Sustainable Yield Estimator in Massachusetts Water Management



Linda Marler Hutchins, Hydrologist MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

> MN Ground Water Association May 4, 2011

Summary

- Massachusetts Hydrogeology
- Massachusetts Water Management Act (WMA)
- "Safe Yield" and "Streamflow Criteria"
- Sustainable Yield Estimator (SYE)
- Massachusetts Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI)

Minnesota and Massachusetts





Minnesota:

Land of 10,000 Lakes (The Gopher State)

Area: 86,939 Sq Mi

Population: 5.3 Million





Massachusetts:

The Bay State (Taxachusetts)

Area: 10,555 Sq Mi

Population: 6.5 Million



Minnesota Geology





Massachusetts Aquifers



Massachusetts Bedrock





MWRA Regional Water Supply to Boston Metro Area





2.2 million people served 215 MGD Average





Typical New England Flow Pattern Water Year October-September





Massachusetts Annual Rainfall Pattern



MA Seasonal Streamflow Pattern

Summer Low-Flow Season

- High Evapotranspiration
- ET > Precipitation
- Streams rely on ground water recharge for "base flow"





Water demand is highest when streamflow is the lowest....

1987 MA Water Management Act Department of Environmental Protection

- Existing water withdrawals >100,000 gallons per day Registered their 1981 to 1985 use
- New or increased withdrawals subject to Permits
- Permits are subject to:
 - Major Basin Safe Yield Limits
 - Environmental Review
 - Water Conservation Standards
 - 65 rgpcd
 - 10% Unaccounted-for Water (UAW)





Massachusetts Major River Basins



Water Management Act manages water withdrawals in Major Basins Limits total permitted withdrawal to a "Safe Yield" for each Major Basin

WMA "Safe Yield"

"the maximum dependable withdrawals that can be made continuously from a water source including ground or surface water during a period of years in which the probable driest period or period of greatest water deficiency is likely to occur; provided, however, that such dependability is relative and is a function of storage and drought probability."



2009 DEP Issues Safe Yield Values for 27 Major Basins



DEP Safe Yield Clarification November 3, 2009

"MassDEP clarifies and explains that its interpretation of the term safe yield under the Water Management Act includes environmental protection factors, including ecological health of river systems, as well as hydrologic factors." Massachusetts Sustainable Water Management Initiative 2009-2010-2011....



Technical Subcommittee
Advisory Subcommittee
Agency Technical Staff Meetings
Steering Committee
Implementation Tools Committee
Facilitated Meetings
Stakeholders

Streamflow Stands Criteria

Envisioned to protect streamflow at smaller geographic and time scale than Safe Yield







NO GRANDFATHERING! Will apply to all Water Management Act Permits

MA Interagency Research

The Official Website of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Energy and Environmental Affairs



MassWildlife

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Wayne F. MacCallum, Director



site map

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

RIVERWAYS PROGRAM

Building Partnerships, Protecting Rivers



department of Conservation and Recreation



USGS StreamStats





■USCS Massachusetts StreamStats

Streamstats Ungaged Site Report

Date: Mon May 2 2011 09:10:45 Mountain Daylight Time Site Location: Massachusetts NAD27 Lattuke: 42.6068 (42 36 25) NAD25 Lattuke: 42.6068 (42 36 25) NAD83 Lattuke: 42.6069 (42 66 25) NAD83 Longitude: 72.0423 (72 04 57) ReachCode: 01806020200016 Messure: 19-55 Drainage Area: 45-3 mi2

Low Flows Basin Characteristics 100% Statewide Low Flow (45.3 mi2)									
	Value	Regression Equation Valid Range							
Parameter		Min	Max						
Drainage Area (square miles)	45.3	1.61	145						
Mean Basin Slope from 250K DEM (percent)	2.62	0.32	24.6						
Stratified Drift per Stream Length (square mile per mile)	0.15	0	1.25						
Massachusetts Region (dimensionless)	1	0	1						

Probability of Perennial Flow Basin Characteristics										
100% Perennial Flow Probability (45.3 mi2)										
Parameter	Value	Regression Equation Valid Range								
		Min	Max							
Drainage Area (square miles)	45.3 (above max value 1.99)	0.01	1.9							
Percent Underlain By Sand And Gravel (percent)	27.76	q	10							
Percent Forest (percent)	54.54	0	10							
Massachusetts Region (dimensionless)	1	Q								

Warning: Some parameters are outside the suggested range. Estimates will be extrapolations with unknown errors.



