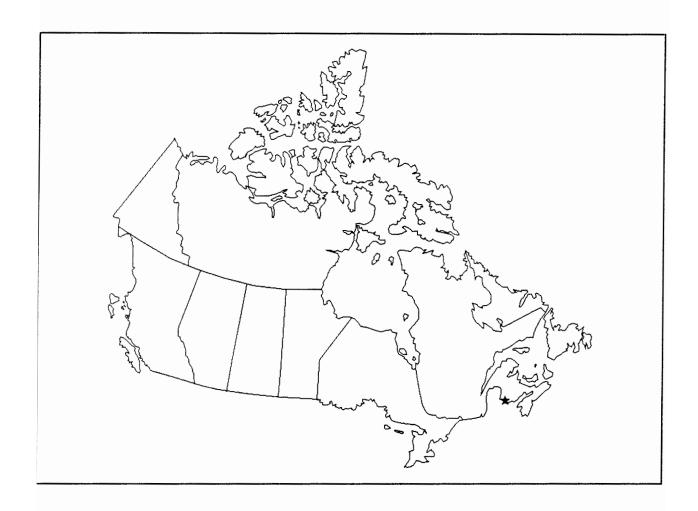
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA OPEN FILE 2469 (NTS 21G/2 WEST AND 21G/3) CANADA-NEW BRUNSWICK COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON MINERAL DEVELOPMENT 1990 - 1995

REGIONAL STREAM SEDIMENT AND WATER GEOCHEMICAL RECONNAISSANCE DATA SOUTHWESTERN NEW BRUNSWICK



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Friske, P.W.B., McCurdy, M.W., Lynch, J.J., Gross, H., Adcock, S.W., Durham, C.C., Day, S.J

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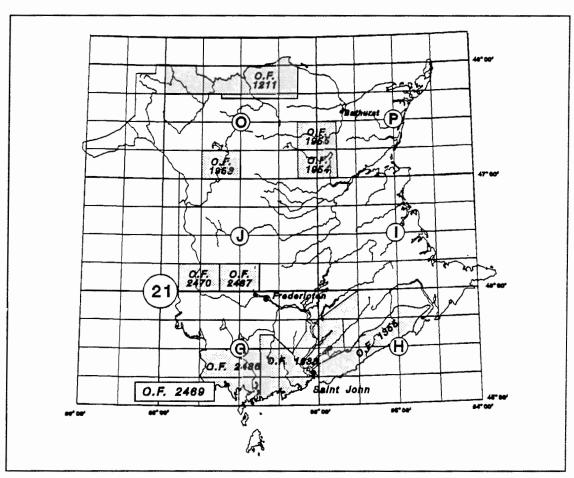
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NATIONAL GEOCHEMICAL RECONNAISSANCE STREAM SEDIMENT AND WATER GEOCHEMICAL DATA NEW BRUNSWICK 1992 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA OPEN FILE 2469 NTS 21G/2 WEST AND 21G/3



National Topographic System reference and Index to adjoining GSC geochemical reconnaissance surveys

Open File 2469 represents a contribution to the Canada - New Brunswick Cooperation Agreement on Mineral Development (1990-1995), a subsidiary agreement under the Economic and Regional Development Agreement. This project was managed by the Geological Survey of Canada.

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GSC OPEN FILE 2469

REGIONAL STREAM SEDIMENT AND WATER DATA, NEW BRUNSWICK NTS 21G/2 WEST, 21G/3

INTRODUCTION

Open File 2469 presents analytical and statistical data for 36 elements in sediments from 210 stream sites in southwestern New Brunswick. Uranium, fluoride, and pH values in waters from these sites are included in this report. Open File 2469 is one of four released in 1992 containing geochemical data from areas in the southwestern part of the province sampled in 1991 under the Canada - New Brunswick Cooperation Agreement on Mineral Development 1990-1995.

The reconnaissance surveys were managed by the Geological Survey of Canada in conjunction with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy (Mineral Resources Division).

