

## INTRODUCTION

The Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in cooperation with State, local, and other Federal agencies, obtains a large amount of data pertaining to the water resources of Washington 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, the data are published annually in this report series entitled "Water Resources Data—Washington."

This report includes records on both surface and ground water in the State. The report contains discharge records for 229 stream-gaging stations, stage only records for 8 gaging stations, discharge measurements for 21 miscellaneous streamflow stations, and annual maximum discharge for 3 crest-stage partial-record streamflow stations; stage and (or) contents records for 33 lakes and reservoirs; water-quality records for 39 surface-water sites; water-level records for 19 observation wells; and water quality records for 10 observation wells.

This series of annual reports for Washington began with the 1961 water year with a report that contained only data relating to the quantities of surface water. For the 1964 water year, a similar report was introduced that contained only data relating to water quality. Beginning with the 1975 water year, the report format was changed to present, in one volume, data on quantities of surface water, quality of surface and ground water, and ground-water levels.

Prior to introduction of this series and for several water years concurrent with it, water-resources data for Washington 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, Parts 12, 13, and 14." For the 1961 through 1970 water years, the data were published in two 5-year reports. Data on chemical quality, temperature, and suspended sediment for the 1941 through 1970 water years were published annually under the title "Quality of Surface Waters of the United States," and water levels for the 1935 through 1974 water years were published under the title "Ground-Water Levels in the United States." These Water-Supply Papers may be consulted in the libraries of the principal cities of the United States, or if not out of print, may be purchased from the U.S. Geological Survey, Branch of Information Services, Federal Center, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225.

Publications similar to this report are published annually by the USGS for all states. These official Survey 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 report is identified as "U.S. Geological Survey Water-Data Report WA-00-1." For archiving and general distribution, the reports for 1971-74 water years also are identified as water-data reports. These water-data reports are for sale in paper copy or in microfiche by the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161.

Additional information, including current prices, for ordering specific reports may be obtained from the District Chief at the address given on back of title page or by telephone (253) 428-3600.

The USGS is continually updating the availability of its information on the internet. Current streamflow conditions (via satellite) for Washington and other water-resource information can be found at the following Universal Resource Locator (URL): <http://wa.water.usgs.gov>. Nationwide information on water resources, including real-time and historic streamflow data, water-use data, publications and USGS program activities, can be found at URL: <http://water.usgs.gov>.

## COOPERATION

The U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with State and local agencies within the State of Washington, have had joint-funding agreements for the systematic collection of surface-water, ground-water, and water-quality records since 1909. Organizations that supplied data are acknowledged in the station descriptions. Organizations that assisted in collecting data through joint-funding agreements with the Survey are:

Washington State Department of Ecology	City of Bellingham
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife	City of Kent
Washington State Department of General Administration	City of Lakewood, Public Works Department Lakewood Water District
Washington State Department of Transportation	City of Port Townsend
Chelan County Conservation District	City of Seattle, City Light Department
Chelan County, P.U.D. No. 1	City of Seattle, Seattle Water Department
Douglas County, P.U.D. No. 1	City of Spokane, Wastewater Management Division
King County, Department of Public Works	City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities
Kitsap County, P.U.D. No. 1	City of Tacoma, Department of Public Works, Sewer Utility Division
Lewis County, Department of Public Works	City of Vancouver
Mason County	Coeur D'Alene Tribe of Idaho
Pierce County, Department of Public Works	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Skagit County Public Works Department	Lower Elwha Tribal Council
Snohomish County Department of Public Works	Makah Indian Tribe
Snohomish County, P.U.D. No. 1	Nisqually Indian Tribe
Spokane County, WQMP	Quileute Tribal Council
Spokane County Conservation District	Quinault Business Committee
Thurston County Department of Water and Waste Management	Skokomish Indian Tribe
Whatcom County	Umatilla Tribal Council
City of Bellevue, Department of Public Works, Storm and Surface Water Utility	Yakama Tribal Council

Assistance in the form of funds or services in collecting records was given by the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army; the U.S. Department of State; the Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy; the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The following organizations aided in collecting records for stations under Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses:

City of Seattle; Daishowa America Co., Ltd.; P.U.D. No. 1 of Chelan County, City of Tacoma Department of Public Utilities; P.U.D. No. 1 of Pend Oreille County; P.U.D. No. 1 of Grant County; P.U.D. No. 1 of Douglas County; Puget Sound Energy; Snohomish County P.U.D. No. 1; Cowlitz County P.U.D.; Avista Corporation; Hydro Technology Systems, and Pacific Corp.

## SUMMARY OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

### Hydrologic Setting

A distinctively varied climate characterizes Washington and results primarily from two features: (1) the Cascade Range, and (2) the prevailing marine influence of the Pacific Ocean (fig. 1). The north-south trending Cascade Range divides Washington into two areas: the wet western part and the dry eastern part. Average annual precipitation west of the Cascade Range is about 70 inches and ranges from about 30 to 40 inches in the Puget Sound Basin to about 150 to 200 inches on the western slopes of the Olympic Mountains, where temperate rain forests thrive. The Cascade Range acts as a barrier to air masses that move across the State producing 100 to 150 inches of annual precipitation on the high western slopes of the Cascade Range, leaving much less moisture in the clouds for eastern Washington. Average annual precipitation in eastern Washington is only 7 to 40 inches, with the driest part being the Columbia Basin (fig. 1), where sagebrush and grasses grow and irrigation is required for most crops. About two-thirds of the precipitation in Washington occurs from October to March, either as rain in the lowlands or as snow at high elevations. Occasionally during winter, western Washington receives large amounts of rainfall from Pacific storms accompanied by mild temperatures. The combination of melting snowpack at high elevations and rainfall during these storms can produce flooding in the lowlands. Snowpack and glaciers in the Olympic Mountains and Cascade Range are sources of water for many rivers in Washington and become the primary source of flow during the relatively dry summer.

Washington's varied climate and topography results in variable streamflow patterns throughout the State as shown in the graphs of daily mean discharge for selected long-term gaging stations (figs. 1 and 2, table 1). Daily mean discharge at the Chehalis River near Grand Mound (fig. 2A) is representative of the streamflow patterns in the southwest lowlands of the State, where seasonal high flow occurs from November to March, coinciding with the typical winter rainfall. Flow normally decreases through the spring and summer months due to the generally dry weather and absence of snowpack. Daily mean discharge at the Quinault River at Quinault Lake (fig. 2B) is representative of the Olympic Peninsula. Two seasonal peak periods at this gaging station result from winter rainfall from November to January and late spring snowmelt from high altitudes in May and June. Winter rainfall and spring snowmelt in the East Fork Lewis River near Heisson in the southern Cascade Range overlap to produce a high-flow season that generally extends from November to May (fig. 2C). High flow in the Nooksack River at Deming (fig. 2D) is generated by rainfall in winter and again in May and June from a combination of spring rainfall and snowmelt. Daily mean discharge at Puyallup River near Orting (fig. 2E) is representative of the typical winter rainfall of the central Cascade Range and a late spring snowmelt sustained by the permanent snowfields and glaciers on the west slope of the Cascade Range.

