WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

FRESHWATER MONITORING UNIT

STREAM DISCHARGE TECHNICAL NOTES

STATION ID: 05H070

STATION NAME: Squire Creek at Squire Creek Park

WATER YEAR: 2010

AUTHOR: Don Watt

Introduction

Watershed Description

Squire Creek drains a steep, north-facing basin covering about 20 square miles upstream of the gage at Squire Creek Park. Much of the basin lies in the Boulder River Wilderness as the stream drains the flanks of Three Fingers South and Whitehorse Mountain. Elevation in the basin ranges from 460 ft at the gage to more than 6800 ft on the higher peaks. Mean basin elevation is 2590 ft. Average basin slope is 57 percent. Over 60 percent of the area is covered in forest canopy. Mean annual precipitation is about 93 inches. Squire Creek and its tributaries provide more than 13 miles of spawning habitat for Chinook, Coho, pink and chum salmon, as well as for steelhead and resident trout.

Gage Location

The gage is on the right bank of Squire Creek, north of the Highway 530 bridge. Access for gage maintenance is through Squire Creek Park property.

Table 1. Basin Area and Legal Description

Drainage Area (square miles)	19.8 square miles
Latitude (degrees, minutes, seconds)	48, 16, 13 (NAD83)
Longitude (degrees, minutes, seconds)	-121, 40, 19(NAD83)

Table 2. Discharge Statistics.

Mean Annual Discharge (cfs)	171 cfs
Median Annual Discharge (cfs)	115 cfs
Maximum Daily Mean Discharge (cfs)	2300 cfs
Minimum Daily Mean Discharge (cfs)	14 cfs
Maximum Instantaneous Discharge (cfs)	3380 cfs
Minimum Instantaneous Discharge (cfs)	11 cfs
Discharge Equaled or Exceeded 10 % of Recorded Time (cfs)	357 cfs
Discharge Equaled or Exceeded 90 % of Recorded Time (cfs)	36 cfs
Number of Days Discharge is Greater Than Range of Ratings	None
Number of Days Discharge is Less Than Range of Ratings	None
Number of Un-Reported Days	None
Number of Days Qualified as Estimates	57
Number of Modeled Days	13

Note: Statistics displayed in Table 2 may not include values in which the predicted discharge exceeds the range of ratings.

Table 2 Discussion (Discharge Statistics)

Water year 2010 was a moderate year for flows during the 2005 through 2013 period of record. The mean and median annual discharge values are both near the middle of the group for this nine-year period. The maximum and minimum discharge values are also near the middle of the pack for these years.

Table 3. Error Analysis Summary.

Potential Logger Drift Error (% of discharge)	3%
Potential Weighted Rating Error (% of discharge)	12 %
Total Potential Error (% of discharge)	15%

Table 3 Discussion (Error Analysis)

The potential logger drift error of 3 percent of discharge refers to the amount of instrument drift that has been corrected using a time-weighted adjustment to the stage record. The potential weighted rating error is calculated based on the quality of individual discharge measurements used to define the rating and on the degree to which those defining measurements conform to the respective rating curve.

Table 4. Stage Record Summary

Minimum Recorded Stage (feet)	3.64 ft
Maximum Recorded Stage (feet)	9.92 ft
Range of Recorded Stage (feet)	6.28 ft

Table 4 Discussion (Stage Record)

Automated gaging equipment worked well through most of water year 2010. There were no significant gaps in the continuous record during the year. There were 44 days qualified as estimated data due to an erratic or noisy data record. Data on any given day are qualified as estimated when these noisy stage variations result in potential errors greater than 10 percent of mean daily discharge. The 13 days in which the slope-conveyance model was used are also considered to be estimated data.

Table 5. Rating Table Summary

Rating Table No.	201		
Period of Ratings	10/1/2009 - 9/30/2010		
Range of Ratings (cfs)	0.01 to 9370 cfs		
No. of Defining Measurements	41 Mmt's		
Rating Error (%)	12 %		

Rating Table No.			
Period of Ratings			
Range of Ratings (cfs)			
No. of Defining Measurements			
Rating Error (%)			

Rating Table No.			
Period of Ratings			
Range of Ratings (cfs)			
No. of Defining Measurements			
Rating Error (%)			

Table 5 Discussion (Rating Tables)

Channel geometry was stable throughout water year 2010. No rating shifts were observed during the year.

Table 6. Model Summary

Model Type (Slope conveyance, other, none)	Slope Conveyance
Range of Modeled Stage (feet)	8.4 ft to 13.5 ft
Range of Modeled Discharge (cfs)	1900 cfs to 9370 cfs
Valid Period for Model	Oct. 1 thru Sept. 30
Model Confidence	+/- 5 %

Table 6 Discussion (Modeled Data)

The slope conveyance model for Squire Creek is based on a cross-section and longitudinal survey taken on September 16, 2010, and on data from nine channel-control discharge measurements taken between December 2006 and November 2012. Results from this model are applied throughout the period of record for the station because of the overall stability of the channel geometry.

Table 7. Survey Type and Date (station, cross section, longitudinal)

Type	Date
Stn, X-Sect. and Long.	9/16/2010

Table 7 Discussion (Surveys)

Complete station, cross-section, and longitudinal surveys were completed on Sept 16. This set of surveys provide the basis for the slope-conveyance model used to calculate high flow estimates through the period of record for this station.

Activities Completed

Routine station maintenance and discharge measurements were conducted at six-week intervals.