

## Available Data

The USGS, in cooperation with Federal, State, and local agencies, has been monitoring streamflow and stream-water quality in the Powder River Basin for more than a century. The number and location of sites where streamflow and water quality have been monitored have changed over time as various study objectives, land-use patterns, and available funding have varied. A summary of the historical period of record for streamflow-gaging stations and the number of historical SAR analyses for water-quality sites in the Powder River Basin through water year 2000 is shown in figure 2 and table 1. Readers should be aware that there could be gaps in the records at streamflow-gaging stations. Therefore, an entry in table 1 that indicates operation from 1921-1950 may or may not correspond to a continuous 30-year record of streamflow at that site. The streamflow-gaging station with the longest continuous record (78 years) is Piney Creek at Kearny, Wyo. (site 51). The water-quality monitoring site with the greatest number of SAR values measured (498) is Powder River near Locate, Mont. (site 68). Because monitoring needs are changing quickly as CBM production proceeds, there are additional monitoring sites in the Powder River Basin that have been added since water year 2000 that may not be shown in figure 2 and table 1.

Readers interested in examining the available data for any of the sites listed in table 1 are referred to the USGS Internet database. This database, which houses data from about 21,200 streamflow-gaging stations and water-quality data from about 338,000 sites nationwide, can be accessed at URL <http://water.usgs.gov/nwis/>.

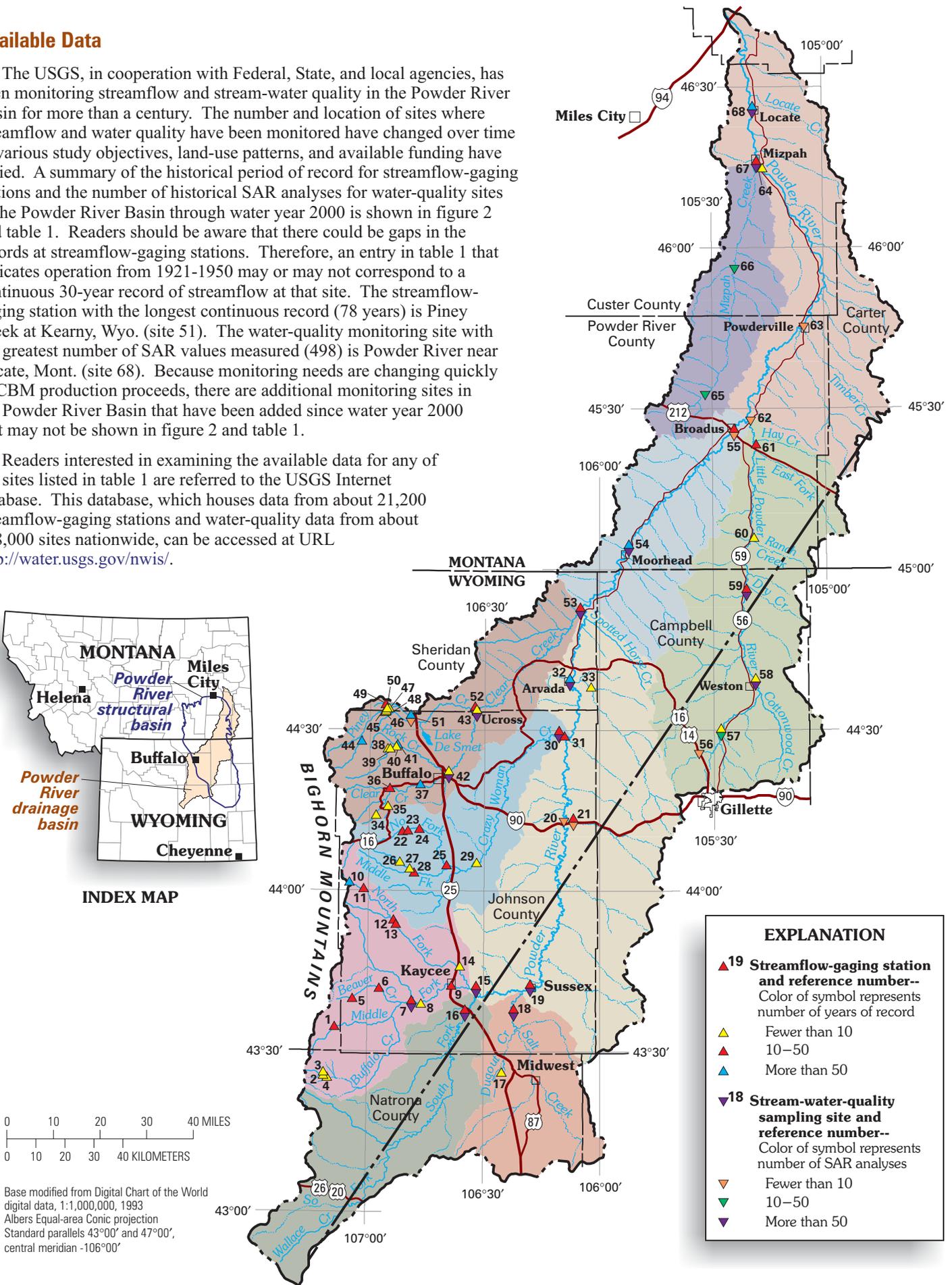


Figure 2. Location of streamflow-gaging stations and stream-water-quality sites in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming and Montana.