Analytical results and field observations are used to build a national geochemical data base for resource assessment, mineral exploration, geological mapping and environmental studies. Sample collection, preparation procedures and analytical methods are strictly specified and carefully monitored to ensure consistent and reliable results regardless of the area, the year or the analytical laboratory.

Regional geochemical surveys have been carried out by the GSC in New Brunswick since 1985. A total of 10 open files have been published or are in publication, covering approximately 18 300 km². Areas surveyed, with associated open file numbers, are shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 2 shows cross-Canada coverage. Data from all open files are available on 3.5 or 5.25 inch diskettes and in the original published form.

CREDITS

P.W.B. Friske directed the survey, coordinating the activities of contract and Geological Survey of Canada staff.

Contracts were let to the following companies for sample collection, preparation, and analysis, and were managed by Geological Survey of Canada staff as follows:

Collection: -K.D.A. Whaley

Kingsclear, New Brunswick

-P.W.B. Friske (GSC)

Preparation: -Bondar-Clegg & Company

Ottawa, Ontario

-J.J. Lynch (GSC)

Analysis: -Barringer Laboratories (Alberta), Ltd.

Calgary, Alberta

-Becquerel Laboratories, Ltd.

Mississauga, Ontario

-Chemex Laboratories, Ltd.

North Vancouver, British Columbia

-J.J. Lynch (GSC)

M. McCurdy edited open files and coordinated production.

S.W. Adcock and H. Gross provided software support for map production and data listings.

C.C. Durham, S.J. Day, and H. Karam provided technical assistance.

DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY AND SAMPLE MANAGEMENT

Sediments and waters were collected during the summer and fall of 1991. Sample sites were distributed over the 725 km² survey area at an average of one sample per 3.5 km².

Sample site duplicate samples were routinely collected in each analytical block of twenty samples. Field observations were recorded on standard forms used by the Geological Survey of Canada (Garrett, 1974).

Site positions were marked on 1:50 000 scale NTS maps in the field and later digitized at the Geological Survey in Ottawa to obtain Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates. The dominant rock types in the stream catchment basins were identified on appropriate geological maps used as the bedrock geological base on NGR maps.

In Ottawa, field-dried samples were air-dried and sieved through a minus 80 mesh (177 micron) screen before milling in ceramic-lined puck mills. At this time, control reference and blind duplicate samples were inserted into each block of twenty sediment samples. For the water samples, only control reference samples were inserted into the block. There were no blind duplicate water samples.

Analytical data from labs were monitored for reliability with standard methods used by the Applied Geochemistry Subdivision at the Geological Survey of Canada.

ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES

Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA)

Weighed and encapsulated samples are packaged for irradiation along with internal standards and international reference materials. Samples and standards are irradiated together with neutron flux monitors in a twomegawatt pool type reactor. After a seven day decay period, samples are measured on a high resolution germanium detector. Computer control is achieved with a Microvax II computer. Typical counting times are 500 seconds. Elements determined by INAA include: Ag, As, Au, Ba, Br, Cd, Ce, Co, Cr, Cs, Eu, Fe, Hf, Ir, La, Lu, Mo, Na, Ni, Rb, Sb, Sc, Se, Sm, Sn, Ta, Tb, Te, Th, U, W, Yb, Zn, and Zr. The sample weights are also reported. Data for Ag, Cd, Ir, Se, Sn, Te, Zn, and Zr are not published because of inadequate detection limits and/or precision.

