THE HYDROLGY of TISBURY GREAT POND

MARTHA"S VINEYARD, MASSACHUSETTS

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WEST TISBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

a) Summary

Many people are concerned about the condition and use of Tisbury Great Pond. Using limited data, many studies have been carried out and many conclusions have been reached on the amount and source of water that enters The Pond. The author, is a riparian owner and interested geotechnical engineer, who has accumulated 40 years of measurements of ground water, surface water and rain water around the pond. This report is a compilation of those measurements, a presentation of hydrogeologic calculations and conclusions based on those measurements and calculations.

b) Geography

Tisbury Great Pond is brackish pond of about 700 acres within the Towns of Chilmark and West Tisbury on the south coast of Martha"s Vineyard Island about 5 miles off the southeast coast of Massachusetts. The pond lies within the glacial outwash plain formed by the post glacial erosion of the two major glacial moraines that form the island of Martha"s Vineyard (Delaney). Many test borings made over the years show this plain to consist of a very permeable fine to coarse sand deposit about 100 feet thick overlying a very impermeable silt and clay strata several hundred feet thick overlying bedrock. The pond is separated from The Atlantic Ocean by a barrier beach of coarse sand several hundred feet wide formed by wind and wave action. Fresh water enters the pond by direct precipitation, two stream flows and ground water inflow. Salt water also enters the pond as ocean water pushed through the barrier beach by wave run up. A channel is excavated in the barrier beach about four times a year to allow the water that builds up in the pond to drain out into the ocean and to allow daily tidal flow to "flush" the pond with salt water.

c) Responsible Political Bodies

The pond is owned by The State of Massachusetts as a "Great Pond" and is under the control of several State agencies. Activities on and around the pond are most directly regulated by Chilmark and West Tisbury"s Conservation Commissions, Zoning Regulations, Boards of Health, and shell and fin fish agencies. The Martha"s Vineyard Commission and The Martha"s Vineyard Shellfish Group have tested and studied the pond over the years and have significant regulatory responsibility for the condition of the pond. In 1904, The Massachusetts State Legislature authorized "The Riparians Owner" to drain the lowlands surrounding the pond by excavating a channel through the barrier beach and draining the pond out to the ocean. In 1976, the Conservation Commissions of West Tisbury and Chilmark approved an "Order of Conditions" for the excavation of a channel through the barrier beach. "The Riparian Owners of Tisbury Great Pond" annually elect three Commissioners to drain the pond as needed. Tisbury Great Pond is now used extensively for fin and shell fishing, summer recreation, harvesting of salt hay along its shores and wild life habitat.

d) Previous Studies

Many studies and reports on Tisbury Great Pond have been published and an incomplete list is given in the appendix. The studies most pertinent to the hydrology of the pond are by Delaney 1980 of The US Geological Service (USGS), studies done from 1996 to the present by William Wilcox, Water Resource Planner for The Martha^{*}s Vineyard Commission and by Fugro-McClelland(East) 1992 prepared for the Towns of Chilmark and West Tisbury.

e) Acknowledgements

Many people have helped to gather data for this report, review maps and graphs and offer positive and negative comments. William M. Austin and the staff at Vineyard Land Surveying and Engineering, William M. Wilcox, Craig Saunders and K. Malcolm Jones and Judy Elmer, who edited the text, have helped the most.

f) Revisions

The first edition of this report was published in 2009. The major 2013 revisions are the 700 acre expansion, 5550 to 6250, of the assumed ground water shed based on two more ground water flow direction triads, measurements of water flow, in and out, through the barrier beach and calculation of the rain water recharge of the water shed ground water based on ground water measurements at the head of the water shed.

2. DESCRIPTION OF TISBURY GREAT POND

a) USGS Map

The best description of The Pond is provided by The US Geological Survey quadrangle maps of Squibnocket, Tisbury Great Pond, Vineyard Haven and Naushon Island. The appropriate portions of those four quadrangles have been pieced together to form Fig. 1. These maps show important geographical features and elevation contours with the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929(NGVD) as the elevation datum. This "mean sea level" datum has been established on Martha"s Vineyard on bronze plaques and other permanent benchmarks and is used by most agencies. In the area south of Tisbury Great Pond, the actual mean sea level of the Atlantic Ocean is about 1+ feet above this datum so that confusion sometimes occurs when discussing elevations. Figure 1, which will be referred to throughout this report, also shows the location of test borings that were made under the auspices of The Martha"s Vineyard Commission and the author, the location of groundwater monitoring wells, groundwater contours that were derived from these wells, and watershed boundaries that were derived from map and field measurements. The 1929 NGVD elevation of the rim of the wells was determined by the author with conventional surveying equipment and the help of friends. At seven locations, there are three wells close together which allow the determination of the direction of ground water flow, shown by arrows in Fig. 1.

b) Test Borings

The logs of the test borings where samples were obtained or tested are given in Table 1. The test borings MVC#4, MVC#5, MVC#6 and MVC#10 were done with rotary well drilling rigs with split spoon samples retrieved every 10" or change of strata. These disturbed samples were identified and tested for permeability. Three piezometers made from ³/₄" rigid PVC flush joint tubing with one foot long screens at the lower end were placed in each test hole with the screens at the bottom of the sand strata, at the middle of the sand strata and at 5 feet below the groundwater table. These piezometers have been used to measure the elevation of the groundwater table, the slight vertical gradient that occurs during recharge and for sampling the groundwater.

The MVC Test borings #8 and #9 were done with a 6" diameter auger to about 10" below the groundwater table. Sand samples taken off the auger flights were identified and the permeability measured. A 2" diameter rigid PVC flush joint tubing with a 3" long screen was pushed down below the water table and used to monitor the groundwater table.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ " pipe probes were sections of $\frac{1}{2}$ " steel pipe with a 6" long section with eight 0.020" wide by 3" long longitudinal slots machined in it, with a plug at the end of the pipe. Water inflow through this slotted section was measured under a range of pressure differences to allow measurement of the permeability of sand that the probe was driven into. The pipe was driven with a 20 pound weight at two locations on the barrier beach to determine the depths of the barrier beach sand deposit, the pond bottom peat layer and the original sand and gravel glacial out wash deposit.

These test borings confirmed what previous borings had shown, that the outwash plain consists of fine to coarse sand about 100 feet thick sloping at about 100/20,000 southward from the center of the island, with the groundwater table sloping at about 20/12,000 to the ocean.

c) Stream and Dams

The two major streams, Tiasquam River and Mill Brook that flow into The Pond at Town Cove, originate in the glacial moraine upland area of West Tisbury and Chilmark. Chilmark Pond lies between the water shed of the Tiasquam River and Tisbury Great Pond, therefore the ground water from the Tiasquam watershed cannot enter Tisbury Great Pond. The outside edges of the watersheds of these streams were defined on Figure 1 by drawing lines between topographic highs. Where the streams enter West Tisbury, the definition of whether rainwater entered the pond by runoff into the streams or by percolating down through the sand strata and entering as ground water, was based on local water table elevations, recognizing that the actual ground water flow path depended on antecedent weather conditions and varied with the season and pond elevation. The stream flows were measured at the Mill Pond dam and the Douglas dam by calibrating the flow over the dam weirs to the pond water levels and measuring the pond levels continuously with "Stevens" float/paper chart, battery operated water level recorders. There were some interruptions resulting from mechanical failures or freezing but a good record of stream flows was obtained from 1993 to the present.

Tisbury Great Pond has been connected to Black Point Pond to the west by a "Crab Creek" channel about 20 feet wide and three feet deep, originally dug by hand but most recently re-excavated by machine in the sixties, to drain the lowlands around Black Point Pond and allow harvesting of salt hay (Whiting). This channel allows rain that enters Black Point Pond, directly or by ground water, and the ocean water that is pushed through in the barrier beach by wave run up, to flow into Tisbury Great Pond when it is low and allows brackish water to flow from The Pond when it is high out through the barrier beach on the south side of Black Point Pond.

d) Pond Depth

In 1992, Fugro-McClelland(East) measured the depth of The Pond as part of their study. The area of The Pond surface, as it varies with pond surface elevation from their report, is shown in Figure 2.

e) Barrier Beach

The barrier beach, about 200" wide and 8" to 15" above 0 NGVD, is coarse sand formed by the wind and waves across the southern side of the ponds that now exist along the south side of Martha"s Vineyard Island. This beach has moved northward several miles as the island has eroded after formation of the outwash plain thousands of years ago. During the time since, sediments have formed in the deeper portions of The Pond, and consolidated into a 5" to 10,,thick impermeable layer on the bottom. Chunks of this peat are periodically exposed on the ocean side of the beach. This peat layer was located in only two places by $\frac{1}{2}$ " pipe probes, but it is generally assumed to extend along the entire south side of Tisbury Great Pond and Black Point Pond.

f) Ocean Elevation

The elevation of The Atlantic Ocean controls the flow of pond water out through the barrier beach and out through the channel when open in the beach. Riparian owners have long known that the 1929 NGVD "mean sea level" elevation is about one foot below the actual mean sea level. Measurements of the actual sea level were made when there was little surf, by throwing the screened end of a 200" long ¼" diameter plastic tube out past breaking waves and comparing the elevation of the water over the screened end to a 1929 NGVD bench mark on the barrier beach, by measuring the vacuum needed to pull ocean water up to the bench mark. These measurements confirmed that as of 2013, actual mean sea level is 1.5" + 0.1" above 1929 NGVD "mean sea level". The Martha"s Vineyard Coastal Observation (MVCO) tower, installed in the year 2000 about one mile off Katama beach in Edgartown, continuously measures the elevation of the ocean surface at the tower using "mean sea level" as a datum. The vertical distance from that datum to the 1929 NGVD is not clear, but the measurements of ocean elevation off the pond are being compared with the MVCO ocean levels.

3. FIELD MEASUREMENTS

a) Ground Water Elevation and Flow Direction

The flow of rain water into and out of Tisbury Great Pond is controlled by gravity and the medium through which it flows. The elevation of all water surfaces must be known for any hydrologic study of The Pond. Many hours were spent with conventional surveying equipment to determine the elevation, to the nearest 0.02 feet, with respect to the numerous 1929 NGVD bench marks established around Martha"s Vineyard by governmental surveys, and recorded on USGS maps and in reports. Many additional bench marks established by local surveys were made available to the author. The elevation of the water table in seven sets of three or more wells close together, shown in Figure 3a - 3g, was determine periodically and the direction of ground water flow calculated

graphically by assuming a plane water table surface between the wells and assuming ground water flow to be perpendicular to a water table contour. Both assumptions are reasonable in an homogeneous soil. These directions are shown on Figure 1. and allowed the drawing of the watershed boundaries within the outwash plain. The groundwater flow direction varies somewhat with the antecedent weather and, near The Pond, substantially with the level of The Pond.

b) Ground Water Table Elevation at Well #122

The elevation of the ground water table in well #122 at the Author"s house has been recorded weekly since 1986 and the precipitation measured with three types of rain gauges, a plastic funnel type, a tipping bucket self emptying electrically recorded type and straight sided cans. Snow falls were collected to measure the equivalent rain. The rainfall measurements have been confirmed by other local gauges. Well #122 is at the head of watershed of the pond, and periodic measurement of the water table at well MVC #8 established that well #122 accurately reflected the water table within the water shed.

The elevation of the ground water table at well #122 and the bi-monthly precipitation from 1986 to the present are shown in Figure 4. The amount of rainfall from November 1, to May 1 for each year has been noted as related to the yearly recharge to the ground water. The dates were chosen arbitrarily, knowing that the exact amount varies with the weather conditions that year and the condition and location of the area. The yearly recharge is more nearly equal to the amount of rain from November 1 to May 1, minus the amount of rain that is retained during the wet season in the upper 4-6 feet of soil and is evapotranspired during the dry season.

c) Downward Percolation Rate

In 1987, the author bought a "Troxler" nuclear down hole soil water content measuring device and measured the rate that a heavy rainfall percolated down through fine to coarse sand underlying the site at well #122. Only one successful set of measurements over a period of about one month was made in December 1987 and January 1988. This set indicated that 5 inches of rain created a moisture front that descended through the sand at about ½ foot per day. Subsequent fees imposed by The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission made disposal of the device imperative. The "Troxler" also measured the change from about 12 pounds of water per cubic foot during the wet season to about 3 pounds of water per cubic foot during the dry season in the upper 4-6 feet of soil. This amounts to about 7 inches of rain that is available for transpiration in addition the rainfall in the summer.

d) Stream Flows

In 1994, the water flow over the outlet weirs on the Mill Pond dam and the Douglas dam was measured with a propeller driven recorder at various pond elevations and water level recorders were then installed on both ponds to provide a continuous record of water flows from the streams into The Pond. The response of the streams to various rain falls has been analyzed and presented to the dam owners as part of Phase I Investigations that were done by the author for the dam owners as required by The Massachusetts Dam Safety Agency. The continuous record of stream flow allows the compilation of inflow to The Pond at any time since 1994. A typical response of Mill Brook

flow to a rainfall is shown in Figure 5. Calculation of the runoff coefficient of about 0.07 shows the effect of the high percent of woodland, wetlands and ponds on the watershed. The flow soon after heavy rains is about 10% of the base flow. The 10 day average flow rates at The Mill Pond Dam and The Douglas Dam from 1994 to 2012 are given in the appendix and a summary of yearly flows from both streams is given in Figure 6.

e) Elevation of Tisbury Great Pond at Town Cove

The elevation of the pond surface at Town Cove has been measured with a battery powered "Belfort" float gauge with a paper recorder since 1993, and with a "Telog" battery powered pressure transducer with a chip recorder since 1996. Pond level have been recorded manually almost every week and more frequently during critical periods. The "Telog" records the water pressure to the nearest 0.01 feet of water over a fixed point every 15 minutes and when the recording chip is downloaded to a PC, the water pressure can be plotted versus time. This feature allows accurate measurement of rate of volume change of The Pond. In 1998 when The Pond was not open to the ocean and there was no wind, bench marks were placed at the southern end of The Pond and at Town Cove. The set up caused by a 15 to 20 MPH southwest wind was about 0.03 feet, so that the magnitude and direction of the wind was generally noted when pond levels were measured. A set up of 0.03 feet is enough to cause significant continuous return flow within the bottom several feet of the pond. This return flow cause bottom vegetation to visibly deflect and completely mixes the pond water in a few days. The elevation of the pond at Town Cove from 1993 to 2013 is shown in Fig. 7.

f) Beach Channel Flow

The elevation of The Atlantic Ocean along the south side of Tisbury Great Pond varies twice daily from about +0.5 to + 2.5 feet above the NGVD 1929 datum with greater extremes during "spring" (full and new moon) tides. The barrier beach between The Pond and The Ocean varies in width from 200 to 300 feet and in height from 8 to 15 feet above 1929 NGVD mean sea level. In 1904, The Riparian Owners were authorized by a Chapter 203 Massachusetts State Law to appoint three Commissioners to excavate a channel in the barrier beach between The Pond and The Ocean to "properly drain the lowlands and meadows around such great pond".

