



## New Water Data Chief Is A Savvy Scientist, Manager



The USGS Washington Water Science Center (WAWSC) announces the promotion of Marijke van Heeswijk as the new Assistant Director for Hydrologic Data. She replaces Bob Kimbrough, who transferred to a position in Colorado.

Van Heeswijk comes to the job with strong technical, managerial, supervisory, and program development experience in her career with the USGS. For the past 14 years, she led the WAWSC's Watersheds and Fluvial Systems Section. She has also served as Tribal Liaison and Communications Coordinator for the Northwest Climate Science Center, acting Deputy Director of the Southwest Biological Science Center, and acting Deputy Chief of the Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center. Van Heeswijk has also worked as a hydrologist in both the South Carolina and Washington Water Science Centers. She has a B.S. in Geology from the Ohio State University and an M.S. in Marine Geophysics from Oregon State University.

"It's exciting to work with such highly capable staff who have built a successful gaging network under previous leadership," she said. "The plan is to keep it a great program and build on it. I'm looking forward to meeting our cooperators who have supported us for so long."

With over 20 years at the WAWSC, van Heeswijk is familiar with water resource issues throughout the state.

"Hydrologic data are important for supporting flood and water-supply forecasting, hydropower operations, agriculture, maintaining healthy aquatic habitats, and many other purposes," she said. "We will continue our commitment to a strong program with our partners, who depend on these data to manage resources in our state."

She began her new job on March 25. Contact her by email at [heeswijk@usgs.gov](mailto:heeswijk@usgs.gov), or call 253-552-1625.

### USGS IN THE NEWS

October 15, The Olympian, Olympia, WA: **Metal thieves suspected in flood-warning vandalism.** An important flood warning station on the Chehalis River near Porter has been vandalized twice in the past two months, temporarily knocking it out of commission, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. [Also covered by the Centralia Chronicle, and KOMO-TV, Seattle.]

<http://tinyurl.com/8rbvvsd>, <http://bit.ly/WuLpT>, <http://bit.ly/RV5G80>

October 29, KING-TV, Seattle: **Bomb destroys flood gauge on eve of storm.** Russ Tyree said he thought someone had set off a stick of dynamite under the railroad bridge near his home in Pacific Sunday night...the target was not the bridge - it was a small box next to it...blown to bits. That box houses a USGS flood monitoring device on the flood prone White River in Pacific. [Also covered by KIRO AM-FM, Seattle.]

<http://bit.ly/PF9Qpo>, <http://bit.ly/Q4Yef4>

November 20, KING-TV, Seattle: **Record rain provides research opportunity on Elwha River.** While many of us are running for cover during this record breaking weather week, some scientists are racing for their gear. History is happening on the Elwha River, where two dams were recently removed and heavy rain is creating research opportunities. [Also covered by Peninsula Daily News, Port Angeles]

<http://bit.ly/ZYn4ly>, <http://bit.ly/UoIRn>

November 29, Ellensburg Daily Record: **Upper Kittitas County water study two-thirds complete.** Researchers believe groundwater in smaller Upper Kittitas County basins may come primarily from precipitation that falls in those basins as preliminary data rolls in from a three-year-long groundwater study in the region.

<http://bit.ly/QTUA8s>, <http://bit.ly/Vkxolf>

**Water News** is an information service for USGS/WAWSC staff, colleagues, partners and the interested public. To add your email address to the mailing list or to report errors/suggestions, please contact [jcmemens@usgs.gov](mailto:jcmemens@usgs.gov). Download this issue at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/outreach>.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Ely, D.M. and Kahle, S.C., 2012, **Simulation of groundwater and surface-water resources and evaluation of water-management alternatives of the Chamokane Creek basin, Stevens County, Washington**: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2012-5224, 74 p.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5224/>

