

USGS TRAINING OF SEDIMENT DATA COLLECTION TECHNIQUES

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Sediment Data Collection Techniques is a USGS sponsored training course, held annually in the early spring in the Pacific Northwest area near Mount St. Helens. About half of the course is classroom instruction, and the other half is devoted to “hands-on” field experience using a variety of samplers and techniques on bridges and wading in west-central Washington streams including those draining the Mount St. Helens region. This training course is intended to provide instruction in:

- Basic fluvial-sediment concepts
- Sediment sampler characteristics
- Field techniques (including Safety concepts) for sampling
- Laboratory analyses of sediment samples
- Overview of computation of sediment-discharge records
- Selected methods for estimating sediment properties from surrogate technologies
- Overview of a records computation protocol using continuous turbidity
- Physical bedload samplers, and
- Quality-assurance procedures

A course website containing all presentations and a plethora of other information germane to sediment-data collection and analysis techniques is provided before the training session. Students have the option of downloading each presentation or printing hard-copies to bring to the class. The website also provides the agenda, maps, lodging details, and other links of interest.

The course is designed for:

- Those actively engaged in/or supervising individuals engaged in sediment or water-quality data-collection activities, or who plan to become involved in these activities.
- Those interested in sediment-surrogate technologies for suspended-sediment-, bed-material-, and bedload-data collection.
- Those who are or will be actively involved in the collection of data for Surface-Water Toxic Waste, NAWQA or NASQAN Programs, coal hydrology studies, geomorphic assessments that require fluvial-sediment data, science-supported activities for stream restoration, and other monitoring or research endeavors involving fluvial sediment.

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