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# NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA GENERAL INFORMATION PRODUCT 135e

## **Groundwater Information Network**

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# GROUNDWATER INFORMATION NETWORK



The Groundwater Information Network (GIN) is designed to improve knowledge of groundwater systems and enhance groundwater management through increased access to standardized data. The GIN connects information from various government sources across Canada (federal, provincial, territorial, municipal), including water well databases, water monitoring data, aquifer and geology maps, and hydrogeology-related publications.

This information is accessible through the GIN portal ([gin.gw-info.net](http://gin.gw-info.net)), through which users can easily view, query and download data. The download formats supported include:

- GWML (Groundwater Mark-up Language);
- MS-Excel;
- Google Earth;
- GeoPackage;
- ESRI Shapefile;
- PDF.

The portal also provides Web services that conform to open geospatial data standards to enable computer-to-computer requests such as direct assimilation of the information into other Web applications or into analysis or modelling tools.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The groundwater expert panel of the Council of Canadian Academies has stated that access to data is a key priority (2009, *The Sustainable Management of Groundwater in Canada: The Expert Panel on Groundwater*). To achieve this, the main expected project outcomes are:

- an infrastructure that connects groundwater data;
- online access to groundwater data;
- a data exchange standard;
- analysis and modelling tools.

## PARTNERS

The success of the GIN is a result of active collaboration among provincial and territorial partners and the U.S. Geological Survey. The Canadian partners are British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Yukon. Standard development benefited from international collaboration involving France, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Austria.

## CONTACT

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