
**Pacific Northwest
National Laboratory**

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**Post-Closure Groundwater
Monitoring Plan for the 1324-N
Surface Impoundment and 1324-NA
Percolation Pond**

M. J. Hartman

April 2004



Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy
under Contract DE-AC06-76RL01830

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Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Richland, Washington 99352

Executive Summary

The 1324-N Surface Impoundment and the 1324-NA Percolation Pond, located in the 100-N Area of the Hanford Site, are regulated under the *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* (RCRA). Surface and underground features of the facilities have been removed and laboratory analyses showed that soil met the closure performance standards. The sites have been backfilled and revegetated.

This document will replace the previous RCRA monitoring plans (Hartman 2002 and RCRA monitoring portion of Borghese et al. 1996) for the 1324-N and 1324-NA facilities after it is incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit (Ecology, 1989). Monitoring for two other 100-N Area RCRA facilities, the 1301-N and 1325-N facilities, was included in Hartman (2002) but is now described in a separate monitoring plan (Hartman 2004).

This document describes RCRA post-closure monitoring for the period following surface closure until a final groundwater record of decision is made for the 100-NR-2 operable unit, of which 1324-N/NA groundwater is a part. After final groundwater decisions are made for the operable unit, this plan may need to be revised to reflect these decisions.

The monitoring network comprises the following wells:

Near-Field Wells	Plume-Tracking Wells	
199-N-59	199-N-2	199-N-26
199-N-71 (upgradient)	199-N-3	199-N-34
199-N-72	199-N-16	199-N-56
199-N-73	199-N-19	199-N-57
199-N-77 (deeper well)	199-N-21	199-N-64
		199-N-67

The downgradient, near-field wells are sampled semiannually and the other wells are sampled annually for the following parameters:

Sulfate	Other metals ^(a)
Sodium (filtered)	calcium (filtered)
Other anions ^(a)	magnesium (filtered)
alkalinity	potassium (filtered)
chloride	Field parameters
nitrate	specific conductance
	pH

(a) Samples analyzed for anions and dissolved metals.

RCRA groundwater monitoring for the 1324-N/NA facilities is part of the groundwater project. Project staff schedule sampling and initiate paperwork. The project uses subcontractors for sample collection, shipping, and analysis. The groundwater project's quality control program is designed to assess and enhance the reliability and validity of groundwater data. This is accomplished through evaluating the results of quality control samples, conducting audits, and validating groundwater data.

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waste site) was an unlined pond that was used to neutralize and dispose of corrosive waste from 1977 to 1986 and to dispose of pre-neutralized waste from 1986 through 1991. The adjacent 1324-N surface impoundment (also known as the 120-N-2 waste site) was used to neutralize waste from 1986 to 1988. It was a double-lined pond with a leachate collection system. No leaks were detected throughout its period of use.

Soil samples were collected from the site in 1992 and 1993 from the surface to as deep as 23 meters. The samples were analyzed for heavy metals, organics, cyanide, pH, and anions. Organic constituents were not detected and concentrations of other constituents were within background ranges (DOE 2002).

As required by the closure plan, surface facilities (sampling shed, liner) and underground features (leachate collection system, delivery pipeline) have been removed. Samples were collected from soil remaining at this site. Results indicate the remedial action objectives have been met (BHI 2001). The facilities have been backfilled and revegetated. A Certification of Closure by a professional engineer has been completed for these facilities.^(a)

The facilities are combined into a single waste management area for groundwater monitoring because they are adjacent to one another and the same type of waste was treated or stored in both. The percolation pond has contaminated groundwater with sulfate and sodium, which are nonhazardous constituents. Post-closure groundwater monitoring is required due to this contamination.

The closure plan for the 1324-N/NA facilities states, “During the post-closure period, monitoring of groundwater will continue under a corrective action program in accordance with WAC 173-303-645(11). A groundwater monitoring plan will be developed for 1324-N and 1324-NA and implemented prior to incorporation of this post-closure plan into the Permit. ... Because the groundwater monitoring data continues to show exceedances of sulfate concentrations above the secondary drinking water standard (250 mg/L), corrective action to remove or treat the sulfate will be required. Corrective actions will be determined in a ROD for the 100-NR-2 OU” (Appendix B of DOE 2002).

The final decision for cleanup of the sulfate plume will be made as part of the 100-NR-2 groundwater operable unit, which includes groundwater beneath the entire 100-N Area. Until that decision is made, the objectives of RCRA post-closure monitoring are (a) to track trends in sulfate compared to the drinking water standard, and (b) to define the extent of the sulfate plume. Thus, no statistical evaluations are necessary.

1.1 Waste Characteristics

The effluent discharged to the 1324-N and 1324-NA facilities originated at the 163-N Demineralizer Plant and the 183-N Filtered Water Plant. Neither effluent stream contained listed constituents.

(a) Letter from J. Hebdon, U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) to M. Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology, “Certification of Closure for the 1324-N Surface Impoundment and 1324-NA Percolation Pond,” dated February 7, 2003.

However, effluent from the demineralizer plant was classified as corrosive dangerous waste (Appendix B of DOE 2002). Table 1.1 contains selected results of chemical analyses of effluent streams while the facilities were in use.

The hazardous waste treated and disposed of at the facilities was produced by the regeneration of ion exchange columns in the 163-N Demineralizer Plant. The wastes consisted of acid and caustic regeneration fluids and process and cooling water flushes. The pH of the demineralized water plant wastes varied from less than 1.0 to as high as 14 standard units. These discharges qualified as corrosive dangerous wastes defined in WAC 173-303-090(a)(i). The regeneration solutions would have contained a variety of metal constituents as a result of concentration on the ion exchange media. These metals were not detected at levels that would regulate them as characteristic waste (WAC 173-303-090) (Appendix B of DOE 2002).

1.2 Post-Closure Monitoring Approach

Post-closure monitoring at the 1324-N/NA facilities has been developed to meet the standards for a corrective-action monitoring program under WAC 173-303-645(11) (Appendix B of DOE 2002). The interim remedial action record of decision for the 100-NR-1 and 100-NR-2 operable units (ROD 1999) explains that, “It is the intent of the Tri-Parties to select the same remedy for sites requiring RCRA corrective action as selected for those sites requiring *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act* (CERCLA) interim remedial actions.” Until a final decision on remedial action of the sulfate plume is made for the 100-NR-2 operable unit, the plume will attenuate due to spreading, movement, and chemical interaction with sediment. RCRA groundwater monitoring during this initial period of post-closure monitoring will focus on defining sulfate concentration trends and plume extent, and comparing concentrations to the 250-mg/L secondary drinking water standard. This objective complements operable unit monitoring, which includes an objective to “...further define the

Table 1.1. Selected Results of Waste Analysis of 163-N Demineralization Plant Effluent, August 1987, and 183-N Filtered Water Plant Backwash Effluent, August 1985 (from Appendix B of DOE 2002)

Parameter (minimum detection limit, units)	163-N Demineralization Plant (corrosive waste)^(a)	183-N Filtered Water Plant (non-dangerous effluent)^(b)
Calcium (0.05 mg/L)	318.3/ND	17.4
Chloride (0.5 mg/L)	1.9/2.4	2.81
pH (standard units)	0.917/13.74	7.46
Potassium (0.1 mg/L)	14.2/26.7	0.792
Nitrate (0.5 mg/L)	0.8/1.1	0.596
Sodium (0.1 mg/L)	12.8/27,150	2.23
Sulfate (0.5 mg/L)	3,201/30.7	19.7
Specific Conductance (μS/cm)	37,367/64,000	153

(a) Average for cation regeneration cycle/Average for anion regeneration cycle.
(b) Average.
ND = not detected

extent and nature of contaminant plumes for the other contaminants of concern, [including] sulfate.... This... objective will provide information that can be used to help determine a final groundwater remedial action....” (ROD 1999).

This RCRA monitoring plan may need to be revised in the future to reflect the final record of decision for the 100-NR-2 groundwater operable unit.

1.3 Summary of Previous RCRA Groundwater Monitoring

RCRA groundwater monitoring at the 1324-N/NA site began in December 1987. After the first year of background monitoring, the downgradient wells then in use (199-N-58 through 199-N-61) all exceeded the critical mean value for specific conductance. The site was monitored under an assessment program from 1989 until 1992. The assessment report (Hartman 1992) concluded that the elevated specific conductance was due to the nondangerous constituents sulfate and sodium. From 1993 until 1995 the site was monitored under another assessment program for elevated total organic halides. The associated assessment report (Hartman 1995) concluded that the elevated total organic halides originated from nondangerous discharges to a nearby facility and RCRA indicator-evaluation monitoring resumed. Total organic halide levels subsequently declined to background, but specific conductance in downgradient wells continues to exceed the critical mean value.

When the 1324-N/NA facilities were incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit in 1999, monitoring continued under the existing interim-status plan (Borghese et al. 1996 with details in Hartman 1996 and, later, Hartman 2002). Interim-status indicator evaluation monitoring continued before and during the closure period.

Groundwater monitoring shows the continued presence of elevated sulfate and sodium, with correspondingly high specific conductance. The sulfate plume extends toward the Columbia River (Figure 1.2). Only well 199-N-59 exceeded the secondary drinking water standard for sulfate (250 mg/L) in fiscal years 2001 or 2002. The maximum sulfate concentration in this well during fiscal year 2002 was 384 mg/L. Sulfate concentrations have been below the primary drinking water standard (500 mg/L) in all wells since 1991.

While the 1324-NA percolation pond was in use, sulfate concentrations in adjacent wells reached peaks of 1,500 to greater than 2,000 mg/L. Well 199-N-59 is the only original monitoring well that did not go dry in 1990. Sulfate concentrations in this well declined sharply after discharges ceased in 1990 (Figure 1.3), and were below the drinking water standard occasionally between 1991 and 1995. After 1995, sulfate levels gradually rose and stabilized at their current level of ~300 mg/L in well 199-N-59.

Sulfate trends in wells 199-N-72 and 199-N-73, installed in 1991, were relatively low during the first two to three years of monitoring, then sharply increased, peaking around 1995 (Figure 1.4). Levels have declined steadily since then. Sulfate concentrations currently are lower in these wells than in 199-N-59. These differences may reflect vertical or horizontal heterogeneities in the sulfate plume.

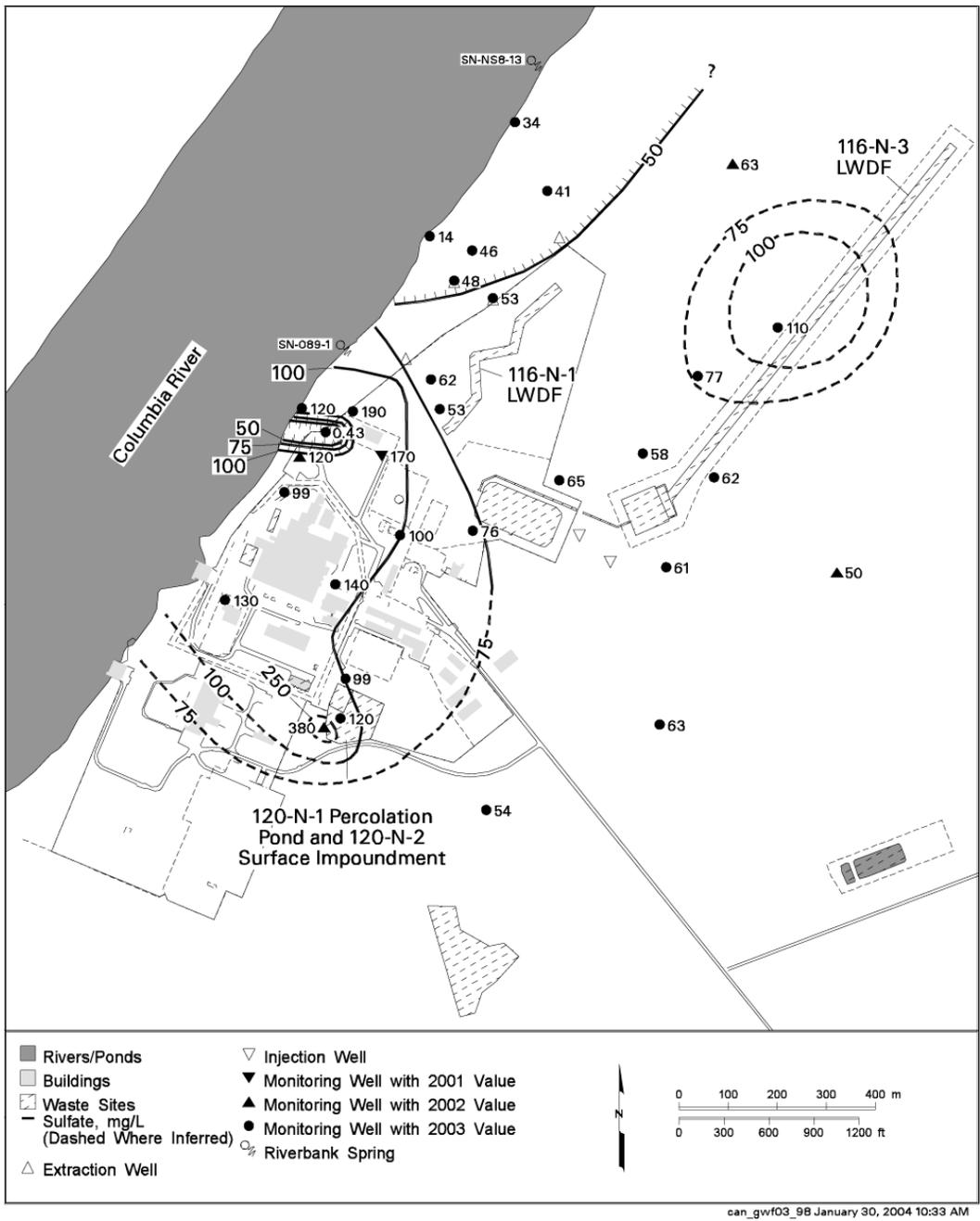


Figure 1.2. Average Sulfate Concentrations in the 100-N Area

Nitrate is elevated in groundwater beneath several portions of the 100-N Area, including the 1324-N/NA site (Figure 1.5). The source is not believed to be the 1324-N/N facilities because analysis of waste while the facilities were in use showed only low concentrations of nitrate (see Table 1.1). Nitrate concentrations also were low in groundwater samples collected before 1991 while the 1324-NA percolation pond was in use (Figure 1.6).

