environmental samples are collected one after the other, typically within a short time.

Split sample--a type of replicate sample in which an environmental sample is split into subsamples contemporaneous in time and space.

**SPIKE SAMPLES.**--Spike samples are samples to which known quantities of a solution with one or more well-established analyte concentrations have been added. These samples are analyzed to determine the extent of matrix interference or degradation on the analyte concentration during sample processing and analysis.

### **Records of Ground-Water Levels**

Ground-water level data from an observation well network and from ground-water projects are published herein. Locations of observation wells in the basic network are shown in figure 4. Ground-water data are grouped by counties, arranged in alphabetical order, and are listed on page x. Miscellaneous or short-term ground-water data collection projects are published following the basic network data.

### **Data Collection and Computation**

Water levels are measured in many types of wells under varying conditions, but the methods of measurement are standardized to the extent possible. The equipment and measuring techniques used at each observation well ensure that measurements at each well are of consistent accuracy and reliability.

The prime identification number for a given well is the 15-digit number that appears above the station description. The secondary identification number is the local well number, an alphanumeric number, derived from the county location of the well.

Water-level records are obtained from direct measurements with a steel tape, from the graph of a water-level recorder, with solid-state electronic data loggers, or with Data Collection Platforms (DCPs). The water-level measurements in this report are given in feet with reference to land-surface datum (lsd). Land-surface datum is a datum plane that is approximately at land surface at each well. If known, the elevation of the land-surface datum is given in the well description. The height of the measuring point (MP) above or below land-surface datum is given in each well description. Water levels for most wells, especially historical network wells, are reported in feet above or below land surface datum. For some short term project wells the water levels may be reported as elevation (feet above sea level) for convenience of the project work. Water levels are reported daily for all wells equipped with recording gages.

Water levels are reported to as many significant figures as can be justified by the local conditions. Accordingly, most measurements are reported to a hundredth of a foot, but some may be given to a tenth of a foot.

### **Data Presentation**

Each well record consists of three parts; (1) the station description, (2) the data table of water levels observed during the current water year, and (3) a graph of the water levels for the last 3 years. The description of the well is presented first through use of descriptive headings preceding the tabular data. The comments that follow clarify information presented under the various headings of the station description.

**LOCATION.**--This paragraph follows the well-identification number and reports the latitude and longitude (given in degrees, minutes, and seconds), the hydrologic-unit number, the distance and direction from a geographic point of reference, and the owner's name.

**AQUIFER.**--This entry designates by name (if a name exists) and geologic age the aquifer(s) open to the well.

**WELL CHARACTERISTICS.**--This entry describes the well in terms of depth, diameter, casing depth or screened interval, method of construction, use, and additional information such as casing breaks, collapsed screen, and other changes since construction.

**INSTRUMENTATION.**--This paragraph provides information on both the frequency of measurement and the collection method, allowing the user to better evaluate the reported water-levels by knowing whether they are based on hourly, daily, or some other frequency of measurement.

**DATUM.**--This entry describes both the measuring point and the land-surface elevation at the well. The measuring point is described physically (such as top of collar, notch in top of casing, plug in pump base and so on), and in relation to land surface (such as 1.3 ft above land-surface datum). The elevation of the land-surface datum is described in feet above (or below) sea level; it is reported with a precision relative to the method of determination.

**REMARKS.**--This entry describes factors that may influence the water level in a well or the measurement of the water level. It should identify wells that also are water-quality observation wells, and may be used to acknowledge the assistance of local (non-Survey) observers.

**PERIOD OF RECORD.**--This entry indicates the period for which there are published records for the well. It reports the month and year of the start of publication of water-level records by the U.S. Geological Survey and the words "*to current year*" if the records are to be continued into the following year. Periods for which water-level records are available, but are not published by the Geological Survey, may be noted.

**EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.**--This entry contains the highest and lowest values of one daily water-level statistic (maximum, mean, or instantaneous) reported in the data tables for the period of published record with respect to land-surface datum, (or occasionally sea level), and the dates of their occurrence. For example, if the daily maximum depth below land surface is reported in the table of water levels, this paragraph would reflect the highest and lowest of these daily maximum values for the period of record. Depending on the statistic reported in the table of water levels, extremes would be determined from daily maximum, mean, or instantaneous values.

#### **Data table of water levels**

A table of water levels follows the station description for each well. These tables usually report water-level data as maximum depth (in feet) above or below land-surface datum, but may report daily mean or instantaneous values depending upon the method used to obtain the record and how the record was published in the past. If water-level record is obtained from electronic data loggers or DCPs, in addition to data published in the table of water levels, the daily maximum, minimum, and mean water-levels are stored in computer files and available from the District Office as noted in the REMARKS paragraph for that well. Recorded data are available at the District Office or from [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/>]. The extremes of the water-levels reported in the table for the water year and their dates of occurrence are shown on a line below the table. Missing records are indicated by dashes in place of the water level. A hydrograph showing the last three years of water levels follows each water-level table.

#### **Records of Ground-Water Quality**

Records of ground-water quality are obtained at wells and springs included in ground-water projects. Records of ground-water quality in this report may involve a variety of types of data and measurement frequencies. Those wells with a (c) following the well number in the list of ground-water wells on page x, have water-quality data published in the report. Miscellaneous or short-term ground-water data collection projects are published following the basic network data.

#### **Data Collection and Computation**

The records of ground-water quality in this report are usually obtained mostly as a part of special studies in specific areas. Consequently, a number of chemical analyses may be presented for some counties but none are presented for others. As a result, the records for this year, by themselves, do not provide a balanced view of ground-water quality Statewide. Such a view can be attained only by considering records for a particular year in context with similar records obtained in previous years.

Most methods for collecting and analyzing water samples are described in the U.S. Geological Survey TWRI publications referred to in the "*On-site Measurements and Sample Collection*" and the "*Laboratory Measurements*" sections in this data report. In addition, the TWRI Book 1, Chapter D2, describes guidelines for the collection and field analysis of ground-water samples for selected unstable constituents. The values reported represent water-quality conditions at the time of sampling as much as possible, consistent with available sampling techniques and methods of analysis. These methods are consistent with ASTM standards and generally follow ISO standards. All samples were obtained by trained personnel. Any wells sampled were pumped long enough to assure that the water collected came directly from the aquifer and had not stood for a long time in the well casing where it would have been exposed to the atmosphere and to the material, possibly metal, comprising the casings.

#### **Data Presentation**

Ground-water-quality data, if collected, are published with ground-water-level data at stations where level data are collected. Any data collected at partial-record stations and miscellaneous sites follow the information for continuous ground-water record stations. Data for each section are listed alphabetically by county, and are identified by well number. The prime identification number for wells sampled is the 15-digit number derived from the latitude-longitude locations. No descriptive statements are given for ground-water-quality records; however, the well number, depth of well, date of sampling, and other pertinent data are given in the table containing the chemical analyses of the ground water. The REMARK codes listed for surface-water-quality records are also applicable to ground-water-quality records.

### ACCESS TO USGS WATER DATA

The U.S. Geological Survey is the principal Federal water-data agency and, as such, collects and disseminates about 70 percent of the water data currently being used by numerous State, local, private, and other Federal agencies to develop and manage our water resources. The Geological Survey provides near real-time stream stage, discharge, ground water well, and stream water-quality data for many of the gaging stations equipped with the necessary telemetry and historic daily-mean and peak-flow discharge data for most current or discontinued gaging stations through the World Wide Web (WWW). These data may be accessed at [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/>].

Water-quality and ground-water data also are available through the WWW at [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/pa/nwis/>]. In addition, data can be provided in various machine-readable formats on compact disc or 3-1/2 inch floppy disk. Information about the availability of specific types of data or products, and user charges, can be obtained locally from each of the Water Resources Division District Offices (See address on the back of the title page.)

For most streamgages, "*real-time*" streamflow conditions are available on the World Wide Web (WWW) Pennsylvania District Home Page at [<http://pa.water.usgs.gov/>]. Daily streamflow values for the period of record, annual peak stream discharges, and streamflow conditions for surrounding states may be obtained through the WWW at [<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/>].

A wide variety of additional information, such as ordering U.S. Geological Survey maps and publications is available at the U.S. Geological Survey Home Page at [<http://www.usgs.gov/>].

### DEFINITION OF TERMS

Specialized technical terms related to streamflow, water-quality, and other hydrologic data, as used in this report, are defined below. Definitions of common terms such as algae, water level, and precipitation are given in standard dictionaries. Not all terms defined in this alphabetical list apply to every State. See also table for converting inch/pound units to International System (SI) units on the inside of the back cover.

**Acid neutralizing capacity** (ANC) is the equivalent sum of all bases or base-producing materials, solutes plus particulates, in an aqueous system that can be titrated with acid to an equivalence point. This term designates titration of an “unfiltered” sample (formerly reported as alkalinity).

**Acre-foot** (AC-FT, acre-ft) is a unit of volume, commonly used to measure quantities of water used or stored, equivalent to the volume of water required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot and equivalent to 43,560 cubic feet, 325,851 gallons, or 1,233 cubic meters. (See also “Annual runoff”)

**Adenosine triphosphate** (ATP) is an organic, phosphate-rich compound important in the transfer of energy in organisms. Its central role in living cells makes ATP an excellent indicator of the presence of living material in water. A measurement of ATP therefore provides a sensitive and rapid estimate of biomass. ATP is reported in micrograms per liter.

**Algal growth potential** (AGP) is the maximum algal dry weight biomass that can be produced in a natural water sample under standardized laboratory conditions. The growth potential is the algal biomass present at stationary phase and is expressed as milligrams dry weight of algae produced per liter of sample. (See also “Biomass” and “Dry weight”)

**Alkalinity** is the capacity of solutes in an aqueous system to neutralize acid. This term designates titration of a “filtered” sample.

**Annual runoff** is the total quantity of water that is discharged (“runs off”) from a drainage basin in a year. Data reports may present annual runoff data as volumes in acre-feet, as discharges per unit of drainage area in cubic feet per second per square mile, or as depths of water on the drainage basin in inches.

**Annual 7-day minimum** is the lowest mean value for any 7-consecutive-day period in a year. Annual 7-day minimum values are reported herein for the calendar year and the water year (October 1 through September 30). Most low-flow frequency analyses use a climatic year (April 1-March 31), which tends to prevent the low-flow period from being artificially split between adjacent years. The date shown in the summary statistics table is the initial date of the 7-day period. (This value should not be confused with the 7-day, 10-year low-flow statistic.)

**Aroclor** is the registered trademark for a group of poly-chlorinated biphenyls that were manufactured by the Monsanto Company prior to 1976. Aroclors are assigned specific 4-digit reference numbers dependent upon molecular type and degree of substitution of the biphenyl ring hydrogen atoms by chlorine atoms. The first two digits of a numbered aroclor represent the molecular type, and the last two digits represent the percentage weight of the hydrogen-substituted chlorine.

