

Hydrogeology in the Vicinity of Test Holes and Wells on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

By Robert P. Graves

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Water-Resources Investigations Report 96-4004

Prepared in cooperation with the

U.S. OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

San Juan, Puerto Rico
1996



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BRUCE BABBITT, Secretary

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Gordon P. Eaton, Director

For additional information write to:

District Chief
U.S. Geological Survey
GSA Center, Suite 400-15
651 Federal Drive
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00965

Copies of this report can be purchased from:

U.S. Geological Survey
Branch of Information Services
Box 25286
Denver, CO 80225-0286

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Abstract..... | 1 |
| Introduction | 1 |
| Test-hole drilling and well completion | 3 |
| Description of study areas | 3 |
| Geology | 23 |
| St. Croix..... | 23 |
| St. Thomas and St. John | 27 |
| Ground-water hydrology | 27 |
| Ground-water occurrence and movement..... | 27 |
| Hydraulic characteristics of the aquifers | 34 |
| Water quality | 35 |
| Summary..... | 46 |
| References | 47 |

ILLUSTRATIONS

1 - 10. Maps showing:

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Location of the U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 2 |
| 2. Location of wells 1 through 5 and well 27, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 13 |
| 3. Location of wells 6 through 20, wells 24 through 26, and wells 28 through 36, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands | 14 |
| 4. Location of wells 21 through 23, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands | 16 |
| 5. Location of wells 37 through 58, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands | 17 |
| 6. Location of wells 59 through 66, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 18 |
| 7. Location of wells 67 through 77, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 19 |
| 8. General drainage features of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands | 22 |
| 9. General drainage features of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands | 24 |
| 10. General drainage features of St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 25 |
| 11. Bar graphs showing mean monthly rainfall for St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, 1982-92..... | 26 |

12 - 17. Graphs showing:

| | |
|---|----|
| 12. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells VIWAPA 02, VIWAPA 03, and VIWAPA 17, Adventure well field, and monthly rainfall, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992..... | 28 |
| 13. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells VIWAPA 06/DPW 06, Golden Grove, VIWAPA 02, Fairplains, and VIWAPA 23A, Barren Spot, and monthly rainfall, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992 | 29 |
| 14. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells STT-VIEO-06, STT-VIEO-11, and Grade School 03, St. Thomas, and monthly rainfall, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992 | 30 |
| 15. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells STT-VIEO-01, STT-VIEO-10, and STT-VIEO-09, St. Thomas, and monthly rainfall, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1991 through September 1992 | 31 |
| 16. Daily mean ground-water levels in Guinea Gut well, DPW-06 Sussanaberg, and NPS-06 Cinnamon Bay, St. John, and monthly rainfall, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September of 1992..... | 32 |
| 17. Daily mean ground-water levels in STJ-VIEO- 02, 04, and 03, St. John, and monthly rainfall, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1991 through September 1992 | 33 |

18 - 20. Diagrams showing:

| | |
|---|----|
| 18. Major constituents in ground water in wells on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands | 45 |
| 19. Major constituents in ground water in wells on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 45 |
| 20. Major constituents in ground water in wells on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands | 46 |

TABLES

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. Description of test holes drilled on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 4 |
| 2. Description of test holes drilled on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands | 8 |
| 3. Description of test holes drilled on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands | 11 |
| 4. Well name and site identification number of wells drilled on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 20 |
| 5. Transmissivity estimated from specific capacity at selected wells on St. Thomas and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 34 |
| 6. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 36 |
| 7. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands..... | 39 |
| 8. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands | 40 |

CONVERSION FACTORS, ABBREVIATED WATER-QUALITY UNITS, AND ACRONYMS

| | Multiply | By | To obtain |
|--|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| | inch | 25.4 | millimeter |
| | foot | 0.3048 | meter |
| | mile | 1.609 | kilometer |
| | acre | 0.4047 | hectare |
| | square mile | 250.0 | hectare |
| | cubic foot per second | 0.02832 | cubic meter per second |
| | gallon per minute | 0.06308 | liter per second |
| | gallon per minute per foot | 0.2070 | liter per second per meter |
| | foot per day ¹ | 0.3048 | meter per day |
| | square foot per day | 0.09290 | square meter per day |

¹ The standard unit for transmissivity is cubic foot per day per square foot times foot of an aquifer thickness [(ft³/d)/ft²]ft. In this report, the mathematically reduced form, foot squared per day (ft²/d), is used for convenience.

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

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = 5/9 (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32)$$

Abbreviated water-quality units used in report:

microgram per liter (µg/L)

milligram per liter (mg/L)

microsiemens per centimeter at 25 °C (µS/cm)

Acronyms used in report:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI)

U.S. Virgin Islands Energy Office (VIEO)

U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (VIWAPA)

Hydrogeology in the Vicinity of Test Holes and Wells on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

By Robert P. Graves

ABSTRACT

The islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, were devastated by Hurricane Hugo on September 17 and 18, 1989. Damage to the islands water-supply infrastructure prevented rapid restoration of this basic service. In St. Croix, several well fields, which had limited use in recent years, were used to provide emergency water supplies to the island. Recognizing the need for a better understanding of the hydrogeology of the U.S. Virgin Islands, the U.S. Geological Survey conducted an investigation from May 1990 through September 1992, to determine the occurrence and quality of ground water so emergency ground-water supplies could be developed to mitigate natural or man induced disasters.

The geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands is varied. The geology of St. Croix includes alluvial deposits and carbonate and volcanic rocks. The geology of St. Thomas and St. John is dominated by volcanic rocks with local alluvial deposits in small coastal embayments. Carbonate deposits are present on St. Thomas and St. John but only in minor isolated outcrops.

Ground water occurs under water-table conditions on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. On St. Croix, most ground-water development occurs in the carbonate rock and overlying alluvial deposits. On St. Thomas and St. John the principal source of ground water is from the fractured volcanic rock and overlying alluvial

deposits. Ground water depth below land surface ranges from approximately 4 to 62 feet on St. Croix, 3 to 74 feet on St. Thomas, and 8 to 60 feet on St. John. Aquifer transmissivities range from about 200 to 4,000 feet squared per day on St. Croix and from 200 to 2,500 feet squared per day on St. Thomas and St. John. Well yields for emergency supply wells on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John range from about 14 to 80 gallons per minute.

Ground water in the U.S. Virgin Islands is predominantly of the sodium chloride type. Ground-water samples collected from selected wells had chloride concentrations ranging from 116 to 3,870 milligrams per liter and dissolved solids concentrations ranging from 542 to 2,470 milligrams per liter. On St. Croix, depending on location, the sodium chloride is due to connate water or to seawater intrusion. Data were not available to determine the source of sodium chloride on St. Thomas or St. John.

INTRODUCTION

The islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) (fig. 1), were devastated by Hurricane Hugo on September 17 and 18, 1989. Rapid restoration of basic services such as drinking water was not possible because of damage to the infrastructure that provides water to these islands. For municipal water supplies, the USVI had been supplied primarily by desalinization plants and, only minimally, by isolated ground-water supplies.

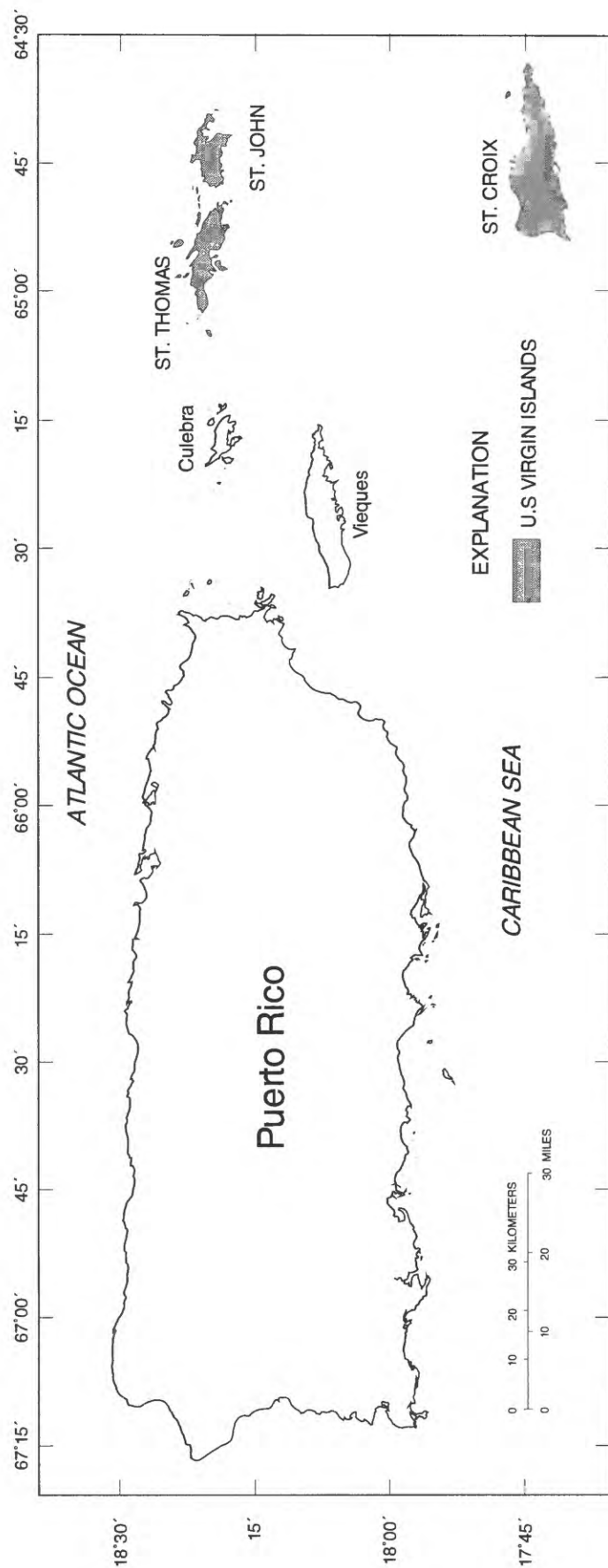


Figure 1. Location of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Following Hurricane Hugo the desalination plant in St. Croix was so heavily damaged that full recovery of the plant was not possible for weeks following the storm. Fortunately, in St. Croix, several well fields, which had limited use in recent years, were connected to the water distribution system for emergency water supply. The availability of water from these well fields prevented a serious water crisis in St. Croix.

Recognizing the need for a better understanding of the hydrogeology of the USVI, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in cooperation with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, conducted an investigation from May 1990 through September 1992, to determine the occurrence and quality of ground water so emergency ground-water supplies could be developed to mitigate natural or man induced disasters. This report describes the hydrogeology of selected lands on the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, USVI. Data used in this report are based largely on information obtained through test-hole drilling and well completion.

TEST-HOLE DRILLING AND WELL COMPLETION

During this investigation, 61 test holes were drilled (tables 1, 2, and 3). Of these test holes, 12 were completed as observation wells, 27 were completed as emergency water supply wells, and 22 were back-filled and abandoned. Of the 12 observation wells completed, 8 were instrumented by the USGS with continuous water-level recorders to monitor ground-water level fluctuations. Of the 27 emergency water supply wells completed, specific capacity tests to determine aquifer transmissivity were conducted on 12 wells and all of the wells were sampled for water-quality analysis. The test-hole drilling for this study was completed using the reverse-air circulation drilling method with an open-center reverse-air drill bit (Graves, 1992). Information used in this report not only includes data from the test holes drilled and wells completed, but also from 16 previously existing wells. Ten of the existing wells were instrumented with continuous water-level recorders. Water-quality samples were collected at six of the existing wells.

The locations of all wells used in this study are shown in figures 2 through 7. Well numbers, names, and site identification numbers for these wells are given in table 4. The well numbers in table 4 apply only to this report. However, the site-identification numbers conform with the established USGS Ground-Water Site Inventory numbering system (Mathey, 1990). The site-identification number does not change and can be used to reference a specific well in other USGS publications.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREAS

St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John are the largest of more than 50 islands and cays that make up the USVI. The USVI are located from 50 to 100 miles east and southeast of Puerto Rico and form part of the Antilles island arch, which separates the Caribbean Sea from the Atlantic Ocean (fig.1) (Jordan and Cosner, 1973).

The island of St. Croix is approximately 22 miles long, ranges from 1 to 6 miles in width, and has an area of approximately 84 square miles. The island is characterized by a mountainous area in the north, west, and east, with the northern mountainous area flanked by a rolling plain to the south (fig. 8) (Rivera and others, 1970). The highest elevation on St. Croix is 1,165 feet above mean sea level. The northern and western mountains are marked by many narrow, steep-sided valleys through which deeply cut intermittent streams discharge. The stream valleys of the eastern mountainous area are also intermittent but are not as sharply incised as the northern and western areas. Drainage on St. Croix can occur in all directions; however, the principal direction of drainage is either south or southeast.

The island of St. Thomas is approximately 14 miles long, ranges from 2 to 3 miles in width, and has an approximate area of 32 square miles. The land surface of St. Thomas is almost entirely sloping and extends seaward from a central ridge, which attains an elevation of 800 to 1,200 feet above mean sea level and runs the length of the island (Jordan and Cosner, 1973). Coastal plains are almost completely absent and flat land is confined to only a few small embayments.

Table 1. Description of test holes drilled on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

[mm-dd-yy, month-day-year; ft-blstd, feet below land surface datum; gal/min, gallons per minute; mg/L, milligrams per liter; μ S/cm, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; STXT, St. Croix-test hole that was backfilled; STX, St. Croix; EGWS, emergency ground-water supply; --, data not available]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blstd) | Well construction (ft-blstd) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blstd) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 STXT-01 | 07-15-92 | 80 | test hole back filled | -- | 440 | 2,230 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 46 46 - 80 |
| 2 STX-EGWS-01 | 07-15-92 | 70 | 6-inch casing 0 - 30 6-inch screen 30 - 70 | 45 | 210 | 1,470 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 70 70 |
| 3 STX-EGWS-02 | 07-17-92 | 69 | 6-inch casing 0 - 30 6-inch screen 30 - 69 | 30 | 225 | 1,400 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 60 60 - 69 |
| 4 STXT-02 | 07-20-92 | 60 | test hole back filled | -- | 715 | 2,750 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits 0 - 1 1 - 60 |
| 5 STX-EGWS-03 | 07-21-92 | 80 | 6-inch casing 0 - 40 6-inch screen 40 - 80 | 20 | 200 | 1,440 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 70 70 - 80 |
| 6 STXT-03 | 07-22-92 | 120 | test hole back filled | -- | 1,400 | 5,650 | Kingshill Limestone 0 - 120 |
| 7 STX-EGWS-04 | 07-23-92 | 160 | 6-inch casing 0 - 120 6-inch screen 120 - 160 | 15 | 465 | 2,680 | Topsoil Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 160 |
| 8 STXT-04 | 07-28-92 | 120 | test hole back filled | -- | -- | -- | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 2 2 - 19 19 - 120 |

Table 1. Description of test holes drilled on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsl) | Well construction (ft-blsl) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blsl) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 9 STX-EGWS-05 | 07-28-92 | 130 | 6-inch casing 0 - 86 6-inch screen 86 - 126 | 35 | 340 | 2,290 | Kingshill Limestone 0 - 130 |
| 10 STXT-05 | 07-29-92 | 110 | test hole back filled | -- | 295 | 1,700 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone Jealousy Formation 0 - 18 18 - 102 102 - 110 |
| 11 STXT-06 | 07-30-92 | 90 | test hole back filled | -- | 310 | 1,900 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone Jealousy Formation 0 - 13 13 - 88 88 - 90 |
| 12 STX-EGWS-06 | 07-30-92 | 96 | 6-inch casing 0 - 52 6-inch screen 52 - 92 | 25 | 290 | 1,990 | Topsoil Kingshill Limestone Jealousy Formation 0 - 42 42 - 92 92 - 96 |
| 13 STX-EGWS-07 | 08-03-92 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 60 6-inch screen 60 - 120 | 25 | 340 | 2,140 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 34 34 - 120 |
| 14 STX-EGWS-08 | 08-04-92 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 70 6-inch screen 70 - 120 | 25 | 300 | 2,180 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 41 41 - 120 |
| 15 STXT-07 | 08-06-92 | 115 | test hole back filled | -- | 275 | -- | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone Jealousy Formation 0 - 1 1 - ? ? - 112 112 - 115 |
| 16 STXT-08 | 08-06-92 | 120 | test hole back filled | -- | 365 | -- | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 48 48 - 120 |