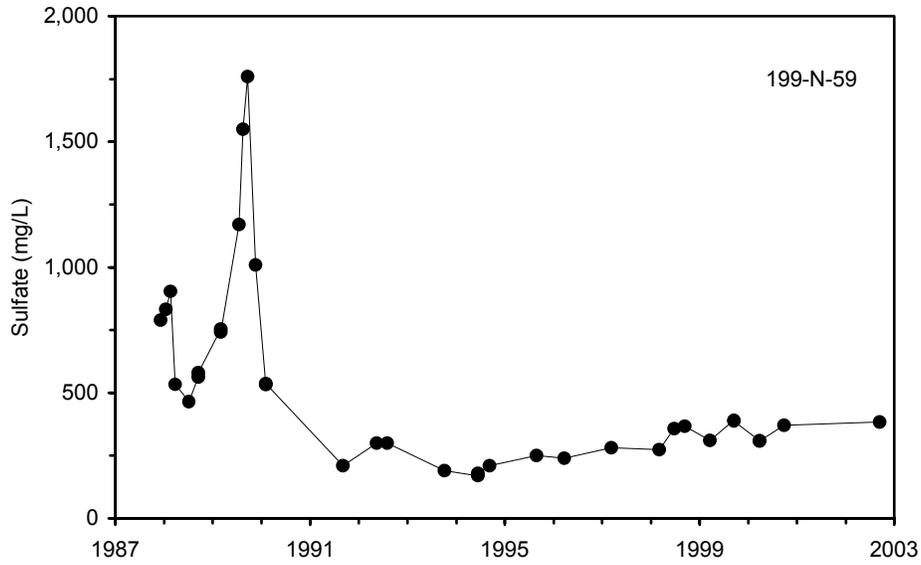


Figure 1.3. Long-Term Sulfate Trend in Well 199-N-59, Monitoring 1324-N/NA Facilities

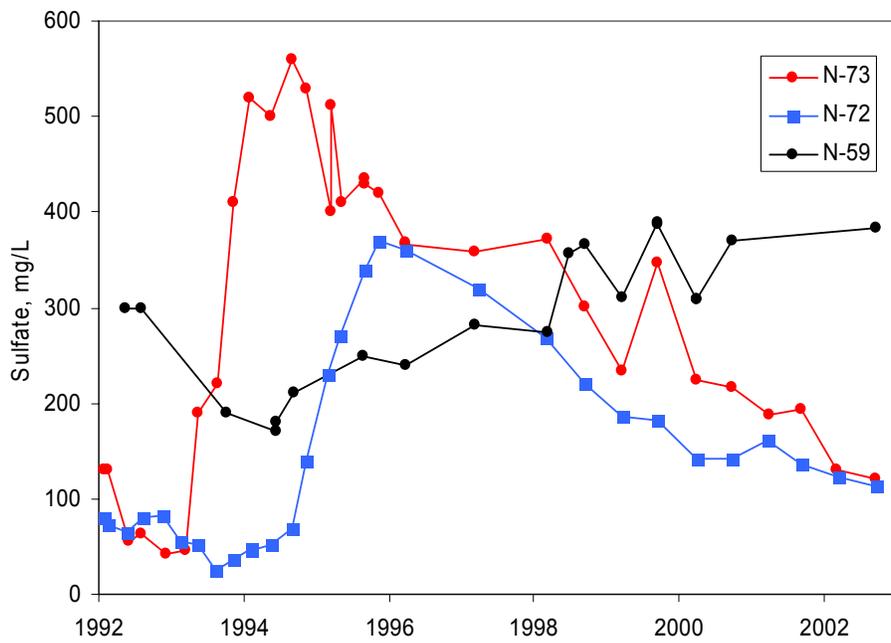
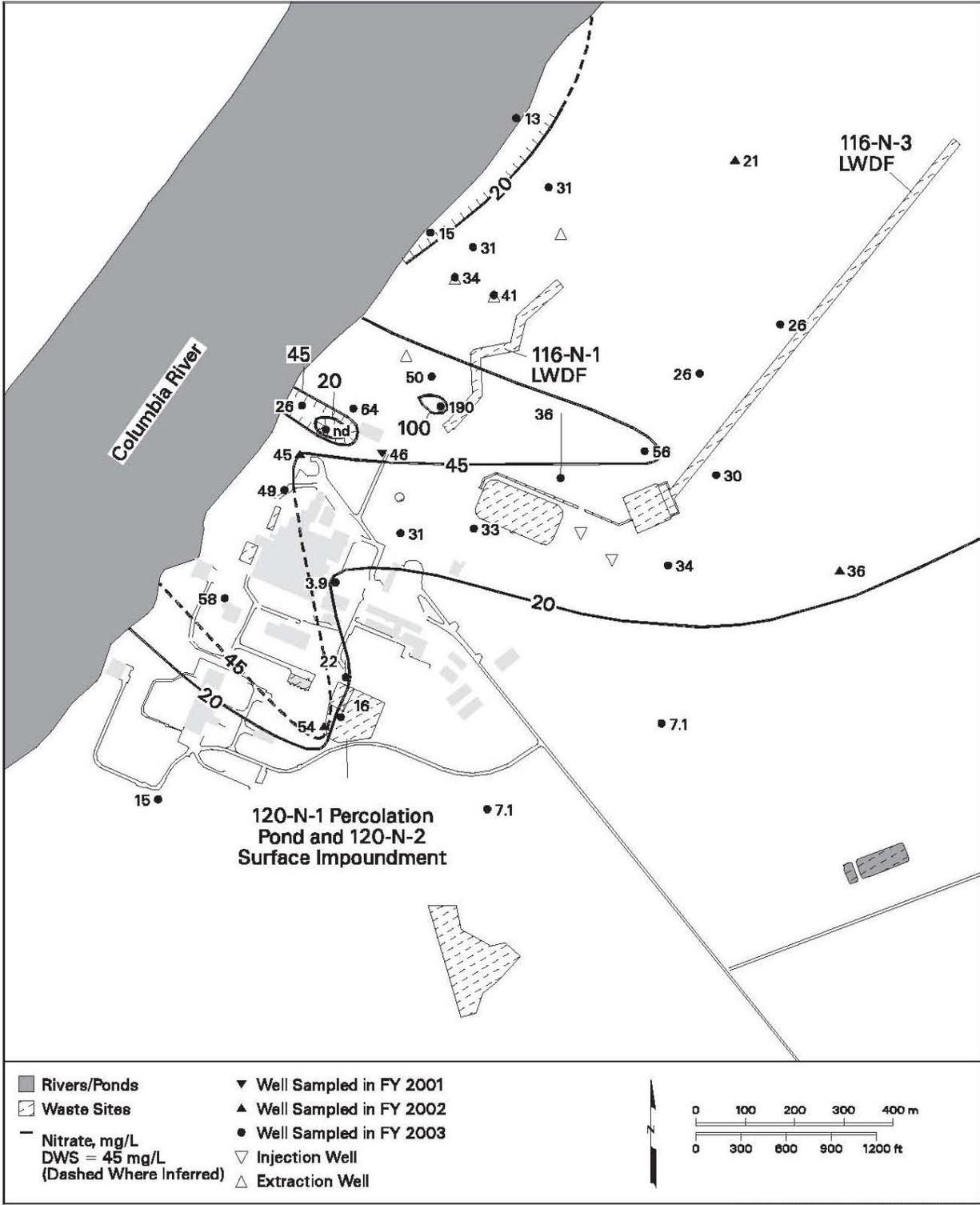


Figure 1.4. Sulfate Trends in Wells 199-N-59, 199-N-72, and 199-N-73, Monitoring 1324-N/NA Facilities



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Figure 1.5. Average Nitrate Concentrations in 100-N Area

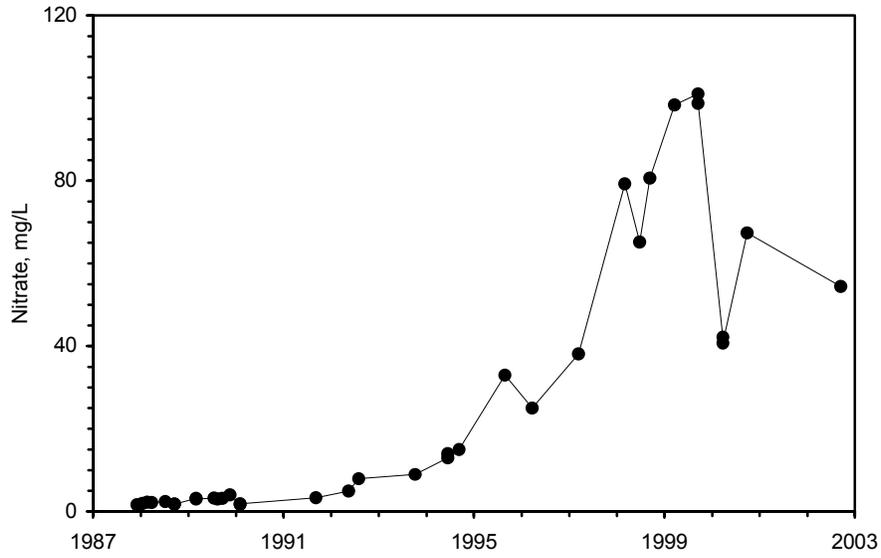


Figure 1.6. Long-Term Nitrate Trend in Well 199-N-59, Monitoring 1324-N/NA Facilities

2.0 Conceptual Model

A groundwater conceptual model is an evolving hypothesis that identifies the important features, events, and processes that control groundwater and contaminant movement. This model is based on results of previous geological and hydrogeological studies, sediment sampling, and groundwater monitoring. Primary references are Hartman and Lindsey (1993), Gilmore et al. (1992), DOE (2002), and groundwater monitoring annual reports (e.g., Hartman et al. 2003). The model provides a basis for designing a groundwater monitoring program.

The conceptual model for the 1324-N/NA facilities includes the following elements:

- The uppermost aquifer is unconfined, ~12-15 meters thick, and is contained in a sand and gravel unit in the Ringold Formation. Gilmore et al. (1992) estimated a representative range of transmissivity for the 100-N Area to be 93 to 560 m²/d.
- The base of the uppermost aquifer is a fine-grained unit of interbedded silt and clay. The existence of deeper confined aquifers in the Ringold sediment and in the basalt-confined aquifer system is inferred on the basis of geologic interpretation and limited borehole data from the surrounding area, but there is little potential for downward migration of 100-N Area contaminants.
- Because the site has been backfilled and revegetated, most of the precipitation is removed by evapotranspiration. Thus, little infiltration will occur through the site.
- The 1324-N surface impoundment did not leak and therefore did not contaminate the vadose zone or groundwater.
- The 1324-NA percolation pond introduced non-hazardous contaminants, primarily sulfate and sodium, through the vadose zone to groundwater. The pH of the effluent ranged from 1 to 14, causing it to be classified as hazardous, but mixing in the pond and neutralization in the sediment prevented the high-pH or low-pH water from reaching groundwater.
- While the percolation pond was active, artificial recharge formed a groundwater mound that created radial flow. Chemical impacts from the pond discharge migrated an unknown distance inland. After use of the pond ceased, groundwater flow returned to a northwest or north direction.
- Sulfate and sodium move readily with groundwater toward the north and northwest to the Columbia River. There appears to be continuing drainage of water from the vadose zone, since concentrations are remaining high many years after disposal ceased. These constituents cause the groundwater to have a high specific conductance.
- Sodium exchanges for calcium in vadose and aquifer sediments causing sodium concentrations in groundwater to decline while calcium concentrations increase as the water moves downgradient.

3.0 Groundwater Monitoring Program

This section describes the post-closure RCRA monitoring program for the 1324-N/NA facilities, which is designed to track plume extent and contaminant trends until final cleanup decisions are made.

3.1 Monitoring Well Network

The post-closure monitoring network (Table 3.1) includes:

- Four near-field wells adjacent to the 1324-N/NA facilities (199-N-59, 199-N-72, 199-N-73, and 199-N-77) to track concentration trends in the area of highest contamination.