**Artificial substrate** is a device that is purposely placed in a stream or lake for colonization of organisms. The artificial substrate sim-

plifies the community structure by standardizing the substrate from which each sample is collected. Examples of artificial substrates are basket samplers (made of wire cages filled with clean streamside rocks) and multiplate samplers (made of hardboard) for benthic organism collection, and plexiglass strips for periphyton collection. (See also “Substrate”)

**Ash mass** is the mass or amount of residue present after the residue from the dry mass determination has been ashed in a muffle furnace at a temperature of 500 °C for 1 hour. Ash mass of zooplankton and phytoplankton is expressed in grams per cubic meter ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), and periphyton and benthic organisms in grams per square meter ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ ). (See also “Biomass” and “Dry mass”)

**Aspect** is the direction toward which a slope faces with respect to the compass.

**Bacteria** are microscopic unicellular organisms, typically spherical, rodlike, or spiral and threadlike in shape, often clumped into colonies. Some bacteria cause disease, whereas others perform an essential role in nature in the recycling of materials; for example, by decomposing organic matter into a form available for reuse by plants.

**Bankfull stage**, as used in this report, is the stage at which a stream first overflows its natural banks formed by floods with 1- to 3-year recurrence intervals.

**Base discharge** (for peak discharge) is a discharge value, determined for selected stations, above which peak discharge data are published. The base discharge at each station is selected so that an average of about three peak flows per year will be published. (See also “Peak flow”)

**Base flow** is sustained flow of a stream in the absence of direct runoff. It includes natural and human-induced streamflows. Natural base flow is sustained largely by ground-water discharge.

**Bedload** is material in transport that is supported primarily by the streambed. In this report, bedload is considered to consist of particles in transit from the bed to an elevation equal to the top of the bedload sampler nozzle (ranging from 0.25 to 0.5 foot) that are retained in the bedload sampler. A sample collected with a pressure-differential bedload sampler also may contain a component of the suspended load.

**Bedload discharge** (tons per day) is the rate of sediment moving as bedload, reported as dry weight, that passes through a cross section in a given time. NOTE: Bedload discharge values in this report may include a component of the suspended-sediment discharge. A correction may be necessary when computing the total sediment discharge by summing the bedload discharge and the suspended-sediment discharge. (See also “Bedload,” “Dry weight,” “Sediment,” and “Suspended-sediment discharge”)

**Bed material** is the sediment mixture of which a stream-bed, lake, pond, reservoir, or estuary bottom is composed. (See also “Bedload” and “Sediment”)

**Benthic organisms** are the group of organisms inhabiting the bottom of an aquatic environment. They include a number of types of organisms, such as bacteria, fungi, insect larvae and nymphs, snails, clams, and crayfish. They are useful as indicators of water quality.

**Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)** is a measure of the quantity of dissolved oxygen, in milligrams per liter, necessary for the decomposition of organic matter by microorganisms, such as bacteria.

**Biomass** is the amount of living matter present at any given time, expressed as mass per unit area or volume of habitat.

**Biomass pigment ratio** is an indicator of the total proportion of periphyton that are autotrophic (plants). This is also called the Autotrophic Index.

**Blue-green algae** (*Cyanophyta*) are a group of phytoplankton organisms having a blue pigment, in addition to the green pigment called chlorophyll. Blue-green algae often cause nuisance conditions in water. Concentrations are expressed as a number of cells per milliliter (cells/mL) of sample. (See also "Phytoplankton")

**Bottom material** (See "Bed material")

**Bulk electrical conductivity** is the combined electrical conductivity of all material within a doughnut-shaped volume surrounding an induction probe. Bulk conductivity is affected by different physical and chemical properties of the material including the dissolved solids content of the pore water and lithology and porosity of the rock.

**Cells/volume** refers to the number of cells of any organism that is counted by using a microscope and grid or counting cell. Many planktonic organisms are multicelled and are counted according to the number of contained cells per sample volume, and are generally reported as cells or units per milliliter (mL) or liter (L).

**Cells volume** (biovolume) determination is one of several common methods used to estimate biomass of algae in aquatic systems. Cell members of algae are frequently used in aquatic surveys as an indicator of algal production. However, cell numbers alone cannot represent true biomass because of considerable cell-size variation among the algal species. Cell volume ( $\mu\text{m}^3$ ) is determined by obtaining critical cell measurements or cell dimensions (for example, length, width, height, or radius) for 20 to 50 cells of each important species to obtain an average biovolume per cell. Cells are categorized according to the correspondence of their cellular shape to the nearest geometric solid or combinations of simple solids (for example, spheres, cones, or cylinders). Representative formulae used to compute biovolume are as follows:

$$\text{sphere } \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \quad \text{cone } \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h \quad \text{cylinder } \pi r^2 h.$$

pi ( $\pi$ ) is the ratio of the circumference to the diameter of a circle;  $\pi = 3.14159\dots$

From cell volume, total algal biomass expressed as biovolume ( $\mu\text{m}^3/\text{mL}$ ) is thus determined by multiplying the number of cells of a given species by its average cell volume and then summing these volumes for all species.

**Cfs-day** (See "Cubic foot per second-day")

**Channel bars**, as used in this report, are the lowest prominent geomorphic features higher than the channel bed.

**Chemical oxygen demand (COD)** is a measure of the chemically oxidizable material in the water and furnishes an approximation of the amount of organic and reducing material present. The

determined value may correlate with BOD or with carbonaceous organic pollution from sewage or industrial wastes. [See also "Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)"]

***Clostridium perfringens* (*C. perfringens*)** is a spore-forming bacterium that is common in the feces of human and other warm-blooded animals. Clostridial spores are being used experimentally as an indicator of past fecal contamination and presence of microorganisms that are resistant to disinfection and environmental stresses. (See also "Bacteria")

**Coliphages** are viruses that infect and replicate in coliform bacteria. They are indicative of sewage contamination of water and of the survival and transport of viruses in the environment.

**Color unit** is produced by 1 milligram per liter of platinum in the form of the chloroplatinate ion. Color is expressed in units of the platinum-cobalt scale.

**Confined aquifer** is a term used to describe an aquifer containing water between two relatively impermeable boundaries. The water level in a well tapping a confined aquifer stands above the top of the confined aquifer and can be higher or lower than the water table that may be present in the material above it. In some cases, the water level can rise above the ground surface, yielding a flowing well.

**Contents** is the volume of water in a reservoir or lake. Unless otherwise indicated, volume is computed on the basis of a level pool and does not include bank storage.

**Continuous-record station** is a site where data are collected with sufficient frequency to define daily mean values and variations within a day.

**Control** designates a feature in the channel that physically affects the water-surface elevation and thereby determines the stage-discharge relation at the gage. This feature may be a constriction of the channel, a bedrock outcrop, a gravel bar, an artificial structure, or a uniform cross section over a long reach of the channel.

**Control structure**, as used in this report, is a structure on a stream or canal that is used to regulate the flow or stage of the stream or to prevent the intrusion of saltwater.

**Cubic foot per second (CFS,  $\text{ft}^3/\text{s}$ )** is the rate of discharge representing a volume of 1 cubic foot passing a given point in 1 second. It is equivalent to approximately 7.48 gallons per second or approximately 449 gallons per minute, or 0.02832 cubic meters per second. The term "second-foot" sometimes is used synonymously with "cubic foot per second" but is now obsolete.

**Cubic foot per second-day (CFS-DAY, Cfs-day,  $[(\text{ft}^3/\text{s})/\text{d}]$ )** is the volume of water represented by a flow of 1 cubic foot per second for 24 hours. It is equivalent to 86,400 cubic feet, 1.98347 acre-feet, 646,317 gallons, or 2,446.6 cubic meters. The daily mean discharges reported in the daily value data tables are numerically equal to the daily volumes in cfs-days, and the totals also represent volumes in cfs-days.

**Cubic foot per second per square mile [CFSM,  $(\text{ft}^3/\text{s})/\text{mi}^2$ ]** is the average number of cubic feet of water flowing per second from each square mile of area drained, assuming the runoff is distributed uniformly in time and area. (See also "Annual runoff")

**Daily mean suspended-sediment concentration** is the time-weighted concentration of suspended sediment passing a stream cross section during a 24-hour day. (See also "Sediment" and "Suspended-sediment concentration")

**Daily-record station** is a site where data are collected with sufficient frequency to develop a record of one or more data values per day. The frequency of data collection can range from continuous recording to periodic sample or data collection on a daily or near-daily basis.

**Data collection platform (DCP)** is an electronic instrument that collects, processes, and stores data from various sensors, and transmits the data by satellite data relay, line-of-sight radio, and/or landline telemetry.

**Data logger** is a microprocessor-based data acquisition system designed specifically to acquire, process, and store data. Data are usually downloaded from onsite data loggers for entry into office data systems.

**Datum** is a surface or point relative to which measurements of height and/or horizontal position are reported. A vertical datum is a horizontal surface used as the zero point for measurements of gage height, stage, or elevation; a horizontal datum is a reference for positions given in terms of latitude-longitude, State Plane coordinates, or UTM coordinates. (See also "Gage datum," "Land-surface datum," "National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929," and "North American Vertical Datum of 1988")

**Diatoms** are the unicellular or colonial algae having a siliceous shell. Their concentrations are expressed as number of cells per milliliter (cells/mL) of sample. (See also "Phytoplankton")

**Diel** is of or pertaining to a 24-hour period of time; a regular daily cycle.

**Discharge, or flow**, is the rate that matter passes through a cross section of a stream channel or other water body per unit of time. The term commonly refers to the volume of water (including, unless otherwise stated, any sediment or other constituents suspended or dissolved in the water) that passes a cross section in a stream channel, canal, pipeline, etc., within a given period of time (cubic feet per second). Discharge also can apply to the rate at which constituents, such as suspended sediment, bedload, and dissolved or suspended chemicals, pass through a cross section, in which cases the quantity is expressed as the mass of constituent that passes the cross section in a given period of time (tons per day).

**Dissolved** refers to that material in a representative water sample that passes through a 0.45-micrometer membrane filter. This is a convenient operational definition used by Federal and State agencies that collect water-quality data. Determinations of "dissolved" constituent concentrations are made on sample water that has been filtered.

**Dissolved oxygen (DO)** is the molecular oxygen (oxygen gas) dissolved in water. The concentration in water is a function of atmospheric pressure, temperature, and dissolved-solids concentration of the water. The ability of water to retain oxygen decreases with increasing temperature or dissolved-solids concentration. Photosynthesis and respiration by plants commonly cause diurnal variations in dissolved-oxygen concentration in water from some streams.