D50 to D99 Statistics

The equation for estimating the probability of perennial flow is applicable for most areas of Massachusetts except eastern Buzzards Bay, Cape Cod, and the Island regions. The estimate obtained from the equation sciences natural flow conditions at the site. The equation also is best used for sites with drainage areas between 0.01 to 1.99 mi2, as errors beyond the campoint beyond they advisor are unknown.



2007 USGS Characteristics and Classification of Least-Altered Streamflows in Southern New England

Propared in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation; the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, Riverways Program; and the Division of Fisherias and Wildlife

Characteristics and Classification of Least Altered Streamflows in Massachusetts



Scientific Investigations Report 2007-5291

01333000 Green River at Williamstown, MA 1960 to 2004





2008 MA Index Streamflows Adopted by WRC as → "Reference" flows

2009: USGS/DEP Sustainable Yield Estimator Application





Estimating the natural-flow regime



The 66-index gage data were used for estimating the natural-flow regime at the daily time-scale.



Data Sources for SYE and MWI USGS/DCR/DFG MA Index Gages DEP Data Bases Water Withdrawal data Water Return (discharge) data MAGIS (impervious cover) DCR Office of Dam Safety Data Base ACOE National Inventory of Dams DEP/EPA 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

SΥE

MWI

SYE Limitations

- Cannot estimate impacts of surface water reservoir withdrawals
 - Would require detailed information about reservoir/dam physical parameters and operation
- Assumes instantaneous ground water withdrawal/surface water impact

StreamDeplete Estimates Well Pumping Impacts on Streamflow





STRMDEPL is an analytical solution to calculate time-varying streamflow depletion due to a pumping well

To calculate streamflow depletion, the equations require:

- 1. The perpendicular distance from the well to the stream (d)
- 2. The ratio of the aquifer's specific yield (S) to the aquifer's transmissivity (T)

Source: Zarriello, P.J. and Barlow, P.M. (2000)

Site shown: Wenham well, DEP No 3119-000-05G & 3119000-06G 300 & 720 feet from stream, respectively

Application Demonstration: Specify instream-flow targets



Menu of instream-flow targets



Custom-defined instream-flow targets



Application Demonstration: Specify instream-flow targets





Adjust	instream-flow	v targets?
--------	---------------	------------

ES

NO

Application Demonstration: Specify point withdrawals and discharges



Run simulation with existing withdrawals and returns?

YES

0



Add Basin Withdrawal/Return



Application Demonstration: Estimate regulated streamflow



Adjust instream-flow targets, point withdrawals, and/or return flows?

