

Land Use and Land Cover Methodology

Land use and land cover (LULC) data for this map were produced by the Monmouth County Health Department using 1991, 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale orthophotographs. The LULC data were produced on a geographic information system (GIS) using Mylar originals and digital images, and a combination of manual and heads-up or on-screen digitization. These data were completed in 1995 and reflect ground-conditions from 1991. The coding of LULC polygons was slightly modified from the NIGS scheme. This modification consisted of re-numbering the classification for Landscaped Open Space from "0" to "15" and adding the classification "999" for open water.

This data were then combined with the NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) freshwater wetlands GIS data. The open water and wetlands areas were coded to classification "101" and the Landscaped Open Space areas were changed back to classification "0". Areas of less than five acres were then eliminated by combining them with adjacent, larger areas.

Ground-Water Recharge Methodology

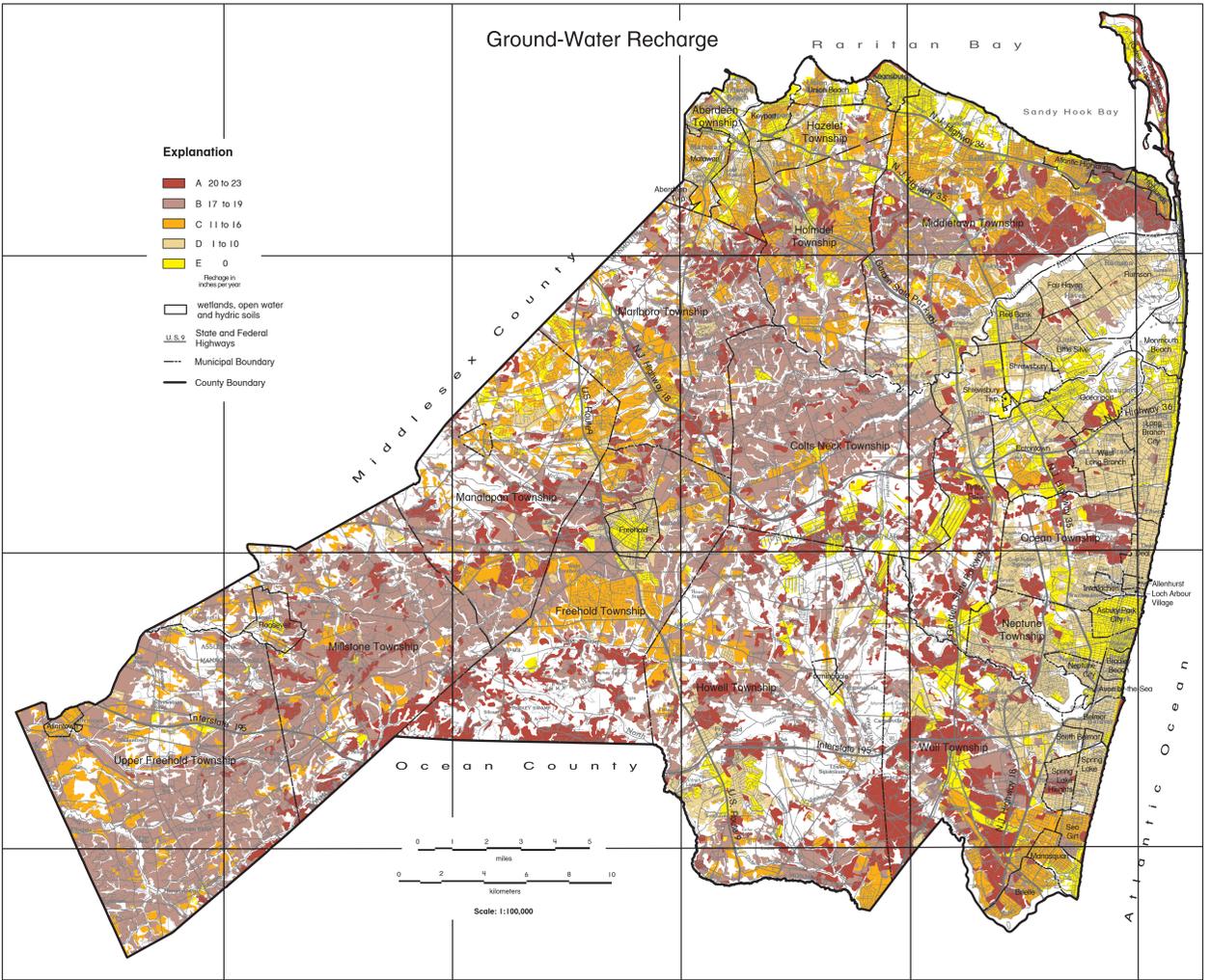
Ground-water recharge is defined as water which infiltrates into the ground to a depth below the root zone. This definition does not differentiate between recharge to aquifers and recharge to non-aquifers. This methodology of calculating ground-water recharge is based on a monthly soil-water-budget approach. The following is excerpted from Charles and others (1993, p. 4-6) and is provided as background to explain the methodology used to construct the ground-water-recharge map.