Table 3.1. Wells for Post-Closure Groundwater Monitoring at the 1324-N/NA Site

Well	Purpose; Comments	Well Standard ^(a)	Primary Constituents		Constituents Supporting Interpretation			Field Parameters				
			Sulfate	Sodium	Alkalinity	Anions ^(b)	Metals, filtered ^(c)	Specific Conductance	pH	Temperature	Turbidity	Water Levels
199-N-2	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-3	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-16	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-19 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-21 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-26 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-34	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-56	Far-field plume definition	WAC	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-57	Far-field plume definition	WAC	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-59	Near-field plume; sometimes dry ^(e) ; highest sulfate concentrations	WAC	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA
199-N-64	Far-field plume definition	WAC	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-67	Far-field plume definition	WAC	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-71	Upgradient	WAC	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
199-N-72	Near-field plume	WAC	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA
199-N-73	Near-field plume	WAC	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA
199-N-77	Near-field plume; bottom of aquifer	WAC	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA	SA

- (a) PRE = Well not constructed to Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-160) standards.
WAC = Well constructed to Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-160) standards.
- (b) Anions analysis includes at a minimum chloride, nitrate, and sulfate.
- (c) Metals analysis includes at a minimum calcium, magnesium, potassium, and sodium. Analyses will be run on filtered samples pending Ecology’s policy decision on filtered/unfiltered metals.
- (d) Candidates for decommissioning. If any of these wells are decommissioned, Ecology will be notified and the monitoring program will be reevaluated to determine if new well(s) are needed.
- (e) Well 199-N-59 was drilled when the 1324-NA pond had artificially raised the water table. When the water table is low, it does not contain enough water to sample.

- One upgradient well to provide information on groundwater quality not affected by the 1324-N/NA facilities.
- Eleven wells farther downgradient of the facilities to define the sulfate plume at levels below the secondary drinking water standard.

All of the wells except 199-N-77 monitor the top of the unconfined aquifer. Well 199-N-77 monitors the bottom of the unconfined aquifer, with the screen placed above a fine-grained unit in the Ringold Formation. The wells adjacent to the 1324-N/NA facilities are constructed to the standards of WAC 173-160 for resource protection wells. Many of the far-field wells were constructed before those standards were adopted. As-built diagrams of all of the wells are included in the Appendix.

All of the far-field wells and some of the near-field wells are sampled for objectives of the 100-NR-2 Operable Unit and/or the *Atomic Energy Act of 1954* (AEA). Sampling is coordinated to avoid redundancy.

If a monitoring well becomes unsuitable for use, Ecology will be notified formally. The monitoring program will be reevaluated to determine if a new or existing well should be substituted. If a new well must be installed, a drilling schedule will be provided.

3.2 Constituent List and Sampling Frequency

Sulfate and sodium are the primary constituents of interest for 1324-N/NA RCRA groundwater monitoring. Additional constituents will continue to be monitored for supporting information (see Table 3.1).

The downgradient, near-field wells will be sampled semiannually to provide a clear record of chemistry trends. Other wells provide supporting data and will be sampled annually (see Table 3.1).

3.3 Water Level Monitoring

Samplers measure depth to water in each well before sampling, according to procedure DFSNW-SSPM-001 SP 3-3. The depth to water is subtracted from the elevation of a reference point (usually top of casing) to obtain water level elevation. Water level elevations are used to construct water table maps of the 100-N Area.

Groundwater flow direction beneath the 1324-N/NA facilities is inferred from the water table map(s) and plume maps. Rate of flow is estimated from hydraulic gradient, hydraulic conductivity, and porosity, or from rates of contaminant movement.

3.4 Sampling and Analysis Protocol

RCRA groundwater monitoring for the 1324-N/NA facilities is part of the groundwater project. This section describes the groundwater project's protocols for sample collection and analysis. Project staff schedule sampling and initiate paperwork. The project uses subcontractors for sample collection, shipping, and analysis.

3.4.1 Scheduling Groundwater Sampling

The groundwater project schedules well sampling. Many Hanford Site wells are sampled for multiple objectives and requirements, e.g., RCRA, CERCLA, AEA. Scheduling activities help manage the overlap, eliminating redundant sampling and meeting the needs of each sampling objective. Scheduling activities include the following:

- Each fiscal year, project scientists provide well lists, constituent lists, and sampling frequency. Each month, project scientists review the sampling schedule for the following month. Changes are requested via change request forms and approved by the sampling and analysis task lead and the monitoring project manager.
- Project staff track sampling and analysis through an electronic schedule database, stored on a server at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Quality control samples also are managed through this database. A scheduling program generates unique sample numbers and a special user interface generates sample authorization forms, field services reports, groundwater sample reports, chain-of-custody forms, and sample container labels.
- Sampling and analysis staff verify that well name, sample numbers, bottle sizes, preservatives, etc., are indicated properly on the paperwork, which is transmitted to the sampling subcontractor. Staff complete a checklist to document that the paperwork was generated correctly.
- At each month's end, project staff use the schedule database to determine if any wells were not sampled as scheduled. If the wells or sampling pumps require maintenance, they are rescheduled following repair. If a well can no longer be sampled, it is cancelled and the reason is recorded in the database. DOE will notify Ecology if sampling is delayed past the end of the scheduled quarter or if a well cannot be sampled (see Sections 3.1 and 5.4). Should repairs require an extended effort (>60 days), Ecology will be consulted and a repair schedule approved.

3.4.2 Chain of Custody

The sampling subcontractor uses chain-of-custody forms to document the integrity of groundwater samples from the time of collection through data reporting. The forms are generated during scheduling (see Section 3.4.1) and managed through subcontractor procedure DFSNW-SSPM-001 SP 1-1.

3.4.3 Sample Collection

The procedure for groundwater sampling is described in DFSNW-SSPM-001 SP 3-1. Samples generally are collected after three casing volumes of water have been purged from the well or after field parameters (pH, temperature, specific conductance, and turbidity) have stabilized (i.e., after two consecutive measurements are within 0.2 units pH, 0.2°C for temperature, 10% for specific conductance, and turbidity <5 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)). For routine groundwater samples, preservatives are added to the collection bottles if necessary before their use in the field according to procedure DFSNW-SSPM-001 SP 2-1.

Ecology is developing a policy decision concerning the analysis of metals in filtered and/or unfiltered samples. For 1324-N/NA groundwater monitoring, samples for metals analyses will be filtered in the field unless unfiltered analyses are required by Ecology.

3.4.4 Analytical Protocols

Procedures for field measurements are specified in subcontractor's procedures DFSNW-SSPM-001 SP 6-2 (turbidity), SP 6-3 (pH), SP 6-5 (specific conductance), and SP 6-7 (temperature). Each instrument is assigned a unique number that is tracked on field documentation and is calibrated and controlled according to procedure DFSNW-SSPM-001 6-1. Additional calibration and use instructions are specified in the instrument user's manuals.

Laboratory analytical methods are specified in contracts with the laboratories, and most are standard methods from *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods* (Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] 1986c). Alternative procedures meet the guidelines of EPA (1986c, Chapter 10). Analytical methods are described in Section 8 of Hartman (2000).

4.0 Quality Assurance

The groundwater project's quality assurance program follows the requirements of EPA (2001) for quality assurance project plans. Quality control and quality assurance requirements are defined based on data quality objectives (EPA 2000).

The groundwater project's quality control program is designed to assess and enhance the reliability and validity of groundwater data. This is accomplished through evaluating the results of quality control samples, conducting audits, and validating groundwater data. This section describes the quality control program for the entire groundwater project, which includes the 1324-N/NA facilities.

The quality control practices of the groundwater project are based on guidance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA 1979, EPA 1986a, EPA 1986b, EPA 1986c). Accuracy, precision, and detection are the primary parameters used to assess data quality (Mitchell et al. 1985). Data for these parameters is obtained from two categories of quality control samples: those that provide checks on field and laboratory activities (field quality control) and those that monitor laboratory performance (laboratory quality control). Table 4.1 summarizes the types of samples in each category along with the sample frequencies and characteristics evaluated.

Table 4.1. Quality Control Samples

Sample Type	Primary Characteristics Evaluated	Frequency
Field Quality Control		
Full Trip Blank	Contamination from containers or transportation	1 per 20 well trips
Field Transfer Blank ^(a)	Airborne contamination from the sampling site	1 each day volatile organic compound samples are collected
Equipment Blank ^(b)	Contamination from non-dedicated sampling equipment	1 per 10 well trips or as needed ^(c)
Duplicate Samples	Reproducibility	1 per 20 well trips
Laboratory Quality Control		
Method Blank	Laboratory contamination	1 per batch
Lab Duplicates	Laboratory reproducibility	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Matrix Spike	Matrix effects and laboratory accuracy	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Matrix Spike Duplicate	Laboratory reproducibility and accuracy	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Surrogates	Recovery/yield	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Laboratory Control Sample	Accuracy	1 per batch
Double Blind Standards	Accuracy and precision	Varies by constituent ^(e)

(a) Not applicable for 1324-N/NA – no volatile constituents analyzed.

(b) Not applicable for 1324-N/NA – dedicated sampling equipment used.

(c) When a new type of non-dedicated sampling equipment is used, an equipment blank should be collected every time sampling occurs until it can be shown that less frequent collection of equipment blanks is adequate to monitor the equipment's decontamination procedure.

(d) If called for by the analytical method, duplicates, matrix spikes, and matrix spike duplicates are typically analyzed at a frequency of 1 per 20 samples. Surrogates are routinely included in every sample for most gas chromatographic methods.

(e) Double blind standards containing known concentrations of selected analytes are typically submitted in triplicate or quadruplicate on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis.

4.1 Quality Control Criteria

Quality control data are evaluated based on established acceptance criteria for each quality control sample type. For field and method blanks, the acceptance limit is generally two times the instrument detection limit (metals), or method detection limit (other chemical parameters). However, for common laboratory contaminants such as acetone, methylene chloride, 2-butanone, and phthalate esters, the limit is five times the method detection limit. Groundwater samples that are associated (i.e., collected on the same date and analyzed by the same method) with out-of-limit field blanks are flagged with a “Q” in the database to indicate a potential contamination problem.

Field duplicates must agree within 20%, as measured by the relative percent difference (RPD), to be acceptable. Only those field duplicates with at least one result greater than five times the appropriate detection limit are evaluated. Unacceptable field duplicate results are also flagged with a “Q” in the database.

The acceptance criteria for laboratory duplicates, matrix spikes, matrix spike duplicates, surrogates, and laboratory control samples are generally derived from historical data at the laboratories in accordance with EPA (1986c). Typical acceptance limits are within 25% of the expected values, although the limits may vary considerably with the method and analyte. Current values for laboratory duplicates, matrix spikes, and laboratory control samples are 20% RPD, 60%-140%, and 70%-130%, respectively. These values are subject to change if the contract is modified or replaced.

Table 4.2 lists the acceptable recovery limits for the double blind standards. These samples are prepared by spiking background well water (currently wells 699-19-88 and 699-49-100C) with known concentrations of constituents of interest. Spiking concentrations range from the detection limit to the upper limit of concentration determined in groundwater on the Hanford site. Double blind standard results that are outside the acceptance limits are investigated and appropriate actions are taken if necessary.

Holding time is the elapsed time period between sample collection and analysis. Exceeding recommended holding times could result in changes in constituent concentrations due to volatilization, decomposition, or other chemical alterations. Recommended holding times depend on the analytical method, and are listed in the annual groundwater monitoring report (e.g., Table B.8 of Hartman et al. 2003). Data associated with exceeded holding times are flagged with an “H” in the Hanford Environmental Information System (HEIS) database.

Additional quality control measures include laboratory audits and participation in nationally based performance evaluation studies. The contract laboratories participate in national studies such as the

Table 4.2. Recovery Limits for Double Blind Standards

Constituent	Frequency	Recovery Limits	Precision Limits (RSD)
Specific conductance	Quarterly	75–125%	25%
Nitrate	Quarterly	75–125%	25%

RSD = Relative Standard Deviation

EPA-sanctioned Water Pollution and Water Supply Performance Evaluation studies. The groundwater project periodically audits the analytical laboratories to identify and solve quality problems, or to prevent such problems. Audit results are used to improve performance. Summaries of audit results and performance evaluation studies are presented in the annual groundwater monitoring report.

4.2 Groundwater Data Validation Process

The groundwater project's data validation process provides requirements and guidance for validation of groundwater data that are routinely collected as part of the groundwater project. Validation is a systematic process of reviewing data against a set of criteria to determine whether the data are acceptable for their intended use. This process applies to groundwater data that have been verified (see Section 5.1) and loaded into HEIS. The outcome of the activities described below is an electronic data set with suspect or erroneous data corrected or flagged. Groundwater project staff document the validation process quarterly by signing a checklist, which is stored in the project file.

Responsibilities for data validation are divided among project staff. Each RCRA unit or geographic region is assigned to a project scientist, who is familiar with the hydrogeologic conditions of that site. The data validation process includes the following elements.