YES

N



Results

Results are summarized for the user in a printable 2-page form

21	Microsoft Excel - test_122809.xls										
1	Bile Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help Adobe PDF										
	📴 🖬 👌 🖪 💁 🗳 👯	1 % 🗅 🖻	- 🏈 🔊 -	(* + 🛃 Σ		🛄 🛷 78% 🔹 🕜 📻 Arial 🔹 9 🔹 B 🖌 🖳 🚍					
	8 2 2 2 5 5	日期的	₩ Reply with	Changes End	Review 🖕	🕨 🧕 Security 👌 🔆 🕍 🧭 🥊 1 🕫 🥫 🚼 🗛 abl 🛄 💷 🗹 💿 🖽 📆 📑					
	B2 ★ fx										
	A	В	С	D	E	FGHIJKLMN					
1	Massachusetts Sustainable Yield	Estimator (MA	SYE)			EXPLANATION					
2	Summary Report by:		Date:	1/12/10 Exp	port results to a	Unimpacted streamflow					
3	Click point (State Plane meters):	v = 254515.000041	u - 936664 999982	se	perate Excel file	Impacted streamflow					
5	Town:	1 - 201010.000011	, y = 00000 1.000002								
6	DEP Major Watershed:				User can edit cells						
7	Project Name:	test_122809			highlighted yellow.						
8	Description:	testing for release	to Kari on 12/28/09								
9	Selected period of unimpacted flow:	1961 (0 2004									
11	Water-use tupes:	Count:		Septic-system retu	Irn flow:						
12	PWS sources included	17		Value	0						
10	WMA sources (non-PWS) included	10		Units	mgd						
14	NPDES included	12		Charles (law barant							
10	Total water-use points included	9,14		Streamnow target:							
17	r oka water-use points included	3714									
18	Index-gage site name:	01100700 East Me	adow River near Ha	averhill, MA							
19	Correlation coefficient:	0.95				Figure 1. Flow-duration curves in cubic feet Figure 2. Flow-duration curves in cubic feet per second per mile					
20	Denie ale se atasiatia -	la dan ar%	11	11-3	Percent	per second per nine.					
22	Drainage area	Index-gage site	Ungaged site 150.04	Unit miles squared	difference 197.40						
23	Mean basin elevation	128.86	98.92	feet	26.29						
24	Average annual precipitation	46.69	47.21	inches	1.11	3000					
25	Upen water Maximum monthly tomporature	0.11	2.50	percent of basin degrees Colsing	183.11	<u> </u>					
27	Vetlands	13.08	19.62	percent of basin	40.00						
28	Sand and gravel deposits	46.44	46.65	percent of basin	0.46						
29											
30	Streamflow statistics at the ungaged site	SUSTAMABLE THE	2D = NATORAL (UNII	MRACTED/FLOIR - 7	ARGET FLOTIN Sustainable						
32	in cubic feet per second (cfs):	streamflow	target	streamflow	yield						
33	Nedian average monthly streamflow										
34	JAN	239.88	23.99	239.55	215.89						
35	MAB	525.50	52.55	267.43	472.95						
37	APB	579.58	57.96	579.18	521.62	5 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2					
38	MAY	327.63	32.76	327.25	294.87	Firm 2 Understalle sublic for the second					
39 40		71.20	7 12	70.88	64.08	Figure 3. Hydrographs in cubic reet per second.					
41	AUG	51.65	5.17	51.35	46.49						
42	SEP	48.17	4.82	47.86	43.35	25					
43		78.83	7.88	78.52	70.94						
45	DEC	238.01	23.80	237.70	214.21	20					
46	Other streamflow statistics	200.01	20.00								
47	August median	38.41	3.84	38.10	34.57						
48	(-day minimum Flow statistics based on water waars	20.74	2.07	20.43	18.67						
50	Comments:										
51											
52											
54	For more information on the methods use	ed in the Sustainabl	le-Yield Estimator a	pplication. please <	ee:	KANARA KANARANYA MALANYA NA AKANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANARANYA KANAR					
55	Archfield, S.A., Vogel, R.M., Steeves, P.A.	, Brandt, S.L., Weis	kel, P.W., and Garab	edian, S.P., 2009,							
56	The Massachusetts Sustainable-Yield Est	timator: A decision	-support system to	estimate continuo	us daily						
57	streamflow at ungaged sites in Massachu Report 2009-5227 - Quesilable at http://	isetts: U.S. Geologi	cal Survey Scientifi	c-Investigations							
59	Contact:										
CO	Stacey Archfield, Research Hydrologist	sarch@usgs.gov				Figure 4. Hydrographs in cubic feet per second per mile.					
61	USGS Massachusetts-Rhode Island Wate	er Science Center, I	Northborough, MA								
63											
64											
65											
66 4 4	N / IndexGageSelection	/ Continuou	FlowDuration	/ Continue	usDailyElow	Water Ise Doints / Compute Sustainable Vield Deport / Elowe Eer Custainable Vield					
Dre											
	M Multiples . / ·		-an c ^{os} 🚳 🖄	· · · · · · · · ·		$\leftrightarrow = \blacksquare$					
Read	dy										