"A soil-water budget estimates recharge by subtracting water that is unavailable for recharge (surface runoff and evapotranspiration) from precipitation (the initial budget amount). Any deficit in water storage in the unsaturated zone (soil moisture deficit) must be made up before ground-water recharge can occur. The resulting equation is:

$$\text{recharge} = \text{precipitation} - \text{surface runoff} - \text{ET} - \text{soil moisture deficit (1)}$$

"Although recharge to ground water is a highly variable and complex process, a soil-water budget can account for the principal mechanisms and provide reasonable recharge estimates. Appendix 7 in Charles and others (1993) provides a comprehensive technical explanation of the data and calculations used to develop the method, and how the results were adapted for the mapping procedure. Briefly, the method was developed as follows:

"An expanded form of equation 1 was used to simulate monthly recharge for all reasonable combinations of climate, soil, and land use and land cover found in New Jersey. Recharge was based on statewide rankings of



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precipitation and the principal factors that control surface runoff and evapotranspiration. Data on five environmental factors were necessary for the simulations: precipitation, soil, land-use/land-cover, surface runoff, and evapotranspiration.

"Daily precipitation data were selected from 32 of the 126 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) climate stations in New Jersey on the basis of their even geographic distribution and complete record. Thirty years of data were used in the simulations because it is the standard length of climate record for comparison purposes (Linsley, Kohler, and Paulhus, 1982).

"The soil data were hydrologic-soil group, soil type, depth and type of root barriers, and available water capacities. These were developed from a database of New Jersey soils maintained by the state SCS office. These data were used in the surface runoff and evapotranspiration calculations. Land use and land cover is an important consideration that was used in both surface runoff and evapotranspiration calculations.

"A land use and land cover classification of 14 categories *** was designed specifically for this method. The classification system was derived largely from a system used in the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) curve-number method for calculating runoff (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1986). The number of categories was reduced to reflect useful long-term land use distinctions and limitations inherent in mapping from aerial photos.

"Surface runoff was calculated using a modification of the SCS curve-number method. Because the curve-number method is designed for calculating runoff from the largest annual storms, adjustments were made so the results more accurately reflect runoff observed in New Jersey from smaller storms ***. These adjustments are applicable only to recharge calculations and are important because frequent smaller storms contribute most of the long-term recharge.

"Evapotranspiration was computed for each of the 32 climate stations using a method developed by Thornthwaite and Mather (1957). Evapotranspiration calculations incorporated the effects of land-use/land-cover. Adjustments were made to the evapotranspiration results so they would more closely approximate evapotranspiration from naturally-watered, open, vegetated areas in New Jersey ***.

