

IAH network on “Coastal aquifer dynamics and coastal zone management” QUESTIONNAIRE

IAH national committees, IAH members and non members from all around the world involved in SWI and SGD research and management are kindly asked to fill in the questionnaire in this page with as many details as possible.

A world database will be set up and made available, with basic coastal aquifer main characteristics.

We expect to gather standard and comparable information on the knowledge level and hopefully the state of the art of the research on SWI and SGD, and coastal aquifer management methods adopted around the world

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| 1) | Location of aquifer (country, more specific location): | Mar del Plata, Argentina |
| 2) | Reported by: | E.M. Bocanegra, H.E. Massone, J.L. Cionchi and D.E. Martínez |
| 3) | Type of medium (karst, porous, fracture) | Porous |
| 4) | Type of aquifer (phreatic or confined) | Multilayered phreatic aquifer and its thickness ranging from 70 to 100 m |
| 5) | Main lithology - (e.g. gravel, sand and clay) | Silts and silty-sandy sediments |
| 6) | Hydrochemistry: fresh or saline | Fresh |
| 7) | Saltwater intrusion: lateral from sea or lakes - upconing | Lateral Intrusion from ocean |
| 8) | Aquifer geometry: hydraulic characteristics | Hydraulic conductivity is 10-15 m/day. Its transmissivity is about 600-800 m ² /day in the urban area and between 1,000-1,400 m ² /day in the rural area. The storage coefficient is 0,001 and the porosity is 0,15 |
| 9) | Aquifer parameters: storage - annual water pumping - (in MCMA - millions cubic meters, annually) | The average rainfall in 1930-2005 was of 895 mm/year in this city
annual water pumping 120 Hm ³ /year |
| 10) | Depth of aquifer (water level and bottom) - water level 5-30 m - aquifer depth - 50-200 m | Phreatic level ranging between 10-30 mbs. Hydrogeologic basement is quartzitic rocks in the upper area of the basin (depth 30-80mbs) or clay/siltyclay levels in the lower area of the basin (depth aprox. 130/150 mbs) |
| 11) | Major chemistry (anions - ?; Cations - ?): | Mainly HCO ₃ Ca; deepest levels of the aquifer Cl-Na (or discharge area) other ions Mn,Fe,NO ₃ ,SO ₄ and NH ₄ |
| 12) | Major salinity sources: | Saline intrusion from the sea, Nitrate and bacteriological pollution in groundwater |
| 13) | Population: | Population of 600,000 inhabitants increasing threefold during the summer. Water for urban, agricultural and industrial uses are exclusively supplied by groundwater resources |
| 14) | Aquifer status: special features - e.g. thermal springs, major faults,... | Porous media aquifer; very homogeneous |
| 15) | Investigation methods - e.g. water level measurements, EC (electrical conductivity profiles), TDEM (geophysical), | Physicochemical parameters (temperature, pH, and conductivity); phreatic level monitoring, Hydrological investigations |
| 16) | Numerical hydrological modeling, chemical and isotopic methods, age determination, IR survey, seepage meters (for Submarine Groundwater Discharge, SGD) | Pumping tests, X-ray diffraction, Chemical methods, Piper diagrams
1-D transport modeling, hydrogeochemical modeling |
| 17) | Monitoring methods applied and duration - water level measurements, EC (electrical conductivity profiles - seasonal) | The Chemical analysis began in 1950 and in particular 399 analyses of samples collected from 1995 to 2005 have been considered to describe groundwater quality |
| 18) | Management methods: | Responsability of the Local government (municipality) ; pumping area increases inland according water demand; pumping on urban area stopped |
| 19) | Aquifer management actions: | To achieve the stability of a fresh water dome between sea shore and pumping area, to avoid sea water intrusion |
| 20) | Identification of existing or potential problems: | Problems related to hydric resources are: intense urban expansion, risk of saline intrusion, pollution of groundwater (agrochemicals, areas without sanitation services), and recurrent floods in the downtown building's basement (due to phreatic level rise)
Lack of integrated coastal management |
| 21) | Annexes: | |
| 22) | Observations: | Today there are about 230 wells operating |