Table 1. Description of test holes drilled on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsd) | Well construction (ft-blsd) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blsd) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 17 STX-EGWS-09 | 08-07-92 - 08-10-92 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 100 6-inch screen 100 - 120 | 80 | 720 | 3,670 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 64 64 - 120 |
| 18 STX-EGWS-10 | 08-11-92 - 08-12-92 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 80 6-inch screen 80 - 120 | 35 | 740 | 3,640 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 60 60 - 120 |
| 19 STX-EGWS-11 | 08-13-92 - 08-14-92 | 190 | 6-inch casing 0 - 140 6-inch screen 140 - 190 | 35 | 290 | 2,520 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 8 8 - 190 |
| 20 STXT-09 | 08-18-92 - 08-19-92 | 140 | test hole back filled | -- | 380 | 2,360 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 54 54 - 140 |
| 21 STX-EGWS-12 | 08-19-92 - 08-20-92 | 240 | 6-inch casing 0 - 150 6-inch screen 150 - 230 | 80 | 1,000 | 4,290 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 23 23 - 240 |
| 22 STXT-10 | 08-24-92 | 120 | test hole back filled | -- | 705 | 4,270 | Kingshill Limestone 0 - 120 |
| 23 STX-EGWS-13 | 08-25-92 | 130 | 6-inch casing 0 - 70 6-inch screen 70 - 130 | 14 | 375 | 2,210 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 60 60 - 130 |
| 24 STX-EGWS-14 | 08-31-92 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 70 6-inch screen 70 - 120 | 35 | 285 | 1,980 | Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 70 70 - 120 |

Table 1. Description of test holes drilled on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsd) | Well construction (ft-blsd) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value µs/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blsd) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 25 STXT-11 | 09-01-92 - 09-02-92 | 160 | test hole back filled | -- | 340 | 2,200 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 77 77 - 160 |
| 26 STXT-12 | 09-02-92 | 70 | test hole back filled | -- | well dry | well dry | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 62 62 - 70 |
| 27 STXO-01 | 09-03-92 | 70 | 4-inch casing 0 - 30 4-inch screen 30 - 70 | 25 | 250 | 1,650 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 65 65 - 70 |
| 28 STXO-02 | 09-04-92 | 130 | 4-inch casing 0 - 90 4-inch screen 90 - 130 | 45 | 425 | 2,580 | Topsoil Kingshill Limestone 0 - 2 2 - 130 |
| 29 STX-EGWS-15 | 09-10-92 | 130 | 6-inch casing 0 - 85 6-inch screen 85 - 125 | 20 | 350 | 2,270 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone Jealousy Formation 0 - 1 1 - 52 52 - 127 127 - 130 |
| 30 STXO-03 | 09-08-92 | 120 | 4-inch casing 0 - 80 4-inch screen 80 - 120 | 30 | 370 | 2,310 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Kingshill Limestone 0 - 1 1 - 40 40 - 120 |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown on figures 2, 3, or 4.

Table 2. Description of test holes drilled on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

[mm-dd-yy, month-day-year; ft-blscd, feet below land surface datum; gal/min, gallons per minute; mg/L, milligrams per liter; μ S/cm, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; --, data not available; STT, St. Thomas; EGWS emergency ground-water supply; VIEO, Virgin Islands Energy Office]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blscd) | Well construction (ft-blscd) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blscd) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 37 STT-EGWS-01 | 11-19-90 - 12-04-90 | 160 | 6-inch casing 0 - 90 6-inch screen 90 - 160 | 17 | 400 | 2,150 | Topsoil 0 - 3 Alluvial deposits 3 - 65 Volcanic rock 65 - 160 |
| 38 STT-EGWS-02 | 01-28-91 - 01-31-91 | 158 | 6-inch casing 0 - 100 6-inch screen 100 - 158 | 18 | 212 | 1,646 | Alluvial deposits 0 - 45 Volcanic rock 45 - 158 |
| 39 STT-EGWS-03 | 01-31-91 - 02-04-91 | 140 | 6-inch casing 0 - 100 6-inch screen 100 - 140 | 45 | 274 | 1,740 | Topsoil 0 - 1 Alluvial deposits 1 - 50 Volcanic rock 50 - 140 |
| 40 STT-VIEO-01 (observation well) | 02-05-91 | 145 | 4-inch casing 0 - 100 4-inch screen 100 - 145 | 35 | 180 | 1,300 | Topsoil 0 - 1 Alluvial deposits 1 - 54 Volcanic rock 54 - 145 |
| 41 STT-EGWS-04 | 06-24-91 - 06-25-91 | 70 | 6-inch casing 0 - 50 6-inch screen 50 - 70 | 30 | 116 | 1,090 | Topsoil 0 - 1 Alluvial deposits 1 - 32 Volcanic rock 32 - 70 |
| 42 STT-EGWS-05 | 06-26-91 - 06-27-91 | 95 | 6-inch casing 0 - 62 6-inch screen 62 - 94 | 40 | 140 | 1,180 | Alluvial deposits 0 - 50 Volcanic rock 50 - 95 |
| 43 STT-VIEO-05 | 07-01-91 | 20 | test hole back filled | -- | -- | -- | Alluvial deposits 0 - 12 Volcanic rock 12 - 20 |

Table 2. Description of test holes drilled on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsl) | Well construction (ft-blsl) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blsl) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 44 STT-VIEO-06 (observation well) | 07-01-91 | 76 | 4-inch casing 0 - 56 4-inch screen 56 - 76 | 14 | 116 | 1,180 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 2 2 - 35 35 - 76 |
| 45 STT-EGWS-06 | 07-02-91 - 07-05-91 | 120 | 6-inch casing 0 - 70 6-inch screen 70 - 120 | 50 | 224 | 1,680 | Fill material Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 12 12 - 63 63 - 120 |
| 46 STT-VIEO-07 | 07-08-91 | 40 | test hole back filled | -- | 1,910 | 6,800 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 33 33 - 40 |
| 47 STT-VIEO-08 (observation well) | 07-09-91 | 57 | 4-inch casing 0 - 37 4-inch screen 37 - 57 | -- | 780 | 3,360 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 1 1 - 24 24 - 57 |
| 48 STT-VIEO-09 (observation well) | 07-10-91 | 35 | 4-inch casing 0 - 6 4-inch screen 6 - 35 | -- | 350 | 2,060 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 1 - 28 28 - 35 |
| 49 STT-EGWS-07 | 07-10-91 - 07-11-91 | 58 | 6-inch casing 0 - 38 6-inch screen 38 - 58 | 35 | 288 | 1,940 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 32 32 - 58 |
| 50 STT-VIEO-10 (observation well) | 07-12-91 - 07-15-91 | 53 | 4-inch casing 0 - 27 4-inch screen 27 - 53 | -- | -- | 2,400 | Limestone Volcanic rock 0 - 44 44 - 53 |
| 51 STT-EGWS-08 | 07-15-91 - 07-16-91 | 35 | 6-inch casing 0 - 13 6-inch screen 13 - 33 | 25 | 454 | 2,600 | Alluvial deposits 0 - 35 |

Table 2. Description of test holes drilled on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsl) | Well construction (ft-blsl) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value $\mu\text{S/cm}$) | Subsurface material (ft-blsl) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 52 STT-EGWS-09 | 07-17-91 - | 140 | 6-inch casing | 40 | 222 | 1,290 | Fill material |
| | 07-18-91 | | 0 - 100 6-inch screen 100 - 140 | | | | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock |
| 53 STT-EGWS-10 | 07-19-91 - | 120 | 6-inch casing | 40 | 182 | 1,475 | Alluvial deposits |
| | 07-22-91 | | 0 - 80 6-inch screen 80 - 120 | | | | Volcanic rock |
| 54 STT-VIEO-11 (observation well) | 07-23-91 - | 110 | 6-inch casing | 14 | 426 | 2,200 | Topsoil |
| | 07-24-91 | | 0 - 90 6-inch screen 90 - 110 | | | | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock |
| 55 STT-VIEO-12 | 07-24-91 - | 115 | test hole | -- | 426 | 1,600 | Alluvial deposits |
| | 07-25-91 | | back filled | | | | Volcanic rock |
| 56 STT-EGWS-11 | 07-29-91 - | 110 | 6-inch casing | 30 | 212 | 1,550 | Alluvial deposits |
| | 07-30-91 | | 0 - 70 6-inch screen 70 - 110 | | | | Volcanic rock |
| 57 STT-VIEO-13 | 07-30-91 - | 105 | test hole | -- | 676 | 3,475 | Alluvial deposits |
| | 07-31-91 | | back filled | | | | Volcanic rock |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown in figure 5.

Table 3. Description of test holes drilled on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

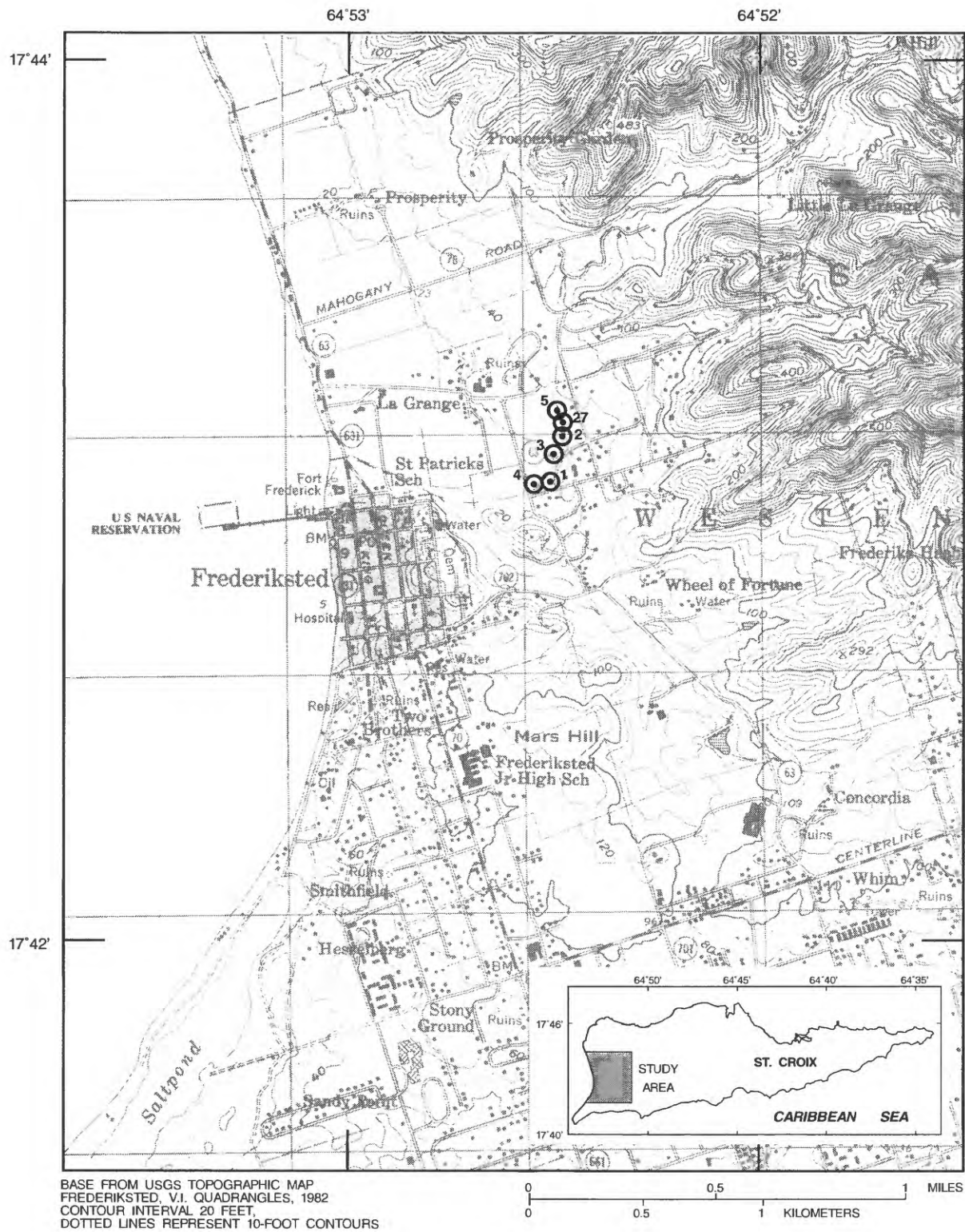
[mm-dd-yy, month-day-year; ft-blstd, feet below land surface datum; gal/min, gallons per minute; mg/L, milligrams per liter; μ S/cm, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; STJ, St. John; SJWS, St. John water supply; VIEO, Virgin Islands Energy Office; --, data not available]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blstd) | Well construction (ft-blstd) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blstd) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 68 STJ-SJWS-01 | 02-14-91 - 02-15-91 | 100 | test hole back filled | -- | 1,256 | 4,680 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 24 24 - 100 |
| 69 STJ-VIEO-02 (observation well) | 02-15-91 - 02-19-91 | 70 | 4-inch casing 0 - 26 4-inch screen 26 - 66 | 7 | 1,048 | 4,180 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 1 1 - 32 32 - 70 |
| 70 STJ-SJWS-02 | 02-19-91 - 02-20-91 | 47 | 6-inch casing 0 - 26 6-inch screen 26 - 46 | 20 | 526 | 2,160 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 1 1 - 20 20 - 47 |
| 71 STJ-SJWS-03 | 02-21-91 | 46 | test hole back filled | -- | 3,870 | 11,870 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 30 30 - 46 |
| 72 STJ-SJWS-04 | 02-22-91 | 47 | test hole back filled | -- | 550 | 3,100 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits 0 - 1 1 - 47 |
| 73 STJ-VIEO-03 (observation well) | 02-25-91 - 02-26-91 | 110 | 4-inch casing 0 - 50 4-inch screen 54 - 110 | 4 | 1,178 | 4,750 | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 54 50 - 110 |
| 74 STJ-SJWS-05 | 02-26-91 | 50 | test hole back filled | -- | 1,828 | 6,610 | Alluvial deposits 0 - 50 |
| 75 STJ-VIEO-04 (observation well) | 02-26-91 - 02-27-91 | 50 | 6-inch casing 0 - 20 6-inch screen 20 - 50 | 17 | 788 | 3,010 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits 0 - 1 1 - 50 |

Table 3. Description of test holes drilled on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date drilled (mm-dd-yy) | Depth of test hole (ft-blsl) | Well construction (ft-blsl) | Estimate sustained well yield (gal/min) | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Specific conductance (lab value μ S/cm) | Subsurface material (ft-blsl) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 76 STJ-SJWS-06 | 02-28-91 | 29 | test hole back filled | -- | 894 | 2,600 | Topsoil Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 1 1 - 21 21 - 29 |
| 77 STJ-SJWS-07 | 02-28-91 | 10 | test hole back filled | -- | -- | -- | Alluvial deposits Volcanic rock 0 - 6 6 - 10 |

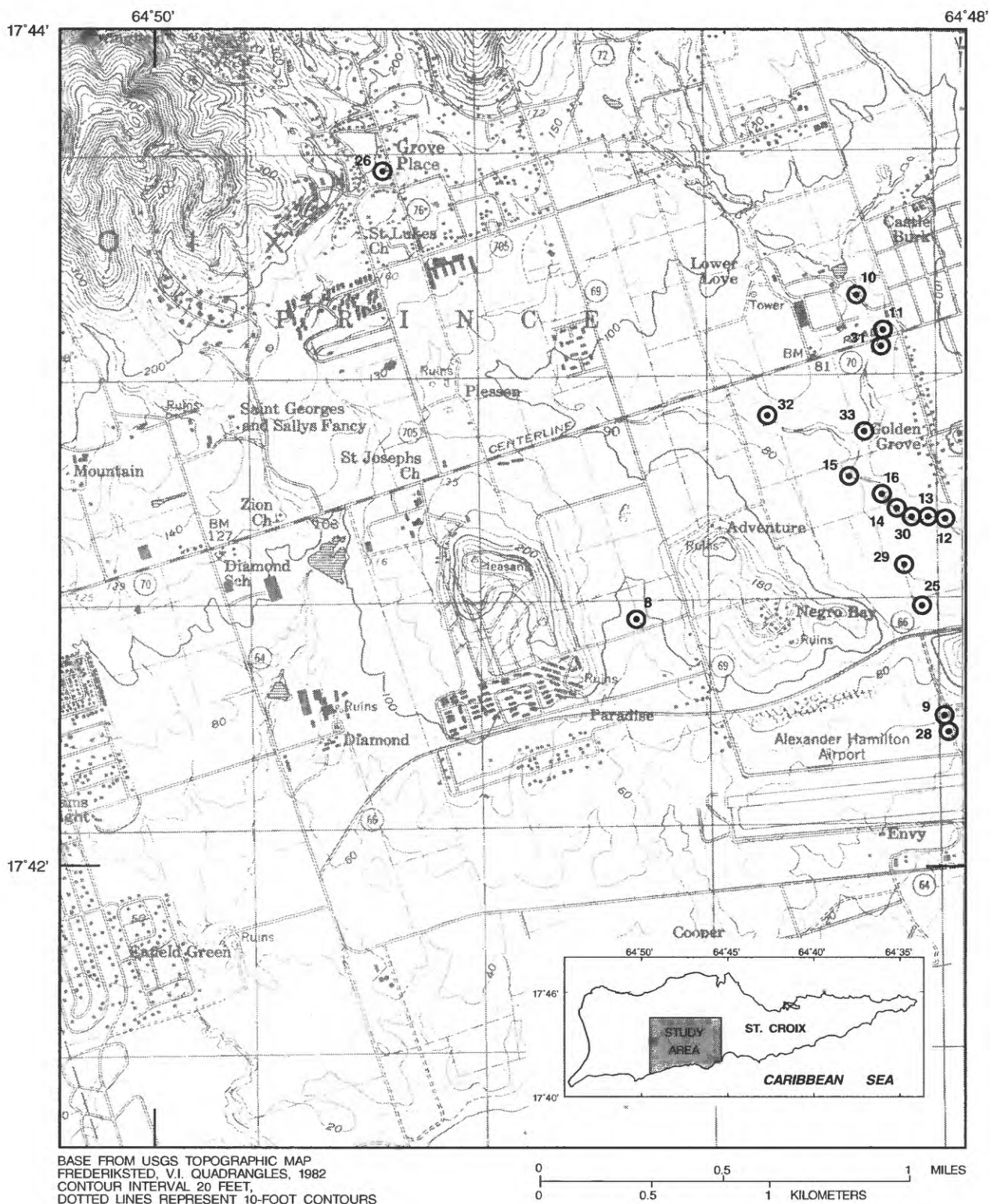
¹ Well number refers to well locations as shown on figures 6 or 7.