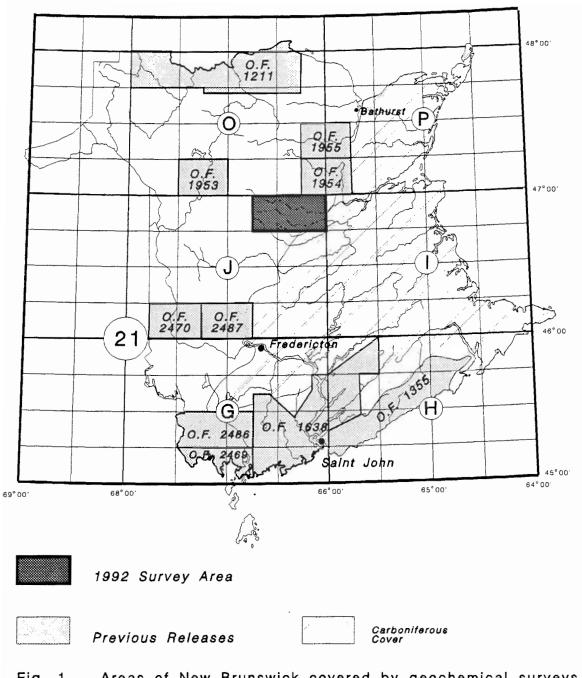


Fig. 1. Areas of New Brunswick covered by geochemical surveys, showing proposed 1992 survey area.

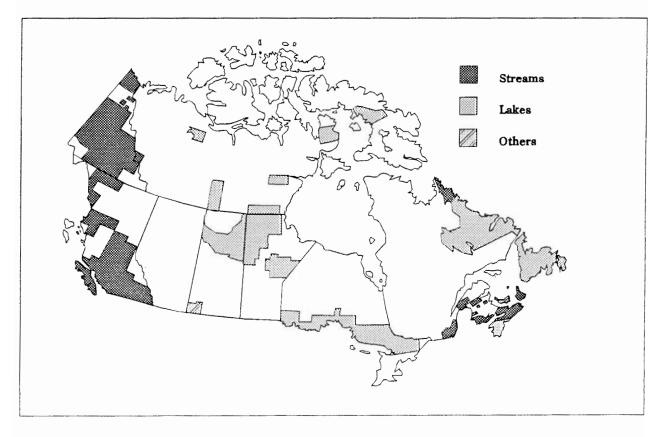


Fig. 2 Drainage surveys to National Geochemical Reconnaissance standards.

Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS) and Other Analyses

For the determination of Zn, Cu, Pb, Ni, Co, Ag, Mn, Fe, and Cd, a 1 gram sample is reacted with 3 mL concentrated HNO₃ in a test tube overnight at room temperature. After digestion, the test tube is immersed in a hot water bath at room temperature and brought up to 90° C and held at this temperature for 30 minutes with periodic shaking. One mL of concentrated HCl is added and heating continues for another 90 minutes. The sample solution is then diluted to 20 mL with metal-free water and mixed. Zn, Cu, Pb, Ni, Co, Ag, Mn, Fe and Cd are determined by atomic absorption spectroscopy using an air-acetylene flame. Background corrections are made for Pb, Ni, Co, Ag, and Cd.

Molybdenum and vanadium are determined by atomic absorption spectroscopy using a nitrous oxide acetylene flame. A 0.5 gram sample is reacted with 1.5 mL concentrated HNO $_3$ at 90° C for 30 minutes. At this point, 0.5 mL concentrated HCl is added and the digestion continued at 90° C for an additional 90 minutes. After cooling, 8 mL of 1250 ppm Al solution are added and the sample solution diluted to 10 mL before aspiration.

Mercury is determined by the Hatch and Ott procedure with some modifications. The method is described by Jonasson et~al.~(1973). A 0.5 gram sample is reacted with 20 mL concentrated HNO $_3$ and 1 mL concentrated HCl in a test tube for 10 minutes at room temperature prior to two hours of digestion with mixing at 90° C in a hot water bath. After digestion, the sample solutions are cooled and diluted to 100 mL with metal-free water. The Hg present is reduced to the elemental state by the addition of 10 mL 10% w/v SnSO $_4$ in M H $_2$ SO $_4$. The Hg vapour is then flushed by a stream of air into an absorption cell mounted in the light path of an atomic absorption spectrophotometer. Absorption measurements are made at 253.7 nm.

Loss-on-ignition is determined using a 500 mg sample. The sample, weighed into a 30 mL beaker, is placed in a cold muffle furnace and brought up to 500° C over a period of two to three hours. The sample is held at this temperature for four hours, then allowed to cool to room temperature for weighing.

