

GLOSSARY

Absolute Peak Flow (m³/s) : This is the instantaneous peak flow of a river in cubic metres per second given for each month. The rating curves are extrapolated to estimate peak flows at most of the stations.

Alluvium : Any clay, silt, sand, pebble or other detrital material deposited by water.

Aquifer : Hydrogeologically permeable formation allowing a significant flow of groundwater and economical exploitation of a significant volume of water.

Caldera : It is a large volcanic crater resulting from collapse of the central part of a volcano after a major eruption.

Dynamic Water Level : It is the influenced depth of water measured from ground level in a well at a given instance during pumping.

Elevation : It is defined as a level above the Mean Sea Level.

Grid Reference : The datum of the grid system in Mauritius is the longitude 57°31' 18.58" East of Greenwich and the latitude 20° 11' 42.25" South, corresponding to 1000 000 E and 1000 000 N for Mauritius. The six or seven digits represent the coordinates of the location being considered in a Cartesian plane. Its unit of measurement is metres.

Isohyet : Line joining the points where the amount of precipitation in a given period is the same

Long Term Mean (LTM) : It is the average value of a hydrologic variable for a period exceeding 10 years.

Maximum Elevation : It is the level of the highest point in the catchment /sub-catchment of a river above the Mean Sea Level.

Permeability : The property of a geological formation, consolidated or not, to be crossed by a fluid under the effect of hydraulic gradient. It expresses the resistance of a medium to a flow of water when being crossed.

Piezometric Level : It is the difference between the ground elevation and the depth of groundwater in a well or piezometer.

Residence Time : The period during which a substance remains in the concerned water body.

Static Water Level : It is the depth of water in a well or piezometer at rest measured from ground level.

Station code for flow gauging station : The gauging station code is an alphanumeric reference which serves primarily to identify the station record. The alphabet is an identifier for the catchment – one letter for a major catchment, two letters for a minor catchment, while the following digits give the code number – two digits for river gauging stations, three digits for gauging stations on diversions. These digits are allocated chronologically to the stations situated within the catchment area.

Transmissivity : Rate at which water is transmitted through a unit width of the aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient . It is expressed as the product of the hydraulic conductivity and the thickness of the saturated portion of the aquifer.

CONVERSION TABLE

Length

1 foot (ft)	=	0.3048 metre (m)
1 inch (in)	=	25.4 millimetres (mm)
1 mile (mi)	=	1,609 metres
1 toise	=	1.949 metres

Area

1 acre (ac)	=	4,050 square metres (m ²)
1 arpent	=	4,210 square metres (m ²)
1 hectare (ha)	=	10,000 square metres (m ²)
1 perche	=	42 square metres (m ²)

Volume

1 cubic foot (ft ³)	=	28.3 litres (l)
1 cubic foot (ft ³)	=	0.0283 cubic metres (m ³)
1 cubic metre (m ³)	=	1,000 litres (l)
1 hectolitre (hl)	=	100 litres (l)
1 gallon	=	4.54 litres (l)
1 million cubic metres (Mm ³)	=	1,000,000 cubic metres (m ³)
1 million cubic feet (Mcf)	=	28300 cubic metres (m ³)

Rate of Discharge

1 cubic foot per second (cfs)	=	0.0283 cubic metres per second (m ³ /s)
1 cubic foot per second (cfs)	=	2445 cubic metres per day (m ³ /d)

ABBREVIATIONS

Max :	Maximum
Min :	Minimum
a.m.s.l :	Above Mean Sea Level
m³/s Day :	A volume equivalent to a continuous steady flow of 1m ³ /s for a period of 24 hours.
WHO :	World Health Organisation