"The simulations showed that average annual recharge could be estimated on the basis of climate, soil characteristics and land use and land cover. The results were incorporated in a simple formula which allows one to calculate average annual recharge in inches per year from a climate factor (C-factor), a recharge factor (R-factor), a baseflow calibration factor (B-factor)², and a recharge constant (R-constant).

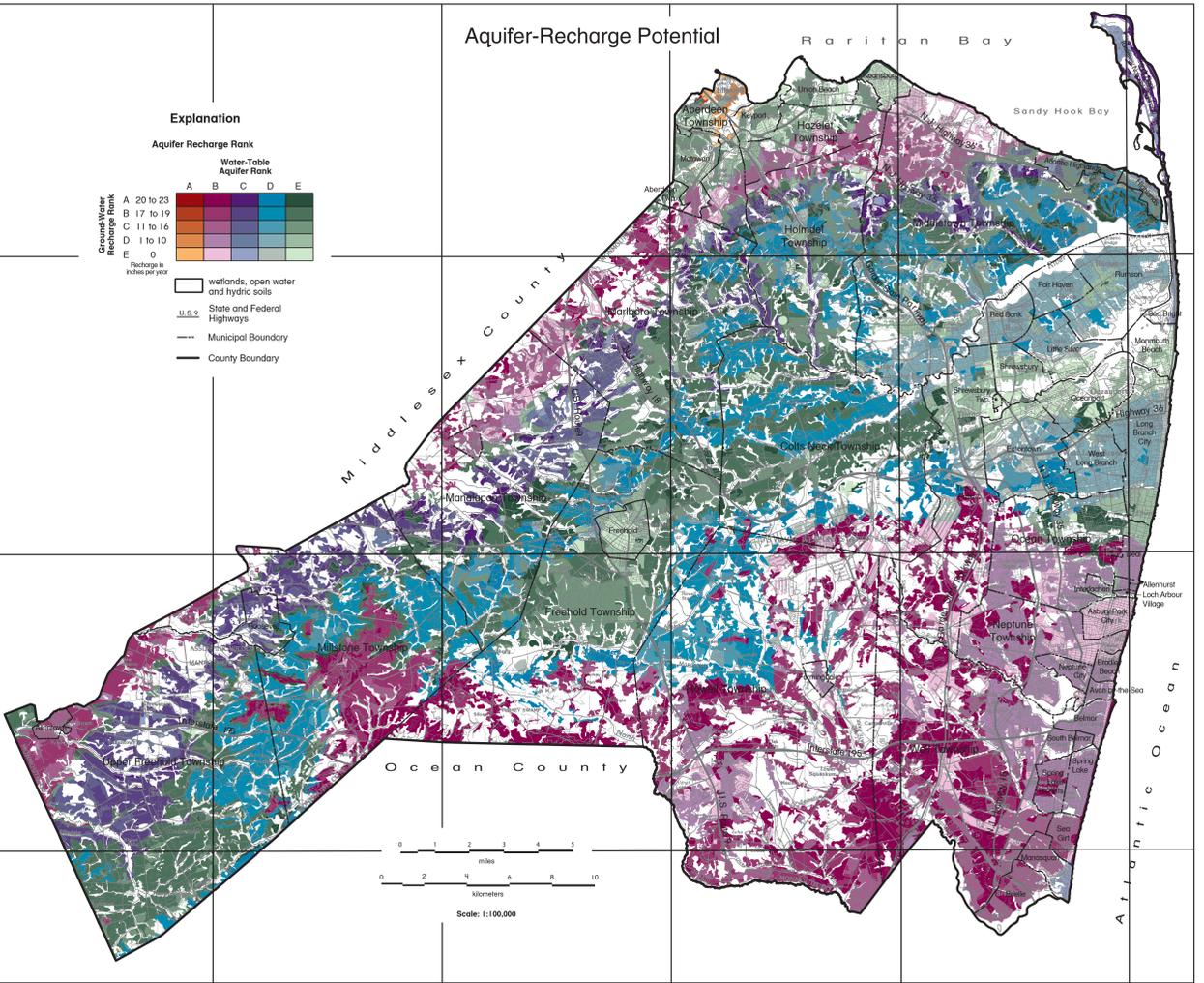
$$\text{annual ground-water recharge} = (R\text{-factor} \times C\text{-factor} \times B\text{-factor}) \times R\text{-constant} \quad (2)$$

"Climate factors were developed for every municipality ***. Recharge factors and recharge constants *** were developed for every possible combination of soil characteristics and land use/land cover found in New Jersey.