**Dissolved-solids concentration** in water is the quantity of dissolved material in a sample of water. It is determined either analytically by the "residue-on-evaporation" method, or mathematically by totaling the concentrations of individual constituents reported in a comprehensive chemical analysis. During the analytical determination, the bicarbonate (generally a major dissolved component of water) is converted to carbonate. In the mathematical calculation, the bicarbonate value, in milligrams per liter, is multiplied by 0.4926 to convert it to carbonate. Alternatively, alkalinity concentration (as mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub>) can be converted to carbonate concentration by multiplying by 0.60.

**Diversity index (H) (Shannon index)** is a numerical expression of evenness of distribution of aquatic organisms. The formula for diversity index is:

$$\bar{d} = -\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{n_i}{n} \log_2 \frac{n_i}{n},$$

where  $n_i$  is the number of individuals per taxon,  $n$  is the total number of individuals, and  $s$  is the total number of taxa in the sample of the community. Index values range from zero, when all the organisms in the sample are the same, to some positive number, when some or all of the organisms in the sample are different.

**Drainage area** of a stream at a specific location is that area upstream from the location, measured in a horizontal plane, that has a common outlet at the site for its surface runoff from precipitation that normally drains by gravity into a stream. Drainage areas given herein include all closed basins, or noncontributing areas, within the area unless otherwise specified.

**Drainage basin** is a part of the Earth's surface that contains a drainage system with a common outlet for its surface runoff. (See "Drainage area")

**Dry mass** refers to the mass of residue present after drying in an oven at 105 °C, until the mass remains unchanged. This mass represents the total organic matter, ash and sediment, in the sample. Dry-mass values are expressed in the same units as ash mass. (See also "Ash mass," "Biomass," and "Wet mass")

**Dry weight** refers to the weight of animal tissue after it has been dried in an oven at 65 °C until a constant weight is achieved. Dry weight represents total organic and inorganic matter in the tissue. (See also "Wet weight")

**Embeddedness** is the degree to which gravel-sized and larger particles are surrounded or enclosed by finer-sized particles. (See also "Substrate embeddedness class")

**Enterococcus bacteria** are commonly found in the feces of humans and other warmblooded animals. Although some strains are ubiquitous and not related to fecal pollution, the presence of enterococci in water is an indication of fecal pollution and the possible presence of enteric pathogens. Enterococcus bacteria are those bacteria that produce pink to red colonies with black or reddish-brown precipitate after incubation at 41 °C on mE agar (nutrient medium for bacterial growth) and subsequent transfer to EIA medium. Enterococci include *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Streptococcus faecium*, *Streptococcus avium*, and their variants. (See also "Bacteria")

**EPT Index** is the total number of distinct taxa within the insect orders Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera. This index summarizes the taxa richness within the aquatic insects that are generally considered pollution sensitive; the index usually decreases with pollution.

***Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*)** are bacteria present in the intestine and feces of warmblooded animals. *E. coli* are a member species of the fecal coliform group of indicator bacteria. In the laboratory, they are defined as those bacteria that produce yellow or yellow-brown colonies on a filter pad saturated with urea substrate broth after primary culturing for 22 to 24 hours at 44.5°C on mTEC medium (nutrient medium for bacterial growth). Their concentrations are expressed as number of colonies per 100 mL of sample. (See also "Bacteria")

**Estimated (E) concentration value** is reported when an analyte is detected and all criteria for a positive result are met. If the concentration is less than the method detection limit (MDL), an 'E' code will be reported with the value. If the analyte is qualitatively identified as present, but the quantitative determination is substantially more uncertain, the National Water Quality Laboratory will identify the result with an 'E' code even though the measured value is greater than the MDL. A value reported with an 'E' code should be used with caution. When no analyte is detected in a sample, the default reporting value is the MDL preceded by a less than sign (<).

**Euglenoids (*Euglenophyta*)** are a group of algae that are usually free-swimming and rarely creeping. They have the ability to grow either photosynthetically in the light or heterotrophically in the dark. (See also "Phytoplankton")

**Extractable organic halides (EOX)** are organic compounds that contain halogen atoms such as chlorine. These organic compounds are semivolatile and extractable by ethyl acetate from air-dried streambed sediment. The ethyl acetate extract is combusted, and the concentration is determined by microcoulometric determination of the halides formed. The concentration is reported as micrograms of chlorine per gram of the dry weight of the streambed sediment.

**Fecal coliform bacteria** are present in the intestines or feces of warmblooded animals. They often are used as indicators of the sanitary quality of the water. In the laboratory, they are defined as all organisms that produce blue colonies within 24 hours when incubated at 44.5 °C plus or minus 0.2 °C on M-FC medium (nutrient medium for bacterial growth). Their concentrations are expressed as number of colonies per 100 mL of sample. (See also "Bacteria")

**Fecal streptococcal bacteria** are present in the intestines of warmblooded animals and are ubiquitous in the environment. They are characterized as gram-positive, cocci bacteria that are capable of growth in brain-heart infusion broth. In the laboratory, they are defined as all the organisms that produce red or pink colonies within 48 hours at 35 °C plus or minus 1.0 °C on KF-streptococcus medium (nutrient medium for bacterial growth). Their concentrations are expressed as number of colonies per 100 mL of sample. (See also "Bacteria")

**Fire algae (*Pyrrhophyta*)** are free-swimming unicells characterized by a red pigment spot. (See also "Phytoplankton")

**Flow-duration percentiles** are values on a scale of 100 that indicate the percentage of time for which a flow is not exceeded. For example, the 90th percentile of river flow is greater than or equal to 90 percent of all recorded flow rates.

**Gage datum** is a horizontal surface used as a zero point for measurement of stage or gage height. This surface usually is located slightly below the lowest point of the stream bottom such that the gage height is usually slightly greater than the maximum depth of water. Because the gage datum itself is not an actual physical object, the datum usually is defined by specifying the elevations of permanent reference marks such as bridge abutments and survey monuments, and the gage is set to agree with the reference marks. Gage datum is a local datum that is maintained independently of any national geodetic datum. However, if the elevation of the gage datum relative to the national datum (North American Vertical Datum of 1988 or National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929) has been determined, then the gage readings can be converted to elevations above the national datum by adding the elevation of the gage datum to the gage reading.

**Gage height (G.H.)** is the water-surface elevation, in feet above the gage datum. If the water surface is below the gage datum, the gage height is negative. Gage height often is used interchangeably with the more general term "stage," although gage height is more appropriate when used in reference to a reading on a gage.

**Gage values** are values that are recorded, transmitted, and/or computed from a gaging station. Gage values typically are collected at 5-, 15-, or 30-minute intervals.

**Gaging station** is a site on a stream, canal, lake, or reservoir where systematic observations of stage, discharge, or other hydrologic data are obtained.

**Gas chromatography/flame ionization detector (GC/FID)** is a laboratory analytical method used as a screening technique for semivolatile organic compounds that are extractable from water in methylene chloride.

**Geomorphic channel units**, as used in this report, are fluvial geomorphic descriptors of channel shape and stream velocity. Pools, riffles, and runs are types of geomorphic channel units considered for National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program habitat sampling.

**Green algae** have chlorophyll pigments similar in color to those of higher green plants. Some forms produce algae mats or floating "moss" in lakes. Their concentrations are expressed as number of cells per milliliter (cells/mL) of sample. (See also "Phytoplankton")

**Habitat**, as used in this report, includes all nonliving (physical) aspects of the aquatic ecosystem, although living components like aquatic macrophytes and riparian vegetation also are usually included. Measurements of habitat are typically made over a wider geographic scale than are measurements of species distribution.

**Habitat quality index** is the qualitative description (level 1) of instream habitat and riparian conditions surrounding the reach sampled. Scores range from 0 to 100 percent with higher scores indicative of desirable habitat conditions for aquatic life. Index only applicable to wadable streams.

**Hardness** of water is a physical-chemical characteristic that commonly is recognized by the increased quantity of soap required to produce lather. It is computed as the sum of equivalents of polyvalent cations (primarily calcium and magnesium) and is expressed as the equivalent concentration of calcium carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>).

**High tide** is the maximum height reached by each rising tide. The high-high and low-high tides are the higher and lower of the two high tides, respectively, of each tidal day. See NOAA web site: <http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/tideglos.html>

**Hilsenhoff's Biotic Index (HBI)** is an indicator of organic pollution that uses tolerance values to weight taxa abundances; usually increases with pollution. It is calculated as follows:

$$HBI = \text{sum} \frac{(n)(a)}{N},$$

where n is the number of individuals of each taxon, a is the tolerance value of each taxon, and N is the total number of organisms in the sample.

**Horizontal datum** (See "Datum")

**Hydrologic index stations** referred to in this report are continuous-record gaging stations that have been selected as representative of streamflow patterns for their respective regions. Station locations are shown on index maps.

**Hydrologic unit** is a geographic area representing part or all of a surface drainage basin or distinct hydrologic feature as defined by the former Office of Water Data Coordination and delineated on the State Hydrologic Unit Maps by the USGS. Each hydrologic unit is identified by an 8-digit number.

**Inch (IN., in.)**, as used in this report, refers to the depth to which the drainage area would be covered with water if all of the runoff for a given time period were uniformly distributed on it. (See also "Annual runoff")

**Instantaneous discharge** is the discharge at a particular instant of time. (See also "Discharge")

**Island**, as used in this report, is a mid-channel bar that has permanent woody vegetation, is flooded once a year on average, and remains stable except during large flood events.

**Laboratory reporting level (LRL)** is generally equal to twice the yearly determined long-term method detection level (LT-MDL). The LRL controls false negative error. The probability of falsely reporting a nondetection for a sample that contained an analyte at a concentration equal to or greater than the LRL is predicted to be less than or equal to 1 percent. The value of the LRL will be reported with a "less than" (<) remark code for samples in which the analyte was not detected. The National Water Quality Laboratory (NWQL) collects quality-control data from selected analytical methods on a continuing basis to determine LT-MDLs and to establish LRLs. These values are reevaluated annually on the basis of the most current quality-control data and, therefore, may change. [Note: In several previous NWQL documents (NWQL Technical Memorandum 98.07, 1998), the LRL was called the nondetection value or NDV—a term that is no longer used.]

**Land-surface datum (lsd)** is a datum plane that is approximately at land surface at each ground-water observation well.

**Latent heat flux** (often used interchangeably with latent heat-flux density) is the amount of heat energy that converts water from liquid to vapor (evaporation) or from vapor to liquid (condensation) across a specified cross-sectional area per unit time. Usually expressed in watts per square meter.

**Light-attenuation coefficient**, also known as the extinction coefficient, is a measure of water clarity. Light is attenuated according to the Lambert-Beer equation:

$$I = I_o e^{-\lambda L},$$

where  $I_o$  is the source light intensity,  $I$  is the light intensity at length  $L$  (in meters) from the source,  $\lambda$  is the light-attenuation coefficient, and  $e$  is the base of the natural logarithm. The light-attenuation coefficient is defined as

$$\lambda = -\frac{1}{L} \log_e \frac{I}{I_o}.$$

**Lipid** is any one of a family of compounds that are insoluble in water and that make up one of the principal components of living cells. Lipids include fats, oils, waxes, and steroids. Many environmental contaminants such as organochlorine pesticides are lipophilic.

