# **TECHNICAL REPORT**

# **Remediation and Treatment Technology Development and Support for DOE Oak Ridge Office: EFPC Model Update, Calibration and Uncertainty Analysis**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This research continues previous efforts to correlate the hydrology of East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) and Bear Creek with the long term distribution of mercury within the overland, subsurface, and river sub-domains. An integrated surface-subsurface flow and mercury transport model (MIKE SHE and MIKE 11) was modified to reduce computational time and resources, predict flow discharges and total mercury concentration at key monitoring stations under various hydrological and environmental conditions, and include the reactive transport mercury exchange within sediments and porewater (ECOLAB) through the watershed. Historical precipitation, groundwater levels, river discharges, and mercury concentrations were retrieved from government databases and incorporated at various points throughout the domain in the form of boundary conditions. Sensitivity analysis results show the general trend between the organic partition coefficient and the total mercury present. Duration and probability exceedance curves detail the relationship between discharges and mercury loads at various stations throughout EFPC.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**



# LIST OF TABLES



# LIST OF FIGURES





# LIST OF ACRONYMS



WCS Watershed Characterization System

# LIST OF VARIABLES



#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) decontamination and decommissioning activities of industrial, radiological and nuclear facilities seek to restore environmental conditions of contaminated sites to accepted levels designated by local, state and federal regulations. The East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) Watershed, shown in Figure 1, is located in the state of Tennessee and represents one of many contaminated sites. EFPC has been severely impacted by the release of more than 100 metric tons of elemental mercury as a byproduct of nuclear processing activities employed in the lithium-isotope separation process used in the production of nuclear fusion weapons during the 1950's [**1**].



<span id="page-9-0"></span>Figure 1 East Fork Poplar Creek watershed and stream network.

Studies have identified over 77,000 kg of mercury present in the upper 10 feet of soils along a 15-mile long stretch of EFPC [**2**]. Mercury is present in the sediment, surface water, groundwater, and infrastructure in the National Security Complex (Y-12) area and in the upper reaches of EFPC [**2**]. Mercury releases into the creek ceased in 1963; nonetheless, the pollution continues to spread. Although remediation strategies have been implemented since the problem's inception, the issue of mercury contamination continues to prevail.



Figure 2 Mercury present in sub-surface soil samples from Oak Ridge [**3**].

<span id="page-10-0"></span>The state of Tennessee continues to list portions of the EFPC as not supporting their designated use classifications such as aquatic life, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife, and recreation due to mercury contamination [**4**]. Streams and lakes in violation of one or more water quality standards within the state of Tennessee are described in the 303 (d) list. Portions of this list are summarized in the table below for streams near the Oak Ridge Reservation. Shown in [Table 1,](#page-10-0) contaminated streams relevant to the present study include 9.7 impaired miles of EFPC within Roane County, and 11.3 miles within Anderson and Roane. Approximately 141 acres of the Poplar Creek Embayment, Watts Bar Reservoir, within Roane County are also contaminated.

<b>Water Body ID</b>	<b>Waterbody Impacted</b>	County	<b>Miles/Acres</b> <b>Impaired</b>
$TN06010207026 - 0600$	<b>Bear Creek</b>	Roane	10.87
$TN06010207026 - 1000$	<b>EFPC</b>	Roane	9.7
$TN06010207026 - 2000$	<b>EFPC</b>	Anderson/Roane	11.3
TN08010208009 - 1000	Poplar Creek	Haywood/Fayette	23.6
TN08010208011 - 2000	<b>Bear Creek</b>	Fayette	7.9
$TN08010209021 - 0110$	<b>Bear Creek</b>	Shelby/Tipton	14.5
TN05130104050 - 0100	East Branch Bear Creek	Scott	5.7
TN05130104050 - 1000	<b>Bear Creek</b>	Scott	2.6
$TN06010102003 - 0500$	<b>Bear Creek</b>	Sullivan	4.6
TN08010204004 - 0100	<b>Bethel Branch</b>	Dyer/Gibson	30.4
TN06010207001 - 0100	Poplar Creek Embayment, <b>Watts Bar Reservior</b>	Roane	$141$ ac

Table 1 Streams in violation of water quality standards

Elemental mercury dissolves and oxidizes to mercuric ion under environmental conditions resulting in increased mobility of mercury due to its increased solubility. Higher concentrations of mercury and suspended solids have been recorded as a byproduct of higher volumes and higher stream velocities during and post flood events [**5**]. Mercury present in surface water is converted to various forms. Mercury particles may settle with sediments, may be consequently diffused into the water column, re-suspended, or hidden within sediments until a hydrological event disturbs the particles and reignites the complex cycle through which it is recycled [**5**]. Mercury is released from bed sediments as bed layer particles are re-suspended. Mercury exchange occurs between the water column and sediment as well as between the dissolved and adsorbed phases of mercury via adsorption-desorption processes [**6**]. Methylmercury is the most toxic form of mercury because it can accumulate at a faster rate within organisms in comparison to the rate at which it can be eliminated; as takes longer for organisms to remove it from their systems [**7**]. Effects are dependent upon the chemical form and type of exposure. The mercury within the EFPC system is continuously recycled by the surrounding environment, making the successful implementation of remediation strategies difficult to execute.

Mercury contamination in the environment represents a health concern for wildlife, as well as humans [**7**]. Studies have shown a correlation between total mercury concentration within the creek and methylmercury concentrations and long term bioaccumulation and biomagnifications. Understanding the processes by which mercury is transported and recycled within the EFPC environment is an essential step towards complying with applicable and relevant or appropriate requirements (ARARs) in the DOE's Record of Decision (ROD) Phase I and Phase II [**8**] [**9**].

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies, identify the sources of pollutant in a stream, quantify the amount, and recommend appropriate action to be taken in order for the stream to no longer be polluted. Further analysis and modeling of the area is necessary so that TMDLs studies may be developed in the future.

Previous efforts to model the hydrological environment and mercury transport dynamics within the Oak Ridge Reservation include the major contributions made by Long (2009) and Cabrejo (2011). Long created a baseline model capable of simulating the hydrology and mercury transport throughout the entire EFPC Watershed. Cabrejo focused on a subsection of the watershed known as Upper East Fork Poplar Creek, and instead considered as factors adding to the total mercury concentration, the diffusive transport between the water column and sediment pore water and the adsorption-desorption processes between dissolved mercury and suspended matter in the water column. This research combines both methods by incorporating ECOLAB to simulate the fate and transport of mercury at the water and sediment interface throughout EFPC.

In this report, results for simulated discharges, contaminant concentration levels, and mercury loads are presented in the form of timeseries. Probability distribution curves were developed for each set of timeseries. Flow, discharge and load duration curves were developed for various hydrological regimes.

4

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

Models are generally categorized as stochastic or deterministic, and further classified as conceptual or empirical depending on their ability to obey the physical laws. Stochastic models are dependent upon random variables dominated by a probability distribution function. In deterministic models all the input parameters are known within a specific certainty range. Modeling tools have been used extensively to simulate system dynamics. For instance, MIKE SHE/MIKE 11 modeling systems have been applied by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) in an integrated approach that successfully simulates wetland dynamics as part of the Everglades Nutrient Removal (ENR) project [**10**]. The models have also been applied in Broward County to develop an Integrated Water Resources Master Management Plan (IWRMMP) [**11**].

Other studies employed computer models to emphasize the significance of sediments and suspended matter in contaminant transport. A study performed by the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources revealed that 75% of the total mercury load present in the Cashie River Watershed resulted from eroded sediments [**12**]. A study on the "Development of a Mercury Speciation, Fate and Biotic Uptake (BIOTRANSPEC) Model", applied to the Lohatan Reservoir in Nevada, showed that 90% of the mercury released into the system was maintained within the sediments and constituted a continuous source of pollution [**13**]. Similarly, Cabrejo analyzed how mercury within the sediment serves as a continuous source of pollution within portions of the Y-12 National Security Complex, a sub-domain of the EFPC Watershed [**5**]. A study simulating flow and mercury transport in upper portions of EFPC also confirmed that for the sub-domain, a large portion of the mercury in the river is present as mercury bound to sediment particles [**6**]. These studies summarize the importance of the adsorption-desorption process in mercury contaminated environments, especially when the contaminant has an affinity to sorb to soils in the sediment bed layer.

#### **2.1 Site Description**

The geological characteristics of the EFPC watershed, its tributaries' attributes, and vegetation cover have been extensively described by Long [**14**]. This section serves as a summary of efforts previously executed in characterizing the site since the project's inception.

 East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) is located within the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) in the state of Tennessee, in the counties of Roane and Anderson. The reservation houses three major US Department of Energy facilities within 14,260 ha. These include the Y-12 National Security Complex, the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) or K-25 complex, and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. EFPC watershed is a sub-watershed of the larger Poplar Creek watershed; one of four sub-watersheds of the Lower Clinch River watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 06010207). The EFPC watershed domain area covers approximately 29.7 square miles.

An estimated 88 square miles of streams and tributary branches have been identified within the domain. Bear Creek and EFPC are two small rivers with a length of more than 12,500 kilometers in length. As shown [Figure 1,](#page-9-0) Gum Hallow Branch, Mill Branch, and Pinhook Branch represent other tributaries of significant length. As can be observed from the figure, EFPC is recharged by Bear Creek, Gum Hollow Branch, Mill Branch, and Pin Hook Branch in addition to 30 unnamed tributaries. These tributaries were all included in the model.

Geological formations beneath ORR include primary group formations recognized as: the Knox (OCk), Rome (Cr), Chickamauga (Och), and Conasuaga (Cc), Sequatchie Formation (Os), Fort Payne Chert (Mfp), Rockwood Formation (Sr), Copper Ridge Dolomite (Ccr), Maynardville Limestone (Cmn). The Knox aquifer and the Chickamauga Group are the dominant hydrologic units in which flow is controlled by solution conduits, leaky confining units in which flow is dominated by fractures and relatively low hydraulic conductivity.

Landcover includes intensive agriculture, urban and industrial, or areas of thick forest. White oak forests, bottomland oak forests, and sycamore-ash-elm riparian forests are the common forest types, and grassland barrens intermixed with cedar-pine glades also occur here.

# **3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of this research is to correlate the hydrology of the EFPC and Bear Creek with the long term distribution of mercury within the overland, subsurface, river, and vadose zone sub-domains. Previous modeling efforts; which originally included only the upper portions of EFPC were extended to include the entire EFPC, down to station EFK 6.4 and the Bear Creek. Modeling software MIKE SHE, MIKE11, and ECOLAB were combined in a comprehensive package that models the flow, transport, and mercury exchange within sediment layers. The model considers the most significant parameters and processes of flow and mercury transport for the study site by incorporating a flow, advection, dispersion, water quality and sedimentation (ECOLAB) module. The research includes an analysis of spatial and temporal patterns as a result of variations of selected properties of the sub domain and also emphasizes the stochastic modeling of the system. The impact of sedimentation within the mercury recycling process was assessed through a series of simulations. This component was analyzed in greater detail within this study through the incorporation of a sedimentation layer module (ECOLAB), which addresses the dissolved mercury in the water, the adsorbed mercury concentration on suspended matter, the dissolved mercury in sediment pore water, and the adsorbed mercury in the sediment.

The model is intended to serve as a useful remediation tool since the site will be characterized using relevant historical records for precipitation, groundwater levels, and river discharges obtained from the Oak Ridge Environmental Information System (OREIS) and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) databases, which will be incorporated into the model in the form of boundary or calibration conditions. The incorporation of the ECOLAB module is expected to better characterize the mercury processes in the EFPC environment since mercury species are known to diffuse from contaminated sediment pore water to creek water in the form of diffusive transport.

#### **4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The following approach was applied in modifying and executing the hydrology and transport model developed in support of the DOE's remediation strategies for the EFPC watershed. These techniques expand upon previous modeling efforts including the diffusive transport between the water column and sediment pore water, and the adsorption-desorption processes between dissolved mercury and suspended matter in the water column as part of the total mercury concentration. The integrated surface/subsurface model was built using the numerical package, MIKE (MIKE 11 coupled with MIKE SHE and ECOLAB), developed by the Danish Hydraulic Institute (DHI). The sedimentation module, which originally included UEFPC, was extended to include the entire EFPC, down to EFK 6.4 and the Bear Creek. The sedimentation and water quality module were extended to the entire EFPC watershed in the following phases:

1. The water quality and sedimentation module (ECOLAB) was extended for Bear Creek and for the remaining section of EFPC (downstream of Station 17) to include EFK 6.4.

- 2. Water quality, transport related, and sediment related parameters, such as carbon partitioning coefficient, adsorption rates of mercury species to sediment particles and water molecules, re-suspension rate of sediments, settling velocity of suspended particles, and critical current velocity for sediment re-suspension were estimated from literature, such as DOE reports of field surveys, laboratory experiments reported by FIU or other research institutes, and referenced publications.
- 3. Simulations were executed for a range of significant input parameters to correlate stochastic hydrologic events with mercury distribution patterns.
- 4. The extended EFPC model was calibrated using observed total suspended solids and total mercury concentration timeseries (including dissolved and adsorbed mercury concentrations) recorded at the key stations downstream of Station 17 (EFK 23.4). The calibration procedures consisted of:
	- a. Identifying the significant input parameters in the water quality module. This step was carried out for the UEFPC model and the significant parameters were identified. There are two major sets of input parameters associated with the water quality modeling:
		- 1. Transport-related parameters including carbon partitioning coefficient and adsorption coefficients; and
		- 2. Sediment-related parameters including the re-suspension rate, critical current velocity, settling velocity for the suspension of sediment particles, and particle production rate along the creek.
- 5. Model simulations using observed total suspended solids and total mercury concentration timeseries were analyzed using a range of correlations, including:
- a. Timeseries plots of observed and simulated values for flux or state variables.
- b. Flow duration curves (FDC) and probability exceedances.
- c. Mercury probability exceedances.
- d. Load duration curves.

6. The approach implemented for data processing from ORNL includes:

- a. Data processed for validity and categorized into spreadsheets.
- b. New stations were added to GIS maps of the site.
- c. Timeseries files were developed and input into the model.
- d. Model nodes, cross-sections, and boundaries were modified as necessary due to the addition of new observation stations.