EXPLANATION

④ WELL AND NUMBER

Figure 2. Location of wells 1 through 5 and well 27, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.





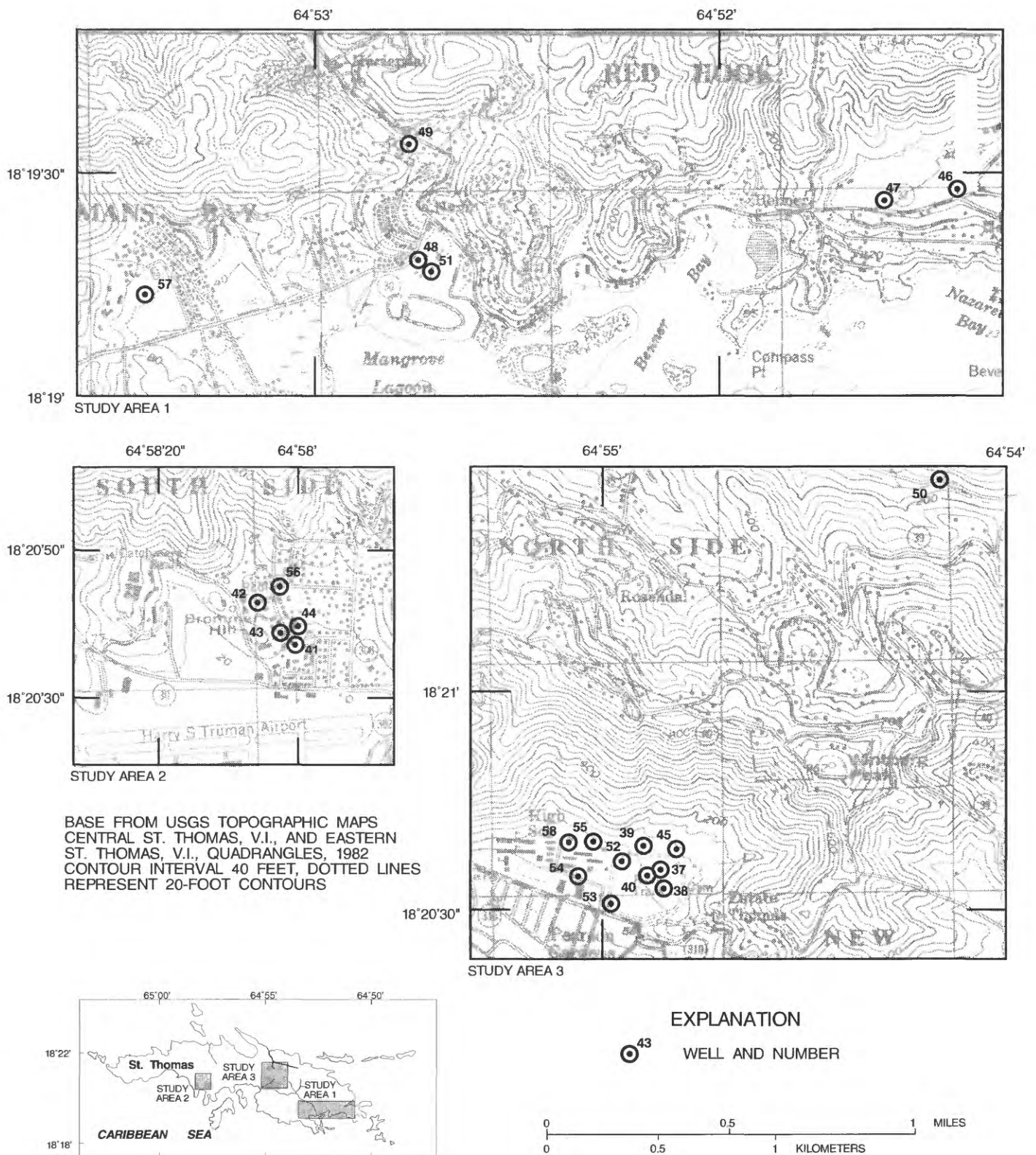


Figure 5. Location of wells 37 through 58, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

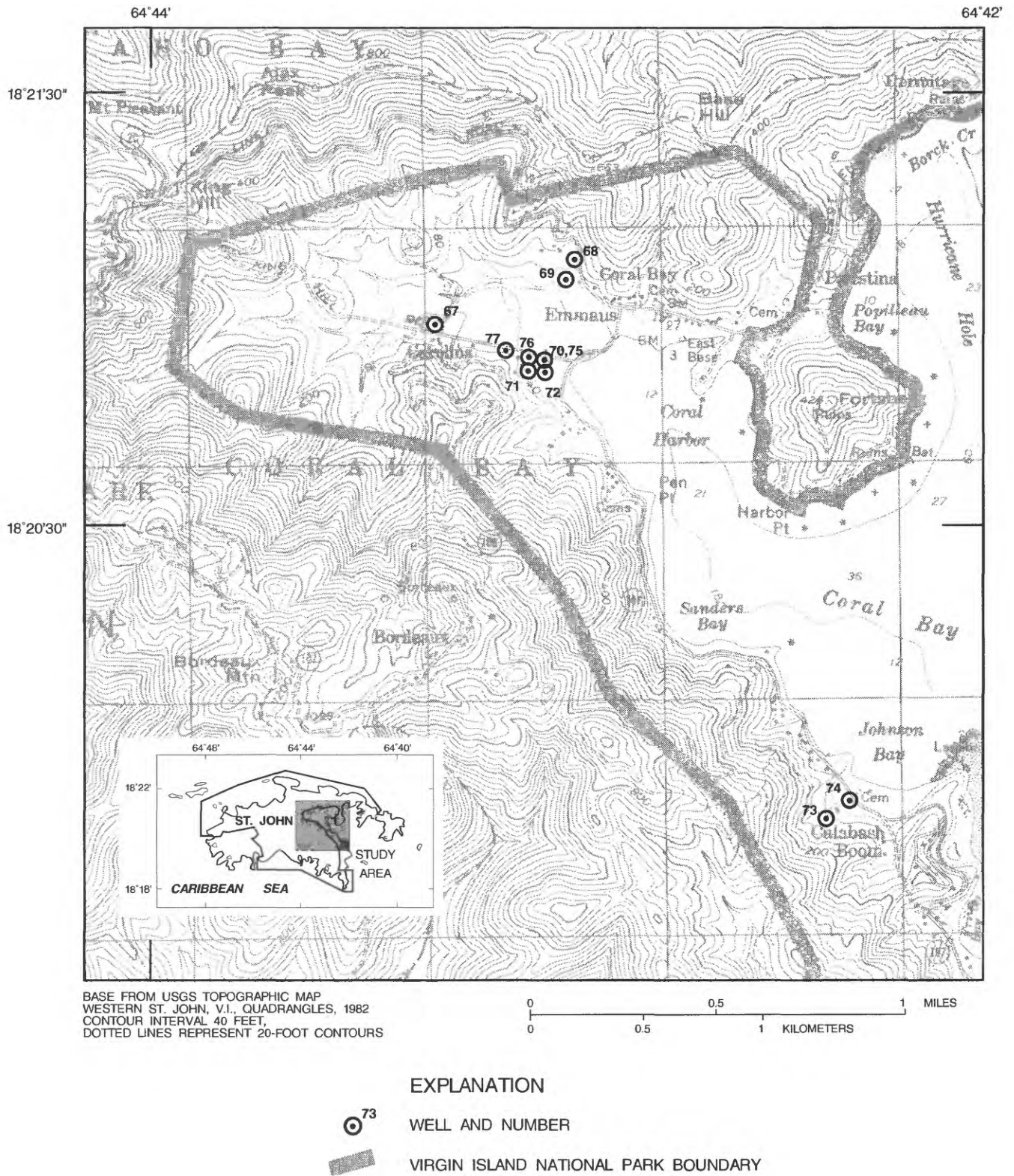


Table 4. Well name and site identification number of wells drilled on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

[STXT, St. Croix-test hole that was backfilled; STX, St. Croix; EGWS, emergency ground-water supply; STXO, St. Croix, observation well; VIWAPA, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority; Adv, Adventure; DPW, Department of Public Works; GG, Golden Grove; FP, Fairplains; BS, Barren Spot; STT, St. Thomas; VIEO Virgin Islands Energy Office; NPS, National Park Service; STJ, St. John; SJWS, St. John water supply; WAPA, Water and Power Authority]

| Well number | Test hole name | USGS Site identification | Well number | Test hole name | USGS Site identification |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | STXT-01 | 174303064523200 | 26 | STXT-12 | 174341064492600 |
| 2 | STX-EGWS-01 | 174309064523000 | 27 | STXO-01 | 174310064523000 |
| 3 | STX-EGWS-02 | 174307064523000 | 28 | STXO-02 | 174222064480200 |
| 4 | STXT-02 | 174303064523300 | 29 | STX-EGWS-15 | 174243064480800 |
| 5 | STX-EGWS-03 | 174312064523000 | 30 | STXO-03 | 174251064480600 |
| 6 | STXT-03 | 174222064474800 | 31 | VIWAPA 17, Adv | 174316064480800 |
| 7 | STX-EGWS-04 | 174222064475300 | 32 | VIWAPA 03, Adv | 174308064482800 |
| 8 | STXT-04 | 174231064484900 | 33 | VIWAPA 02, Adv | 174303064481100 |
| 9 | STX-EGWS-05 | 174223064480300 | 34 | VIWAPA 06 / DPW 06, GG | 174243064475100 |
| 10 | STXT-05 | 174324064481600 | 35 | VIWAPA 02, FP | 174225064472000 |
| 11 | STXT-06 | 174318064481300 | 36 | VIWAPA 23A, BS | 174319064454401 |
| 12 | STX-EGWS-06 | 174251064480200 | 37 | STT-EGWS-01 | 182037064545100 |
| 13 | STX-EGWS-07 | 174251064480500 | 38 | STT-EGWS-02 | 182033064545000 |
| 14 | STX-EGWS-08 | 174252064480900 | 39 | STT-EGWS-03 | 182038064545300 |
| 15 | STXT-07 | 174257064481600 | 40 | STT-VIEO-01 | 182036064545200 |
| 16 | STXT-08 | 174253064481200 | 41 | STT-EGWS-04 | 182037064580000 |
| 17 | STX-EGWS-09 | 174237064471800 | 42 | STT-EGWS-05 | 182042064580600 |
| 18 | STX-EGWS-10 | 174247064471900 | 43 | STT-VIEO-05 | 182037064580200 |
| 19 | STX-EGWS-11 | 174309064464600 | 44 | STT-VIEO-06 | 182038064580000 |
| 20 | STXT-09 | 174240064473800 | 45 | STT-EGWS-06 | 182039064544900 |
| 21 | STX-EGWS-12 | 174419064444500 | 46 | STT-VIEO-07 | 181928064512400 |
| 22 | STXT-10 | 174344064433000 | 47 | STT-VIEO-08 | 181927064513600 |
| 23 | STX-EGWS-13 | 174438064413800 | 48 | STT-VIEO-09 | 181917064524600 |
| 24 | STX-EGWS-14 | 174240064474300 | 49 | STT-EGWS-07 | 181936064524500 |
| 25 | STXT-11 | 174238064480700 | 50 | STT-VIEO-10 | 182131064541000 |

Table 4. Well name and site identification number of wells drilled on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number | Test hole name | USGS Site identification |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 51 | STT-EGWS-08 | 181917064524502 |
| 52 | STT-EGWS-09 | 182037064545700 |
| 53 | STT-EGWS-10 | 182031064545800 |
| 54 | STT-VIEO-11 | 182035064550200 |
| 55 | STT-VIEO-12 | 182039064550401 |
| 56 | STT-EGWS-11 | 182043064580300 |
| 57 | STT-VIEO-13 | 181914064532300 |
| 58 | Grade School 03, St. Thomas | 182038064550300 |
| 59 | NPS-03, Cruz Bay | 182008064473000 |
| 60 | Guinea Gut Well, St. John | 181956064464500 |
| 61 | WAPA/ DPW-02, Susannaberg | 182044064455000 |
| 62 | WAPA/DPW-05, Susannaberg | 182044064454600 |
| 63 | DPW-06, Sussanaberg, St. John | 182042064454500 |
| 64 | NPS-05, Trunk Bay | 182109064460300 |
| 65 | Cinnamon Bay Campground | 182113064451900 |
| 66 | NPS-06, Cinnamon Bay, St. John | 182116064451000 |
| 67 | VI Government WAPA well (USGS 14A) | 182058064432300 |
| 68 | STJ-SJWS-01 | 182107064425900 |
| 69 | STJ-VIEO-02 | 182110064430000 |
| 70 | STJ-SJWS-02 | 182048064430500 |
| 71 | STJ-SJWS-03 | 182052064430500 |
| 72 | STJ-SJWS-04 | 182052064430400 |
| 73 | STJ-VIEO-03 | 181950064422300 |
| 74 | STJ-SJWS-05 | 181952064421700 |
| 75 | STJ-VIEO-04 | 182048064430400 |
| 76 | STJ-SJWS-06 | 182054064430600 |
| 77 | STJ-SJWS-07 | 182054064430800 |

