

## 5.12 Tip Sheet: How do I retrieve records for use in other QWDATA programs?

Programs used to view data in the QWDATA database (data review, data output and graphics programs) either require or will accept a file of record numbers. Additional information about record numbers can be found in [Section 2.1.5](#). This tip sheet describes how to create a file of record numbers from a single database. Site or record retrieval from multiple databases can be done using similar steps; the user is prompted for the information for each database specified. [Section 3.4.2](#) provides details about retrieving data from multiple databases.

- ❖ Selecting sites or samples from a single database may be accomplished from two options in the QWDATA main menu: option 3 – *Data Review* or option 4 – *Data Output*. From either of those menus, choose option 1 – *Select Sites or Samples*.
- ❖ Three options are available for retrieving water-quality records from specific sites and one option is for retrieving water-quality information for any sites. See [Section 3.3.1.1](#) for detailed information.

**qwsiterec -- locate record numbers for use by QW application programs  
QW database(s): 01**

**You may locate records for specific sites.**

**If you wish to locate records for specific sites the options are:**

- 1 -- You have a file containing site numbers**
- 2 -- You will enter site numbers at terminal**
- 3 -- You wish to locate sites based upon selection criteria**

**If you don't care which sites the option is:**

- 4 -- Locate QW records without regard to site**

**Please enter option (1-4,Q to quit):**

- ❖ If sites are retrieved, the option is given to sort the sites after retrieval. The retrieved sites may be sorted on a variety of fields that will be displayed by the program.
- ❖ If the retrieved sites will be used in the future, save them to a file.
- ❖ Regardless of the option chosen, you will be given the opportunity to refine the water-quality records retrieved using the following menu:

**Locate QW records**

**Enter an X to choose an item for limiting retrieval,  
Enter a # to remove an item.**

**(1) DATE: (2) ANALYSIS-LEVEL CODES: \_ (3) PROJECT ID: \_  
(4) GEOLOGIC UNIT: \_ (5) PROCESSING STATUS: \_  
(6) PARAMETER VALUES AND CODES: \_**

- ❖ See [Section 3.3.1.2](#) for detailed information about the menu shown above.
- ❖ After the retrieval criteria have been set you will be given the option to include proprietary and (or) local use data.
- ❖ You will be given another opportunity to save sites that contain the requested water-quality information to a file. This group of sites may be a subset of the sites retrieved using option 1 or 2 in the first menu shown above.
- ❖ The records retrieved can be sorted on a variety of fields (See [Section 3.3.1.2](#) for more detailed information):

**qwsiterec -- Total number QW records located: 12227**

**Do you wish to sort the located QW records (Y/N)? Y**

**You may sort on any combination of the following fields:**

<b>A -- Agency code</b>	<b>F -- Geologic unit code</b>
<b>B -- Station number</b>	<b>G -- Processing status</b>
<b>C -- Dates and times</b>	<b>H -- County code</b>
<b>D -- Medium code</b>	<b>I -- Station name</b>
<b>E -- Project ID</b>	<b>J -- Station type</b>

**The first field will be the primary sort**

**the next will be the secondary sort 1, ...**

**Please enter the sort codes on one line with no embedded spaces**

**Enter sort code(s):**

- ❖ Provide a file name for the file to hold the water-quality records.
- ❖ The resulting file of record numbers can be used in QWDATA programs that accept files of record numbers. Use clear, descriptive filenames if these record numbers will be used again.