#### **5. MODEL OVERVIEW**

The model includes the main components of the hydrological cycle and contaminant transport; groundwater flow and transport (3D saturated and unsaturated), overland flow, flow in rivers, precipitation, and evapotranspiration. The model enables full dynamic coupling of surface and subsurface flow processes which allows calculations of water and contaminant exchange between the land, rivers, and the groundwater. By providing detailed spatial information and characteristics including hydrological and transport properties in the four sub-domains, Saturated Zone (SZ), Unsaturated Zone (UZ), Overland Flow (OL), and Transport in Streams (OC), the model provides accurate water and contaminant mass balance for the domain. MIKE SHE and MIKE 11 are used to simulate and assess the impact of hydrological events on mercury contamination. The processes simulated by each module (MIKE 11, MIKE SHE, and ECOLAB) in the EFPC model are shown in [Figure 3](#page-19-0) and explained in greater detail within the subsequent sections. [Figure 28](#page-61-0) in the Appendices of this report, provides a conceptual schematic based on the EFPC model modular set up. The diagram denotes the various pathways of interaction among the MIKE SHE, MIKE 11, and ECOLAB modules and list the numerical engines associated at each level of computation.



Figure 3 Processes simulated by MIKE modules.

#### <span id="page-19-0"></span>**5.1 MIKE 11 and MIKE SHE**

MIKE 11 is a one-dimensional river flow and transport model that requires longitudinal profiles, cross-sections, Manning's numbers, and other hydrodynamic parameters [**15**]. It uses the dynamic Saint Venant equations to determine river flow and water levels. The complete nonlinear equations of open channel flow (Saint-Venant) can be solved numerically between all grid points at specified time intervals for given boundary conditions. In addition to this fully dynamic description, other descriptions are also available to choose from including high-order, fully dynamic, diffusive wave, kinematic wave, quasi-steady state, and kinematic routing (Muskingum, Muskingum-Cunge).

MIKE SHE is a fully integrated model for the 3D simulation and linkage of hydrologic systems including overland, subsurface, and river flows. It has been successfully applied at multiple scales, using spatially distributed and continuous climate data to simulate a broad range of integrated hydrologic, hydraulic, and transport problems. MIKE SHE represents the the twodimensional overland, one-dimensional unsaturated zone, three-dimensional saturated and vadose zone flow and transport components [**16**]. The hydrologic processes are described based on physical laws such as the conservation of mass, energy and momentum. MIKE SHE couples several partial differential equations that describe flow in the saturated and unsaturated zones with the overland and river flow. Different numerical solution schemes are then used to solve the different partial differential equations for each process. A solution to the system of equations associated with each process is found iteratively by use of different numerical solvers.

The model enables MIKE SHE and MIKE 11 Hydrodynamic (HD) modules to interact through branches or stream reaches defined within the domain. This coupling allows for onedimensional simulation of river flows and water levels through the fully dynamic Saint Venant equations. Hydraulic control structures, area-inundation modeling, dynamic overland flooding flow in relation to the MIKE 11 river network, and the dynamic coupling of surface and subsurface flow is simulated. Floodplain flooding is simulated by first establishing the floodplain through the MIKE SHE topography and then activating the direct overbank spilling option in MIKE 11 while simultaneously restricting cross-sections to the main channel. The cross-sections defined in MIKE 11 are used to calculate the river water levels and volumes. Consistency with topographical elevations is of extreme importance since the bank elevation is the primary reference for cell flooding. River and groundwater exchange is modeled by defining the river in contact with the aquifer. In this case, the water exchange between MIKE 11 and MIKE SHE is performed through a river-link cross section. The river cross-sections link is a function of Conductance (C), the grid node, and river link.

#### **5.2 ECOLAB**

ECOLAB is an equation solver for the sedimentation and exchange of mercury within sediments, suspended particles, pore water and dissolved mercury species [**17**]. An ECOLAB template can be developed by the user to model the ecological processes as required by any specific project; however, some templates have already been developed by DHI in the areas of water quality (17 templates), heavy metal transport (1 template), eutrophication (3 templates), and xenobiotics (1 template). For the modeling of mercury fate and transport in EFPC, the heavy metal transport template of ECOLAB is used coupled with both MIKE-11 and MIKE-SHE to simulate the interaction of mercury species with the sediment particles and water molecules in the creek. The heavy metal template describes the adsorption/desorption of mercury to suspended matter, the sedimentation of sorbed mercury to the streambed, as well as resuspension of the settled mercury. It also includes exchange of mercury between particulates of the bed sediment and the interstitial waters of the bed. The diffusive exchange of dissolved mercury in the water and in the interstitial waters is also considered.

## **6. MODEL THEORY 6.1 MIKE 11**

The one-dimensional numerical engine used to compute flow within the hydrodynamic (HD) module employs the Saint Venant Equations under various assumptions. The model disregards variations in density within the flow medium (water). Flow within rivers or streams are assumed to be parallel to the reach bottom. Moreover, water movement perpendicular to the flow direction of the stream is disregarded. These simplifications lead to the modified Saint Venant equations shown below; constituting the numerical foundation of the HD module.

$$
\frac{\partial q}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_{fl}}{\partial t} = q_{in}
$$

$$
\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \left(\alpha \frac{q}{A_{fl}}\right)}{\partial x} + g A_{fl} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + g A_{fl} I_f = \frac{f}{\rho_w}
$$

The continuity equation; shown first above, emphasizes the conservation of mass within stream sections. The second equation expresses the conservation of momentum. The variables q,  $A_{fl}$ ,  $q_{in}$ , h, a,  $I_f$ , *f*, and  $r_w$  respectively represent the discharge, cross-sectional area, lateral inflow per unit length, water level, the momentum distribution coefficient, friction slope, momentum forcing, and water density.

#### **6.2 ECOLAB**

ECOLAB was incorporated into the model through the Advection or AD module. The set of transport equations governing the advective ECOLAB dynamics are shown below in their non-conservative form:

$$
\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} = D_x \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} + D_y \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} + D_z \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} + S_c + P_c
$$

The variables c, u,v,w,  $D_x$ ,  $D_y$ ,  $D_z$ ,  $S_c$ , and  $P_c$  represent the ECOLAB state variables concentration, flow velocity components, dispersion coefficients in the x, y, and z direction, sources and sinks, and ECOLAB processes. The transport equation is modified as:

$$
\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = AD_c + P_c
$$

The rate of change in concentration as a byproduct of advection dispersion is accounted by the term  $AD<sub>c</sub>$ . Per DHI, the ECOLAB solver calculates the concentration at each time step through an explicit time-integration where  $AD<sub>c</sub>$  is constant at each time step. The ECOLAB module is capable of performing the explicit time-integration using various methods. These methods include the Euler, Runge Kutta 4, and Runge Kutta with quality check. The newly added ECOLAB module within EFPC was set to perform the explicit-time integration using the Runge Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order. This method was selected because it has higher accuracy. As illustrated within the scientific manual the function:

$$
y_{n+1} = y_n + h \cdot f(x_n, y_n)
$$

is solved in the four steps shown below:

$$
k_1 = h \cdot f(x_n, y_n)
$$
  
\n
$$
k_2 = h \cdot f\left(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n + \frac{k_1}{2}\right)
$$
  
\n
$$
k_3 = h \cdot f\left(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n + \frac{k_2}{2}\right)
$$
  
\n
$$
k_4 = h \cdot f(x_n + h, y_n + k_3)
$$
  
\n
$$
y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{k_1}{6} + \frac{k_2}{3} + \frac{k_3}{3} + \frac{k_4}{6} - O(h^5)
$$

The solution y is obtained from  $x_n$  to  $x_{n+1}$  and equivalent to  $x_n + h$ .

In addition to the internal computational processes described, mercury transport processes in ECOLAB are defined by specifying the following:

- Dissolved mercury in the water  $(S<sub>HM</sub>)$
- Adsorbed mercury concentration on suspended matter  $(X_{HM})$
- Dissolved mercury in the sediment pore water  $(S<sub>HMS</sub>)$
- Adsorbed mercury in the sediment  $(X_{HMS})$

S<sub>HM</sub> is the byproduct of mercury exchange between suspended solids and the water column. This exchange is mainly driven by the organic carbon partitioning coefficient  $(K_d)$ , indicating the contaminant's affinity towards the soil phase. Dissolved mercury is computed using the following set of interconnected equations:

$$
\frac{dS_{HM}}{dt} = -adss + dess + difv
$$
  

$$
adss = k_wK_dS_{HM}TSS
$$
  

$$
dess = k_wX_{HM}
$$
  

$$
diffv = \frac{f_{biot(difw)}\left(\frac{S_{HMS}}{(pors)(dzds)} - S_{lim}\right)}{(dzwf + dzds)dz}
$$

The equations above clearly represent the relation between adsorption (adss), desorption (dess), and diffusive transfer (difv). The variables  $k_w$ ,  $K_d$ , *TSS*,  $f_{biot(difw)}$ , *pors*,  $dzwf$  and  $dz$  are equivalent to the desorption rate  $(d^{-1})$ , partitioning coefficient for mercury  $(m^3 H_2O/gDW)$ , total suspended solids concentration (g DW/m<sup>3</sup> bulk), factor for diffusion due to bioturbation (dimensionless), thickness of diffusion layer in sediment (m), and thickness of the computational grid layer (m) respectively.

X HM, the adsorbed mercury concentration on suspended matter within the water column results from mercury being absorbed by both the suspended solids and particles re-suspended by the river bed layer, and eliminating the mercury desorbed from suspended solids into water column, and also those adsorbed by settling particles.

$$
\frac{dX_{HM}}{dt} = adss - dess - sev + resv
$$

$$
sev = \frac{v_s X_{HM}}{dz}
$$

$$
resv = \frac{RR \frac{X_{HMS}}{X_{SED}}}{dz}
$$

Sev and resv represent the sedimentation and re-suspension of particles.  $V_s$  defines the settling velocity (m/d) of suspended solids. RR denotes the re-suspension rate (gDW/m<sup>2</sup>/d).  $X<sub>SED</sub>$  is the sediment mass  $gDW/m^2$ ). These equations assume that the current speed is greater than the critical speed responsible for initiating movement.

S<sub>HMS</sub> is calculated based on the equations below:

$$
\frac{dS_{HM}}{dt} = -adss + dess - difv
$$

$$
adss = k_s K_{ds} S_{HMS} \frac{X_{SED}}{dzs. por_s}
$$

$$
dess = k_s X_{HMS}
$$

The desorption rate in sediment (d-1), metal partitioning coefficient between particulates and water (m<sup>3</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O/gDW), sediment porosity (m<sup>3</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O/ m<sup>3</sup> bulk), are given by  $k_s$ ,  $K_{ds}$ , and  $por_s$ . The variables in the above equations have been defined earlier in this section.

X HMS is calculated using the following:

$$
\frac{dX_{HMS}}{dt} = \,adss - dess - sev + resv
$$
\n
$$
adss = k_s K_{ds} S_{HMS} \frac{X_{SED}}{dzs. por_s}
$$
\n
$$
sev = v_s X_{HM}
$$
\n
$$
resv = \frac{RRX_{HMS}}{X_{SED}}
$$

#### **7. EFPC MODEL OVERVIEW AND IMPROVEMENTS**

The EFPC model originally developed by Long has been extended and improved throughout the course of this study. The model has been extended to include observation stations not previously considered. This was performed upon evaluating the most recent publicly available historical data for the site. Boundary conditions were created based on a merger between the previously existing EFPC model boundary file and the Y-12 model boundary file. The boundary conditions were updated for point sources within the hydrodynamic and advection module. Links to mercury and flow timeseries were also established.

Simulation specifications have been evaluated and updated to decrease the computational time within the model's pre-processing, water movement, and water quality phases. For example, vegetation data input format has been changed from shape to gridded codes; increasing the model's preprocessing speed. River cross-sections were also examined and modified to ensure consistency in bed level elevations at the branch junctions and thus reduce numerical instabilities. The following sections provide an overview of the input parameters used and changes implemented.

#### **7.1 Data Extraction and Processing**

The Oak Ridge Environmental Information System (OREIS) is a centralized, standardized, quality-assured, and configuration-controlled environmental data management system belonging to the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE). The environmental data retrieved from the OREIS database for the purposes of this research include known quality measurement and spatial data from groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil. The spatial data was extracted by utilizing the OREIS Spatial Query Tool. The interface is shown in the figure below.



Figure 4 OREIS spatial query tool  $(A)$ , and sample segments extracted  $(1)$  -  $(2)$ .

During the data extraction process, the domain was divided into 16 sub segments in an effort to minimize the time and computer resources spent in the data extraction process. The data was initially extracted in the form text files. It was archived into Excel spreadsheets, converted into appropriate units, formatted as timeseries, and added to the model as additional observation stations. Stations 2236AQ06, 3538250, 3215AQ05, 3904AQ04, EFK 13.8, 5313AQ03, EFK 18.2, 6262AQ02, and 6361AQ01 shown on the map below were initially identified as potential observation stations to be added to the model. Additional stations considered but discarded based on the invalid declaration of the OREIS validation qualifier include PCM 5.5-1, PCM 5.5- 2, PCM 5.5-3, PCM 5.5-4, PCM 5.5-5, PCM 6.0, PCM 6.5, PCM 7.0, LASD01, and CCSD01.

Ultimately, 3538250, EFK 13.8, and EFK 18.2 were the only new discharge (flow rates measurements) stations with sufficient data to be included in the model. The relative location of processed field stations and stations added to the model are shown in [Figure 29.](#page-62-0) Specific coordinates are maintained confidential.

#### **7.2 Model Domain, Topography**

The domain/study area, shown as the red outline in [Figure 5,](#page-29-0) was defined by the USGS as Hydrologic Unit Code 060101070302. GIS files for the domain, USGS observation stations, streams, water bodies such as lakes, and topography were inserted into the model in the form of either shapefiles, or MIKE Zero shell extensions (dfs0, dfs1, or dfs1). [Figure 5](#page-29-0) (A), shows an overlay of these files as it appears within the model's display section. Surface elevations were originally embedded in the model in the form of a dfs2 extension file. These surface elevations are measured in meters. [Figure 5](#page-29-0) (B), (C), and (D), show GIS shapefiles for soil imperviousness, and vegetation. These files were introduced in MIKE SHE and prepared by previous members of the Applied Research Center - Environment and Water Resources Group during the initial stages of model development. Refer to Long [**14**] for a more detailed explanation of their assembly.



