

4. Surf Your Watershed

The watershed is the organizing principle of the Surf Your Watershed Web site. Inter-federal agency partnerships among the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enable Surf Your Watershed to act as a portal to these agency Web sites that offer watershed-related data and resources. For example, the USGS link connects the user to databases of stream gage stations that have logged flow measurements within the watershed. Watershed-related activities can also be found through this site.



- 4.1 Go to the [Surf Your Watershed](#) page.
- 4.2 Within the colorful map, click the state of **New Mexico**. This takes you to the state profile page, which includes many valuable links. Note the links under the **Places Involving this State** heading. Click the hyperlinked number next to **Watersheds**. The watershed list page allows the user to click any of the hyperlinked HUC8 codes to get to individual watershed profile pages.

Locating Watershed Information with a County Name

- 4.3 Use the **Back** button to return to the main **Surf Your Watershed** page. Underneath the heading, Find Your Watershed→Step 1 Pick your Geographic Unit, select **County Name** from the menu.
- 4.4 Type in your **County Name** (e.g., Fairfax, Pitt, Essex, Orange).
Note: Do not add a comma or a state abbreviation.
- 4.5 Click the **Submit** button. A list of counties with that name entered will appear.
- 4.6 Click the correct, hyperlinked county name and state combination. (**Note:** There are many methods that can be used to locate a watershed within Surf Your Watershed such as the county name, ZIP code, city name and stream name.) A map of the county and any overlapping HUC8 watershed boundaries appears.

How many watersheds intersect your county? _____

- 4.7 Select a HUC8 watershed number. (**Note:** The map is not hyperlinked.)
- 4.8 Click your selected hyperlinked HUC8 watershed number below.

Write the 8-digit HUC watershed number here: _____

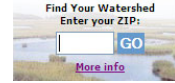
- 4.9 The **Watershed Profile** page for the selected watershed opens. Scroll down and note the upstream and downstream watershed names:

Upstream Watershed:

Downstream Watershed:

Locating Watershed Information with a ZIP Code

- 4.10 On the left-hand sidebar, click [Surf Your Watershed Home](#). Enter your ZIP code into the **Find Your Watershed Enter Your ZIP:** box. **Click Go.** The watershed profile page will appear for the watershed that intersects with that ZIP code.



What is ZIP code that you entered? _____

What is the watershed name and HUC8 code?

Locating Stream Gage Data from the USGS

- 4.11 On the **Watershed Profile** page, scroll down to **Information Provided by the United States Geological Survey** and click [Stream Flow](#).

How many USGS stream gages are in your watershed? _____

- 4.12 Click a hyperlinked **Stream Gage Station Number**. Scroll down to see a graph of real-time data. Stream gage height and discharge rates at the sampling site are among the parameters that will be featured.
- 4.13 At the top of the page in the blue bar, click the dropdown list next to **Available data for this site** to see other data.
- 4.14 Select **Daily Data**. When the page refreshes, change the **Begin Date** and **End Date** to a one month span in the data summary table at the top.
- 4.15 Change the Output Format from Graph to **Table** to get individual readings. Click the **Go** button to look at one month's gage readings.
- 4.16 Use the browser's **Back** button to return to the **Watershed Profile** page.