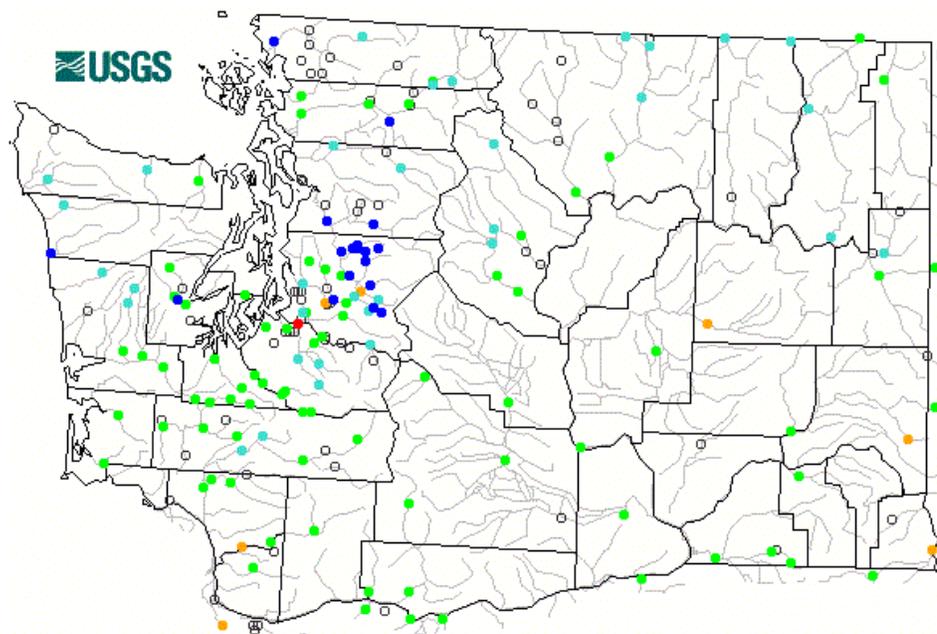
Huffman, R.L., and Frans, L.M., 2012, **Groundwater geochemical and selected volatile organic compound data, Operable Unit 1, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Division Keyport, Washington, June 2011**: U.S. Geological Survey Data Series 731, 40 p.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/731/>

Gendaszek, A.S., Magirl, C.S., and Czuba, C.R., 2012, **Geomorphic response to flow regulation and channel and floodplain alteration in the gravel-bedded Cedar River, Washington, USA**: *Geomorphology*, v. 179, December 2012.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2011/5092/>

## AVERAGE STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS FOR MARCH 2013:



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

## ABOUT US

The USGS Washington Water Science Center provides information on Washington's water resources for the overall benefit of the State and the Nation:

- Collection of hydrologic data
- Water-resources investigations and assessments
- Basic and problem-oriented hydrologic research. An integral part of the Survey's mission is to conduct investigations of the Nation's land, mineral, and water resources
- Acquisition of information useful in predicting and delineating water-related natural hazards
- Scientific and technical assistance in hydrologic studies

## USGS to Discontinue Streamgages Due to Sequestration:

The USGS will discontinue operation of up to 375 streamgages nationwide due to budget cuts as a result of sequestration. Additional streamgages may be affected if partners reduce their funding to support USGS streamgages. The USGS is working with partners to identify which streamgages will be impacted and will post this information as it becomes available. Impacts to the Washington network currently are not known.

Streamgages are used nationwide to predict and address drought and flood conditions by monitoring water availability. The USGS and over 850 Federal, State, and local agencies cooperatively fund the USGS streamgaging network, which consists of over 8,000 streamgages. When budget fluctuations occur, the network is impacted.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**USGS Tacoma Seminar Series** -- All seminars are at 12 noon - 1pm unless otherwise noted. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Seminar Web page:

<http://on.doi.gov/PVb5Az>

Directions to our office:

<http://on.doi.gov/UJBTDm>

**9th Washington Hydrogeology Symposium**, April 23-25, 2013; Hotel Murano, Tacoma, Washington

<http://bit.ly/1328bNN>

## QUICK LINKS

Statewide Streamflow Table:

<http://on.doi.gov/hDEq>

Real-Time Streamflow Map:

<http://on.doi.gov/XuVQyM>

Tacoma Seminar Series Schedule:

<http://on.doi.gov/PVb5Az>

### PLEASE CONTACT US:

USGS Washington Water Science Center  
934 Broadway, #300  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
253-552-1600  
<http://wa.water.usgs.gov/>