<span id="page-29-0"></span>Figure 5 Image overlay of observation stations, streams, water bodies, and topography (A), imperviousness (B), soil type (C), and land use (D).

# **7.3 Climate**

Hydrological climate patterns such as precipitation, snowmelt and evapotranspiration form part of the climate sub-section within MIKE SHE. The precipitation component of the model determines surface water flows and defines the basics for the groundwater table. The precipitation timeseries is presented as a rate in the form of mm/day from 1/1/1950 through 12/31/2008. The module MIKE SHE will only use the precipitation data within the userspecified time period. It must be noted that snow melt is not included as a sub-component of the climate since the precipitation values reported in the timeseries already account for frozen precipitation.



Figure 6 Precipitation timeseries data for 1/1/1950 to 12/31/2008.

The evapotranspiration (ET) component of the model is dependent upon meteorological and vegetative data as it must predict evapotranspiration due to rainfall interception by canopy, canopy drainage to soil surface, evaporation from plant and soil surface, and water uptake by roots. A spatially uniform constant value of 2.01168 mm/day is observed based on records for the state of Tennessee [**14**]. The model adjusts ET based on the leaf area index and root depth specified under land use.

#### **7.4 Land Use**

The land use consists of vegetation maps with assigned Leaf Area Index (LAI) constants and Root Depth (RD) values obtained from USGS. LAI and RD spatially adjust the reference ET stated previously. The table below depicts the gridded codes and their classification along with assigned LAI, RD and Manning's M (1/n).



Table 2: Land Usage Classifications

# **7.5 Saturated Zone**

The saturated zone includes subsurface drainage where the distribution of hydrogeologic parameters is assigned via geological layers. A layer from 0 meters to 30 meters below ground level exists and another from 30 to 100 meters below ground surface. These set a two-layer surficial aquifer profile for the site. Parameters influencing saturated flow are considered in this section. A horizontal hydraulic conductivity, vertical hydraulic conductivity, specific yield, and specific storage of 1.0  $e^{-04}$  m/s, 1.0  $e^{-05}$  m/s, 0.2 and 3.0 x10<sup>-5</sup> formed part of the original model and remain unchanged in the current version. The drainage level was assumed -1.0 m relative to the ground, and the drainage time constant has been preset to  $1.0x10<sup>6</sup>$  sec<sup>-1</sup> based on calibration and uncertainty analysis performed by previous modelers [14].

# **7.6 Unsaturated Zone**

The unsaturated zone employs the Van Genuchten algorithm in the computation of the water content and hydraulic conductivity of the soil based on defined parameters. The total saturated water content, capillary head, and the alpha-empirical constant, and M-empirical constant must be specified in order for the algorithm to compute the soil water content. As discussed in greater detail within the MIKE SHE Unsaturated Zone Model Theory, the hydraulic conductivity is expressed as a ratio between the hydraulic conductivity for given water content and the saturated hydraulic conductivity. Input parameters from literature for the Upper and Lower Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity and curves are summarized in [Table 3](#page-32-0) and [Table 4.](#page-32-1) The retention and conductivity curves are shown in [Figure 7.](#page-33-0)

<span id="page-32-0"></span>





<span id="page-32-1"></span>Table 4: Parameters of the Retention and Hydraulic Conductivity Curves



#### <span id="page-33-0"></span>**7.7 Overland Flow**

Drainage in the overland zone is routed downhill based on adjacent drain levels. If drain flow is produced it is routed to the recipient point using a linear reservoir routing technique based on a pre-processor generated reference system that utilizes the slope of the drains calculated from the drainage levels in each cell.

#### **7.8 Channel/River Flow**

Water flow is simulated in MIKE 11 via a 1-dimensional engine directly linked to the network geometry. The network developed for the EFPC model consists of reaches, nodes, grid points, and cross-sections. The river and stream network for the domain area is shown below. It consists of 112 branches/ MIKE SHE links, and 1086 nodes. Cross-sections are set to allow for overbank spilling. The left and right bank elevations and bed layer are consistent with topography files. Resistance (Manning's M) values range between 10 and 20 throughout the domain.

25



Figure 8 River network with point nodes, boundary conditions and cross-sections.

## **7.8.1 Boundary Conditions**

The watershed model consists of well defined boundary conditions. The boundary conditions guide the interaction between the model domain and the surrounding external areas. Open boundary conditions were paired with additional boundary point sources to simulate the hydrology of the natural environment as well as the most significant anthropological alterations to the site.

The EFPC model was modified by adding Outfalls (point sources) to the boundary file in both the Hydrodynamic (HD) and Advection (AD) modules. The newly developed boundary conditions file for the modules consists of a merger between the previously existing EFPC Model boundary file and the Y-12 Model. The new boundary condition files consist of a total of 157 branches of which 42 were declared point sources. These point sources listed in the Appendices

section of this report include discharge and mercury timeseries for the hydrodynamic and advection modules.

#### **7.8.2 Cross-Sections**

The cross-sections are a 2-dimensional intersection of the stream. These are perpendicular to the stream direction. As described within the MIKE 11 user manual, the geometry of the crosssection defines the volume of water for a specific water level at the cross-section. Alternatively, the user-specified resistance defines the easiness of flow through the stream. Cross-sections were generated for EFPC using a raw data approach requiring left and right bank elevations along with bed elevations. The raw data is automatically processed within the model during simulations. Storage width, flow area, resistance number, and hydraulic radius values are generated for each cross-section during the pre-processing stages of the simulation.

The original EFPC model had numerical instabilities within the MIKE 11 module as the water depth within the original set of cross-sections was routinely exceeding the allowable cross -sections depth. These numerical instabilities were eliminated by adding more cross-sections. The final network file used in simulations is shown in [Figure 9,](#page-36-0) and reveals all the model crosssections included within the domain. All cross-sections were checked for consistency in the left and right bank elevations, and bed layer elevation against available topography elevation maps for the site. Furthermore, overbank spilling was allowed in all cross-sections.


River cross-sections within the model were generalized as trapezoidal. A model snapshot depicting a detailed schematic of a river cross-section for EFPC is shown at chainage 0.000. Cross-sections downstream of the EFPC branch are also shown in gray in [Figure 10.](#page-37-0)



<span id="page-37-0"></span>Figure 10 Detailed schematic of river cross-section for EFPC at chainage 0.000 and subsequent chainages downstream

### **7.9 ECOLAB**

The activated ECOLAB module within the Advection Component of Rivers and Lakes currently contains 6 state variables, 11 auxiliary variables, 16 constants, 15 processes, 3 forcing, and 11 derived outputs. The description of the ecosystem state variables is formulated via a series of ordinary coupled differential equations describing the rate of change of each state variable within the ecosystem. Mercury, adsorbed mercury, dissolved mercury in sediment, adsorbed mercury in sediment, suspended solids, and mass of sediment constitute the state variables. Model constants account for the organic-carbon partitioning coefficient, desorption rate in both water and sediment, the fraction of organic carbon in suspended solids (ss) and sediment, thickness of the water film, the ratio between the thickness of diffusion layer in sediment, factor for diffusion as a byproduct of bioturbation, molecular weight of heavy metal, density and porosity of dry sediment, settling velocity of suspended solids, re-suspension rate, particle production rate, and critical current velocity for sediment re-suspension. The forcing used to represent external variables affecting the ecosystem under analysis includes the current speed, total water depth, and thickness of the computational layer. These components are summarized in the table below.



Table 5: Summary of ECOLAB Input

#### **8. RESULTS**

A variety of simulations have been executed with the purpose of calibrating the recently modified model for flow and mercury. The model network is shown in [Figure 11.](#page-39-0) Field stations considered for flow and mercury calibration purposes are shown (EFK 23.4, 03538250, 03538273, 03538270, and 03538673) as well as their model computational counterparts (EFPC 3209.9, EFPC 03538250, BC 8728.87, BC 7700.06, BC 6168.82).



Figure 11 Model network highlighting the stations discussed in the results.

<span id="page-39-0"></span>Flow and load duration curves represent a valid tool for the analysis of data. These methods of analysis were used to effectively calibrate the model. A flow duration curve reveals the relationship between the magnitude of the flow and the frequency in a particular stream. Load duration curves were developed by multiplying the daily mean flow by the measured concentration of suspended solids. LDCs for mercury were also developed by multiplying the daily mean flow by the observed concentration of mercury in the water. The discharge and mercury timeseries shown in the graphs that follow reveal variations in discharge and mercury concentrations at various points throughout EFPC and Bear Creek being primarily driven by hydrological events.

#### **8.1 Flow Module Results**

The average flow of 0.281  $m^3/s$  computed from the timeseries for EFPC 3209.9 was compared to the average recorded field value of 0.363  $m<sup>3</sup>/s$  for Station 17. The simulated discharge timeseries for EFPC 3209.9 exhibited a 22.6% difference in average flow for a 15-year simulation period when compared to field records at Station 17. Discrepancies among the computed and observed average flow is smaller at other points throughout the watershed. For example, downstream EFPC at computational node EFPC 20731.6, the average flow was 1.22  $\text{m}^3\text{/s}$  while the recorded value for USGS station 03538250 was 1.41  $m^3/s$ . In this case, a 13.5% error between computed and observed average flow values was exhibited. In reality, flow at Station 17 is not solely dependent upon hydrological events that magnify discharges at a given time. This section of EFPC is heavily influenced by discharges from regulated outfalls.





Figure 12 Computed discharges downstream EFPC and Bear Creek for various model nodes (EFPC 3209.9, EFPC 20731.6, BC 20731.6, BC 8728.87, BC 7700.06, and BC 6168.82).

Discharges from such regulated outfalls can thus be a contributing factor; amplifying the differences between computed and observed average flow at Station 17 and EFPC 3209.9. Simulated average flow for Bear Creek at chainage 8728.28, 7700.06, and 6168.82 were 0.279  $\text{m}^3$ /s, 0.215 m<sup>3</sup>/s, and 0.156 m<sup>3</sup>/s, respectively. This was comparable to the observed average flow of 0.253 m<sup>3</sup>/s, 0.212 m<sup>3</sup>/s, and 0.143 m<sup>3</sup>/s for USGS stations 03538273, 03538270, and 03538672.

The model reveals general trends consistent with measured data. The average flow increases downstream EFPC and Bear Creek. [Figure 13](#page-42-0) compares the computed discharges at EFPC 3209.9 to observed records at station EFK 23.4. A flow duration curve (FDC) shown in [Figure](#page-42-1)  [14](#page-42-1) was generated to depict the relationship between the magnitude and frequency of daily stream flow for both computed and observed records.



<span id="page-42-0"></span>Figure 13 Comparison of discharges timeseries at EFPC 3209.9(computed) and EFK 23.4 (observed).



<span id="page-42-1"></span>Figure 14 Comparison of flow duration curves for EFPC 3209.9 (computed) and EFK 23.4 (observed).



<span id="page-43-0"></span>Figure 15 Comparison of discharges timeseries at Bear Creek 7700.06 (computed) and 03538270(observed).

Similarly, the computed discharges at Bear Creek 7700.06 were compared to USGS station 03538270 in [Figure 15.](#page-43-0) Observed and computed discharges at this station show an excellent match. Flow duration curves are also shown in [Figure 16](#page-44-0) through [Figure 18.](#page-44-1) These images reveal the model's ability to best simulate flow or discharges during high flow, moist-conditions, and mid-range flows. Dry conditions and low flow regimes establish a greater margin of error and numerical instability.



<span id="page-44-0"></span>Figure 16 Comparison of flow duration curves for BC8728.87 (computed) and 03538273 (observed).



Figure 17 Comparison of flow duration curves at Bear Creek 7700.06 (computed) and 03538270(observed).



<span id="page-44-1"></span>Figure 18 Comparison of flow duration curves at Bear Creek 7700.06 (computed) and 03538270(observed).

### **8.2 Water Quality Module Results**

Simulated mercury timeseries are shown in [Figure 19](#page-46-0) for computational nodes downstream EFPC and Bear Creek that overlap with field stations. Simulated average mercury concentrations for Bear Creek at chainage 8728.28, 7700.06, and 6168.82 were 1.6 μg/L, 2.2 μg/L, and 2.9 μg/L, respectively. Mercury concentrations appear to decrease upstream Bear Creek. The slightly higher average mercury concentration of 2.9 μg/L computed at BC 8728.28 could be attributed to its proximity to East Fork Poplar Creek as previous studies hypothesize on the potential of mercury particulates to be carried downstream during extreme hydrological events. In the case of EFPC, the model initially over estimated the mercury concentration at Station 17 reporting 186 μg/L when the recorded average was 0.89 μg/L. At EFPC 20731.6, the average mercury concentration was 13.7 μg/L. Since EFK 23.4 or Station 17 is the only station with significant mercury data, extensive calibration efforts were thus implemented within the model's computational dynamics to achieve more realistic results for mercury concentrations at observed Station 17 and computed EFPC 3209.9.

Probability exceedance curves are a classical way for regulators to understand the system in terms of the various flow regimes exhibited. [Figure 22](#page-47-0) shows the probability exceedances for computed and recorded mercury concentrations prior to the implementation of mercury calibration efforts for EFPC 3209.9 and EFK 23.4. Similarly, [Figure 23](#page-47-1) depicts the postcalibration mercury concentration probability exceedances for the same station. [Figure 23](#page-47-1) reveals a much better correlation between the field records and the simulated results at Station 17. As can be observed in [Figure 22,](#page-47-0) the post calibration load was improved by orders of magnitudes.





<span id="page-46-0"></span>Figure 19 Computed mercury concentrations downstream EFPC and Bear Creek for various model nodes (EFPC 3209.9, EFPC 20731.6, BC 20731.6, BC 8728.87, BC 7700.06, and BC 6168.82).



Figure 20 Comparison of mercury timeseries at EFPC 3209.9 (computed) and EFK 23.4 (observed).



Figure 21 Measured mercury concentrations and discharges at Station 17.