When the pond is about 5 feet above 1929 NGVD, a 10" wide by 3" deep channel is dug through the barrier beach in a few hours with a 100 horse power excavator allowing the water in the pond to flow out to the ocean at a peak rate of about 5000 ft3/second with a power of about 2000 horsepower eroding a channel in the beach 10" deep and 100" wide in about ten to fifteen hours (generally two tides). The channel is filled back in with sand by ocean wave and currents from 1 to 200 days after it is dug depending on the weather. With a wide and deep channel, The Pond rises and falls about one foot from about +1.5 to +2.5 above 0.0 NGVD twice a day. The rise and fall of The Pond after a "good" opening is shown in Figure 8. Several attempts were made to measure the outflow and inflow rates by walking a propeller velocity meter across the channel while measuring the water depth. The flow rate for a few hours could measured but measurement during several tide changes was not done because of seaweed clogging the meter, erosion changing the channel and lack of volunteers.

g) Flow Through The Barrier Beach

In 2012, four wells made of 4 inch diameter PVC pipe were installed open ended to about two feet below the water table in a line between the ocean and the pond, as shown in Fig. 1 and Fig.12. The elevation of the groundwater in wells #2 and #3 was continuously measured with battery powered "Telog" recorders, and intermittently by hand in wells #1 and #4. Samples of the barrier beach sand were taken from the well holes and the sides of channel cuts for permeability testing.

4. CALCULATIONS OF FLOW

a) Rise and Fall of Ground Water Table at Monitoring Well #122

The seasonal rise and fall of the groundwater table at well #122 at the head of the water shed, as shown in Figure 4, results from percolation of rain down through the outwash sand when the rain is not captured and held by the silty soil and the vegetation that has developed in the top 4-6 feet. Measurements with the "Troxler" meter indicated that the water in the upper 4-6 feet of silty soil increased from 3 pounds per cubic foot to 12 pounds per cubic foot after the start of the wet season. This increase represents about 7 inches of rain. In the late autumn (Nov. 1) most of the transpiration by the vegetation has stopped and the upper soil zone is resaturated by rain and excess rain begins to percolate down through the outwash sand. Many studies have indicated that on well drained sandy soil deposits in this part of southeastern Massachusetts, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet of rain per year percolate down to the groundwater table. When the water reaches the groundwater table it no longer moves just downward but starts to flow laterally toward the nearest surface outlet, streams, estuaries, ponds or the ocean. This groundwater flow is caused by gravity. Both the vertical unsaturated flow and the lateral saturated flow below the water table can be described by classical D"Arcy theory of non turbulent flow through porous media, Q = kiA. This equation states that the rate of flow Q (ft3/day) equals the permeability of the porous media k (ft/day) times the hydraulic gradient i (ft/ft) which is the drop in elevation in feet that a particle of water undergoes while moving a distance in feet through the porous media, times the cross sectional area A (ft2) through which the water is flowing. The actual average velocity of the particle of water through the soil is the permeability times the hydraulic gradient divided by the porosity of the soil (V=ki/N). The porosity of a soil is the volume of the voids divided by the total volume of the soil, expressed as a ratio. When the sand is 100% saturated the voids are filled with water. If the sand is allowed to drain, some of the water is held in the voids by capillarity, but most of the water drains out. The effective porosity is the volume of the voids that have drained divided by the total volume. The porosity and the effective porosity measured on several samples of the sand retrieved from test borings are approximately 0.25 and 0.20 respectively. If after some date in late autumn, November 1 for instance, none of the rain transpires and the upper 4-6 feet of silty soil are resaturated, the rain again begins to percolate down to the water table at a rate indicated by the "Troxler" tests of about ¹/₂ foot per day. When that water reaches the water table and the downward flow rate exceeds the

rate at which the water is draining away, the water table starts to rise. At some date in spring, May 1 for instance, the rain no longer leaves the upper soil and about 110 days later at Well #122, where the water table is 55 feet below ground surface, (55 ft/0.5 ft/day) the last of the winter rain reaches the water table. Then at Well #122, at the head of the watershed where the water drains primarily vertically with little lateral input, the rate of the drop in the water table times the effective porosity of the soil equals the rate that ground water is flowing away. This process is shown for the typical years 2005 - 2007 in Fig 9. This flow rate depends on the lateral hydraulic gradient in the area, ie the elevation of the water table divided by the distance to the ocean, and doesn't change very much during any year. Fig. 10 shows how this rate of drainage from the water shed depends on the elevation of the water table. The rate of water table drop when there is no recharge occurring, times the effective porosity equals the recharge rate for that year. Fig. 10 shows the average recharge rate from 1986 to 2012 to be about 1.5 feet per year. Fig. 11 shows a flow net drawn to show the flow pattern in a vertical slice of sand one foot thick from MVC #8 and Well #122 to Town Cove 12,000 feet away, assuming a steady downward percolation to the water table of 1.5 feet per year. This water then flows laterally through approximately 100 feet of sand overlying the impermeable clay strata to the pond or under the pond to the ocean. If the amount of water flowing Q, flowing from 1.5 feet of recharge, the cross sectional area A, and the distances are known, the permeability can be calculated. The calculated permeability of 200 ft/day compares reasonably with the permeabilities of 100 to 200 ft/day that have been measured on disturbed samples of the sand from test borings. This reaffirms the use of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet of rain per year as the average rate of ground water recharge. The time of travel of water particles from various places in the water shed can also be calculated. A time of travel of 20 to 30 years from the head of the water shed indicates that using a multi year average for the recharge amount is reasonable. Another estimate of the yearly ground water recharge is based on the rain between November 1 and May 1. From 1985 to 2013 the average rain for those six wet months was 24 inches. Subtracting the seven inches that is held in the upper soil gives an annual recharge of 17 inches.

The rate of flow of ground water south to the pond and ocean is greater when the elevation of the ground water table at the head of the water shed is higher than when it is lower, because of the greater hydraulic gradient. Fig. 4 shows that in 1987,1997 and 1998, the ground water table at Well #122 was above elevation +30 NGVD. In the years 1989, 1996 and 2002, the groundwater table at Well #122 was below +22 NVGD. The variation of hydraulic gradient from 30/12000 to 22/12000 would result in a decrease in groundwater flow rate of about 30%. This variation in flow from year to year is a result of variations in the yearly amount of rain recharge in the water shed. This is shown in Fig. 4 in the amount of rain that occurred in the months of November through April preceding the seasonal lows and highs of the water table. Although the change of ground water flow varies up to 30% within a few years, it doesn''t vary more than about 10% within a given year since the hydraulic gradient doesn''t change more than 10%. During a year of more recharge, the hydraulic gradient must increase to move the increased amount of water toward the ocean.

b) Rain Water Recharge of Ground Water Shed

The rate of groundwater flowing to the pond and ocean equals the yearly feet of recharge times the ground water shed area. Arthur N. Strahler (1972) describes in detail the recharge process and the various estimates of ground water recharge for Cape Cod that have been used by hydrologists. He concludes that the average recharge into the sandy outwash areas of Cape Cod is 16" to 20" per year. This is supported by the calculations above. The average rate of ground water flowing to the pond and the ocean is 1.5 ft/yr x 6250 acres x 43560 ft2/acre which equals 395,307,000 ft3/yr which equals 12.5 ft3/second.

c) Precipitation on The Pond.

The average rainfall of 3.8 feet per year minus the average annual reservoir evaporation of about 2 feet, as given in "The Water Encyclopedia" for Maine and Massachusetts, (1990), gives an average rain into the pond of 1.8 feet x 700 acres x 43560 ft2/acre equal to 55,000,000 ft3/yr which equals 1.7 ft3/second. Most of the evaporation occurs during the warm summer months, so the rain going into the pond from November to May is probably closer to 3 ft3/second.

d) Ground Water Flow into the Pond

When the pond is low and the beach channel has just been closed by wave action, the flow of water out through the barrier beach should be zero if the water elevation in the pond is the same as the average ocean elevation. The effective ocean elevation at the beach front is raised by wave action, described by Urish & Ozbilgin (1989). There are very few days when the waves are less than three feet so it is assumed that when the pond elevation is +3 NGVD, flow through the barrier beach, in or out, is zero. The rate of pond rise times the pond area minus the stream flow when the channel flow is zero and rain flow is zero, equals the ground water flow rate into the pond. The rate of pond rise after channel closings is marked on the plots of pond elevation versus time from 1994 to 2008 in Fig. 7. These rates are given in Table II. The stream flow rate for the same date is subtracted from the pond volume increase rate, giving the rate of ground water flow into the pond. The average of these rates of ground water flow into the pond. The average of these rates of ground water flow into the pond.

e) Flow in the Beach Channel

When the pond elevation approaches +5 NGVD, plans are made by the Pond Commissioners to excavate a channel through the barrier beach. Four primary factors are considered: the height of the pond surface above the ocean; the effect the lowering of the pond and the channel would have on the flora and fauna: the salinity and dissolved oxygen of the pond: and the anticipated weather. The health of the flora and fauna (oysters, clams, crabs finfish and birds) depend on flushing out the brackish water and an inflow an inflow of ocean water with daily tidal flow. To maximize the tidal exchange between the pond and the ocean, the channel through the beach should be as wide and deep as possible. To maximize the draining of the lowlands, the pond should remain open to the ocean as long as possible. The depth and width of the channel are maximized by excavating the channel at the narrowest portion of the barrier beach with access to the deeper areas of the pond just north of the beach, which results in the concentration of the power of the out flowing water on the smallest volume of sand. Excavation of the channel near the time of a spring tide with a north wind results in the maximum elevation differences between the pond and the ocean with a resulting out flow of up to 5000 ft3/sec., and maximizes the depth and width of the channel scoured through the beach.

Generally two tidal cycles (15-20 hours) are required to drain the pond to ocean level, as shown in Fig. 8. A tidal fall of one foot of the pond surface in six hours is an average flow of 1200 ft3/sec out through the channel and 27 million cubic feet of water or about 16% of the total volume of the pond flows out with each tide(Fig.2) leaving 84% of the brackish water. If perfect mixing

occurs with the following tidal inflow, the next one foot tidal out flow leaves 84% of the remaining brackish water. About 13 tidal out flows (0.84 raised to the 13^{th} power = 0.10) will leave only 10% of the brackish water. Inflow of streams, groundwater and rain, make the calculation approximate. A tidal fall of 1/2 foot would require about 26 tidal out flows to remove 90% of the brackish water. Generally there is measurable stratification as the fresh water from the Town Cove streams flows out over the heavier ocean water, however a south west wind of 15-20 MPH and the incoming tidal flow result in mixing in the central portions of the pond and the salinity of the pond water increase from about 30% of that of the ocean to 75% within a week of a "good" opening. The salinity along the west shore is measured periodically with a "YSI" conductivity meter. (C= 45 milli siemens = 32 PPT salt). As the wind and waves gradually fill the channel with sand, the tidal flow decreases until the bottom of the channel is up to about + 2.5 NGVD. Even after the flow in through the channel stops, the waves running up the barrier beach raise the effective ocean level and ocean water continues to flow into the pond. Strong storms cause the waves to break over the barrier beach and have, during hurricanes, raised the pond level enough so that a channel reforms and the pond opens "naturally". If the pond remained closed for more than a year without ocean water exchange, the pond would become much fresher and the flora and fauna would change dramatically. An attempt was made to measure the tidal flow in the channel and subtract the change of pond elevation during the same time in order to calculate the ground water inflow. The change of pond elevation could not be measured closer than about 0.02 feet over a period of an hour which is a volume change of about 150 ft3/sec. and the flow in the channel was 600 to 1000 ft3/sec. These flow rates were enough to obscure the much lower rates of ground water and stream water inflow.

f) Flow Through the Barrier Beach

The elevations of the pond and the water table in wells Q2 and Q3 were plotted versus time for typical periods as shown in Fig. 13, 14 and 15. These plots allow the calculation of the pond water flow out and the ocean water flow in through the barrier beach using Q = kiA. The permeability k of samples of the coarse beach sand from several locations was found to be 700 +- 50 ft/day. The hydraulic gradient i is equal to the difference in elevation of the water table between wells Q2 and Q3, divided by the horizontal distance between the wells (70 ft). The cross sectional flow area was taken as the depth of the ground water above the impermeable peat layer (13 ft) times the length of the barrier beach between the ocean and the ponds (9000 ft). The latter value is the most uncertain factor in the calculation, as the depth to the peat layer was only measured in a limited zone. The three figures (13,14,15) show how the flow in and out through the barrier beach varies with pond and ocean levels and with size of the waves. These calculations show that the water flow in and out through the barrier beach is of the same order of magnitude as the ground water and stream flow and must be considered in the hydrology of the pond.

g) Water Flow Into Tisbury Great Pond

The water flow into the pond from the watershed is shown for typical ten day periods in 2012 during three pond elevations, in Fig. 16. These calculations are done only for periods during which the water flow through the barrier beach was measured, based on data from the monitoring wells on the beach. These calculations indicate that a significant amount of ground water from the water shed must bypass the pond and flow under or around the pond to the ocean.