"There are four primary qualifiers of the method. First, the method estimates ground-water recharge (recharge to both aquifers and non-aquifers) rather than aquifer recharge. Second, a fundamental assumption when using a soil-water budget to estimate ground-water recharge is that all water which migrates below the root zone recharges ground water (Rushton, 1988). Third, the method addresses only natural ground-water recharge. Intentional and unintentional artificial recharge, withdrawals of ground water, and natural discharge are not addressed. Fourth, wetlands and water bodies are eliminated from the analysis before recharge mapping is begun. This is because the direction of flow between ground water and surface water or wetlands depends on site specific factors and can also change seasonally ***. Incorporating these complexities was beyond the resources of this study."

Wetlands, Open Water and Hydric Soils

The unshaded areas on the map, which include wetlands, open water and hydric soils, were not ranked because they do not contribute to ground-water recharge.



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the combined professional judgment of the NJGS geologic and hydrogeologic staff.

The relative rank of the aquifers in Monmouth County was created by retrieving well-yield data from the county and ranking the medians for each aquifer with three or more yields. The statewide rankings were then applied to the results. All aquifers which did not have county well data were assigned the statewide rank. The following table contains the data used to rank Monmouth County's aquifers:

Aquifer	Med. Well Yield (gpm)	No. of Values	Avg. Well Yield (gpm)	Aquifer Rank
Surficial sediments of the Coastal Plain (scsp) ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	C
Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer system (kcas) ^{4,5}	401	22	510	B
Composite confining unit aquifer (ccu) ^{1,5}	95	9	246	D
Mt. Laurel/Wenonah aquifer (mlwa) ^{1,5}	124	38	176	C
Marshalltown-Wenonah confining unit (mwcu) ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	E
Englishtown aquifer system (ea) ^{1,5}	300	85	303	B
Merchandise-Woodbury confining unit (mwcu) ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	E
Potomac-Raritan-Magalloway aquifer system (prma) ^{4,5}	712	132	737	A

4. water-table aquifers in outcrop area
5. also a confined aquifer
6. statewide data and rank

Aquifer Descriptions

The surficial sediments of the Coastal Plain (scsp) are unconsolidated sediments overlying Coastal Plain aquifers and confining units. These include Pleistocene beach, dune, deltaic, and marine sands, and recent alluvium. The sediments are hydraulically connected to the underlying aquifer and are considered a minor aquifer when they reach a thickness of 50 ft. or greater, or occur atop a confining unit. This unit only reaches sufficient thicknesses in two locations in the county: the Sandy Hook area and the far southeastern corner. No well-yield data were available; therefore, this aquifer was ranked based upon its lithologic characteristics and the judgment of the NJGS (Herman and others, 1998).

The Kirkwood-Cohansey aquifer system is composed of sand and gravel with lenses of silt and clay. The aquifer is the primary water-table aquifer in the southeastern part of the county. This aquifer is overlain by a thin member of the young Coastal Plain surficial sediment. It is underlain by the confined parts of the composite confining unit and aquifers: the Manassaugan Formation, Vincentown Formation, Hornerstown Sand, Tinton Sand, Red Bank Sand, and the Navesink Sand. The reported non-domestic yield of the aquifer ranges from 94 to 1200 gpm with a median yield of 401 gpm and an average yield of 510 gpm (Herman and others, 1998, Pucci and others, 1994, Jablonski, 1968).