<span id="page-47-0"></span>Figure 22 Comparison of pre-calibration mercury concentration probability exceedances for EFPC 3209.9 (computed) and EFK 23.4 (observed).



<span id="page-47-1"></span>Figure 23 Comparison of post-calibration mercury concentration probability exceedances for EFPC 3209.9 (computed) and EFK 23.4 (observed).

The daily flow rates and observed concentration were used to obtain daily load estimates in an attempt to identify seasonal trends, compare one location to another, and serve as a future tool for the development of water quality goals. Computed and observed load duration curves (LDCs) were thus created for the previously discussed field records and model stations. These images are shown in [Figure 24](#page-48-0) through [Figure 26.](#page-49-0) The LDC for model station EFPC 3209.9 and field station EFK 23.4 provides a general trend consistent with the one previously reveal by the FDCs. For the loads, similarly to the discharges, the model is best able to simulate the observed for high flow, mid-range flow, and moist conditions. The mercury loads appear to be attenuated downstream EFPC [\(Figure 25\)](#page-49-1). This pattern is not of significance at Bear Creek [\(Figure 26\)](#page-49-0) as variations of load duration curves are minor throughout Bear Creek.



<span id="page-48-0"></span>Figure 24 Comparison of load duration curves for EFPC 3209.9 (computed) and EFK 23.4 or Sta. 17 (observed).



<span id="page-49-1"></span>Figure 25 Comparison of load duration curves for computed model stations EFPC 3209.9 and EFPC 20731.6.

<span id="page-49-0"></span>

Figure 26 Load duration curves downstream Bear Creek.

Profiles were generated for the major streams (East Fork Poplar Creek, Bear Creek, Gum Hallow Branch, Mill Branch, and Pinhook Branch) in addition to evaluating mercury concentrations and mercury loads downstream EFPC and Bear Creek. The profiles were used to analyze fluctuations in mercury concentrations as a function of time and identify how these fluctuations relate to hydrologic events. [Figure 27](#page-50-0) reveals a sample profile for EFPC. [Figure 28](#page-51-0) and [Figure 29](#page-51-1) portray the simulated mercury concentrations dowstream EFPC per corresponding hydrological event for time-step November 11, 1995 and January 6, 1996. The maximum mercury concentration reached within the simulated period is shown in red. A comparison of the mercury profile downstream the selected branch with the precipitation pattern [\(Figure 29\)](#page-51-1), reveals that during high flood events mercury concentration decreases due to dilution. However, post hydrological events, the mercury concentration levels increase [\(Figure 28\)](#page-51-0).



<span id="page-50-0"></span>Figure 27 Model river network depicting physical path within watershed of the mercury profile showcased in subsequent figures.



<span id="page-51-0"></span>Figure 28 Simulated mercury concentrations downsteam EFPC per corresponding hydrological event for November 22, 1995.



<span id="page-51-1"></span>Figure 29 Simulated mercury concentrations downsteam EFPC with corresponding hydrological event in Figure 33 for January 6, 1996.

Total suspended solids patterns were also investigated for Station 17. The same process applied for analyzing the flow and mercury timeseries, generating probability exceedance curves, and LDCs were implemented when evaluating total suspended solids. [Figure 32](#page-52-0) compares the observed and computed trends of TSS loads with the mercury loads at Station 17.



<span id="page-52-0"></span>Figure 30 Observed and computed TSS load and mercury concentration load for observed and computed station 17

#### **8.3 Sensitivity Analysis**

The sensitivity of the organic partition coefficient  $(K_d)$  within the water quality sorption processes was evaluated to establish how total mercury concentrations computed within the water quality module are impacted by variations of this parameter. The organic partition coefficient parameter was varied. The  $K_d$  values used include 0.001 m<sup>3</sup>/g, 0.025 m<sup>3</sup>/g, 0.050  $\text{m}^3/\text{g}$ , 0.500 m<sup>3</sup>/g, and 5 m<sup>3</sup>/g. [Figure 30](#page-53-0) shows the variability caused by each K<sub>d</sub> within the mercury concentration timeseries for a 1-year period (2001 - 2002). As shown in the image, the pattern within the timeseries is maintained yet the baseline mercury concentration and peak

extent is accentuated. The relationship between the organic partition coefficient and the average daily load at Station 17 is best described as logarithmic [\(Figure 31\)](#page-53-1).



<span id="page-53-0"></span>Figure 31 Total mercury timeseries depicting sensitivity to organic partition coefficient  $(K_d)$  for various simulations.



<span id="page-53-1"></span>Figure 32 Observed trend between average daily loads and  $K_d$ .

### **9. CONCLUSIONS**

A working model of East Fork Poplar Creek has been developed and optimized to execute flow and water quality simulations throughout the various zones of the sub-domain, including the sediment layer through the implementation of ECOLAB. The model is capable of simulating the entire hydrological cycle. It has been calibrated for various observation stations included in the model. The water quality and sedimentation modules were extended to include the entire EFPC, down to station EFK 6.4 and the Bear Creek. Water quality, transport, and sediment related parameters have been updated based on DOE experimental reports and journal publications. Simulations were executed for a range of input parameters to correlate stochastic hydrologic events with mercury distribution patterns and total suspended solid pattern at Station 17. The simulations were analyzed using a range of techniques, primarily comparative schematics of timeseries plots, probability exceedance curves, and load duration curves.

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### **11.APPENDICES**



Figure 33 Schematic of the modular set-up and processes of MIKE SHE, MIKE 11, and ECOLAB arranged in accordance to the EFPC model structure. (Concept obtained from DHI [**16**] and modified by Lilian Marrero)

<span id="page-62-0"></span>

Figure 34 Highlighted stations represent flow data observation points added to the model as timeseries.









<span id="page-66-0"></span>



<b>Boundary</b> <b>Description</b>	<b>Boundary</b> <b>Type</b>	<b>Branch</b> <b>Name</b>	Chainage	<b>Boundary</b> ID
Open	Inflow	<b>Bear Creek</b>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch100	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch101	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch102	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch103	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch104	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch105	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch106	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch107	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch108	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch109	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch110	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch111	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch112	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch113	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch18	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch19	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>20</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch21	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>22</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>23</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>24</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch25	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>26</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>27</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>28</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch <sub>29</sub>	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch30	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch31	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch32	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch33	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch34	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch35	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch36	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch37	0	N/A
Open	Inflow	Branch38	0	N/A

Table 8 EFPC Model boundary conditions per branch








# **TECHNICAL REPORT**

# **Remediation and Treatment Technology Development and Support for DOE Oak Ridge Office: A Surface Water Flow and Contaminant Transport Model of the ORNL 4500 Area Using XPSWMM**

**Date submitted:**

March 1, 2013

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#### **Submitted to:**

U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management Under Grant # DE-EM0000598



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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

An XPSWWM surface water model was developed to provide a better understanding of the surface water flow rates and water stages during rainfall events for the selected 4500 ORNL area. The specific system of interest, the stormwater collection system up to Outfall 211, is approximately 4.5 acres and encompasses several ORNL buildings. The system is bounded by mostly impervious area (due to roof top runoff through storm drains and pavement to the north, south, east, and west) with minor pervious areas sparsely connected within. Ms. Henderson, the author of this study, conducted an internship during the summer of 2012 and collected information about the physical parameters of the stormwater drainage system. A stormwater hydraulic-hydrologic computer model was developed using XPSWWM software. The objective of the model is to provide detailed information about flow rate and stage timeseries during various stormwater events. ORNL provided monitored timeseries flow rates at OF-211. Dates that rainfall occurred during the monitoring period were noted and simulated through the network for calibration of the model. The model produced results that agreed with the monitored data resulting in credible validation of the model. In addition, a sensitivity analysis was prepared where factual rainfall data was simulated through the network varying Manning's roughness coefficient, infiltration parameters, and percent imperviousness in order to assess the impacts of the variables on the model results. Design storms were simulated and examined. In addition, a hypothetical conservative contaminant was introduced into the system at various locations. The flow rates, concentrations, and loads were fit to a probability distribution which describes the character of the data. The resulting flow rates from the model may be utilized in conjunction with contaminant data to assess where remediation may be necessary within the area of interest.

# **Contents**





## **LIST OF TABLES**



# **LIST OF FIGURES**













#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

In the 1940's during World War II, the U.S. initiated its own research and development program—commonly referred to as the Manhattan Project—in a race to create the first atomic bomb. The 33,750 acre Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) was the first site selected to support the Manhattan Project. This site consists of three major U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facilities, the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) formerly known as the Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant or K-25 (2200-acres), the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12 NSC) (800 acres), and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) formerly known as X-10 (4470-acres). The reason for selecting ORR was because it provided the water supply (Clinch River), electricity (Tennessee Valley Authority), and workforce (citizens from the City of Knoxville) necessary for this operation. In addition to the workforce offered by the City of Knoxville, thousands of scientists, engineers, and support personnel relocated to the area in support of this mission (ORNL, 2008).



Figure 1 Oak Ridge Reservation (USEPA, 2004)

<span id="page-84-0"></span>By the early 1950's, DOE began the production of thermonuclear weapons in support of the Cold War. A key active ingredient in the design of the thermonuclear weapon, or the hydrogen bomb, was lithium-6 (Li-6), which is produced by separating lithium isotopes using an aqueous solution containing mercury (Hg) (Brooks and Southworth, 2011; Ragheb, 2012). In 1953, ORNL Buildings 4501 and 4505 were built to conduct a pilot-scale evaluation of the lithium exchange processes for the development of thermonuclear weapons. Building 4501, the High-Level Radiochemical Laboratory, was a pilot plant for the OREX process. In 1955, Building 4505, the Experimental Engineering Laboratory, was built to house another process named METALLEX. Although ORNL's major concern is Hg contamination, many other pollutants have resulted from the previously described activities. More specifically, radionuclides (strontium-90 and radium-228) and inorganics are also of concern and remediation is needed (Taylor, 1989a).



Figure 2 ORNL Building 4501 and 4505 Location

<span id="page-85-0"></span>ORNL is located within the White Oak Creek (WOC) watershed, which is within the Central Bethel Valley watershed (a portion of the Bethel Valley watershed). WOC, a tributary of the Tennessee River, is the main stream running adjacent to ORNL along its south-eastern border and represents a major route for water and contaminant transport (USEPA, 2004; USEPA, 2006). The WOC watershed is comprised of approximately 2,098 acres and collects runoff and treated wastewater discharge from ORNL where it is drained into White Oak Lake and then the Clinch River (ORNL, 2008; USDOE, 1999). In [Figure 3 Oak Ridge Reservation \(ChemRisk, 1999a\),](#page-86-0) the location of the area of interest is located within the red circle.



Figure 3 Oak Ridge Reservation (ChemRisk, 1999a)

#### **2 STUDY AREA**

<span id="page-86-0"></span>The specific system of interest and its drainage area, herein referred to as the stormwater collection system up to Outfall 211, are located within the red circle as shown in Figure 1 and in more detail in Figure 2. It is approximately 4.5 acres and encompasses the following ORNL buildings: 4500N Wings 1, 2, and part of Wing 3, 4500S Wings 1, 2, and part of Wing 3, 4501, 4505, 4507, 4508, and 4556. The system is bounded by mostly impervious land cover (due to roof top runoff through storm drains and pavement to the north, south, east, and west); however, there are minor pervious areas throughout the drainage area.



Figure 4 Area of Interest and Building Identification

<span id="page-87-0"></span>

Figure 5 Area of Interest Boundary

<span id="page-87-1"></span>A stormwater model for the contributing drainage areas to Outfall 211 has been developed and consists of 51 link/52 nodes of closed circular conduits discharging into a free surface creek. The node elevations range from 793 ft, NAD to 803 ft, NAD respectively. The system is composed of multiple sub-drainage areas with up to five sub-catchment areas for one inlet. The sub-catchment areas are defined by imperviousness, slope, width, and area. They are linked to a node so that once the rainfall is simulated it is routed into and through the system. Model inputs include topography, pervious and impervious drainage areas of each sub-catchment area, infiltration parameters, slope of sub-catchment areas, length and diameter of pipes, and Manning's coefficient for pipe roughness.



Figure 6 Stormwater Collection System

<span id="page-88-0"></span>

Figure 7 Sub-catchment Delineation of System

<span id="page-88-1"></span>The system was modeled as one-dimensional steady flow where a steady uniform rainfall event will be modeled. One-dimensional unsteady non-uniform flow will also be modeled where the rainfall will vary with time. Both synthetic and actual rainfall data from the Oak Ridge area will be modeled through the system.

The storm system is unique in that sources from the adjacent buildings, such as cooling water and condensate from various AC units contribute to the Outfall 211 drainage system as well as process water from the Creep Laboratory (Building 4500S). ORNL receives their water supply, public drinking water and process water, from the Oak Ridge Water Treatment Plant where it is chlorinated for disinfection purposes. Thus, a dechlorinator has been added after Outfall 211 for dechlorination prior to its discharge into WOC.

From Building 4556 a 4" VP connects to a 10" VP which conveys water into MH211-3. MH211-3 is located at the northwest corner of Building 4500S. The main storm line runs west of 4500N and 4500S and contains MH211-1, MH211-2, MH211-2a, MH211-3, MH211-4, and Outfall 211. It begins at MH211-4 and ends at Outfall 211. From MH211-4 to MH211-3, the main storm line is constructed of 15" RCP. South of MH211-3, the line is 30" RCP. Outfall 211 is a culvert located under a bridge. However, prior to its release during dry periods, the water is held back by a 65" long, 13.5" high metal plate accompanied by an 8" PVC orifice. The 8" PVC conveys the water into the dechlorinator. Just prior to the dechlorinator the 8" PVC splits into two 4" PVC as it is directed through the dechlorinator for disinfection prior to its final release into WOC. It seems that only one of the two 4" PVC conveys water through the dechlorinator where the other is closed via a ball valve. This immediately impacts the system by restricting flow from an 8" PVC to a 4" PVC. Thus, for this project the dechlorinator will not be modeled and the point of discharge for the system will be immediately after Outfall 211.