Fluorine is determined as described by Ficklin (1970). A 250 mg sample is sintered with 1 gram of a flux consisting of two parts by weight sodium carbonate and one part by weight potassium nitrate. The residue is then leached with water. The sodium carbonate is neutralized with 10 mL 10% (w/v) citric acid and the resulting solution is diluted to 100 mL with water. The pH of the solution should range from 5.5 to 6.5. The fluoride content of the test solution is measured using a fluoride ion electrode. Standard solutions contain sodium carbonate and citric acid in the same quantities as the sample solution.

Tin in stream sediments is determined by heating a 200 mg sample with $\mathrm{NH_4I}$: the sublimed $\mathrm{SnI_4}$ is dissolved in acid and the tin determined by atomic absorption spectrometry after solvent extraction of the tin into methyl isobutyl ketone containing trioctylphosphine oxide (TOPO). The method is described by E.P. Welsch and T.T. Chao (1976).

Water Analyses

Fluoride in water samples is determined using a fluoride electrode. Prior to measurement, an aliquot of the sample is mixed with an equal volume of TISAB II buffer solution (total ionic strength adjustment buffer). The TISAB II buffer solution is prepared as follows: to 50 mL metal-free water add 57 mL glacial acetic acid, 58 g NaCl and 4 g CDTA (cyclohexylene dinitrilo tetraacetic acid). Stir to dissolve and cool to room temperature. Using a pH meter, adjust the pH between 5.0 and 5.5 by slowly adding 5 M NaOH solution. Cool and dilute to one liter in a volumetric flask. Detection limit = 20 ppb.

Hydrogen ion activity (pH) is measured with a combination glass-calomel electrode and a pH meter.

Uranium in waters is determined by a laser-induced fluorometric method using a Scintrex UA-3 uranium analyzer. A complexing agent, known commercially as Fluran and composed of sodium pyrophosphate and sodium monophosphate (Hall, 1979) is added to produce the uranyl pyrophosphate species which fluoresces when exposed to the laser. Since organic matter in the sample can cause unpredictable behaviour, a standard addition method is used. Further, the reaction of uranium with Fluran can be delayed or sluggish; for this reason an arbitrary 24 hour time delay between the addition of the Fluran and the actual reading is incorporated into this method. In practice, 500 µL of Fluran solution are added to a 5 mL sample and allowed to stand for 24 hours. At the end of this period fluorescence readings are made with the addition of 0.0, 0.2 and 0.4 ppb U. For high samples the additions are 0.0, 2.0 and 4.0 (20 μ L aliquot of either 55 or 550 ppb U are used). All readings are taken against a sample blank.

A summary of analytical methods and detection limits is provided in Table 1.

PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF GOLD DATA

The following discussion reviews the format used to present the gold geochemical data and outlines some important points to consider when interpreting this data. This discussion is included in recognition of the special geochemical behaviour and mode of occurrence of gold in nature and the resultant difficulties in obtaining and analyzing samples which reflect the actual concentration level at a given site.

The correct interpretation of geochemical gold data from regional stream sediment or lake sediment surveys requires an appreciation of the unique chemical and physical characteristics of gold and its mobility in the surficial environment. Key properties of gold that distinguish its geochemical behaviour from most other elements (Harris, 1982) include:

deld occurs most commonly in the native form which is chemically and physically resistant. A significant proportion of the metal is dispersed in a micron-sized particulate form, and the high specific gravity of gold results in a heterogeneous distribution, especially in stream sediment and clastic-rich (low LOI) lake sediment environments. Gold distribution appears to be more homogeneous in organic-rich fluviatile and lake sediments.

