

Scientific Investigations Report 2019–5128

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

Cover: Aerial view, looking southwest, of tidal Anacostia River, Washington, D.C. Photograph by Daniel Macy, April 5, 2009.

By Scott W. Ator, Judith M. Denver, and Cheryl A. Dieter

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U.S. Department of the Interior

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U.S. Geological Survey

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U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia: 2020

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Suggested citation:

Ator, S.W., Denver, J.M., and Dieter, C.A., 2020, Hydrogeology and shallow groundwater quality in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2019-5128, 93 p., [https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195128.](https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195128)

Acknowledgments

This work was conducted in cooperation with the District Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE), Water Quality Division. The authors thank Diane Douglas and other staff at DOEE for their support of the study. The authors would also like to thank the National Park Service and the Washington, D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation for their cooperation and permission to install wells and monitor groundwater for this study. The authors thank David Drummond of the Maryland Geological Survey, Irene Abbene (USGS), and Jeff Raffensperger (USGS) for thoughtful and helpful technical comments. Finally, the authors thank Kenneth Warren (USGS), Tim Auer (formerly of USGS), and Kimberly Engelking (USGS) for work on illustrations, tables, and report layout, and Valerie Gaine (USGS) for editorial review and assistance with publication of this report.

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Conversion Factors and Datums

Temperature in degrees Celsius (°C) may be converted to degrees Fahrenheit (°F) as follows:

$$
^{\circ}F = (1.8 \times ^{\circ}C) + 32
$$

Vertical coordinate information is referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88).

Horizontal coordinate information is referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

Altitude, as used in this report, refers to distance above the vertical datum.

*Transmissivity: The standard unit for transmissivity is cubic foot per day per square foot times foot of aquifer thickness ([ft3/d]/ft2)ft. In this report, the mathematically reduced form, foot squared per day (ft²/d), is used for convenience.

Specific conductance is given in microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius (µS/cm at $25 °C$).

Concentrations of chemical constituents in water are given either in milligrams per liter (mg/L) or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

Abbreviations

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Abstract

Groundwater hydrology and geochemistry within the tidal Anacostia River watershed of Washington, D.C. are related to natural and human influences. The U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the District Department of Energy & Environment, began investigating the hydrogeology and groundwater quality of the watershed in 2002. Lithologic coring, groundwater-level and tidal monitoring, and water-quality sampling have been conducted to improve understanding of the groundwater-flow system, geochemistry, water quality, and the likely interaction between groundwater and the tidal Anacostia River. The flow and interaction of shallow groundwater with the tidal Anacostia River and other area streams are affected by diversions, pumping, land reclamation, and other human activities in this highly urbanized watershed.

The tidal Anacostia River watershed is underlain by a wedge of unconsolidated sediments that is part of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. These sediments form a system of confined and unconfined aquifers. The coarse sediments of the Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies form the Patuxent aquifer. The Patuxent aquifer crops out and subcrops in the northwestern part of the study area, but is confined to the southeast by the overlying Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies. Overlying the Potomac Group is a series of interbedded sands and clays that form an unconfined surficial aquifer system. Regional correlation in the unconfined surficial aquifer system is complicated by local heterogeneity in aquifer sediments. Local perched and semi-confined conditions occur in some areas.

Recharge of the confined Patuxent aquifer occurs primarily in the outcrop and subcrop area, although some recharge may also occur through overlying confining units.

Recharge to the unconfined surficial aquifer system occurs through infiltration of precipitation and possible artificial recharge from structures such as underground water or sewer pipes. In the Patuxent aquifer, hydraulic gradients indicate downward movement in the outcrop area, whereas hydraulic heads beneath the Anacostia River are higher than land surface, indicating an upward hydraulic gradient. In the unconfined surficial aquifer system, groundwater generally flows from upland recharge areas towards discharge areas near the Anacostia River and its tributaries. Groundwater from the confined part of the Patuxent aquifer also may discharge to the Anacostia River in locations where the overlying claydominated lithofacies of the Potomac Group is absent as a result of past geologic and (or) alluvial processes.

Geochemistry and groundwater quality are affected by hydrologic conditions as well as anthropogenic influences. Local variability in groundwater quality reflects local variability in hydrogeologic conditions and sources of chemicals. Groundwater ranges from anoxic and iron- or calcium-bicarbonate type, to oxic with elevated nitrate. The occurrence and distribution of pesticides, volatile organic compounds, and other selected chemical compounds in groundwater reflect the multitude of sources common to urban areas, as well as variable hydrogeologic and geochemical conditions that affect their fate and transport in the environment. Overall, concentrations of only a few of the over 200 chemical constituents included in laboratory analyses exceeded regulatory standards or guidance values. These include tetrachloroethene and arsenic, which were each detected one time in different wells. There were also several detections of iron and manganese that exceeded regulatory standards or guidance values that are associated with reducing conditions in aquifer sediments.

Introduction

A wide variety of chemical compounds are used for various purposes in urban areas including Washington, D.C. These chemical compounds include pesticides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), fertilizers, metals, pharmaceuticals, and deicing chemicals. Although agriculture accounts for more than 75 percent of pesticide usage in the United States, more than 200 million pounds of pesticides are used annually for industrial, commercial, government, or residential (home and garden) applications (Kiely and others, 2004). VOCs are also commonly found in urban areas; commercial, industrial, or residential products containing VOCs include cosmetics, deodorants, polishes, adhesives, cleaning products, paints, solvents, and fuels (Moran and others, 2002). The District Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE) is responsible for protecting the water resources of Washington, D.C., and understanding the occurrence or lack thereof of these compounds is essential to the management of these resources.

Urban influences on groundwater and surface-water quality have been documented in many areas over the past several decades. Koterba and others (2010) found that in Washington, D.C., the presence of pesticides in groundwater was related to land use and hydrogeologic factors, such as depth of a well, the permeability of subsurface sediment, and the chemistry of groundwater. Similarly, a survey of urban areas across the United States during 1992 to 2001 found that pesticides were detected at relatively low levels (rarely greater than 0.1 microgram per liter $(\mu g/L)$ in more than 90 percent of stream samples and more than 50 percent of groundwater samples (Gilliom and others, 2006). Urban streams and (or) groundwater commonly contain insecticides and herbicides commonly used in urban settings (such as prometon and simazine), as well as herbicides more common in agricultural areas (such as atrazine and metolachlor) (Capel and others, 1999; Reiser, 1999; Hickman, 2004; Gilliom and others, 2006). VOCs also have been detected in groundwater in urban areas (Zogorski and others, 2006), such as Long Island, New York (Eckhardt and Stackelberg, 1995) and the suburbs of Detroit, Michigan (Thomas, 2000). They are more commonly detected in urban areas than in areas with other land uses (Zogorski and others, 2006). Nitrate (Eckhardt and Stackelberg, 1995), metals (Velinsky and others, 1994), pharmaceuticals and hormonal compounds (Kolpin and others, 2002), and salt from septic discharges or highway deicing (Thomas, 2000) also have been detected in urban streams and (or) groundwater. Because many anthropogenic compounds are used for similar applications or in similar areas, they often co-occur in mixtures of multiple compounds in streams and groundwater, rather than individually (Thomas, 2000; Squillace and others, 2002; Gilliom and others, 2006). The possible health effects of these mixtures have not been

studied extensively and are largely unknown (Gilliom and others, 2006).

Groundwater provides the majority of flow in many streams, and may carry a significant load of chemical compounds to surface waters. Many anthropogenic compounds are applied directly to the land surface; others may reach the land surface or streams through atmospheric deposition, leaks, or spills. In Washington, D.C., particularly soluble and persistent compounds may become dissolved in water and carried into and through the groundwater system to discharge areas in streams, estuaries, or other receiving waters, such as the Anacostia or Potomac Rivers. The relative importance of groundwater, overland runoff, and other transport processes to particular streams is affected by hydrogeologic conditions and resulting groundwater-flow systems that develop in their watersheds. Groundwater may be particularly important in well-drained watersheds underlain by relatively permeable geologic materials, for example, but less so in areas with relatively impermeable sediments or bedrock. Groundwater contributes nutrients and pesticides to streams on the Delmarva Peninsula (Denver and others, 2004; Ator and others, 2005), including an estimated 40 percent of nitrogen loads from the Peninsula to Chesapeake Bay (Bachman and Phillips, 1996). Contributions of nutrients from groundwater have also been reported for streams in the upper Potomac River Basin (Miller and others, 1997). Groundwater flow is slow, however, and years to several decades are often required for water to move completely through a shallow aquifer from recharge areas to discharge areas (Dunkle and others, 1993; Focazio and others, 1998).

Purpose and Scope

The geology, hydrology, and groundwater quality within the heavily urbanized tidal Anacostia River watershed in Washington, D.C. are described and discussed in this report. Physical characteristics of the Coastal Plain sediments, and the occurrence, flow, and chemistry of groundwater in the area are discussed, with a particular emphasis on the uppermost surficial sediments that are most likely contributing groundwater to the Anacostia River and other local surface waters. Interpretations and conclusions are based on data collected from 2002 through 2008 as part of a cooperative study between the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the DOEE, Water-Quality Division, as well as similar information from previous studies. Hydrogeologic investigations were conducted in the watershed as a first step toward (1) evaluating the hydrologic connection between the Anacostia River and adjacent shallow groundwater, (2) assessing shallow groundwater quality and possible effects on water quality in the Anacostia River, and (3) establishing a groundwater monitoring network for the District of Columbia.