SYE Application for Safe Yield

Basin Yield Annual Drought Volume Calculated from SYE Statistics using Monthly 90th percentile low flows

Millers													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
Q98	0.24	0.34	0.56	0.92	0.44	0.21	0.14	0.09	0.08	0.16	0.22	0.27	0.31
Q95	0.34	0.43	0.74	1.05	0.54	0.25	0.16	0.14	0.12	0.20	0.26	0.40	0.38
Q90	0.44	0.57	0.91	1.28	0.70	0.30	0.20	0.15	0.15	0.23	0.34	0.48	0.48
Q80	0.62	0.72	1.16	1.72	0.98	0.40	0.25	0.20	0.21	0.31	0.51	0.63	0.64
Q75	0.70	0.80	1.32	1.93	1.11	0.46	0.26	0.22	0.22	0.34	0.58	0.73	0.72
Q50 (Medians of Daily Means)	1.11	1.23	2.24	2.95	1.63	0.84	0.39	0.33	0.33	0.53	1.11	1.29	1.16
Median of Monthly Means, cfsm	1.54	1.49	2.94	4.11	2.06	1.02	0.56	0.40	0.46	0.66	1.31	1.54	1.50

Monthly values are time-weighted and "rolled up" into an average annual value *

= ((Jan x 31 days) + (Feb x 28 days) + (Mar x 31 days) + (Apr x 30 days) + (May x 31 days) + (Jun x 30 days) + (Jul x 31 days) + (Aug x 31 days) + (Sep x 30 days) + (Oct x 31 days) + (Nov x 30 days) + (Dec x 31 days))/365 days

Precip Records: 1965 was generally the dryest year in MA that we also have Streamflow Record



	State Ann.			Exceedance	Recurrence
Year	Precip In.	%normal	Rank	Probability %	Interval (yrs)
1883	30.54	68	1	99.4	173.0
1957	31.28	70	2	98.8	86.5
1965	31.70	71	3	98.3	57.7
1910	33.97	76	4	97.7	43.3
1966	34.26	77	5	97.1	34.6
1995	34.46	77	6	96.5	28.8
1911	34.73	78	7	95.9	24.7
1930	34.74	78	8	95.3	21.6
1925	34.82	78	9	94.8	19.2
1864	34.86	78	10	94.2	17.3

Monthly Q90 Rollup: A synthesized low-flow year. How does it compare to real years? What is the recurrence interval?