- **Generation of data reports:** Twice each month, data management staff provide tables of newly loaded data to project scientists for evaluation (biweekly reports). Also, after laboratory results from a reporting quarter have been loaded into HEIS, staff produce tables of water-level data and analytical data for wells sampled within that quarter (quarterly reports). The quarterly data reports include any data flags added during the quality control evaluation or as a result of prior data review.
- **Project scientist evaluation:** As soon as practical after receiving biweekly reports, project scientists review the data to identify changes in groundwater quality or potential data errors. Evaluation techniques include comparing key constituents to historical trends or spatial patterns. Other data checks may include comparison of general parameters to their specific counterparts (e.g., conductivity to ions) and calculation of charge balances. Project scientists request data reviews if appropriate (see Section 5.2). If necessary, the lab may be asked to check calculations or reanalyze the sample, or the well may be resampled. After receiving quarterly reports, project scientists review sampling summary tables to determine whether network wells were sampled and analyzed as scheduled. If not, they work with other project staff to resolve the problem. Project scientists also review quarterly reports of analytical and water-level data using the same techniques as for biweekly reports. Unlike the biweekly reports, the quarterly reports usually include a full data set (i.e., all the data from the wells sampled during the previous quarter have been received and loaded into HEIS).
- Staff report results of quality control evaluations informally to project staff, DOE-RL, and Ecology each quarter. Results for each fiscal year are described in the annual groundwater monitoring report.

5.0 Data Management and Reporting

This section describes how groundwater data are stored, retrieved, and interpreted.

5.1 Loading and Verifying Data

The contract laboratories report analytical results electronically and in hard copy. The electronic results are loaded into HEIS. Hard copy data reports and field records are considered to be the record copies and are stored at PNNL. Project staff perform an array of computer checks on the electronic file for formatting, allowed values, data flagging (qualifiers), and completeness. Verification of the hard copy results includes checks for (1) completeness, (2) notes on condition of samples upon receipt by the laboratory, (3) notes on problems that arose during the analysis of the samples, and (4) correct reporting of results. If data are incomplete or deficient, staff work with the laboratory to get the problems corrected. Notes on condition of samples or problems during analysis may be used to support data reviews (see Section 5.2).

Field data such as specific conductance, pH, temperature, turbidity, and depth-to-water, are recorded on field records. Data management staff enter these into HEIS manually through data-entry screens, verify each value against the hard copy, and initial each value on the hard copy.

5.2 Data Review

The groundwater project conducts special reviews of groundwater analytical data or field measurements when results are in question. Groundwater project staff document the process on a “Request for Data Review” (RDR) form and results are used to flag the data appropriately in HEIS. Various staff may initiate an RDR, e.g., project scientists, data management, and quality control. The data review process includes the following steps:

- The initiator fills out required information on the RDR form, such as sample number, constituent, and reason for the request (e.g., “result is two orders of magnitude greater than historical results and disagrees with duplicate”). The initiator recommends an action, such as a data re-check, sample re-analysis, well re-sampling, or simply flagging the data as suspect in HEIS.
- The data review coordinator determines that the RDR does not duplicate a previously submitted RDR, then assigns a unique RDR number and records it on the form. A temporary flag is assigned to the data in HEIS, indicating the data are undergoing review (“F” flag).
- If laboratory action is required, the data review coordinator records the lab’s response on the RDR form. Other documentation also may be relevant, such as chain-of-custody forms, field records, calibration logs, or chemist’s sheets.
- A project scientist assigned to reviewing RDRs determines and records the appropriate response and action on the RDR form, including changes to be made to the data flags in HEIS. Actions may include updating HEIS with corrected data or result of re-analysis, flagging existing data (e.g., “R”

for reject, “Y” for suspect, “G” for good), and/or adding comments. Data management updates the temporary “F” flag to the final flag in HEIS.

- The data review coordinator signs the RDR form to indicate its closure.
- If an RDR is filed on data that are not “owned” by the groundwater project, the data review coordinator forwards a copy of the partially filled form to the appropriate contact for their action. The RDR is then closed.

5.3 Interpretation

After data are validated and verified, the acceptable data are used to interpret groundwater conditions at the site. Interpretive techniques include:

- Hydrographs – graph water levels vs. time to determine decreases, increases, seasonal, or man-made fluctuations in groundwater levels.
- Water-table maps – use water-table elevations from multiple wells to construct contour maps to estimate flow directions. Groundwater flow is assumed to be perpendicular to lines of equal potential.
- Trend plots – graph concentrations of constituents vs. time to determine increases, decreases, and fluctuations. May be used in tandem with hydrographs and/or water-table maps to determine if concentrations relate to changes in water level or in groundwater flow directions.
- Plume maps – map distributions of chemical or radiological constituents are in the aquifer to determine extent of contamination. Changes in plume distribution over time aid in determining movement of plumes and direction of flow.
- Contaminant ratios – can sometimes be used to distinguish between different sources of contamination.

5.4 Reporting

Reporting requirements for sites undergoing groundwater corrective action state that “The owner or operator must report in writing to the department on the effectiveness of the corrective action program... semiannually.” This can be accomplished under the groundwater project’s existing reports (e.g., RCRA quarterly reports submitted via e-mail, and annual reports issued in March [e.g., Hartman et al. 2003]). The quarterly reports also inform Ecology if sampling is delayed past the end of the scheduled quarter. Chemistry and water-level data are reviewed after each sampling event and are available in HEIS. When needed, DOE will report specific incidents affecting 1324-N/NA groundwater monitoring (e.g., unsuitable wells, delayed sampling) via letters or meeting minutes as described in Sections 3.1 and 3.4.1.

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Appendix A

As-Built Diagrams of Monitoring Wells

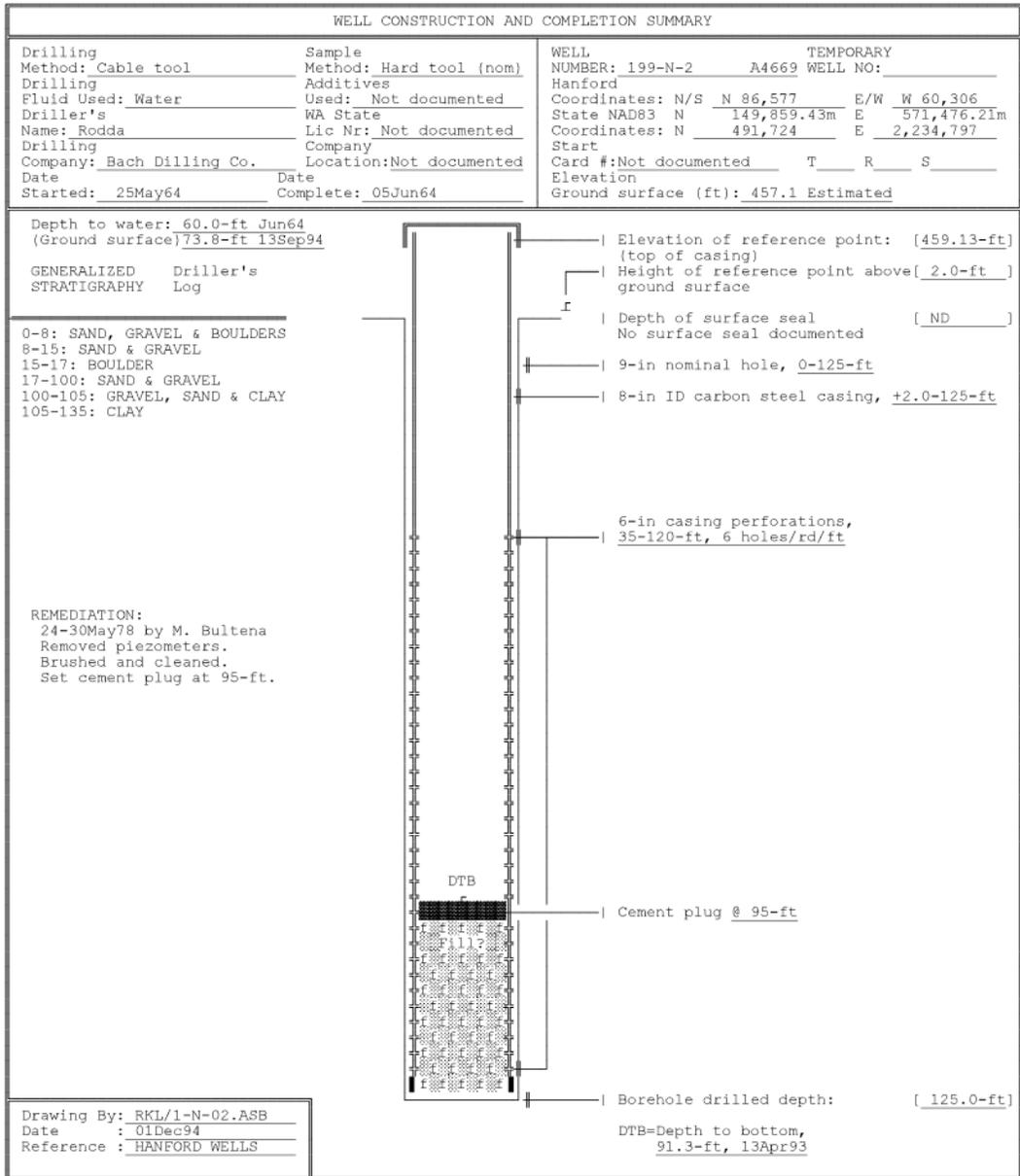
Appendix A

As-Built Diagrams of Monitoring Wells

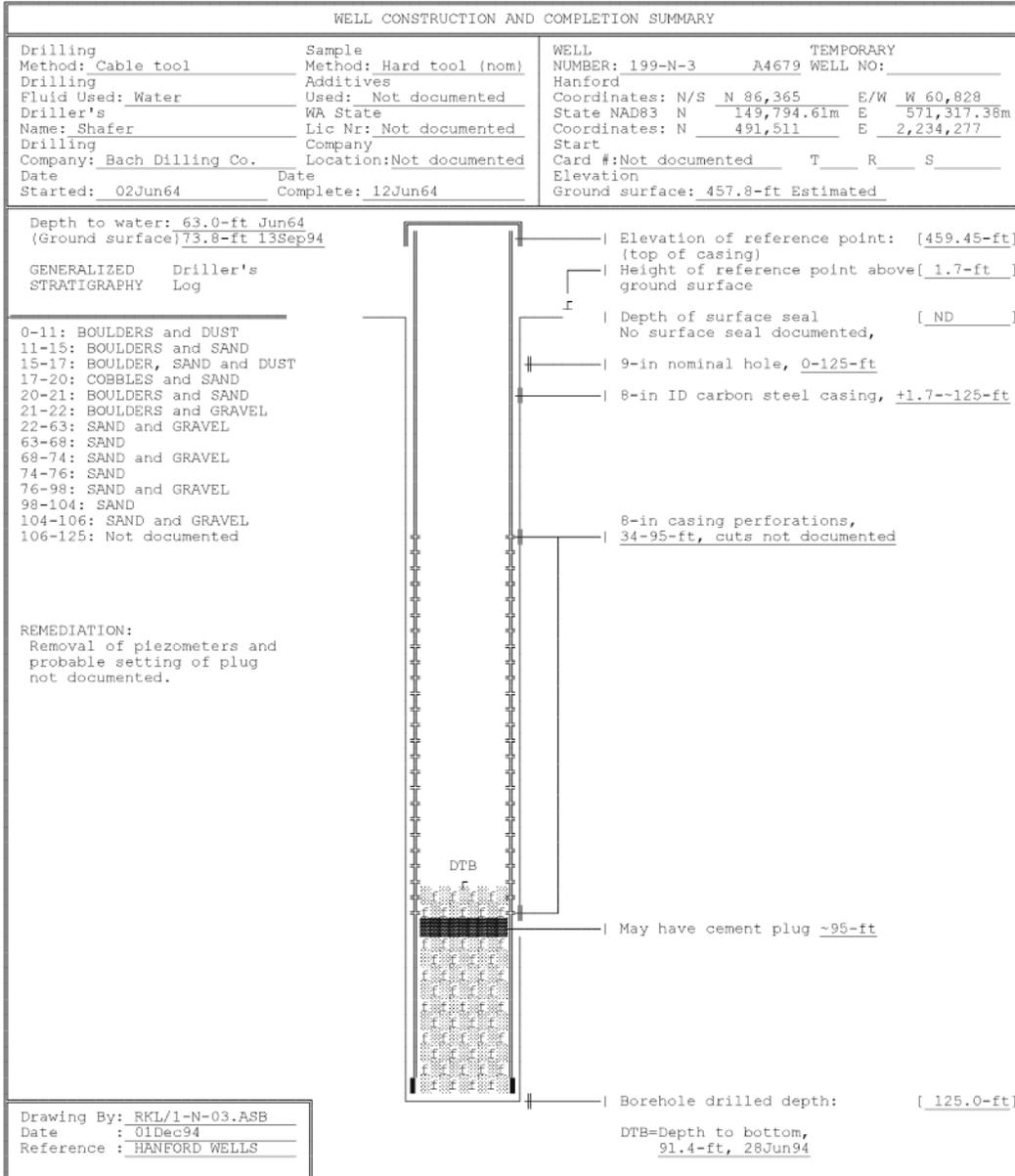
This appendix contains diagrams of wells in the 1324-N/NA RCRA groundwater monitoring network. The diagrams summarize stratigraphy and well construction materials. The diagrams are presented in numerical order.