**Long-term method detection level (LT-MDL)** is a detection level derived by determining the standard deviation of a minimum of 24 method detection limit (MDL) spike sample measurements over an extended period of time. LT-MDL data are collected on a continuous basis to assess year-to-year variations in the LT-MDL. The LT-MDL controls false positive error. The chance of falsely reporting a concentration at or greater than the LT-MDL for a sample that did not contain the analyte is predicted to be less than or equal to 1 percent.

**Low tide** is the minimum height reached by each falling tide. The high-low and low-low tides are the higher and lower of the two low tides, respectively, of each tidal day. See NOAA web site: <http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/tideglos.html>

**Macrophytes** are the macroscopic plants in the aquatic environment. The most common macrophytes are the rooted vascular plants that usually are arranged in zones in aquatic ecosystems and restricted in the area by the extent of illumination through the water and sediment deposition along the shoreline.

**Mean concentration of suspended sediment** (Daily mean suspended-sediment concentration) is the time-weighted concentration of suspended sediment passing a stream cross section during a given time period. (See also "Daily mean suspended-sediment concentration" and "Suspended-sediment concentration")

**Mean discharge (MEAN)** is the arithmetic mean of individual daily mean discharges during a specific period. (See also "Discharge")

**Mean high or low tide** is the average of all high or low tides, respectively, over a specific period.

**Mean sea level** is a local tidal datum. It is the arithmetic mean of hourly heights observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. Shorter series are specified in the name; for example, monthly mean sea level and yearly mean sea level. In order that they may be recovered when needed, such datums are referenced to fixed points known as benchmarks. (See also "Datum")

**Measuring point (MP)** is an arbitrary permanent reference point from which the distance to water surface in a well is measured to obtain water level.

**Membrane filter** is a thin microporous material of specific pore size used to filter bacteria, algae, and other very small particles from water.

**Metamorphic stage** refers to the stage of development that an organism exhibits during its transformation from an immature form to an adult form. This developmental process exists for most insects, and the degree of difference from the immature stage to the adult form varies from relatively slight to pronounced, with many intermediates. Examples of metamorphic stages of insects are egg-larva-adult or egg-nymph-adult.

**Method detection limit (MDL)** is the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99-percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero. It is determined from the analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte. At the MDL concentration, the risk of a false positive is predicted to be less than or equal to 1 percent.

**Methylene blue active substances (MBAS)** are apparent detergents. The determination depends on the formation of a blue color when methylene blue dye reacts with synthetic anionic detergent compounds.

**Micrograms per gram (UG/G,  $\mu\text{g/g}$ )** is a unit expressing the concentration of a chemical constituent as the mass (micrograms) of the element per unit mass (gram) of material analyzed.

**Micrograms per kilogram (UG/KG,  $\mu\text{g/kg}$ )** is a unit expressing the concentration of a chemical constituent as the mass (micrograms) of the constituent per unit mass (kilogram) of the material analyzed. One microgram per kilogram is equivalent to 1 part per billion.

**Micrograms per liter (UG/L,  $\mu\text{g/L}$ )** is a unit expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in water as mass (micrograms) of constituent per unit volume (liter) of water. One thousand micrograms per liter is equivalent to 1 milligram per liter. One microgram per liter is equivalent to 1 part per billion.

**Microsiemens per centimeter (US/CM,  $\mu\text{S/cm}$ )** is a unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution as measured between opposite faces of a centimeter cube of solution at a specified temperature. Siemens is the International System of Units nomenclature. It is synonymous with mhos and is the reciprocal of resistance in ohms.

**Milligrams per liter (MG/L,  $\text{mg/L}$ )** is a unit for expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in water as the mass (milligrams) of constituent per unit volume (liter) of water. Concentration of suspended sediment also is expressed in milligrams per liter and is based on the mass of dry sediment per liter of water-sediment mixture.

**Minimum reporting level (MRL)** is the smallest measured concentration of a constituent that may be reliably reported by using a given analytical method.

**Miscellaneous site**, miscellaneous station, or miscellaneous sampling site is a site where streamflow, sediment, and/or water-quality data or water-quality or sediment samples are collected once, or more often on a random or discontinuous basis to provide better areal coverage for defining hydrologic and water-quality conditions over a broad area in a river basin.

**Most probable number (MPN)** is an index of the number of coliform bacteria that, more probably than any other number, would give the results shown by the laboratory examination; it is not an actual enumeration. MPN is determined from the distribution of gas-positive cultures among multiple inoculated tubes.

**Multiple-plate samplers** are artificial substrates of known surface area used for obtaining benthic invertebrate samples. They consist of a series of spaced, hardboard plates on an eyebolt.

**Nanograms per liter (NG/L,  $\text{ng/L}$ )** is a unit expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in solution as mass (nanograms) of solute per unit volume (liter) of water. One million nanograms per liter is equivalent to 1 milligram per liter.

**National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD of 1929)** is a fixed reference adopted as a standard geodetic datum for elevations determined by leveling. It was formerly called "Sea Level Datum of 1929" or "mean sea level." Although the datum was derived from the mean sea level at 26 tide stations, it does not necessarily represent local mean sea level at any particular place. See NOAA web site: <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/fdq.shtml#WhatVD29VD88> (See "North American Vertical Datum of 1988")

**Natural substrate** refers to any naturally occurring immersed or submersed solid surface, such as a rock or tree, upon which an organism lives. (See also "Substrate")

**Nekton** are the consumers in the aquatic environment and consist of large free-swimming organisms that are capable of sustained, directed mobility.

**Nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU)** is the measurement for reporting turbidity that is based on use of a standard suspension of formazin. Turbidity measured in NTU uses nephelometric methods that depend on passing specific light of a specific wavelength through the sample.

**North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 1988)** is a fixed reference adopted as the official civilian vertical datum for elevations determined by Federal surveying and mapping activities in the United States. This datum was established in 1991 by minimum-constraint adjustment of the Canadian, Mexican, and United States first-order terrestrial leveling networks.

**Open or screened interval** is the length of unscreened opening or of well screen through which water enters a well, in feet below land surface.

**Organic carbon (OC)** is a measure of organic matter present in aqueous solution, suspension, or bottom sediment. May be reported as dissolved organic carbon (DOC), particulate organic carbon (POC), or total organic carbon (TOC).

**Organic mass or volatile mass** of a living substance is the difference between the dry mass and ash mass and represents the actual mass of the living matter. Organic mass is expressed in the same units as for ash mass and dry mass. (See also "Ash mass," "Biomass," and "Dry mass")

**Organism count/area** refers to the number of organisms collected and enumerated in a sample and adjusted to the number per area habitat, usually square meter (m<sup>2</sup>), acre, or hectare. Periphyton, benthic organisms, and macrophytes are expressed in these terms.

**Organism count/volume** refers to the number of organisms collected and enumerated in a sample and adjusted to the number per sample volume, usually milliliter (mL) or liter (L). Numbers of planktonic organisms can be expressed in these terms.

**Organochlorine compounds** are any chemicals that contain carbon and chlorine. Organochlorine compounds that are important in investigations of water, sediment, and biological quality include certain pesticides and industrial compounds.

**Parameter code** is a 5-digit number used in the USGS computerized data system, National Water Information System (NWIS), to uniquely identify a specific constituent or property.

**Partial-record station** is a site where discrete measurements of one or more hydrologic parameters are obtained over a period of time without continuous data being recorded or computed. A common example is a crest-stage gage partial-record station at which only peak stages and flows are recorded.

**Particle size** is the diameter, in millimeters (mm), of a particle determined by sieve or sedimentation methods. The sedimentation method utilizes the principle of Stokes law to calculate sediment particle sizes. Sedimentation methods (pipet, bottom-withdrawal tube, visual-accumulation tube, sedigraph) determine fall diameter of particles in either distilled water (chemically dispersed) or in native water (the river water at the time and point of sampling).

**Particle-size classification**, as used in this report, agrees with the recommendation made by the American Geophysical Union Subcommittee on Sediment Terminology. The classification is as follows:

Classification	Size (mm)	Method of analysis
Clay	>0.00024 - 0.004	Sedimentation
Silt	>0.004 - 0.062	Sedimentation
Sand	>0.062 - 2.0	Sedimentation/sieve
Gravel	>2.0 - 64.0	Sieve
Cobble	>64 - 256	Manual measurement
Boulder	>256	Manual measurement

The particle-size distributions given in this report are not necessarily representative of all particles in transport in the stream. For the sedimentation method, most of the organic matter is removed, and the sample is subjected to mechanical and chemical dispersion before analysis in distilled water. Chemical dispersion is not used for native water analysis.

**Peak flow (peak stage)** is an instantaneous local maximum value in the continuous time series of streamflows or stages, preceded by a period of increasing values and followed by a period of decreasing

values. Several peak values ordinarily occur in a year. The maximum peak value in a year is called the annual peak; peaks lower than the annual peak are called secondary peaks. Occasionally, the annual peak may not be the maximum value for the year; in such cases, the maximum value occurs at midnight at the beginning or end of the year, on the recession from or rise toward a higher peak in the adjoining year. If values are recorded at a discrete series of times, the peak recorded value may be taken as an approximation of the true peak, which may occur between the recording instants. If the values are recorded with finite precision, a sequence of equal recorded values may occur at the peak; in this case, the first value is taken as the peak.

**Percent composition or percent of total** is a unit for expressing the ratio of a particular part of a sample or population to the total sample or population, in terms of types, numbers, weight, mass, or volume.

**Percent shading** is a measure of the amount of sunlight potentially reaching the stream. A clinometer is used to measure left and right bank canopy angles. These values are added together, divided by 180, and multiplied by 100 to compute percentage of shade.

**Periodic-record station** is a site where stage, discharge, sediment, chemical, physical, or other hydrologic measurements are made one or more times during a year but at a frequency insufficient to develop a daily record.

**Periphyton** is the assemblage of microorganisms attached to and living upon submerged solid surfaces. Although primarily consisting of algae, they also include bacteria, fungi, protozoa, rotifers, and other small organisms. Periphyton are useful indicators of water quality.

**Pesticides** are chemical compounds used to control undesirable organisms. Major categories of pesticides include insecticides, miticides, fungicides, herbicides, and rodenticides.

**pH** of water is the negative logarithm of the hydrogen-ion activity. Solutions with pH less than 7.0 standard units are termed "acidic," and solutions with a pH greater than 7.0 are termed "basic." Solutions with a pH of 7.0 are neutral. The presence and concentration of many dissolved chemical constituents found in water are affected, in part, by the hydrogen-ion activity of water. Biological processes including growth, distribution of organisms, and toxicity of the water to organisms also are affected, in part, by the hydrogen-ion activity of water.