The Tidal Anacostia River Watershed

The Anacostia River is a tributary to the tidal Potomac River in central Maryland and Washington, D.C. (fig. 1). The head of tide on the Anacostia River is located upstream from the District of Columbia near Bladensburg, Maryland (Velinsky and others, 1994); the river is entirely freshwater tidal within the study area. The specific conductance of the freshwater tidal Anacostia River ranges from 300 to 500 microsiemens per centimeter $(\mu S/cm)$, and the pH ranges from 6 to 8 (District Department of the Environment, 2010). In the winter, the specific conductance occasionally increases to 1,000 to 5,000 µS/cm as a result of road salting. The approximately 26-square-mile (mi2) tidal Anacostia River watershed includes most of eastern Washington, D.C., and lies entirely within the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province (Fenneman and Johnson, 1946). The watershed is almost exclusively (greater than 80 percent) urban, including mixed residential, commercial, and industrial areas. In addition to potential sources of anthropogenic compounds, urban development over the last 200 years has brought

considerable hydrologic alteration to the watershed, including dredging of the Anacostia River, filling of tributaries and riparian areas, construction of impervious surfaces, sewers, pipelines, and tunnels, and dewatering for construction purposes (Williams, 1977; D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992).

Water quality and sediment chemistry in the Anacostia River reflect urban influences in the watershed. In addition to direct runoff over the land surface during and following precipitation, the river also receives direct discharge from numerous storm sewers and combined sewers, which contribute contaminants such as trace metals (Velinsky and others, 1994) and chlordane (Wade and others, 1994). Other potentially toxic materials that have been detected in Anacostia River sediment include polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (Behm and others, 2003). PAHs may cause tumors in brown bullheads in the river, and PCBs and chlordane have contributed to fish consumption advisories in the Anacostia River since 1987 (Behm and others, 2003).

Figure 1. Location of the tidal Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C. (modified from Tenbus, 2003, and Anderson and others, 2002).

Methods

Available information was compiled, and new data were collected to describe the hydrogeologic framework and shallow groundwater quality within the Coastal Plain sediments of the tidal Anacostia River watershed. The hydrogeologic framework of the Coastal Plain sediments in the area was inferred from previous interpretations and newly available borehole data. Groundwater flow and quality were similarly interpreted from results of previous studies and data collected during this study. Data on the occurrence, distribution, and chemistry of groundwater in the study area were collected to support an interpretation of groundwater quality and its potential impacts on the Anacostia River.

Coring and Geologic Interpretation

Geologic cores were collected and analyzed to supplement existing information on the Coastal Plain geologic framework in the study area (fig. 2, tables 1, 2, Appendix 1). Coring was primarily conducted to characterize relatively shallow sediments (within approximately 40 feet [ft] of land surface); these sediments are most relevant to the flow and quality of shallow groundwater that is most likely affected by anthropogenic chemicals and may be discharging to local surface waters. Shallow sediments are also particularly variable in texture and composition, and this information is therefore difficult to extrapolate over wide areas.

Shallow cores were collected within the tidal Anacostia River watershed study area in 2002, 2005, and 2008 (tables 1, 2). Coring was conducted at selected sites within and near the tidal Anacostia River in July 2002 (Miller and Klohe, 2003; Tenbus, 2003). Cores were collected along the river near the New York Avenue crossing (WE Bb 4 on fig. 2), at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens (WE Cb 6 on fig. 2), and in Anacostia Park (WE Ca 29 on fig. 2). Additional cores were collected in the river on a tidal flat about 1,700 ft north of Benning Road (WE Ca 30 on fig. 2), and in Beaverdam Creek, about 150 ft above its confluence with the Anacostia River (WE Cb 7 on fig. 2). Cores were collected using a vibracore drill rig mounted on a truck or (for the offshore sites) a hovercraft. Coring was conducted to refusal (typically about 30 to 40 ft below land surface), and cores were collected in 5-ft increments (Miller and Klohe, 2003; Tenbus, 2003). Additional cores were collected within the watershed at 13 locations in July and August 2005 (AC Aa 2, AC Ab 3, WE Ba 9, WE Ba 10, WE Ca 33, WE Ca 34, WE Ca 38, WE Cb 11, WE Cb 12, WE Cc 3, WE Bc 8, WW Bc 9, and WW Cc 37 on fig. 2) and at two locations (AC Aa 6 and AC Aa 7 on fig. 2) in May 2008 using a truck-mounted hollow-stem auger or Geoprobe. In cooperation with the DOEE and the D.C. Clean Rivers

Project, a borehole was extended 10 ft into competent bedrock in 2009 (AX Ac 2, table 2, Appendix 1) to determine the depth to bedrock.

Geologic cores were reviewed and analyzed to document and interpret the nature and variability of near-surface sediments in the study area, and to support interpretation of shallow groundwater flow and quality. All cores collected for this project were briefly described onsite during the drilling process, and more thoroughly described (particularly for color and grain size) later at the USGS Water Science Center in Baltimore, Maryland (Tenbus, 2003) (Appendix 1). Additional cores collected primarily along the Anacostia River in 2007 by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority were also reviewed and interpreted by USGS. Because of the variable nature of shallow sediments (land surface to approximately 40 ft below land surface) in the study area, shallow cores were used primarily to interpret local conditions, and were not correlated throughout the study area (Tenbus, 2003), but descriptions are provided in Appendix 1. Deeper cores (greater than 40 ft deep) were correlated throughout the study area. Sediment from selected cores was also analyzed for selected chemical constituents, including nutrients, metals, pesticides, PCBs, and VOCs (Miller and Klohe, 2003).

Cross-sectional data from various sources were also incorporated into the geologic interpretations. Cross sections are from various sources primarily located at existing bridge locations. Cross-sectional data from the South Capitol Street Bridge geotechnical report (Appendix 5, MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc., 2005), the 11th Street Bridge cross section, and D.C. Metro crossings were incorporated into the interpretation.

Well and Tide Gage Construction

A network of 27 shallow monitoring wells and 1 tidal gage was established to support hydrologic measurements and water-quality sampling (table 1). Ten existing wells (AC Aa 1, AX Ac 1, WE Ca 31, WE Ca 32, WE Ca 35, WE Ca 36, WE Ca 37, WE Cb 8, WE Cb 9, and WE Cb 10) were included in the monitoring network (fig. 2, table 1); these wells were installed by various other groups, but were included as part of the monitoring network on the basis of location, geologic setting, access, and available well-construction and other ancillary information. Seventeen additional wells (AC Aa 2, AC Aa 6, AC Aa 7, WE Ba 9, WE Ba 10, WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Ca 29, WE Ca 33, WE Ca 34, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, WE Cb 11, WE Cb 12, WE Cc 3, WW Bc 8, and WW Bc 9) were constructed in boreholes resulting from geologic coring to supplement information available at the 10 existing wells listed above. In addition, a tide gage (USGS station number 01651750) was constructed on the Anacostia River.

Figure 2. Location of monitoring wells, selected cores, and historical streams in the tidal Anacostia River watershed study area, Washington, D.C.

Table 1. Summary of monitoring locations and associated instrumentation in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C.

[USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; DDOE, District Department of Energy and Environment; ft bls, feet below land surface; GE, geologic or lithologic core; WL, water level; AT, aquifer test; QW, water quality; X, data are available; Co, continuous data are available; P, periodic data are available]

¹ See Appendix 1.

3 D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1993a.

² Tenbus, 2003.

4 D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1993b.

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Table 2. Summary of selected lithologic description locations in and near the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C.—Continued

[°, ′, ″, degrees, minutes, seconds; ft, feet; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; DC WASA LTCP, District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority long-term control plan project]

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Seventeen monitoring wells were constructed and developed at selected coring locations. Five of these wells (WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, and WE Ca 29) were constructed at onshore coring locations near the Anacostia River in July 2002 (Miller and Klohe, 2003; Tenbus, 2003) (fig. 2, table 1). A truck-mounted solid-stem auger was used to deepen some core holes beyond the depth attainable through vibracoring. The 12 remaining wells were installed at selected locations throughout the watershed in August 2005 (AC Aa 2, WE Ba 9, WE Ba 10, WE Ca 33, WE Ca 34, WE Cb 11, WE Cb 12, WE Cc 3, WW Bc 8, and WW Bc 9) and May 2008 (AC Aa 6 and AC Aa 7) using a hollow-stem auger or a truck-mounted Geoprobe. Wells were constructed of 1 or 2-inch (in.)-diameter threaded polyvinyl chloride (PVC) casing and slotted screen. Sand was used to fill the annulus between the well screen and core hole, and bentonite was used to grout the annulus above the screen interval to a concrete plug at the surface. Wells were generally screened within the uppermost water-bearing zone at each location; some wells are nested at different depths at the same location (WE Bb 3 and WE Bb4, WE Cb 5 and WE Cb 6, WE Cb 11 and WE Cb 12, and AC Aa 6 and AC Aa 7). All wells were developed through mechanical surging and pumping to remove fine material from the screen and sand pack. Development continued until water clarity increased, turbidity decreased, and water temperature and specific conductance stabilized.

A tide gage was constructed on a seawall along the Anacostia River near the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens (fig. 2, table 1, USGS station 01651750) in May 2004. A perforated horizontal steel pipe extends from the seawall approximately 8 ft into the river. The pipe is attached to the base of a vertical steel pipe at the seawall, which is in turn attached to an instrument enclosure at its top.

Hydrologic Measurements

Measurements were made to estimate groundwater-flow gradients and variability, and hydrologic properties of Coastal Plain sediment in the study area. Groundwater levels were measured periodically or continuously in selected monitoring wells. In addition, aquifer tests were conducted to estimate hydrologic properties of selected Coastal Plain aquifers, and tidal fluctuations in the Anacostia River were recorded at the installed tide gage.

Groundwater levels were measured to estimate groundwater-flow gradients, and document seasonal or temporal variability in groundwater levels in the tidal Anacostia River watershed study area. Groundwater levels were recorded continuously at 30-minute intervals in selected wells by In-Situ sondes from 2003 through 2007 (table 1, Appendix 2). Sondes were typically installed within the screened interval of the well. Monthly to quarterly servicing of the sondes included cleaning, battery replacement, and

calibration checks against manual water-level measurements. Sondes were reset to match the manual water-level measurements if the values were more than 0.02 ft different. Manual water-level measurements were also made periodically (typically monthly to quarterly) in additional monitoring wells using an electric water-level tape or chalked steel tape (table 1, Appendix 3).

