



Photo: Laurie Larson/WSU

National Water Quality Course Held In Tacoma

Continuous Water-Quality Monitoring Workshop: Water-quality personnel from across the U.S. attended a week-long workshop Aug. 6-10 in Tacoma on continuous water-quality monitoring, hosted by USGS hydrologist Rick Wagner. Featuring classroom and field sessions, the workshop covered station operation, record computation, and data reporting. The field session was held Aug. 8 on Clarks Creek at the WSU Extension site in Puyallup, WA.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Curran, C.A., Eng, Ken, and Konrad, C.P., 2012, **Analysis of low flows and selected methods for estimating low-flow characteristics at partial-record and ungaged stream sites in western Washington:** U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2012-5078, 46 p.
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5078>

Embrey, S.S., Wagner, R.J., Huffman, R.L., Vanderpool-Kimura, A.M., and Foreman, J.R., 2012, **Quality of water in the White River and Lake Tapps, Pierce County, Washington, May–December 2010:** U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2012-5022, 118 p.
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5022/>

Czuba, J.A., Olsen, T.D., Czuba, C.R., Magirl, C.S., and Gish, C.C., 2012, **Changes in sediment volume in Alder Lake, Nisqually River basin, Washington, 1945-2011:** U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2012-1068, 30 p.
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2012/1068/>

NEWS RELEASES

Estimates of Low Summer Flows Help Fish, Habitat

Low summer streamflows during the driest years--particularly in streams without flow gages--can be estimated using relatively inexpensive methods. (Contact: Chris Curran, ccurran@usgs.gov, 253-552-1614)
<http://wa.water.usgs.gov/news/2012/news.sir20125078.htm>

Little Spokane Basin Groundwater Study Begins

A groundwater study that will look at wells in the Little Spokane River Basin is set to begin, and well owners are asked to play an important part in the study. (Contact: Sue Kahle, sckahle@usgs.gov, 253-552-1616)
http://wa.water.usgs.gov/news/2011/news.LittleSpokane_start.htm

Final Yakima Groundwater Summary at Public Meeting

The final summary of the cooperative Yakima River Basin Groundwater Study will be presented at a public meeting in Yakima, WA. USGS scientists will summarize the work completed and present results from a regional groundwater-flow model. (Contact: Matt Ely, mely@usgs.gov, 253-552-1622)
http://wa.water.usgs.gov/news/2011/media_advisory.20111006.htm

IN THE NEWS

Groundwater Interests Look To Address Future Needs In Yakima Basin (*Yakima Herald-Republic*, 09/11/12): "The search for a way to provide for rural growth is based on the results of a U.S. Geological Survey study that determined groundwater pumping is intercepting surface water that belongs to senior water users like the Yakama Nation for instream flows for fish and for irrigators whose rights date back to 1905." <http://bit.ly/OCHpD8>

This Quarterly Update is produced as a service to USGS/WAWSC staff, colleagues, partners and the interested public. To add your email address to the mailing list or to report errors/suggestions, please contact jclemens@usgs.gov. Download this issue at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/outreach>.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS (CONT'D)

Moran, P.W., Calhoun, D.L., Nowell, L.H., Kemble, N.E., Ingersoll, C.G., Hlakik, Michelle, Kuivila, K.M., Falcone, James, and Gilliom, R.J., 2012, **Contaminants in stream sediments from seven U.S. metropolitan areas-- Data summary of a National Pilot Study**: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2011-5092, 66 p.