Plans are being made to drag conductivity meter along the bottom of the ocean just off shore to try and detect the fresh water that is coming out under the pond.

h) Water Budget

Tables III and IV are summations of the flows calculated previously. Table III is a compilations of an average yearly water budget of the Tisbury Great Pond watershed assuming the pond is open to the ocean 42% of the year. Assuming no change in storage, The annual input should match the annual output. Table IV is a compilation of average flows of fresh water into the pond.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- a) Measurements of the elevation of the ground water table have allowed calculations of the watershed area and flow rates. Measurements of the rain fall have allowed calculations of the recharge rate and flow rates within the watershed. Measurements of the stream flows and flow through the barrier beach have allowed calculations of the total water flow into the pond and flow under the pond to the ocean. These measurements should be continued to confirm the calculations.
- b) Although the average yearly stream flow of 317 million cubic feet is close to the average yearly ground water flow of 287 million cubic feet. The stream flow depends on the rainfall of that year and can vary from 123 to 503 million cubic feet per year whereas the ground water flow depends on a multi year average and is more constant.
- c) These measurements over the last thirty years show how important it is to not base conclusions regarding surface and ground water flows on measurements from just a few years.

TABLE I

MVC TEST BORING LOGS NGVD Elevations-ft

Boring	GWT elev.	Strata elev.	Soil Type	k-ft/day	Elev. of screens
4	+18 to +23	+95 to -35 -35 to -45 -45 to -105 -105 to -165	fine to coarse sand silty sand silty sand clayey till	30 to 60 5 to 12 1 to 2 0.01	+15 -25 -65
5	+14	46 to -91 -91 to -111	fine to coarse sand clayey till	50 to 200 0.01	+9 -41 -91
6	+5 to +7	+27 to -76 -76 to -148 -148 to -173	fine to coarse sand silty sand clay	20 to 120 10 to 40 0.001	-3 -76 -145
8	+20 to +25	+72 to +11	fine to coarse sand	100	+16
9	+21	+92 to +16	fine to coarse sand	100	+20
10	+4 ~	+15 to -73 -73 to -170 -170 to -190	fine to coarse sand silty sand clayey till	100 to 200 ½ to 1 0.01	+10 -65 -165
				1 1	

HEALY 1/2" Pipe Probes on barrier beach

				•
P1	+2	+2 to -13 -13 to -23	coarse Sand peat	600 <0.01
Ρ2	+2	+2 to -8 -8 to -13 -13 to -18 -18 to -28	coarse sand peat coarse sand sand	360 to 450 < 0.01 300 to 500 100 to 240

	•			TABLE						÷
, (,	WAT POND E	ER FLOW	/ INITO OFLOW	TISBU VTHRO	UGHB	REAT	POND I, CHANI		SED	
	YEAR DA	AY POND VOLVME INCREASE FT3SEC	STREAM	1	YEAR	DAY	POND VOLUME INDREASE FT3/SEC	TOTAL STREAM INFLOW FT3/SEC	GROUND WATER INFLOW FT3/SEC	
	10	0 19)0 22 55 10			2003	45 110 155	25 27 32	10	16	
		0 30 5 30 5 14 60 15	10 18,5 8,5 3,5	20 11.5 5.5 11.5	2004	220 10 90 160	15 30 25 25	6,5 (17) (17)	1000-222	
	1995 3 14 1996 1	0 13 5 13	364-262	85	2005	340 90 265 350	19 35 20	(9) (15) 10	(11) (20) 17 10	•
	1997 ZE		12 17 175	12 827 5	2006	30 100 260 360	27 20 15 19	17 87,5	16.27.5	
	1998 34 1998 4 1999 3	5 17 0 35 0 15	20	9.5	2007	155 210 350	27557	37-00/-	14	
	12	5 22	105555	10,5	2008	125 205	27 24 20 STIMATE	9 BASED	14	
	19 28 2001 4 111	5 13 30 13 5 19 50 30	150m15150m	7055			15 YE	AR AVG	11.5 FB	\ \ \ \
	20 33: 2002 13 34	0 13 13	10m 60-	7,5	No Acci BE	and the second	TR	RB	+3/YR + TO + FIRIER	2
		n an an Anna an Anna Anna Anna Anna Ann								

TABLE III

TISBURY GREAT POND WATERSHED- AVERAGE YEARLY WATER BUDGET 1994 - 2012 Pond ; Open 42%, Closed 58%

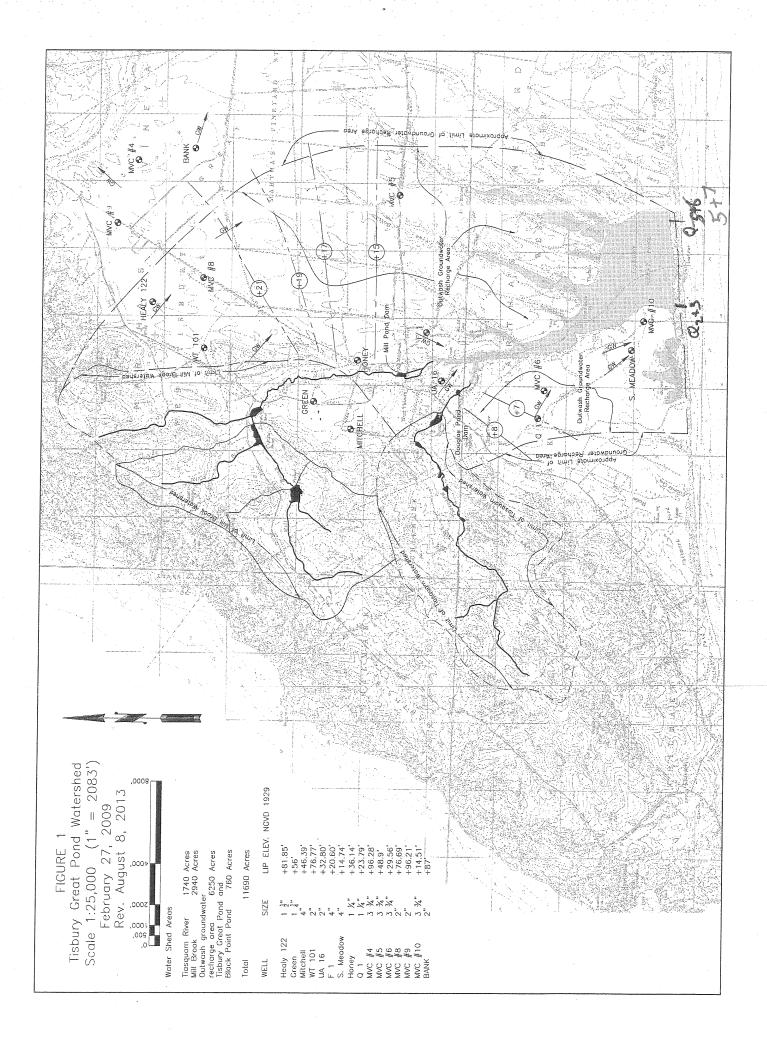
INPUT to WATERSHED	million ft3/year
Groundwater Recharge from Rain 1.5 feet/year x 6250 acres x 43560 ft2/acre	408
Stream Flow (Mill Brook + Tiasquam River)	317
Rain minus Evaporation on Ponds (3.9 – 2.0) feet/year x 760 acres x 43560 ft2/acre	63
TOTAL INPUT	788
OUTFLOW FROM WATERSHED	
Flow out through channel the day of opening 3.3 Pond Openings/year x 3 ft x 29,000,000 ft2	287
Flow out through channel when Pond is open, low and the Ground water + stream flow + rain (408 +317 + 63) x 42%	dal 331
Outflow through barrier beach when pond is closed 4 ft3/sec x (365 x 1440 x 60) sec/year x 58%	74
	692
Seepage out of watershed bypassing Pond, 788 minus 6	592 = 96
TOTAL OUT PUT	788

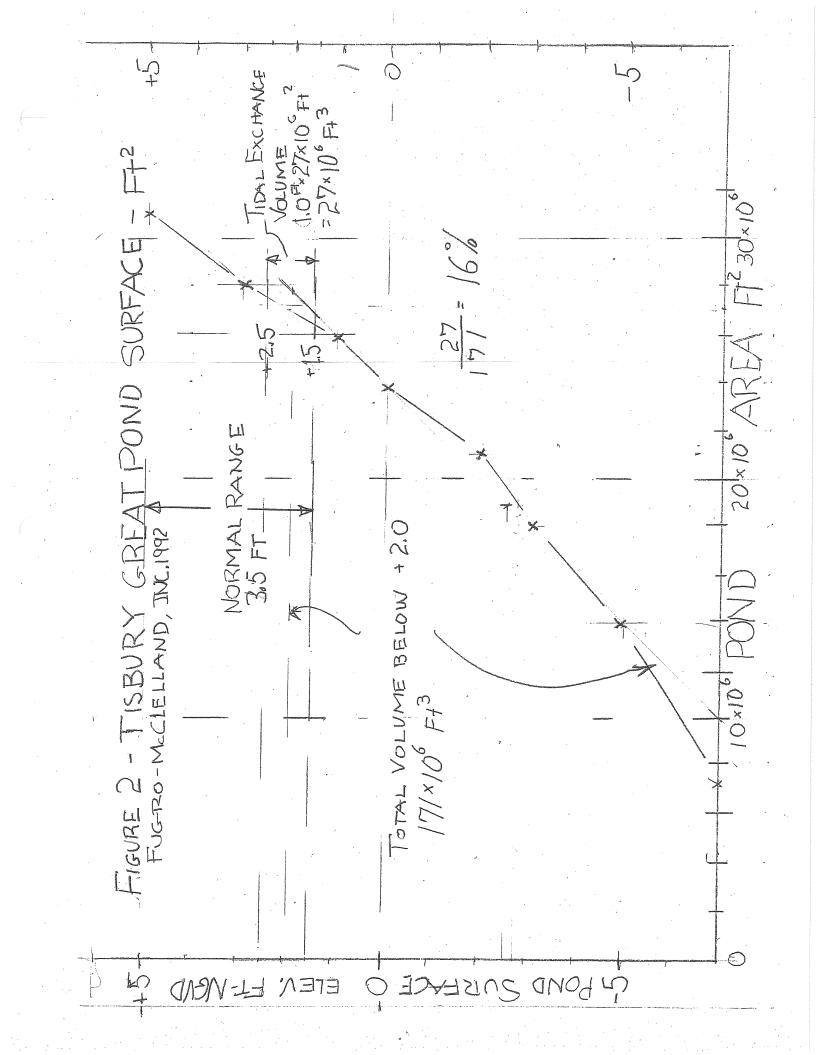
TABLE IV

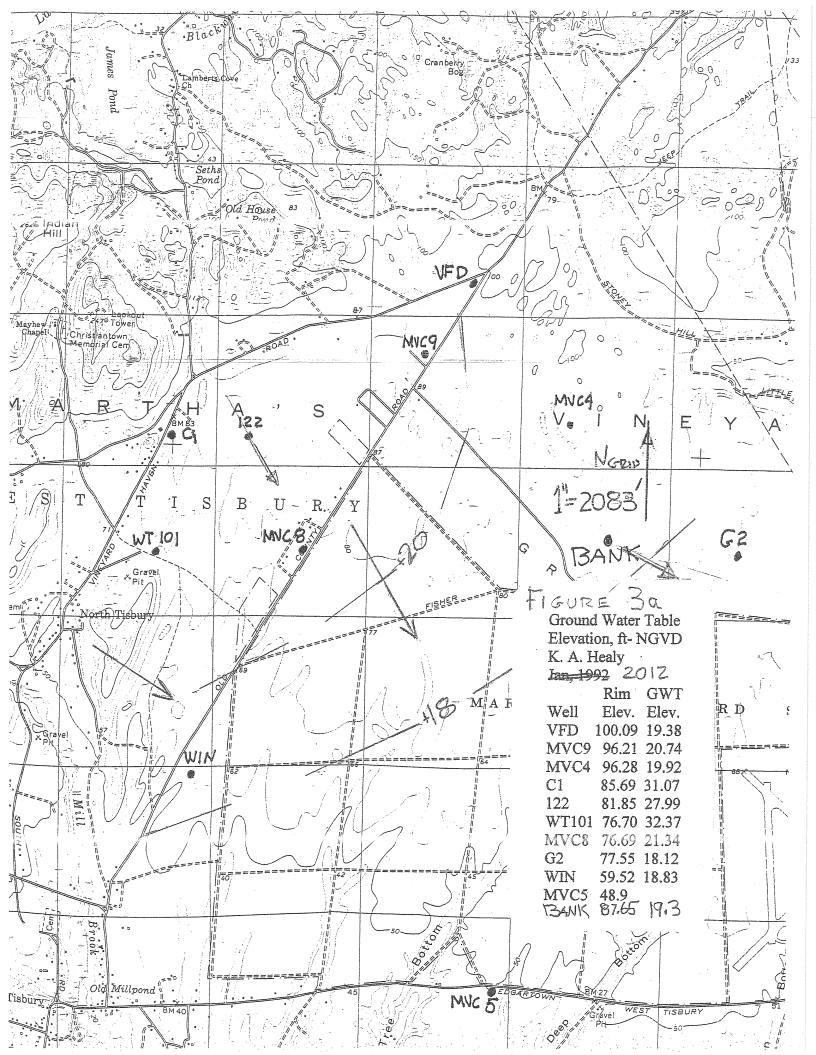
FRESH WATER FLOW INTO TISBURY GREAT POND