Tidal variations in water level in the Anacostia River were recorded continuously from June 2004 to October 2017 at the tide gage that was installed near Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Instantaneous measurement data (6-minute interval) from 2004 through 2007 are available in Appendixes 4*A* through 4*D*. Instantaneous data from 2008 through 2017, and daily data from 2004 through 2017, are available through the USGS National Water Information System database (U.S. Geological Survey, 2017). A data logger in the instrument shelter recorded varying water levels reflected in a float and counter-weight system installed in the vertical pipe. Water levels were recorded every 6 minutes at 0, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, 48, and 54 minutes past the hour for consistency with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration gages, and transmitted via satellite to USGS databases. Data were reviewed periodically, and the tide gage was visited periodically for calibration checks and equipment servicing.

Aquifer tests (slug tests) (Butler, 1998) were conducted to estimate the hydraulic properties of aquifer sediments within which selected wells are screened (table 3). Multiple tests (such as rising head, falling head, and slugs of different volumes) were generally conducted at each well, and analytical methods for resulting data were selected on the basis of individual hydrogeologic conditions (Cooper and others, 1967; Bouwer and Rice, 1976; Greene and Shapiro, 1995). Most wells do not penetrate the entire thickness of aquifer sediments, and estimated hydraulic properties may therefore only apply to screened intervals. Only later-time data were used in the interpretation of slug tests at well WE Ca 32, on the assumption that the quick initial responses observed in water levels during the tests were reflective of properties of the well filter pack rather than aquifer sediments (Butler, 1998). Multiple unsuccessful slug tests at wells WE Ca 31, WE Ca 33, and WE Ca 34 may be indicative of low-permeability sediments surrounding the well screen or a partially clogged well screen (even after multiple attempts to redevelop the wells).

Water-Quality Sampling

Water samples collected periodically from selected wells were analyzed for chemical constituents indicative of natural and human influences on groundwater quality. In addition, selected parameters were recorded continuously in some wells to document temporal and seasonal variation in groundwater quality (table 1).

Table 3. Summary and results of aquifer slug tests on selected wells.

[T, transmissivity; K, horizontal hydraulic conductivity; ft/d, foot per day; ft²/d, foot squared per day]

Samples were collected from September through December 2005 from 17 monitoring wells in three geologic settings (Klohe and Debrewer, 2007); 5 of these wells had previously been sampled in August 2002 (WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, and WE Ca 29) (Miller and Klohe, 2003). Wells were purged (generally a minimum of three well volumes) until pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and specific conductance stabilized prior to sampling. Samples were collected with a peristaltic or stainless-steel submersible pump. Subsamples intended for analysis of dissolved constituents were passed through a 0.45 - micrometer (μ m) cellulose-nitrate filter (for inorganics) or a 0.70-µm baked glass-fiber filter (for organics). Selected preservatives were added, as necessary, and samples were chilled and shipped overnight to the USGS National Water Quality Laboratory, in Denver, Colorado, or Severn Trent Laboratory, in Arvada, Colorado. for analysis. Samples were analyzed for selected major ions, trace elements, nutrients, pesticides and pesticide degradants, VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), phenols, PCBs, and oil and grease (Miller and Klohe, 2003; Klohe and Debrewer, 2007).

Selected water-quality parameters were recorded continuously in a limited number of monitoring wells. In-Situ TROLL 9000 multi-parameter sondes installed in selected monitoring wells (WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, WE Cb 8, and WE Cb 12) recorded specific conductance, pH, reduction/oxidation (redox) potential, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and barometric pressure, as well as water levels, at 30-minute intervals from June 2003 through 2006. Periodic calibration checks were done using a multipoint approach for pH and conductance, and dissolved-oxygen calibration was done using an air calibration chamber in water. Occasional missing records resulted from faulty probes, fouling, or unusual conditions (such as flooding from Tropical Storm Isabel).

Geologic Framework

The Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C. is underlain by unconsolidated sediments of the Atlantic

Coastal Plain Physiographic Province (Fenneman and Johnson, 1946). These sediments form a wedge that thickens from 0 ft at the Fall Line (the unconformity between the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Physiographic Provinces) to more than 1,400 ft in the southeastern part of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area (Reed and Obermeier, 1982), and lie unconformably on the sloping surface of much older crystalline rocks of the Piedmont Province (figs. 3, 4*A*–*D*). Unconsolidated sediments of the Atlantic Coastal Plain vary laterally and vertically in color, texture, and permeability, reflecting a complex history of erosional and depositional processes over millions of years. The oldest Atlantic Coastal Plain deposits are fluvial sediments of the Cretaceous Potomac Group. These are overlain in places by younger marine deposits and by surficial upland gravels and alluvial and terrace deposits (table 4).

The Potomac Group

The oldest Coastal Plain sediments in the study area are Cretaceous fluvial deposits of the Potomac Group (Southworth and Denenny, 2006), including a sand-dominated lithofacies (previously referred to as the "Patuxent Formation," and hereinafter referred to as the "Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies") and an overlying clay-dominated lithofacies (previously referred to as the "Arundel" and "Patapsco Formations," and hereinafter referred to as the "Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies") (Mathews, 1933; Cooke and others, 1952; Johnston, 1964; Vroblesky and Fleck, 1991) (figs. 3, 4 *A*–*D*, table 4). The Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies includes some pebbles and multicolored clay and rests unconformably upon the basal Piedmont rocks. In Washington, D.C., the depth to the Piedmont rocks from land surface varies: 85 ft at WW Cc 26 (Hansen, 1968), 182 ft at Arena Stage (Somes, 2003), 306 ft at USNA PW-3 (Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995), 316 ft at AX Ac 2 (Appendix 1), 328 ft at WE Ca 6 (Hansen, 1968), 377 ft at DC2 (Otton, 1955), and 398 ft at DC Aquatic Resource Center PW-2, (HSI Geotrans, Inc., 1998). The Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies includes some sand, but is mostly massive, mottled, silty clay (Southworth and Denenny, 2006).

Figure 3. Generalized geology of the tidal Anacostia River watershed, selected lithologic description locations, and cross-section locations, Washington, D.C. (modified from Southworth and Denenny, 2006).

Figure 3. Generalized geology of the tidal Anacostia River watershed, selected lithologic description locations, and crosssection locations, Washington, D.C. (modified from Southworth and Denenny, 2006).—Continued

The lower part of the clay facies (previously referred to as the "Arundel Formation") is almost entirely dark-colored clay, with some iron-carbonate nodules and lignitized woody material. The uppermost Potomac Group deposits in the area (previously referred to as the "Patapsco Formation") include a basal clay layer (commonly maroon in color) and an upper layer of mixed texture (sand and clay). Although the Potomac Group varies considerably in texture, collectively, it is primarily fine-grained. More than 70 percent of one 946-ft vertical section through the Potomac Group just east of the study area in Prince George's County, Maryland is composed primarily of clay (Cooke and others, 1952). It is important to note that the Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies and the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies are each on the order of tens of feet in thickness. Therefore, although the Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies includes some clay and the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies contains some sand, individual layers (less than 10 ft thick) of sand or clay should not be identified as the Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies or Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies, respectively.

The Potomac Group crops out and subcrops in a broad band that trends through the study area from northeast to southwest, and dips to the southeast beneath younger Tertiary and Quaternary deposits (Johnston, 1964; Southworth and Denenny, 2006; figs. 3, 4*A*–*D*). In general, the clay facies

separates the underlying Potomac Group sand-dominated lithofacies deposits from overlying younger sediments. The contact between the Potomac Group sand-dominated and clay-dominated lithofacies crops out in the northwestern part of the study area, but subcrops beneath younger Quaternary deposits to the south. Although the uppermost part of the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies includes sediments of variable texture, the transition from finer-grained deposits to coarser-grained deposits crops out or subcrops southeast of the Anacostia River, and the Potomac Group clay contains predominantly fine-grained sediments within the study area (figs. 3, 4*A*–*D*).

Potomac Group sediments may be missing from the geologic column in parts of the tidal Anacostia River watershed, particularly near the Anacostia River. Sediments of the Potomac Group deposited during the Cretaceous Period have been subsequently removed by erosion due to downcutting of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers during periods of relatively low sea level. Coring revealed particularly thick (greater than 100 ft) alluvial and estuarine sequences around the lower Anacostia River near its mouth (fig. 4*C*, for example, cores SAS-001 and SAS-103). The river may have eroded completely through the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies to the underlying sand-dominated lithofacies in this area. Further coring would be necessary to determine the lateral extent of missing clay-dominated lithofacies (figs. 4*C*, 4*D*, 5, Appendix 1). Another location where data indicate that the clay-dominated lithofacies is missing is beneath the northwestern bank of the Anacostia River near the South Capitol Street Bridge (Appendix 5). Data from this bridge crossing generally indicate the existence of the clay-dominated lithofacies from approximately –25 ft down to greater than –75 ft relative to mean sea level (msl) on the southeastern bank of the Anacostia River. The clay-dominated lithofacies thins and pinches out near the southeastern bank of the Anacostia River. Beneath the center of the current Anacostia River channel, a Quaternary paleochannel fill includes a clay-dominated lithofacies approximately 10 to 40 ft thick (at -90 to -120 ft relative to msl). The cross section also shows that from the center of the channel to the northwest bank, the lithology is primarily clayey sand, indicating that the clay-dominated lithofacies is missing beneath part of the Anacostia River. However, borings in the northwest part of the cross section are fairly shallow (50 to 75 ft below land surface), limiting the interpretation of the presence or absence of the clay-dominated lithofacies. Because of the highly variable nature of fluvial depositional environments of the Potomac Group, as well as subsequent complex paleochannel erosional and alluvial and estuarine erosional and depositional environments, additional data would be necessary to determine the extent and location of areas where the clay-dominated lithofacies is not present. In such areas, the sand-dominated lithofacies would be in direct connection with shallower sand deposits (terrace or alluvial deposits).

Figure 4*A***–***B***.** Generalized geologic cross sections A-A' and B-B', showing hypothetical groundwater-flow directions in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C. Refer to figure 3 for location of cross sections and geologic units.