TABLE 1. Summary of Analytical Data and Methods

ELEMENT		DETE	CTION -	METHOD
SEDIN	MENTS:			
Zn	Zinc	2	ppm	AAS
Cu	Copper	2	ppm	AAS
Pb	Lead	2	ppm	AAS
Ni	Nickel	2	ppm	AAS
Co	Cobalt	2	ppm	AAS
Ag	Silver	0.2	ppm	AAS
Mn	Manganese	5	ppm	AAS
Мо	Molybdenum	2	ppm	AAS
Fe	Iron	0.02	pct	AAS
Hg	Mercury	10	ppb	CV-AAS
F	Fluorine	40	ppm	ISE
l v	Vanadium	5	ppm	AAS
Cd	Cadmium	0.2	ppm	AAS
LOI	Loss-on-ignition	1	pct	GRAV
Sn	Tin	1	ppm	SX-AAS
As	Arsenic	0.5	ppm	INAA
Au	Gold	2	ppb	INAA
Ва	Barium ⁻	50	ppm	INAA
Br	Bromine	0.5	ppm	INAA
Ce	Cerium	5	ppm	INAA
Co	Cobalt	5	ppm	INAA
Cr	Chromium	20	ppm	IŅAA
Cs	Cesium	0.5	ppm	INAA
Eu	Europium	1	ppm	INAA
Fe	Iron	0.2	pct	INAA
Hf	Hafnium	1	ppm	INAA
La	Lanthanum	2	ppm	INAA
Lu	Lutetium	0.2	ppm	INAA
Мо	Molybdenum	1	ppm	INAA
Na	Sodium	0.02	pct	INAA
Ni	Nickel	10	ppm	INAA
Rb	Rubidium	5	ppm	INAA
Sb	Antimony	0.1	ppm	INAA
Sc	Scandium	0.2	ppm	INAA
Sm	Samarium	0.1	ppm	INAA
Та	Tantalum	0.5	ppm	INAA
Tb	Terbium	0.5	ppm	INAA
Th	Thorium	0.2	ppm	INAA
U	Uranium	0.2	ppm	INAA
W	Tungsten	1	ppm	INAA
Yb	Ytterbium	1	ppm	INAA
Wt	Weight	0.01	gm	
WATERS:			_	10-
F	Fluoride	20	ppb	ISE
рН	Hydrogen ion			0011
U	activity Uranium	0.05	- ppb	GCM LIF
	Oranium	0.03	PPD	

- atomic absorption spectrometry

CV-AAS - cold vapour (flameless) atomic absorption spectrometry

GCM - glass Calomel electrode and pH meter

GRAV - gravimetry

INAA

- Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis

ISE LIF

- ion selective electrode - laser-induced fluorescence

SX-AAS

- solvent extraction; atomic absorption spectrometry

2) Gold typically occurs at low concentrations in the ppb range. Whereas gold concentrations of only a few ppm may represent economic deposits, background levels in stream and centre-lake sediments seldom exceed 10 ppb, and commonly are near the detection limit of 2 ppb.

These factors result in a particle sparsity effect wherein very low concentrations of gold are heterogeneously enriched or depleted in the surficial environment. Hence, a major problem facing the geochemist is to obtain a representative sample. In general, areas where concentrations of gold in sediments are low, and/or grain sizes of the gold present relatively high require proportionally larger samples to reduce the uncertainty between subsample analytical values and actual values. Conversely, as actual gold concentrations increase or grain size decreases, the number of gold particles to be shared in random subsamples increases and variability of results decreases (Clifton et al., 1969; Harris, 1982). The limited amount of material collected during the rapid, reconnaissance-style regional surveys and the need to analyze for a broad spectrum of elements, precludes the use of a significantly large sample weight for the gold analyses. Therefore, to obtain representative samples, grain size is reduced by sieving and ball milling of the dried sediments.

The following control methods are currently employed to evaluate and monitor the sampling and analytical variability which are inherent in the analysis of gold in geochemical media:

- (1) For each block of 20 samples:
 - (a) random insertion of a standard reference sample to control analytical accuracy and long-term precision;
 - (b) collection of a field duplicate (two samples from one site) to measure sampling and analytical variance:
 - (c) analysis of a second subsample (blind duplicate) from one sample to measure and control short-term precision or analytical variance.
- (2) For both stream and lake sediments, routine repeat analyses on a second subsample are performed for all samples having values that are statistically above approximately the 90th percentile of the total data set. However, for this open file, repeat analyses for gold are not present because most of the sample material was used during the initial analysis.
- (3) For lake sediments only, a routine repeat analysis on a second subsample is performed on those samples with LOI values below 10%, indicating a large clastic component. Ongoing studies suggest that the gold distribution in these samples is more likely to be variable than in samples with a higher LOI content.