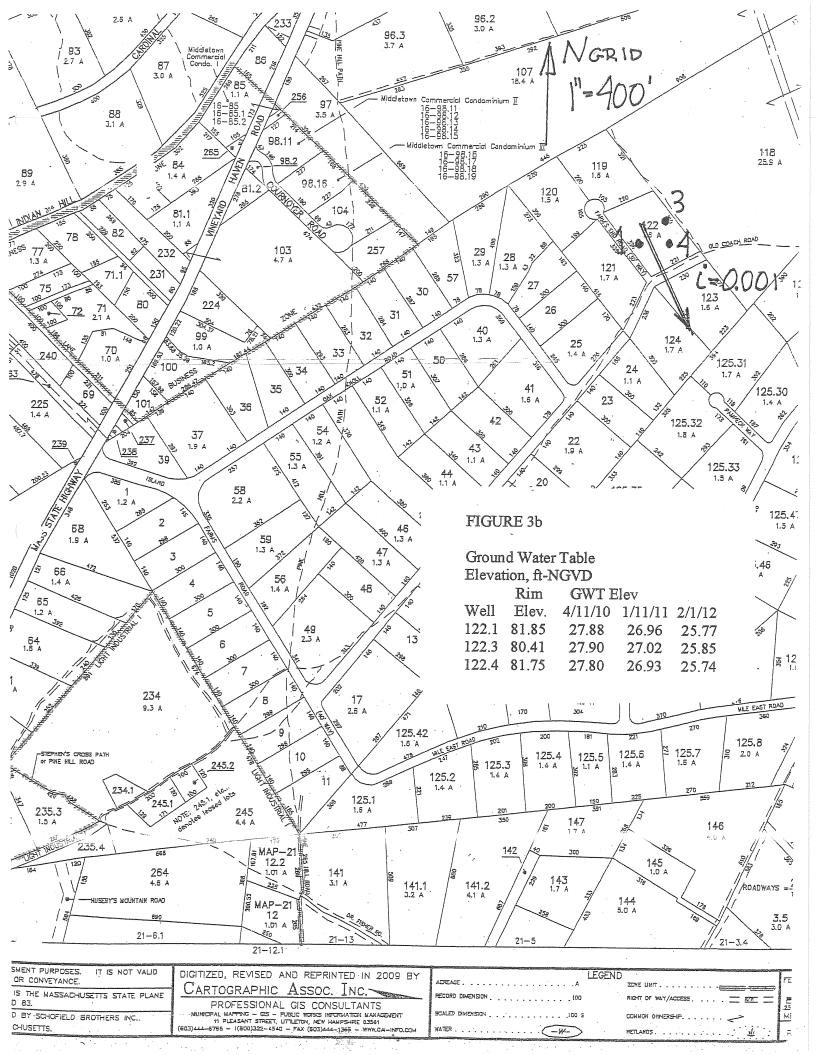
TYPICAL YEAR

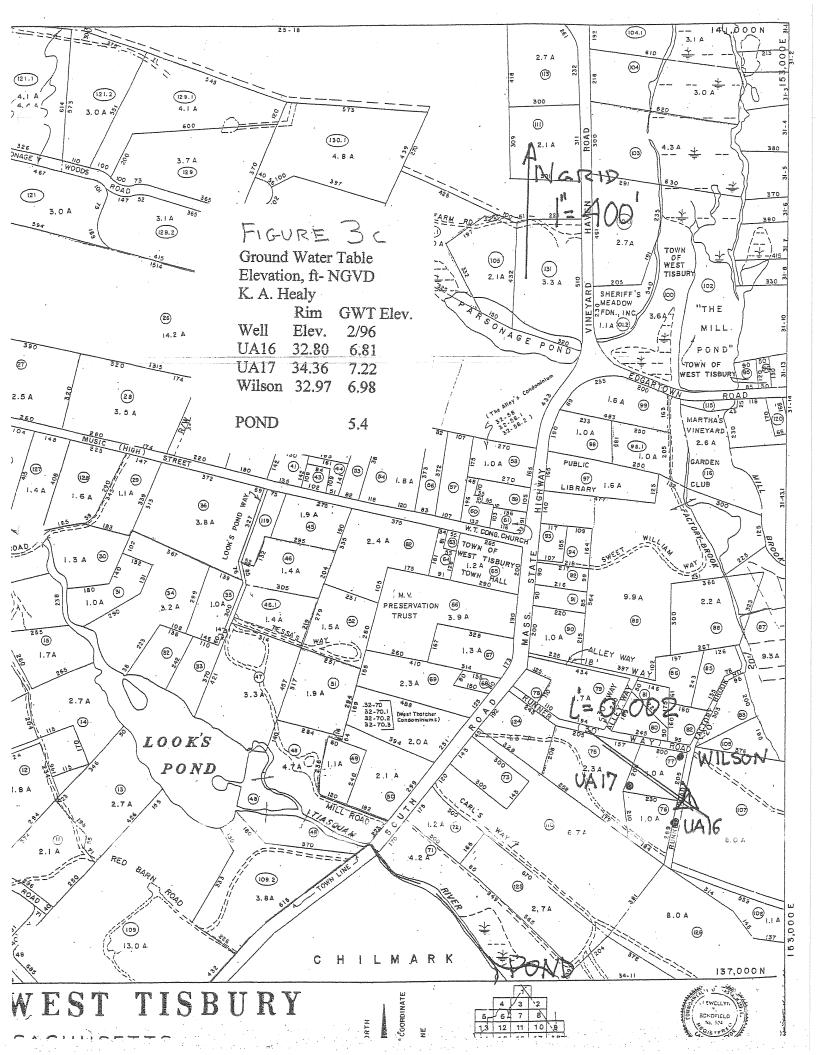
	Million ft3/year Average	% of Total
STREAM FLOW Mill Brook + Tiasquam River	- 317	46
GROUNDWATER Recharge x groundwater shed minus groundwater bypassing Pond (408 – 96)	312	45
DIRECT PRECIPITATION minus Evaporation	63 692 ~	9