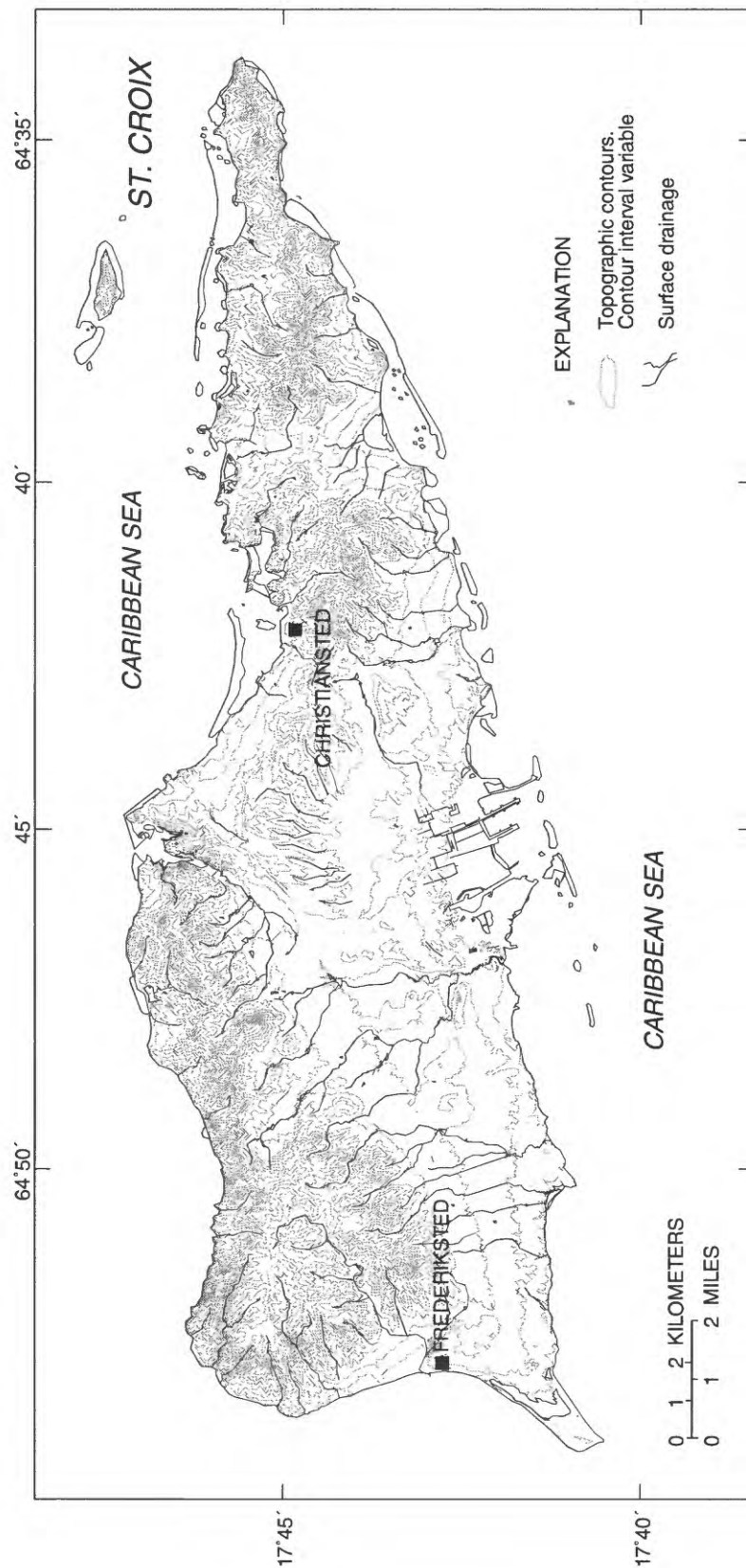


Figure 8. General drainage features of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The only variation in the generally rugged topography is in the upper valley of the Turpentine Run drainage basin (fig. 9) The valley has relatively gentle topography consisting of rolling hills in a basin surrounded by steep slopes and sharp ridges (Jordan and Cosner, 1973). Because of the central ridge running through St. Thomas, drainage can occur in all directions; however the principal direction of drainage is to the north and to the south.

The island of St. John is approximately 9 miles long, ranges 2 to 4 miles in width, and has an approximate area of 19 square miles. The island is composed of a main eastward trending ridge with steep slopes to the north descending to the sea. In contrast, the south side of the ridge has several prominent spur ridges that extend southward (fig. 10) (Cosner, 1972). The highest elevation on St. John is 1,277 feet above mean sea level. The prominent direction of surface drainage on St. John is to the north and to the south. As with St. Thomas, coastal plains are almost completely absent. Flat land is confined to only a few small embayments. About two-thirds of the island lies within the boundaries of the Virgin Islands National Park, which is administered by the U.S. National Park Service.

The mean annual air temperature recorded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John from 1982 to 1992 was 79.6, 80.5, and 78.4 degrees Fahrenheit respectively (U.S. Department of Commerce, 1982 to 1992). Mean annual rainfall recorded by NOAA from 1982 to 1992 for St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John was 40.26, 45.03, and 44.96 inches, respectively. Mean monthly rainfall for 1982 through 1992 ranged from 1.48 inches in February to 5.75 inches in November for St. Croix, ranged from 1.54 inches in March to 6.28 inches in November for St. Thomas, and ranged from 1.46 inches in March to 6.9 inches in November for St. John (fig. 11).

GEOLOGY

Much has been written about the geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands (Cederstrom, 1950; Donnelly 1959; Gerhard and others, 1978; Gill and Hubbard,

1986 and 1987; Hubbard, 1989; and Whetten 1966), as well as about the water resources of the islands (Cederstrom 1950; Cosner, 1972; Graves, 1995; Jordan, 1975; Jordan and Cosner, 1973; and Robison, 1972). Although the geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands is quite complex, in the literature of the water resources of the islands, the geology has been simplified and discussed in generalized terms of volcanic rock or rock of volcanic origin, localized igneous plutonic rock, and carbonate and alluvial deposits. For the purpose of this report, in terms of ground-water development, the geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands will be discussed only in terms of alluvial deposits and carbonate and volcanic rock. For a more detailed discussion of the geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands, the reader is referred to the sited references.

St. Croix

The geology of St. Croix includes alluvial deposits and carbonate and volcanic rocks. Volcanic rock underlies St. Croix and predominates in the mountainous areas around the island (Robison, 1972). The carbonate rock and alluvial deposits are principally in the southerly plains. The carbonate rock is comprised of the Jealousy Formation of Eocene to middle Miocene age, the Kingshill Limestone of Miocene to Pliocene age (Gerhard and others, 1978), and post-Kingshill Carbonates of Pliocene and younger age (Gill and Hubbard, 1986). The results of the test-hole drilling on St. Croix revealed the following lithologies (table 1).

ALLUVIAL DEPOSITS--gravel, sand, silt, and clay, with the dominating grain size varying over the study area. The alluvial deposits are localized and not laterally extensive. A thin 1- to 2-foot topsoil generally overlies the alluvial deposits. The alluvial deposits range in thickness from 8 to 76 feet.

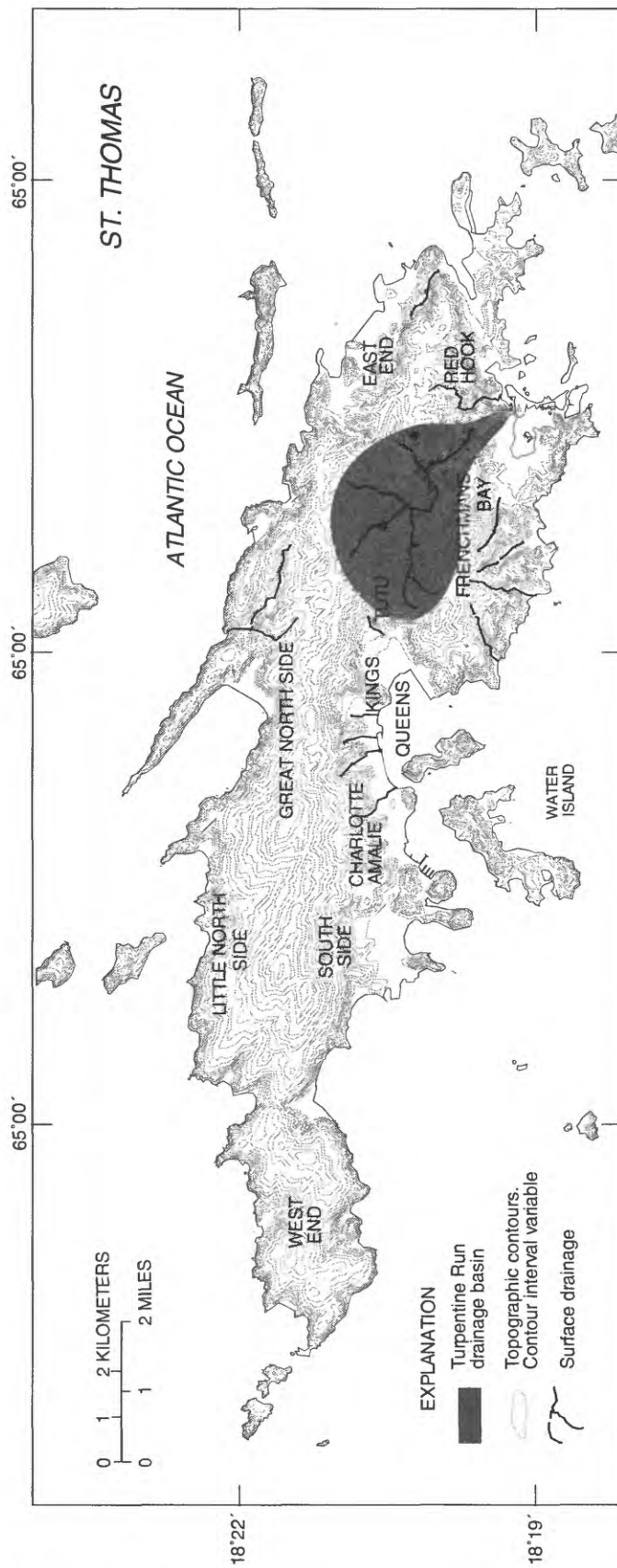


Figure 9. General drainage features of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

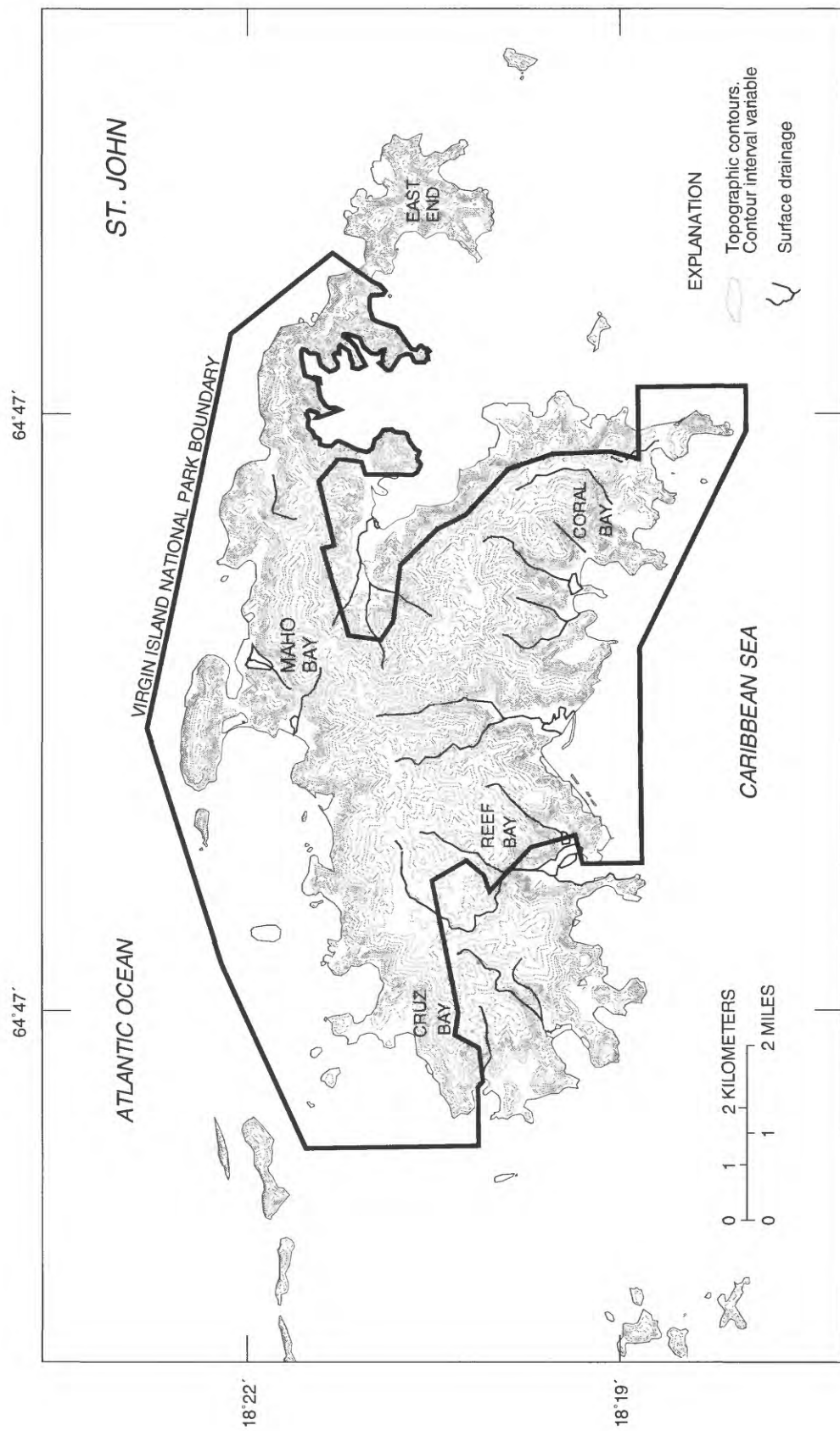


Figure 10. General drainage features of St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands.

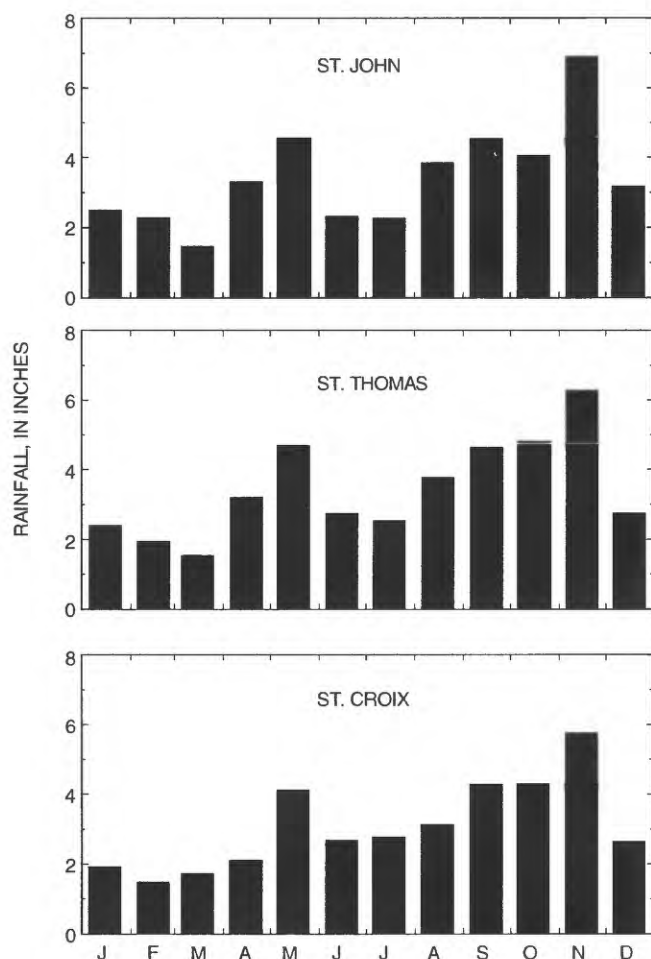


Figure 11. Mean monthly rainfall for St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, 1982-92 (Data from U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1982 and 1992).

KINGSHILL LIMESTONE--generally a white to buff marl which is locally fractured and commonly has iron and manganese oxide stains in the fracture zones. The top of the Kingshill Limestone is at land surface or underlies the thin topsoil or alluvial deposits. Where the bottom of the Kingshill Limestone was penetrated by test holes, the limestone had a thickness ranging from 50 to greater than 217 feet.

JEALOUSY FORMATION--Generally a bluish-gray marl. The Jealousy Formation underlies the Kingshill Limestone. The top of the Jealousy Formation, where penetrated by test holes, ranged from 88 to 127 feet below land surface. The thickness of the Jealousy Formation has been estimated to exceed 1,400 feet (Gill and Hubbard, 1986).

VOLCANIC ROCK--blue to olive gray in color, dense with minor fractures, locally contains zones of highly fractured or shattered rock. The drilling of most test holes on St. Croix was halted when the volcanic rock was encountered, so a thickness was not determined for this unit.

St. Thomas and St. John

The geology of St. Thomas is similar to that of St. John. The islands were formed primarily of volcanic rocks (Donnelly, 1959). The alluvial deposits on each island are present only in the small coastal embayments surrounding the islands and in the valley of Turpentine Run on St. Thomas (Cosner, 1972; Jordan and Cosner, 1973). Carbonate rock is found only rarely on St. Thomas and St. John and is comprised primarily of the Outer Brass Limestone (Donnelly, 1959). The results of the test-hole drilling on St. Thomas and St. John revealed the following lithologies (tables 2 and 3).

ALLUVIAL DEPOSITS--sand and gravel, with some cobbles and boulders, locally contains thin lenses of silt and clay. Locally a 1- to 2-foot top soil overlies the alluvial deposits. Also present locally overlying the alluvial deposits is fill material deposited for land surface build-up for local construction.

