

11 GROUND-WATER LOCAL TRANSLATION PROGRAM

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The Ground-Water Local Translation (ltrans) program is an interactive program to translate a local number into agency code and site identification (Site ID) number.

11.1 Introduction

In many instances, personnel at a site are more familiar with their station name or local identifier (C12 or SNAME) for a site than the station identification number. The translation process uses the NWIS Sitefile to either look for a certain local number, or match a standard UNIX wildcard template. In both cases, when there is more than one site that matches, all of the duplicates are translated. Input and output files are user-specified for maximum flexibility. There is an option to temporarily disable translated output so that translations (particularly when using wildcards) can be tested without generating a lot of undesired output. There is also an option to enter an agency code and station identification number, or just a station identification number using the current default agency code (initially "USGS").

11.2 Program Operation

Execute the ltrans program by selecting the Utilities Menu (Option 91) from the GWSI Main Menu, which takes you to the Utilities Menu. Select Option 1.

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*****
* Utilities Menu for WRD GWSI Database # 01 -- NWIS-4_4_0-20040329
*****
Code  Program Description
----  -
  1 : Translate Station Name Into Agency and Site ID
  2 : Inventory Station in Site, GW and QW Files
  3 : Query Support Files
  4 : Data Dictionary List
  5 : List Site Records

10 : Change GW/QW Database #

92 : Database Checking Menu          93 : GW Check List Menu

98 : Exit to Previous Menu           99 : Exit to UNIX

Enter UNIX Command or Select Program Code:

```

After selecting Option 1, the program identifies itself and begins prompting for input and output files and configuration options. Then each local number entered is translated (if

possible) to the equivalent agency code and station identification number. This is best explained by an example run of the program as shown below.

EXAMPLE RUN

Program ltrans revision NWIS_[vers.no.+yyyymmdd].
This program translates local ID into agency and station ID using the Sitefile. Local ID input is upper and lowercase sensitive.

For local ID's to translate,
enter input file (terminal=*)? *
Unless otherwise stated, default end-of-file from keyboard is "control-c".

For agency and station id's,
enter output file (terminal=*)? *
Include local ID in output file (y;n) [?]? ?

If **no**, each line in the output file will contain the agency code and station ID. Some application programs accept this format for input. If **yes**, each output line will contain the agency code, station ID, and local ID. This may not be compatible for input to application programs, but allows the creation of cross reference lists.

Include local id in output file (y;n) [?]? Y
Enable wildcards (y;n) [?]? ?

If **no**, the standard UNIX wildcard characters have no special meaning. If **yes**, when at least one wildcard character is encountered in a local ID, a full sitefile retrieval pass may be made(very slow), and all sites whose local ID/station name match the wildcard are output. Embedded blanks are significant, but trailing blanks are not. Avoid using a wildcard character in column 1 (except ^ that must be in column 1). This produces the most time-consuming retrieval.

Enable wildcards (y;n) [?]? yY

Writing to the disk output file can be toggled on and off by entering a ~ in column 1 for the local ID/station name. Output is initially enabled. This allows you to practice a retrieval without generating undesired output.

You can retrieve by agency code ("USGS" is the initial default) and station name by entering the desired information preceded by a ~. Order and spacing are important if an agency code is entered.

Enter local ID: k 30
(k 30) translates to
(Kk 30)Is the Kk correct?
USGS 404149073571201 K 30
Enter local ID: ~
Output to disk file is disabled.
Enter local ID: k 30@.@

(K 30@.@) has selected
(K 30 . 2)
USGS 404147073571408 K 30 . 2

(k 30@.@) has selected
(k 30 . 2)

```
USGS 404147073571401 k 30 . 2
2 sites matched.
Output to disk file is disabled.

Enter local ID: ~
Output to disk file is enabled.
enter local ID: ~404147073571401

(USGS 404147073571401) translates to
(K 30 . 2 )
USGS 404147073571401 K 30 . 2
ENTER LOCAL ID: ~USGS 404147073571408

(USGS 404147073571408) translates to
(K 30 . 2 )
USGS 404147073571408 K 30 . 2
Enter local ID: (Control-C was pressed here)
Total elapsed wall time is: 0 HR 1 MI 50.31515 SEC
Total elapsed cpu time is: 0 HR 0 MI 1.87494 SEC
**** Stop
```