Monitoring Wells for Post-Closure Monitoring at the 1324-N/NA Facilities.	
Well	Purpose; comments
199-N-2	Far-field plume definition
199-N-3	Far-field plume definition
199-N-16	Far-field plume definition
199-N-19	Far-field plume definition
199-N-21	Far-field plume definition
199-N-26	Far-field plume definition
199-N-34	Far-field plume definition
199-N-56	Far-field plume definition
199-N-57	Far-field plume definition
199-N-59	Near-field plume; sometimes dry ^(a) ; highest sulfate concentrations
199-N-64	Far-field plume definition
199-N-67	Far-field plume definition
199-N-71	Upgradient
199-N-72	Near-field plume
199-N-73	Near-field plume
199-N-77	Near-field plume; bottom of aquifer

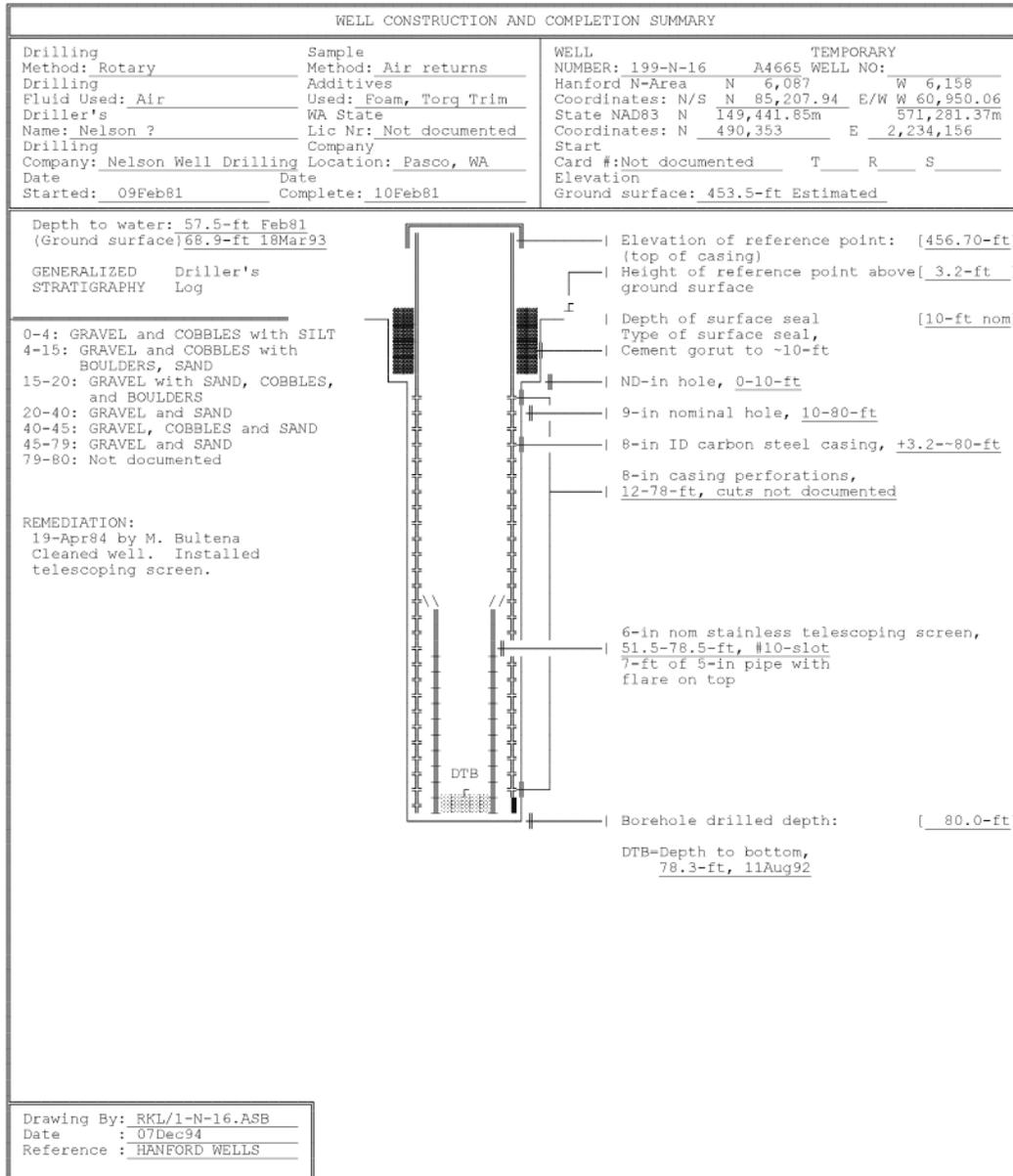
(a) Well 199-N-59 was drilled when the 1324-NA pond had artificially raised the water table. When the water table is low, it does not contain enough water to sample.