VOLCANIC ROCK--greenish to gray in color, dense, indurated, with horizontal and vertical fractures. Locally the volcanic rock is a highly weathered volcanic material (regolith) that occurs as saprolite. Localized zones of highly fractured to shattered volcanic rock are also present.

GROUND-WATER HYDROLOGY

Ground water on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John occurs in the alluvial deposits and carbonate and volcanic rocks. On St. Croix, the principal sources of ground water are the carbonate rock and the overlying alluvial deposits; however, on St. Thomas and St. John, the principal sources of ground water are the volcanic rock and overlying alluvial deposits (Gómez-Gómez and others, 1985).

Ground-Water Occurrence and Movement

Ground-water occurs under water-table conditions on St. Croix and is present principally in the alluvial deposits and the Kingshill Limestone deposits in the southern plains of the island. Because the alluvial deposits are hydraulically connected to the Kingshill Limestone, the alluvial deposits and Kingshill Limestone are considered to be a single hydrologic unit in which the alluvial deposits are saturated. The bottom of this hydrologic unit is the top of the Jealousy Formation, which underlies all of south St. Croix. The Jealousy Formation has been described by Jordan (1975) as a unit of low permeability. Clay facies in the Jealousy Formation are believed to act as a boundary for the overlying Kingshill Limestone and alluvial deposits.

Only 7 of 30 wells were drilled into the volcanic rocks on St. Croix (table 1). Of these 7 wells, 2 were back filled and 1 was used as an observation well. Consequently, because of sparse data, a detailed discussion of the occurrence and movement of ground water in the volcanic rocks of St. Croix is not possible. However, when the results of the test-hole drilling into the volcanic rock of St. Thomas and St. John are discussed, it may be assumed that this information could be transferable to the island of St. Croix in terms of ground-water availability.

Ground-water occurs under water-table conditions on St. Thomas and St. John and is present primarily in the regolith and zones of highly fractured to shattered volcanic rock. As with the Kingshill Limestone on St. Croix, the alluvial deposits on St. Thomas and St. John are hydraulically connected to the underlying volcanic rock and, subsequently, a

single hydrologic unit is assumed to exist in these two units where the alluvial deposits are saturated. The bottom of the water-table aquifer on St. Thomas and St. John is the dense indurated volcanic rock underlying the regolith and zones of highly fractured rock. The low permeability of this indurated rock limits vertical ground-water movement and subsequently acts as the boundary of the overlying rock and alluvial deposits.

Water-table fluctuation occurs seasonally in response to rainfall variation and can fluctuate daily in wells located near pumping wells. Depth below land surface to the water table can range from approximately 4 to 62 feet on St. Croix (figs. 12 and 13), 3 to 74 feet on St. Thomas (figs. 14 and 15), and 8 to 60 feet on St. John (figs. 16 and 17).

Because of the complexity of the aquifers on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John it is impossible to complete an islandwide potentiometric map of any of the islands. Isolated potentiometric maps have been completed by Jordan and Cosner, (1973), Graves and González, (1988), and Torres-González and Rodríguez del Río, (1990). In general the water-table surface on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John parallels the topography and ground-water movement is down gradient, perpendicular to the topographic contour lines, towards the sea.

The quantity of water recharging the Kingshill Limestone aquifer on St. Croix has been estimated to be 3 percent of annual rainfall (Robison, 1972). On St. Thomas, aquifer recharge is infrequent and probably occurs only after periods of heavy rainfall or a series of lesser rains (Jordan and Cosner, 1973). Jordan and Cosner postulated that because of relatively low annual rainfall and high average annual temperatures, most recharge occurred after major storms, which produced more than 2 inches of rainfall. On St. John, Cosner (1972), indicated that because of similarities between the soils of St. John and St. Thomas, recharge on St. John would be similar to that which occurs on St. Thomas. Large water-table rises corresponding with large amounts of rainfall (figs. 12 - 17) are strong evidence of the occurrence of aquifer recharge following a major rainstorm.

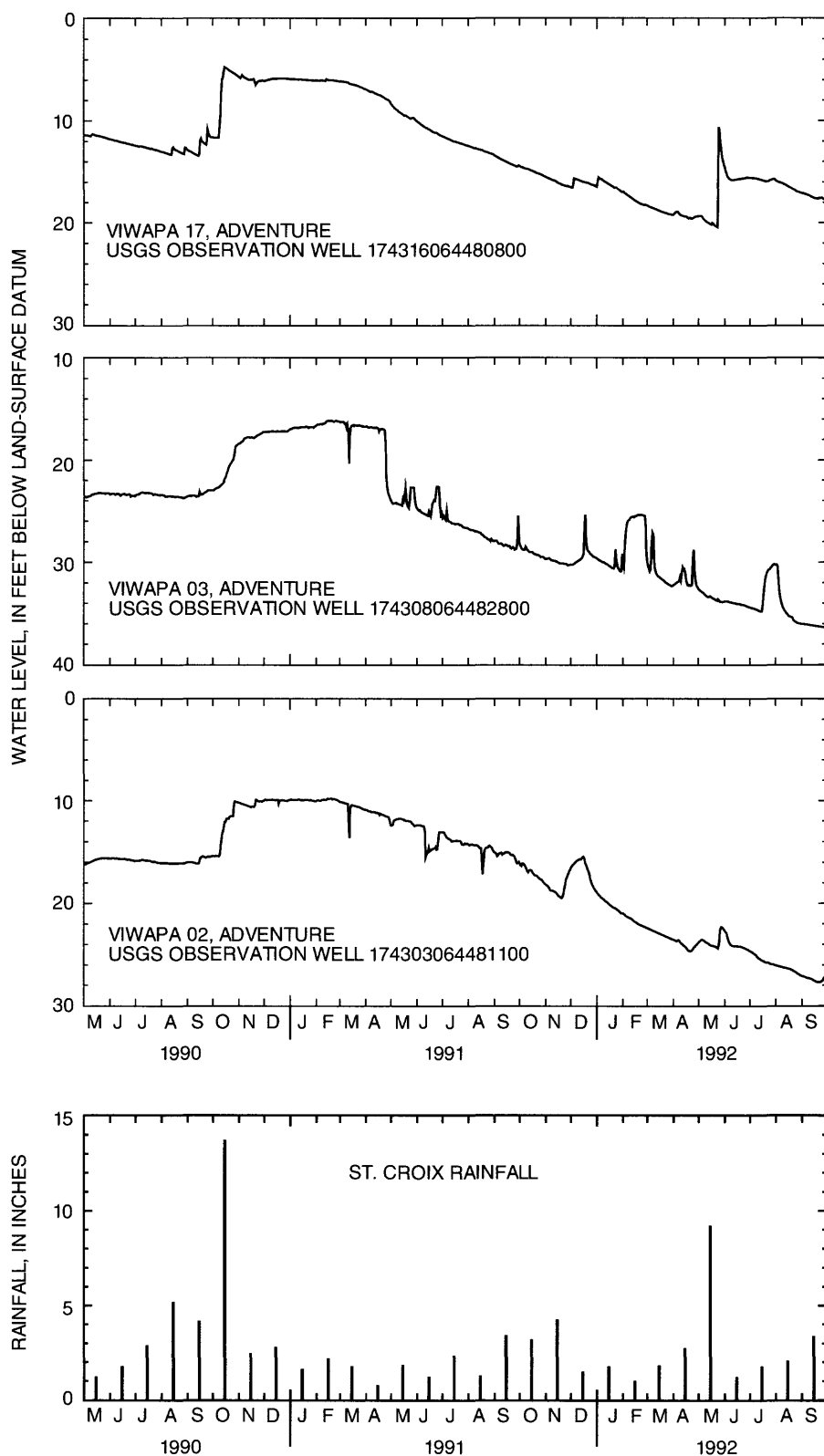


Figure 12. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells VIWAPA 02, VIWAPA 03, and VIWAPA 17, Adventure well field, and monthly rainfall, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992.

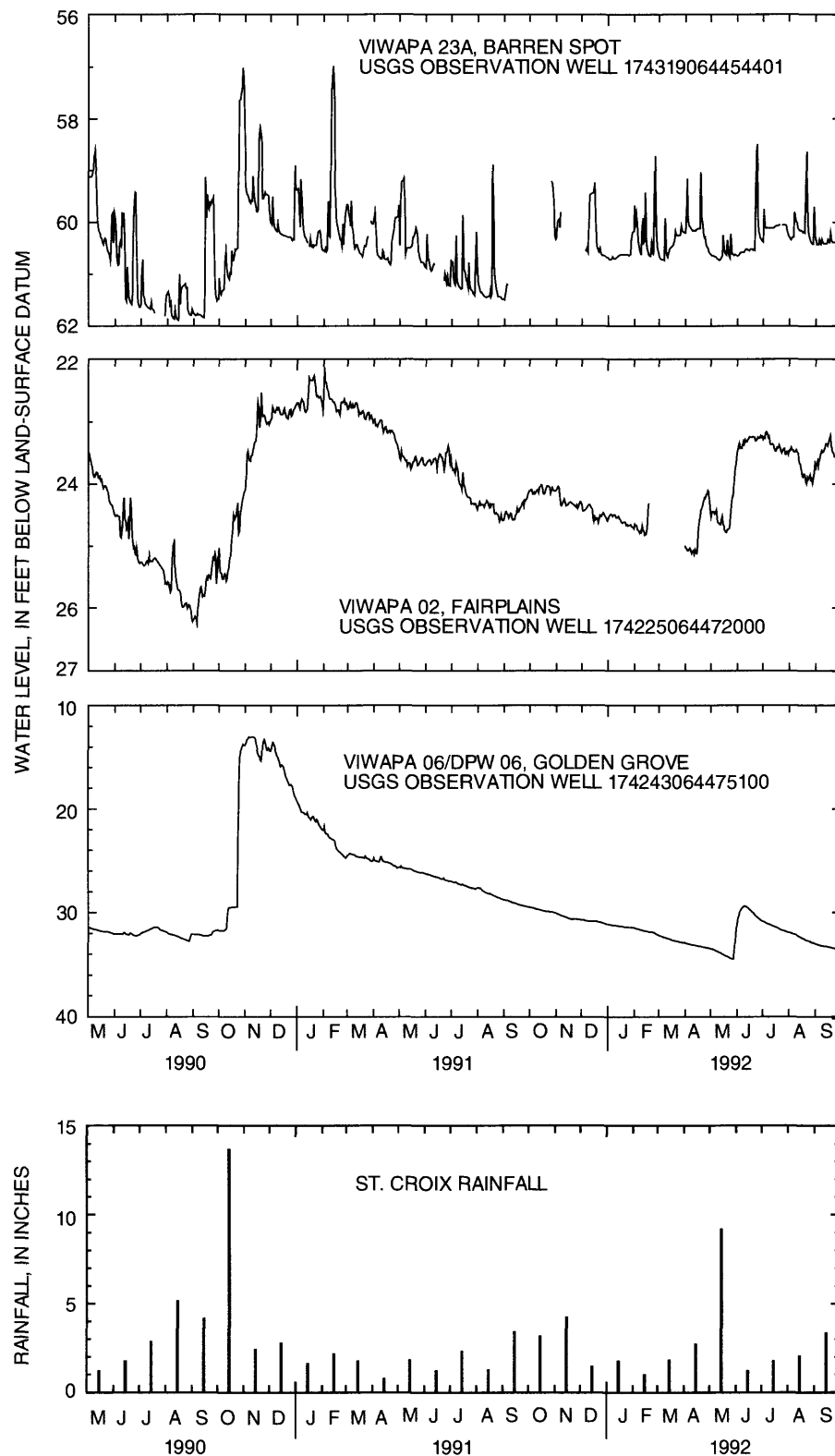


Figure 13. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells VIWAPA 06/DPW 06, Golden Grove, VIWAPA 02, Fairplains, and VIWAPA 23A, Barren Spot, and monthly rainfall, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992.

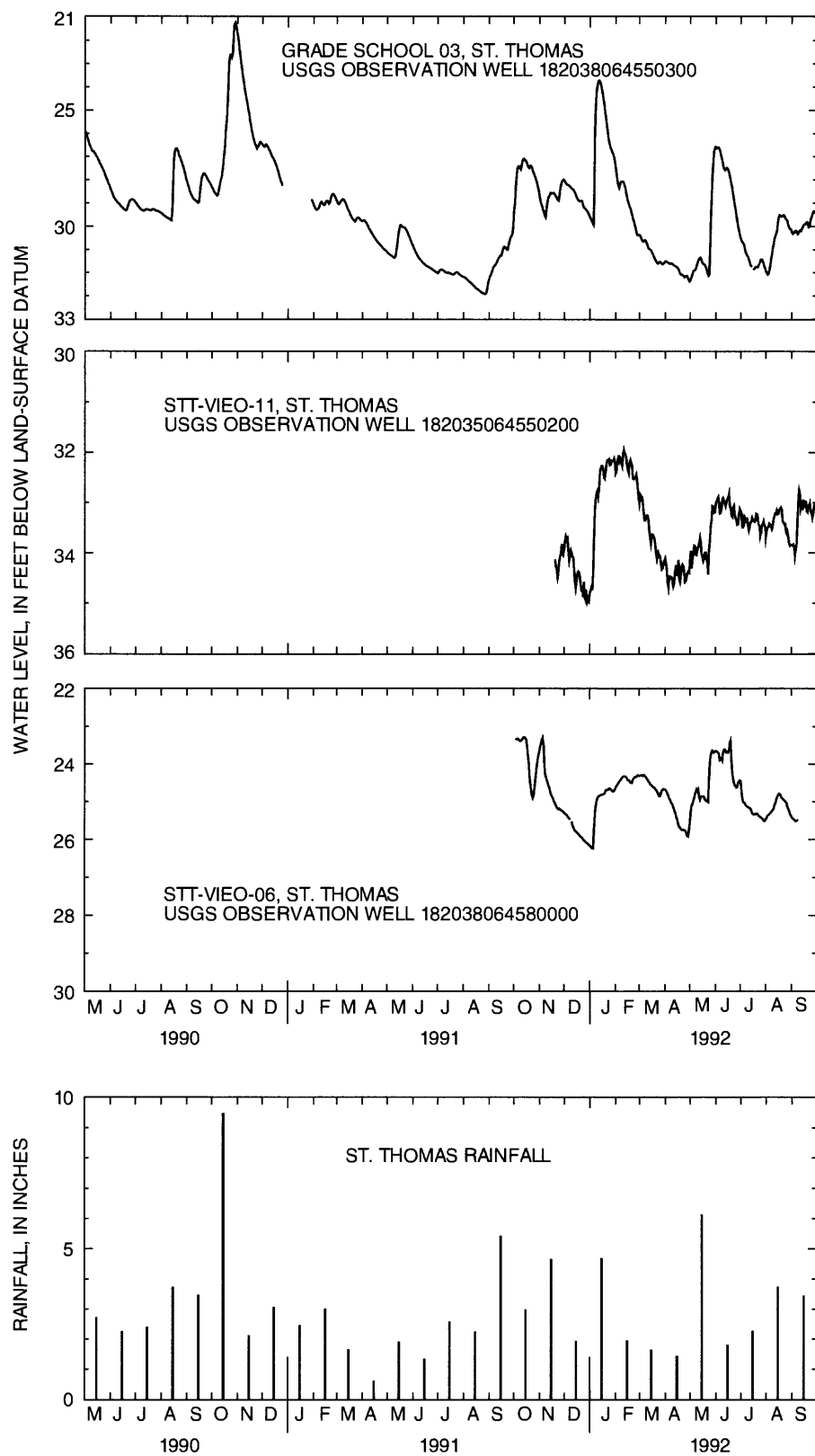


Figure 14. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells STT-VIEO-06, STT-VIEO-11, and Grade School 03, St. Thomas, and monthly rainfall, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992.