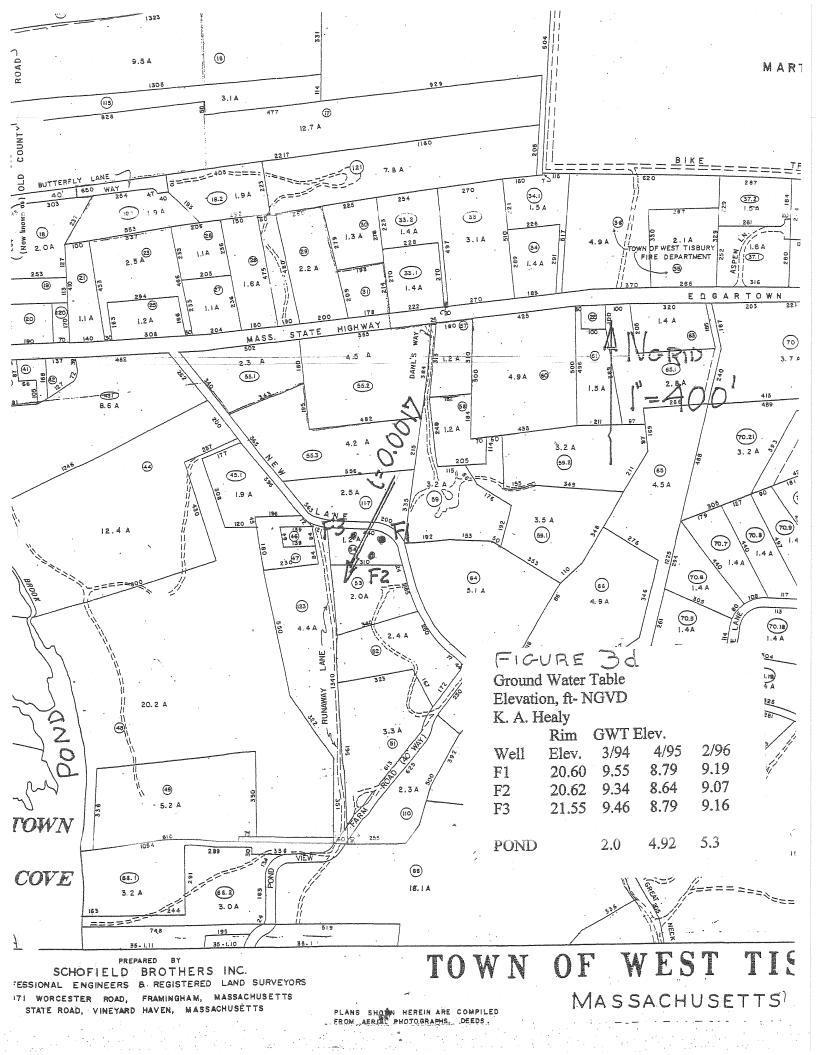


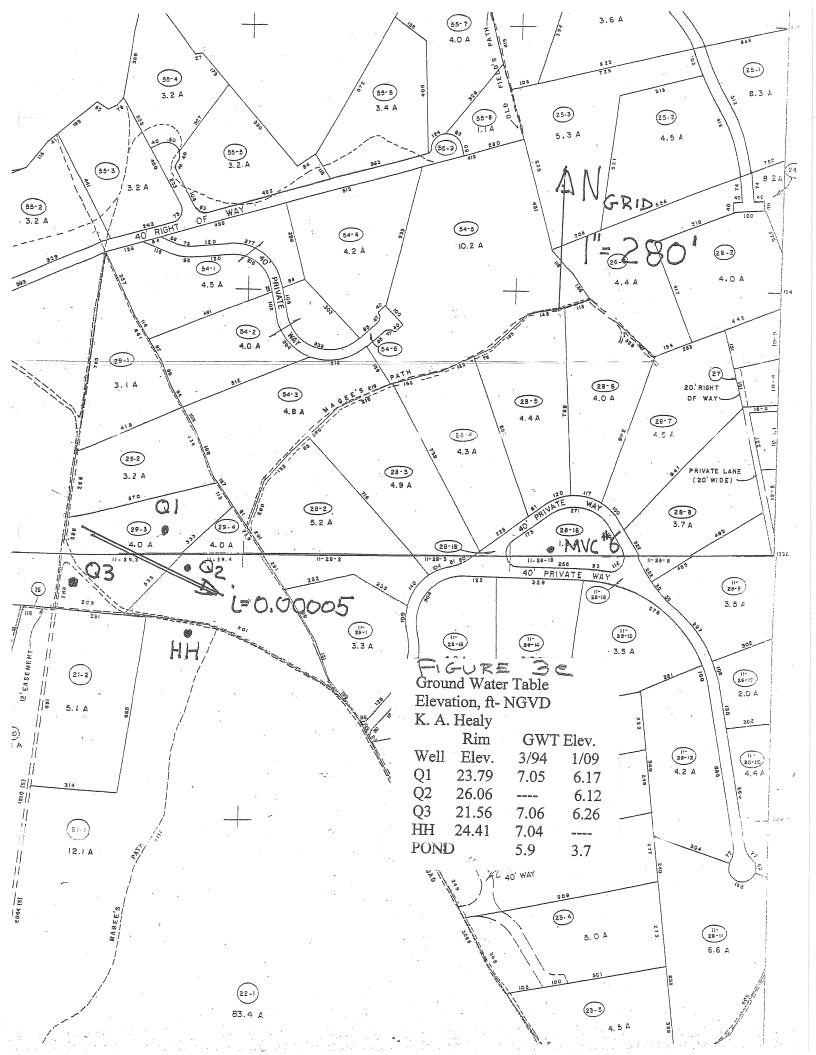


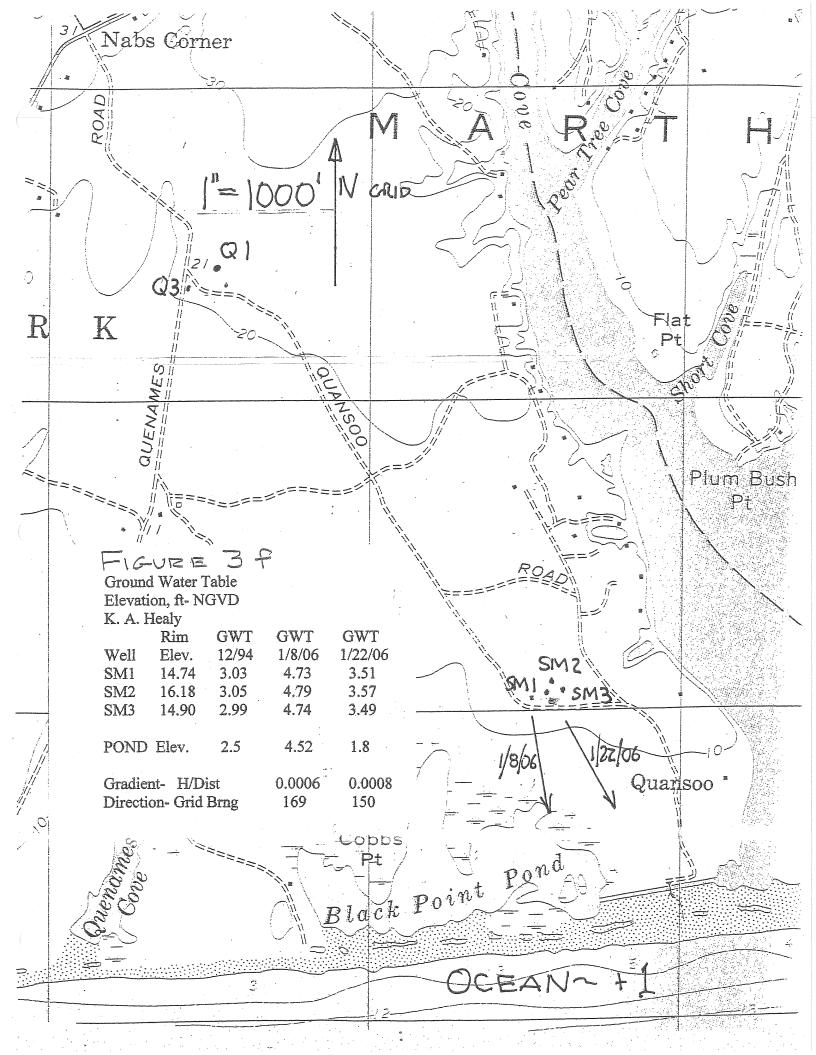


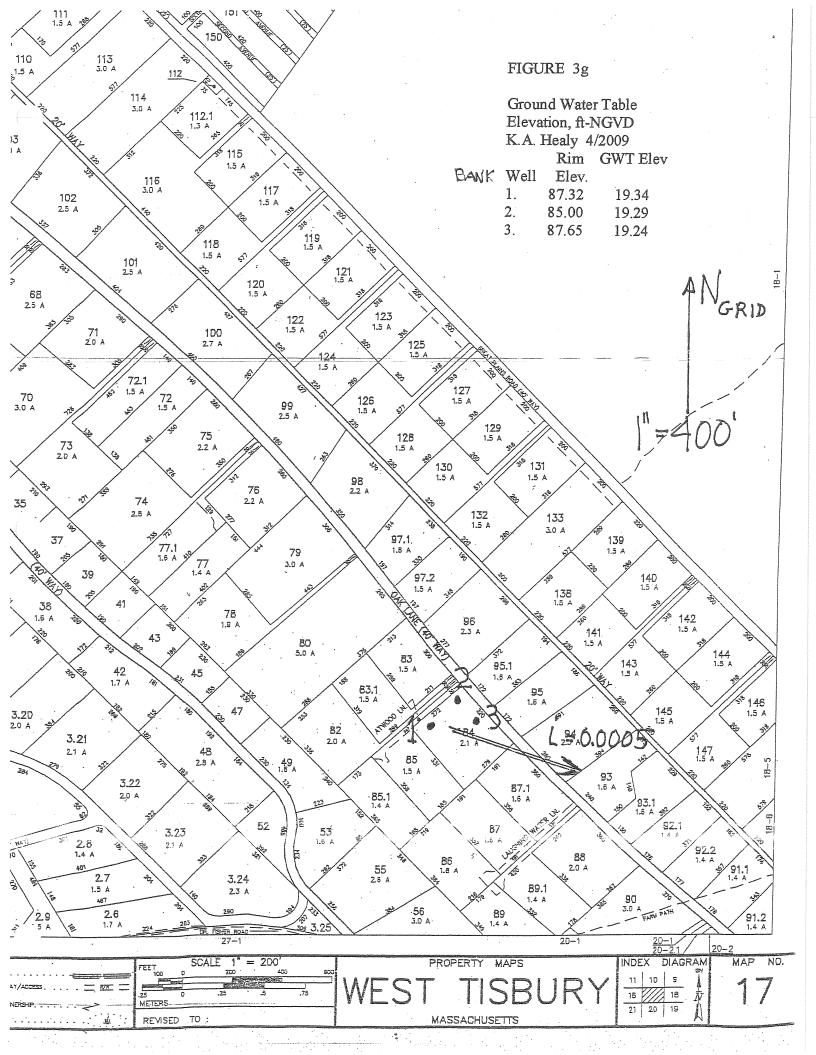


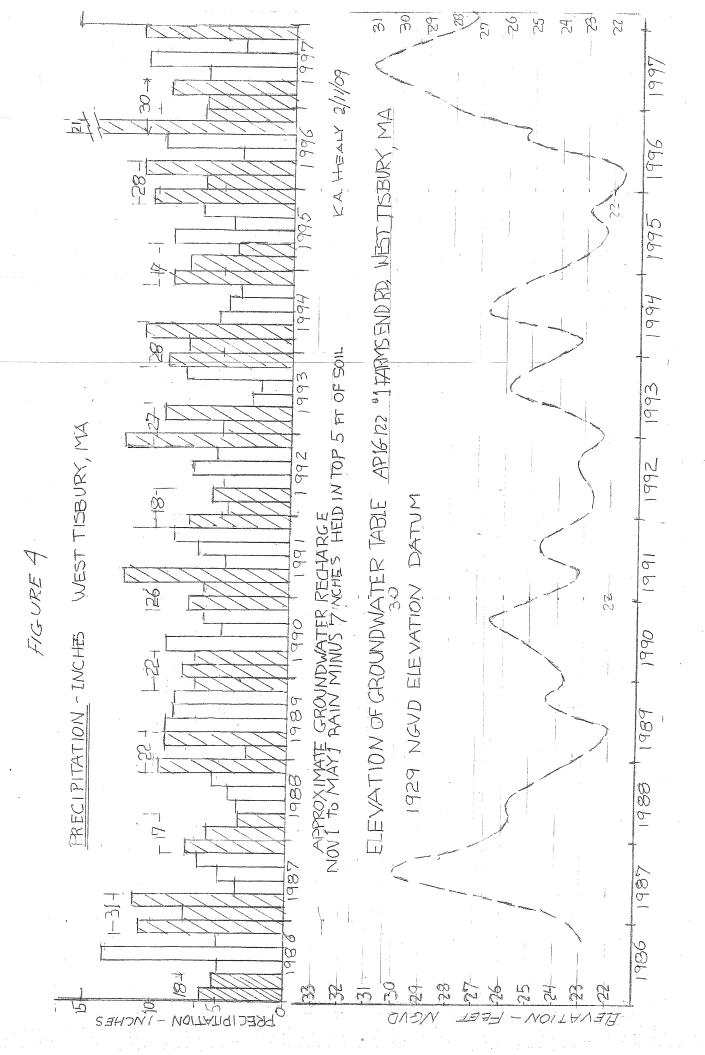