**Phytoplankton** is the plant part of the plankton. They are usually microscopic, and their movement is subject to the water currents. Phytoplankton growth is dependent upon solar radiation and nutrient substances. Because they are able to incorporate as well as release materials to the surrounding water, the phytoplankton have a profound effect upon the quality of the water. They are the primary food producers in the aquatic environment and commonly are known as algae. (See also "Plankton")

**Picocurie (PC, pCi)** is one trillionth ( $1 \times 10^{-12}$ ) of the amount of radioactive nuclide represented by a curie (Ci). A curie is the quantity of radioactive nuclide that yields  $3.7 \times 10^{10}$  radioactive disintegrations per second (dps). A picocurie yields 0.037 dps, or 2.22 dpm (disintegrations per minute).

**Plankton** is the community of suspended, floating, or weakly swimming organisms that live in the open water of lakes and rivers. Concentrations are expressed as a number of cells per milliliter (cells/mL) of sample.

**Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)** are industrial chemicals that are mixtures of chlorinated biphenyl compounds having various percentages of chlorine. They are similar in structure to organochlorine insecticides.

**Polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCNs)** are industrial chemicals that are mixtures of chlorinated naphthalene compounds. They have properties and applications similar to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and have been identified in commercial PCB preparations.

**Pool**, as used in this report, is a small part of a stream reach with little velocity, commonly with water deeper than surrounding areas.

**Primary productivity** is a measure of the rate at which new organic matter is formed and accumulated through photosynthetic and chemosynthetic activity of producer organisms (chiefly, green plants). The rate of primary production is estimated by measuring the amount of oxygen released (oxygen method) or the amount of carbon assimilated (carbon method) by the plants.

**Primary productivity (carbon method)** is expressed as milligrams of carbon per area per unit time [ $\text{mg C}/(\text{m}^2/\text{time})$ ] for periphyton and macrophytes or per volume [ $\text{mg C}/(\text{m}^3/\text{time})$ ] for phytoplankton. The carbon method defines the amount of carbon dioxide consumed as measured by radioactive carbon (carbon-14). The carbon-14 method is of greater sensitivity than the oxygen light and dark bottle method and is preferred for use with unenriched water samples. Unit time may be either the hour or day, depending on the incubation period. (See also "Primary productivity")

**Primary productivity (oxygen method)** is expressed as milligrams of oxygen per area per unit time [ $\text{mg O}/(\text{m}^2/\text{time})$ ] for periphyton and macrophytes or per volume [ $\text{mg O}/(\text{m}^3/\text{time})$ ] for phytoplankton. The oxygen method defines production and respiration rates as estimated from changes in the measured dissolved-oxygen concentration. The oxygen light and dark bottle method is preferred if the rate of primary production is sufficient for accurate measurements to be made within 24 hours. Unit time may be either the hour or day, depending on the incubation period. (See also "Primary productivity")

**Radioisotopes** are isotopic forms of elements that exhibit radioactivity. Isotopes are varieties of a chemical element that differ in atomic weight but are very nearly alike in chemical properties. The difference arises because the atoms of the isotopic forms of an element differ in the number of neutrons in the nucleus; for example, ordinary chlorine is a mixture of isotopes having atomic weights of 35 and 37, and the natural mixture has an atomic weight of about 35.453. Many of the elements similarly exist as mixtures of isotopes, and a great many new isotopes have been produced in the operation of nuclear devices such as the cyclotron. There are 275 isotopes of the 81 stable elements, in addition to more than 800 radioactive isotopes.

**Reach**, as used in this report, is a length of stream that is chosen to represent a uniform set of physical, chemical, and biological con-

ditions within a segment. It is the principal sampling unit for collecting physical, chemical, and biological data.

**Recoverable from bed (bottom) material** is the amount of a given constituent that is in solution after a representative sample of bottom material has been digested by a method (usually using an acid or mixture of acids) that results in dissolution of readily soluble substances. Complete dissolution of all bottom material is not achieved by the digestion treatment and thus the determination represents less than the total amount (that is, less than 95 percent) of the constituent in the sample. To achieve comparability of analytical data, equivalent digestion procedures would be required of all laboratories performing such analyses because different digestion procedures are likely to produce different analytical results. (See also "Bed material")

**Recurrence interval**, also referred to as return period, is the average time, usually expressed in years, between occurrences of hydrologic events of a specified type (such as exceedances of a specified high flow or nonexceedance of a specified low flow). The terms "return period" and "recurrence interval" do not imply regular cyclic occurrence. The actual times between occurrences vary randomly, with most of the times being less than the average and a few being substantially greater than the average. For example, the 100-year flood is the flow rate that is exceeded by the annual maximum peak flow at intervals whose average length is 100 years (that is, once in 100 years, on average); almost two-thirds of all exceedances of the 100-year flood occur less than 100 years after the previous exceedance, half occur less than 70 years after the previous exceedance, and about one-eighth occur more than 200 years after the previous exceedance. Similarly, the 7-day, 10-year low flow ( $7Q_{10}$ ) is the flow rate below which the annual minimum 7-day-mean flow dips at intervals whose average length is 10 years (that is, once in 10 years, on average); almost two-thirds of the nonexceedances of the  $7Q_{10}$  occur less than 10 years after the previous nonexceedance, half occur less than 7 years after, and about one-eighth occur more than 20 years after the previous nonexceedance. The recurrence interval for annual events is the reciprocal of the annual probability of occurrence. Thus, the 100-year flood has a 1-percent chance of being exceeded by the maximum peak flow in any year, and there is a 10-percent chance in any year that the annual minimum 7-day-mean flow will be less than the  $7Q_{10}$ .

**Replicate samples** are a group of samples collected in a manner such that the samples are thought to be essentially identical in composition.

**Return period** (See "Recurrence interval")

**Riffle**, as used in this report, is a shallow part of the stream where water flows swiftly over completely or partially submerged obstructions to produce surface agitation.

**River mileage** is the curvilinear distance, in miles, measured upstream from the mouth along the meandering path of a stream channel in accordance with Bulletin No. 14 (October 1968) of the Water Resources Council and typically is used to denote location along a river.

**Run**, as used in this report, is a relatively shallow part of a stream with moderate velocity and little or no surface turbulence.

**Runoff** is the quantity of water that is discharged ("runs off") from a drainage basin during a given time period. Runoff data may be

presented as volumes in acre-feet, as mean discharges per unit of drainage area in cubic feet per second per square mile, or as depths of water on the drainage basin in inches. (See also "Annual runoff")

**Sea level**, as used in this report, refers to one of the two commonly used national vertical datums (NGVD 1929 or NAVD 1988). See separate entries for definitions of these datums.

**Sediment** is solid material that originates mostly from disintegrated rocks; when transported by, suspended in, or deposited from water, it is referred to as "fluvial sediment." Sediment includes chemical and biochemical precipitates and decomposed organic material, such as humus. The quantity, characteristics, and cause of the occurrence of sediment in streams are affected by environmental and land-use factors. Some major factors are topography, soil characteristics, land cover, and depth and intensity of precipitation.

**Sensible heat flux** (often used interchangeably with latent sensible heat-flux density) is the amount of heat energy that moves by turbulent transport through the air across a specified cross-sectional area per unit time and goes to heating (cooling) the air. Usually expressed in watts per square meter.

**Seven-day, 10-year low flow ( $7Q_{10}$ )** is the discharge below which the annual 7-day minimum flow falls in 1 year out of 10 on the long-term average. The recurrence interval of the  $7Q_{10}$  is 10 years; the chance that the annual 7-day minimum flow will be less than the  $7Q_{10}$  is 10 percent in any given year. (See also "Annual 7-day minimum" and "Recurrence interval")

**Shelves**, as used in this report, are streambank features extending nearly horizontally from the flood plain to the lower limit of persistent woody vegetation.

**Sodium adsorption ratio (SAR)** is the expression of relative activity of sodium ions in exchange reactions within soil and is an index of sodium or alkali hazard to the soil. Sodium hazard in water is an index that can be used to evaluate the suitability of water for irrigating crops.

**Soil heat flux** (often used interchangeably with soil heat-flux density) is the amount of heat energy that moves by conduction across a specified cross-sectional area of soil per unit time and goes to heating (or cooling) the soil. Usually expressed in watts per square meter.

**Soil-water content** is the water lost from the soil upon drying to constant mass at 105 °C; expressed either as mass of water per unit mass of dry soil or as the volume of water per unit bulk volume of soil.

**Specific electrical conductance (conductivity)** is a measure of the capacity of water (or other media) to conduct an electrical current. It is expressed in microsiemens per centimeter at 25 °C. Specific electrical conductance is a function of the types and quantity of dissolved substances in water and can be used for approximating the dissolved-solids content of the water. Commonly, the concentration of dissolved solids (in milligrams per liter) is from 55 to 75 percent of the specific conductance (in microsiemens). This relation is not constant from stream to stream, and it may vary in the same source with changes in the composition of the water.

**Stable isotope ratio** (per MIL/MIL) is a unit expressing the ratio of the abundance of two radioactive isotopes. Isotope ratios are used in hydrologic studies to determine the age or source of specific water, to evaluate mixing of different water, as an aid in determining reaction rates, and other chemical or hydrologic processes.

**Stage** (See "Gage height")

**Stage-discharge relation** is the relation between the water-surface elevation, termed stage (gage height), and the volume of water flowing in a channel per unit time.

**Streamflow** is the discharge that occurs in a natural channel. Although the term "discharge" can be applied to the flow of a canal, the word "streamflow" uniquely describes the discharge in a surface stream course. The term "streamflow" is more general than "runoff" as streamflow may be applied to discharge whether or not it is affected by diversion or regulation.

**Substrate** is the physical surface upon which an organism lives.

**Substrate embeddedness class** is a visual estimate of riffle streambed substrate larger than gravel that is surrounded or covered by fine sediment (<2mm, sand or finer). Below are the class categories expressed as the percentage covered by fine sediment:

0	no gravel or larger substrate	3	26-50 percent
1	> 75 percent	4	5-25 percent
2	51-75 percent	5	< 5 percent

**Surface area of a lake** is that area (acres) encompassed by the boundary of the lake as shown on USGS topographic maps, or other available maps or photographs. Because surface area changes with lake stage, surface areas listed in this report represent those determined for the stage at the time the maps or photographs were obtained.

**Surficial bed material** is the upper surface (0.1 to 0.2 foot) of the bed material that is sampled using U.S. Series Bed-Material Samplers.

**Suspended** (as used in tables of chemical analyses) refers to the amount (concentration) of undissolved material in a water-sediment mixture. It is defined operationally as the material retained on a 0.45-micrometer filter.