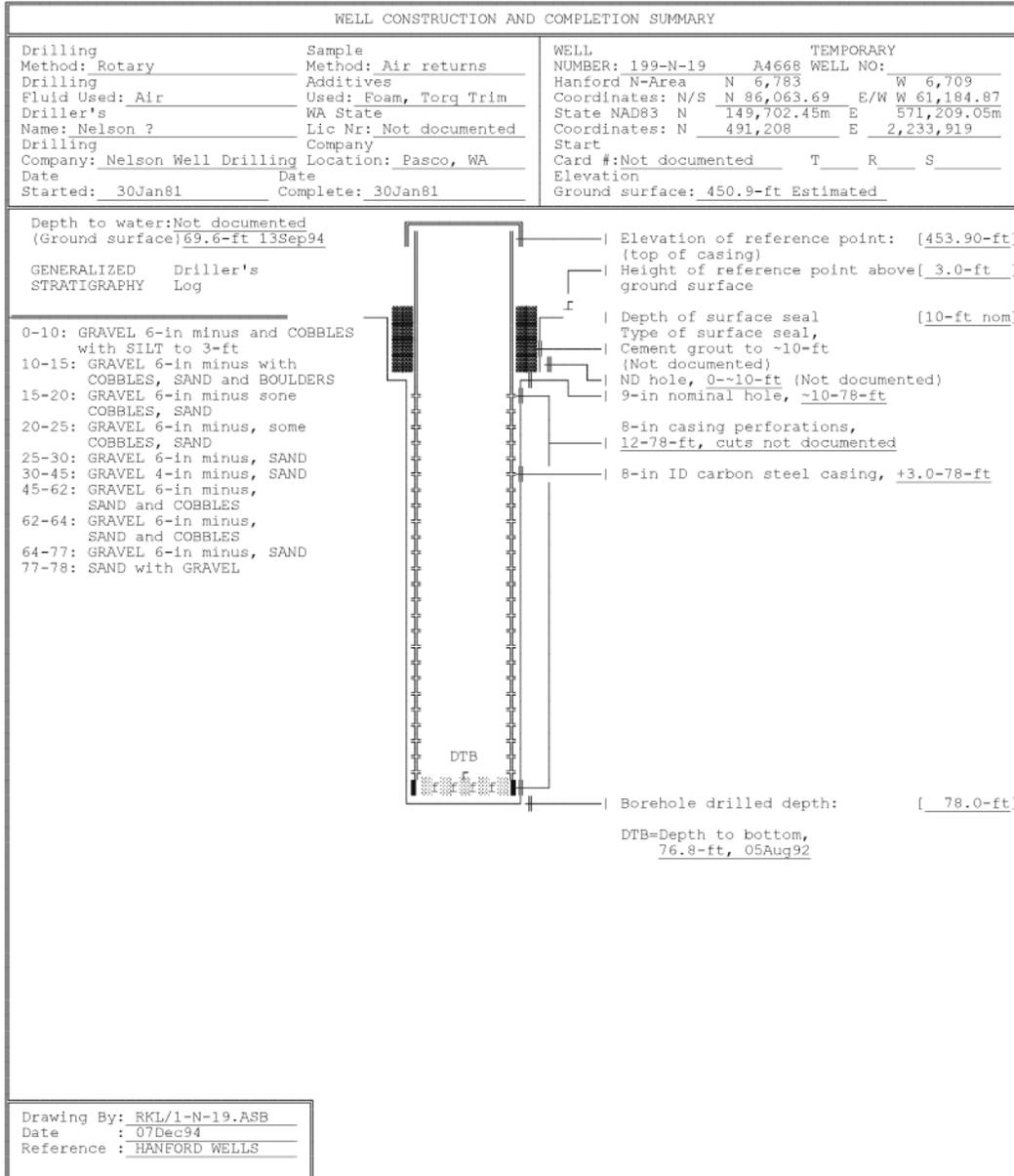
199-N-2



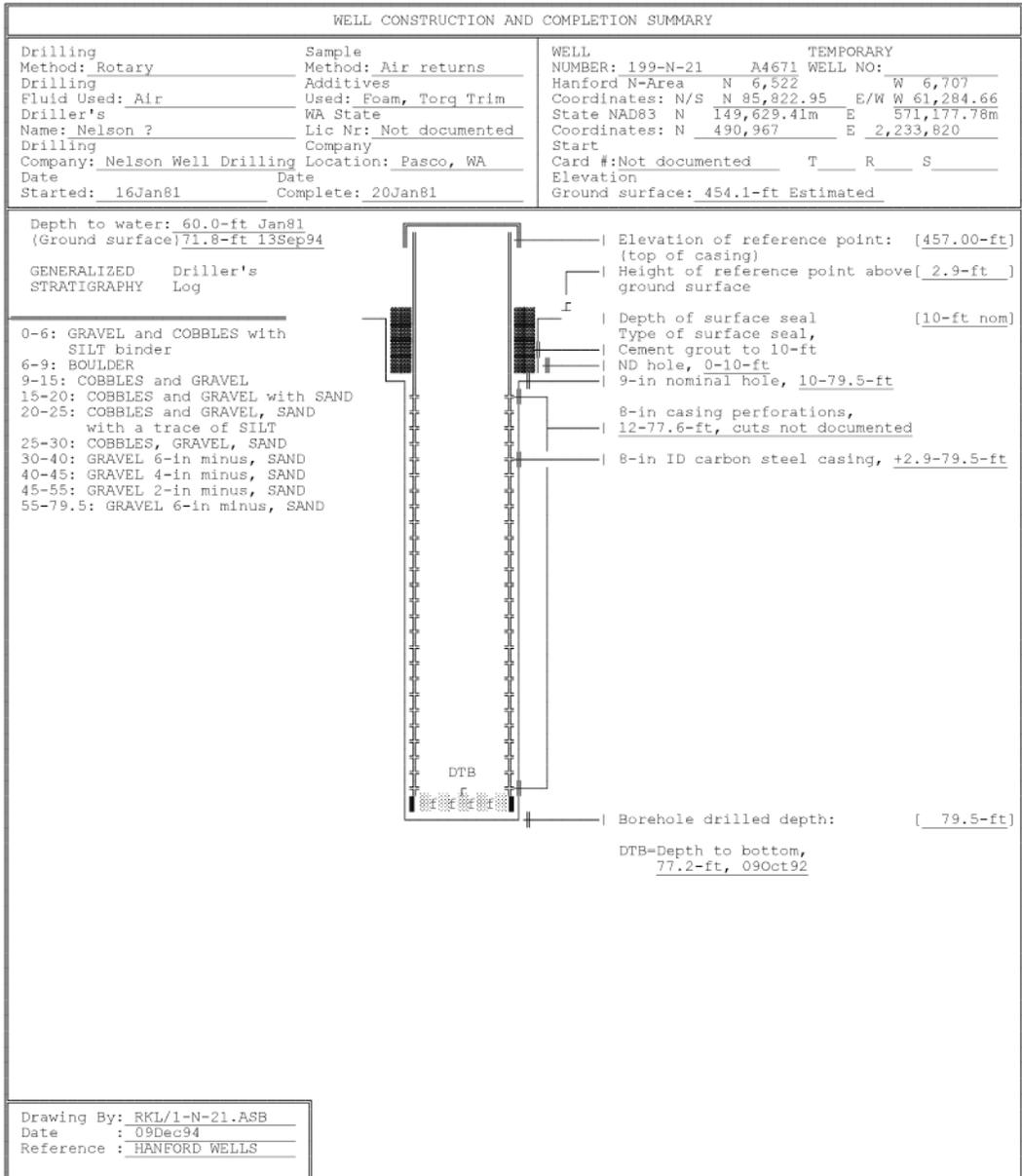
199-N-3



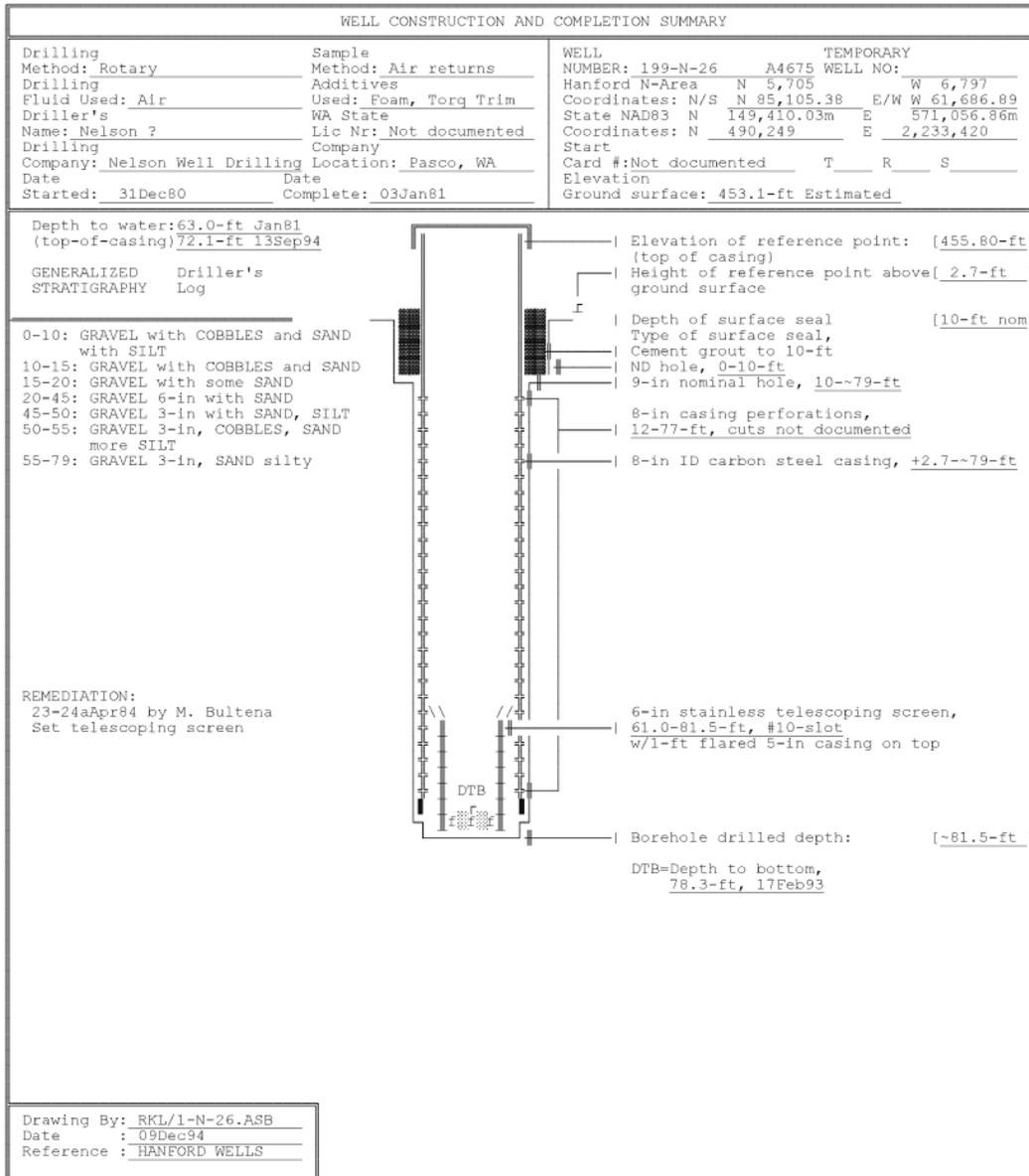
199-N-16



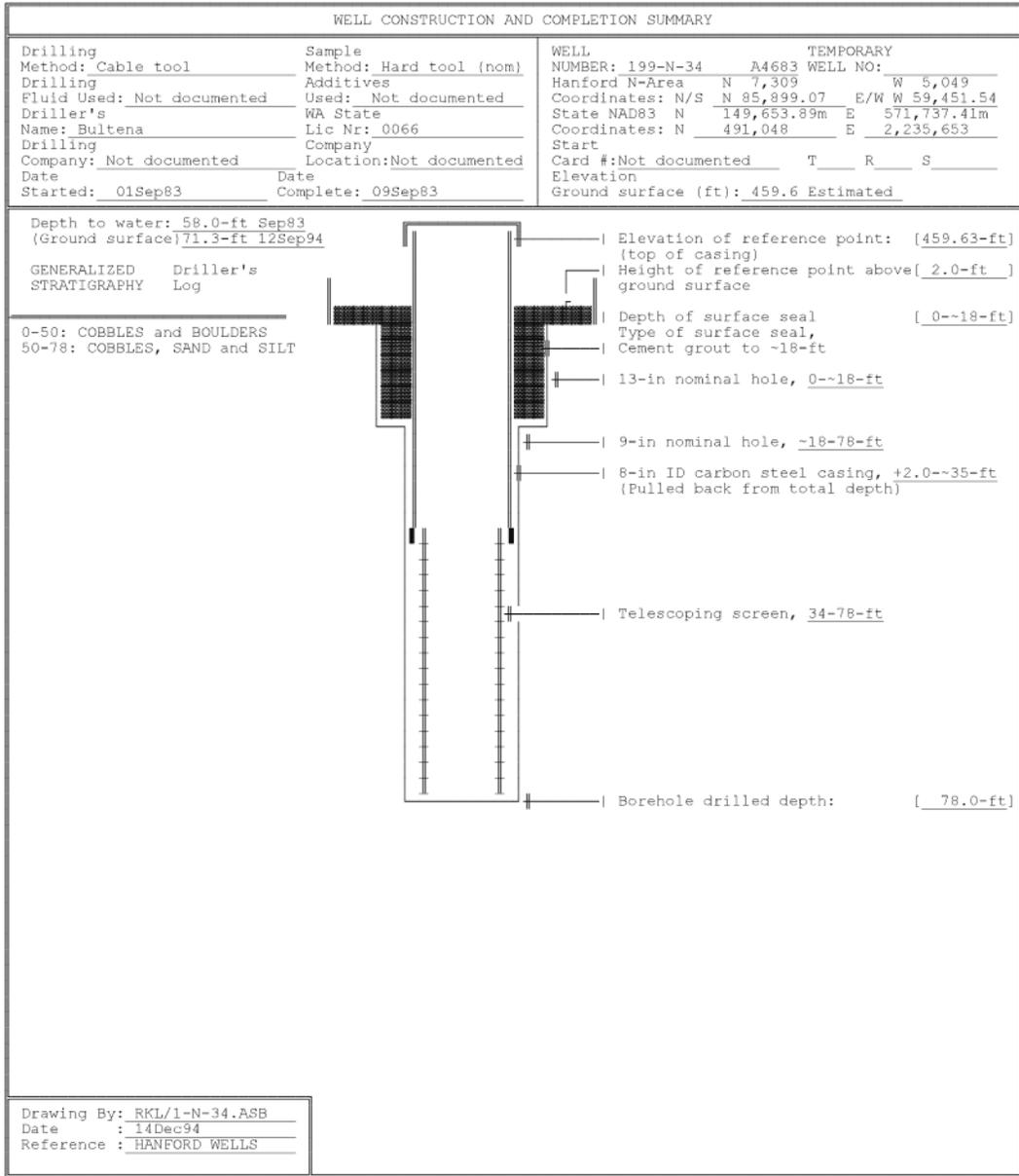
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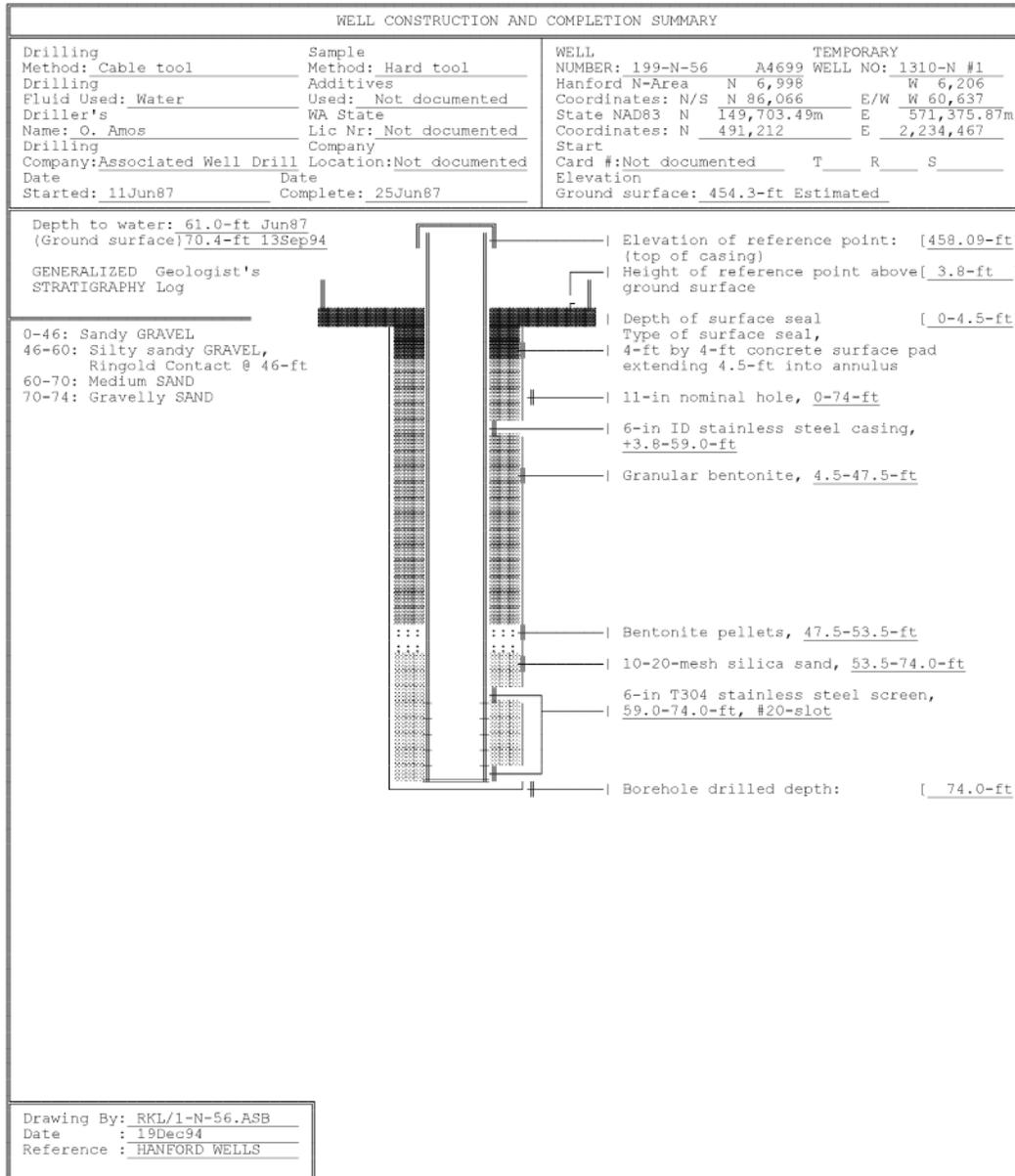
199-N-21