The presentation of gold data, statistical treatment and the value map format are different than for other elements. Gold data listed in the open file may include initial analytical results, values determined from repeat analyses, together with sample weights and corresponding detection limits for all analyzed samples. The gold, statistical parameters and regional symboltrend plots are determined using only the first analytical

value. Gold values less than the detection limit are set to half that limit. Sample weights used can be found in the text.

In summary, geochemical follow-up investigations for gold should be based on a careful consideration of all geological and geochemical information, and especially a careful appraisal of gold geochemical data and its In some instances, prospective follow-up variability. areas may be indirectly identified by pathfinder element associations in favourable geology, although an analogous gold response due to natural variability may be lacking. Once an anomalous area has been identified, field investigations should by designed to include detailed geochemical follow-up surveys and collection of large representative samples. Subsequent repeat subsample analyses will increase the reliability of results and permit a better understanding of natural variability which can then by used to improve sampling methods and interpretation.

FIELD DATA LEGEND

Table 2 describes the field and map information appearing on the following pages preceding the analytical data for each sample site.

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- Jonasson, I.R., Lynch, J.J. and Trip, L.J. (1973) Field and laboratory methods used by the Geological Survey of Canada in geochemical surveys; No. 12, Mercury in Ores, Rocks, Soils, Sediments and Water, Geol. Surv. Can. Paper 73-21.
- Welsch, E.P. and Chao, T.T. (1976) Determination of trace amounts of tin in geological materials by atomic absorption spectrometry; Anal. Chim. Acta., Vol. 82, pp. 337-342.

TABLE 2. Field Observations Legend

FIELD RECORD	DEFINITION	TEXT CODE
MAPSHEET	National Topographic System (NTS); lettered quadrangle (1:250 000 or 1:50 000 scale)	21G/2, 21G/3
SAMPLE ID	Remainder of sample number: Year of collection Field crew Sample sequence number	91 1,3,5, or 7 001-999
REP STAT	Replicate status; relationship of the sample to others within the survey: Routine sample site	00 10 20
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator UTM co-ordinate system; digitized sample location co-ordinates	
ZN	Zone (7 to 22)	19
EASTING	UTM Easting in metres	
NORTHING	UTM Northing in metres	
ROCK UNIT	Major rock type of stream catchment area: MISSISSIPPIAN AND/OR PENNSYLVANIAN Red to grey conglomerate, siltstone; includes silicic to mafic volcanic flows, tuffs and related flows	MP
	MISSISSIPPIAN (mainly) Silicic volcanic flows, tuffs and related rocks Red to grey sandstone, conglomerate, shale (in part petroliferous); minor limestone and volcanic rocks;	Ms
	locally includes rocks of Upper Devonian age DEVONIAN (mainly) Granite, quartz monzonite, granodiorite and related	M1
	rocks Gabbro, diabase, diorite; may be older Cataclastic and migmatic granitic to dioritic rocks; locally contains numerous inclusions of older strata; may include younger rhyolitic flows and/or intrusive	D4 D3
	rocks Shale, limestone, sandstone; minor greywacke, tuff	D2
	and volcanic rocks	D1
	minor volcanic rocks	SD
	minor basaltic flows; Ss - Silurian, Ds - Devonian Andesitic and basic flows, tuffs and related	SDs
	intrusive rocks; Sm - Silurian, Dm - Devonian SILURIAN Greywacke, slate, siltstone, sandstone, conglomerate, and limestone; minor ferruginous and manganiferous chert and argillite; minor volcanic rocks; interbedded	SDm
	mafic and silicic volcanic rocks, gabbroic sills and dikes	s
	Peridotite, gabbro	0
	tuff and volcanic flows	O1
	rocks	PCp2