**Suspended, recoverable** is the amount of a given constituent that is in solution after the part of a representative suspended water-sediment sample that is retained on a 0.45-micrometer membrane filter has been digested by a method (usually using a dilute acid solution) that results in dissolution of only readily soluble substances. Complete dissolution of all the particulate matter is not achieved by the digestion treatment, and thus the determination represents something less than the "total" amount (that is, less than 95 percent) of the constituent present in the sample. To achieve comparability of analytical data, equivalent digestion procedures are required of all laboratories performing such analyses because different digestion procedures are likely to produce different analytical results. Determinations of "suspended, recoverable" constituents are made either by directly analyzing the suspended material collected on the filter or, more commonly, by difference, on the basis of determinations of (1) dissolved and (2) total recoverable concentrations of the constituent. (See also "Suspended")

**Suspended sediment** is the sediment maintained in suspension by the upward components of turbulent currents or that exists in suspension as a colloid. (See also "Sediment")

**Suspended-sediment concentration** is the velocity-weighted concentration of suspended sediment in the sampled zone (from the water surface to a point approximately 0.3 foot above the bed) expressed as milligrams of dry sediment per liter of water-sediment mixture (mg/L). The analytical technique uses the mass of all of the sediment and the net weight of the water-sediment mixture in a sample to compute the suspended-sediment concentration. (See also "Sediment" and "Suspended sediment")

**Suspended-sediment discharge** (tons/d) is the rate of sediment transport, as measured by dry mass or volume, that passes a cross section in a given time. It is calculated in units of tons per day as follows: concentration (mg/L) x discharge (ft<sup>3</sup>/s) x 0.0027. (See also "Sediment," "Suspended sediment," and "Suspended-sediment concentration")

**Suspended-sediment load** is a general term that refers to a given characteristic of the material in suspension that passes a point during a specified period of time. The term needs to be qualified, such as "annual suspended-sediment load" or "sand-size suspended-sediment load," and so on. It is not synonymous with either suspended-sediment discharge or concentration. (See also "Sediment")

**Suspended, total** is the total amount of a given constituent in the part of a water-sediment sample that is retained on a 0.45-micrometer membrane filter. This term is used only when the analytical procedure assures measurement of at least 95 percent of the constituent determined. Knowledge of the expected form of the constituent in the sample, as well as the analytical methodology used, is required to determine when the results should be reported as "suspended, total." Determinations of "suspended, total" constituents are made either by directly analyzing portions of the suspended material collected on the filter or, more commonly, by difference, on the basis of determinations of (1) dissolved and (2) total concentrations of the constituent. (See also "Suspended")

**Suspended solids, total residue at 105 °C concentration** is the concentration of inorganic and organic material retained on a filter, expressed as milligrams of dry material per liter of water (mg/L). An aliquot of the sample is used for this analysis.

**Synoptic studies** are short-term investigations of specific water-quality conditions during selected seasonal or hydrologic periods to provide improved spatial resolution for critical water-quality conditions. For the period and conditions sampled, they assess the spatial distribution of selected water-quality conditions in relation to causative factors, such as land use and contaminant sources.

**Taxa** (Species) richness is the number of species (taxa) present in a defined area or sampling unit.

**Taxonomy** is the division of biology concerned with the classification and naming of organisms. The classification of organisms is based upon a hierarchical scheme beginning with Kingdom and ending with Species at the base. The higher the classification level, the fewer features the organisms have in common. For example, the taxonomy of a particular mayfly, *Hexagenia limbata*, is the following:

Kingdom:	Animal
Phylum:	Arthropoda
Class:	Insecta
Order:	Ephemeroptera
Family:	Ephemeridae
Genus:	<i>Hexagenia</i>
Species:	<i>Hexagenia limbata</i>

**Thalweg** is the line formed by connecting points of minimum streambed elevation (deepest part of the channel).

**Thermograph** is an instrument that continuously records variations of temperature on a chart. The more general term "temperature recorder" is used in the table descriptions and refers to any instrument that records temperature whether on a chart, a tape, or any other medium.

**Time-weighted average** is computed by multiplying the number of days in the sampling period by the concentrations of individual constituents for the corresponding period and dividing the sum of the products by the total number of days. A time-weighted average represents the composition of water resulting from the mixing of flow proportionally to the duration of the concentration.

**Tons per acre-foot** (T/acre-ft) is the dry mass (tons) of a constituent per unit volume (acre-foot) of water. It is computed by multiplying the concentration of the constituent, in milligrams per liter, by 0.00136.

**Tons per day** (T/DAY, tons/d) is a common chemical or sediment discharge unit. It is the quantity of a substance in solution, in suspension, or as bedload that passes a stream section during a 24-hour period. It is equivalent to 2,000 pounds per day, or 0.9072 metric tons per day.

**Total** is the amount of a given constituent in a representative whole-water (unfiltered) sample, regardless of the constituent's physical or chemical form. This term is used only when the analytical procedure assures measurement of at least 95 percent of the constituent present in both the dissolved and suspended phases of the sample. A knowledge of the expected form of the constituent in the sample, as well as the analytical methodology used, is required to judge when the results should be reported as "total." (Note that the word "total" does double duty here, indicating both that the sample consists of a water-suspended sediment mixture and that the analytical method determined at least 95 percent of the constituent in the sample.)

**Total coliform bacteria** are a particular group of bacteria that are used as indicators of possible sewage pollution. This group includes coliforms that inhabit the intestine of warmblooded animals and those that inhabit soils. They are characterized as aerobic or facultative anaerobic, gram-negative, nonspore-forming, rod-shaped bacteria that ferment lactose with gas formation within 48 hours at 35 °C. In the laboratory, these bacteria are defined as all the organisms that produce colonies with a golden-green metallic sheen within 24 hours when incubated at 35 °C plus or minus 1.0 °C on M-Endo medium (nutrient medium for bacterial growth). Their concentrations are expressed as number of colonies per 100 milliliters of sample. (See also "Bacteria")

**Total discharge** is the quantity of a given constituent, measured as dry mass or volume, that passes a stream cross section per unit of time. When referring to constituents other than water, this term

needs to be qualified, such as “total sediment discharge,” “total chloride discharge,” and so on.

**Total in bottom material** is the amount of a given constituent in a representative sample of bottom material. This term is used only when the analytical procedure assures measurement of at least 95 percent of the constituent determined. A knowledge of the expected form of the constituent in the sample, as well as the analytical methodology used, is required to judge when the results should be reported as “total in bottom material.”

**Total length** (fish) is the straight-line distance from the anterior point of a fish specimen’s snout, with the mouth closed, to the posterior end of the caudal (tail) fin, with the lobes of the caudal fin squeezed together.

**Total load** refers to all of a constituent in transport. When referring to sediment, it includes suspended load plus bed load.

**Total organism count** is the number of organisms collected and enumerated in any particular sample. (See also “Organism count/volume”)

**Total recoverable** is the amount of a given constituent in a whole-water sample after a sample has been digested by a method (usually using a dilute acid solution) that results in dissolution of only readily soluble substances. Complete dissolution of all particulate matter is not achieved by the digestion treatment, and thus the determination represents something less than the “total” amount (that is, less than 95 percent) of the constituent present in the dissolved and suspended phases of the sample. To achieve comparability of analytical data for whole-water samples, equivalent digestion procedures are required of all laboratories performing such analyses because different digestion procedures may produce different analytical results.

**Total sediment discharge** is the mass of suspended-sediment plus bed-load transport, measured as dry weight, that passes a cross section in a given time. It is a rate and is reported as tons per day. (See also “Bedload,” “Bedload discharge,” “Sediment,” “Suspended sediment,” and “Suspended-sediment concentration”)

**Total sediment load** or **total load** is the sediment in transport as bedload and suspended-sediment load. The term may be qualified, such as “annual suspended-sediment load” or “sand-size suspended-sediment load,” and so on. It differs from total sediment discharge in that load refers to the material, whereas discharge refers to the quantity of material, expressed in units of mass per unit time. (See also “Sediment,” “Suspended-sediment load,” and “Total load”)

**Transect**, as used in this report, is a line across a stream perpendicular to the flow and along which measurements are taken, so that morphological and flow characteristics along the line are described from bank to bank. Unlike a cross section, no attempt is made to determine known elevation points along the line.

**Turbidity** is the reduction in the transparency of a solution due to the presence of suspended and some dissolved substances. The measurement technique records the collective optical properties of the solution that cause light to be scattered and attenuated rather than transmitted in straight lines; the higher the intensity of scattered or attenuated light, the higher the value of the turbidity. Turbidity is expressed in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU). Depending on the method used, the turbidity units as NTU can be

defined as the intensity of light of a specified wavelength scattered or attenuated by suspended particles or absorbed at a method specified angle, usually 90 degrees, from the path of the incident light. Currently approved methods for the measurement of turbidity in the USGS include those that conform to U.S. EPA Method 180.1, ASTM D1889-00, and ISO 7027. Measurements of turbidity by these different methods and different instruments are unlikely to yield equivalent values.

**Ultraviolet (UV) absorbance (absorption)** at 254 or 280 nanometers is a measure of the aggregate concentration of the mixture of UV absorbing organic materials dissolved in the analyzed water, such as lignin, tannin, humic substances, and various aromatic compounds. UV absorbance (absorption) at 254 or 280 nanometers is measured in UV absorption units per centimeter of pathlength of UV light through a sample.

**Unconfined aquifer** is an aquifer whose upper surface is a water table free to fluctuate under atmospheric pressure. (See “Water-table aquifer”)

**Vertical datum** (See “Datum”)

**Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)** are organic compounds that can be isolated from the water phase of a sample by purging the water sample with inert gas, such as helium, and subsequently analyzed by gas chromatography. Many VOCs are human-made chemicals that are used and produced in the manufacture of paints, adhesives, petroleum products, pharmaceuticals, and refrigerants. They are often components of fuels, solvents, hydraulic fluids, paint thinners, and dry cleaning agents commonly used in urban settings. VOC contamination of drinking-water supplies is a human health concern because many are toxic and are known or suspected human carcinogens.

**Water table** is that surface in a ground-water body at which the water pressure is equal to the atmospheric pressure.

**Water-table aquifer** is an unconfined aquifer within which the water table is found.

**Water year** in USGS reports dealing with surface-water supply is the 12-month period October 1 through September 30. The water year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends and which includes 9 of the 12 months. Thus, the year ending September 30, 2002, is called the “2002 water year.”

**WDR** is used as an abbreviation for “Water-Data Report” in the REVISED RECORDS paragraph to refer to State annual hydrologic-data reports. (WRD was used as an abbreviation for “Water-Resources Data” in reports published prior to 1976.)

**Weighted average** is used in this report to indicate discharge-weighted average. It is computed by multiplying the discharge for a sampling period by the concentrations of individual constituents for the corresponding period and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the discharges. A discharge-weighted average approximates the composition of water that would be found in a reservoir containing all the water passing a given location during the water year after thorough mixing in the reservoir.