Peak flows in rivers draining the east side of the Cascade Range, such as the Wenatchee River at Plain (fig. 2F), normally occur in April to July as a result of snowmelt. Streamflow during the winter generally stays low due to freezing weather that maintains or contributes to the snowpack; exceptions occur when mild weather and heavy rain combine to cause flooding. Daily mean discharge at Ahtanum Creek at Union Gap (fig. 2G) and the Walla Walla River near Touchet (fig. 2H) are representative of agricultural drainage basins in the lower Columbia Basin where irrigation-return flows cause an increase in discharge from August to winter. During winter, high flows are sustained by a combination of precipitation and return flows. The daily mean discharge at Hangman Creek at Spokane (fig. 2I) is representative of rivers draining the eastern Washington highlands where a combination of precipitation and melting snow produces maximum discharge in late winter and early spring.

### Hydrologic Conditions for 2000

Precipitation in water year 2000 was about 110 percent of the long-term average in western Washington (west of the Cascade Range). Annual precipitation east of the Cascade Range ranged from about 90 percent of average in central Washington to near average in northeastern Washington and to about 110 percent of average in the southeastern corner of the State. Extremes in precipitation occurred in western Washington in November, May, and June when precipitation ranged from about 130 to 200 percent of average, and in central and eastern Washington in July when precipitation was less than 10 percent of the long-term average. The snowpack in water year 2000 generally was near average with some locations in southwest Washington, the central Cascade Range, and eastern Washington receiving above-average snowfall. Snowpack was at a maximum in most areas in mid- to late-April.

figure 1 negative







**Table 1.** Selected stream-gaging stations in Washington

Letter on figures 1 and 2	Station number	Station name	Period of record	Annual mean streamflow, water year 2000	
				Streamflow, in cubic feet per second	Percentage of long-term mean
A	12027500	Chehalis River near Grand Mound	1929-2000	2,964	105
B	12039500	Quinault River at Quinault Lake	1912-2000	3,156	110
C	14222500	East Fork Lewis River near Heisson	1930-2000	771	103
D	12210500	Nooksack River at Deming	1935-2000	3,859	115
E	12093500	Puyallup River near Orting	1932-2000	764	106
F	12457000	Wenatchee River at Plain	1911, 1929, 1931-79, 1990-2000	2,332	102
G	12502500	Ahtanum Creek at Union Gap	1961-2000	68	85
H	14018500	Walla Walla River near Touchet	1952-2000	572	99
I	12424000	Hangman Creek at Spokane	1948-2000	273	115

Mean annual streamflow in Washington during water year 2000 primarily was average to slightly above average, as indicated by data collected at selected long-term gaging stations (fig. 1, table 1). Mean annual streamflow for most of the stations in table 1 ranged from 99 to 115 percent of the long-term average but was 85 percent of average in Ahtanum Creek in the Yakima River Basin. Less than average streamflow in Ahtanum Creek resulted from low flows that occurred in August and September (fig. 2G).

Daily mean discharge was within the normal range of flow during most of water year 2000 and periodically above normal as a result of precipitation-runoff events (fig. 2A-I). In western Washington streams (fig. 2A-E), peaks in discharge generated by storm runoff primarily occurred in November, December, and April through June, and the maximum discharge in most streams occurred in November or December.

Maximum discharge in streams draining the eastern side of the Cascade Range normally occur in the spring from snowmelt (figs. 2F and G). However, the maximum discharge in water year 2000 in some eastern Cascade streams such as the Wenatchee River occurred in November as a result of a single precipitation event. Annual maximum discharge in far eastern Washington streams such as the Walla Walla River and Hangman Creek occurred in February during the time of year when high flows normally occur (figs. 2H and I). During water year 2000, none of the peak flows for rivers in Washington were near the peak flow for the period of record.

#### Surface-Water Quality

The National Stream Quality Accounting Network (NASQAN) program was established to assess the quality of the Nation's water through systematic long-term measurements at specific key locations. In 2000, Washington operated four long-term surface-water-quality stations throughout the state and these included three NASQAN stations (on the Snake River and upper and middle Columbia River basins). One surface-water-quality station was operated in the middle Columbia Basin on the main stem at Richland, Washington, as adjunct to one of the NASQAN stations. The reallocation of NASQAN funding at the national level resulted in the termination of NASQAN sampling in Washington at the end of 2000.

Specific conductance generally has an inverse relation to streamflow. Specific conductance at the surface-water NASQAN stations during 2000 ranged from an annual mean of 130 microsiemens on the Columbia River at Vernita Bridge to an annual mean of 195 and 138 microsiemens on the Snake River at Burbank and Columbia River at Northport, respectively. The annual mean specific conductance for all NASQAN stations sampled was 156 microsiemens.

Like specific conductance, dissolved-solids concentration and streamflow generally have an inverse relation. The smallest concentrations of dissolved solids usually occur during the high flows of late fall and winter and early spring runoff, when rainfall and snowmelt are the major sources of water. Dissolved solids are usually most concentrated in Washington during late summer and early fall, when base flow from ground-water sources is the dominant component of flow. The largest concentration of dissolved solids at the NASQAN stations was 217 mg/L in the Snake River at Burbank during January. The NASQAN station Columbia River at Northport had the lowest concentrations of dissolved solids (ranging from 67 to 83 mg/L, with a mean concentration of 76 mg/L).

Surface waters in Washington generally are classified as clear and carry only small amounts of sediment except where influenced by glaciers, unconsolidated volcanic deposits, or disturbed soils. Water flowing in the Columbia River is very low in sediment, usually less than 10 mg/L, and at times, there is no measurable sediment. The streams east of the Cascades that characteristically carry sediment concentrations greater than 10 mg/L are those that carry return flow from heavily irrigated and farmed lands in the semiarid region. Samples from Snake River at Burbank had the highest sediment concentrations of the NASQAN sites (ranging from 2 to 19 mg/L, with an annual mean of 7 mg/L).

The NASQAN program began sampling for pesticides at the start of the 1996 water year. Fifteen different pesticides were detected in samples from the NASQAN stations during the 2000 water year. The herbicides atrazine and metolachlor, as well as the metabolite (degradation product) desethylatrazine, were the pesticides detected most frequently in samples from the NASQAN stations on the Columbia and Snake Rivers. There were detections of only three pesticides in samples from the Columbia River at Northport, and in past years it has had the fewest detections of herbicides (or herbicide metabolites) and insecticides of the NASQAN sites. Samples from the Columbia River at Vernita Bridge had detections of the insecticides carbaryl, chlorpyrifos, azinphos methyl, and the metabolite *p,p'*-DDE, ranging in concentrations from at or near the limit of detection to a maximum of 0.007 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) of azinphos methyl. Four herbicides were detected in samples at this site during the 2000 water year. Seven herbicides, an herbicide metabolite and an insecticide were detected in samples from the Snake River at Burbank, with a maximum concentration of 0.015  $\mu\text{g/L}$  for metolachlor. The insecticide carbaryl was also detected in samples from the Snake River at Burbank at a concentration of 0.006  $\mu\text{g/L}$ . No concentrations for pesticides detected in samples from NASQAN during the 2000 water year exceeded USEPA Maximum Contaminant Levels or Health Advisories for drinking water.