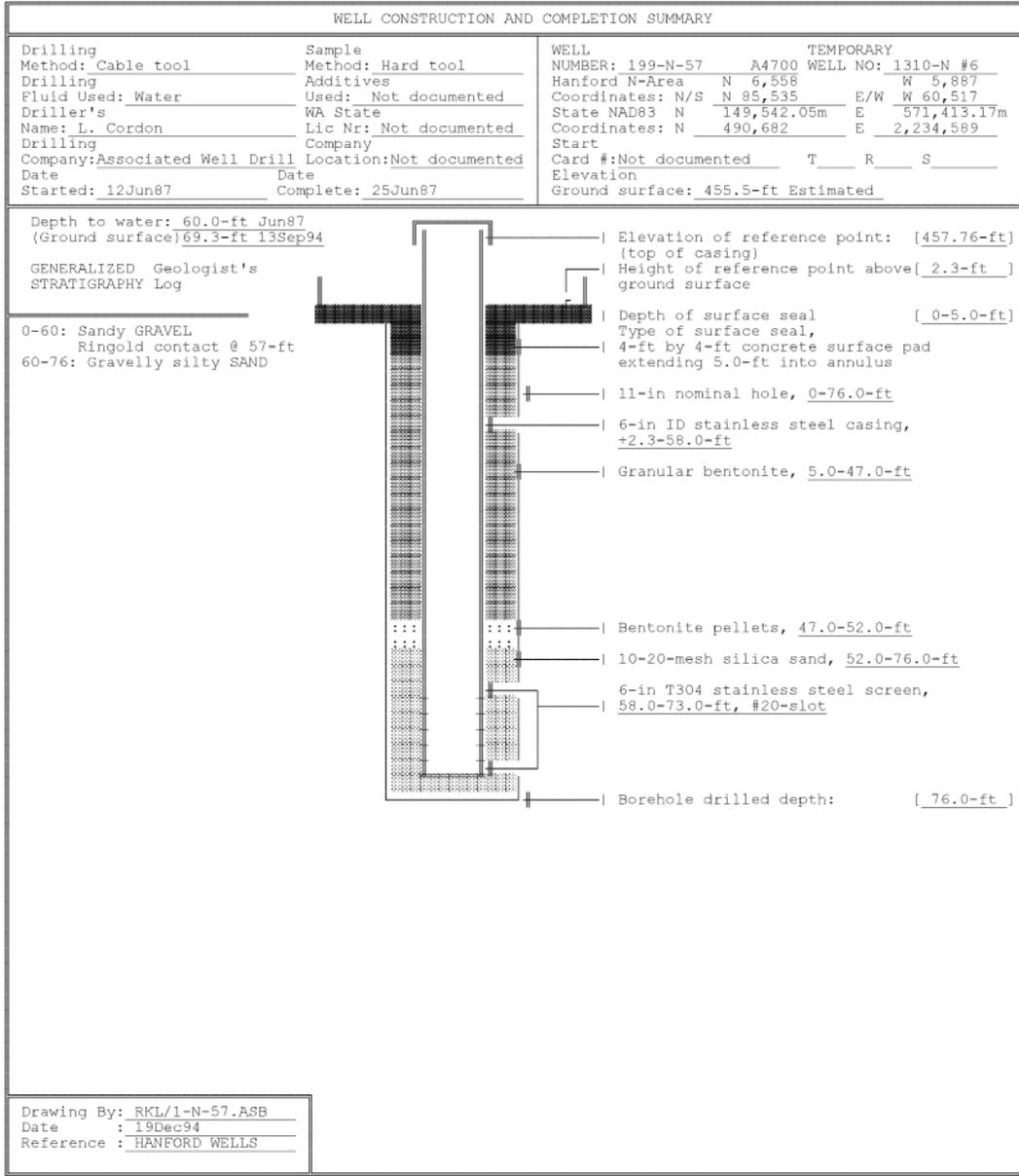
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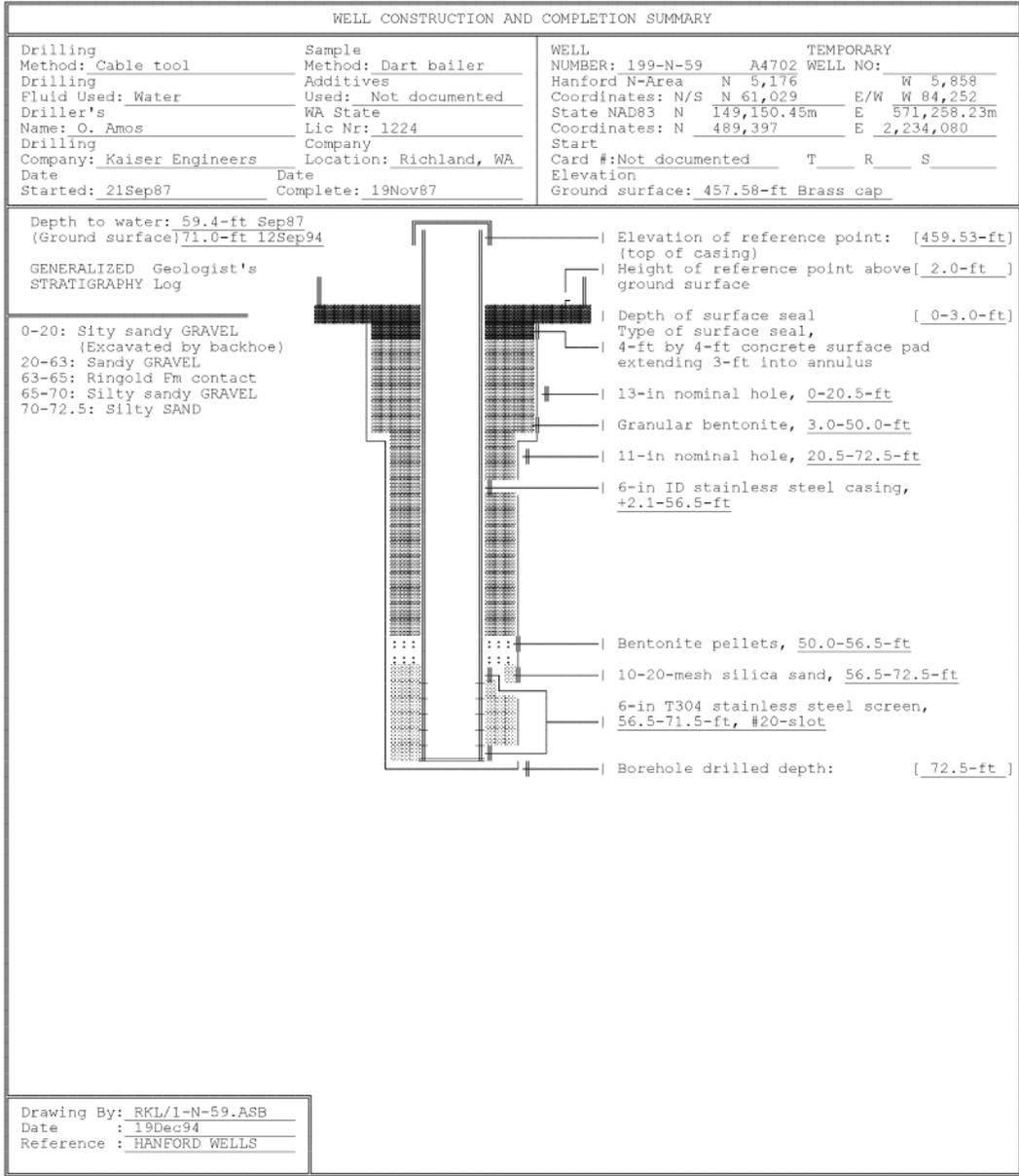
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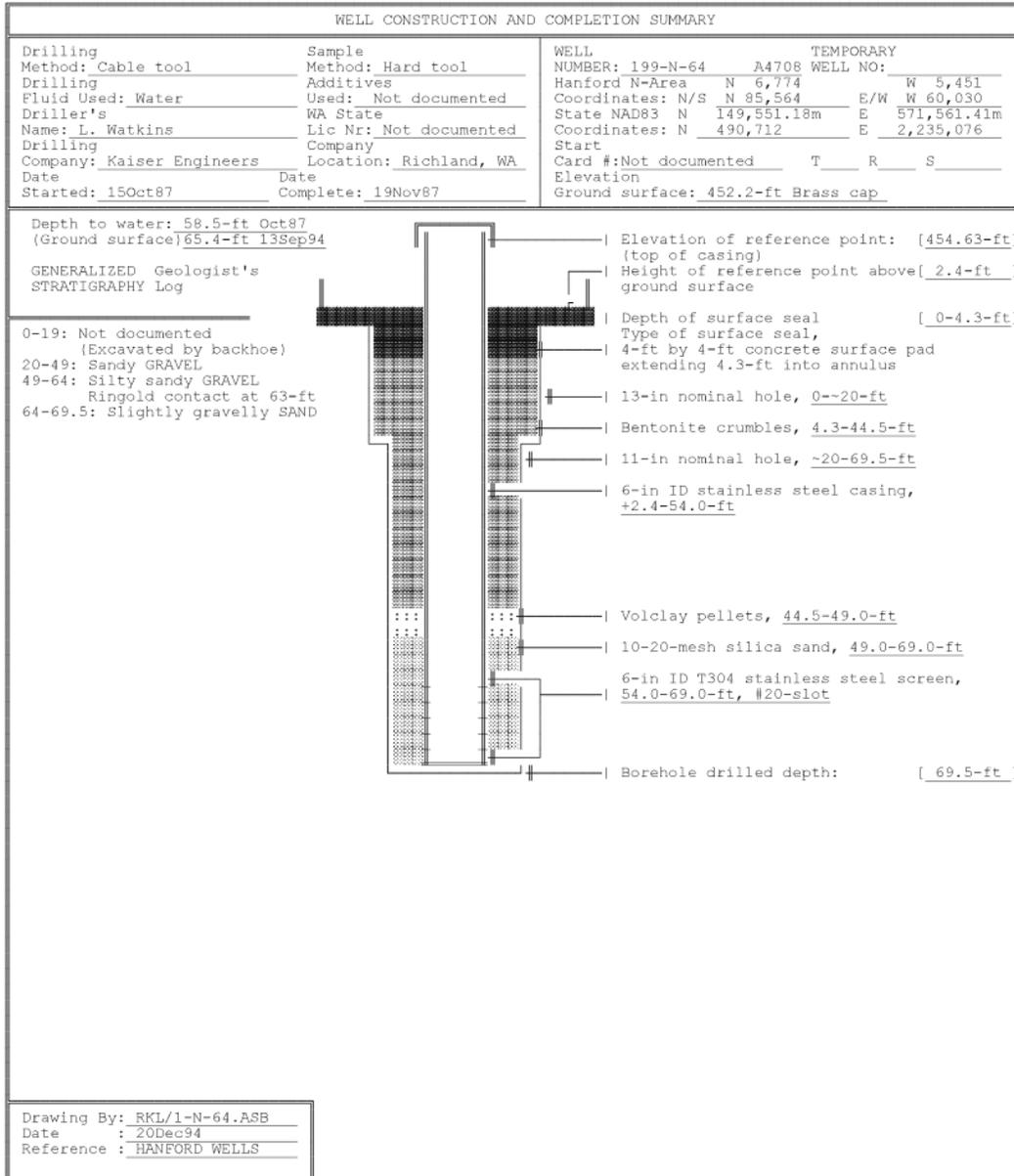
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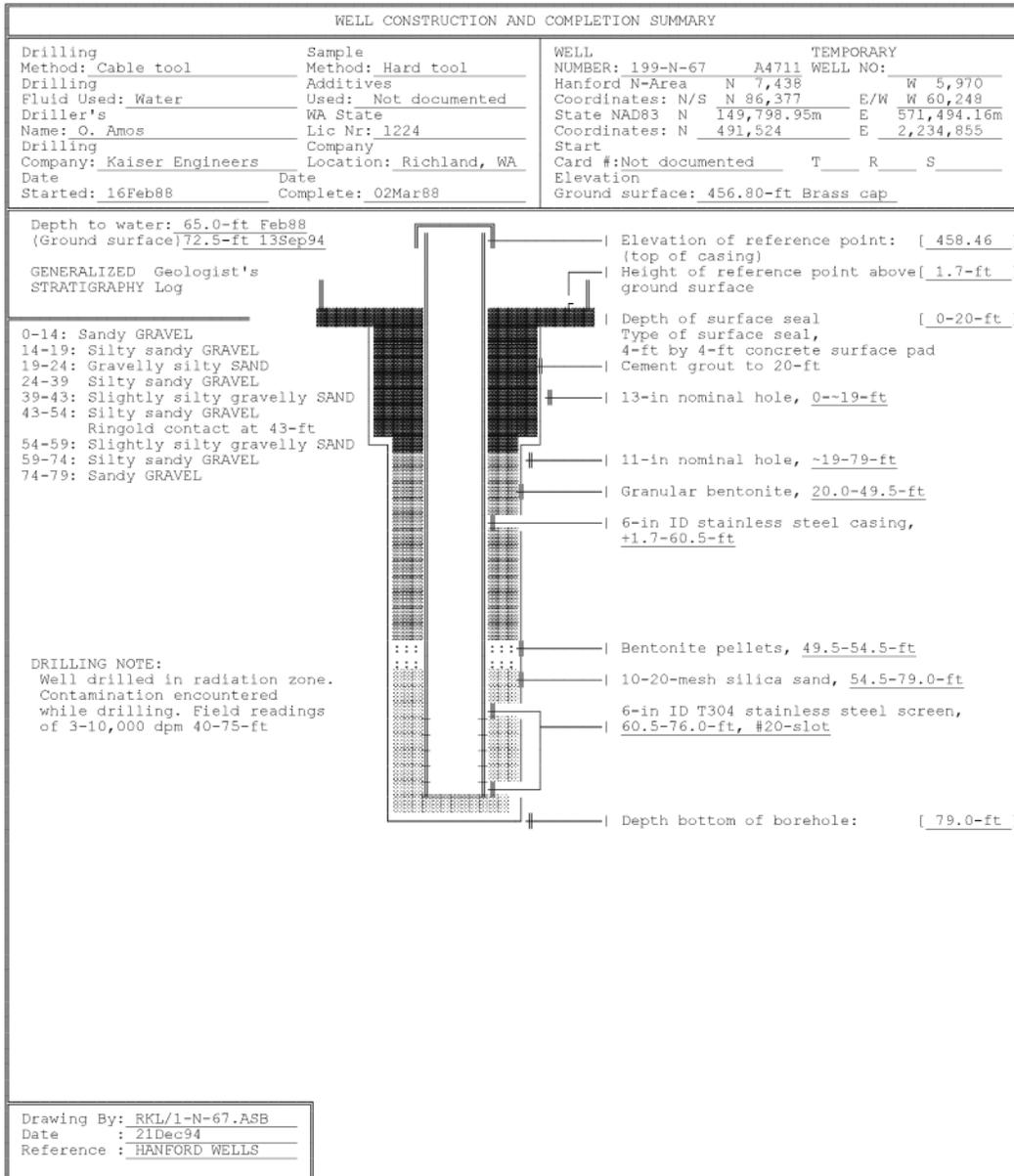
199-N-57



199-N-59



199-N-64



199-N-57

0500264

WELL CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION SUMMARY

Drilling Method: Cable Tool	Sample Method: Grab/Split Spoon	WELL NUMBER: 199-N-71	A4714	TEMPORARY WELL NO: None
Drilling Fluid Used: NA	Additives Used: None	Coordinates: N: Not documented		
Driller's Name: Joe Ockert	WA State Lic Nr: Not Available	Coordinates: E: Not documented		
Drilling Company: KEH Const. Forces	Company Location: Hanford	Start Card #: Not Available		
Date Started: 07Aug91	Date Completed: 28Oct91	Elevation Ground Surface:		

Depth to Water: 68.1 ft 28Oct91
 (Ground surface)

Elevation of Reference Point: m

Height of Reference Point Above Ground Surface:

Depth of Surface Seal: 18 ft.