**Wet mass** is the mass of living matter plus contained water. (See also “Biomass” and “Dry mass”)

**Wet weight** refers to the weight of animal tissue or other substance including its contained water. (See also “Dry weight”)

**WSP** is used as an acronym for “Water-Supply Paper” in reference to previously published reports.

**Zooplankton** is the animal part of the plankton. Zooplankton are capable of extensive movements within the water column and often are large enough to be seen with the unaided eye. Zooplank-

ton are secondary consumers feeding upon bacteria, phytoplankton, and detritus. Because they are the grazers in the aquatic environment, the zooplankton are a vital part of the aquatic food web. The zooplankton community is dominated by small crustaceans and rotifers. (See also “Plankton”)

## TECHNIQUES OF WATER-RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The USGS publishes a series of manuals titled the "Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations" that describe procedures for planning and conducting specialized work in water-resources investigations. The material in these manuals is grouped under major subject headings called books and is further divided into sections and chapters. For example, section A of book 3 (Applications of Hydraulics) pertains to surface water. Each chapter then is limited to a narrow field of the section subject matter. This publication format permits flexibility when revision or printing is required.

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- 1-D2. *Guidelines for collection and field analysis of ground-water samples for selected unstable constituents*, by W.W. Wood: USGS–TWRI book 1, chap. D2. 1976. 24 p.

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- 2-D1. *Application of surface geophysics to ground-water investigations*, by A.A.R. Zohdy, G.P. Eaton, and D.R. Mabey: USGS–TWRI book 2, chap. D1. 1974. 116 p.
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#### Section F. Drilling and Sampling Methods

- 2-F1. *Application of drilling, coring, and sampling techniques to test holes and wells*, by Eugene Shuter and W.E. Teasdale: USGS–TWRI book 2, chap. F1. 1989. 97 p.

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- 3-A1. *General field and office procedures for indirect discharge measurements*, by M.A. Benson and Tate Dalrymple: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A1. 1967. 30 p.
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- 3-A10. *Discharge ratings at gaging stations*, by E.J. Kennedy: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. A10. 1984. 59 p.
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- 3-A17. *Acoustic velocity meter systems*, by Antonius Laenen: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. A17. 1985. 38 p.
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- 3-A19. *Levels at streamflow gaging stations*, by E.J. Kennedy: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. A19. 1990. 31 p.
- 3-A20. *Simulation of soluble waste transport and buildup in surface waters using tracers*, by F.A. Kilpatrick: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. A20. 1993. 38 p.
- 3-A21. *Stream-gaging cableways*, by C. Russell Wagner: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. A21. 1995. 56 p.

### **Section B. Ground-Water Techniques**

- 3-B1. *Aquifer-test design, observation, and data analysis*, by R.W. Stallman: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B1. 1971. 26 p.
- 3-B2. *Introduction to ground-water hydraulics, a programmed text for self-instruction*, by G.D. Bennett: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B2. 1976. 172 p.
- 3-B3. *Type curves for selected problems of flow to wells in confined aquifers*, by J.E. Reed: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B3. 1980. 106 p.
- 3-B4. *Regression modeling of ground-water flow*, by R.L. Cooley and R.L. Naff: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B4. 1990. 232 p.
- 3-B4. *Supplement 1. Regression modeling of ground-water flow—Modifications to the computer code for nonlinear regression solution of steady-state ground-water flow problems*, by R.L. Cooley: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B4. 1993. 8 p.
- 3-B5. *Definition of boundary and initial conditions in the analysis of saturated ground-water flow systems—An introduction*, by O.L. Franke, T.E. Reilly, and G.D. Bennett: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B5. 1987. 15 p.
- 3-B6. *The principle of superposition and its application in ground-water hydraulics*, by T.E. Reilly, O.L. Franke, and G.D. Bennett: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B6. 1987. 28 p.
- 3-B7. *Analytical solutions for one-, two-, and three-dimensional solute transport in ground-water systems with uniform flow*, by E.J. Wexler: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B7. 1992. 190 p.
- 3-B8. *System and boundary conceptualization in ground-water flow simulation*, by T.E. Reilly: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. B8. 2001. 29 p.

### **Section C. Sedimentation and Erosion Techniques**

- 3-C1. *Fluvial sediment concepts*, by H.P. Guy: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. C1. 1970. 55 p.

3-C2. *Field methods for measurement of fluvial sediment*, by T.K. Edwards and G.D. Glysson: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. C2. 1999. 89 p.

3-C3. *Computation of fluvial-sediment discharge*, by George Porterfield: USGS-TWRI book 3, chap. C3. 1972. 66 p.

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4-A1. *Some statistical tools in hydrology*, by H.C. Riggs: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. A1. 1968. 39 p.

4-A2. *Frequency curves*, by H.C. Riggs: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. A2. 1968. 15 p.

4-A3. *Statistical methods in water resources*, by D.R. Helsel and R.M. Hirsch: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. A3. 1991. Available only online at <http://water.usgs.gov/pubs/twri/twri4a3/>. (Accessed August 30, 2002.)

##### **Section B. Surface Water**

4-B1. *Low-flow investigations*, by H.C. Riggs: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. B1. 1972. 18 p.

4-B2. *Storage analyses for water supply*, by H.C. Riggs and C.H. Hardison: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. B2. 1973. 20 p.

4-B3. *Regional analyses of streamflow characteristics*, by H.C. Riggs: USGS-TWRI book 4, chap. B3. 1973. 15 p.

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#### **Book 5. Laboratory Analysis**

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5-A1. *Methods for determination of inorganic substances in water and fluvial sediments*, by M.J. Fishman and L.C. Friedman, editors: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A1. 1989. 545 p.

5-A2. *Determination of minor elements in water by emission spectroscopy*, by P.R. Barnett and E.C. Mallory, Jr.: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A2. 1971. 31 p.

5-A3. *Methods for the determination of organic substances in water and fluvial sediments*, edited by R.L. Wershaw, M.J. Fishman, R.R. Grabbe, and L.E. Lowe: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A3. 1987. 80 p.

5-A4. *Methods for collection and analysis of aquatic biological and microbiological samples*, by L.J. Britton and P.E. Greeson, editors: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A4. 1989. 363 p.

5-A5. *Methods for determination of radioactive substances in water and fluvial sediments*, by L.L. Thatcher, V.J. Janzer, and K.W. Edwards: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A5. 1977. 95 p.

5-A6. *Quality assurance practices for the chemical and biological analyses of water and fluvial sediments*, by L.C. Friedman and D.E. Erdmann: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. A6. 1982. 181 p.

##### **Section C. Sediment Analysis**

5-C1. *Laboratory theory and methods for sediment analysis*, by H.P. Guy: USGS-TWRI book 5, chap. C1. 1969. 58 p.

**Book 6. Modeling Techniques****Section A. Ground Water**

- 6-A1. *A modular three-dimensional finite-difference ground-water flow model*, by M.G. McDonald and A.W. Harbaugh: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A1. 1988. 586 p.
- 6-A2. *Documentation of a computer program to simulate aquifer-system compaction using the modular finite-difference ground-water flow model*, by S.A. Leake and D.E. Prudic: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A2. 1991. 68 p.
- 6-A3. *A modular finite-element model (MODFE) for areal and axisymmetric ground-water-flow problems, Part 1: Model Description and User's Manual*, by L.J. Torak: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A3. 1993. 136 p.
- 6-A4. *A modular finite-element model (MODFE) for areal and axisymmetric ground-water-flow problems, Part 2: Derivation of finite-element equations and comparisons with analytical solutions*, by R.L. Cooley: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A4. 1992. 108 p.
- 6-A5. *A modular finite-element model (MODFE) for areal and axisymmetric ground-water-flow problems, Part 3: Design philosophy and programming details*, by L.J. Torak: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A5. 1993. 243 p.
- 6-A6. *A coupled surface-water and ground-water flow model (MODBRANCH) for simulation of stream-aquifer interaction*, by Eric D. Swain and Eliezer J. Wexler: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A6. 1996. 125 p.
- 6-A7. *User's guide to SEAWAT: A computer program for simulation of three-dimensional variable-density ground-water flow*, by Weixing Guo and Christian D. Langevin: USGS-TWRI book 6, chap. A7. 2002. 77 p.

**Book 7. Automated Data Processing and Computations****Section C. Computer Programs**

- 7-C1. *Finite difference model for aquifer simulation in two dimensions with results of numerical experiments*, by P.C. Trescott, G.F. Pinder, and S.P. Larson: USGS-TWRI book 7, chap. C1. 1976. 116 p.
- 7-C2. *Computer model of two-dimensional solute transport and dispersion in ground water*, by L.F. Konikow and J.D. Bredehoeft: USGS-TWRI book 7, chap. C2. 1978. 90 p.
- 7-C3. *A model for simulation of flow in singular and interconnected channels*, by R.W. Schaffranek, R.A. Baltzer, and D.E. Goldberg: USGS-TWRI book 7, chap. C3. 1981. 110 p.

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- 8-A1. *Methods of measuring water levels in deep wells*, by M.S. Garber and F.C. Koopman: USGS-TWRI book 8, chap. A1. 1968. 23 p.
- 8-A2. *Installation and service manual for U.S. Geological Survey manometers*, by J.D. Craig: USGS-TWRI book 8, chap. A2. 1983. 57 p.