Figure 8 Outfall 211

<span id="page-90-0"></span>

Figure 9 WOC East of Outfall 211

<span id="page-90-1"></span>

Figure 10 Dechlorinator in WOC

<span id="page-90-2"></span>As an industrial area, ORNL is composed of mostly impervious area with sparse pervious areas and lies within the Tennessee State Plane North American Datum (NAD) 1983. The area bordering the area of interest ranges in elevation from 780 ft NAD to 855 ft NAD as shown on the digital terrain model (DTM). However, the area of interest is relatively flat ranging from 780 ft NAD to 810 ft NAD.



Figure 11 XPSWMM Digital Terrain Model

#### <span id="page-91-0"></span>**3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVE**

In order to effectively assess the transport of contaminants within the system, it is first important to best understand the flow of water within the system of interest. Thus, the main research objective of this study is to develop a hydrologic-hydraulic model of the stormwater collection system that will be properly calibrated and verified for both steady uniform flow and unsteady non-uniform flow local conditions. If development is successful, it is expected that the model will be capable of supporting an analysis of the system for the following types of simulations in support of decision-making related to design, operation and maintenance of the system:

- 1. Hydrologic analysis via simulation of various storm events over the site as well as actual rainfall data.
- 2. Transport analysis by interjecting a conservative contaminant within the system.
- 3. Determination of the probability exceedance (PE) of the main nodes (inlets, manholes, and junctions) and development of flow duration and load duration functions for each node.

Additional details on the above simulations are presented in the methodology section.

#### **4 SITE ANALYSIS**

The model is based upon two sets of drawings and is noted as follows:, 1) the original drawings from the 1950's, and 2) the ATLAS drawings, which are more recent sketches based on what is believed to be underground. Neither set of drawings contain all of the pertinent information for the model. The following assumptions and notes were made based on the information found from the two sets of drawings..

The original drawings indicate that the Outfall 211 drainage system begins from the east between 4500N and 4500S Wings 2 and 3. However, the ATLAS drawings show it interconnected with the drainage system to the east. This model is in accordance with the original drawings where Outfall 211's drainage system stands alone and begins from the east at the manhole (B-4500S\_E) located between 4500N and 4500S Wings 2 and 3.



Figure 12 Location of MH B-4500S\_E

<span id="page-92-0"></span>The ATLAS drawings do not show the existing inlet (I-2) to the west of MH211-3.



Figure 13 Location of Inlet I-2

<span id="page-93-0"></span>The ATLAS drawings indicate that the inlet east of 4500N Wing 1 is shown to the west of the manhole located at the north-south centerline; however, it is located to the east of the north-south centerline (I-4).



Figure 14 Location of Inlet I-4

<span id="page-93-1"></span>The ATLAS drawings do not show the two inlets (I-8 and I-9) located east of 4500N

Wing 2.



Figure 15 Location of I-8 and I-9

<span id="page-94-0"></span>There are unknown inverts, manhole elevations, and inlet elevations throughout the system so reasonable assumptions will be made from analysis of surrounding or like data. Assumptions will be made for the building area contributing to the roof drains.

#### **5 MODEL DEVELOPMENT**

The program chosen to develop the stormwater model is XPSWMM, which is the Microsoft Windows version of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stormwater modeling (SWMM) tool (USEPA, 2012). XPSWMM uses a spatially distributed link/node network to analyze the hydraulic, hydrologic, and quality of a stormwater or wastewater system. The XPSWMM software package applies the Saint-Venant equations to solve for the onedimensional unsteady open channel flow. The Saint-Venant equations are based on the fundamentals of conservation of mass, momentum, and energy (Chanson, 2004). The conservation of mass and momentum is expressed by the continuity equation

$$
Q=A_1*\nu_1=A_2*\nu_2
$$

Where,  $Q =$  volumetric flow rate;  $A =$  cross sectional area of flow;  $v =$  mean velocity.

$$
\frac{p}{\gamma} + \frac{v^2}{2g} + z = \frac{p}{\gamma} + \frac{v^2}{2g} + z
$$

XPSWMM is equipped with three modes, the hydraulic, runoff, and sanitary modes, of which only the hydraulic and runoff modes will be utilized in this model (Jacobson, 2011; Elliott and Trowsdale, 2007). The dialogs will request certain information depending on which mode is active. Node data, conduit shapes, control structures and weirs may be modeled in the hydraulic mode. The node dialog requests the spill crest elevation where it can be the manhole elevation for a manhole, inlet elevation for an inlet, or top of pipe for a junction box. For the purpose of this project, a junction box is considered as a point where the storm pipe changes direction without a manhole or inlet, or where the storm drain enters the main storm line. There is a dialog for the conduit information and selection of various shapes of pipe along with an aid to visualizing the conduit profiles.

<span id="page-95-0"></span>

Figure 16 XPSWMM Node Data Dialog



Figure 18 XPSWMM Conduit Shapes

<span id="page-96-1"></span><span id="page-96-0"></span>In the runoff mode, drainage areas are delineated for the inlets via sub-catchments. One inlet can have up to five sub-catchment areas where each sub-catchment may have varying areas, impervious percentage, width, and slope. The various sub-catchments will make up the node catch basin incorporating the higher elevation contour surrounding the node. The sub-catchments are the areas that are directly connected to the inlet and will contribute runoff during the simulated rainfall events.

Sub-Catchments					
	u	$\overline{2}$	3 u	4	-5
Area	.065	.237	.065	.086	.108
Imp. (%)	80	80	95	100	5
<b>Width</b>	18	40	5	10.2	13.2
Slope	.02	.02	.02	.02	.01

<span id="page-96-2"></span>Figure 19 Sub-catchment Dialog

The network is made up of a series of links and nodes, a link being a conduit such as a storm drain, storm pipe, or culvert that conveys water from one node to another. Nodes are considered to intake stormwater or other discharges, and in this case would be the A/C units' condensate and cooling water or the chlorinated discharge water from the Creep Laboratory in Building 4500S, which would be building drains, roof drains, manholes, inlets, or junction boxes. The required input data for the conveyance through the conduits are the Manning's roughness coefficient, slope, downstream invert, upstream invert, pipe length and spill crest elevations.



Figure 20 XPSWMM Model Main Storm Line

#### <span id="page-97-0"></span>**5.1 Open Channel Flow**

The system will be modeled as one-dimensional steady uniform flow as well as unsteady non-uniform flow. The water flow is simulated to operate as partially filled open channel flow because the gravity sewer system is open to atmospheric pressure. However, it is possible that during a large storm event some pipes will encounter full flow.

The conveyance of water within the system is solved by the Manning's formula which originates from the continuity equation. The Manning's formula for uniform open channel flow through the conduits is as follows:

$$
v = \frac{1.49}{n} R^{\frac{2}{3}} \sqrt{S}
$$

$$
Q = v * A
$$

$$
R = \frac{A}{P}
$$

Where  $\Omega$  represents water flow (cfs), v is the velocity (fps), A is the cross-sectional area of flow (sf), n is the Manning's coefficient (dimensionless), R is the hydraulic radius (ft), and S is the slope of the water surface or the linear hydraulic head loss (ft/ft). The hydraulic radius is equal to the cross-sectional area of flow divided by the wetted perimeter (ft) as shown in the third equation above. The wetted perimeter for partially filled circular conduits may be found by the following information and measurements:



Figure 21 Partially Filled Circular Conduit

<span id="page-98-0"></span>Where: Angle from the centerline to the water level,  $\theta = \cos^{-1}(1 - \frac{y}{r})$ ; Depth of water in culvert,  $y = r(1 - \cos \theta)$ ; Cross-sectional area of flow,  $A = r^2(\theta - \cos \theta \sin \theta)$ ; Wetted Perimeter of water,  $P = 2r(\theta)$ ; Top width of water surface,  $T = 2r(\sin \theta)$ .

#### **5.2 Routing Method**

The runoff routing method was chosen for the simulations as it allowed for the rainfallrunoff process for continuous rainfall simulations. The excess rainfall is defined as the rainfall amount that was not infiltrated into the ground surface and is therefore simulated as overland flow from divided drainage areas and, sub-catchments of the specified basins by taking into account the area, the percent imperviousness, width, and slope of the sub-catchments.

#### **5.3 Green Ampt Infiltration Method**

Green Ampt and the Horton's infiltration methods were chosen for the infiltration sensitivity analysis. The ORNL site is composed of buildings, pavement, and minor pervious areas. It is surrounded by ORR's wooded lands. Soils in the area are a mixture of reddish-brown clays and silts resulting from in-situ weathering of shaley limestone bedrock.

The Green Ampt infiltration method was chosen for all of the simulations within the hydrology and transport analyses – Manning's roughness coefficient variations, design storm events, steady uniform flow and unsteady non-uniform flow calibrations, and the three variations within the transport analysis because it is known to simulate unsteady continuous rainfall events. XPSWMM calculates the infiltration rates by utilizing the Green Ampt – Mein Larson equations, the first being the Mein-Larson equation where the soil has yet to become saturated and the Green Ampt equation once saturation of the soil has occurred. The Mein Larson calculations assume that the infiltration rate approaches the rainfall intensity rate then calculates the unsaturated soil's infiltration rate as if the cumulative infiltration volume is less than the required cumulative infiltration volume for the soil to become saturated. The cumulative infiltration volume is then determined by the following formula:

$$
Fs = \frac{(Su * \text{IMD})}{\frac{i}{\text{Ks}} - 1}
$$

16

Where,  $Fs = cumulative$  infiltration volume required to cause surface saturation, ft; Su = average capillary suction at the wetting front, ft water;  $IMD =$  initial moisture deficit, ft/ft; i = rainfall intensity,  $ft/sec$ ;  $Ks = saturated hydraulic conductivity of soil, ft/sec$ .

If the soil has been saturated where the infiltration rate approaches the infiltration capacity then the following scenario is run through XPSWMM:

$$
\text{Fp} = \text{Ks} * \left(1 + \text{Su} * \left(\frac{\text{IMD}}{F}\right)\right)
$$

Where,  $Fp =$  infiltration capacity, ft/sec;  $Ks =$  saturated hydraulic conductivity of soil, ft/sec; Su = average capillary suction at the wetting front, ft water;  $IMD =$  initial moisture deficit for the event, ft/ft;  $F =$  cumulative infiltration volume, ft.

The Green Ampt parameters and their values based on clay loamy soil consistent with the ORNL 4500 area are shown in the figures below.



<span id="page-100-0"></span>Figure 22 Infiltration Parameters



Figure 23 Green Ampt Parameters

#### <span id="page-101-0"></span>**5.4 Horton Infiltration Method**

The Horton Infiltration Method was chosen as the infiltration method to be compared to the Green Ampt simulations as it may also simulate unsteady continuous rainfall events. The Horton equation indicates infiltration capacity as a function of time is as follows (Verma, 1982):

$$
F_p = F_c + (F_0 - F_c)e^{-kt}
$$

Where,  $Fp =$  infiltration rate into soil, in./hr (mm/hr);  $Fc =$  minimum or asymptotic value of Fp, in./hr (mm/hr); Fo = maximum or initial value of Fp, in./hr (mm/hr);  $t =$  time from beginning of storm, sec;  $k =$  decay coefficient,  $1/sec$ .

Horton's Infiltration Method is known to calculate infiltration rates for single storm events. However, XPSWMM has an option for Horton's infiltration calculations to be regenerated, which is equal to the regeneration specified multiplied by the decay specified. For the Horton simulation a regeneration of 0.01 was used with a decay rate of 0.001.



Figure 24 Horton Infiltration Dry Clay Parameter

<span id="page-102-0"></span>

Figure 25 Horton Equation Dry Clay Parameter

## **6 HYDROLOGY ANALYSIS**

<span id="page-102-1"></span>A hydrology analysis was performed on the model beginning with a calibration of the model using both synthetic storm events for steady uniform flow conditions and unsteady nonuniform conditions and actual rainfall data. The results of the simulations using actual rainfall data are compared to OF-211 data provided by ORNL in order to validate the model. The hydrology analysis of the model includes the following:

- 1. Calibration
	- a. Calibration of Steady Uniform Flow Conditions
	- b. Calibration of Non-steady Non-Uniform Flow Conditions
- 2. Sensitivity Analysis
	- a. Manning's Roughness Coefficients
	- b. Green Ampt and Horton's Infiltration Methods
	- c. Percent Imperviousness
- 3. Design Storm Analysis
	- a. 5 Year 24 Hour Design Storm Event
	- b. 10 Year 24 Hour Design Storm Event
	- c. 25 Year 24 Hour Design Storm Event
	- d. 100 Year 24 Hour Design Storm Event

#### **6.1 Steady Uniform Flow Calibrations**

The model was calibrated for steady uniform flow conditions where the rainfall intensity remained constant for the duration of the storm event. For the steady uniform flow simulation a hypothetical 24 hour rainfall having an intensity of 0.5 inch/hour as shown in [Figure 24](#page-103-0) Rainfall [Hyetograph for Steady Uniform Flow](#page-103-0) was simulated through two inlets on the main line.



<span id="page-103-0"></span>Figure 26 Rainfall Hyetograph for Steady Uniform Flow

Only inlet 1 and the nodes on the main trunk line were active. All other nodes and links were disabled so that flow only entered into inlets 1 and 3 (I-1 and I-3) in order to calibrate the model for steady uniform flow.



Figure 27 Stormwater Collection System for Steady Uniform Flow

<span id="page-104-0"></span>The profile of the pipes included for the steady uniform flow calibration is shown below.



<span id="page-104-1"></span>Figure 28 XPSWMM Profile for Links P-2 thru P-26

From the conservation of mass equation, mass in equals mass out, the system was analyzed.

$$
m = \rho * Q
$$
  

$$
\rho_{I-1} * Q_{I-1} + \rho_{I-3} * Q_{I-3} = \rho_{out} * Q_{out}
$$

Where  $\rho$  is the density of the surface water in pounds per square foot (lb/sf) and Q is the flow rate of the surface water in cubic feet per second (cfs). Knowing that the density of the surface water is constant, the density can be cancelled out leaving the flow rate of I-1 plus the flow rate of I-3 to equal the flow rate out.

