Department of Natural Resources Division of Mining, Land and Water

Fact Sheet: Alaska Hydrologic Survey



Alaska Hydrologic Survey (AHS) Directives

AHS was established to fulfill the goals and mandates of Alaska State Statute (AS) 41.08. Specifically, AS 41.08.017 directs us to collect, record, and evaluate hydrologic data that are in the public interest and necessary for the orderly domestic and industrial development of state resources. AHS was also established to provide data necessary to manage Alaska's waters as described in AS 46.15, otherwise known as the Alaska Water Use Act. AS 46.15 was enacted for the purpose of determining and adjudicating rights in the use of the water of the state through a standardized procedure for processing applications and the issuance of authorizations, permits, and certificates.

Goal

The Division's long-term goal is to provide data on the State's water resources to local, state, and federal government agencies to ensure management decisions are based on scientifically sound accurate data.

Central to our goal is the enhancement of economic diversification and growth of the Alaskan economy, the protection of the health and security of its citizens, and the conservation of the environment for future generations.

Hydrologic Repositories

Alaska Well Log Tracking System (WELTS)

The Alaska Well Log Tracking System (WELTS) is the state repository for water well logs. WELTS serves as a dual-purpose online water well log reporting system/database. This system allows water well drillers to submit water well logs online and permits the public to download data entered into WELTS. Alaska Statute 41.08.020(b)(4) and Alaska Administrative Code 11 AAC 93.140(a) requires water well contractors to file water and aquifer data obtained, including but not limited to, well location, well driller's logs, pumping tests, flow measurements, estimated elevation, and water quality determinations within 45 days of well completion. WELTS may be accessed online at: https://dnr.alaska.gov/welts/

Alaska Water Use Data System (AKWUDS)

The Alaska Water Use Data System (AKWUDS) serves as a dual-purpose online water use reporting system/database. This system allows water right/authorization holders to submit monthly water use data online and permits the public to download data entered into AKWUDS. AKWUDS may be accessed online at: https://dnr.alaska.gov/akwuds/

Alaska Groundwater Database

The Alaska Groundwater Database provides depths to groundwater from measuring points collected by local, state, and federal cooperative partners. The groundwater database may be accessed online at https://dnr.alaska.gov/groundwater/ or at the National Groundwater Monitoring Network https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/.

Alaska Streams Database

The Alaska Streams database provides a compilation of discrete discharge measurements conducted by Division of Mining, Land and Water personnel. The streams database may be accessed online at: http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/water/data/streams/

**NOTE – link above for streams is not secure, check with IT to update before finalizing.

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Recipients of these Data

AHS receives requests for hydrologic data or information from several sources including, but not limited to:

- Other state agencies, local governments, and federal agencies, which use these data to fulfill their mandated duties regarding management of local resources, planning, and permitting.
- Industry, which uses these data to support hydrologic analysis to support various projects and/or permitting applications.
- Members of the public, which request information on various types of water related issues, summarized by type and percentage in Figure 1:

Requests for Information Received 2012-2016 **Gravel Pits** Water Quality 2% 3% Water Use Streams **Aquifer Pump Tests** 5% 1% Lakes Groundwater 10% Springs 1% Other Wells 14%

Figure 1. Pie chart showing the type and percentage of requests for information received by AHS during 2012 through 2016.

Additional services available through the Alaska Hydrologic Survey

AHS is comprised of a team of professional hydrologists consisting of expertise in groundwater, surface water and hydrogeochemistry. Our core value is to provide scientifically defensible analyses of hydrologic data. We provided technical assistance to local governments, other state agencies, federal agencies, industry and individuals that have a need for hydrologic data or analyses. Through cooperative agreements AHS will establish research projects, as warranted, to collect and analyze hydrologic data.

Where may I request more information from the AHS?

Alaska Hydrologic Survey 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1020 Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: (907) 269-8646

Email: dnr.water.reports@alaska.gov

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