Type of Surface Seal: 4x4 Concrete Pad

GENERALIZED STRATIGRAPHY **Geologist's Log**

0 - 5 ft : Slightly Gravelly Silt

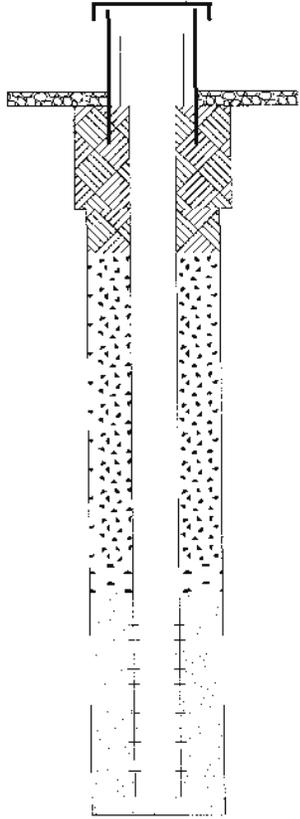
5 - 10 ft : Silty Sandy Gravel

10 - 25 ft : Gravelly Sandy Silt

25 - 45 ft : Gravel

45 - 85 ft : Sandy Gravel

85 - 87.05 ft : Sandy Gravel



Fill	Casing	Screen
0 - 12.61 ft : 13-inch hole	12-3/4" CS Temp. Welded Csg.	
Cement	0 - 63.8 ft : 4 inch	
12.61 - 18 ft : 11-inch hole	4" Casing	
Cement	12.61 - 87.05 ft : 11 inch	
	10-3/4" CS Temp. Welded Csg.	
18 - 55.8 ft : 11-inch hole		
Bentonite Crumbles		
55.8 - 59.7 ft : 11-inch hole		
Bentonite Pellets		
59.7 - 84.8 ft : 11-inch hole		
10-20 Silica Sand		
84.8 - 87.05 ft : 11-inch hole		
10-20 Silica Sand		
		63.8 - 84.5 ft : 4 inch 4" .020 SS Wire Wrap Pipe Size

87.05 ft : Borehole drilled depth

0 - 12.61 ft : 13-in. 12-3/4" Temp. Welded Csg. w/13" shoe

12.61 - 87.05 ft : 11-in. 10-3/4" Temp. Welded Csg. w/11" shoe

Report Form: WELLS Project File: WELLS.GPJ

Drawing By: DLF
 Reference: Hanford Wells
 Revision: 0
 Revision Date: 18Dec97
 Print Date: 18Dec97

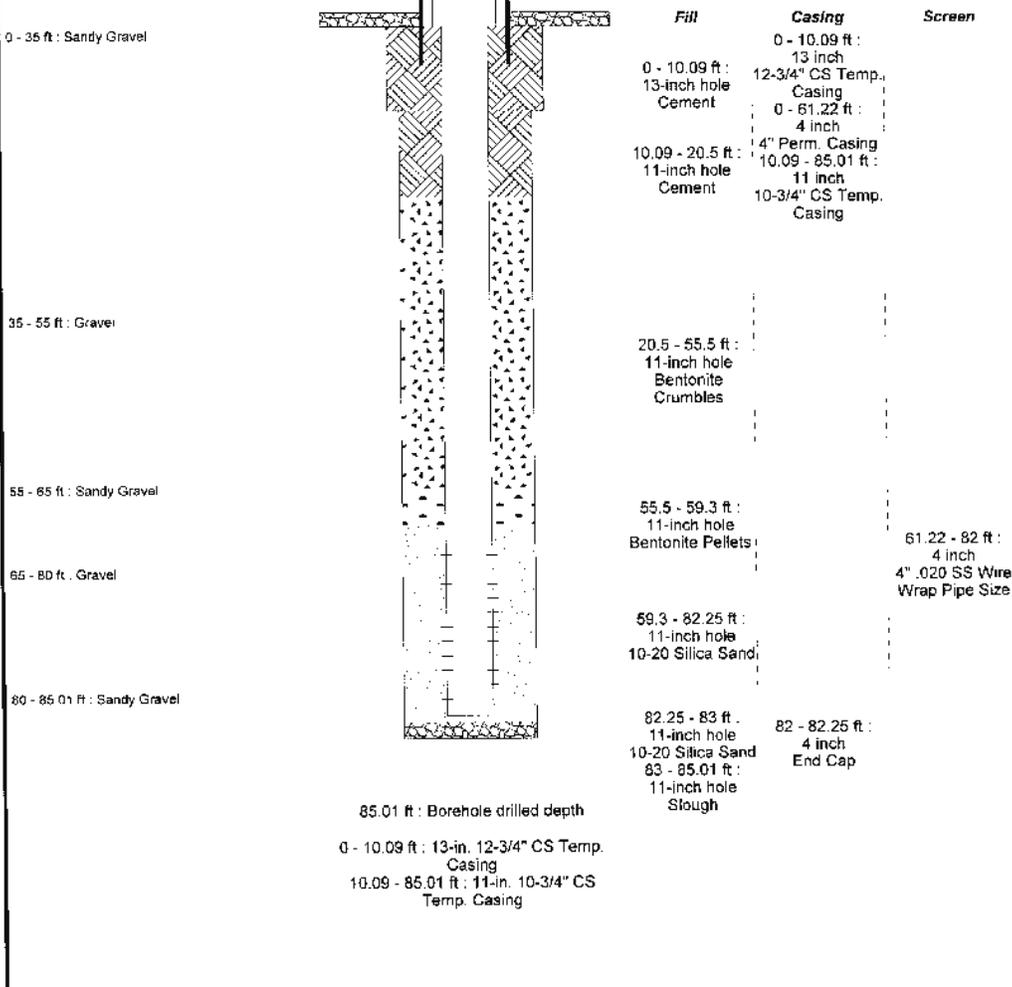


0503091

WELL CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION SUMMARY

Drilling Method: Cable Tool	Sample Method: Grab/Split Spoon	WELL NUMBER: 199-N-72 A4715	TEMPORARY WELL NO: None
Drilling Fluid Used: NA	Additives Used: None	Coordinates: N Not documented	
Driller's Name: J. Ockert	WA State Lic Nr: Not Available	Coordinates: E Not documented	
Drilling Company: KEH Constr. Forces	Company Location: Hanford	Start Card #: Not Available	
Date Started: 30Aug91	Date Completed: 30Oct91	Elevation Ground Surface:	

Depth to Water: **65.1 ft 25Oct81** (Ground surface)
 Elevation of Reference Point: **m**
 Height of Reference Point Above Ground Surface:
 Depth of Surface Seal: **20.5 ft.**
 Type of Surface Seal: **4x4 Concrete Pad**



Report Form: WELLS - Project File: WELLS.GPJ

Drawing By: **DLF**
 Reference: **Hanford Wells**
 Revision: **0**
 Revision Date: **27Jan98**
 Print Date: **27Jan98**



199-N-72

0500305

WELL CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION SUMMARY

Drilling Method: Cable Tool	Sample Method: Grab/Split Spoon	WELL NUMBER: 199-N-73	A4716	TEMPORARY WELL NO: None
Drilling Fluid Used: NA	Additives Used: None	Coordinates: N	Not documented	
Driller's Name: D. Kruger	WA State Lic. No.: Not Available	Coordinates: E	Not documented	
Drilling Company: KEH Constr. Forces	Company Location: Hanford	Start Card #:	Not Available	
Date Started: 26Aug91	Date Completed: 16Sep91	Elevation Ground Surface:		

Depth to Water: 68.3 ft 16Sep91
 (Ground surface) 69.3 ft 30Oct91

Elevation of Reference Point: m

Height of Reference Point Above Ground Surface:

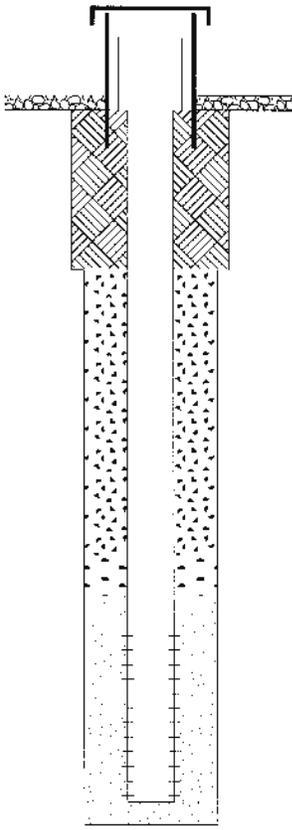
Depth of Surface Seal: 19.7 ft.

Type of Surface Seal: 4x4 Concrete Pad

GENERALIZED STRATIGRAPHY Geologist's Log

0 - 55 ft.: Gravel

55 - 89.1 ft.: Sandy Gravel



Fill	Casing	Screen
0 - 19.7 ft : 13-inch hole Cement	0 - 19.92 ft : 13 inch 12-3/4" CS Temp. Welded Csg. 0 - 65.6 ft : 4 inch 4" Casing	
19.7 - 19.92 ft : 13-inch hole Bentonite Crumbles	19.92 - 89.3 ft : 11 inch 10-3/4" CS Temp. Welded Csg.	
19.92 - 55.5 ft : 11-inch hole Bentonite Crumbles		
55.5 - 60.6 ft : 11-inch hole 3/8" Bentonite Pellets		
60.6 - 86.4 ft : 11-inch hole 10-20 Silica Sand		65.6 - 86.1 ft : 4 inch 4" .020 SS Wire Wrap Pipe Size
86.4 - 89.3 ft : 11-inch hole 10-20 Silica Sand	86.1 - 86.4 ft : 4 inch	

89.1 ft : Borehole drilled depth

0 - 19.92 ft : 13-in, 12-3/4" Carbon Steel Temp. Casing

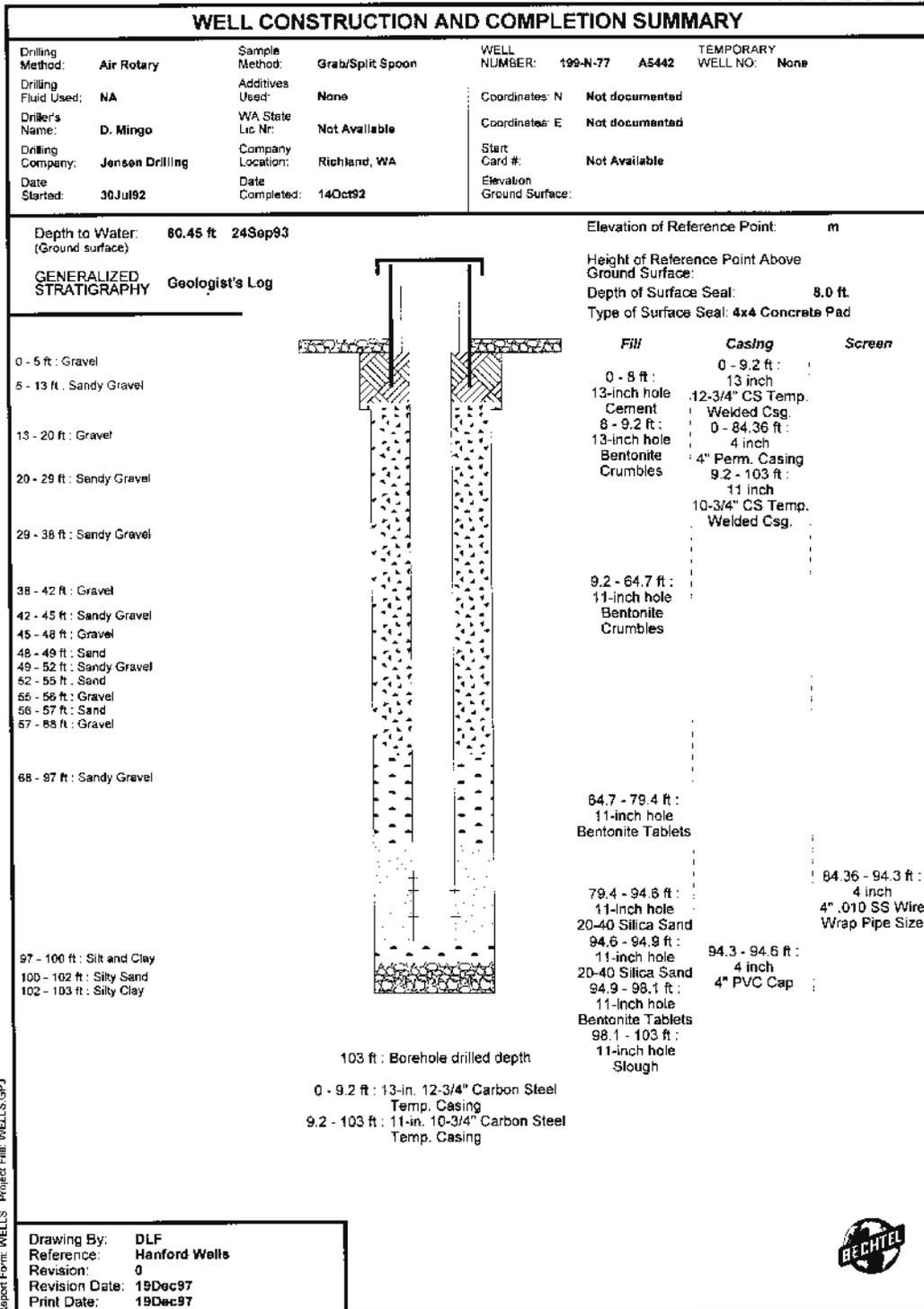
19.92 - 89.1 ft : 11-in, 10-3/4" Carbon Steel Temp. Casing

Report Form WELLS Project File WELLS.BPJ

Drawing By: DLF
 Reference: Hanford Wells
 Revision: 0
 Revision Date: 19Dec97
 Print Date: 19Dec97



0500149



199-N-77

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