**Section B. Instruments for Measurement of Discharge**

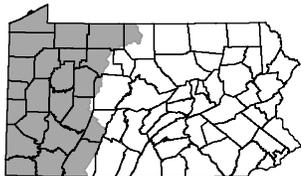
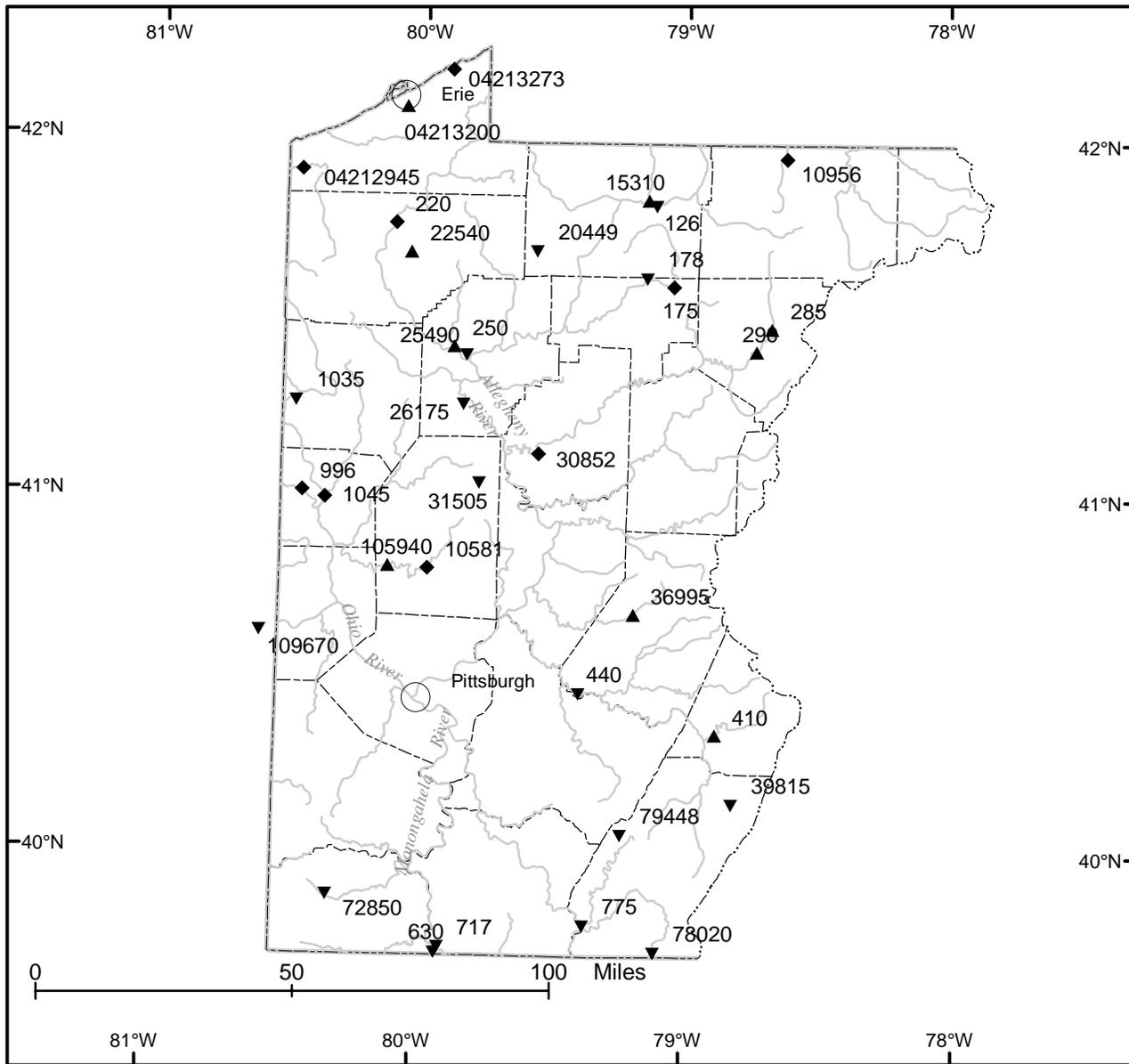
- 8-B2. *Calibration and maintenance of vertical-axis type current meters*, by G.F. Smoot and C.E. Novak: USGS-TWRI book 8, chap. B2. 1968. 15 p.

**Book 9. Handbooks for Water-Resources Investigations****Section A. National Field Manual for the Collection of Water-Quality Data**

- 9-A1. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Preparations for water sampling*, by F.D. Wilde, D.B. Radtke, Jacob Gibs, and R.T. Iwatsubo: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A1. 1998. 47 p.
- 9-A2. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Selection of equipment for water sampling*, edited by F.D. Wilde, D.B. Radtke, Jacob Gibs, and R.T. Iwatsubo: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A2. 1998. 94 p.
- 9-A3. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Cleaning of equipment for water sampling*, edited by F.D. Wilde, D.B. Radtke, Jacob Gibs, and R.T. Iwatsubo: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A3. 1998. 75 p.
- 9-A4. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Collection of water samples*, edited by F.D. Wilde, D.B. Radtke, Jacob Gibs, and R.T. Iwatsubo: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A4. 1999. 156 p.

- 9-A5. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Processing of water samples*, edited by F.D. Wilde, D.B. Radtke, Jacob Gibbs, and R.T. Iwatsubo: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A5. 1999, 149 p.
- 9-A6. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Field measurements*, edited by F.D. Wilde and D.B. Radtke: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A6. 1998. Variously paginated.
- 9-A7. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Biological indicators*, edited by D.N. Myers and F.D. Wilde: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A7. 1997 and 1999. Variously paginated.
- 9-A8. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Bottom-material samples*, by D.B. Radtke: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A8. 1998. 48 p.
- 9-A9. *National field manual for the collection of water-quality data: Safety in field activities*, by S.L. Lane and R.G. Fay: USGS-TWRI book 9, chap. A9. 1998. 60 p.





EXPLANATION

- ▲ Streamflow station
- ◆ Streamflow and water-quality station
- ▼ Water-quality station

NOTE: Downstream station numbers are abbreviated; the first two digits (part number) and the last two digits (if zeros) are omitted (for example, station number 03041000 is shown as 410, and station number 03105940 is shown as 105940).

Figure 5.--Location of partial-record data-collection stations.



### SPECIAL NOTES, REMARK CODES, AND SELECTED CONSTITUENT DEFINITIONS

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**NOTES**--Traditionally, dissolved trace-element concentrations have been reported at the microgram per liter ( $\mu\text{G/L}$ ) level. Recent evidence, mostly from large rivers, indicates that actual dissolved-phase concentrations for a number of trace elements are within the range of 10's to 100's of nanograms per liter ( $\text{ng/L}$ ). Data above the  $\mu\text{G/L}$  level should be viewed with caution. Such data may actually represent elevated environmental concentrations from natural or human causes; however, these data could reflect contamination introduced during sampling, processing, or analysis. To confidently produce dissolved trace-element data with insignificant contamination, the U.S. Geological Survey began using new trace-element protocols at some stations in water year 1994. Full implementation of the protocols took place during the 1995 water year.

--Sample handling procedures at all **National Trends Network** stations were changed substantially on January 11, 1994, in order to reduce contamination from the sample shipping container. The data for samples before and after that date are different and not directly comparable. A tabular summary of the differences based on a special intercomparison study, is available from the NADP/NTN Coordination Office, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523 (Telephone: 303-491-5643).

--In March 1989 a bias was discovered in the turbidimetric method for sulfate analysis for those samples analyzed by the U.S. Geological Survey National Water-Quality Laboratory indicating that values below 75  $\text{mg/L}$  have a median positive bias of 2  $\text{mg/L}$  above the true value for the period between 1982 and 1989.

--**Methylene blue active substance (MBAS)** determinations made from January 1, 1970, through August 29, 1993, at the National Water Quality Laboratory in Denver (Analyzing Agency Code 80020) are positively biased. These data can be corrected on the basis of the following equation, if concentrations of dissolved nitrate plus nitrite, as nitrogen, and dissolved chloride, determined concurrently with the MBAS data are applied:

$$\text{MBASCOR} = \text{M} - 0.0088\text{N} - 0.00019\text{C}$$

where:

MBASCOR = corrected MBAS concentration, in  $\text{mg/L}$ ;  
 M = reported MBAS concentration, in  $\text{mg/L}$ ;  
 N = dissolved nitrate plus nitrite, as nitrogen, in  $\text{mg/L}$ ; and  
 C = dissolved chloride concentration, in  $\text{mg/L}$ .

The detection limit of the new method is 0.02  $\text{mg/L}$ , whereas the detection limit for the old method was 0.01  $\text{mg/L}$ . A detection limit of 0.02  $\text{mg/L}$  should be used with corrected MBAS data from January 1, 1970, through August 29, 1993.

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**Remark Codes**--The following remark codes may appear with the data tables in this report:

#### PRINTED OUTPUT

#### REMARK

E,e	Estimated value.
>	Actual value is known to be greater than the value shown.
<	Actual value is known to be less than the value shown.
M	Presence of material verified but not quantified.
K	Results based on colony count outside the acceptance range (non-ideal colony count).
L	Biological organism count less than 0.5 percent (organism may be observed rather than counted).
D	Biological organism count equal to or greater than 15 percent (dominant).
ND	Material specifically analyzed for but not detected.
V	Analyte was detected in both the environmental sample and the associated blanks.

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#### EXPLANATION OF CODES USED TO DEFINE SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURES (partial listing)

##### (71999) SAMPLE PURPOSE CODES:

10--Routine  
 15--NAWQA  
 20--NASQAN  
 30--Benchmark

##### (84164) SAMPLER TYPE: (partial list)

110--Sewage sampler  
 3011--US D-77  
 3035--DH-76 Trace metal sampler with  
 teflon gasket and nozzle

##### (82398) SAMPLE METHOD CODES:

10--Equal width increment  
 20--Equal discharge increment  
 30--Single vertical  
 40--Multiple verticals  
 50--Point sample  
 70--Grab sample  
 120--Velocity integrated  
 8010--Other

3039--D-77 Trace metal  
 3040--D-77 Trace metal modified teflon  
 bag sampler  
 3045--DH-81 with Teflon cap and  
 nozzle  
 8010--Other (other than a defined  
 sampler type)

**SPECIAL NOTES, REMARK CODES AND SELECTED CONSTITUENT DEFINITIONS--Continued****Explanation of selected abbreviations used in constituent definitions in water-quality tables:**

AC-FT	acre-feet
BOT MAT	bottom material (Unconsolidated material of which a streambed, lake, pond, reservoir, or estuary bottom is composed.)
COLS/100 ML	colonies per 100 milliliters
DIS	dissolved
FET	fixed end-point titration
FLD	field (Measurement determined at field site.)
F/S	feet per second
G/M	gallons per minute
G/SQM; MG/M2	grams or milligrams per square meter
IT	incremental titration
KF AGAR	nutrient medium for growth of fecal streptococcal bacteria
µG/L	micrograms per liter
µS/CM	microsiemens per centimeter
MG/L	milligrams per liter
MG/M2	milligrams per square meter
MM OF HG	millimeters of mercury
NONCARB	noncarbonate
NTU	nephelometric turbidity unit
PCI/L	picocuries per liter
REC	recoverable
TOT	total
T/DAY	tons per day
WH IT	whole water, incremental titration (Alkalinity, bicarbonate, and carbonate as determined by incremental titration of unfiltered water at the field site.)
2 SIGMA	Counting statistic that represents error in the reported radon, uranium, or tritium value caused by variations in sample counting, background radiation, volume of sample, and decay since sample was collected.
0.7µ GF	0.7 micron glass-fiber filter (Water filtered through a glass-fiber membrane filter with openings that are 0.7 microns in size.)

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**(00027) AGENCY COLLECTING SAMPLE CODES:(partial listing)**

1028 --U.S. Geological Survey

**(00028) AGENCY ANALYZING SAMPLE CODES:(partial listing)**

1028 --U.S. Geological Survey  
 80020 --U.S. Geological Survey, National Water-Quality Laboratory, Denver, Colorado  
 9813 --Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
 83613 --District Water-Quality Laboratory, Troy, New York

**MEDIUM CODES: (partial listing)**

9-- Surface water.  
 R-- Quality-control sample. Surface water.  
 Q-- Quality-control sample. Artificial