**Companies Companies** 

$$
Q_{I-1} + Q_{I-3} = Q_{out}
$$

$$
Q = c * i * A
$$

Where

Where 
$$
c
$$
 is the dimensionless runoff coefficient in which a copy of the table including typical  $c$  values is enclosed in the Appendix,  $i$  is the rainfall intensity in inches per hour (in/hr), A is the area of the sub-drainage area in acres (ac). The flow is in cfs and represents the peak flow rate.

The mass balance calculation for the flow rate entering I-1 was calculated as follows:

$$
Q_{I-1} = 0.05 * 0.5 \left(\frac{in}{hr}\right) * (0.173 \, ac)
$$

$$
Q_{I-1} = 0.004 \, cfs
$$

The sub-drainage areas are mostly green space with an estimated impervious area of 5%. A rainfall intensity of 0.5 in/hr and a sub-drainage area total of 0.173 ac were used. A rational runoff coefficient may be estimated as 0.05 to 0.35 for lawns (Corbitt, 1999; Singh, 1992). Based on the flow rate produced by XPSWMM, a runoff coefficient of 0.05 would satisfy the simulation. Dense grass is present in this area. This should be considered as an acceptable

<span id="page-106-0"></span>follows:

approximation for the runoff coefficient. Thus the peak flow rate in P-20 should be equal to that of  $Q_{I-1}$ . The XPSWMM hydrograph results in Figure 26 Conduit P-20 Results for Steady Uniform [Flow](#page-106-0) indicate that the peak flow rate is 0.004 cfs, which complies with the mass balance equation for  $Q_{I-1}$  that equals 0.004 cfs.



Figure 29 Conduit P-20 Results for Steady Uniform Flow

The mass balance calculation for the flow rate entering I-3 was calculated as

$$
Q_{t-3} = 0.95 * 0.5 \left(\frac{in}{hr}\right) * (0.097 \, ac)
$$

$$
Q_{t-3} = 0.046 \, cfs
$$

$$
Q_{out} = Q_{t-1} + Q_{t-3} = 0.05 \, cfs
$$

I-3 sub-catchments total 0.097 ac, a steady uniform rainfall of 0.5 in/hr, and an assumed rational runoff coefficient of 0.95 for asphalt streets was used as this is an asphalt driveway resulting in a flow rate of 0.046 cfs.

Link P-26 is located immediately before Outfall 211; therefore, the peak flow rate in P-20 should equal that of *Qout*. The XPSWMM hydrograph results in [Figure 27 Conduit P-26 Results for](#page-107-0)  Steady Uniform Flow indicate that the peak flow rate is 0.05 cfs, which complies with the mass balance equation for  $Q_{out}$ .



Figure 30 Conduit P-26 Results for Steady Uniform Flow

#### <span id="page-107-0"></span>**6.2 Unsteady Non-Uniform Flow Calibration**

In order for the ORNL surface water model of the 4500 Area to be considered a valuable source to assess flow rates within the network, it must be calibrated with existing OF-211 data. The non-uniform flow calibration was conducted by simulating actual rainfall that occurred during the timeframe that ORNL provided outfall 211 (OF-211) flow rate data to XPSWMM predicted flow rates. ORNL monitored the OF-211 flow rate discharge from October 21, 2012 11:00 AM to December 19, 2012 9:00 AM. ORNL noted dates and times that precipitation occurred. After review of the ORNL data, the following dates and timeframes (hereby referred to as trials) were used for the calibration based upon peak flow rates indicated by the ORNL hydrographs provided:

- 1. November 12, 2012 1:00 PM 10:10 PM
- 2. November 26, 2012 10:15 PM November 27, 2012 5:50 AM
- 3. December 10, 2012 3:25 AM 6:30 PM
#### 4. December 15, 2012 9:45 PM – December 16, 2012 8:55 PM

After analyzing the OF-211 flow rate data provided by ORNL, an approximate 0.17 cfs base flow was observed. It is known that the OF-211 storm system contains base flow and is defined as once-through cooling water and steam condensate from the adjacent buildings' AC units; however, their exact quantities and locations are unknown. Therefore, a 0.17 cfs has been extracted from the ORNL flow rate data in order to compare the XPSWMM results for calibration purposes due to the fact that exact base flow quantities and locations of entry into the system are unknown. The XPSWMM model only introduces actual 60-minute interval rainfall data that was retrieved from ORNL Tower C monitoring station for calibration purposes.

XPSWMM provides resulting flow rates within each pipe and resulting elevations at each node after the model is solved; thus, flow rates from pipe 26 (P-26), which is the pipe immediately prior to OF-211, were analyzed. The data provided by ORNL is in 5-minute intervals; thus, the XPSWMM P-26 resulting flow rates were extracted in 5-minute intervals, and both data are presented as hydrographs for comparison. The calibration is based on flow rates presented in cubic feet per second (cfs). ORNL provided data in gallons per minute (gpm). A conversion factor of 0.002228 cfs per gpm was used.

For the following calibration trials a Manning's n coefficient of 0.015, the Green Ampt infiltration method, and evaporation default of 0.1"/day were used. The calibrations are based on 24-hour simulations and were conducted by analyzing the ORNL observed flow rate data at OF-211. Rainfall data was retrieved around the time that the data produced peak flow rates. Once the base flow rate was subtracted from the ORNL observed data, the XPSWMM P-26 results were overlain. A timeframe was chosen where the beginning and end times corresponded to flow rates that were zero. Peak flow rates and their corresponding times are noted as well as a summation of flow rates for both the ORNL data and the XPSWMM results during the time of calibration for comparison.

## **6.2.1 Calibration of Model Trial 1**

Sixty-minute interval rainfall data was retrieved from ORNL Tower C and indicates that precipitation occurred on November 12, 2012 between the hours of 12:00 AM and 7:00 PM. The rainfall data was simulated through the network. XPSWMM produced the hyetograph shown to the right based upon the rainfall data.



Table 1 Rainfall Data for Calibration Trial 1



Figure 31 Rainfall Hyetograph for Calibration Trial 1

The timeframe for calibration purposes was chosen as November 12, 2012 from 1:00 PM to 10:10 PM. The figure below shows that the ORNL observed flow rate data has a peak flow

rate of 1.73 cfs (excluding 0.17cfs base flow) on November 12, 2012 at 3:50 PM. The XPSWMM hydrograph does not indicate as large of a peak as the ORNL data, however the summation of flow rates under the curve are very similar. The lag time for the model to simulate the rainfall is approximately 25 minutes. This may be considered a successful calibration as the summation of flow rates during the calibration duration are equal, which is shown in the second figure below. The figure is the cumulative flow rate versus time which indicates more clearly the two sets of data summation of flow rates.



Figure 32 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Hydrograph



Figure 33 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Cumulative Flow Rates

The figure below is a hydrograph of the ORNL OF-211 data including the 0.17 cfs base

flow.



Figure 34 ORNL Data with Base Flow

## **6.2.2 Calibration of Model Trial 2**

The precipitation data beginning on November 26, 2012 at 9PM thru November 27, 2012 at 6AM is shown below and was simulated through the network. XPSWMM produced the hyetograph to the right based upon the data.







Figure 35 Rainfall Hyetograph for Calibration Trial 2

The timeframe for calibration purposes was chosen as November 26, 2012 10:15 PM - November 27, 2012 6:05 AM. The ORNL observed data indicates a peak flow rate of 0.44 cfs (excludes 0.17 cfs base flow) on November 27, 2012 at 1:15 AM. The XPSWMM hydrograph indicates a peak flow rate of 0.44 cfs at 1:00 AM. A summation of the ORNL OF-211 flow rates and the XPSWMM results are also depicted in the figure below. The peak flow rates are consistent if one accepts that a 0.17 cfs base flow occurs during that timeframe. ORNL's peak falls behind the model results by 15 minutes. However, the XPSWMM model lags behind ORNL data by approximately 55 minutes. The lag time is the difference in time between the two sets of data where the first rainfall interval has been routed through the system. The summation of the flow rates during the calibration timeframe is similar. Below that is a figure indicating the

cumulative flow rate versus time which indicates more clearly the two sets of data summation of flow rates during the calibration duration.



Figure 36 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Hydrograph



Figure 37 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Cumulative Flow Rates

The figure below is a hydrograph of the ORNL OF-211 data including the 0.17 cfs base

flow.



Figure 38 ORNL Data with Base Flow

# **6.2.3 Calibration of Model Trial 3**

Sixty-minute interval rainfall data was retrieved from ORNL Tower C and indicates that precipitation occurred on December 10, 2012 between the hours of 3:00 AM and 4:00 PM. The rainfall was simulated through the network. XPSWMM produced the hyetograph shown to the right based upon the rainfall data.



Table 3 Rainfall Data for Calibration Trial 3



Figure 39 Rainfall Hyetograph for Calibration Trial 3

ORNL OF-211 data provided for calibration is shown in the hydrograph below. The timeframe for calibration purposes was chosen as December 10, 2012 3:25 AM – 6:30 PM. ORNL noted that the 3 cfs peak flow rate may be a faulty reading from the flow rate monitor. The figure below is an overlay of the ORNL data (minus 0.17 cfs base flow) and XPSWMM results. ORNL observed data indicates a peak flow rate of 2.79 cfs (excludes 0.17 base flow) on December 10, 2012 at 7:45 AM. Below that is a figure indicating the cumulative flow rate versus time which indicates more clearly the two sets of data summation of flow rates during the calibration duration. The hydrograph produced by XPSWMM portrays a peak flow rate of 1.22 cfs at 7:00 AM. The lag between the two sets of data is approximately 40 minutes. The total flow rate summation results are relatively close.







Figure 41 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Cumulative Flow Rates

The figure below is a hydrograph of the ORNL OF-211 data including the 0.17 cfs base

flow.



Figure 42 ORNL Data with Base Flow

## **6.2.4 Calibration of Model Trial 4**

Sixty-minute interval rainfall data was retrieved from ORNL Tower C and indicates that precipitation occurred on December 15, 2012 between the hours of 9:00 PM and 8:00 PM. The rainfall was simulated through the network. XPSWMM produced the hyetograph shown to the right based upon the rainfall data.

<b>Tower C Rainfall Data 60 min intervals</b>									
<b>Time</b>	Rain (in)	<b>Time</b>	Rain (in)	<b>Time</b>	Rain (in)				
12/15/2012 20:00	$\Omega$	12/16/2012 6:00	0.12	12/16/2012 14:00	0				
12/15/2012 21:00	0.01	12/16/2012 7:00	0.06	12/16/2012 15:00	$\Omega$				
12/15/2012 22:00	0.1	12/16/2012 8:00	0.09	12/16/2012 16:00	$\Omega$				
12/15/2012 23:00	0.06	12/16/2012 9:00	0.04	12/16/2012 17:00	0.01				
12/17/2012 0:00	0.01	12/16/2012 8:00	0.09	12/16/2012 18:00	0.01				
12/16/2012 1:00	0.01	12/16/2012 9:00	0.04	12/16/2012 19:00	0.02				
12/16/2012 2:00	$\Omega$	12/16/2012 10:00	0.05	12/16/2012 20:00	0.01				
12/16/2012 3:00	0.01	12/16/2012 11:00	0.03	12/16/2012 21:00	$\Omega$				
12/16/2012 4:00	0.26	12/16/2012 12:00	$\Omega$						
12/16/2012 5:00	0.34	12/16/2012 13:00	0.01						

Figure 43 Rainfall Data for Calibration Trial 4



Figure 44 Rainfall Hyetograph for Calibration Trial 4

The timeframe for calibration purposes was chosen as December 15, 2012 9:45 AM – 8:55 PM. The figure below shows that the ORNL observed flow rate data has a peak flow rate of 1.64 cfs (excluding base flow) on December 16, 2012 at 5:35 AM. Similarly, the XPSWMM hydrograph specifies a peak flow rate of 1.34 cfs at 5:50 AM. The lag between the two sets of data is approximately 35 minutes. The total flow rates are relatively close and may be considered that the two sets of data do correlate. Below that is a figure indicating the cumulative flow rate versus time which indicates more clearly the two sets of data summation of flow rates during the calibration duration.



Figure 45 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Hydrograph



Figure 46 ORNL Data and XPSWMM Results Cumulative Flow Rates

The figure below is a hydrograph of the ORNL OF-211 data including the 0.17 cfs base flow.



Figure 47 ORNL Data with Base Flow

In conclusion, with respect to calibration, the model does prove to be responsive to the precipitation by indicating relatively similar total flow rates under the hydrograph curves during the calibration timeframes as well as responding to the precipitation within similar timeframes (nominal lag times). Based on the nature of the model and because there are only estimated quantities of the once-through cooling water and steam condensate from the data provided by ORNL, for the purposes of this study, the model should be considered a valid source to aid in the predication of flow rates within the system. To further assess the model's validity, a percent error was calculated based on summation of flow rates of the ORNL data and XPSWMM results during the calibration duration. The percent error is defined as follows:

$$
\% Error = \left| \frac{T - E}{T} \right| * 100
$$

Where T represents the theoretical data which in this case would be the summation of the ORNL observed flow rates, and E represents the experimental data which is the summation of the XPSWMM predicted flow rates. The table below summarizes the results for the four trials.

The model is deemed acceptable based on relatively low percent error values. For this study a percent error of 20% or less has been chosen. All four trials have a 20% percent error or less.



#### Figure 48 Results of Calibration

#### **6.3 Probability Exceedance**

The simulations run for the sensitivity and transport analysis generate a large amount of data due to the fact that there are 52 nodes and 51 links in the network. XPSWMM generates six variables for each simulation run for the hydrology analysis - node depth, node elevation, link velocity, link upstream elevation and link downstream elevation. However, this study focuses on the node elevations of MH211-3 and OF-211 and the links P-10, P-11, P-15, P-26, and P-27 as shown in the figure below for both the hydrology and transport analyses. Thus, there is a need for a program to read the results and plot the data in a timely manner for data analysis. MATLAB was chosen for the task. MATLAB produced plots for each variable versus time and their probability exceedance (PE) curves.