Bacteria carried by NASQAN and HBM (Hydrologic Benchmark network) streams are usually in moderate concentrations, historically ranging from below ideal counts (<20 colonies/100 mL) at most stations to within the ideal range (20 to 60 colonies/100 mL for fecal coliform and 20 to 100 colonies/100 mL for fecal streptococci). Sampling for bacteria was discontinued at NASQAN and HBM stations at the end of the 1995 water year.

#### Ground Water

In eastern Washington, water levels in water-table wells were at or above average for most of the year. In Lincoln (24N/36E-16A01) and Spokane (25N/45E-16C01) Counties, average water levels in water-table wells were generally 5 to 6 feet above average. In Columbia County, average water levels in water-table well 10N/37E-23R01 were 1 to 2 feet above average. In Benton County (12N/26E-31C01D1), average water levels in the water-table well were about 0.3 foot above average. In Whitman County, average water levels in water-table well 18N/43E-35L01 were at about the long-term average. In western Washington, water levels in confined wells 16N/02W-29L02P3 (Thurston County) and 22N/01W-36H01D11 (Pierce County) were generally about 2 feet above average.

fig 3. surface-water stations with water-quality data collection in Washington

## SPECIAL NETWORKS AND PROGRAMS

Hydrologic Benchmark 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/>.

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 remobilization 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/nawqa\\_home.html](http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/nawqa_home.html).

## EXPLANATION OF THE RECORDS

The surface-water and ground-water records published in this report are for the 1999 water year that began October 1, 1998, and ended September 30, 1999. 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 surface water, and ground-water-level data. The following sections of the introductory text are presented to provide users with a more detailed explanation of how the hydrologic data published in this report were collected, analyzed, computed, and arranged for presentation.

### Station Identification Numbers

Each data station, whether streamsite or well, in this report 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 Washington, for surface-water stations where only miscellaneous 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 mainstream station are listed before that station. A station on a tributary that enters between two mainstream 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 with respect to the stream to which it is immediately tributary is indicated by an indentation in the "List of Stations" in the front of this report. Each indentation represents one rank. This downstream order and system of indentation show 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 according to downstream order. In assigning station numbers, no distinction is made between partial-record stations and other 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. The complete eight-digit number for each station, such as 12020000, which appears just to the left of the station name, includes the two-digit Part number "12" plus the six-digit downstream-order number "020000." The Part number designates the major river basin; for example, part "12" refers to the Pacific slope basins in Washington and upper Columbia River basin.

#### Latitude-Longitude System

The identification numbers for wells and miscellaneous surface-water sites are assigned according to the grid system of latitude and longitude (fig. 15). The number consists of 15 digits. The first six digits denote the degrees, minutes, and seconds of latitude, the next seven digits denote degrees, minutes, and seconds of longitude, and the last two digits (assigned sequentially) identify the wells or other sites within a one-second grid. This site-identification number, once assigned, is a pure number, and has no locational significance. In the instance where the initial determination of latitude and longitude are found to be in error, the station will retain its initial identification number; however, its true latitude and longitude will be listed in the LOCATION paragraph of the station description.

#### Well-Numbering System

The USGS assigns numbers to wells and springs in Washington that identify their location in a township, range, and section. Well number 12N/26E-31C01 indicates, successively, the township (T. 12 N.) and range (R. 26 E.) north and east of the Willamette base line and meridian. The first number following the hyphen indicates the section (31) within the township, and the letter following the section number gives the 40-acre subdivision of the section, as shown below (fig. 15). The number (01) following the letter is the sequence number of the well within the 40-acre subdivision. This number indicates that the well was the second one inventoried by the USGS personnel in that 40-acre tract. An "S" following the sequence number indicates that the site is a spring, a "D1" after the sequence number indicates that the original reported depth of the well has been changed once, and successive numbers indicate the number of changes in the well depth.

**Figure 4.** Well-numbering systems used in the State of Washington.

Records of Stage and Water Discharge

Records of stage and water discharge may be complete or partial. Complete records of discharge are those obtained using a continuous stage-recording device through which either instantaneous or mean daily discharges may be computed for any time, or any period of time, during the period of record. Complete records of lake or reservoir content, similarly, are those for which stage or content may be computed or estimated with reasonable accuracy for any time, or period of time. They may be obtained using a continuous stage-recording device, but need not be. Because daily mean discharges and end-of-day contents commonly are published for such stations, they are referred to as "daily 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 records," or "Low-flow partial records." 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.

### Data Collection and Computation

The data obtained at a complete-record gaging station on a stream or canal consist of a continuous record of stage, individual measurements of discharge throughout a range of stages, and notations regarding factors that may affect the relations between stage and discharge. These data, together with supplemental information, such as weather records, are used to compute daily discharges. The data obtained at a complete-record gaging station on a lake or reservoir consist of a record of stage and of notations regarding factors that may affect the relation between stage and lake content. These data are used with stage-area and stage-capacity curves or tables to compute water-surface areas and lake storage.

Continuous records of stage are obtained with satellite telemetry data collection platforms that transmit data at selected time intervals via satellite to a direct readout ground station, with digital recorders that punch stage values on paper tapes at selected time intervals, or with analog recorders that trace continuous graphs of stage. Measurements of discharge are made with current meters using methods adapted 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 in *U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations (TWRI)*, Book 3, Chapter A6. These methods are described in standard textbooks, *Water-Supply Paper 2175*, and *The U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations (TWRI's)*, Book 3, Chapters 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 the daily mean stages (gage heights) 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 relations 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 gaging stations, acoustic velocity meter (AVM) systems are used to compute discharge. The AVM system measures the stream's velocity at one or more paths in the cross section. Coefficients are developed to relate this path velocity to the mean velocity in the cross section. Because the AVM sensors are fixed in position, the adjustment coefficients generally vary with stage. Cross-sectional area curves are developed to relate stage, recorded as noted above, to cross section area. Discharge is computed by multiplying path velocity by the appropriate stage related coefficient and area.

In computing records of lake or reservoir contents, it is necessary to have information available from surveys, curves, or tables that define the relation of 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 a lake or reservoir, periodic resurveys may be necessary to redefine the relation. Discharges over lake or reservoir spillways are computed from stage-discharge relations much as other stream discharges are computed.

For some gaging stations there are periods when no gage-height record is obtained, or the validity of the recorded gage height is so questionable that it cannot be used to compute daily discharge or contents. This happens

when the data collection platform or 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

Streamflow data in this report are presented in a new format that is considerably different from the format in data reports prior to the 1991 water year. The major changes are that statistical characteristics of discharge now appear in tabular summaries following the water-year data table and less information is provided in the text or station manuscript above the table. These changes represent the results of a pilot program to reformat the annual water-data report to meet current user needs and data preferences.

The records published for each continuous-record surface-water discharge station (gaging station) now consist of four parts, the manuscript or station description; the data table of daily mean values of discharge for the current water year with summary data; a tabular statistical summary of monthly mean flow data for a designated period, by water year; and a summary statistics table that includes statistical data of annual and daily flows as well as data pertaining to annual runoff, 7-day low-flow minimums, and flow duration. Summary statistics were not included for certain sites where these data would be misleading. Contact the District Office for information concerning summary statistics for these sites.