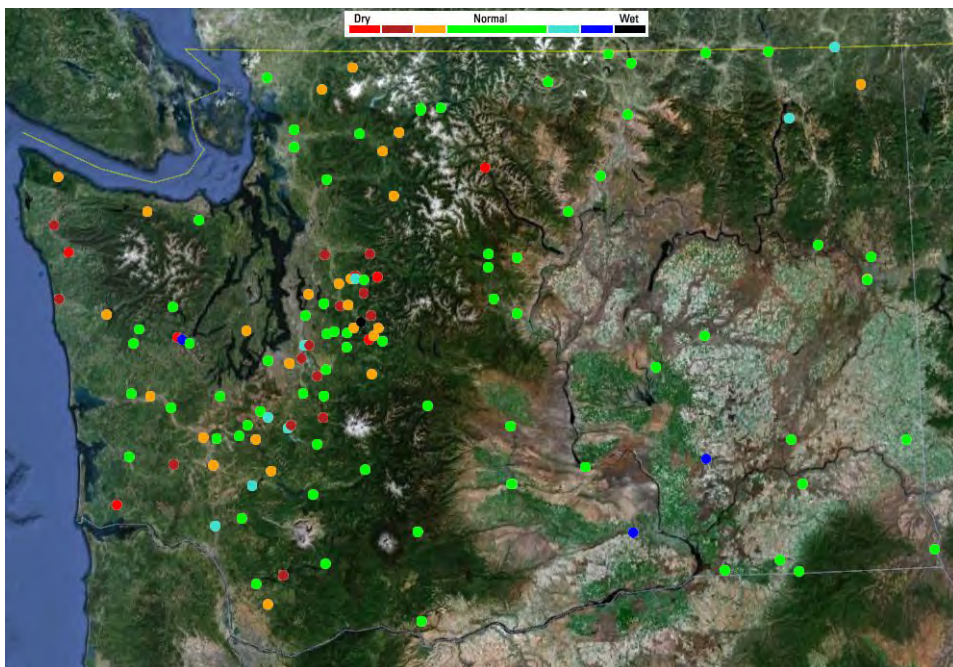
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2011/5092/>

Voss, F.D., and Mastin, M.C., 2012, **Simulation of streamflows and basin-wide hydrologic variables over several climate-change scenarios, Methow River basin, Washington**: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2012-5031, 18 p.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2012/5031/>

WORKSHOP ON MANAGED RIVERS IN WESTERN WASHINGTON: On May 23, the USGS Washington Water Science Center hosted a one-day workshop on managed rivers in western Washington. Moderated by USGS hydrologist Marijke van Heeswijk, the workshop featured six presentations covering hydraulic and geomorphic assessments of and geomorphology and aquatic-habitat interactions in managed rivers of the region.

AVERAGE STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2012:



The USGS currently operates about 390 data collection sites in Washington for acquiring information on surface water, ground water, water quality, and precipitation. About 170 of the sites with satellite telemetry provide real-time data via GOES satellites and downlinks, which enables the posting of data to the Web for public dissemination. The USGS has also collected surface-water data at nearly 1,000 historical sites. At some of these sites, continuous water-quality data are also available. The USGS database has ground-water data for about 90,000 sites. We also have water use data for every fifth year from 1985 to 2005.

ABOUT US

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

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

IN THE NEWS (CONT'D)

Columbia Basin Groundwater Group Has Some Success In Lowering Nitrates (*Yakima Herald-Republic*, 08/22/12): "A recently published report from the U.S. Geological Survey reveals that a few sample wells in the Columbia Basin Groundwater Management Area, or GWMA, have shown a downward trend in the level of nitrate contamination between 2005 and 2010." <http://tinyurl.com/97vqdkv>

Public Asks For More Predictability In Lake Osoyoos Water Levels (*Okanogan Valley Gazette-Times*, 08/02/12): "With the current orders regulating Lake Osoyoos water levels about to expire next February, the International Joint Commission (IJC) held the first of two public comment meetings in Oroville last Tuesday, Aug. 4... Cynthia Barton, with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) made a presentation that outlined the goals for the new orders. The presentation included charts outlining the new rule curve that would, if approved, set the maximum level of the lake at 912.5 feet above sea level, rather than the current 913 feet." <http://bit.ly/Nz6xlB>

Divers Literally Look Into Silt Coming Out Of Mouth Of Freed Elwha River (*Peninsula Daily News*, 07/29/12): "According to a Geological Survey estimate, more than 24 million cubic yards of sediment was backed up behind Elwha Dam at Lake Aldwell and farther upstream at Glines Canyon Dam at Lake Mills...That would be enough to fill eight National Football League football stadiums." <http://bit.ly/N7gUnQ>

QUICK LINKS

Statewide Streamflow Table:

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

Real-Time Streamflow Map:

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

Tacoma Seminar Series Schedule:

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

PLEASE CONTACT US:

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