The simulations were run where the data was saved every 300 minutes throughout the yearly simulation. Thus, 1 year saved every 300 minute interval gives 1748 intervals. When analyzing a peak flow rate for a specified pipe it may be difficult to sort through the 1748 intervals of flow rates for that single pipe. Thus, the PE has been calculated for all pipes and nodes within the remaining simulations in order to find the maximum flow rate within a pipe and for what percent of the time it remains at that flow rate. For instance, if a node meets or exceeds its inlet elevation (link flow rate) for 90% of the duration of the storm event, then it may be necessary for improvements to be considered. When producing PE curves time is not a factor and is calculated as follows, where the rank from largest to smallest and the number of intervals which equals 1748 for the sensitivity analysis and transport analysis, are considered:

## Probability Exceedance =  $Rank/(Total Number of Values + 1)$

MATLAB was utilized for the production of the hodographs (flow versus time), pollutographs (pollutant concentration versus time), PE curves, and the following PD: Generalized Extreme Value (GEV), Logistic, Log-Logistic, and Exponential. The PD that fits the data best has been chosen for the transport analysis. Timeseries data for all nodes and links was extracted from XPSWMM. For the sensitivity analysis, hydrographs with the variables node depth, node elevation, link velocity, link upstream elevation, link downstream elevation as well as their PE curves were produced via MATLAB. The idea is to have the varying parameters on one hydrograph in order to see the various impacts it has on the node or link. For instance, for the sensitivity analysis for the Manning's roughness coefficient, MATLAB is able to graph all five of the various coefficients on one hydrograph where XPSWMM cannot. For the transport analysis, MATLAB produces timeseries pollutant loads (L) by multiplying timeseries flow rates (Q) in cfs and timeseries concentrations (C) in mg/L multiplied by a conversion factor of 5.39 lb/day. MATLAB computes the various transport simulations on one graph, similar to the sensitivity analysis. In addition, the Q, C, and L PE curves were produced via MATLAB.

## **6.4 Sensitivity Analysis**

Multiple sensitivity analyses were run and analyzed in order to understand the impacts of the various parameters on the system. They were produced where actual continuous rainfall data from year 2010 (January 1, 2010 thru December 31, 2010) was simulated and the Manning's roughness coefficients, infiltration parameters, and percent imperviousness. Year 2010 rainfall data was retrieved from ORNL's Tower C monitoring station in 15 minute intervals as shown below.



Figure 49 Year 2010 Rainfall Data

For the purpose of demonstrating the effects the various parameters have on the network, the nodes MH211-3 and OF-211and the links P-10, P-11, P-15, P-27, and P-26 will be used. However, not all are used in each section to avoid redundancy.



Figure 50 Storm System

The reason these nodes and pipes were chosen is that P-10 conveys the inflow from the north, P-11 from the west, P-27 from the east into the node MH211-3. P-15 then collects those waters and conveys them south to P-26 which is the last pipe prior to the discharge OF-211.

### **6.4.1 Manning's Roughness Sensitivity Analysis**

The Manning's roughness coefficient is based on the material of the pipe or the type of channel. It is inversely proportional to the flow rate where the smaller the coefficient the larger the flow due to the friction caused by the channels roughness. The network contains the following types of pipes: wrought iron (WI), vitrified clay pipe (VP), concrete pipe (CP), reinforced concrete pipe (RCP), and polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

The following are the results from varying the Manning's roughness coefficient, n, by 0.011, 0.013, 0.05, 0.017, and 0.035 where continuous rainfall of year 2010 was simulated, the Green Ampt method used, and an evaporation default of 0.1"/day assumed.



Figure 51 MH211-3 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Manning's Roughness Coefficient Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 52 OF-211 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Manning's Roughness Coefficient Sensitivity Analysis

The results indicate minor changes if any in the flow rate through the specified pipes; however, node elevations are shown to vary via the hydrographs and more so on the probability exceedance curves. Although Manning's coefficient of 0.035 is specific to grassy areas, it was used in order to assess the sensitivity of the simulation. As one would expect, it does have a larger impact than the 0.017, 0.015, etc. Also note the PE x-axis was decreased from 1 (100%) to 0.2 (20%) with the purpose of demonstrating that the roughness coefficients do make a difference; however, too minor to take into account for this study. Thus, the coefficient 0.015 for the remaining simulations was chosen due to the fact that the typical value for closed conduits flowing through partly full concrete sewer gravity pipes is 0.015, as indicated in the Manning's n for Closed Conduits Flowing Partly Full (Chow, 1988) table located under the Appendices.

#### **6.4.2 Green Ampt vs. Horton Infiltration Method Sensitivity Analysis**

Yearly simulations were run where the Manning's roughness coefficient of 0.015 was held constant, and an evaporation default of 0.1"/ day was assumed.



Figure 53 P-15 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Infiltration Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 54 P-26 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Infiltration Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 55 OF-211 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Infiltration Sensitivity Analysis

The results indicate minor differences in the hydrographs and minor differences in the node elevations. This could be that the Horton's default regeneration rate of 0.01 and/or decay rate of 0.001 were not large enough to produce a significant regeneration throughout the continuous rainfall. Studies have found that the Green Ampt method simulates one dimensional unsteady continuous rainfall events effectively and due to the fact there are only minor differences in the two methods, Green Ampt infiltration parameters have been chosen for the remaining simulations (Risse, 1994).

### **6.4.3 Percent Impervious Sensitivity Analysis**

The assumed percent imperviousness was visual inspection during the site inspections. An increase of imperviousness on a basin will impact the surface water runoff as there will be a larger quantity of runoff due to less infiltration. The time of concentration will also lessen and impact the peak of the hydrographs as the runoff will approach the inlet at an increased speed.



Figure 56 P-10 and P-11 PE Curves for Percent Imperviousness Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 57 P-27 PE Curves for Percent Imperviousness Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 58 P-26 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Percent Imperviousness Sensitivity Analysis



Figure 59 OF-211 Hydrograph and PE Curves for Percent Imperviousness Sensitivity Analysis

The amount of imperviousness a basin has is directly connected to the volume of runoff. There are only subtle differences between the variations of percent imperviousness. When an increase in imperviousness occurs, the PE curves falls flatter, which indicates that a higher flow rate will occur for a longer time.

One base simulation was held consistent through all three sensitivity analyses and is used for the base of the simulations in the transport analysis, which was the simulation using Manning's n roughness coefficient of 0.015, the Green Ampt infiltration parameters, evaporation default of 0.1"/day, and the estimated percent imperviousness. The figure below is a snapshot of the north-south main trunk line which includes the following pipes: P-2, P-3, P-4, P-5, P-8, P-10, P-15, P-16, P-17, P-20, P-21, P-23, P-25, and P-26 and indicates that the system on day 23 hour 23:00:00 which encounters its first peak throughout the yearly continuous rainfall events. The first pipe, P-2, is a 4" diameter storm lateral from building 4501 and nearly reaches capacity due to the peak in rainfall intensity. Also to be noted, according to the rainfall intensity simulated through the system, the first peak occurs on January 24, 2010 at hour 20:00:00 which is a day after the model predicts its first peak.



Figure 60 XPSWMM North-South Storm Line Results for Base Conditions

Similarly to the north/south main trunk line, XPSWMM estimates a peak to occur in the east-west trunk lines (I-10 thru B-4556) on day 23; however at the 18:00:00 hour. The east/west main trunk line is defined as the following pipes: P-14, P-11, P-27, P-40, P-41, P-42, P-46, and P-49 and is shown in the figure below.



Figure 61 XPSWMM East-West Storm Line Results for Base Conditions

The system does indicate during the first peak in rainfall intensity that minor flooding occurs between nodes I-3 to OF-211 as the hydraulic grade line approaches the ground elevation, as shown in the figure below.



Figure 62 XPSWMM Results for Base Conditions

#### **6.5 Design Storm Simulation Results**

The U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly known as the U.S. Soil Conservation Services (SCS) method, is used to compute rainfall distributions. NRCS has divided the United States into four main regions where Type II distribution represents rainfall for the Tennessee Valley (ECE, 1991; City of Knoxville, 2012). For the design storms, the SCS Type II unit-hyetograph (shown in the figure below) will be multiplied by a precipitation corresponding to its storm event in order to duplicate flow rates and water elevations corresponding to the magnitude of the storm event throughout the site for analysis.



Figure 63 SCS Type II Unit Hyetograph

When a piece of land is developed, design storms are simulated for pre-development and post-development conditions to ensure that the post conditions do not exceed the pre-conditions. If they did, then during a heavy rainfall they would flood their neighbor. The 5 year storm event is run to assess the parking lot elevation, the 10 year storm event for roadways, the 25 year storm event for the properties berm elevation (to keep the excess rain on their property so that they would not flood their neighbor), and the 100 year storm event for the building's finish floor. It is dependent on which municipality the land resides under as to the duration (24 hour or 72 hour) of the storms required for analysis. For this reason, these design storms have been simulated over the network. The table below indicates the single design storm events and their corresponding precipitation that the unit-hyetograph will be multiplied by in order to run the design storm specific to its region (NOAA, 2006).



Table 4 NOAA Precipitation

The design simulations are based on a Manning's roughness coefficient of 0.015, Green Ampt infiltration method, and the estimated percent imperviousness from site visits. Below are the hydrographs and PE curves for nodes MH211-3 and OF-211 and for links P-10, P-11, P-26, and P-27.



Figure 64 XPSWMM Design Storm Hydrographs



Figure 65 P-10 PE Curves for Design Storm Events



Figure 66 P-27 PE Curves for Design Storm Events



Figure 67 MH211-3 PE Curves for Design Storm Events

The table below is a summary of the maximum stages (elevations) and flow rates for the chosen nodes and links. Due to the fact that the design storms precipitation amounts vary in magnitude almost an inch, a difference in node elevations and link stages throughout the events are observed as shown in the hydrographs and PE curves.

<b>Design Storm</b>	Peak Stage (ft, NAD)		<b>Peak Flow Rate (cfs)</b>			
	<b>MH211-3</b>	<b>OF-211</b>	$P-10$	$P-11$	$P-26$	$P-27$
5 yr - 24 hour	789	782.2	3.1	2.4	21.8	13.2
$10 \text{ yr} - 24 \text{ hour}$	789.3	782.3	3.8		25.5	15.2
25 yr - 24 hour	789.7	782.5	4.7	3.6	17.9	30.2
100 yr - 24 hour	790.2	782.8	5.8	4.8	22	37.7

Table 5 Design Storm Stage and Flow Rate Results

For the simulations, the hydraulic grade line (HGL) and flow quantities and capacities of the main conduits have been evaluated to determine the extent of overflow. The 5 year and 10 year – 24 year storm events do not encounter flooding. The HGL is shown in the figure below for the main trunk line beginning at P-10 to P-26. The HGL rose higher for the 10 year storm event than the 5 year storm event due to the fact that less precipitation was simulated over the site. The figures below indicate that the water does not exceed the top of the pipe; thus, no flooding is expected to occur as the water is contained within the pipes for both the 5 year and 10 year – 24 hour storm events.



Figure 68 XPSWMM 5-Year 24-Hour Storm Event



Figure 69 XPSWMM 10-Year 24-Hour Storm Event

However, the 25 year and 100 year – 24 hour storm events do cause flooding to occur within the system. As would be expected, the 100 year storm produced a larger runoff excess than the 25 year storm event. The figures below indicate that P-10 exceeds its maximum capacity, which indicates there would be ponding on the pavement.



Figure 70 XPSWMM 25-Year 24-Hour Storm Event

The figure below is a schematic of the system indicating where the flooding occurred and its quantity. The links (P-21, P-22, and P-26) that are red represent that the flow rate has met or exceeded 28.2 cfs, and the nodes  $(B-4501, J-12, B-4500, S, B-4500, D, A)$  and  $(B-4500, E)$  that are red represent flooding in which the HGL was exceeded and there was insufficient capacity within the pipes.



Figure 71 XPSWMM 25-Year 24-Hour Storm Event Areas of Flooding

Below are the  $100$  year  $-24$  hour design storm event results which are similar to the  $25$ year storm results. The major difference is that the flow rate is higher, reaching up to 35.1 cfs in the pipes leading up to OF-211. In addition, flooding occurs in the storm lateral, B-4500S\_A.



Figure 72 XPSWMM 100-Year 24-Hour Storm Event



Figure 73XPSWMM 100-Year 24-Hour Storm Event Areas of Flooding

#### **7 TRANSPORT ANALYSIS**

The transport analysis has been conducted by introducing a hypothetical conservative contaminant into the system. Examples of conservative contaminants are bromine, nitrate, technetium-99, and dye, as opposed to a non-conservative contaminant where adsorption/desorption would occur. The conservative contaminant (described as 'pollutant' by XPSWMM) may be routed via the Hydraulics or the Runoff mode within XPSWMM. Introducing the pollutant via the Hydraulics mode may be interpreted as having a residual contaminant within an existing pipe and/or inlet within the system. Four variations of the Hydraulics mode simulations were run. This study focuses on injecting a pollutant into the Hydraulics mode specifically as user timeseries inflow at various nodes, as shown in the interface below.



#### Figure 74 XPSWMM User Inflow

Similarly to the sensitivity analysis, the simulations were run using the following parameters: actual 15 minute interval rainfall data, year 2010; Manning's roughness coefficient, n, of 0.015; Green Ampt infiltration parameters for loamy clay soil; an evaporation default of 0.1"/day; and estimated percent imperviousness from site visits. The following describes the various simulations run in order to assess the effects of a hypothetical pollutant entering the system as a residual contaminant existing within the pipes. Four timeseries were used for the simulations (one steady flow and concentration, and three varied flow and concentration). The first is the timeseries containing a constant flow of 0.17 cfs and a constant pollutant concentration of 0.1 mg/L, which from here onwards will be referred to as the 'steady timeseries' followed by three varied flow rate and concentration timeseries for a duration of 24 hours. The pollutant concentrations are hypothetical; however, the flow rates resemble the base flow rate found during the calibration of the model which is approximately 0.17 cfs in the system due to the once through cooling water for the AC units. The hypothetical scenarios used for the simulations are listed below:

- 1. HYD Scenario 1: Steady timeseries A was introduced into the system at both locations B-4501 and B-4500N\_G
- 2. HYD Scenario 2: Steady timeseries A was introduced into the system at B-4556 and varied timeseries B into I-5
- 3. HYD Simulation 3: Varied timeseries B was introduced into the system at I-11 and varied timeseries C at I-10
- 4. HYD Scenario 4: Varied timeseries C was introduced into the system at B-4500S\_C and varied timeseries D at T-1

The following table depicts the steady timeseries (A) and the three varied timeseries (B), (C), and (D) that were introduced into the system for the four various simulations.

