

APPENDIX – FEDERAL HYDROMETRIC SURVEYS IN CANADA

Department	Branch	Division	Period	Geographic Area	Remarks
Board of Works			1850-1867	Ottawa and St. Lawrence rivers	Water level measurements for the Province of Canada – now Ontario and Quebec
Public Works			1867-1909	Ottawa and St. Lawrence rivers	Water level measurements only. Confederation July 1, 1867.
Interior	Hydrographic Survey of Canada		1909-1928	Great Lakes-St Lawrence plus marine coast	Becomes Canadian Hydrographic Service in 1928
Interior	Forestry		1894-1909	Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan	J. S. Dennis started the survey with measurements of the Bow and Elbow rivers on June 25, 1894. First measurement in Saskatchewan in 1896.
Interior	Forestry & Irrigation	Hydrographic Surveys	1909-1910	Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan	First specific Parliamentary appropriation for stream gauging in 1908. P. M. Sauder in charge.
Interior	Irrigation	Irrigation Office	1911-1912	Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan	Current Meter Rating Station constructed in Calgary in 1911
Interior	Irrigation		1912-1920	Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan	Irrigation Branch established October 1912.
Interior	Dominion Lands	Railway Lands Division	1911	British Columbia	Surveys in the Dry Belt.
Interior	Dominion Water Power	Hydrographic Survey	1911-1917	All provinces except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island	The Irrigation Branch conducted the irrigation surveys in Alberta and Saskatchewan while Dominion Water Power conducted power surveys in those provinces. Nova Scotia survey started in 1915.

Interior	Dominion Water Power	Hydrometric Survey	1917-1920		New Brunswick survey began in 1918 and Prince Edward Island in 1922. Federal government assumed responsibility for Ontario Network October 1, 1919.
Interior	Dominion Water Power	Hydrometric Survey	1920-1923	All provinces	A national organization was created on July 1, 1920. Federal government assumed responsibility for Quebec network in October 1922.
Interior	Dominion Water Power and Reclamation Service		1923-1930	All Provinces	
Department of Natural Resources	Water Power		1923-1950	Newfoundland	Federal Government assumed responsibility March 24, 1950
Interior	Dominion Water Power and Hydrometric Bureau		1930-1936	All Provinces	Hydrometric Agreements terminated March 31, 1933. Prince Edward Island survey discontinued in 1933.
Mines and Resources	Dominion Water and Power Bureau		Dec 1936-Jan 1950	All Provinces except PEI	First streamflow measurements in the Northwest Territories in 1933-34 and in Yukon in 1943-44.
Resources and Development	Water Resources Division		Jan 1950-Mar 1953	All Provinces and Territories except PEI	Newfoundland included starting March 24, 1950

Northern Affairs and National Resources	Water Resources Division		Apr 1953-Sept 1955	All except PEI	
Northern Affairs and National Resources	Water Resources	Operations Division	Sept 1955-Dec 1965		First streamflow measurements in present Nunavut in 1960. Surveys resumed in PEI in 1961. Quebec assumed responsibility for most surveys in the province in 1964.
Mines and Technical Surveys	Water Resources	Canadian Hydrometric Survey	Jan 1966-Sept 1966	All	
Energy Mines and Resources	Water Resources	Canadian Hydrometric Survey	Oct 1966-Mar 1967	All	
Energy Mines and Resources	Inland Waters	Water Survey of Canada	April 1967-Nov 1970	All	
Fisheries and Forestry	Inland Waters	Water Survey of Canada	Nov 1970-June 1971	All	
Environment	Inland Waters	Water Survey of Canada	June 1971-March 1972	All	
Environment	Water Resources		April 1972-March 1992	All	Inland Waters Directorate established April 1972. Hydrometric Agreements effective April 1, 1975.
Environment	Water Survey		April 1992-Nov 2006	All	Nunavut becomes a Territory on April 1, 1999 Atmospheric Environment Service becomes responsible for Water Survey.
Environment		Water Survey Division	Nov 2006-	All	