Figure 4*C***.** Generalized geologic cross section C–C' showing hypothetical groundwater-flow directions in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C. Refer to figure 3 for location of cross sections and geologic units.

Upper Cretaceous and Tertiary Deposits

The Potomac Group is overlain in parts of the study area and vicinity by marine and estuarine deposits of the Monmouth Group, Brightseat Formation, Aquia Formation, Marlboro Clay, and Nanjemoy and Calvert Formations (table 4; Cooke and others, 1952). These deposits are limited to uplands south of the Anacostia River in the extreme southeastern part of the study area (Johnston, 1964; Southworth and Denenny, 2006; figs. 3, 4*C*, 4*D*). The Monmouth Group is composed primarily of fine glauconitic or mica-rich sand, with a thin (2-ft) basal gravel bed just above its contact with the underlying Potomac Group (Cooke and others, 1952). The Aquia Formation includes green glauconitic sand, similar to that of the underlying Monmouth Formation. The Nanjemoy Formation also contains glauconitic sand, overlying the pink Marlboro Clay. Miocene-age Chesapeake Group sediments in the vicinity of the study area are predominantly dark gray to light gray clay (Cooke and others, 1952).

Upper Tertiary and Younger Deposits

The uppermost and youngest geologic units in the study area include coarse upland sediments, and more recent alluvial and terrace deposits along modern stream channels. Coarse deposits (primarily gravel and sand) occur as erosional remnants in relatively isolated uplands (Cooke and others, 1952; Johnston, 1964; Southworth and Denenny, 2006; figs. 3, 4*B*, table 4). The Anacostia River Valley and much of downtown Washington, D.C. near the confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers are underlain by Pleistocene fluvial and estuarine terrace deposits and more recent alluvium (Cooke and others, 1952; Johnston, 1964; Southworth and Denenny, 2006). Terrace deposits include fining-upward sequences of sediment (including gravel, sand, silt, and clay) formed as the ancient river valleys were flooded by rising sea levels. Holocene alluvium (primarily clay, sand, and gravel, usually only a few feet thick) occurs beneath the modern Anacostia River flood plain and channel (Johnston, 1964; Southworth and Denenny, 2006).

Figure 4*D***.** Generalized geologic cross section D–D' through the Coastal Plain sediments in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C. Refer to figure 3 for location of cross section and geologic units. Hypothetical flow directions are not shown on this section because they are primarily perpendicular to this cross section.

Table 4. Summary of Coastal Plain geologic and hydrogeologic units in the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C. and surrounding area.

¹Modified from Southworth and Denenny, 2006.

2Cooke and others, 1952; Johnston, 1964; Vroblesky and Fleck, 1991.

³This column contains hydrogeologic units used in this report.

Figure 5. Distribution of the clay-dominated lithofacies of the Potomac Group (Kpc) within the tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C. (Outcrop area of the Kps is modified from Southworth and Denenny, 2006.)

The modern land surface in the study area reflects anthropogenic influences, as well as modern sea level. Streambed sediments in the Anacostia River in the study area are predominantly fine-grained clay and mud with abundant organic matter, as might be expected in a tidal estuary, although zones of coarser sands and gravels do occur (Velinsky and others, 1994; Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 1981). In addition, the modern river and its watershed reflect anthropogenic influences typical of urban areas (Behm and others, 2003). Natural sediments are overlain in many areas by artificial fill (Southworth and Denenny, 2006; fig. 3). The river and its streambed and riparian areas, in particular, have been altered by dredging and land reclamation; much of the modern riverfront is underlain by fill overlying buried marsh deposits (Williams, 1977).

Hydrology

The occurrence, distribution, and movement of groundwater in the Coastal Plain sediments in the study area are controlled primarily by topography, the texture and permeability (hydraulic characteristics) of geologic materials (particularly the abundance of relatively impermeable clay and silt), and human activities and alterations at or near the land surface. Groundwater in the study area occurs under both confined and unconfined conditions (Johnston, 1964). Confined groundwater occurs in the Patuxent aquifer, where it is overlain by the clay-dominated lithofacies of the Potomac Group. Groundwater in primarily permeable overlying deposits also may be locally confined in places beneath lenses or other zones of finer material. Under natural conditions, unconfined groundwater would occur in relatively permeable surficial deposits in many parts of the study area, and generally flow from upland recharge areas in the northwest and southeast toward discharge areas in and near the Anacostia River and its tributaries. The occurrence and movement of unconfined groundwater has been altered considerably, however, by dewatering, storm sewers, and other urban influences. Groundwater discharges to the Anacostia River and other streams in Washington, D.C., but the amount of groundwater discharge may be limited in areas by fine-grained riverbed sediment.

Confined Aquifer

Permeable sediments of the Potomac Group sanddominated lithofacies form a productive aquifer in the study area referred to in this report as the Patuxent aquifer, which represents an important source of water supply in southern Maryland to the south and east of Washington, D.C. (Vroblesky and Fleck, 1991; Andreasen, 2007; Drummond, 2007). Johnston (1964) reported an average yield of 80 gallons per minute (gal/min) for wells in these sediments in the vicinity of Washington, D.C.; transmissivity of the aquifer

in the area is between 1,000 and 2,000 feet squared per day (ft2 /d) (Papadopulos and others, 1974; Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995), considerably higher than estimates for surficial aquifer sediments (table 3). The Patuxent aquifer is confined beneath the clay-dominated lithofacies of the Potomac Group in the southeastern part of the study area, but unconfined or semi-confined where it crops out or subcrops along the Fall Line to the northwest, and (possibly) in other areas if the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies is missing (figs. 3, 4*A*–*D*, 5). Recharge to the confined Patuxent aquifer likely occurs primarily in the outcrop and subcrop areas, although some water may reach the aquifer as leakage through the relatively impermeable overlying sediments (Fleck and Vroblesky, 1996). Hydraulic heads in the confined Patuxent aquifer in the vicinity of the U.S. National Arboretum (observed in wells WE Ca 35 and WE Ca 36, approximately 30 and 36 ft relative to North American Vertical Datum of 1988 [NAVD 88], respectively) are lower than in the surficial unconfined aquifer (WE Ca 37, approximately 46 ft NAVD 88) (table 1, Appendix 3), indicating a downward gradient for groundwater flow to the Patuxent aquifer, at least in this area. Conversely, hydraulic heads in the Patuxent aquifer are higher than land surface (up to 10 ft in places) in the vicinity of the Anacostia River in some areas (Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995; HSI Geotrans Inc., 1998), indicating an upward hydraulic gradient and potential groundwater discharge to the river.

Surficial Aquifer System

The surficial aquifer system in the study area includes all sediments, that primarily are permeable, at or near the land surface in the watershed (Matheson and others, 1994). These include the permeable sediments of the Patuxent aquifer, where not confined beneath the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies, as well as permeable overlying upland gravels and Quaternary alluvium and terrace deposits. Permeable sediments of the Brightseat Formation, Monmouth Group, and Aquia, Nanjemoy, or Calvert Formations may also form part of the surficial aquifer where they outcrop in the southeastern part of the study area. Groundwater likely occurs under primarily unconfined conditions within these sediments on the watershed scale, and groundwater-flow patterns may be approximated by the orientation of the regional water table (Matheson and others, 1994). These deposits vary considerably in texture both laterally and vertically in most areas, however, and local groundwater-flow patterns are therefore likely to be similarly complex. Groundwater within the surficial aquifer system may be perched in some areas, for example, or locally confined beneath impermeable sediments in others. Shallow groundwater flow in the heavily urbanized study area also is significantly affected by human alterations and activities at or near the land surface (D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992; Matheson and others, 1994), although such influences are too localized to be mapped at the regional scale.

Natural recharge to the surficial aquifer system occurs as vertical infiltration of precipitation to the water table throughout the study area. Annual precipitation in the Washington, D.C. area ranges from 27 to 60 in., with average annual precipitation of approximately 40 in. (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, 2013): approximately 25 percent of this provides recharge to the unconfined surficial aquifer system (Cooke and others, 1952; D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992). Shallow groundwater is warmest in the winter (December through February) and coolest in the late spring to early summer (May through July) (fig. 6, Appendix 2), indicating a lag time between infiltration of recharge from the land surface through the unsaturated zone to the water table.

The depth to the water table varies daily, seasonally, and (or) annually within the study area, but generally occurs within 15 to 25 ft of land surface. Near the Anacostia River, the depth to water is approximately 11 ft below land surface at WE Bb 3, and about 8 ft below land surface at WE Ca 29. Further from the Anacostia River, water levels in well WE Ca 32 are approximately 22 ft below land surface. Water levels in shallow wells close to the Anacostia River, such as WE Bb 3, vary daily due to tidal fluctuations and precipitation. Other wells show seasonal fluctuations as a result of variations in precipitation and evapotranspiration (fig. 7, Appendixes 2 and 3) (D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992). Annual and decadal variations in the water table range from 1 to 10 ft for the period of record for monitoring wells listed/shown in Appendix 3. Once below the water table, groundwater flows laterally and vertically downgradient from recharge areas to discharge areas such as local streams. Most parts of the watershed that are underlain by relatively permeable sediments are likely recharge areas for the surficial unconfined

Figure 6. Groundwater temperature over time measured in selected shallow wells near the Anacostia River.

aquifer; where measured, vertical flow gradients are generally downward (see, for example, fig. 7, Appendix 2).

Groundwater flow in the surficial unconfined aquifer system in the study area generally follows topographic gradients from recharge areas in uplands to discharge areas in local streams and the Anacostia River Valley. Topographic controls on unconfined groundwater flow are reflected in the regional water table shown in figure 8. Regional groundwaterflow patterns in the surficial aquifer system are similar to those observed in the early 1990s. Water levels measured in 2006 (fig. 8) are similar to those reported by Matheson and others (1994), and water-level records from shallow wells in nearby Arlington, Virginia and Prince George's County, Maryland (U.S. Geological Survey, 2009) show considerable interannual variability since 1980, but minimal long-term trends. Groundwater in the surficial aquifer generally flows from uplands in the northwestern and southeastern parts of the study area toward a major regional discharge area in the lowlands of the Anacostia River Valley and downtown Washington, D.C., near the confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers. Northwest of the Anacostia River, groundwater flows radially from the upland near the U.S. Soldiers Home; south toward downtown and the Potomac River, east toward the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River in Prince George's County, Maryland, and east to the tidal Anacostia River in Washington, D.C. (fig. 8) (Matheson and others, 1994). Although the study area is defined by the tidal Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C., groundwater flows across the surface watershed boundaries. For example, between the U.S. Capitol building and the White House, groundwater flows from within the Anacostia River watershed to the Potomac River watershed.