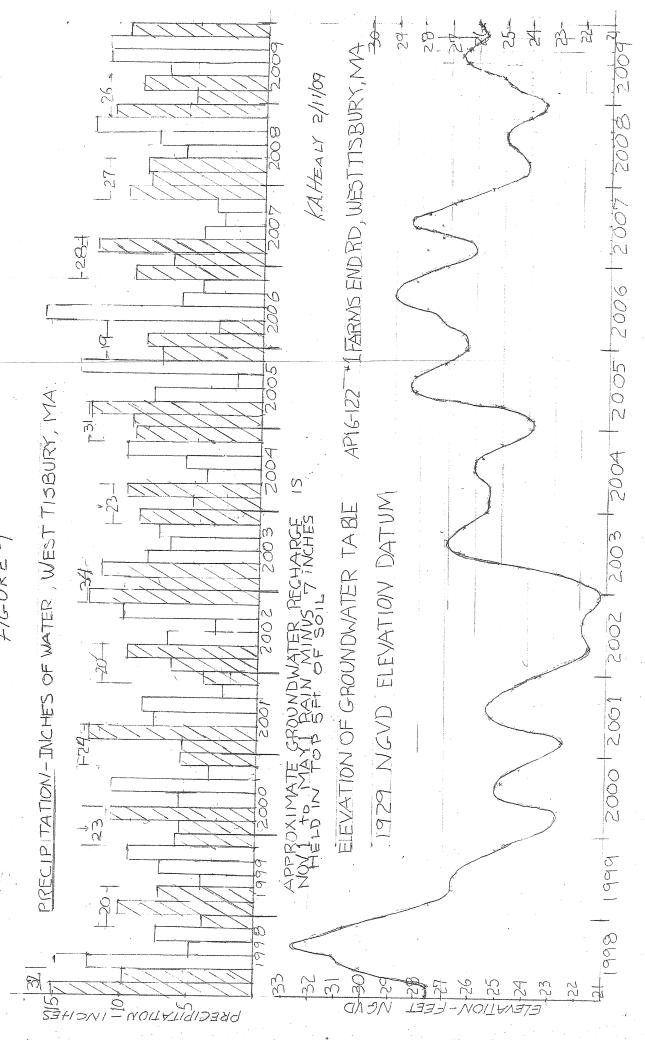
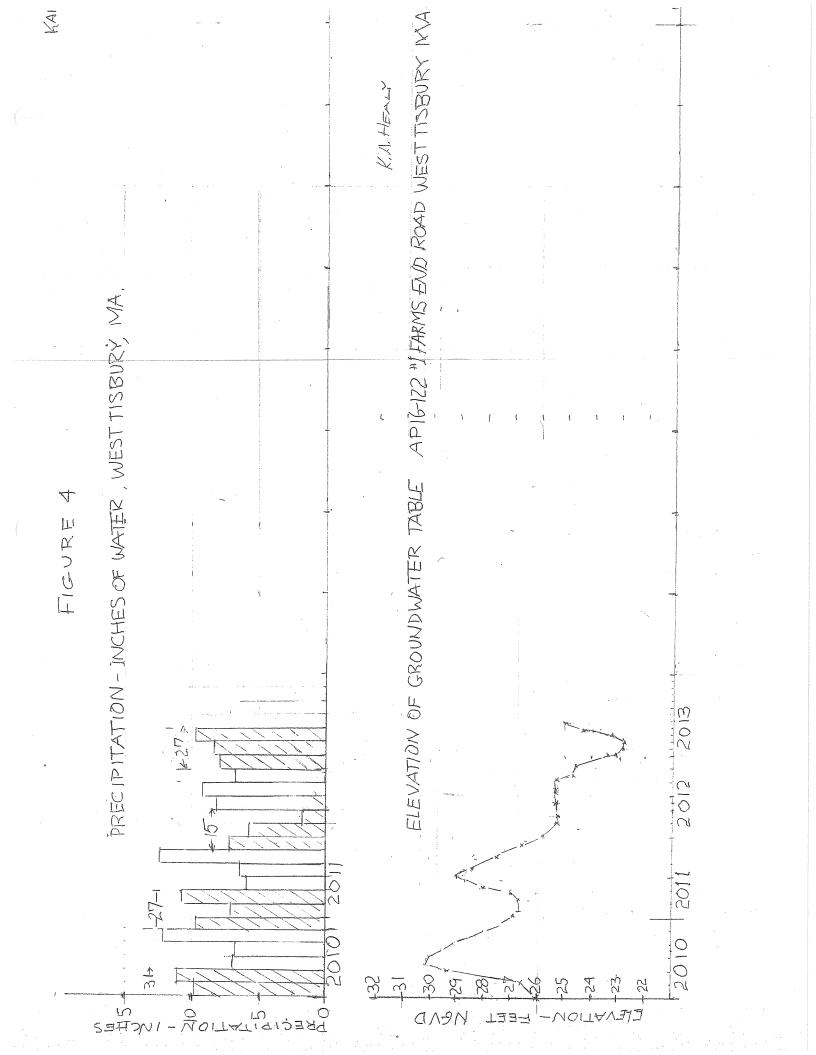
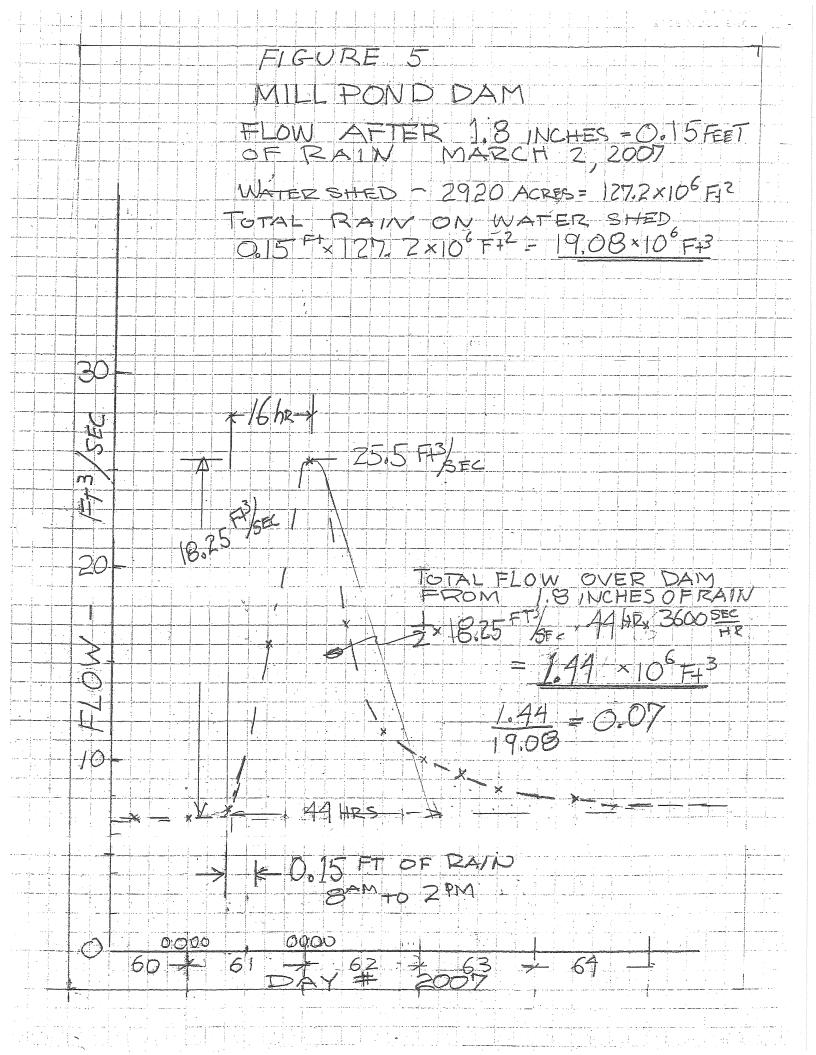
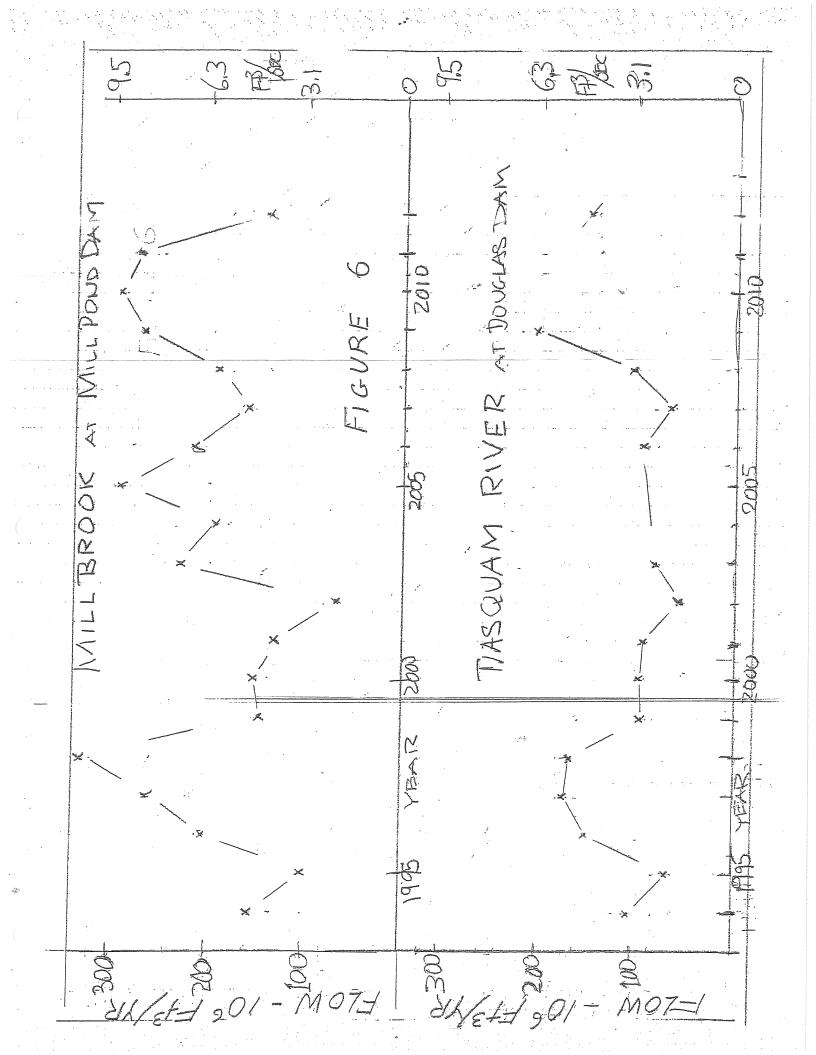
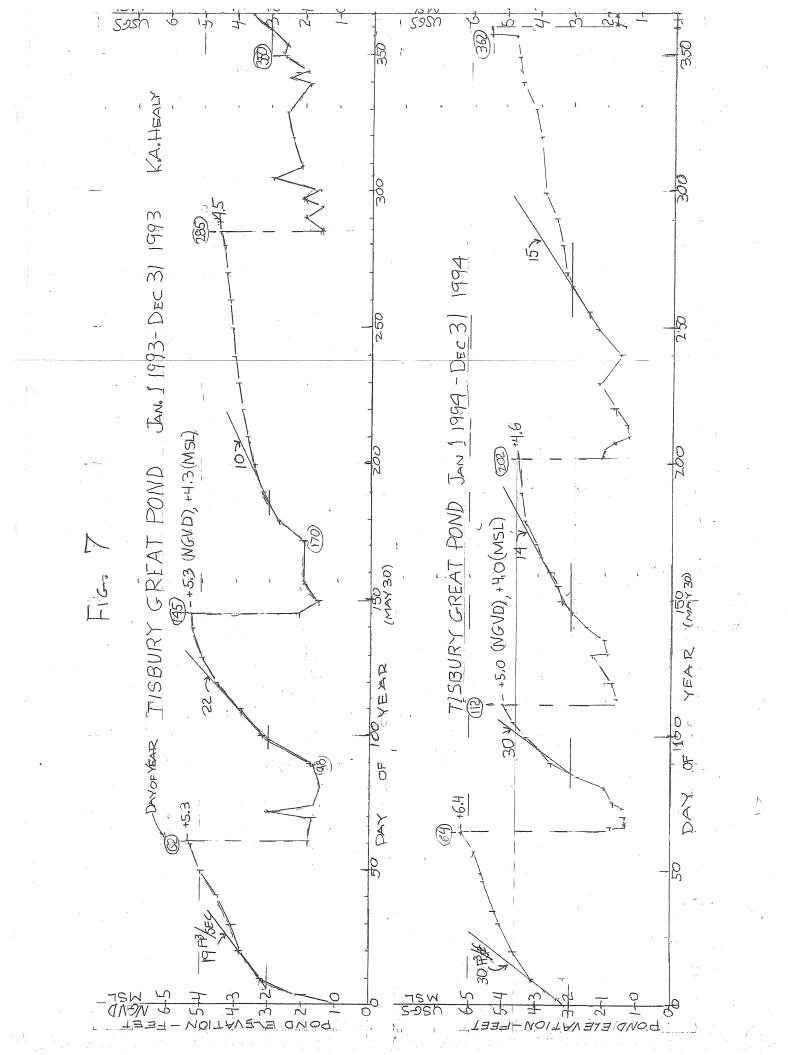