#### Station manuscript

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 information, as appropriate, is provided with each continuous record of discharge or lake content. Comments to follow 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 gage 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 are based on information developed by the Hydraulics and Hydrology Committee of the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission.

**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 there are published records 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 records from it can reasonably be considered equivalent with records from the present station.

**REVISED RECORDS.**--Published records, because of new information, 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 the instantaneous maximum discharge was revised; "(m)" the instantaneous minimum was revised; and "(P)" the 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, location, and datums of previous gages are given under this heading.

**REMARKS.**--All periods of estimated daily-discharge record will either be identified by date in this paragraph of the station description for water-discharge stations or flagged in the daily-discharge table. (See next section, "Identifying Estimated Daily Discharge.") If a remarks statement is used to identify estimated record, the paragraph

will begin with this information presented as the first entry. The paragraph is also used to present information relative to the accuracy of the records, special methods of computation, conditions that affect natural flow at the station and, possibly, other pertinent items. 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 Geological Survey by a cooperating organization are identified here.

**AVERAGE DISCHARGE.**--The discharge value given is the arithmetic average of the water-year mean discharges. Average discharge is computed only for stations having at least 2 water years of complete record; water years with incomplete record are not included in the computation. The mean-discharge value that uses all published data may differ from that given in the summary statistics data, which is based only on computer-stored data. The summary data does not include values of monthly or yearly data that were determined by various methods for the series of Water-Supply Papers entitled "Compilation of Records of Surface Water of the United States". The average-discharge value is not computed for stations where diversions, storage or other water-use practices cause the value to be meaningless. If water projects that significantly alter flow at a station are put into use after the station has been in operation for a period of years, the new average is computed as soon as 2 water years of record have accumulated after the project began.

**EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.**--Extremes may include maximum and minimum stages and maximum and minimum discharges or content. Unless otherwise qualified, the maximum discharge or content is the instantaneous maximum corresponding to the highest stage that occurred. The highest stage may have been obtained from a data collection platform, graphic or digital recorder, a crest-stage gage, or by direct observation of a non-recording gage. If the maximum stage did not occur on the same day as the maximum discharge or content, it is given separately. Similarly, the minimum is the instantaneous minimum discharge, unless otherwise qualified, and was determined and is reported in the same manner as the maximum.

**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.

**EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.**--Extremes given here are similar to those for the period of record, 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 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 canals, ditches, drains, or 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. The minimum for the current water year appears below the table of peak data.

**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 Washington 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 the data were obtained by computer retrieval, the data would be current and there would be no need to check because any published revision of data is always accompanied by revision of the corresponding data in computer storage.

Manuscript information for lake or reservoir stations differs from that for stream stations in the nature of the "Remarks" and in the inclusion of a skeleton stage-capacity table when daily contents are given.

#### 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 during the month. The lines headed "MAX" and "MIN" give the maximum and minimum daily mean discharges, respectively, for the 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."), or in acre-feet (line headed "AC-FT"). Figures for cubic feet per second per square mile and runoff in inches are omitted if there is extensive regulation or diversion or if the drainage area includes large noncontributing areas. At some stations monthly and (or) yearly observed discharges are adjusted for reservoir storage or diversion, or diversion data or reservoir contents are given. These figures are identified by a symbol and corresponding footnote.

#### 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 mean 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 YEAR\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, 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 and daily 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 may not be the same as the station period of record published in the manuscript, occasionally the dates of occurrence listed for the daily extremes in the designated-period column may not be within the selected water years listed in the heading. When this occurs, it will be noted in the REMARKS paragraph or in footnotes. Selected streamflow duration curve 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 following summary statistics data, as appropriate, are provided with each continuous record of discharge. Comments to follow 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 is adjusted for reservoir storage or diversion. The adjusted figures are identified by a symbol and corresponding footnotes.

ANNUAL MEAN.--The arithmetic mean of the individual daily mean discharges for the year noted or for the designated period. At some stations the yearly mean discharge is adjusted for reservoir storage or diversion. The adjusted figures are identified by a symbol and corresponding footnotes. At least 5 complete years of record must be available before this statistic is published for the designated period.

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.)

ANNUAL RUNOFF.--Indicates the total quantity of water in runoff for a drainage area for the year. Data reports may use any of the following units of measurement 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 area drained, assuming the runoff is distributed uniformly in time and area.

Inches (INCHES) 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 is exceeded 10 percent of the time for the designated period.

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

90 PERCENT EXCEEDS.--The discharge that is 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

Estimated daily-discharge values published in the water-discharge tables of annual state data reports are identified either by flagging individual daily values with the letter symbol "e" and printing a table footnote, "e Estimated," or by listing the dates of the estimated record in the REMARKS paragraph of the station description.

#### 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 the "REMARKS" paragraph. "Excellent" means that about 95 percent of the daily discharges are within 5 percent of the true; "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; the nearest tenth between 1.0 and 10 ft<sup>3</sup>/s; whole numbers between 10 and 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s; and 3 significant figures for more 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 because of the effects of diversion, consumption, regulation by storage, increase or decrease in evaporation, or 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, changes in contents of reservoirs, or 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

Monthly records for several ungaged sites are given in a separate section following the gaged sites. The accuracy of records for ungaged sites is generally lower than that for gaged sites, depending on the precision of the computation method and the accuracy of data used in the computations.

For most gaging stations, unpublished, detailed information, on file in the Washington office, includes discharge measurements, gage-height records, and rating tables. Many gaging-station records in Washington through 1979 have been analyzed to determine several statistical summaries: (1) The number of days in each year that the daily discharge was between selected limits (duration tables); (2) the lowest mean discharge for selected numbers of consecutive days in each year; and (3) the highest mean discharge for selected numbers of consecutive days in each year.

Other Federal and State agencies have collected discharge data at other sites in Washington during the current water year. Although these records have not been published by the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Water Data Exchange, NAWDEX, Water Resources Division, U.S. Geological Survey, National Center, Reston, VA 22092, maintains an index of these sites and will furnish information about them.

#### 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 continuous-record station is a site where data are collected on a regularly scheduled basis. Frequency may be one or more times daily, weekly, monthly, or quarterly. 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 "continuous records" as used in this report and "continuous recordings," which refers to a continuous graph or a series of discrete values punched at short intervals on a paper tape or obtained via data collection platform. 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. Locations of stations for which records on the quality of surface water appear in this report are shown in figures 6a and 6b.

#### Accuracy of the Records

One of four accuracy classifications is applied for measured physical properties at continuous-record stations on a scale ranging from poor to excellent. The accuracy rating is based on data values recorded before any shifts or corrections are made, as described by Wagner and others (2000). Additional consideration also is given to the amount of publishable record and to the amount of data that have been corrected or shifted.