Figure 7. Groundwater levels over time at the same location but different depths within the terrace deposits.

Figure 8. Estimated orientation of the regional water table, and generalized groundwater-flow directions in the surficial aquifer, tidal Anacostia River watershed, Washington, D.C., and vicinity (modified from Matheson and others, 1994, on the basis of groundwater-level measurements, April 2006).

General groundwater occurrence, distribution, and flow patterns in the surficial aquifer apparent from the orientation of the regional water table are likely complicated locally by variable hydrogeologic conditions. Groundwater may be unconfined in surficial aquifers at the regional scale, but locally confined in places by overlying clay lenses or other zones of relatively impermeable sediments. Flow patterns also are affected by local variability in sediments that is difficult to map regionally. Lateral groundwater flow is likely focused in relatively permeable sediments (such as sand or gravel); flow through less permeable silt or clay is often more vertical and much slower. Also, perched groundwater above the regional water table may occur in permeable sediments overlying relatively impermeable clay lenses or other deposits (D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992).

Groundwater flow in the surficial aquifer system of the study area is also significantly affected by human activities and alterations common to urban areas (D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992; Matheson and others, 1994). The water table in parts of the study area is artificially lowered for construction or to prevent seepage and flooding of basements, tunnels, or other buried infrastructure. Conversely, groundwater levels around some buildings must be artificially raised to prevent deterioration of wooden foundation pilings (D.C. Water Resources Research Center, 1992). This manipulation of the water table alters local flow gradients, and dewatering may also cause irreversible sediment compaction and land subsidence. Many natural streams in the watershed have been completely filled for development (fig. 2), creating high-permeability zones of preferential groundwater flow. The former course of Tiber Creek (fig. 2), for example, remains apparent as a zone of focused groundwater flow in the regional water table (fig. 8) (Matheson and others, 1994). Pipelines, sewers, tunnels, and other buried infrastructure may also divert local groundwater flow and serve as discharge zones (Matheson and others, 1994).

Groundwater–Surface-Water Interaction

Streams and tidal estuaries (such as the tidal Anacostia River) are discharge areas for most groundwater in the lower Anacostia River watershed study area. As in most humid areas, groundwater levels in the study area are generally higher than water levels in adjacent streams, indicating groundwater discharge to streams (Fleck and Vroblesky, 1996) (fig. 8, Appendix 2). Although local groundwater-flow directions may be altered by human activities (such as dewatering) in some areas, groundwater in the surficial aquifer generally flows from upland recharge areas to discharge areas in streams and other surface waters (fig. 8). Unlike in upland recharge areas where vertical gradients reflect downward recharge to the surficial aquifer (fig.7, Appendix 2,), vertical gradients are lower or upward in discharge areas near the Anacostia River, and groundwater may flow more laterally (fig. 9) or upward

beneath the river. Sediments in the surficial aquifer are coarse and permeable in some areas near the river (Appendix 1), and variations in groundwater levels in discharge areas near the Anacostia River are controlled mainly by the tidal fluctuations in the river (fig. 9), rather than seasonally variable infiltration rates as in upland recharge areas (fig. 7, Appendix 2).

Groundwater discharge to the Anacostia River and tributaries may occur over broad areas of the streambed, but is likely focused in areas of particularly permeable sediments. Direct groundwater seepage to the Anacostia River has been documented (Chadwick and others, 2001; Matrix Environmental and Geotechnical Services, 2003), and tidal fluctuations in groundwater levels near tidal waters (fig. 9) may indicate a connection between groundwater and surface waters in the study area. Such connections are enhanced by storm sewers, which may serve as direct conduits for shallow groundwater movement to streams and estuaries. The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (Greeley and Hansen, 2009, table ES-2) estimated that from May 2003 to May 2004 in Washington, D.C., 58 million gallons per day (Mgal/d) of groundwater infiltrated into sewers, and 16 Mgal/d of groundwater were pumped from sumps into sewers. This estimated 74 Mgal/d of groundwater ultimately discharged to surface waters during the 1-year period. Greeley and Hansen (2009, table ES-2) also estimated that 47, 52, or 64 Mgal/d of groundwater (infiltration and pumpage) flows into sewers during dry, average, and wet years, respectively.

Figure 9. Tidal fluctuations in water levels in the Anacostia River (U.S. Geological Survey station number 01651750) and in nearby shallow groundwater wells WE Bb 3 and WE Bb 4, July 2004.

Locally in some places, the hydraulic heads in the confined Patuxent aquifer are higher than the level of the Anacostia River (up to 20–30 ft) (Matheson and others, 1994; Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995; HSI Geotrans Inc., 1998). Discharge from the Patuxent aquifer to the Anacostia River is probably limited by the intervening clays of the Potomac Group (Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995), but could be occurring in areas, such as at borings AX Ac 2, SAS-001, and SAS-103, where the clayey sediments are missing as a result of erosion or other natural geological processes.

Geochemistry and Groundwater Quality

Groundwater in the tidal Anacostia River watershed is affected by natural hydrogeologic conditions and a variety of chemicals from different urban sources. Surficial sediments in the study area are highly variable, ranging from sand with little organic matter in fluvial terrace deposits and Potomac Group sand subcrop areas, to organic-rich silt and clay in alluvium near the river (fig. 3). Factors such as the amount of sand, silt, clay, or organic matter in soils and aquifer sediments influence natural water chemistry and the redox state of the aquifer, as well as the ease with which contaminants may enter and travel through groundwater. Under natural conditions in shallow Coastal Plain sediments, dissolved ions in groundwater are derived from precipitation and natural mineral sources (such as silicates and carbonates), and groundwater is typically dilute (Hamilton and others, 1993). Nitrate concentrations are generally less than 0.4 milligram per liter (mg/L) and chloride concentrations are generally less than 6 mg/L (Hamilton and others, 1993). Human sources of chemical contaminants in urban areas include road salting (Williams and others, 1999), fertilizer and pesticide applications, and leaks from sewer lines, industrial activities, and chemical storage and transport facilities. Sources of chemical contamination may be diffuse and widespread, such as infiltration of water near roads, or they may occur in localized plumes from spills and leaks.

Reduction/oxidation processes affect shallow groundwater quality in Washington, D.C. Where soils and surficial aquifer sediments are sandy with little organic matter, groundwater is typically unconfined, oxic (dissolved oxygen greater than 1 mg/L), and contains low concentrations of iron and manganese. Such aquifers are particularly vulnerable to surficial contamination, because groundwater moves easily through the permeable sediments, and sorption sites for solutes are limited. Also, some organic contaminants are more persistent in oxic groundwater than in areas with little dissolved oxygen (Zogorski and others, 2006). In addition to organic contaminants, groundwater in sandy unconfined aquifers often contains elevated concentrations of nitrate and chloride from leaky sewers, fertilizers, or road salt (Williams and others, 1999).

Groundwater in areas with fine-grained organic-rich soil and sediments is less vulnerable to contamination from surficial sources. Infiltration in such areas is limited by the low-permeability materials. Also, sorption sites for chemicals on clay and organic particles are more common, and water moves more slowly, allowing more time for sorption or biological degradation of many contaminants. Groundwater in such fine-grained sediments generally contains little dissolved oxygen (less than 1 mg/L). In these anoxic conditions, dissolved nitrogen generally occurs in ammonia or organic forms and any nitrate present is reduced to nitrogen gas. Conversely, concentrations of iron and manganese, which occur naturally in aquifer sediments and are more soluble and therefore mobile under reducing conditions, are commonly elevated in anoxic groundwater. Denver and others (2014, p. 29) provide a description of redox processes that occur in groundwater systems. The occurrence of nitrate and iron together in a water sample may indicate mixing of groundwater from zones of different redox conditions as iron will only dissolve in oxic groundwater where pH is particularly low (Hem, 1992). Arsenic and other metals are also more mobile in groundwater under anoxic conditions. Therefore, metals, such as arsenic, can occur naturally in the aquifer materials and become mobilized by redox processes, or they can be the result of anthropogenic sources.

Major-Ion Geochemistry

Groundwater in sampled wells in the study area is chemically variable, but predominantly anoxic, and an ironor calcium-bicarbonate type (Klohe and Debrewer, 2007) (fig. 10). Groundwater samples were collected from 17 wells screened in three geologic settings: Holocene alluvium (including overlying dredge spoils) along the Anacostia River and tributaries (6 wells); Upper Tertiary and younger terrace deposits (4 wells); and unconfined and confined parts of the Potomac Group (7 wells) (table 1). The predominantly anoxic conditions in groundwater are shown by the common occurrence of iron and manganese at high concentrations, and concentrations of nitrate that are below detection. Iron concentrations exceeded 15,000 mg/L in most of the groundwater samples from the Holocene alluvium (table 5), and are above the District of Columbia groundwater standard of 300 µg/L (District of Columbia, 1993). Low concentrations of sulfate in groundwater within the alluvium indicate that much of the groundwater with high iron concentrations has been chemically altered by sulfate reduction. Under such anoxic conditions, dissolved oxygen should be below detection in groundwater. The occurrence of detectable dissolved oxygen in samples from the alluvium where anoxic conditions are indicated may be the result of mixing of water from anoxic and oxic zones in the aquifer, or from the introduction of air during sampling (table 5).

Percentage of total milliequivalents per liter

Figure 10. General water chemistry by geologic unit for groundwater samples collected from the Anacostia River watershed in Washington, D.C., September–December 2005. Percentages of particular ions increase in the direction of the arrow on each axis (modified from Klohe and Debrewer, 2007).