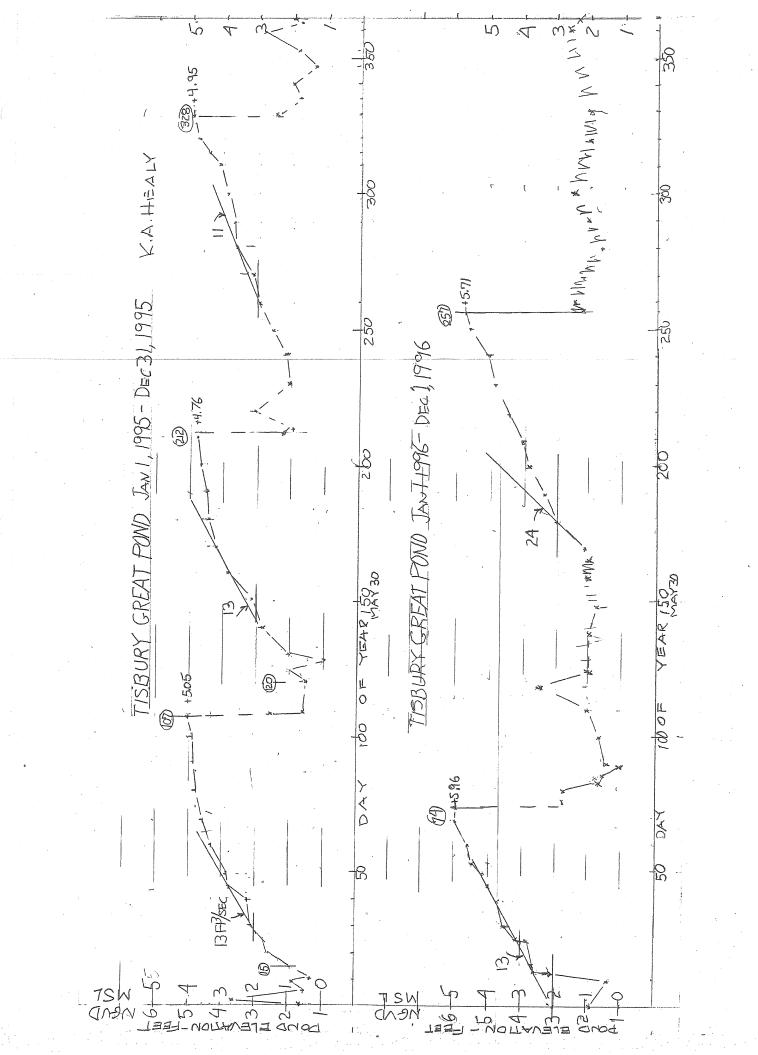
FIGURE A

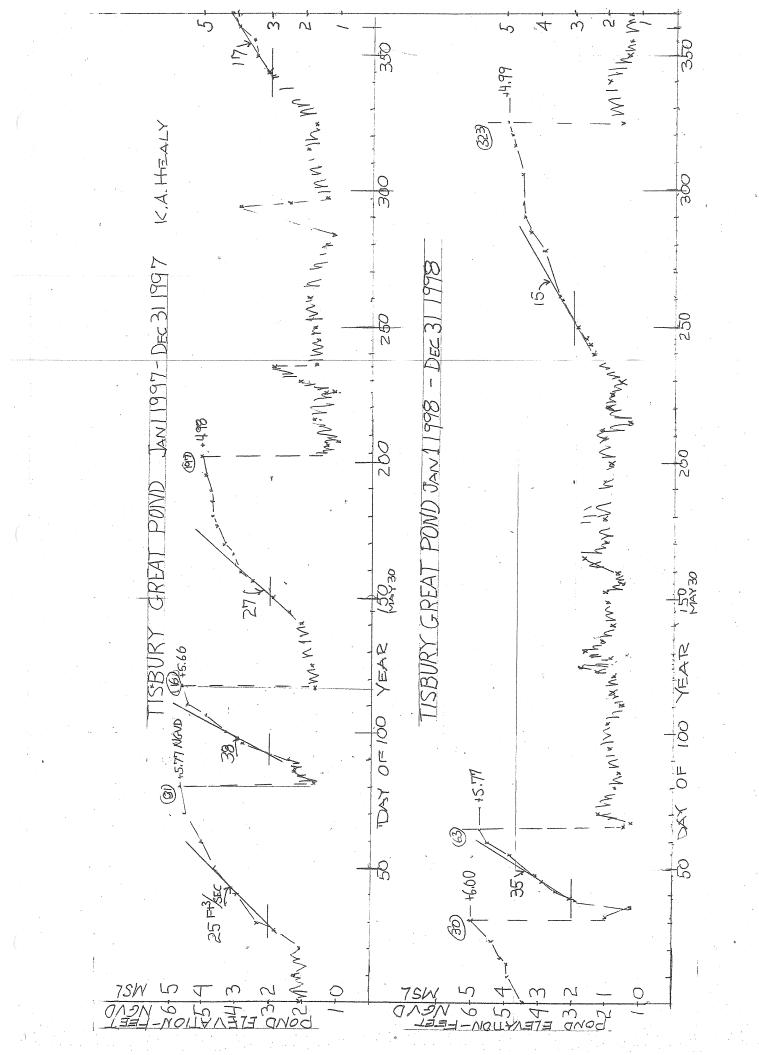


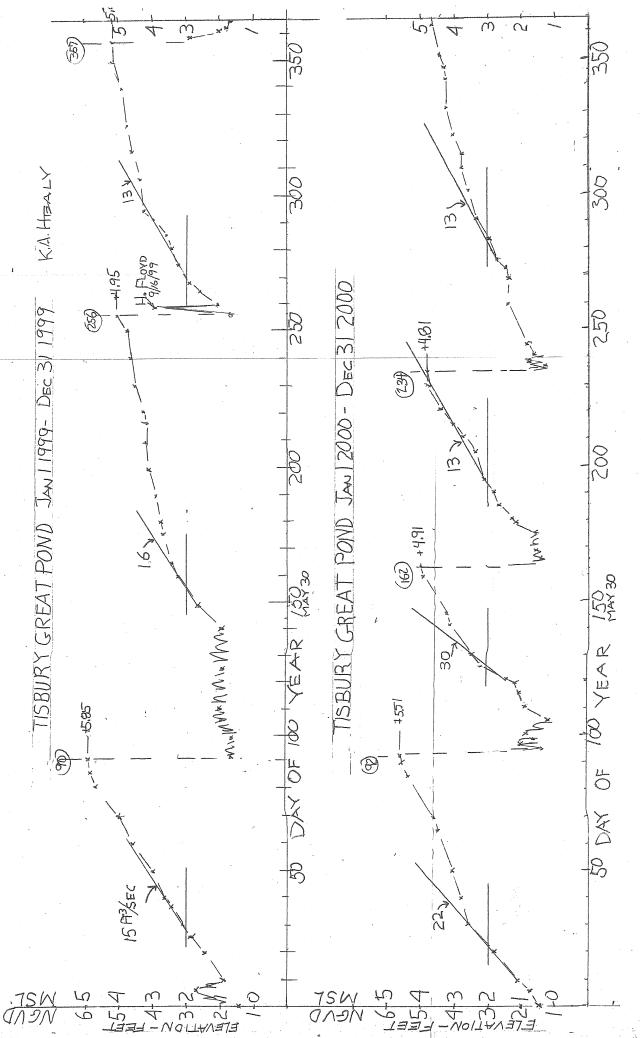


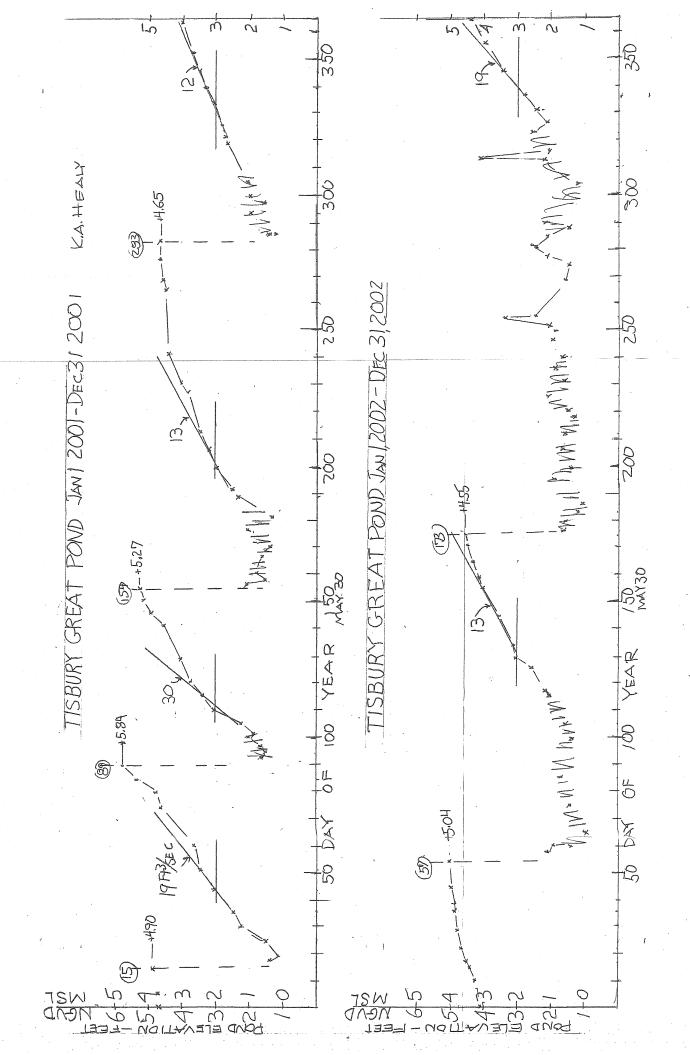


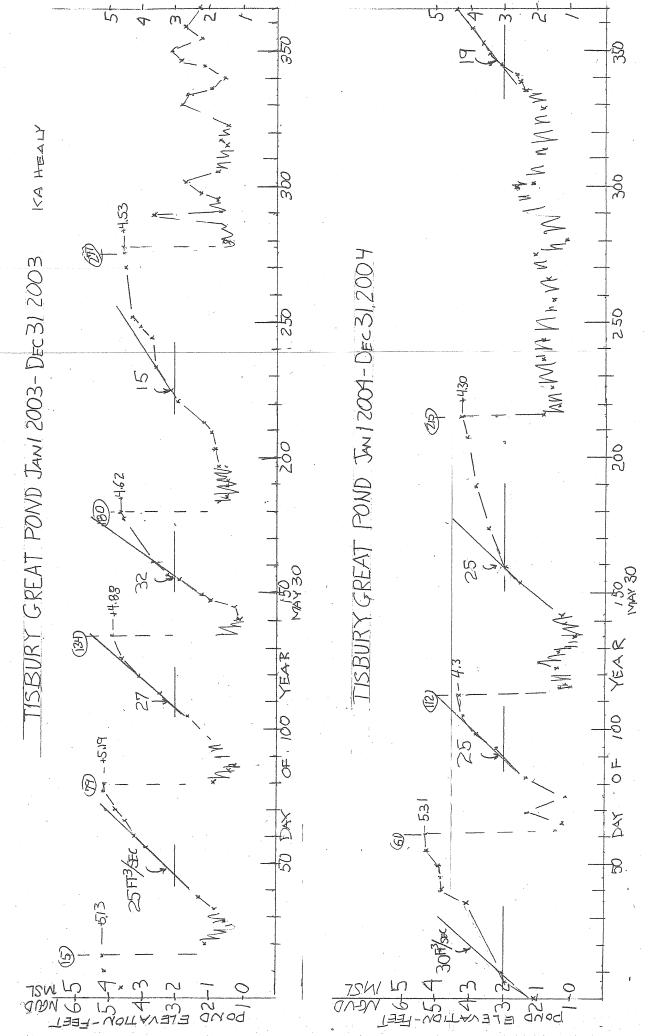


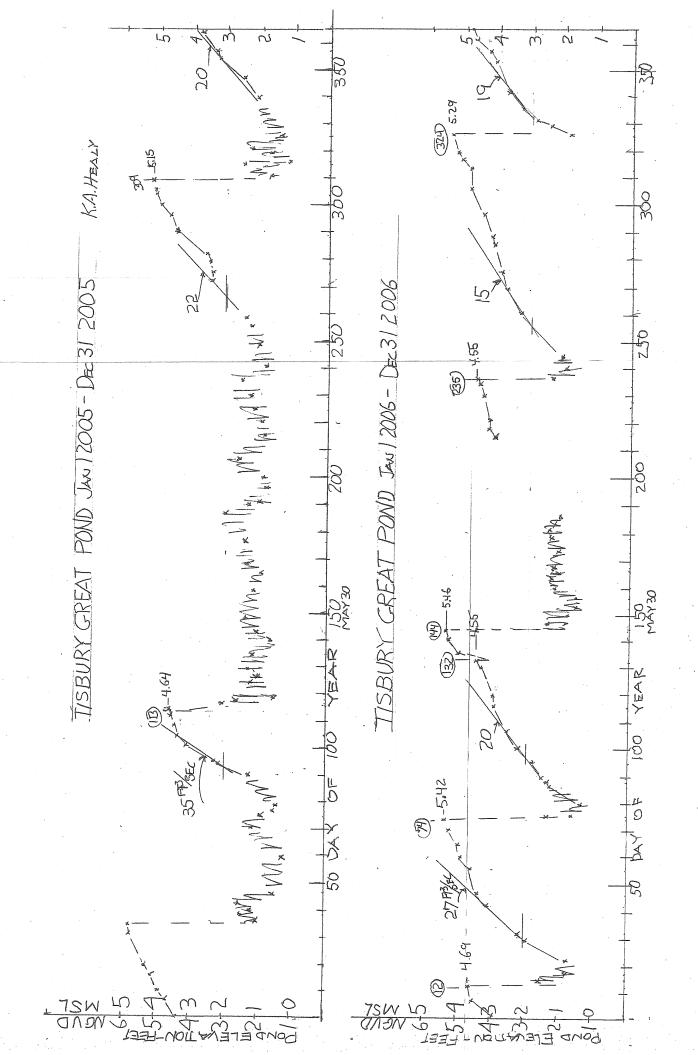


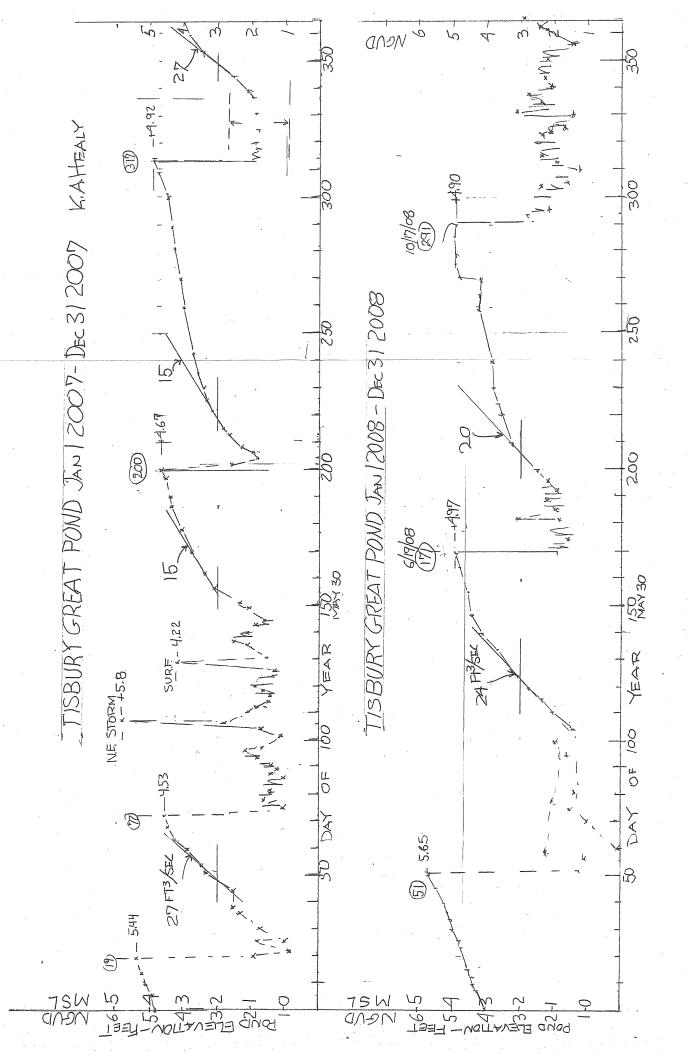


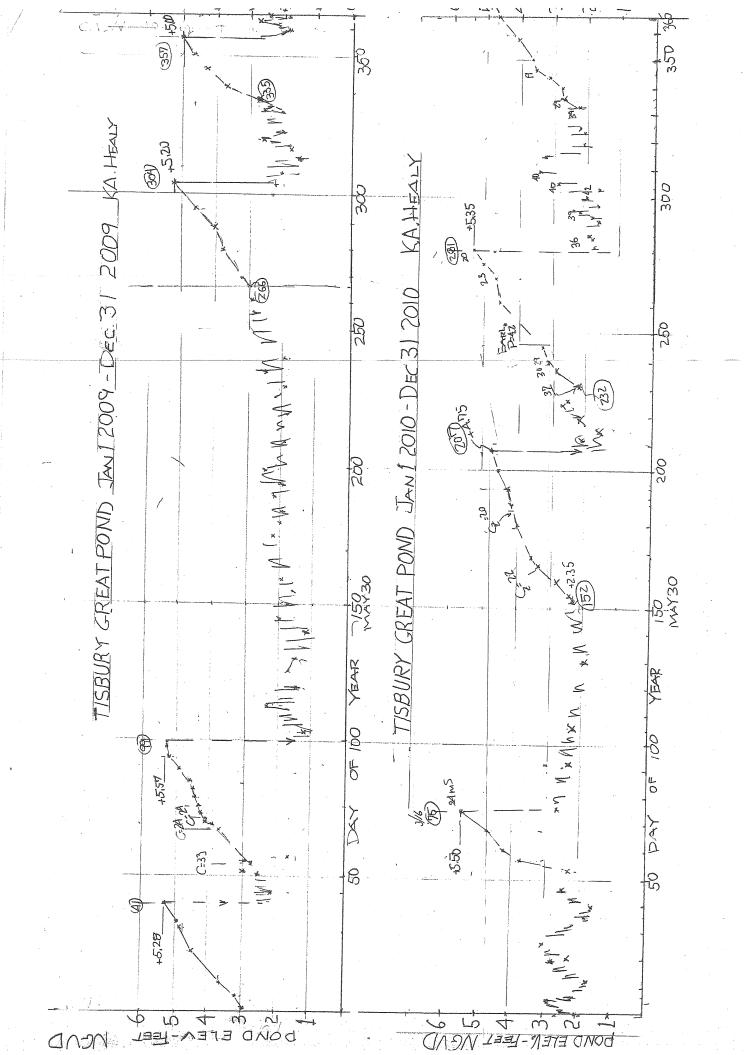


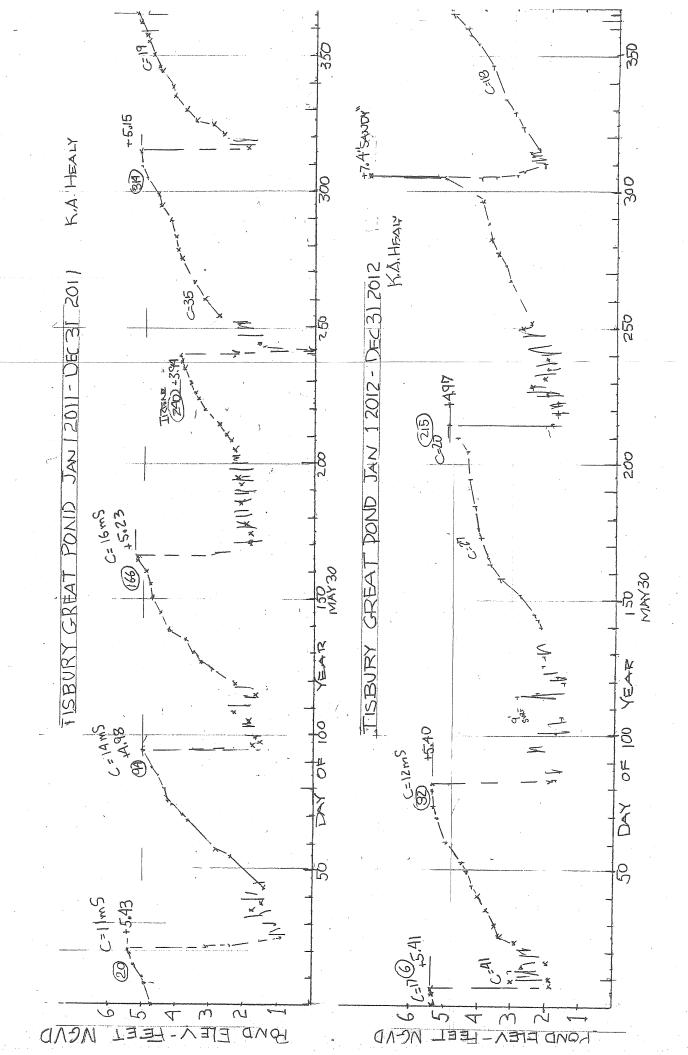


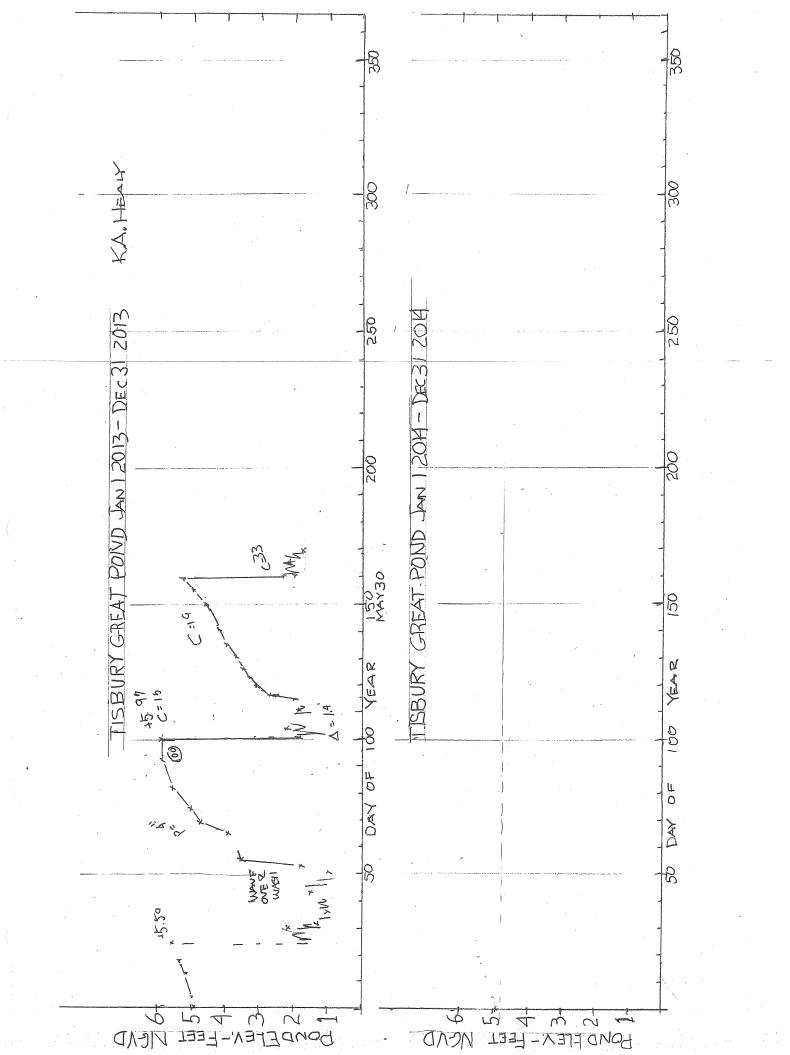












 $\overline{}$ 60 ELEVATION OF POND A FTER CHANNEL CUT MAY 24, 2006 MWW WWW R Ð -IG-URF Ŋ +5.46 # 144 F1200 5 D L'AGNDY'L ELEKT m. anod N.