## Rating continuous water-quality records

[ $\leq$ , less than or equal to;  $\pm$ , plus or minus value shown;  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , degree Celsius;  $>$ , greater than; %, percent; mg/L, milligram per liter; pH unit, standard pH unit]

Measured physical property	Ratings			
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Water temperature	$\leq \pm 0.2^{\circ}\text{C}$	$> \pm 0.2$ to $0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$	$> \pm 0.5$ to $0.8^{\circ}\text{C}$	$> \pm 0.8^{\circ}\text{C}$
Specific conductance	$\leq \pm 3\%$	$> \pm 3$ to $10\%$	$> \pm 10$ to $15\%$	$> \pm 15\%$
Dissolved oxygen	$\leq \pm 0.3$ mg/L	$> \pm 0.3$ to $0.5$ mg/L	$> \pm 0.5$ to $0.8$ mg/L	$> \pm 0.8$ mg/L
pH	$\leq \pm 0.2$ unit	$> \pm 0.2$ to $0.5$ unit	$> \pm 0.5$ to $0.8$ unit	$> \pm 0.8$ unit
Turbidity	$\leq \pm 5\%$	$> \pm 5$ to $10\%$	$> \pm 10$ to $15\%$	$> \pm 15\%$

## 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 Measurement and Sample Collection

In obtaining water-quality data, it is important that the data obtained represent the in situ quality of the water. To assure this, certain measurements, such as water temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen, need to be made onsite when the samples are taken. To assure that measurements made in the laboratory also represent the in situ water, carefully prescribed procedures need to be followed in collecting the samples, treating the samples to prevent changes in quality pending analysis, and shipping the samples to the laboratory. Procedures for onsite measurements and for collecting, treating, and shipping samples are detailed in the TWRI Book 1, Chapter D2; Book 3, Chapter C2; Book 5, Chapter A1, A3, and A4, and Book 9, chapters 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 Geological Survey, Water Resources Division office in Tacoma, Washington.

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 obtained for the National Stream Quality Accounting Network (see "DEFINITION OF TERMS") are obtained from at least five verticals. Whether samples are obtained from the centroid of flow or from several verticals, depends on flow conditions and other factors which 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 records consist of daily maximum, minimum, and mean or medium values for each constituent measured and are based upon hourly (or more frequent) punches beginning at 0100 hours and ending at 2400 hours for the day of record. More detailed records (hourly values) may be obtained from the U.S. Geological Survey office whose address is given on the back of the title page of this report.

#### Water Temperature

Water temperatures are measured at most of the water-quality stations. In addition, water temperatures are taken at time of discharge measurements for water-discharge stations. For stations where water temperatures are taken manually once or twice daily, the water temperatures are taken at about the same time each day. Large streams have a small diurnal temperature change; 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 waste-heat discharges.

At stations where recording instruments are used, maximum, minimum, and mean temperatures for each day are published. Water temperatures are rounded to the nearest half degree. Water temperatures measured at the time of water-discharge measurements are on file in the Washington office.

#### Sediment

Suspended-sediment concentrations are determined from samples collected by one of the standard sampling techniques discussed in TWRI, Book 3, Chapter C2, "Field methods for measurement of fluvial sediment," 1985 revision. Samples are obtained using standard depth- or point-integrating samplers, or by means of an approved pumping sampler. Mean concentrations for the sampled cross section are in turn determined from these samples.

During periods of rapidly changing flow or rapidly changing suspended-sediment concentration, samples may have been collected more frequently (twice daily or, in some instances, hourly). 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 times mean concentration times 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. 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, periodic measurements of particle-size distributions for the suspended-sediment, bed-load, and bed-material samples are included for stations where samples were obtained to measure this parameter.

#### Laboratory Measurements

Sediment samples, samples for indicator bacteria, and daily samples for specific conductance are analyzed locally. All other samples are analyzed in the Geological Survey laboratory in Arvada, Colorado. Methods used to analyze samples and to compute sediment records are given in the 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; Book 5, Chapters A1, A3, A4, and A5. These methods are consistent with ASTM standards and generally follow ISO standards.

In March 1989, the National Water-Quality Laboratory discovered a bias in the turbidimetric method for sulfate analysis, indicating that values below 75 mg/L have a median positive bias of 2 mg/L above the true value for the period between 1982 and 1989. Sulfate values in this report have not been corrected for this bias.

Estimated pesticide concentrations published in this report are identified by flagging individual values with the symbol "E" and printing a table footnote "E - Estimated". "E" codes (used to define surface-water and water-quality table values) are also used to signify estimated values for all detections that are below the lowest calibration standard, above the highest calibration standard, or otherwise less reliable than average because of sample-specific or compound-specific considerations. All E-coded data are considered to be reliable detections, but with greater than average uncertainty in quantification.

#### Data Presentation

For continuous-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 parameters currently measured daily. Tables of chemical, physical, biological, radiochemical data, and so forth, 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 discharge 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 parameters measured daily or continuously and those measured less than daily. For those measured daily or continuously, periods of record are given for the parameters individually.

INSTRUMENTATION.--Information on instrumentation is given only if a water-quality monitor, sediment 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 parameters measured daily or more frequently. None are given for parameters measured weekly or 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 to the Water-Quality File in the U.S. Geological Survey's computerized data system, NWIS, and subsequently by monthly transfer of update transactions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's STORET system. 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 the appropriate computer file.

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.

## Remark Codes

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

<u>PRINT OUTPUT</u>	<u>REMARK</u>
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.
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).
V	Analyte was detected in both the environmental sample and the associated blanks
&	Biological organism estimated as dominant.
M	Presence of material verified, but not quantified.

## 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 signal 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:

Source solution blank - a blank solution that is transferred to a sample bottle in an area of the office laboratory with an atmosphere that is relatively clean and protected with respect to target analytes.

Ambient blank - a blank solution that is put in the same type of bottle 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 bottle used for an environmental sample and kept with the set of sample 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.

Pump blank - a blank solution that is processed through the same pump-and-tubing system used for an environmental sample.

Stand-pipe blank - a blank solution that is poured from the containment vessel (stand-pipe) before the pump is inserted to obtain the pump blank.

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 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 sampler 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 blank sample.

**REFERENCE SAMPLES**—Reference material is a solution or material prepared by a laboratory whose composition is certified for one or more properties so that it can be used to assess a measurement method. 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:

Concurrent sample - a type of replicate sample in which the samples are collected simultaneously with two or more samplers or by using one sampler and alternating collection of samples into two or more compositing containers.

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

Split sample - a type of replicate sample in which a 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.

Concurrent sample - a type of spike sample that is collected at the same time with the same sampling and compositing devices then spiked with the same spike solution containing laboratory-certified concentrations of selected analytes.

Split sample - a type of spike sample in which a sample is split into subsamples contemporaneous in time and space then spiked with the same spike solution containing laboratory-certified concentrations of selected analytes.

### Records of Ground-Water Levels

Water-level data from only a few of the many observation wells in Washington are given in this report.

Ground-water records obtained through cooperative efforts of many Federal, State, and local agencies for several thousand observation wells throughout Washington are not included in this report. These records may be placed in computer storage, published in reports, or kept in files. Information about the availability of ground-water data may be obtained from the District Chief, Washington District, U.S. Geological Survey, 1201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 600, Tacoma, Washington 98402.

### Data Collection and Computation

Measurements of water levels are made 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.

Tables of water-level data are presented by counties arranged in alphabetical order. The prime identification number for a given well is the 15-digit number that appears in the upper left corner of the table. The secondary identification number is the local well number, an alphanumeric number, derived from the township-range location of the well.

Water-level records are obtained from direct measurements with a steel or electrical tape or from the graph or punched tape of a water-stage recorder. 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.