Groundwater from terrace deposits and the Potomac Group is more commonly oxic and more vulnerable to contamination from surficial sources than groundwater in the alluvium. Nitrate concentrations above 1 mg/L indicate the presence of human nitrogen sources; nitrate was above the District of Columbia groundwater standard of 10 mg/L in well WW Bc 8 (11.2 mg/L) (table 5). Concentrations of chloride in five samples (from wells WE Ca 32, WE Ca 33, WE Cc 3, WW Bc 8, and WW Bc 9) exceeded 75 mg/L (fig. 10, table 5), indicating significant infiltration of salty water, such as from road salting (Williams and others, 1999). Chloride in well WE Ca 32 (257 mg/L) was above the District of Columbia groundwater standard of 250 mg/L. Iron concentrations were generally low in these oxic groundwater samples, although other samples with dissolved oxygen below detection had elevated concentrations of iron and manganese (generally found in anoxic groundwater) (table 5). Concentrations of both nitrate and iron were relatively high in well WE Cc 3, indicating a mixture of water from oxic and anoxic zones in the aquifer (table 5). Some oxic groundwater also contains

manganese at concentrations above the District of Columbia groundwater standard (table 5). Although high concentrations of manganese are more common in anoxic water, manganese is more stable than iron in oxic water and may occur at high concentrations (Hem, 1992).

Human Impacts on Groundwater Quality

Anthropogenic influences on groundwater quality in the tidal Anacostia River watershed are apparent from the occurrence and distribution of selected inorganic and organic ions and compounds. Chloride and nitrate occur naturally in the environment, but elevated concentrations observed in some areas of the watershed are indicative of human sources, such as fertilizer applications, leaking sewer lines, or road salt. Many organic compounds (such as pesticides and VOCs) have no natural sources, and their occurrence in groundwater is clearly related to potential human sources typical of the heavily urbanized watershed.

Table 5. Summary of selected water-quality constituents in groundwater in different geologic settings in the Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C., 2005.

[µS/cm, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; mg/L, milligrams per liter, µg/L, micrograms per liter; N, nitrogen; --, not measured; <, less than; E, estimated]

Organic contaminants, including VOCs and SVOCs, diesel-range and gasoline-range organics, and pesticides and their degradants, were detected in shallow groundwater in the study area. Although only a few of the more than 200 anthropogenic organic compounds for which samples were analyzed were detected in groundwater, at least 1 such compound was detectable in samples from 15 of the 17 wells (table 6) (Klohe and Debrewer, 2007). The most commonly detected compounds were solvents, pesticides, and pesticide degradants (tables 6, 7). Concentrations of detected compounds were compared to District of Columbia groundwater standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) and Risk-Based Concentrations (RBCs) (Klohe and Debrewer, 2007). Concentrations were generally well below established standards and many were detected below their laboratory reporting levels. One exception is tetrachloroethene, which was measured at 68 µg/L in water from well WW Bc 8; the

District of Columbia groundwater standard is 5 µg/L for this compound. Several of the detected pesticide and degradant compounds (dieldrin, heptachlor epoxide, p,p'-DDE, and chlordane) have been banned since at least the 1980s (Klohe and Debrewer, 2007); their presence in groundwater is related to their persistence in the environment and the slow traveltime of groundwater.

The distribution of organic contaminants in groundwater is related to the local hydrogeologic setting and natural aquifer geochemistry, as well as the distribution of potential sources. The frequency of detection and variability in types of organic contaminants were generally greater in wells located in areas with high density residential, commercial, or municipal development (particularly in wells WE Ca 32, WE Ca 33, and WW Bc 8), for example, than in settings like neighborhoods and municipal parks, where most of the other sampled wells are located (table 6).

Table 6. Distribution of organic compounds by type in groundwater samples from different geologic settings in the Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C., 2005.

Potomac Group

Groundwater in the Potomac Group occurs in the sanddominated lithofacies (Patuxent aquifer), as well as relatively coarse sediments in the overlying Potomac Group claydominated lithofacies. Where these sediments crop out in parts of the study area (figs. 3, 4*A*, 4*B*), groundwater is vulnerable to contamination from the land surface or from near-surface leaks and spills. Nitrate and chloride concentrations in five of the seven Potomac Group wells indicate oxic groundwater and human impacts, such as fertilizer applications, leaky sewers, or road salting (table 5). Organic contaminants were present in groundwater in all but one of these wells (WE Ba 10) (table 6), which contained only slightly elevated concentrations of nitrate and chloride (table 5). Most of the observed concentrations of organic contaminants were relatively low, and sources are apparently diffuse and at or near the land surface. Water from well WW Bc 8 was particularly contaminated with solvents and hydrocarbon

compounds that may be associated with an unidentified leak in an underground tank.

Organic contaminants also were present in samples from selected Potomac Group wells with relatively high iron concentrations and, therefore, anoxic groundwater (tables 5, 6). Concentrations of both nitrate (indicative of oxic aquifer conditions) and iron (indicative of anoxic conditions) were relatively high in samples from well WE Cc 3 (table 5), indicating that this well may be screened across two geochemical environments in the aquifer. The particularly high chloride concentration in water from this well indicates infiltration from road surfaces. Water from well WE Cb 8, which is 265 ft deep and screened in the confined part of the Patuxent aquifer, showed characteristics of natural groundwater quality (table 5), but also had a very low concentration of a pesticide used for weed control (metsulfuron methyl). This contamination may be related to a broken well cap that allowed water from the surface to enter the well.
Table 7. Summary of organic compounds detected in groundwater samples from 17 wells in the Anacostia River watershed within Washington, D.C., September–December 2005 (modified from tables 7 and 8 in Klohe and Debrewer, 2007).

[1, indicates number of compounds detected; *, indicates one or more detections below reporting level; CEAT, 2-cloro-6-ethylamino-*s*-triazine; CIAT, 2-chloro-4-isopropylamino-6-amino-*s*-triazine; OIET, 2-Hydroxy-4 isopropylamino-6-ethylamino-*s*-triazine]

Terrace Deposits

The terrace deposits include fining-upward sequences of gravel, sand, silt, and clay and form the land surface over much of Washington, D.C. in the Anacostia River Valley (fig. 3). Much of the area covered by sandy deposits near the land surface is vulnerable to contamination. Water quality in these deposits is quite variable, ranging from apparently uncontaminated (in well WE Cb 6) to highly contaminated (in wells WE Ca 32 and WE Ca 33) (tables 5, 6). This variability is related to the heterogeneous hydrogeologic conditions in these deposits, as well as the variability in urban sources of contamination. Groundwater in well WE Cb 6 is confined, and the low specific conductance and chloride concentrations indicate minimal (if any) anthropogenic impacts (table 5). In contrast, specific conductance and chloride concentrations

were considerably higher in groundwater from wells WE Ca 32 and WE Ca 33. Groundwater from well WE Ca 32 also contained nitrate and sulfate at relatively high concentrations, indicative of possible sewage contamination, as well as a variety of pesticides (mostly insecticides), and hydrocarbonrelated organic compounds. Contaminants in well WE Ca 33 were generally petroleum-related compounds indicative of a leak or spill. Water from well WE Ca 33 was anoxic (with a relatively high dissolved-iron concentration), possibly due to degradation of petroleum-related compounds and related consumption of dissolved oxygen and nitrate in the water.

Alluvium

Alluvial sediments (and fine-grained fill dredged from the river channel and placed over buried marsh deposits) are located beneath and adjacent to the Anacostia River and its tributaries (fig. 3). These sediments typically contain abundant organic matter, and groundwater is therefore generally anoxic, with very high concentrations of dissolved iron and little detectable sulfate or nitrate (table 5). Concentrations of ammonia, organic nitrogen, and arsenic also are generally higher in groundwater in the alluvium than in most samples from other hydrogeologic settings; these compounds could be derived from natural sources such as buried marshes. The highest arsenic concentration, 39.9 µg/L, was measured in groundwater from well AC Aa 1 near Poplar Point, where arsenic contamination in soil has been documented (Ridolfi Inc., 2005). Chloride concentrations were slightly elevated in samples from all six alluvium wells, but not as high as might be expected from significant infiltrations of salty road runoff (table 5). Organic chemicals detected in these samples could be indicative of above- or below-ground releases, although the relatively fine-grained, organicrich alluvium is not particularly conducive to contaminant transport. As a result, concentrations and detection frequencies of organic contaminants were generally lower in water samples from these areas (areas labeled as Qa on fig. 3) than in many samples from other parts of the study area, and may be indicative of diffuse sources (table 6). Because of the proximity of the wells screened in the alluvium to the Anacostia River (fig. 2) and the predominant hydraulic gradient of the water table toward the river (fig. 8), however, dissolved chemicals in alluvial sediments may be particularly relevant to surface-water quality.

Comparison of Groundwater Quality in 2002 and 2005

Data presented in Miller and Klohe (2003) and Klohe and Debrewer (2007) indicate that groundwater quality in sampled wells has changed minimally over recent years, as would be expected in light of the typically slow movement of groundwater. Temporal comparisons are complicated by variable sample collection and analysis methods. Specific conductance and pH, however, varied by only 2 to 15 percent between 2002 and 2005 in samples from five wells for which data are available. Similarly, concentrations of phosphorus and ammonia plus organic nitrogen in samples from these wells in 2002 were generally within 0.3 mg/L of those measured in 2005. Concentrations of selected dissolved trace metals (measured in filtered samples) in 2005 were generally less than or equal to the whole-water concentrations (measured in unfiltered samples) in 2002. Trichloromethane (chloroform) was the only anthropogenic organic compound detected above a common level in the same well in 2002 and 2005; concentrations in well WE Cb 5 were 5.7 and 0.95 µg/L (estimated) in 2002 and 2005, respectively.