ELEV. OF GROUNDWATER TABLE CH 122 VARYING INPUT VARYING WATER LEVELS MAYI Nov1 NOV1 NGUDU NEARLY CONSTANT DISCHARGE RAIN INFILTRATES HELD IN VPPER do to MAY I 23 0.02274174 1020 0 27 26 DISCHATZGE ONLY-F GROUND WATER OF GKD FROM HEAD ERSHED 525 -+-WAT 0.022 = 1.5 F/YR U YEAR 2(70(

FIG. 10

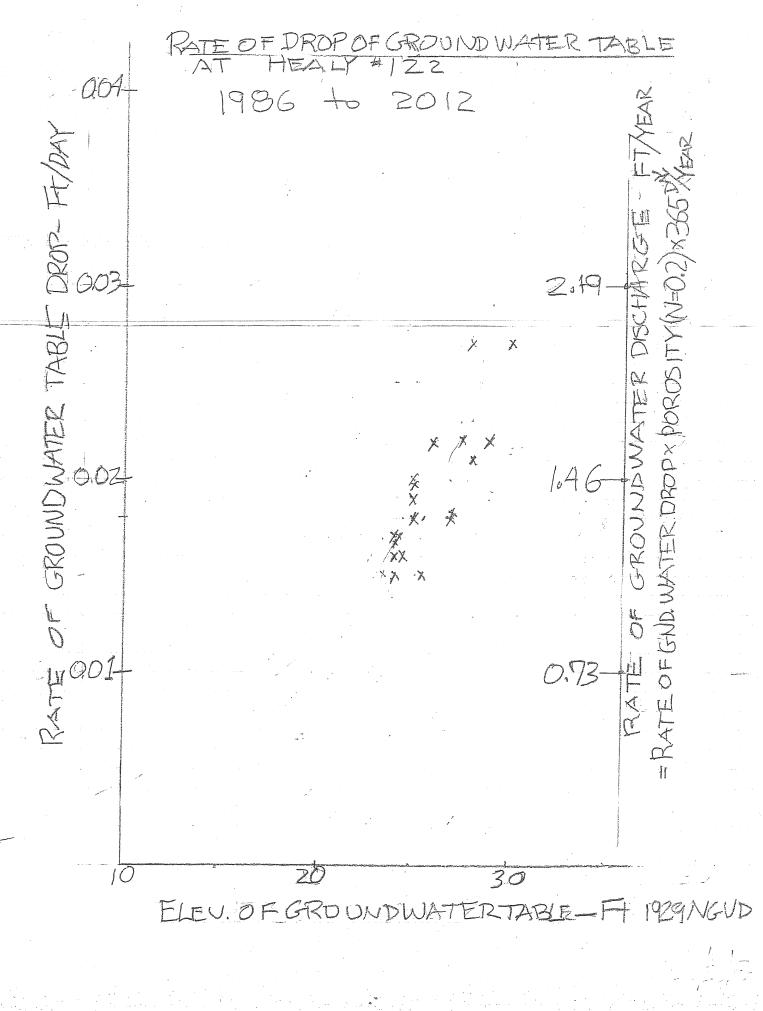
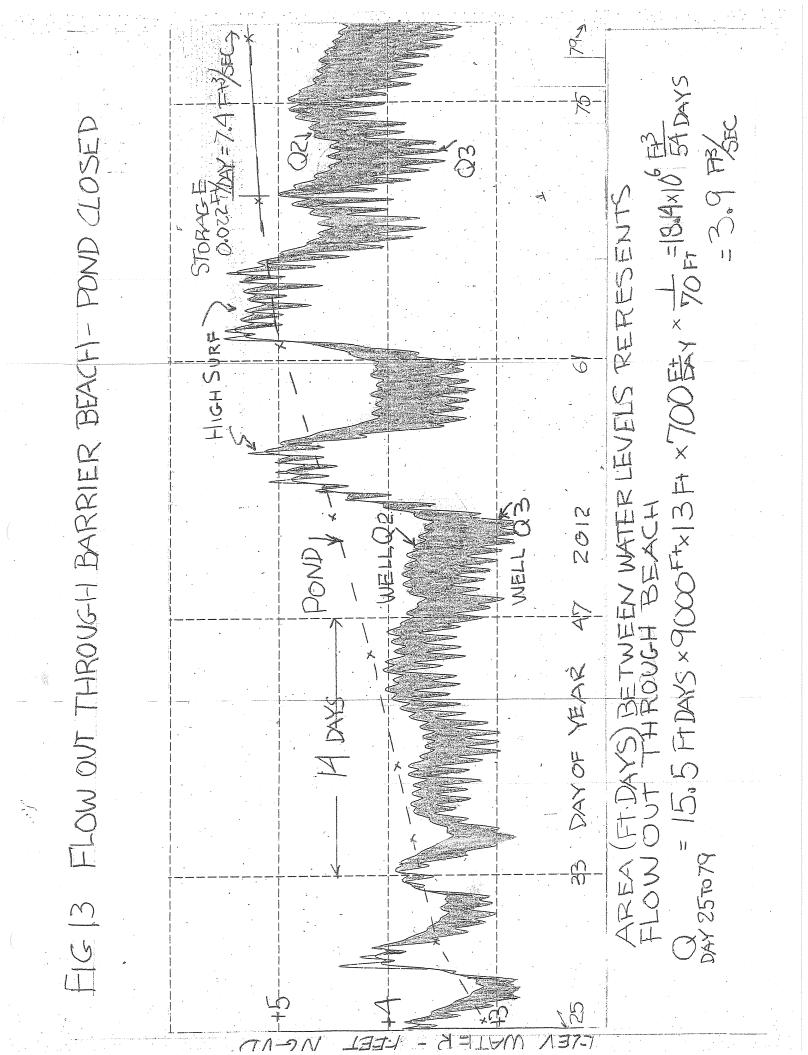
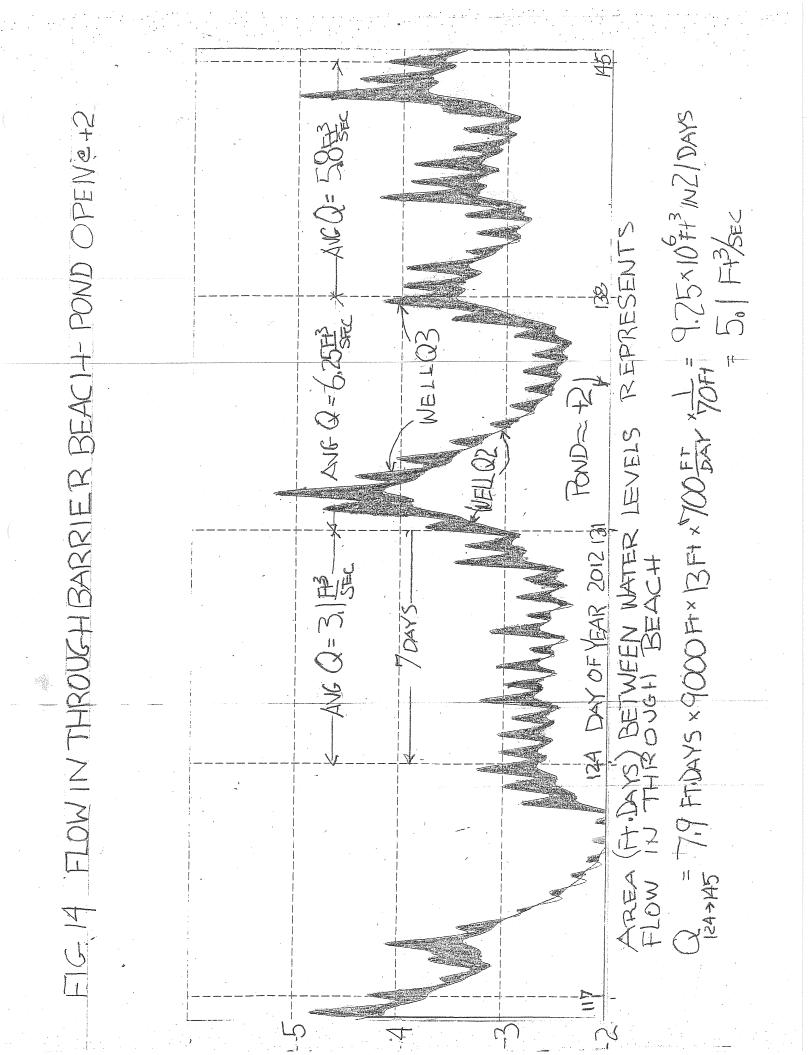
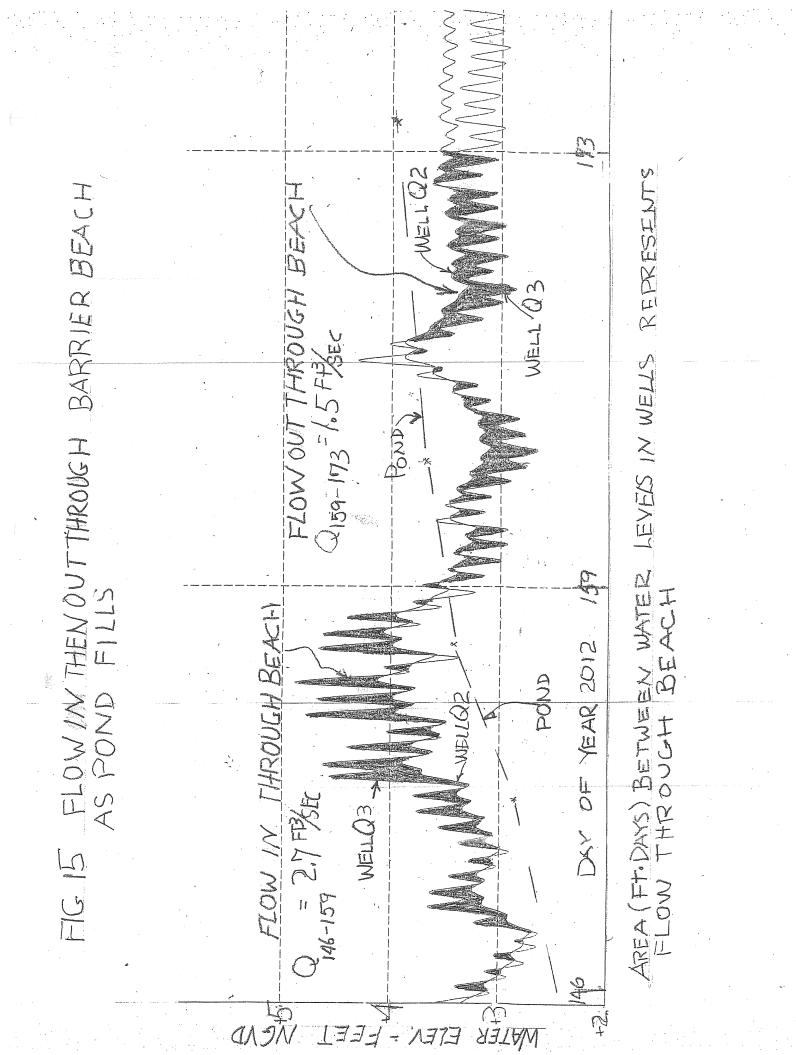


Figure 11 IDEALIZED FLOWNET IN ONE FOOT WIDE, 12,000 FOOT LONG OF 100 FOOT THICK SAND FROM MVC #8 TO TOWN COVE THICK SAND FROM MVC #8 TO TOWN COVE Avg. Recharge of 1.5 feet/ 365 days: Four Flow Tubes with equal Flow: Flow /tube = 3000 ft2 x 1.5 ft/365 days = 12.3 ft3/day/tube; Uniform k, Uniform N=0.25	- 3000 H + 3000 H + 3000 H + 3000 H - 3	ZONE Q-F3/An LA AhK= QL/A TRAVELTIME = L/MEP-L2/N/LAh A 12.3 2000/100=20 246 1.2 - FT 41.70 Dars B 24.7 3000/100=20 246 1.2 - FT 41.70 Dars C 37.0 2000/100=30 1109 5.5 2040 D 49.3 3000/100=30 1479 7.4 1.5 20	E = 49.3 000/100=/0 493 = 2.5 = 500 = 31 Years $E = 200 Pt/My = 20.3 Pt = 112 70 DMS = 31 Years$
221# 8# 2AV	O ETEN QUE	TOOL X X ON TO VIA	

60 60 00 +200CEXN +0.51013 - COARSE SAIND K = 200 FY/M T#= 20 (LENCTH OF BGACH) たくに HG. 12 CROSS SECTION OF BARRIER BEACH SLTY SAND K= 1 FT/DAY Õ, FLOW THROUGH DUNE SAND - KLA 22-HQ3 × 13F+×9000F1 60Ft 0.01 FVS 023 700 FY/MY × Haz-F 640 3504 POND 1240 45







POND STD (ZACE GND WATER FLOW GNDWATER FLOW 12.9-6.5=6.4 SALCNUM TEND 20-(8+2+21)-7,3 12.9-7,3=5,6 1.5 PH ANNUAL RECHARGE × 62 50 MCRES = 12.9 FYSEC - AREA GROUND WATER WHB/3/0 もつうすく 17-(11+0,5-12)- 6,51 TH JEC $-\left(Q_{s}+Q_{r}+Q_{s}\right)$ A LOULT TO FLOWS- FIJGER MUL #10 - FIG-16 WATER FLOW INTO POND VERT 1"= 200F4 XXX ANDA D +2.7 +20 STORAGE BHRNER POND. DNAD EN ANT N+ 0 DOI M TEN DAY AVERAGE FZ'OW N T MEAS WEED DIFFERTLY Ю + FLOW TNTO PUD 1 ODAS POUD CHANNE GUD STREAM FRAM HORIZ. 1"= 2000 FT 50 N Ċ 70-86/45.0 (dover 12.9 11 0 ABA 126-13642.0 DPEN 12.9 24 442 6.21 03000 0.21 0.24 000 12.9 NNC