Water levels are reported to as many significant figures as can be justified by the local conditions. For example, in a measurement of a depth to water of several hundred feet, the error of determining the absolute value of the total depth to water may be a few tenths of a foot, whereas the error in determining the net change of water level between successive measurements may be only a hundredth or a few hundredths of a foot. For lesser depths to water, the accuracy is greater. Accordingly, most measurements are reported to a hundredth of a foot, but some are given to a tenth of a foot or a larger unit.

### Data Presentation

Each well record consists of two parts, the station description and the data table of water levels observed during the water year. The description of the well is presented first through use of descriptive headings preceding the tabular data. The comments to follow clarify information presented under the various headings.

**LOCATION.**--This paragraph follows the well-identification number and reports the latitude and longitude (given in degrees, minutes, and seconds); a landline location designation; 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 and (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 used, allowing the user to better evaluate the reported water-level extremes by knowing whether they are based on weekly, monthly, or some other frequency of measurement.

**DATUM.**--This entry describes the land-surface elevation at the well. The elevation of the land-surface datum is described in feet above (or below) sea level; it is reported with a precision depending on 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 water levels of the period of published record, with respect to land-surface datum, and the dates of their occurrence.

A table of water levels follows the station description for each well. Water levels are reported in feet below land-surface datum and all taped measurements of water level are listed. For wells equipped with a recorder, only abbreviated tables are published; generally, only water-level lows are listed for every fifth day and at the end of the month (eom). The highest and lowest water levels of the water year and their dates of occurrence are shown on a line below the abbreviated table. Because all values are not published for wells with recorders, the extremes may be values that are not listed in the table. Missing records are indicated by dashes in place of the water level.

### ACCESS TO USGS WATER DATA

The USGS provides near real-time stage and discharge 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 internet. These data may be accessed at:

<http://water.usgs.gov>

Some water-quality and ground water data also are available through the internet. In addition, data can be provided in various machine-readable formats on magnetic tape 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).

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

Terms related to streamflow, water-quality, and other hydrologic data, as used in this report, are defined below. See also table for converting English 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 the quantity of water required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot and is equivalent to 43,560 cubic feet, 325,851 gallons, or 1,233 cubic meters.

**Adenosine triphosphate** (ATP) is an organic, phosphate-rich, compound important in the transfer of energy in organisms. Its central role in living cells makes it 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.

**Algae** are mostly aquatic single-celled, colonial, or multicelled plants containing chlorophyll and lacking roots, stems, and leaves.

**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.

**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 in runoff for a drainage area for the year. Data reports may use any of the following units of measurement in presenting annual runoff data:

**Acre-foot** (AC-FT, acre-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, 325,851 gallons, or 1,233 cubic meters.

**Cubic foot per second per square mile** [CFSM, (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)/mi<sup>2</sup>] 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.

**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.

**Aroclor** is the registered trademark for a group of polychlorinated 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 weight percent of the hydrogen substituted chlorine.

**Bacteria** are microscopic unicellular organisms, typically spherical, rodlike, or spiral and threadlike in shape, often clumped into colonies. Some bacteria cause disease, while 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.

**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 warm-blooded 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 mL of sample.

**Fecal coliform bacteria** are bacteria that are present in the intestine or feces of warm-blooded animals. They are often 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.

**Fecal streptococcal bacteria** are bacteria found in the intestine of warm-blooded animals. Their presence in water is considered to verify fecal pollution. 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.

**Enterococcus bacteria** are commonly found in the feces of humans and other warm-blooded 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 and subsequent transfer to EIA medium. Enterococci include *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Streptococcus faecium*, *Streptococcus avium*, and their variants.

*Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) are bacteria present in the intestine and feces of warm-blooded 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. Their concentrations are expressed as number of colonies per 100 mL of sample.

**Base flow** is flow in a channel sustained by ground-water discharge in the absence of direct runoff.

**Bed material** is the sediment mixture of which a streambed, lake, pond, reservoir, or estuary bottom is composed.

**Benthic organisms** (invertebrates) are the group of animals 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.

**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 ( $\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ ).

**Dry mass** refers to the mass of residue present after drying in an oven at 105°C for zooplankton and periphyton, until the mass remains unchanged. This mass represents the total organic matter, ash, and sediment in the sample. Dry mass is expressed in the same units as ash mass.

**Organic mass** or volatile mass of the 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.

**Wet mass** is the mass of living matter plus contained water.

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

**Bottom material:** See "Bed material."

**Cells/volume** refers to the number of plankton cells or natural units counted using a microscope and grid or counting cell. Results are generally reported as cells or units per milliliter.

**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 on 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:

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

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 over all species.

**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.

**Chlorophyll** refers to the green pigments of plants. Chlorophyll a and b are the two most common green pigments in plants.

**Colloid** is any substance with particles in such a fine state of subdivision dispersed in a medium (for example, water) that they do not settle out; but not in so fine a state of subdivision that they can be said to be truly dissolved.

**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 that meets either of the following conditions:

1. Stage or streamflow are recorded at some interval on a continuous basis. The recording interval is usually 15 minutes, but may be less or more frequent.
2. Water-quality, sediment, or other hydrologic measurements are recorded at least daily.

**Control** designates a feature in the channel downstream from a gaging station that physically influences the water-surface elevation and thereby determines the stage-discharge relation at the station. 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 salt-water.

**Cubic foot per second** (CFS, ft<sup>3</sup>/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, 448.8 gallons per minute, or 0.02832 cubic meters per second.

**Cubic foot per second-day** (CFS-DAY, Cfs-day, [(ft<sup>3</sup>/s)/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, 1.9835 acre-feet, 646,317 gallons, or 2,447 cubic meters.

**Daily record** is a summary of streamflow, sediment, or water-quality values computed from data collected with sufficient frequency to obtain reliable estimates of daily mean values.

**Daily record station** is a site for which daily records of streamflow, sediment, or water-quality values are computed.

**Datum**, as used in this report, is an elevation above mean sea level to which all gage height readings are referenced.

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

**Discharge**, or flow, is the volume of water (or more broadly, volume of fluid including solid- and dissolved-phase material), that passes a given point in a given period of time.

**Annual 7-day minimum** is the lowest mean discharge for 7 consecutive days in a 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.)

**Instantaneous discharge** is the discharge at a particular instant of time.

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

**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 agencies that collect water data. Determinations of "dissolved" constituents are made on subsamples of the filtrate.

**Dissolved oxygen** (DO) content of water in equilibrium with air 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, with small temperature changes having the more significant offset. Photosynthesis and respiration may cause diurnal variations in dissolved-oxygen concentration in water from some streams.

**Dissolved-solids concentration** of water 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 that analytical determination of dissolved solids, the bicarbonate (generally a major dissolved component of water) is converted to carbonate. Therefore, in the mathematical calculation of dissolved-solids concentration, the bicarbonate value, in milligrams per liter, is multiplied by 0.4926 to reflect the change. Alternatively, alkalinity concentration (as mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub>) can be converted to carbonate concentration by multiplying by 0.60.

**Diversity 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. Diversity 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 site on a stream is that area, measured in a horizontal plane, that has a common outlet at the site for its surface runoff. Figures of drainage area 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 is occupied by a drainage system with a common outlet for its surface runoff (see “Drainage area”).