We compared all the SYE Simulated Years

	Monthly Median of Daily Mean Flows, cfsm												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
1961	0.88	0.88	3.52	6.13	2.52	1.04	0.53	0.31	0.41	0.45	0.89	0.95	1.54
1962	1.76	0.95	2.02	4.58	1.88	0.65	0.24	0.28	0.17	0.99	2.73	2.11	1.53
1963	1.70	1.16	2.59	2.24	1.60	0.79	0.20	0.10	0.06	0.06	1.33	1.62	1.11
1964	1.29	1.72	2.98	2.66	1.60	0.52	0.46	0.06	0.04	0.12	0.15	0.39	1.00
1965	0.44	1.12	1.52	1.72	0.93	0.45	0.12	0.14	0.15	0.21	0.28	0.27	0.61
1966	0.33	1.17	2.72	1.23	1.00	0.46	0.12	0.10	0.17	0.26	0.73	0.61	0.74
1967	0.81	0.68	1.83	3.90	2.97	1.38	0.61	0.30	0.21	0.25	0.66	1.15	1.23
1968	1.34	1.25	2.97	1.66	1.07	1.80	0.67	0.20	0.12	0.35	1.44	1.63	1.21
1969	1.31	1.56	2.22	3.89	1.52	0.57	0.22	0.24	0.21	0.28	2.33	2.71	1.42
1970	1.58	2.39	1.60	2.70	1.70	0.93	0.57	0.14	0.15	0.30	1.29	1.02	1.19
1971	0.78	1.82	3.54	3.29	2.57	0.99	0.33	0.10	0.14	0.24	0.41	1.66	1.32
1972	1.25	1.53	4.20	3.70	2.57	3.31	1.96	0.33	0.55	0.62	2.38	2.56	2.08
1973	2.44	2.15	3.28	4.78	3.17	1.09	0.84	0.26	0.13	0.14	0.65	1.96	1.74
A 2000 A	A	A 1974	ALC: 100 KB	ALC: 100 ALC	A	ALC: 12 ALC: 1	25 - 25 CT	25 - 25 C	0.000	200 - 200 - 201 -	at	201 - 201 -	at 2.00

Monthly Q90 Rollup: A synthesized low-flow year. How does it compare to real years?



2009 Indicators of Streamflow Alteration, Habitat Fragmentation, Impervious Cover and Water Quality for Massachusetts stream basins



Two static sets of subbasins analyzed by SYE in "batch" mode



From USGS and MassGIS data s Coordinate System, Mainland Zone EXPLANATION Potential alteration of median August streamflow, in percent -100 to -40 Greater than -40 to -30 Depleted streamflow Greater than -30 to -20 eater than -20 to -10 Greater than -10 to 10 Unimpacted streamflow Greater than 10 to 20 Greater than 20 to 30 Surcharged streamflow Greater than 30 to 40 Greater than 40 Major basins Mainstem subbasins and other areas not analyzed at the HUC-12 scale.

1,429 small subbasins

183 HUC-12's (Hydrologic Unit Code)

Subbasin delineation and "nested" results

Results here incorporate all the effects from upstream

Nashua River HUC 01070004

80 small subbasins



12 HUC-12s

MWI Enhancements to SYE

- Estimated effects of private well withdrawals and septic system returns
- Applied a seasonal withdrawal curve to annual withdrawal values
- Used ground water models for areas of Cape Cod and Plymouth Carver Aquifer with fresh water river discharges



Hydrology--Quantity Flow Alteration Indicators

USGS I/U Percent Alteration

- Median Jan, Apr, Aug, Oct Flow
- 7-Day Minimum Flow
- Low Pulse Duration, Count
- Annual Relative Net Water Demand
- Storage Ratio
- Water Use Intensity

Cover bioperiods,

Biologically significant stats

No reservoir SW Withdrawals inc.

Include reservoir SW Withdrawals

Include non-WS reservoirs

Monthly Flow Alterations- without surface water withdrawals









Habitat Fragmentation Indicator



2008 Pilot Study of 3 Basins Fish community response to flow alteration, land use, and water quality

2009-2011: Statewide "Fish and Flow Study"

Fish Community Response to Flow Alterations, Land Use, Impoundments, and Water Quality in Massachusetts

Figure 5. Richness estimates for fluvial specialist (A) and habitat generalist (B) fishes plotted in relation to withdrawal index at intake and reservoir sites, data for all years.

2010 Accelerated Fish and Habitat Study

The Preliminary Fish and Flow Study showed that flow depletion and surcharging are associated with <u>decreases</u> in the abundance and diversity of river fish.

Impervious Cover: The other smoking gun!