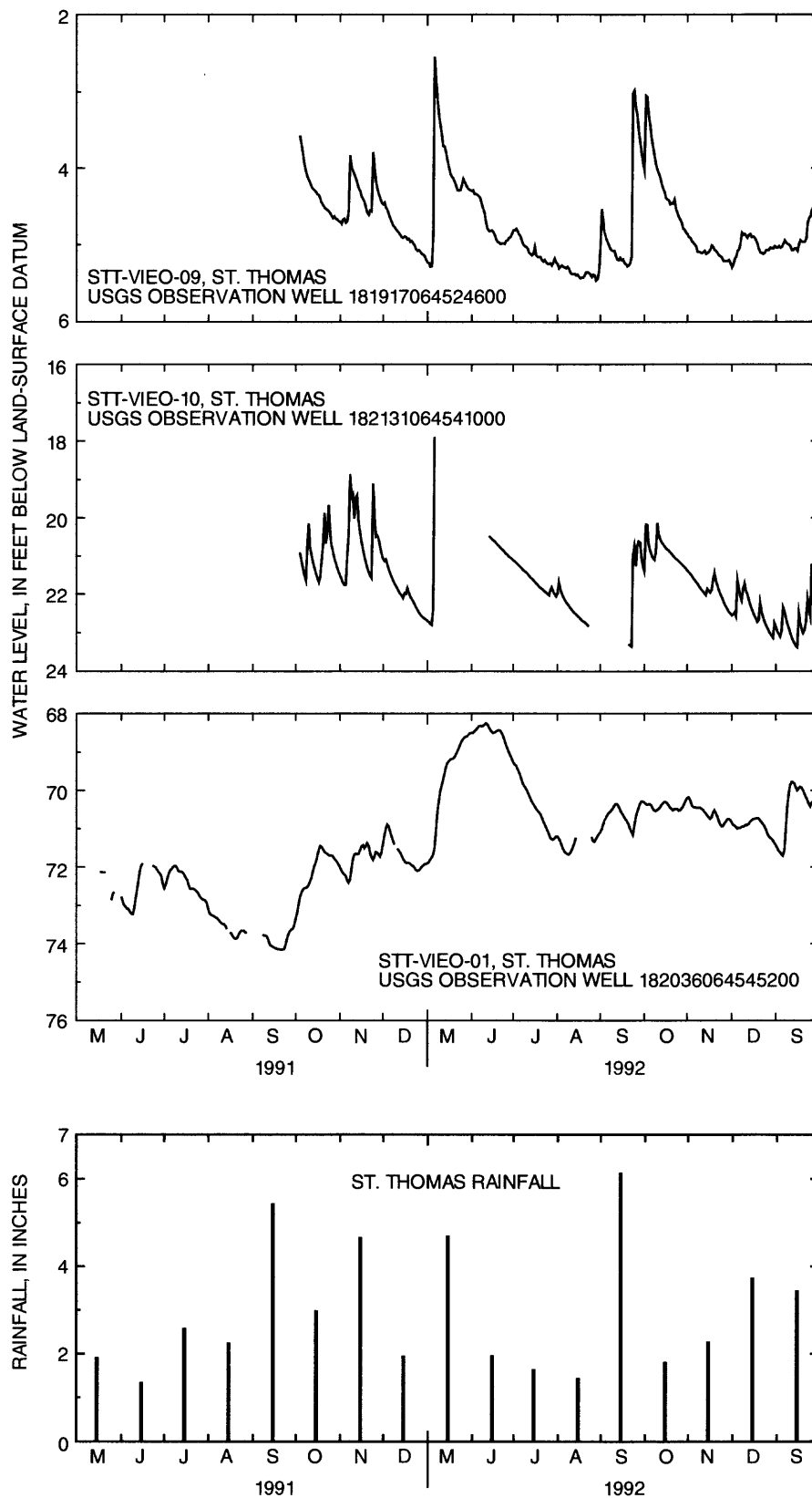


Figure 15. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells STT-VIEO-01, STT-VIEO-10, and STT-VIEO-09, St. Thomas, and monthly rainfall, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1991 through September 1992.

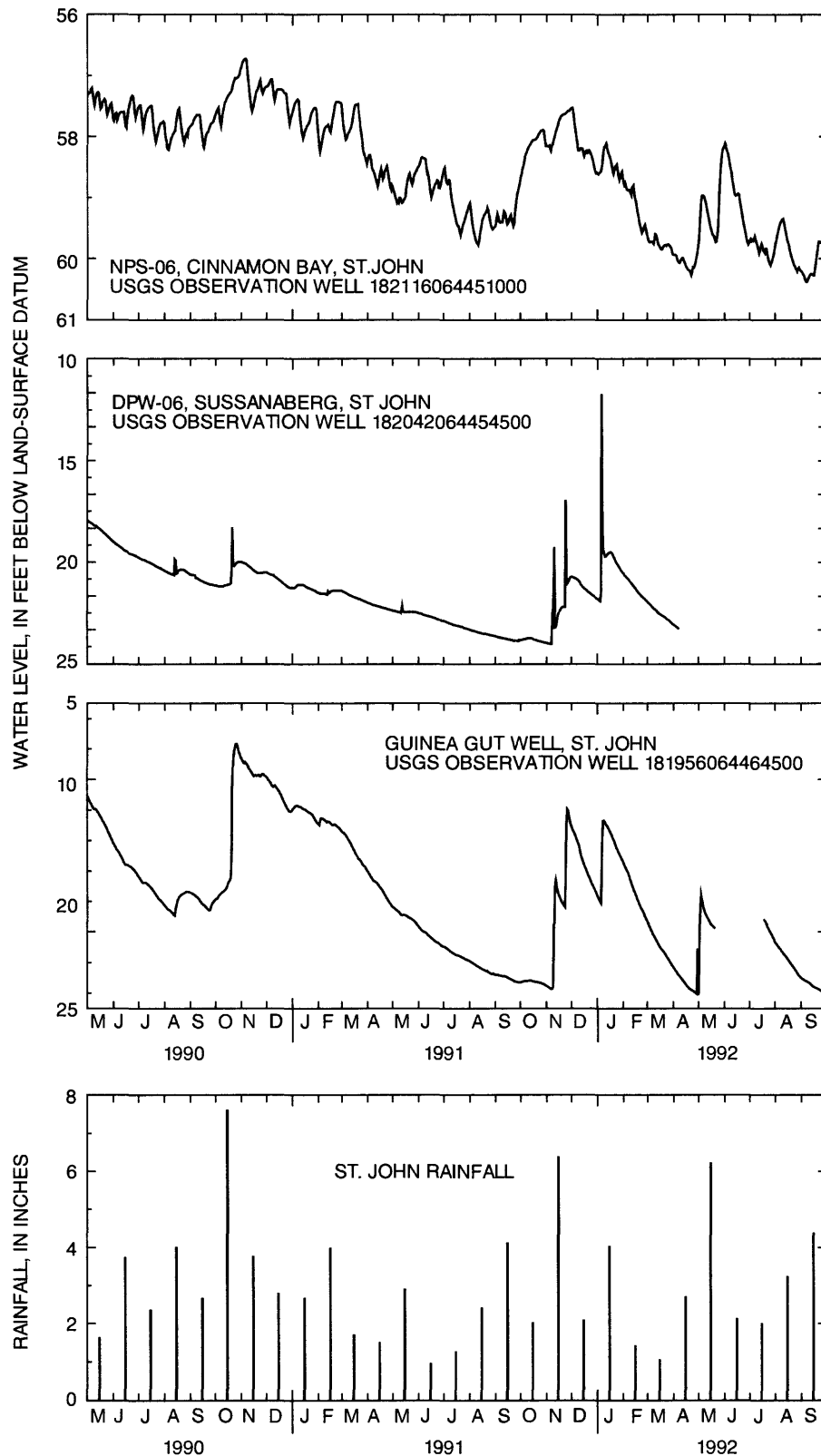


Figure 16. Daily mean ground-water levels in Guinea Gut well, DPW-06/Sussanaberg, and NPS-06/Cinnamon Bay and monthly rainfall, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1990 through September 1992.

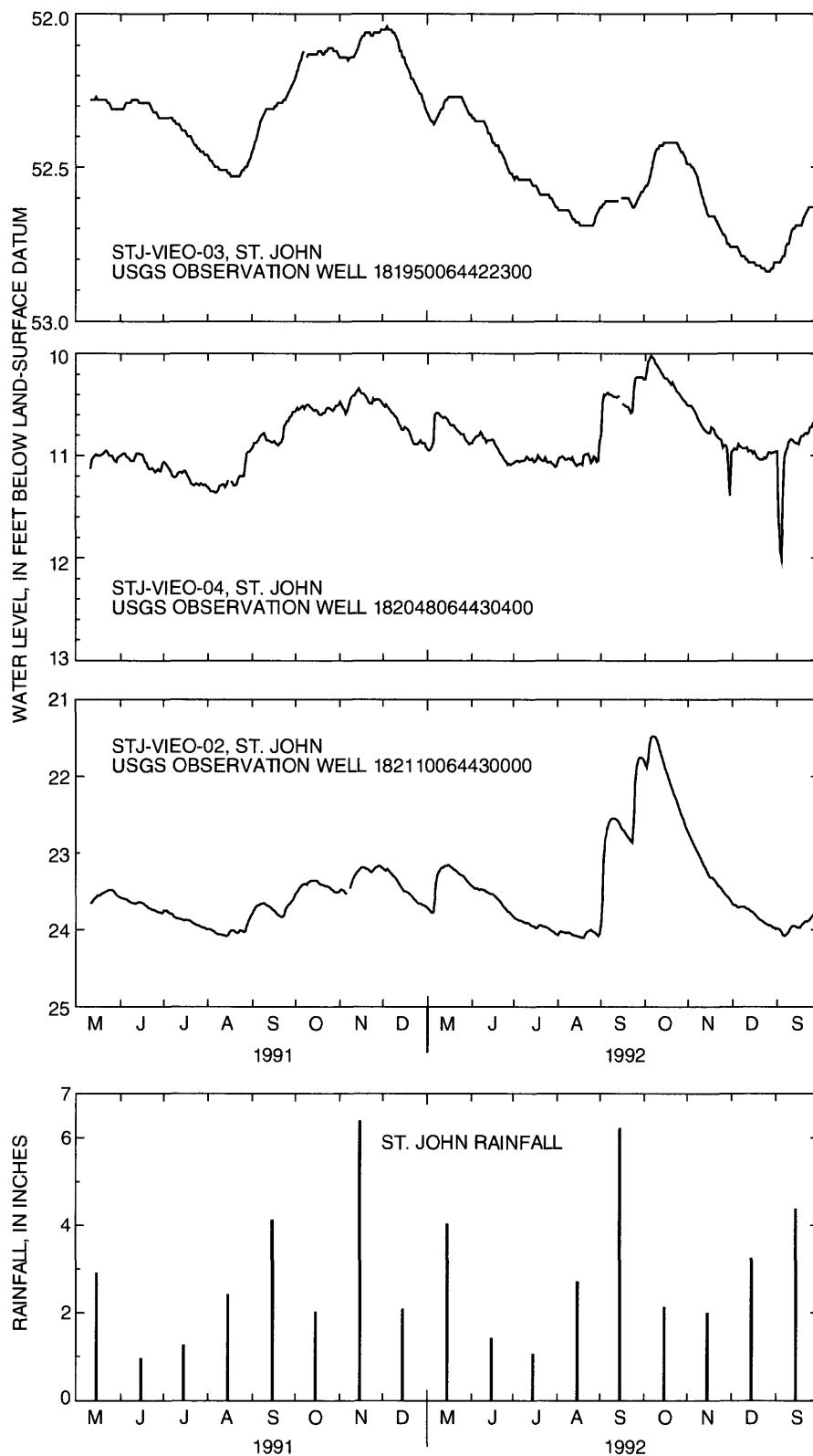


Figure 17. Daily mean ground-water levels in wells STJ-VIEO-02, 04, and 03, St. John, and monthly rainfall, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, May 1991 through September 1992.

Hydraulic Characteristics of the Aquifers

The ground-water development potential of any aquifer is dependent upon hydraulic characteristics of transmissivity and storage coefficient. Transmissivity is a measure of the ability of the aquifer to transmit water and is defined as the product of the hydraulic conductivity and the aquifer thickness. The storage coefficient is the volume of water an aquifer releases from or takes into storage per unit surface area of the aquifer per unit change in head.

During this study, estimated aquifer transmissivities ranged from 200 to 2,500 feet squared per day in the fractured volcanic rock aquifers of St. Thomas and St. John (table 5). Transmissivity values based on data for selected wells were determined from specific capacity tests. The specific capacity tests were conducted for a period of 8 hours and values determined from these tests ranged from 1 to 11

gallons per minute per foot of drawdown. The specific capacity values were converted to transmissivity using a method described by Meyer (1963), that relates well diameter, specific capacity, and the aquifer storage coefficient to aquifer transmissivity. Aquifer storage coefficients were not determined from field tests for this report, but rather are assumed to be typical water-table storage coefficients, which range from 0.1 to 0.3 (Lohman, 1979). The specific capacity/aquifer transmissivity relation developed by Meyer (1963) assumes a water-table storage coefficient of 0.1.

Field tests to determine specific capacity and subsequently aquifer transmissivity were conducted only on St. Thomas and St. John. However, Graves (1995) and Torres-Gonzalez (1991) reported transmissivity values in the Kingshill Limestone ranging from 200 to 4,000 feet squared per day for St. Croix.

Table 5. Transmissivity estimated from specific capacity at selected wells on St. Thomas and St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands (Estimates based on method described by Meyer, 1963)

[(gal/min)/ft, gallons per minute per foot of drawdown; ft²/d, feet squared per day; STT, St. Thomas; EGWS, emergency ground-water supply; STJ, St. John; SJWS, St. John water supply]

| Well number and name ¹ | Specific capacity [(gal/min)/ft] | Transmissivity (ft ² /d) | Length of test (hours) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 37 STT-EGWS-01 | 1 | 200 | 8 |
| 38 STT-EGWS-02 | 1 | 200 | 8 |
| 39 STT-EGWS-03 | 3 | 600 | 8 |
| 41 STT-EGWS-04 | 2 | 400 | 8 |
| 42 STT-EGWS-05 | 3 | 600 | 8 |
| 45 STT-EGWS-06 | 4 | 800 | 8 |
| 49 STT-EGWS-07 | 2 | 400 | 8 |
| 51 STT-EGWS-08 | 11 | 2,500 | 8 |
| 52 STT-EGWS-09 | 2 | 400 | 8 |
| 53 STT-EGWS-10 | 2 | 400 | 8 |
| 56 STT-EGWS-11 | 2 | 400 | 8 |
| 70 STJ-SJWS-02 | 9 | 2,000 | 8 |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown on figures 5, 6, or 7.

The relatively large range of transmissivity values is due to the heterogeneity of the aquifer material. On St. Croix the higher values of transmissivity in the Kingshill Limestone are common primarily in areas where there is a high density of intersecting fracture zones. On St. Thomas and St. John areas of high transmissivities will also coincide with areas of high fracture density within the volcanic rock aquifer. The large range of transmissivity values on St. Croix may be due to localized areas of dissolution along the fracture zones resulting in large openings and, subsequently, the high transmissivity values. These values of transmissivity may be larger than they would have been because of the presence of the overlying alluvial deposits where the deposits are sufficiently thick and saturated. In the alluvial deposits, where the percentage of sand or gravel is high the transmissivity will be high; conversely, where the percentage of silt or clay is high the transmissivity will be low.

The development of ground-water supplies from the aquifers of the USVI is complicated due to the nature of the aquifer materials (limestone, marl, and dense volcanic rock) and the localized extent of fracture zones within the aquifers. However, according to the literature, the chances of producing a well that might yield sufficient quantities of water for emergency use are greatly improved if the wells are drilled in the draws or valleys of principal drainage areas (Heath, 1980; Daniels and Sharpless, 1983; and Daniels, 1987). This concept was applied in choosing the location of most test holes drilled with reasonably acceptable results. If the number of test holes drilled for observation wells (12) and test holes back filled (22) are subtracted from the total test holes drilled (61), then by island, the percentage of emergency water-supply wells completed to test holes drilled was 50 percent for St. Croix (15 wells completed of 30 test holes drilled), 52 percent for St. Thomas (11 wells completed of 21 test holes drilled), and 10 percent for St. John (1 well completed of 8 test holes drilled) (tables 1, 2, and 3). Well yields for the 27 emergency supply wells ranged from about 14 to 80 gallons per minute (tables 1, 2, and 3).

WATER QUALITY

In order to determine the quality of ground water on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, 33 wells were sampled for common cations and anions and trace elements (tables 6, 7, and 8). Using the Piper diagram (Piper, 1953), results of these analyses indicate that ground water in the U.S. Virgin Islands is predominantly a sodium-chloride type water (figs. 18, 19, and 20). However, on St. Thomas, data for water samples from a majority of the wells sampled indicated that the ground water is a mixed type; no one cation or anion exceeded 50 percent of the total milliequivalents of cations or anions in water from 9 of 11 wells sampled.