**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.

**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 the elevation of the zero point of the reference gage from which gage height is determined as compared to sea level (see “Datum”). This elevation is established by a system of levels from known benchmarks, by approximation from topographic maps, or by geographical positioning system.

**Gage height** (G.H.) is the water-surface elevation referenced to the gage datum. Gage height is often used interchangeably with the more general term “stage,” although gage height is more appropriate when used with a reading on a gage.

**Gaging station** is a site on a stream, canal, lake, or reservoir where systematic observations of stage, discharge, or other hydrologic data are obtained. When used in connection with a discharge record, the term is applied only to those gaging stations where a continuous record of discharge is computed.

**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.

**Ground-water level** is the elevation of the water table or another potentiometric surface at a particular location.

**Hardness** of water is a physical-chemical characteristic that is commonly recognized by the increased quantity of soap required to produce lather. It is attributable to the presence of alkaline earths (principally 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>

**Hydrologic benchmark station** is one that provides hydrologic data for a basin in which the hydrologic regimen will likely be governed solely by natural conditions. Data collected at a benchmark station may be used to separate effects of natural from human-induced changes in other basins that have been developed and in which the physiography, climate, and geology are similar to those in the undeveloped benchmark basin.

**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 U.S. Geological Survey. Each hydrologic unit is identified by an 8-digit number.

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

**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.

**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 are usually 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.

**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.

**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.

**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  $\text{mg/L}$  and is based on the mass of dry sediment per liter of water-sediment mixture.

**Miscellaneous site**, or miscellaneous station, is a site where streamflow, sediment, and/or water-quality data are collected once, or more often on a random or discontinuous basis.

**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, hard-board 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 geodetic datum derived from a general adjustment of the first order level nets of the United States and Canada. It was formerly called "Sea Level Datum of 1929" or "mean sea level" in this series of reports. Although the datum was derived from the average sea level over a period of many years at 26 tide stations along the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Pacific Coasts, it does not necessarily represent local mean sea level at any particular place. *See NOAA web site:* <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/faq.shtml#WhatVD29VD88>

**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.

**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 sediments. May be reported as dissolved organic carbon (DOC), suspended organic carbon (SOC), or total organic carbon (TOC).

**Organism** is any living entity.

**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.

**Total organism count** is the total number of organisms collected and enumerated in any particular sample.

**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 U.S. Geological Survey 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** 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

The particle-size distributions given in this report are not necessarily representative of all particles in transport in the stream. 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.

**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, or volume.

**Periodic station** is a site where stage, discharge, sediment, chemical, 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. While 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 are termed "acidic," and solutions with a pH greater than 7 are termed "basic." Solutions with a pH of 7 are neutral. The presence and concentration of many dissolved chemical constituents found in water are, in part, influenced by the hydrogen-ion activity of water. Biological processes including growth, distribution of organisms,

and toxicity of the water to organisms are also influenced, in part, by the hydrogen-ion activity of water.

**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 any 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).

**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 are commonly known as algae.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Fire algae** (*Pyrrhophyta*) are a group of algae that are free-swimming unicells characterized by a red pigment spot.

**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.

**Zooplankton** is the animal part of the plankton. Zooplankton are capable of extensive movements within the water column and are often large

enough to be seen with the unaided eye. Zooplankton 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.

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

**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. 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 in unenriched waters. Unit time may be either the hour or day, depending on the incubation period.

**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. 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.

**Radioisotopes** are isotopic forms of an element 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.

**Recoverable from 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.

**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 non-exceedance 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 non-exceedances of the  $7Q_{10}$  occur less than 10 years after the previous non-exceedance, half occur less than 7 years after, and about one-eighth occur more than 20 years after the previous non-exceedance. 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.

**River mile** is the distance of a point on a river measured in miles from the river's mouth along the low-water channel.

**River mileage** is the linear distance along the meandering path of a stream channel determined in accordance with Bulletin No. 14 (October 1968) of the Water Resources Council.

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

**Sea level** refers to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD of 1929)—a geodetic datum derived from a general adjustment of the first-order level nets of the United States and Canada, formerly called Sea Level Datum of 1929. See: [http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/glossary/gloss\\_n.html#NGVD](http://www.co-ops.nos.noaa.gov/glossary/gloss_n.html#NGVD)

**Sediment** is solid material that is transported by, suspended in, or deposited from water. It originates mostly from disintegrated rocks; it also 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 influenced by environmental factors. Some major factors are degree of slope, length of slope, soil characteristics, land usage, and quantity and intensity of precipitation.

**Bed load** is the sediment that is transported in a stream by rolling, sliding, or skipping along or very close to the bed. In this report, bed load is considered to consist of particles in transit from the bed to an elevation equal to the top of the bed-load sampler nozzle (usually within 0.25 ft of the streambed).

**Bed-load discharge** (tons per day) is the quantity of sediment moving as bed load, reported as dry weight, that passes a cross section in a given time.

**Suspended sediment** is the sediment that is maintained in suspension by the upward components of turbulent currents or that exists in suspension as a colloid.

**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 ft above the bed)

expressed as milligrams of dry sediment per liter of water-sediment mixture (mg/L). The entire sample is used for the analysis.

**Mean concentration of suspended sediment** is the time-weighted concentration of suspended sediment passing a stream section during a 24-hour day.

**Suspended-sediment discharge** (tons/day) is the quantity of sediment moving in suspension, reported as dry weight, 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.

**Suspended-sediment load** is a term that refers to material in suspension. 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.

**Total sediment discharge** (tons/day) is the sum of the suspended-sediment discharge and the bed-load discharge. It is the total quantity of sediment, reported as dry weight, that passes a cross section in a given time.

**Total sediment load** or total load is a term that refers to the total sediment (bed load plus suspended-sediment load) that is in transport. 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 total sediment discharge.

**Seven-day 10-year low flow** (7Q<sub>10</sub>, 7Q<sub>10</sub>) is the minimum flow averaged over 7 consecutive days that is expected to occur on average, once in any 10-year period. The 7Q<sub>10</sub> has a 10-percent chance of occurring in any given year.

**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. Waters range in respect to sodium hazard from those which can be used for irrigation on almost all soils to those which are generally unsatisfactory for irrigation.

**Solute** is any substance that is dissolved in water.

**Specific conductance** is a measure of the ability of a water to conduct an electrical current. It is expressed in microsiemens per centimeter at 25°C. Specific conductance is related to the type and concentration of ions in solution 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 MILL/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 waters, to evaluate mixing of different waters, 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.

**Artificial substrate** is a device which is purposely placed in a stream or lake for colonization of organisms. The artificial substrate simplifies the community structure by standardizing the substrate from which each sample is taken. Examples of artificial substrates are basket samplers (made of wire cages filled with clean streamside rocks) and multi-plate samplers (made of hardboard) for benthic organism collection, and plexiglass strips for periphyton collection.

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

**Surface area** of a lake or impoundment is that area encompassed by the boundary of the lake or impoundment as shown on USGS topographic maps, or on other available maps or photographs. The computed surface areas reflect the water levels of the lakes or impoundments at the times when the information for the maps or photographs was obtained.

**Surficial bed material** is the top 0.1 to 0.2 ft 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 associated with 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-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 analyzing portions of the material collected on the filter or, more commonly, by difference, based on determinations of (1) dissolved and (2) total recoverable concentrations of the constituent.

