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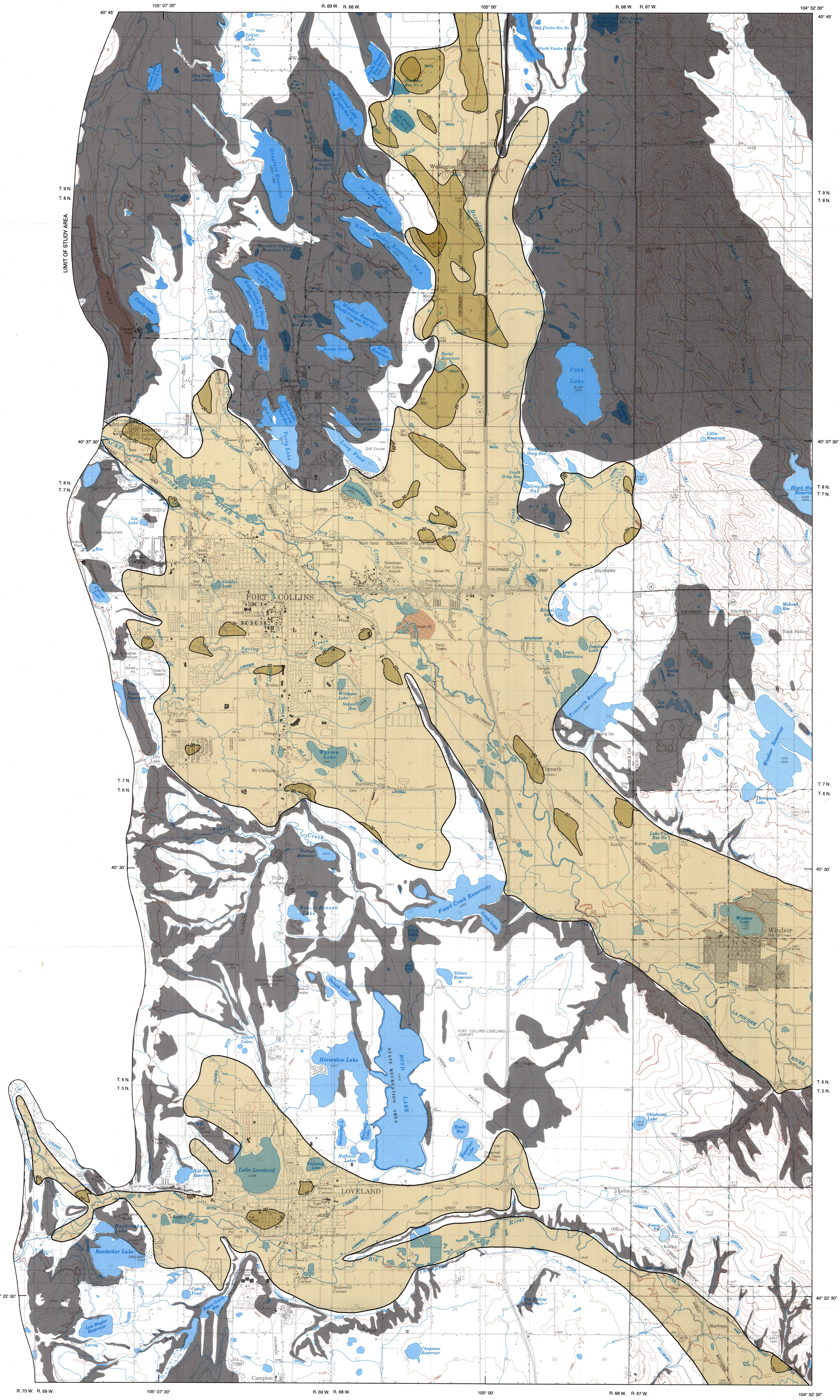
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Prepared in cooperation with the
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, and the
COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



EXPLANATION

- Bedrock outcrop
- Depth to water table, in feet below land surface
  - Less than 20
  - 20 to 40
  - 40 to 60
- Limit of well-defined, 20-foot-interval water-table contours

FIGURE 9—Depth to the water table in the shallow aquifers.

Depth to the Water Table

The map of the depth to the water table (fig. 9) was calculated by using the geographic information system to subtract the water-table altitude coverage from the smoothed land-surface altitude coverage. The resulting coverage of the depth to the water table was plotted only for the area having well-defined, 20-foot-interval water-table contours. Beyond this area, the shallow aquifers may be thin, discontinuous, or transient, and the water table may be in the bedrock during much of the year. If shallow aquifers are present in this area, the water table generally will be near the top of the bedrock, and the depth to water will be similar to the thickness of the unconsolidated sediments (fig. 3).

Depth to the water table in the study area ranges from zero to about 50 feet. Along the principal valleys, such as those of the Big Thompson and Cache La Poudre Rivers, depth to water generally is less than 20 feet. In Fort Collins, depth to water generally is less than 20 feet. In the area between Black Hollow Junction and Wellington, depth to water generally is 10 to 30 feet but exceeds 40 feet in some areas.

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CONVERSION FACTORS AND VERTICAL DATUM

Multiply	By	To obtain
foot	0.3048	meter
mile	1.609	kilometer
square mile	2.59	square kilometer

Sea level: In this report, "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 both the United States and Canada, formerly called "Mean Sea Level."

Base from U.S. Geological Survey
1:50,000 Larimer and Weld Counties

SCALE 1:50,000
1 1/2 0 1 2 3 4 MILES
1 .5 0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETERS

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—2001

29% TOTAL RECOVERED FIBER

GEOHYDROLOGY OF THE SHALLOW AQUIFERS IN THE FORT COLLINS–LOVELAND AREA, COLORADO

By
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2000