60


Table 6 Transport Simulations Hypothetical Timeseries

The following table summarizes the location and which timeseries (steady or varied) were introduced into the system. Two timeseries were entered for each simulation.



Table 7 Transport Simulation Scenarios

The simulations ran in the Hydraulics mode take into account an assumed event mean concentration of 0.1 mg/L, with a standard deviation of 0.01 mg/L and an assumed initial pollutant concentration of 0.1 mg/L. No buildup is assumed for these simulations, only washoff of the pollutant which is calculated via the event mean concentration rating curve approach with a coefficient of 1. The event mean concentration approach assumes that the quantity of the pollutant plus or minus its standard deviation is proportional to the quantity of runoff.

# **7.1 Transport Analysis Scenario 1**

The flow and pollutant steady timeseries (A) was injected at the two nodes B-4501 and B-4500N G as shown below.



Figure 75 Transport Scenario 1 Entrance of Pollutant Location

Thus, a pollutant load is expected to occur from the north from B-4501 and seen in P-10 and the east from B-4500S\_G in P-27. No load was introduced into nodes located west of MH211-3. The load within P-15 will depict a combination of the two loads from P-10 and P-27. The following are the hydrographs and pollutographs (concentration versus time and load versus time) for the first scenario for links P-10, P-11, P-15, P-26 and P-27. Make note that P-10 collects water from the north, P-11 from the east, and P-27 from the west, then the water is conveyed via MH211-3 into P-15, then P-26 and into OF-211. In addition, the XPSWMM model specifies the velocity on the hydrographs. These velocities are cumulative velocities hence their magnitude. In addition, the loads shown on the pollutographs are also cumulative load values represented by a diagonal line.



### Figure 76 XPSWMM P-10 Hydrograph



Figure 77 XPSWMM P-10 Pollutograph



## Figure 78 XPSWMM P-11 Hydrograph



Figure 79 XPSWMM P-11 Pollutograph



## Figure 80 XPSWMM P-15 Hydrograph



Figure 81 XPSWMM P-15 Pollutograph



## Figure 82 XPSWMM P-26 Hydrograph



Figure 83 XPSWMM P-26 Pollutograph



### Figure 84 XPSWMM P-27 Hydrograph



Figure 85 XPSWMM P-27 Pollutograph

 As expected, loads were present in links P-10, P-15, P-26, and P-27; however, none was found in P-10 as no load was introduced west of MH211-3. The constant 0.1 mg/L concentration entered into B-4501 and B-4500N\_G appears as the maximum concentration of 0.1 mg/L. The concentration lessens as runoff is introduced into the system as it responds to the yearly rainfall. Links P-10 and P-27 hydrographs and pollutographs respond to the steady flow rate timeseries entered. This is shown to be the minimum constant base flow of 0.17 cfs. No additional flow was entered into the system west of P-11; thus, no base flow is indicated. P-15 flow rate agrees with the flow rates entered into node MH211-3, and indicates a base flow of 0.34 cfs which agrees with the 0.17 cfs from P-10 and P-27. P-26 also indicates a base flow of 0.34 cfs and has a larger flow rate than in P-15, as it should due to the runoff entering the system south of P-15. The simulation results accurately respond to the first scenario. The maximum flow rate within link P-26 is 12.1 cfs and the maximum elevation in node OF-211 is 781.8 ft, NAD. The cumulative load in P-26 is estimated to be 65 lb.

## **7.2 Transport Analysis Scenario 2**

The second scenario introduces a steady timeseries flow and concentration into node B-4556 and a varied timeseries in node I-5.



Figure 86 Transport Analysis Scenario 2 Pollutant Entrance Locations

A pollutant load is expected to occur in P-11 due to the introduction of the steady timeseries into B-4556 as well as to the east in P-27 where a hypothetical flow and concentration varied timeseries was entered. The following are the resulting hydrographs and pollutographs for the HYD2 simulation.



## Figure 87 XPSWMM P-10 Hydrograph



Figure 88 XPSWMM P-10 Pollutograph







Figure 90 XPSWMM P-11 Pollutograph







Figure 92 XPSWMM P-15 Hydrograph







Figure 94 XPSWMM P-26 Pollutograph







Figure 96 XPSWMM P-27 Pollutograph

Scenario 2 varies from Scenario 1 as steady timeseries is entered at the west and varied timeseries to the east. As expected, P-10 does not indicate a pollutant load and P-11, P-15, P-26, and P-27 do. Similarly to Scenario 1 where a constant concentration of 0.1 mg/L is entered into the system, the pollutograph indicates a maximum concentration of 0.1 mg/L. The concentration remains constant during the event except when runoff is encountered, then the concentration is decreased. Link P-27 spikes at the concentration of 0.63 mg/L at the beginning of the pollutograph, which responds to the varied timeseries (B) entered. The timeseries (B) ends at hour 24 with a concentration of 0.1 mg/L. The model holds the concentration constant at 0.1 mg/L throughout the remaining storm event except when runoff is encountered, then the concentration is decreased. A base flow rate of 0.17 cfs is represented in P-11 and a base flow rate of 0.13 cfs in P-27. P-15 and P-26 indicate a base flow of 0.1 cfs from the yearly rainfall and the additional flow rates entered into the system. The maximum flow rate within link P-26 is 12.1 cfs and the maximum elevation in node OF-211 is 781.8 ft, NAD. The cumulative load is estimated to be 26 lbs.

## **7.3 Transport Analysis Scenario 3**

Scenario 3 introduces varied flow and concentration timeseries (B) into node I-11 and varied flow and concentration (C) data into node I-10. No pollutant was introduced into the north and west wings of the system; therefore, no pollutant load should appear in links P-10 and P-11.



Figure 97 Transport Analysis Scenario 3 Entrance of Pollutant

The following are the resulting hydrographs and pollutographs for the HYD3 simulation.



Figure 98 XPSWMM P-10 Hydrograph



## Figure 99 XPSWMM P-10 Pollutograph



Figure 100 XPSWMM P-11 Hydrograph











### Figure 103 XPSWMM P-15 Pollutograph



Figure 104 XPSWMM P-26 Hydrograph



### Figure 105 XPSWMM P-26 Pollutograph



Figure 106 XPSWMM P-27 Hydrograph



Figure 107 XPSWMM P-27 Pollutograph

Scenario 3 is focused on the system west and south of MH211-3. Link P-27 represents the combination of the two varied timeseries (B) and (C) in I-11 and I-10. Links P-15, P-26, and P-27 indicate a base flow of 0.27 cfs and a base pollutant of 0.1 mg/L from the two. The flow rate within the links increases as runoff enters the system and the concentration decreases as expected. The maximum flow rate within link P-26 is 12.1 cfs and the maximum elevation in node OF-211 is 781.8 ft, NAD. The cumulative load is estimated to be 50 mg/L.

# **7.4 Transport Analysis Scenario 4**

The last scenario, Scenario 4, introduces varied flow and concentration timeseries (C) into node B-4500S\_C, and varied flow and concentration (D) data into node T-1. No pollutant was introduced into the north and west wings of the system; therefore, no pollutant load should appear in links P-10 and P-11.



Figure 108 Transport Analysis Scenario 4 Pollutant Entrance Locations



Figure 109 XPSWMM P-10 Hydrograph







Figure 111 XPSWMM P-11 Hydrograph







Figure 113 XPSWMM P-15 Hydrograph







Figure 115 XPSWMM P-26 Hydrograph



### Figure 116 XPSWMM P-26 Pollutograph



Figure 117 XPSWMM P-27 Hydrograph



Figure 118 XPSWMM P-27 Pollutograph

Similar to Scenario 3, Scenario 4 introduces varied timeseries in two different locations and P-27 represents the combination of the two. A 0.14 cfs base flow and a 0.1 mg/L pollutant base concentration are indicated in links P-27 and P-15. Link P-26 estimates a base flow rate of 0.27 cfs and a 0.172 mg/L base pollutant concentration throughout the event. The maximum flow rate within link P-26 is 12.1 cfs and the maximum elevation in node OF-211 is 781.8 ft, NAD. The cumulative pollutant load for the year is estimated at 90 lbs.

The following figures are hydrographs representing all four scenarios, and to the right are their probability exceedance curves. P-10 and P-11 show a larger variance in PE; however, the PE indicates roughly 18% of the time there is a variance. These are minor changes in flow rate due to the introduction of base flow. P-15, P-26 and P-27 indicate even smaller variances in flow rate.



Figure 119 P-10 Hydrographs Indicating Scenarios 1-4 and their PE Curves



Figure 120 -11 Hydrographs Indicating Scenarios 1-4 and their PE Curves



Figure 121 -15 Hydrographs Indicating Scenarios 1-4 and their PE Curves







Figure 123 P-27 Hydrographs Indicating Scenarios 1-4 and their PE Curves

## **7.5 Probability Distribution (PD) Fitting**

It is known that hydrological data follow a pattern (Hanson, 2008; Kroll, 2002; Mahdavi, 2010; Vogel, 1996). Thus, the input and output data are fit to suitable PDs for comparison. Hydrological timeseries data can be lengthy and numerous; thus, fitting the data allows the data to be characterized by its high and low distributions, which reduces the level of risk and uncertainty of results and allows for better understanding of data parameters when they are analyzed as a whole and fitted to a PD. This permits the extrapolation of data, for example in special situations such as defective monitoring equipment, on the basis or assumption the hydrological parameters at that given location are consistent with nearby outfalls, and may permit an educated guess with some certainty the data is realistic.

More specifically, low stream flow and rainfall depth are two hydrological data types that are continually analyzed and fit to probability distributions to better understand their patterns (Hanson, 2008; Kroll, 2002; Vogel, 2002). The introduction of low stream flow and rainfall depth distributions at foreign locations may be used in order to determine the impact it has on that system. For instance, this past October 2012, Hurricane Sandy went over New York, raising water elevations and devastating Staten Island. Perhaps for the rebuilding of Staten Island, storms such as Hurricane Sandy and Hurricane Katrina could be analyzed and fit to a PD and simulated through Staten Island's proposed stormwater system with the purpose of providing a safer infrastructure for the public.

A timeseries analysis for the mercury (Hg) concentrations, surface flow rates, and Hg loads provides a means of identifying the nature of the phenomenon by the sequence of observations and allows for the forecasting of the timeseries variable by analysis of the data using different probability distribution functions and fitting it to the best probability distribution curve. Thus, the hydrograph and pollutograph timeseries data from the transport simulations were entered into the EasyFit 5.5 tool where it fit the data to numerous probability distribution functions and ranked them according to Komogorov Smirnov, Anderson Darling, and Chi-Squared methods. The distribution fits were ranked highest by the Komogorov Smirnov method for this study.

The first ranked distributions were chosen for the majority of the parameters, but were not chosen for all due to the fact that the best fit distribution is not widely known. For instance, for Scenario 1, P-11 flow was best fit to a hypersecant distribution; however, the second ranked Beta distribution, was chosen for the purpose of this study. If there is not a note for the rank, then it may be assumed the distribution stated is the first rank in the 'goodness of fit' test. The following tables display the resulting distributions from the 'goodness of fit' test for the four scenarios.



Table 8 Scenario 1 'Goodness of Fit' Results

Scenario 1 demonstrates that two out of the four flow rates were matched to Inverse Gaussian, three out of the four concentrations entered are characterized by the generalized extreme value (GEV) distribution, and two out of the four loads are characterized by Log-Logistic distribution.



Table 9 Scenario 2 'Goodness of Fit' Results

Scenario 2's 'goodness of fit' results conclude that the flow rate in P-11 and P-26 may be characterized by the Log-Logistic distribution. There are no trends found for the concentration timeseries data in Scenario 2; however, all four load data fit to the Log-Logistic distribution and are characterized by that distribution.



Table 10 Scenario 3 'Goodness of Fit' Results

Scenario 3 links, P-10 and P-11, contain runoff only and share the Logistic distribution fit. P-26 and P-27 share the Log-Logistic distribution. No trend is found for the concentration data; however, the loads follow a Log-Logistic trend similar to the flow rates.



Table 11 Scenario 4 'Goodness of Fit' Results

Similar to Scenario 3, Scenario 4 P-10 and P-11 flow rates containing only runoff share the Logistic distribution, and P-26 and P-27 the Log-Logistic distribution. Their concentrations and their loads also follow the Log-Logistic distribution.

Looking at all four scenarios as a whole, the following is apparent: when runoff was encountered and no base flow was introduced, the Logistic distribution best fit the data. The combination of runoff and base flow may be characterized by the Log-Logistic distribution. The generalized extreme value distribution was the most apparent trend in the concentrations. Lastly, the loads are mainly characterized by the Log-Logistic distribution.

### **8 CONCLUSION**

The model was demonstrated to be an effective tool as it properly responds to rainfall data as shown by the calibration. The sensitivity analysis proves that the model is sensitive to the various Manning's roughness coefficients, infiltration parameters, and adjusted imperviousness of the sub-catchment areas; however, not enough to alter the flow rates in the system. As one would expect, flooding within the system does occur during the 25 year and 100 year  $-$  24 hour storm events due to the fact that the storms are for designing of a system and do not resemble ordinary precipitation events throughout the year. The transport analysis has provided insight into how a conservative contaminant would react within the system if introduced at the various locations. The flow rates, concentration, and loads were fit to a probability distribution in order to characterize the data. The PE curves provide insight into the percentage of time that any node's elevation (link's flow rate) will be met or exceeded during a storm event. The runoff flow rates were found to follow the Logistic distribution; runoff and base flow are characterized by

Log-Logistic distribution, concentrations to the generalized extreme value, and the loads to the Log-Logistic distribution.

Ultimately, ORNL is concerned with residual mercury contamination within the area. Understanding the flow characteristics is fundamental for estimating contaminant transport, which directly correlates to flow. The resulting flow estimates from this model may also be used in support of other models, such as flow and transport models, for the assessment of mercury transport scenarios. In addition, it should also assist in implementing the most appropriate remediation programs, including permits to comply with regulatory guidelines.

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## **10 APPENDICES**



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