In an island setting, ground water that is a sodium chloride type water commonly is considered to contain a mixture of freshwater and seawater (Gómez-Gómez, 1984). The source of the seawater could be lateral migration of seawater from the ocean through the aquifer, upconing of saline water as a result of excessive pumping, or connate seawater that has not been completely flushed out of the aquifer. To determine the source of the seawater, long-term water-quality data must be collected and seasonal changes in chloride concentrations compared. If the seasonal variations in the chloride concentrations are small, connate water is the most likely source of the sodium chloride, assuming that areal ground-water pumping is relatively constant. If the variations in chloride concentration are large, the source of the sodium chloride is most likely upconing or lateral migration (intrusion) of seawater that coincides with seasonal water-level fluctuations in the aquifer, and the related movement of the saltwater-freshwater interface. The limited timeframe of this study did not allow for long-term monitoring of seasonal water-quality changes. However, recent data available for the island of St. Croix (Graves, 1995) indicate that the source of the sodium chloride in wells STX-EGWS- 06, 07, 08, 14, and 15 could be connate water, and that the source in wells STX-EGWS- 09 and 10 is possibly seawater intrusion. To adequately discuss the source of seawater in the aquifers on St. Thomas and St. John, more information is needed.

Table 6. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

[$\mu\text{S/cm}$, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; mg/L , milligrams per liter; STX, St. Croix; EGWS, emergency ground-water supply; --, data not available; <, less than detection limit which is number following symbol]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Specific conductance (lab value, $\mu\text{S/cm}$) | pH (field value, standard units) | Hardness (mg/L as CaCO_3) | Alkalinity, lab (mg/L as CaCO_3) | Calcium dissolved (mg/L as Ca) | Magnesium, dissolved (mg/L as Mg) | Sodium, dissolved (mg/L as Na) | Potassium, dissolved (mg/L as K) | Sulfate, dissolved (mg/L as SO_4) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| 2 STX-EGWS-01 | 10-05-92 | 1,470 | 7.0 | 440 | 361 | 120 | 35 | 120 | 3.5 | 37 |
| 3 STX-EGWS-02 | 10-06-92 | 1,500 | 7.0 | 460 | 313 | 130 | 32 | 120 | 1.3 | 39 |
| 5 STX-EGWS-03 | 10-05-92 | 1,460 | 7.1 | 470 | 424 | 120 | 41 | 120 | 1.5 | 40 |
| 7 STX-EGWS-04 | 10-27-92 | 2,840 | 7.5 | 150 | 519 | 31 | 17 | 560 | 2.4 | 180 |
| 9 STX-EGWS-05 | 10-27-92 | 2,600 | 7.3 | 290 | 565 | 50 | 41 | 460 | 1.2 | 130 |
| 12 STX-EGWS-06 | 10-06-92 | 2,040 | 7.1 | 400 | 572 | 72 | 54 | 300 | 1.1 | 120 |
| 13 STX-EGWS-07 | 10-06-92 | 2,220 | 7.0 | 470 | 541 | 85 | 62 | 310 | 1.1 | 130 |
| 15 STX-EGWS-08 | 10-07-92 | 2,080 | 7.2 | 390 | 548 | 65 | 56 | 310 | 0.8 | 120 |
| 18 STX-EGWS-09 | 10-26-92 | 3,650 | 7.2 | 430 | 402 | 84 | 53 | 650 | 3.3 | 230 |
| 19 STX-EGWS-10 | 10-26-92 | 3,750 | 7.1 | 450 | 396 | 88 | 57 | 650 | 3.1 | 230 |
| 20 STX-EGWS-11 | 10-28-92 | 2,430 | 7.6 | 110 | 479 | 31 | 7 | 500 | 6.2 | 130 |
| 22 STX-EGWS-12 | 11-02-92 | 4,380 | 7.1 | 480 | 401 | 130 | 38 | 750 | 7.5 | 300 |
| 24 STX-EGWS-13 | 10-27-92 | 1,990 | 7.3 | 380 | 438 | 67 | 51 | 280 | 1.1 | 95 |
| 25 STX-EGWS-14 | 10-27-92 | 2,190 | 6.9 | 540 | 370 | 110 | 64 | 260 | 1.8 | 100 |
| 30 STX-EGWS-15 | 10-07-92 | 2,150 | 7.2 | 420 | 525 | 66 | 63 | 320 | 0.9 | 100 |

Table 6. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Fluoride dissolved (mg/L as F) | Silica, dissolved (mg/L as SiO ₂) | Dissolved solids (mg/L) | Nitrogen, NO ₂ +NO ₃ , dissolved (mg/L as N) | Iron, dissolved (µg/L as Fe) | Manganese, dissolved (µg/L as Mn) | Barium dissolved (µg/L as Ba) | Aluminum, dissolved (µg/L as Al) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 STX-EGWS-01 | 10-05-92 | 220 | 0.5 | 35 | 787 | -- | 3 | 2 | 7 | 20 |
| 3 STX-EGWS-02 | 10-06-92 | 260 | 0.5 | 37 | 808 | -- | 7 | 1 | 8 | 20 |
| 5 STX-EGWS-03 | 10-05-92 | 200 | 0.5 | 34 | 811 | -- | 4 | 6 | 10 | 10 |
| 7 STX-EGWS-04 | 10-27-92 | 480 | 0.8 | 30 | 1,610 | 5.2 | 20 | <10 | <100 | 10 |
| 9 STX-EGWS-05 | 10-27-92 | 410 | 0.9 | 42 | 1,470 | 3.3 | <10 | <10 | <100 | <10 |
| 12 STX-EGWS-06 | 10-06-92 | 230 | 0.4 | 51 | 1,170 | -- | 10 | 10 | <100 | <10 |
| 13 STX-EGWS-07 | 10-06-92 | 360 | 0.4 | 45 | 1,320 | -- | <10 | 10 | <100 | <10 |
| 15 STX-EGWS-08 | 10-07-92 | 300 | 0.5 | 46 | 1,230 | -- | <10 | <10 | <100 | 10 |
| 18 STX-EGWS-09 | 10-26-92 | 750 | 0.8 | 39 | 2,050 | 3.8 | <10 | <10 | <100 | <10 |
| 19 STX-EGWS-10 | 10-26-92 | 770 | 0.7 | 41 | 2,080 | 3.5 | <10 | <10 | <100 | <10 |
| 20 STX-EGWS-11 | 10-28-92 | 360 | 0.6 | 16 | 1,340 | 10.0 | <10 | <10 | <100 | 20 |
| 22 STX-EGWS-12 | 11-02-92 | 980 | 0.4 | 26 | 2,470 | 3.5 | 10 | <10 | <100 | 30 |
| 23 STX-EGWS-13 | 10-27-92 | 290 | 0.5 | 42 | 1,090 | 3.4 | 3 | 1 | 44 | <10 |
| 25 STX-EGWS-14 | 10-27-92 | 350 | 0.5 | 31 | 1,140 | 3.2 | <10 | 40 | <100 | <10 |
| 30 STX-EGWS-15 | 10-07-92 | 340 | 0.7 | 46 | 1,250 | -- | <10 | <10 | <100 | <10 |

Table 6. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Arsenic, dissolved (µg/L as As) | Cadmium, dissolved (µg/L as Cd) | Chromium, dissolved (µg/L as Cr) | Mercury, dissolved (µg/L as Hg) | Selenium, dissolved (µg/L as Se) | Silver, dissolved (µg/L as Ag) | Lead, dissolved (µg/L as Pb) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 STX-EGWS-01 | 10-05-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 1 | 4 | <1 |
| 3 STX-EGWS-02 | 10-06-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | 0.1 | 1 | <1 | <1 |
| 5 STX-EGWS-03 | 10-05-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | 0.2 | 1 | <1 | <1 |
| 7 STX-EGWS-04 | 10-27-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 9 STX-EGWS-05 | 10-27-92 | 2 | <1 | <1 | 0.2 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 12 STX-EGWS-06 | 10-06-92 | 2 | <1 | <1 | 0.1 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 13 STX-EGWS-07 | 10-06-92 | 2 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 15 STX-EGWS-08 | 10-07-92 | 1 | <1 | <1 | 0.2 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 18 STX-EGWS-09 | 10-26-92 | 1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 19 STX-EGWS-10 | 10-26-92 | 1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 4 | <1 | <1 |
| 20 STX-EGWS-11 | 10-28-92 | 5 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 3 | <1 | <1 |
| 22 STX-EGWS-12 | 11-02-92 | <1 | <1 | 11 | <0.1 | 9 | <1 | <1 |
| 24 STX-EGWS-13 | 10-27-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 3 | <1 | <1 |
| 25 STX-EGWS-14 | 10-27-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 1 | <1 | <1 |
| 30 STX-EGWS-15 | 10-07-92 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 2 | <1 | <1 |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown on figures 2, 3, or 4.

Table 7. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

[µS/cm, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius; mg/L, milligrams per liter; STT, St. Thomas; EGWS, emergency ground-water supply; --, Data not available; <, less than detection limit which is number following symbol; ug/L, micrograms per liter]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Specific conductance (lab value, µS/cm) | pH (field value, standard units) | Hardness (mg/L as CaCO ₃) | Alkalinity, lab (mg/L as CaCO ₃) | Calcium dissolved (mg/L as Ca) | Magnesium dissolved (mg/L as Mg) | Sodium, dissolved (mg/L as Na) | Potassium, dissolved (mg/L as K) | Sulfate, dissolved (mg/L as SO ₄) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 37 STT-EGWS-1 | 04-23-91 | 2,240 | 7.5 | 290 | 486 | 48 | 42 | 390 | 0.6 | 44 |
| 38 STT-EGWS-2 | 04-24-91 | 1,680 | 7.4 | 250 | 538 | 45 | 34 | 260 | 0.7 | 35 |
| 39 STT-EGWS-3 | 05-08-91 | 1,740 | 7.5 | 250 | 488 | 41 | 35 | 290 | 0.4 | 35 |
| 41 STT-EGWS-4 | 08-12-91 | 1,180 | 7.4 | 160 | 401 | 31 | 20 | 220 | 0.7 | 29 |
| 42 STT-EGWS-5 | 08-13-91 | 1,290 | 7.3 | 190 | 392 | 42 | 20 | 210 | 1.9 | 34 |
| 45 STT-EGWS-6 | 08-26-91 | 1,810 | 7.2 | 250 | 582 | 45 | 33 | 300 | 0.7 | 42 |
| 49 STT-EGWS-7 | 08-14-91 | 2,100 | 7.4 | 220 | 616 | 30 | 35 | 400 | 2.0 | 49 |
| 51 STT-EGWS-8 | 08-14-91 | 1,950 | 7.4 | 320 | 619 | 48 | 48 | 310 | 4.4 | 56 |
| 52 STT-EGWS-9 | 08-26-91 | 1,450 | 7.3 | 210 | 411 | 35 | 30 | 240 | 0.4 | 24 |
| 53 STT-EGWS-10 | 08-19-91 | 1,540 | 7.3 | 230 | 489 | 37 | 33 | 270 | 0.4 | 33 |
| 56 STT-EGWS-11 | 08-13-91 | 1,630 | 7.4 | 140 | 544 | 28 | 16 | 320 | 1.1 | 39 |

Table 7. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Fluoride dissolved (mg/L as F) | Silica, dissolved (mg/L as SiO ₂) | Dissolved solids (mg/L) | Nitrogen, NO ₂ +NO ₃ , dissolved (mg/L as N) | Iron, dissolved (μg/L as Fe) | Manganese, dissolved (μg/L as Mn) | Barium dissolved (μg/L as Ba) | Aluminum, dissolved (μg/L as Al) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 37 STT-EGWS-1 | 04-23-91 | 390 | 0.9 | 27 | 1,230 | 0.05 | 10 | 760 | 100 | -- |
| 38 STT-EGWS-2 | 04-24-91 | 200 | 0.7 | 32 | 930 | 5.10 | 5 | <1 | <2 | -- |
| 39 STT-EGWS-3 | 05-08-91 | 270 | 1.1 | 31 | 996 | <0.05 | 4 | 240 | <2 | -- |
| 41 STT-EGWS-4 | 08-12-91 | 130 | 0.8 | 37 | 709 | 5.40 | 8 | 13 | 3 | <10 |
| 42 STT-EGWS-5 | 08-13-91 | 150 | 0.6 | 32 | 726 | 12.00 | 3 | <1 | 5 | <10 |
| 45 STT-EGWS-6 | 08-26-91 | 240 | 0.7 | 30 | 1,040 | 5.30 | 4 | 1 | <2 | <10 |
| 49 STT-EGWS-7 | 08-14-91 | 260 | 0.8 | 27 | 1,170 | 2.10 | 10 | 310 | <100 | 10 |
| 51 STT-EGWS-8 | 08-14-91 | 290 | 0.8 | 27 | 1,160 | 0.05 | 9 | 210 | 53 | <10 |
| 52 STT-EGWS-9 | 08-26-91 | 220 | 1.1 | 32 | 829 | 0.28 | 5 | 5 | <2 | <10 |
| 53 STT-EGWS-10 | 08-19-91 | 170 | 0.8 | 33 | 870 | 4.00 | 6 | 47 | 3 | <10 |
| 56 STT-EGWS-11 | 08-13-91 | 190 | 0.7 | 29 | 950 | 3.80 | 5 | 6 | 5 | <10 |

Table 7. Chemical analyses of ground water on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Arsenic, dissolved (µg/L as As) | Cadmium, dissolved (µg/L as Cd) | Chromium, dissolved (µg/L as Cr) | Mercury, dissolved (µg/L as Hg) | Selenium, dissolved (µg/L as Se) | Silver, dissolved (µg/L as Ag) | Lead, dissolved (µg/L as Pb) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 37 STT-EGWS-1 | 04-23-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | 4 |
| 38 STT-EGWS-2 | 04-24-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 39 STT-EGWS-3 | 05-08-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | <1 |
| 41 STT-EGWS-4 | 08-12-91 | <1 | <1 | 2 | 0.3 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 42 STT-EGWS-5 | 08-13-91 | <1 | <1 | 1 | <0.1 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 45 STT-EGWS-6 | 08-26-91 | <1 | <1 | 1 | 0.6 | 3 | <1 | <1 |
| 49 STT-EGWS-7 | 08-14-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 51 STT-EGWS-8 | 08-14-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 52 STT-EGWS-9 | 08-26-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | 0.6 | <1 | <1 | <1 |
| 53 STT-EGWS-10 | 08-19-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | 2 | <1 | <1 |
| 56 STT-EGWS-11 | 08-13-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | 0.3 | 2 | <1 | <1 |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown on figure 5.