To create a system to rank these aquifers the NJGS analyzed statewide aquifer and well data that included well yield, hydraulic conductivity, specific capacity, transmissivity, and storativity. Well-yield data from a high-yield subset of non-domestic wells were used because they provided the most comprehensive data and were the most representative of the potential water-yielding ability of the aquifer (Sloto and others, 1990). Well-yield data were obtained from NJGS project databases and from the USGS Ground Water Site Index (GWSI) database (Vovinkel and others, 1982). Statistical analysis showed that the median (a value, in an ordered set of values, below and above which there is an equal number of values) of the well yield could be used to adequately assess the aquifer. The ranges of yields for the rankings are selected based upon natural breaks in the data. These ranges were further refined after discussions with NJGS hydrogeologic staff. The five statewide rankings are as follows:

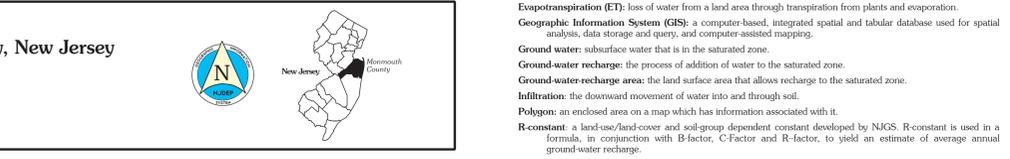
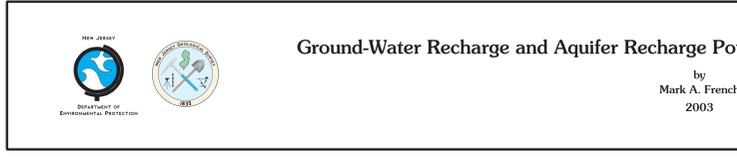
Aquifer Rank	Range of Median Yields
A	> 500
B	250 to 500
C	100 to 250
D	25 to 100
E	< 25

Discharge in gallons per minute

These ranges were established, statewide rankings were determined for each aquifer. If well-yield data were not available for an aquifer, it was ranked based upon its lithologic characteristics compared to the ranked aquifers, and

¹ The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) has been renamed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

² Studies by the NJGS indicate that a baseflow calibration factor or basin factor (b-factor) may be required. A basin factor of 1.0 was used in this map. The basin factor is explained in Charles et al., 1993. "A Method for Evaluating Ground-Water Recharge Areas in New Jersey" and NJGS Technical Memorandum TM99-1 "Basin Calibration for Ground-Water Recharge Estimation (Addendum to Charles et al., 1993).



Evapotranspiration (ET): loss of water from a land area through transpiration from plants and evaporation.

Geographic Information System (GIS): a computer-based, integrated spatial and tabular database used for spatial analysis, data storage and query, and the computer-assisted mapping.

Ground water: subsurface water that is in the saturated zone.

Ground-water recharge: the process of addition of water to the saturated zone.

Ground-water-recharge area: the land surface area that allows recharge to the saturated zone.

Infiltration: the downward movement of water into and through soil.

Polygon: an enclosed area on a map which has information associated with it.

R-constant: a land-use/land-cover and soil-group dependent constant developed by NJGS. R-constant is used in a formula, in conjunction with B-factor, C-Factor and R-factor, to yield an estimate of average annual ground-water recharge.

R-factor: a land-use/land-cover and soil-group dependent factor developed by NJGS. R-factor is used in a formula, in conjunction with B-factor, C-Factor and R-constant, to yield an estimate of average annual ground-water recharge.

Rank: a label that establishes a relative position for example "very high," "high," "moderate," "A," "B," "C," etc.

Root zone: the zone from the land surface to the maximum depth penetrated by plant roots.

Saturated zone: a subsurface zone in which all voids are filled with water.

Soil-water budget: an accounting of the water flow in and out of a soil unit by calculation of precipitation, surface runoff, evapotranspiration and changes in soil-moisture. In a soil-water budget the excess of water can be considered available for ground-water and aquifer recharge.

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