The Biological Condition Gradient – Concept

Natural structure & function of biotic community maintained

Minimal changes in structure & function

Evident changes in structure and minimal changes in function

Moderate changes in structure & minimal changes in function

Major changes in structure & moderate changes in function

Severe changes in structure & function

Increasing Effect of Human Activity

"Fish & Habitat" Response Curves → River Categorization

Fluvial Relative Abundance

Biological Categories

Curve based on basin characteristics for a specific % Percent Impervious cover

Fluvial Relative Abundance

Fish Community Response

Streamflow Levels

Incorporate Streamflow Criteria into an Allocation scheme using Predictable Permitting Decisions

Statewide Fish & Flow Study Results

ALLOCATION

Seasonal Streamflow Criteria Set thresholds and limits

MA Water Indicator Results

Allocation/Classification Scheme

Guidelines for Protection/ Mitigation

Implement through

WMA Permits + Other Programs?

Streamflow Criteria Water Management Act Permits

WMA		FLOW LEVEL TO	BIOLOGICAL			Water Supply Related Mitigation P	Physical Instream Habitat	Water Quality/Muncipality
PERMIT REVIEW TIERS	WMA REVIEW THRESHOLDS	WHICH REVIEW TIER MAY APPLY	CATEGORY 1 OR COLD WATER FISHERIES RESOURCE (CFR)	MITIGATION		Total ban on non-essential Seasonal Water use	Down stream releases for surface water withdrawals (systems releasing water downstream may operate based	Impletment Stormwater Utility
Tier 1	No additional withdrawal request above baseline	August flow levels 1 through 5	If present, then do a Desktop Pumping Evaluation (DPE)	Conditions 1-8*		Alicente June 15 00000	on a DEP approved reservoir management plan. Such a plan would allow the PWS to implement water use restrictions based on their plan, not DEP's.)*	,
Tier 2	Withdrawal request is for: 1) withdrawal volume equal to or less than 5%** estimated unaffected Aug median flow and; 2) will not result in flow level change; and 3) will not result in biological category change	August flow levels 1, 2 and 3	If present, then consult with agencies (DEP, DFG, DCR) to establish mitigation options, including DPE	Conditions 1-8 * Immediately evaluate additional mitigation options Implement mitigation after first exceedence of baseline		Always below 55 KBPCD PWS above 65 rgpcd: 1 day/week calendar & 0 day/week streamflow trigger Water B Bylaw ret ting automatic ration systems	Connectivity Improvement a. vil fish ladder b. Replace/Resize Identified Culverts c. Dam Removal All pending DFG approval	Waterwater Reuse/Return MS4 requirements for muncipality not subject to requirements MS4 requirements town-wide where not required town-wide Water Qualtiy and recharge rules that exceed MS4 rules Require LID in stormwater
Tier 3***	Withdrawal request is for: 1) greater than 5% of estimated unaffected August flow or; 2) would result in a change in flow level (up to flow level 3); or 3) would result in a change in biological category	August flow levels 1, 2 and 3	If pres consult with gencies (DEP, DFG R) to establish m tion options, inclus DPE	Conditions 1 altern s analy must d nstrate no ble altern e**** Sult with gencies to evaluate	K	Printing of the second	*All Tier 2 & Tier 3 PWS with SW sources will be required to evaluate downstream releases as part of the consultation sessions.	Bylaw Land acquisition/CR a. stream corridor; b. ecosystem
	any additional withdrawal	August flow levels 4		Implement		& 1 day/week streamflow trigger		I/I Reduction Plan
	request	and 5		mitigation options		to increase conservation (RGPCD)		Mitigation Fund
						Monthly or quarterly billing (RGPCD & UAW)	252	
**For the purp	poses of this document, 5% was select	ed to distinguish large w	vithdrawal requests from s	maller withdrawal		Enterprise account Stretch Code for Water efficiency (low flow devices	KED	1
*** Could resi	ult in backsliding	mail requests can cause	e impacts and result in a tie	er biteview.		Industrial/Commercial Audits etc)	BLUE	

****Water Metrics maps may be considered here (need to determine how)

Tiered Permit Reviews Based on Flow Levels Biological Categories and CWF Mitigation Menu Based on Tier With agency consultation