	T .	
FIELD RECORD	DEFINITION	TEXT CODE
ROCK AGE	Stratigraphic age of dominant rock type in catchment basin: Mississippian and/or Pennsylvanian Mississippian Devonian Silurian and Devonian Silurian Ordovician Precambrian or Lower Palaeozoic	30 31 25 24 20 15 92
SAMPLE TYPE	Sample material collected: Stream bed sediment only Spring or sediment seep Heavy mineral concentrate Stream water only Natural groundwater, spring seep Simultaneous stream sediment and water Simultaneous spring or seep water and sediment	SedOnly SpgSedOnly HvMnCn Strm GrWat Sed/Water SpgSep/Sed
STREAM WIDTH	Stream width in decimetres	
STREAM DEPTH	Stream depth in decimetres	
SAMPLE CONT.	Contamination, human or natural: None Possible Probable Definite Mining activity Industrial sources Agricultural Domestic or household Forestry activities Burned areas	Possible Probable Definite Mining Industry Agricult Domestic Forestry Burn
BANK TYPE	Bank type; the general nature of the bank material adjacent to the sample site: Alluvial	Alluv Colluv Till Outwash Bare Rk Tal/Scr Organic
WATER COLOUR	Water colour; the general colour and suspended load of the sampled water: Clear Brown transparent White cloudy Brown cloudy	Clear BnTrans WhCl'dy BnCl'dy
STREAM FLOW	Water flow rate: Stagnant Slow Moderate Fast Torrential	Stagnt Slow Modert Fast Torrnt
SAMPLE COLOUR	Predominant sediment colour: Red-brown White-buff Black Yellow Green Grey, blue grey Pink Buff to brown Brown	Rd-Bn Wh-Bf Black Yellow Green Gy-Blu Pink Bf-Bn Brown

FIELD RECORD	DEFINITION	TEXT CODE
SAMPLE COMP.	Sediment composition; description of the bulk mechanical composition of the collected sample on a scale of 1 to 3, the total of the column must add up to 3 or 4 or 5: Size fractions are divided as follows: Column 1 >0.125 mm (sand) Column 2 <0.125 mm (fines - organic silt, clay) Column 3 organic material	
	Amount of size fraction: sum of amounts = 3 4 5	
	Absent 0 0 0 Minor <33%	0 1 2 3
ВОТТОМ РСРТ	Precipitate or stain; the presence of any coatings on pebbles, boulders or stream bottoms: None Red-brown White or buff Black Yellow Green Grey Pink Buff to brown	- Rd-Bn Wh-Bf Black Yellow Green Grey Pink Bf-Bn
BANK PCPT	Distinctive precipitate, stains or weathering on rocks in immediate area of catchment basin or stream bank: None Red, brown (eg. Fe) White, buff (eg. CO ₃ , Zn) Black (e.g. Fe, Mn, sulphides) Yellow (e.g. Pb, U, Fe, Mo, REE) Green (Cu, Ni, U, Mo, As, Fe) Bluish (Zn, P) Pink (Co, As)	- Rd-Bn Wh-Bf Black Yellow Green Blue Pink
STREAM PHYSIOG	General physiography of the drainage basin: Plain Muskeg, swampland Peneplain, plateau Hilly, undulating Mountainous, mature Mountainous, youthful (precipitous)	Plain Swamp Penpln Hill Moun/M Moun/Y
STREAM DRAINAGE	Drainage pattern: Poorly defined, haphazard Dendritic Herringbone Rectangular Trellis Discontinuous shield type (chains of lakes) Basinal Others	Poor Dendrc Herrbn RectIn Trellis Discnt Closed Other
STREAM TYPE	Stream type: Undefined Permanent, continuous Intermittent, seasonal Re-emergent, discontinuous	Undfnd Permnt Intermit Re-emerg
STREAM CLASS	Classification based on proximity to source: Undefined Primary Secondary Tertiary Quaternary	Undfnd Pri'ary Sec'ary Ter'ary Qua'ary

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FIELD RECORD	DEFINITION	TEXT CODE
STREAM SOURCE	Source of water: Unknown Groundwater Snow melt or spring run-off Recent precipitation Ice-cap or glacier meltwater	Unknown Ground Sp'gMelt RecRain Glacier
Miscellaneous	Missing data in any field no sample material for analysis parts per million parts per billion percent weight (of sample) gram	* ns ppm ppb pct Wt gm