Summary and Conclusions

Hydrology and groundwater quality in the tidal Anacostia River watershed in Washington, D.C. are affected by multiple natural and human influences. Although sources of some ions or compounds to the land surface or groundwater may be natural, other compounds (such as pesticides and volatile organic compounds, or VOCs) are exclusively anthropogenic, and may be derived from many different human activities in the heavily urbanized watershed. The distribution of these compounds in groundwater and streams in the study area is related to spatially variable hydrogeologic and geochemical conditions that control their movement and persistence in the environment, as well as the distribution and magnitude of sources. Hydrologic, geochemical, and geologic data were collected over a multi-year period and interpreted along with similar existing information to improve understanding of the hydrogeology and groundwater quality in the tidal Anacostia River watershed.

The tidal Anacostia River watershed is underlain by a wedge of heterogeneous unconsolidated sediment that forms a series of aquifers and confining units overlying a sloping bedrock surface. The Patuxent aquifer, the oldest and lowermost unconsolidated unit, crops out and subcrops in the northwestern part of the study area along the Fall Line and

dips to the southeast. This aquifer is confined to the southeast by the overlying Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies (where present), which is relatively thick and likely isolates the confined Patuxent aquifer from the Anacostia River. Above the Potomac Group sediments are younger Upper Cretaceous and Tertiary marine deposits, coarse upland deposits, and alluvial and terrace deposits. Surficial and near-surface sediments are particularly variable and difficult to correlate at the watershed scale, and surficial geology has been further complicated by more than 200 years of human alterations such as dredging and filling. Permeable surficial sediments form an extensive surficial aquifer system, although locally variable hydrologic and geochemical conditions in the system reflect the locally variable geology. The interbedded permeable and less permeable sediments in the surficial aquifer, for example, may cause local perched aquifers or semi-confined conditions.

Water levels and groundwater flow in the surficial aquifer system are controlled primarily by topography and the permeability of the sediments. Recharge to the surficial aquifer system occurs through infiltration of precipitation, as well as possible artificial sources such as underground water or sewer pipes. Unconfined groundwater generally flows from upland recharge areas in the northwest and southeast toward discharge areas in and near the Anacostia River and its tributaries. Discharge to the Anacostia River may be limited in areas by fine-grained riverbed sediment. Recharge to the Patuxent aquifer occurs primarily in the outcrop and subcrop areas, or as leakage from the less permeable overlying clays. Beneath the Anacostia River, the hydraulic heads in the confined Patuxent aquifer are higher than land surface, and discharge from this aquifer to the Anacostia River probably occurs where sediments of the Potomac Group clay-dominated lithofacies are absent.

Chemical data collected from 17 wells were analyzed for selected major ions, trace elements, nutrients, pesticides and pesticide degradants, VOCs and semi-volatile organic compounds, phenols, polychlorinated biphenyls, and oil and grease. Of over 200 chemicals included in these analyses, only 28 anthropogenic organic compounds were detected in groundwater from 15 of the 17 sampled wells, and over half of these compounds were only detected once. Only one organic compound in one sample, tetrachloroethene, was detected at a concentration above an existing health standard. Arsenic was detected at generally low levels; however, the concentration in one sample exceeded the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Maximum Contaminant Level of 10 micrograms per liter. In addition, concentrations of iron and manganese were detected in many wells at levels above regulatory criteria due to reducing conditions in aquifer sediments.

The distribution of groundwater chemistry and contaminants in groundwater of the Anacostia River watershed is related to local hydrogeology and natural aquifer geochemistry, as well as land use and the associated distribution of potential sources. Nitrate and chloride concentrations in some areas likely exceed natural levels, and anthropogenic organic compounds were widely detected in shallow groundwater (particularly in the terrace deposits and Potomac Group). Groundwater in unconfined parts of the Potomac Group is primarily oxic, and concentrations of nitrate and chloride are indicative of infiltration of fertilizers, highway runoff, or water from leaky sewers. Organic contaminants were widely detected in these wells at relatively low concentrations, indicating diffuse sources. Samples from wells screened in terrace deposits were characterized by highly variable chemical concentrations as a result of diverse hydrogeologic conditions and potential variability in urban sources of contamination. Some samples contained high concentrations of nitrate and sulfate, a variety of pesticide compounds, or hydrocarbon-related compounds, whereas others showed minimal anthropogenic impacts. Groundwater in alluvial deposits along the Anacostia River and its tributaries is generally anoxic with very high concentrations of dissolved iron and little detectable sulfate or nitrate. Concentrations of ammonia, organic nitrogen and arsenic were generally higher than those in groundwater from the Potomac Group or terrace deposits, and may be derived from natural sources. Detection frequencies and concentrations of organic contaminants were generally lower in groundwater from alluvial deposits than in groundwater from other groups, likely reflecting the fine-grained nature of sediments in recharge areas and diffuse sources of contaminants.

Groundwater-flow rates and traveltimes must be considered when interpreting groundwater quality and

geochemistry. One or more decades are generally required for the movement of groundwater from the water table to local discharge areas in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, although traveltimes may be significantly altered by dewatering, leaking sewer lines, or other human influences. Groundwater in confined aquifers is generally much older than groundwater in unconfined aquifers. Groundwater quality reflects human sources of compounds in the recharge areas during the time of recharge, which may change drastically over time. Several compounds that have not been used in many years remain detectable in groundwater of the tidal Anacostia River watershed, including dieldrin, heptachlor epoxide, p,p'-DDE, and chlordane. Many years may be required for the effects of watershed management practices, such as low-impact development, to be reflected throughout the aquifer system.

The transport of chemical compounds from human sources from the land surface, through groundwater, to the Anacostia River and other local streams is likely in the tidal Anacostia River watershed. Many anthropogenic compounds are soluble in water and have been detected in shallow groundwater of the study area. Groundwater flow is typically very slow under natural conditions, but may be accelerated by human alterations of local hydrology. The Anacostia River is the ultimate destination for most shallow groundwater in the study area, although the transport of dissolved constituents may be impeded by changing geochemical conditions. Groundwater seepage has been observed through bed sediments in the tidal Anacostia River. Interaction between the Anacostia River and the confined Patuxent aquifer is likely where intervening finer sediments of the Potomac Group claydominated lithofacies have been removed by erosion or other processes, and infiltration of river water into the aquifer may occur if hydraulic heads in the confined aquifer drop below the level of water in the river.

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Appendix 1. Selected Lithologic Core Descriptions in and near the Anacostia River Watershed

EXPLANATION

[Please note that this appendix presents lithologic descriptions from many different references, as noted in the header information, and descriptions by USGS personnel not previously published. Descriptions from cited references were not modified, except as noted; therefore descriptions presented in this appendix are not necessarily consistent with regards to terminology, punctuation, etc. Designations of tops and bottoms of geologic map units shown in this appendix were determined by the authors, with the exception of DC2, PG Cc 13, PG Cd 9, PG Dc 1, PG Dc 3, PG Dc 4, PG Eb 1, WE Ca 6, and WW Cc 26.]

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.

Site name: AC Aa 2 (described by C. Klohe on March 6, 2006)

Altitude: 125.59 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 51' 57.4" N / 76° 58' 03.3" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: AC Ab 3 (described by C. Klohe on March 13, 2006)

Altitude: 205 feet **Total depth:** 36 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 52' 07.1" N / 76° 57' 07.6" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: Arena Stage (from Somes, 2003)

Altitude: 14 feet **Total depth:** 183 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 37.01" N / 77º 01' 12.97" W

Core used in section C-C'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: AX Ac 2 (BPS-42), (Anthony Harding, DC Clean Rivers Project, written commun., 2011)

Altitude: 10.16 feet **Total depth:** 326 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.39" N / 77º 00' 11.91" W

Site name: AX Ac 2 (BPS-42), (Anthony Harding, DC Clean Rivers Project, written commun., 2011)

Altitude: 10.16 feet **Total depth:** 326 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.39" N / 77º 00' 11.91" W

Site name: AX Ac 2 (BPS-42), (Anthony Harding, DC Clean Rivers Project, written commun., 2011)

Altitude: 10.16 feet **Total depth:** 326 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.39" N / 77º 00' 11.91" W

Site name: AX Ac 2 (BPS-42), (Anthony Harding, DC Clean Rivers Project, written commun., 2011)

Altitude: 10.16 feet **Total depth:** 326 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.39" N / 77º 00' 11.91" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: AX Ac 2 (BPS-42), (Anthony Harding, DC Clean Rivers Project, written commun., 2011)

Altitude: 10.16 feet **Total depth:** 326 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.39" N / 77º 00' 11.91" W

Core used in section C-C'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: DC2 (from Otton, 1955)

Altitude: 19.26 feet **Total depth:** 400 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 35.01" N / 76º 56' 16.97" W

Site name: DC2 (from Otton, 1955)

Altitude: 19.26 feet **Total depth:** 400 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 35.01" N / 76º 56' 16.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: D.C. Aquatic Resource Center PW-2 (from HSI Geotrans, Inc., 1998)

Altitude: 16 feet **Total depth:** 398 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 42.01" N / 76º 58' 09.96" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: D.C. Aquatic Resource Center PW-2 (from HSI Geotrans, Inc., 1998)

Altitude: 16 feet **Total depth:** 398 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 42.01" N / 76º 58' 09.96" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: MW-2 (from DCWRRC, 1993a)

Altitude: 82.35 feet **Total depth:** 47 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 23.00" N / 77º 00' 44.97" W

Site name: PG Cc 13 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 209.65 feet **Total depth:** 134 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 58' 30.00" N / 76º 59' 43.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: PG Cd 9 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 135.4 feet **Total depth:** 160 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 56' 00.01" N / 76º 51' 57.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: PG Cd 9 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 135.4 feet **Total depth:** 160 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 56' 00.01" N / 76º 51' 57.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: PG Dc 1 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 290 feet **Total depth:** 365 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 19" N / 76º 56' 05" W

Site name: PG Dc 3 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 290 feet **Total depth:** 388 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 50' 24" N / 76º 56' 32" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: PG Dc 4 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 250 feet **Total depth:** 620 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 50' 47" N / 76º 57' 10" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

PG Eb 1 (from Cooke and others, 1952)

Altitude: 14.3 feet **Total depth:** 603 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 48' 42.00" N / 77º 00' 21.97" W