Table 8. Chemical analyses of ground-water on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

[$\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees celsius; mg/L , milligrams per liter; NPS, National Park Service; VIWAPA, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority; VI, Virgin Islands; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; STJ, St. John; SJWS, St. John Water Supply; <, less than detection limit which is number following symbol; --, indicates data not available]

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Specific conductance (lab value, $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) | pH (field value, standard units) | Hardness (mg/L as CaCO_3) | Alkalinity, lab (mg/L as CaCO_3) | Calcium dissolved (mg/L as Ca) | Magnesium, dissolved (mg/L as Mg) | Sodium, dissolved (mg/L as Na) | Potassium, dissolved (mg/L as K) | Sulfate, dissolved (mg/L as SO_4) |
|---|----------|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 59 NPS-03, Cruz Bay | 05-20-91 | 2,280 | 7.1 | 490 | 462 | 86 | 68 | 330 | 2.2 | 54 |
| 61 VIWAPA DPW-02, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | 1,770 | 7.1 | 570 | 615 | 100 | 77 | 150 | 2.6 | 24 |
| 62 VIWAPA DPW-05, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | 1,520 | 7.1 | 390 | 563 | 69 | 53 | 180 | 3.4 | 24 |
| 64 NPS-05, Trunk Bay | 05-20-91 | 1,720 | 7.2 | 470 | 463 | 100 | 54 | 180 | 3.1 | 52 |
| 65 Cinnamon Bay campground | 05-21-91 | 2,020 | 7.2 | 510 | 519 | 86 | 72 | 250 | 2.8 | 24 |
| 67 VI Government/VIWAPA well (USGS-14A) | 03-09-90 | 825 | 7.1 | 150 | 113 | 24 | 21 | 120 | 4.8 | 21 |
| 70 STJ-SJWS-02 | 05-20-91 | 2,220 | 6.7 | 370 | 236 | 49 | 60 | 310 | 6.9 | 93 |

Table 8. Chemical analyses of ground-water on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Chloride, dissolved (mg/L as Cl) | Fluoride dissolved (mg/L as F) | Silica, dissolved (mg/L as SiO ₂) | Dissolved solids (mg/L) | Nitrogen, NO ₂ +NO ₃ , dissolved (mg/L as N) | Iron, dissolved (μg/L as Fe) | Manganese, dissolved (μg/L as Mn) | Barium dissolved (μg/L as Ba) | Aluminum, dissolved (μg/L as Al) |
|---|----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 59 NPS-03 Cruz Bay | 05-20-91 | 400 | 0.4 | 36 | 1,250 | <0.05 | 10 | <10 | <100 | -- |
| 61 VIWAPA DPW-02, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | 230 | 0.4 | 43 | 996 | 0.57 | 6 | <1 | 19 | -- |
| 62 VIWAPA DPW-05, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | 170 | 0.6 | 37 | 875 | 1.10 | 8 | <1 | 5 | -- |
| 64 NPS-05, Trunk Bay | 05-20-91 | 270 | 0.5 | 38 | 975 | <0.05 | 44 | <1 | 66 | -- |
| 65 Cinnamon Bay campground | 05-21-91 | 360 | 0.9 | 40 | 1,150 | <0.05 | <10 | <10 | <100 | -- |
| 67 VI Government/VIWAPA well (USGS-14A) | 03-09-90 | 250 | 0.2 | 27 | 542 | 0.10 | 5,600 | 310 | 49 | <10 |
| 70 STJ-SJWS-02 | 05-20-91 | 540 | 0.2 | 34 | 1,230 | 1.40 | 270 | 70 | <100 | -- |

Table 8. Chemical analyses of ground-water on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands--Continued

| Well number and name ¹ | Date | Arsenic, dissolved (µg/L as As) | Cadmium, dissolved (µg/L as Cd) | Chromium, dissolved (µg/L as Cr) | Mercury, dissolved (µg/L as Hg) | Selenium, dissolved (µg/L as Se) | Silver, dissolved (µg/L as Ag) | Lead, dissolved (µg/L as Pb) |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 59 NPS-03, Cruz Bay | 05-20-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | 1 |
| 61 VIWAPA DPW-02, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | 1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | <1 |
| 62 VIWAPA DPW-05, Susannaberg | 06-04-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | <1 |
| 64 NPS-05, Trunk Bay | 05-20-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | 1 |
| 65 Cinnamon Bay campground | 05-21-91 | <1 | <1 | <1 | 0.4 | <1 | <1 | 2 |
| 67 VI Government/VIWAPA well (USGS-14A) | 03-09-90 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 70 STJ-SJWS-02 | 05-20-91 | <1 | <1 | 6 | <0.1 | <1 | <1 | 1 |

¹ Well number refers to well location as shown on figure 6 or 7.

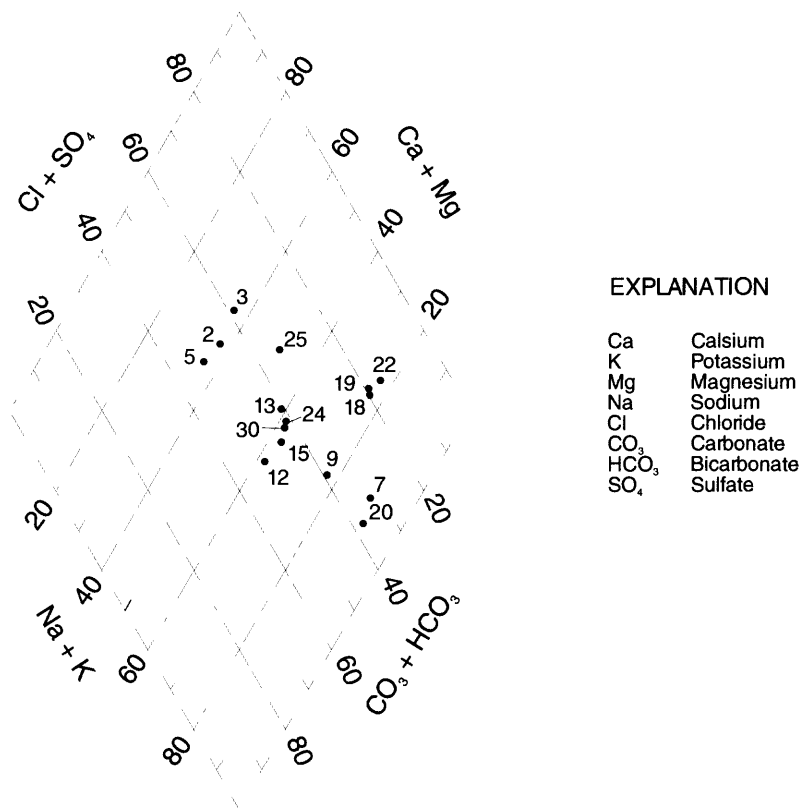


Figure 18. Diagram showing major constituents in ground water in wells on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Values shown are percent of total milliequivalents per liter. Numbers refer to wells in table 6.

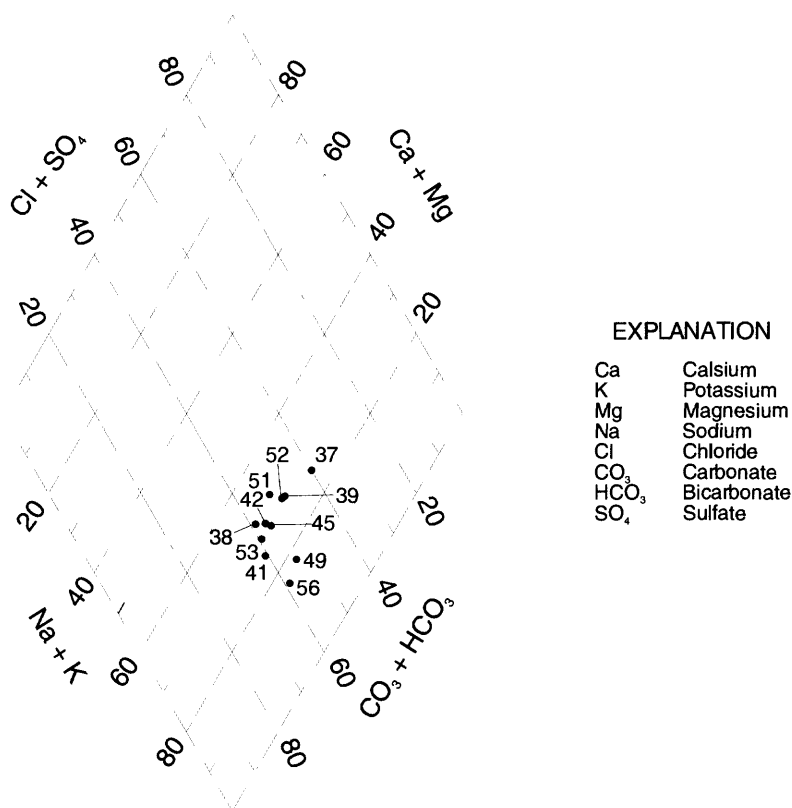


Figure 19. Diagram showing major constituents in ground water in wells on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Values shown are percent of total milliequivalents per liter. Numbers refer to wells in table 7.

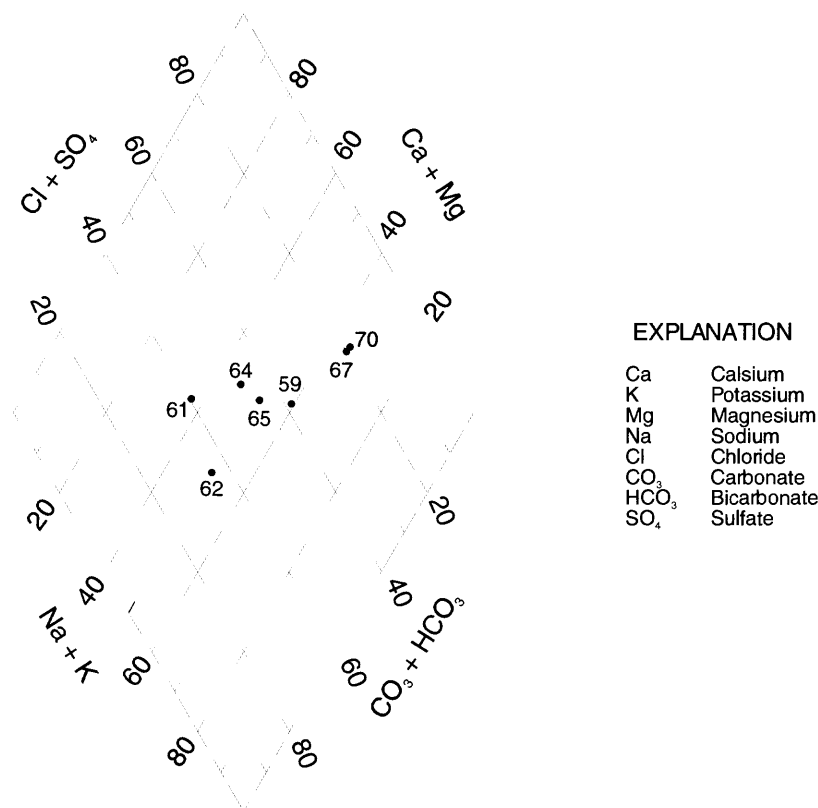


Figure 20. Diagram showing major constituents in ground water in wells on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. Values shown are percent of total milliequivalents per liter. Numbers refer to wells in table 8.

Chloride concentrations in ground-water samples collected from all wells drilled (tables 1, 2, and 3) and from wells sampled for analysis of common cations and anions (tables 6, 7, and 8) ranged from 116 to 3,870 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The dissolved solids concentrations in water sampled for analysis of common cations and anions (tables 6, 7, and 8) ranged from 542 to 2,470 mg/L. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA, 1992) Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level for chloride and dissolved solids concentrations is 250 and 500 mg/L, respectively. Of the water sampled for analysis of common cations and anions (tables 6, 7, and 8), these levels were exceeded in 61 percent of the wells for chloride concentrations and in 100 percent of the wells for dissolved solids concentrations. However, the recommended maximum level for chloride is based largely on taste; water having a chloride concentration as high as 500 mg/L can be potable. For dissolved solids the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level is based on an increase in the mineral taste in the water and possible economic

consequences due to deterioration of plumbing and pipes because of the high mineral content.

SUMMARY

Following the devastation by Hurricane Hugo on September 17 and 18, 1989, the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, were without drinking water because of the damage to the infrastructure that provides water to the islands. However, on St. Croix, several well fields which had seen limited use in recent years were put on line and connected to the water distribution system. Recognizing the need for a better understanding of the hydrogeology of the USVI, the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, conducted an investigation from May 1990 through September 1992 to determine the occurrence and quality of ground water so emergency ground-water supplies could be developed to mitigate natural or man induced disasters.

The geology of the U.S. Virgin Islands is varied. The geology of St. Croix includes alluvial deposits and carbonate and volcanic rocks. The geology of St. Thomas and St. John is dominated by volcanic rock with local alluvial deposits in small coastal embayments. Carbonate deposits are present on St. Thomas and St. John but only in minor isolated outcrops.

Ground water occurs under water-table conditions on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. On St. Croix, the principal sources of ground water are the carbonate rock and overlying alluvial deposits. On St. Thomas and St. John the principal sources of ground water are the regolith and zones of highly fractured to shattered volcanic rock and overlying alluvial deposits. Depth below land surface to the water table ranges from 4 to 62 feet on St. Croix, 3 to 74 feet on St. Thomas, and 8 to 60 feet on St. John. Aquifer transmissivities range from 200 to 4,000 feet squared per day on St. Croix and from 200 to 2,500 feet squared per day on St. Thomas and St. John. Well yields for the emergency-supply wells on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John range from 14 to 80 gallons per minute.

Ground water in the U.S. Virgin Islands is predominantly a sodium chloride type. Ground-water samples collected from selected wells had chloride concentrations ranging from 116 to 3,870 milligrams per liter and dissolved solids concentrations ranging from 542 to 2,470 milligrams per liter. On St. Croix, depending on location, the source of sodium chloride is connate water or seawater intrusion. Data were not available to determine the source of sodium chloride on St. Thomas or St. John.

REFERENCES

- Cederstrom, D.J., 1950, Geology and ground-water resources of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 1067, 117 p., 6 pls.
- Cosner, O.J., 1972, Water in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 72-78, 46 p.
- Daniels III, C.D., 1987, Statistical analysis relating well yield to construction practices and siting of wells in the Piedmont and Blue Ridge provinces of North Carolina: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 86-4132, 54 p.
- Daniels III, C.D., and Sharpless, N.B., 1983, Ground-water supply potential and procedures for well-site selection in the upper Cape Fear river basin, North Carolina: Cape Fear Basin Study, North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development and U.S. Water Resources Council, 73 p.
- Donnelly, T.W., 1959, Geology of St. Thomas and St. John, Virgin Islands: A dissertation presented to the faculty of Princeton University in candidacy for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, accepted by the Department of Geology, May 2, 1959, 179 p.
- Gerhard, L.C., Frost, S.H., and Curth, P.J., 1978, Stratigraphy and depositional setting, Kingshill Limestone, Miocene, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands: Amer. Assoc. Petrol. Geol. Bull., v. 62, no. 3, p. 403-418.
- Gill, I.P., and Hubbard, D.K., 1986, Subsurface geology of the St. Croix carbonate rock system: Water Resources Research Institute, College of the Virgin Islands, Technical Report No. 26, 71 p.
- _____, 1987, Subsurface geology of the St. Croix carbonate rock system, phase II: Water Resources Research Institute, College of the Virgin Islands, Technical Report No. 28, 66 p.
- Gómez-Gómez, Fernando, 1984, Water resources of the lower Río Grande de Manatí valley, Puerto Rico: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 83-4199, 42 p.
- Gómez-Gómez, Fernando, Quiñones-Márquez, Ferdinand, and Zack, Allen, 1985, U.S. Virgin Islands, Ground-Water Resources: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 2275, p. 409-413.
- Graves, R.P., 1992, Geohydrology of the Aguirre and Pozo Hondo areas, southern Puerto Rico: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 91-4124, 43 p.

- _____. 1995, Hydrogeology of south-central St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 93-4162, 33 p.
- Graves, R.P., and González, Ralph, 1988, Potentiometric surface of the Turpentine Run basin aquifer in the Tutu area, eastern St. Thomas, September 11, 1987: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 88-4131, 1 pl.
- Heath, R.C., 1980, Basic elements of ground-water hydrology with reference to conditions in North Carolina: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 80-44, 86 p.
- Hubbard, D.K., editor, 1989, Terrestrial and marine geology of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Special Publication Number 8, West Indies Laboratory, Teague Bay, St. Croix, ??p.
- Jordan, D.G., 1975, A survey of the water resources of St. Croix, Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report, 51 p.
- Jordan, D.G., and Cosner, O.J., 1973, A survey of the water resources of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 72-201, 55 p.
- Lohman, S.W., 1979, Ground-water hydraulics: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 708, 70 p.
- Mathey, S.B., 1990, National water information system user's manual, volume 2, chapter 4. Ground-Water Site Inventory System: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report, 89-587, 283 p.
- Meyer, R.R., 1963, A chart relating well diameter, specific capacity, and the coefficient of transmissibility and storage, *in* Bentall, Ray, compiler, Methods of determining permeability, transmissivity, and drawdown: U.S. Geological Survey Water- Supply Paper 1536-I, p. 338-340.
- Piper, A.M., 1953, A graphic procedure in the geochemical interpretation of water analyses: *in* U.S. Geological Survey Ground Water Notes, Geochemistry, no. 12, p. 1-14.
- Rivera, L.H., Fredrick, W.D., Farris, Cornelius, Jensen, E.H., Davis, Lyle, Palmer, C.D., Jackson, L.F., and McKinzie, W.E., 1970, Soil survey of the Virgin Islands of the United States: United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, 78 p.
- Robison, T.M., 1972, Ground water in central St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report, 18 p.
- Torres-González, Sigfredo, and Rodríguez-del-Río, Félix, 1990, Potentiometric surface of the Kingshill aquifer and hydrologic conditions, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, July 1987: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Resources Investigations Report 89-4085, 1 pl.
- Torres-González, Sigfredo, 1991, Steady-state simulation of ground-water flow conditions in the Kingshill aquifer, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, July 1987, *in* American Water Resources Association International Symposium on Tropical Hydrology, July 23 through 27, 1990, San Juan, Puerto Rico: AWRA Monograph Series No. 15, p. 93-108.
- U.S. Department of Commerce, 1982 to 1992, Climatological data annual summary - Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, v. 28-38.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1992, Secondary maximum contaminant levels (part 143, National primary drinking water regulations): U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Parts 100 to 149, revised as of July 1, 1992, p. 772-776.
- Whetten, J.T., 1966, Geology of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands: Geol. Soc. America Mem., 98, p. 177-239.