**Suspended, total** is the total amount of a given constituent in the part of a representative suspended-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 analyzing portions of the material collected on the filter or, more commonly, by difference, based on determinations of (1) dissolved and (2) total concentrations of the constituent.

**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.

**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>

**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 that would be contained in a vessel or reservoir that had received equal quantities of water from the stream each day for the year.

**Tons per acre-foot** is the dry mass of dissolved solids in 1 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 the rate representing a mass of 1 ton of a constituent in streamflow passing a cross section in 1 day. It is equivalent to 2,000 pounds per day, or 0.9072 metric tons per day.

**Total** is the total amount of a given constituent in a representative suspended-sediment 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 suspended-sediment mixture and that the analytical method determined all of the constituent in the sample.)

**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 total 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 recoverable** is the amount of a given constituent that is in solution after a representative suspended-sediment 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, equivalent digestion procedures are required of all laboratories performing such analyses because different digestion procedures are likely to produce different analytical results.

**Turbidity** is a measurement of the collective optical properties of a water sample that cause light to be scattered and absorbed rather than transmitted in straight lines; the higher the intensity of scattered light, the higher the turbidity. Turbidity is expressed in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) or Formazin turbidity units (FTU) depending on the method and equipment used.

**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 path-length of UV light through a sample.

**Volatile organic compounds (VOC’s)** 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 VOC’s are manmade 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 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1996).

**Water level** is the water-surface elevation or stage of the free surface of a body of water above or below any datum (see “Gage height”), or the surface of water standing in a well, usually indicative of the position of the water table or other potentiometric surface.

**Water table** is the surface of a ground-water body at which the water is at atmospheric pressure.

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

**Water year** in U.S. Geological Survey 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, 1999, is called the “1999 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.

**Well** is an excavation (pit, hole, tunnel), generally cylindrical in form and often walled in, drilled, dug, driven, bored, or jetted into the ground to such a depth as to penetrate water-yielding geologic material and allow the water to flow or to be pumped to the surface.

**Wet weight** refers to the weight of animal tissue or other substance including its contained water.

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

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

The U.S.G.S. publishes a series of manuals describing procedures for planning and conducting specialized work in water-resources investigations. The material 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. The chapter, the unit of publication, is limited to a narrow field of subject matter. This format permits flexibility in revision and publication as the need arises.

The reports listed below are for sale by the U.S.G.S., Information Services, Box 25286, Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225 (authorized agent of the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office). Prepayment is required. Remittance should be made in the form of a check or money order payable to the "U.S. Geological Survey." Prices are not included because they are subject to change. Current prices can be obtained by writing to the above address. When ordering or inquiring about prices for any of these publications, please give the title, book number, chapter number, and mention the "U.S. Geological Survey Techniques of Water-Resources Investigations."

### **Book 1. Collection of Water Data by Direct Measurement**

#### ***Section D. Water Quality***

- 1-D1. *Water temperature—influential factors, field measurement, and data presentation*, by H.H. Stevens, Jr., J.F. Ficke, and G.F. Smoot: USGS–TWRI book 1, chap. D1. 1975. 65 p.
- 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.

### **Book 2. Collection of Environmental Data**

#### ***Section D. Surface Geophysical Methods***

- 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.
- 2-D2. *Application of seismic-refraction techniques to hydrologic studies*, by F.P. Haeni: USGS–TWRI book 2, chap. D2. 1988. 86 p.

#### ***Section E. Subsurface Geophysical Methods***

- 2-E1. *Application of borehole geophysics to water-resources investigations*, by W.S. Keys and L.M. MacCary: USGS–TWRI book 2, chap. E1. 1971. 126 p.
- 2-E2. *Borehole geophysics applied to ground-water investigations*, by W.S. Keys: USGS–TWRI book 2, chap. E2. 1990. 150 p.

#### ***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.

### **Book 3. Applications of Hydraulics**

#### ***Section A. Surface-Water Techniques***

- 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.
- 3-A2. *Measurement of peak discharge by the slope-area method*, by Tate Dalrymple and M.A. Benson: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A2. 1967. 12 p.
- 3-A3. *Measurement of peak discharge at culverts by indirect methods*, by G.L. Bodhaine: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A3. 1968. 60 p.
- 3-A4. *Measurement of peak discharge at width contractions by indirect methods*, by H.F. Matthai: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A4. 1967. 44 p.
- 3-A5. *Measurement of peak discharge at dams by indirect methods*, by Harry Hulsing: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A5. 1967. 29 p.

**PUBLICATIONS ON TECHNIQUES OF WATER-RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS—Continued**

- 3-A6. *General procedure for gaging streams*, by R.W. Carter and Jacob Davidian: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A6. 1968. 13 p.
- 3-A7. *Stage measurement at gaging stations*, by T.J. Buchanan and W.P. Somers: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A7. 1968. 28 p.
- 3-A8. *Discharge measurements at gaging stations*, by T.J. Buchanan and W.P. Somers: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A8. 1969. 65 p.
- 3-A9. *Measurement of time of travel in streams by dye tracing*, by F.A. Kilpatrick and J.F. Wilson, Jr.: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A9. 1989. 27 p.
- 3-A10. *Discharge ratings at gaging stations*, by E.J. Kennedy: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A10. 1984. 59 p.
- 3-A11. *Measurement of discharge by the moving-boat method*, by G.F. Smoot and C.E. Novak: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A11. 1969. 22 p.
- 3-A12. *Fluorometric procedures for dye tracing*, Revised, by J.F. Wilson, Jr., E.D. Cobb, and F.A. Kilpatrick: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A12. 1986. 34 p.
- 3-A13. *Computation of continuous records of streamflow*, by E.J. Kennedy: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A13. 1983. 53 p.
- 3-A14. *Use of flumes in measuring discharge*, by F.A. Kilpatrick and V.R. Schneider: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A14. 1983. 46 p.
- 3-A15. *Computation of water-surface profiles in open channels*, by Jacob Davidian: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A15. 1984. 48 p.
- 3-A16. *Measurement of discharge using tracers*, by F.A. Kilpatrick and E.D. Cobb: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A16. 1985. 52 p.
- 3-A17. *Acoustic velocity meter systems*, by Antonius Laenen: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A17. 1985. 38 p.
- 3-A18. *Determination of stream reaeration coefficients by use of tracers*, by F.A. Kilpatrick, R.E. Rathbun, Nobuhiro Yotsukura, G.W. Parker, and L.L. DeLong: USGS–TWRI book 3, chap. A18. 1989. 52 p.
- 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 programed 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.

**PUBLICATIONS ON TECHNIQUES OF WATER-RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS—Continued**

- 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.

**Book 4. Hydrologic Analysis and Interpretation****Section A. Statistical Analysis**

- 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.

**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.
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## SURFACE-WATER-DISCHARGE AND SURFACE-WATER-QUALITY RECORDS

Remark Codes

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

<u>PRINT OUTPUT</u>	<u>REMARK</u>
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.
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).
V	Analyte was detected in both the environmental sample and the associated blanks.
&	Biological organism estimated as dominant.

## 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/NTN Coordination Office, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523 (Telephone: 303-491-5643).