Site name: SAS-001 (described by Camp Dresser & McKee Inc./Hatch Mott MacDonald, written commun., 2008)

Altitude: 8.4 feet **Total depth:** 250 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 20.87" N / 77º 00' 15.49" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-001 (described by Camp Dresser & McKee Inc./Hatch Mott MacDonald, written commun., 2008)

Altitude: 8.4 feet **Total depth:** 250 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 20.87" N / 77º 00' 15.49" W

Site name: SAS-002 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total Depth:** 156 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 09.39" N / 77º 00' 06.12" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-006 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 12.3 feet **Total depth:** 182 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 01.39" N / 76º 58' 16.65" W

Site name: SAS-006 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 12.3 feet **Total depth:** 182 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 01.39" N / 76º 58' 16.65" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-101 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 14.9 feet **Total depth:** 191 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 55.99" N / 76º 59' 36.20" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-101 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 14.9 feet **Total depth:** 191 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 55.99" N / 76º 59' 36.20" W

Site name: SAS-101 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 14.9 feet **Total depth:** 191 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 55.99" N / 76º 59' 36.20" W

Core used in sections C-C' and D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-102 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 12 feet **Total depth:** 195 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 51.81" N / 77º 00' 03.53" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-102 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 12 feet **Total depth:** 195 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 51.81" N / 77º 00' 03.53" W

Site name: SAS-102 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 12 feet **Total depth:** 195 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 51.81" N / 77º 00' 03.53" W

Core used in sections C-C' and D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-103 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 10 feet **Total depth:** 152.5 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.78" N / 77º 00' 13.38" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-103 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 10 feet **Total depth:** 152.5 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 28.78" N / 77º 00' 13.38" W

Site name: SAS-104 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 6.3 feet **Total depth:** 175 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 40.83" N / 76º 58' 42.99" W

Not used in cross sections

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-106 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total depth:** 166 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 46.70" N / 76º 58' 06.63" W

Site name: SAS-106 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total depth:** 166 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 46.70" N / 76º 58' 06.63" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-107 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 30.4 feet **Total depth:** 166 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 59.57" N / 76º 58' 09.18" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-107 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 30.4 feet **Total depth:** 166 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 59.57" N / 76º 58' 09.18" W

Site name: SAS-107 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 30.4 feet **Total depth:** 166 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 59.57" N / 76º 58' 09.18" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-108 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 69.4 feet **Total depth:** 172 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 39.10" N / 76º 59' 08.82" W

Not used in cross-sections

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-108 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 69.4 feet **Total depth:** 172 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 39.10" N / 76º 59' 08.82" W

Not used in cross-sections

Site name: SAS-108 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 69.4 feet **Total depth:** 172 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 39.10" N / 76º 59' 08.82" W

Not used in cross-sections

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-109 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 4 feet **Total depth:** 177 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 16.50" N / 76º 59' 15.31" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-109 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 4 feet **Total depth:** 177 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 16.50" N / 76º 59' 15.31" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-110 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 7.2 feet **Total depth:** 177 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 31.87" N / 76º 58' 37.78" W

Site name: SAS-110 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 7.2 feet **Total depth:** 177 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 31.87" N / 76º 58' 37.78" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-111 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total depth:** 185 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 49.82" N / 76º 58' 08.50" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-111 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total depth:** 185 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 49.82" N / 76º 58' 08.50" W

Site name: SAS-111 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 13 feet **Total depth:** 185 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 49.82" N / 76º 58' 08.50" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-112 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 10.3 feet **Total depth:** 175 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 15.36" N / 76º 58' 11.37" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-112 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 10.3 feet **Total depth:** 175 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 15.36" N / 76º 58' 11.37" W

Site name: SAS-112 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 10.3 feet **Total depth:** 175 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 15.36" N / 76º 58' 11.37" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-201 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 20.2 feet **Total depth:** 216 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 49' 07.93" N / 77º 01' 05.78" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-201 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 20.2 feet **Total depth:** 216 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 49' 07.93" N / 77º 01' 05.78" W

Site name: SAS-202 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 157.7 feet **Total depth:** 336 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 49' 47.03" N / 77º 00' 52.12" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-202 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 157.7 feet **Total depth:** 336 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 49' 47.03" N / 77º 00' 52.12" W

Site name: SAS-202 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 157.7 feet **Total depth:** 336 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 49' 47.03" N / 77º 00' 52.12" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-203 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 33.2 feet **Total depth:** 206 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 51' 29.30" N / 77º 00' 10.46" W

Site name: SAS-204 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 158 feet **Total depth:** 329 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 50' 55.03" N / 77º 00' 20.65" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: SAS-204 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 158 feet **Total depth:** 329 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 50' 55.03" N / 77º 00' 20.65" W

Site name: SAS-204 (described by C. Dieter)

Altitude: 158 feet **Total depth:** 329 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 50' 55.03" N / 77º 00' 20.65" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: USNA PW-3 (from Schnabel Engineering Associates, 1995)

Altitude: 14 feet **Total depth:** 306 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 34.00" N / 76º 57' 32.97" W

Core used in section D-D'

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ba 9 (described by C. Klohe on March 10, 2006)

Altitude: 81.26 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 56' 06.5" N / 76° 58' 41.4" W

Site name: WE Ba 9 (described by C. Klohe on March 10, 2006)

Altitude: 81.26 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 56' 06.5" N / 76° 58' 41.4" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ba 10 (described by C. Klohe on March 6, 2006)

Altitude: 74.43 feet **Total depth:** 20 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 55' 34.4" N / 76° 58' 21.4" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 6 (Hansen, 1968)

Altitude: 80 feet **Total depth:** 340 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 30.00" N / 76º 59' 46.98" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 30 (Tenbus, 2003)

Altitude: 3 feet **Total depth:** 30.5 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 05.8" N / 76º 57' 34.2" W

Site name: WE Ca 30 (Tenbus, 2003)

Altitude: 3 feet **Total depth:** 30.5 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 05.8" N / 76º 57' 34.2" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 32, MW-4 (from DCWRRC, 1993a)

Altitude: 80 feet **Total depth:** 42 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 32.00" N / 76º 59' 46.98" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 33 (described by C. Klohe on August 5, 2005)

Altitude: 67.75 feet **Total depth:** 40 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 53' 49.8" N / 76° 59' 28.3" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 34 (described by C. Klohe on August 10, 2005)

Altitude: 19.61 feet **Total depth:** 45.5 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 52' 45.6" N / 76° 58' 35.1" W

Site name: WE Ca 35, USNA PW-2 (from A.C. Schultes of Maryland, Inc. [n.d.], Job #2616)

Altitude: 149.6 feet **Total depth:** 265 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 29.20" N / 76º 58' 36.00" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Ca 38 (described by C. Klohe on March 13, 2006)

Altitude: 45 feet **Total depth:** 24.0 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 54' 16.07" N / 76° 58' 15.54" W

Site name: WE Cb 7 (Tenbus, 2003)

Altitude: 4 feet **Total depth:** 27.9 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 59.5" N / 76º 56' 34.0" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cb 8, MW-1 (from DCWRRC, 1993a)

Altitude: 61 feet **Total Depth:** 277 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 52.00" N / 76º 57' 27.97" W

Site name: WE Cb 8, MW-1 (from DCWRRC, 1993a)

Altitude: 61 feet **Total Depth:** 277 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 52.00" N / 76º 57' 27.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cb 8, MW-1 (from DCWRRC, 1993a)

Altitude: 61 feet **Total Depth:** 277 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 52' 52.00" N / 76º 57' 27.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cb 9, MW-B1 (DCWRRC, 1993b)

Altitude: 45.52 feet **Total depth:** 19 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 53' 55.00" N / 76º 55' 54.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cb 11 (described by C. Klohe on March 13, 2006)

Altitude: 59.99 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 53' 32.1" N / 76° 56' 41.2" W

Site name: WE Cb 11 (described by C. Klohe on March 13, 2006)

Altitude: 59.99 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 53' 32.1" N / 76° 56' 41.2" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cb 12 (described by C. Klohe on August 2, 2005)

Altitude: 60.59 feet **Total depth:** 81 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 53' 32.1" N / 76° 56' 41.2" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WE Cc 3 (described by C. Klohe on March 2, 2006)

Altitude: 88.70 feet **Total depth:** 24 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 53' 27.0" N / 76° 54' 48.5" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WW Bc 8 (described by C. Klohe on March 1, 2006)

Altitude: 123.39 feet **Total depth:** 32 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 55' 19.3" N / 77° 01' 26.9" W

Site name: WW Bc 8 (described by C. Klohe on March 1, 2006)

Altitude: 123.39 feet **Total depth:** 32 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 55' 19.3" N / 77° 01' 26.9" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WW Bc 9 (described by C. Klohe on March 3, 2006)

Altitude: 133.60 feet **Total Depth:** 36.0 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 55' 27.8" N / 77° 00' 07.7" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WW Cc 26 (from Hansen, 1968)

Altitude: 65 feet **Total depth:** 85 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38º 54' 10.00" N / 77º 01' 53.97" W

Appendix 1. Lithologic descriptions.—Continued

Site name: WW Cc 37 (described by R. Starsoneck on August 11, 2005)

Altitude: 84 feet **Total depth:** 36 feet

Latitude / Longitude: 38° 54' 43.41" N / 77° 01' 34.66" W

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Appendix 2. Continuous Groundwater-Level and Temperature Measurements at Sites We Bb 3, We Bb 4, We Cb 5, We Cb 6, We Cb 8, and We Cb 12

Figure 2.1. *A*, Continuous groundwater level and *B*, temperature measurements at sites WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, WE Cb 8, and WE Cb 12. Altitudes of water levels are shown in feet relative to North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88).

Figure 2.1. *A*, Continuous groundwater level and *B*, temperature measurements at sites WE Bb 3, WE Bb 4, WE Cb 5, WE Cb 6, WE Cb 8, and WE Cb 12.—Continued

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Publishing support provided by the U.S. Geological Survey Science Publishing Network, West Trenton and Sacramento Publishing Service Centers

ISSN 2328-0328 (online) <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195128>