

On-line Access to Data from DPR's Surface Water Database

The data are available through Google Fusion Tables. For the links to the data on Fusion Tables, see the “Accessing the Data” section on DPR’s Database Web site at: <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/surfwtr/surfcont.htm>

Some basic instructions for use are provided below. For additional information on using Google Fusion Tables, visit: <http://support.google.com/fusiontables/?hl=en>

Users can select the data they want using a menu-driven graphical user interface, and then export (download) the selected data as a file to their own computer for their own use. This file contains only the data selected by the user. The data can also be viewed on the web page, without exporting/downloading.

To select specific data: If you don’t see a table of data, click VISUALIZE => TABLE Click VIEW => FILTER In the drop-down menu, select what parameter you want to filter on (you can filter by county name, chemical name, concentration, etc.). Next to that, select ‘=’ for is equal to, ‘<’ for less than, ‘starts with’, etc... Then type in your value of interest. Note that these entries are case sensitive. Click the “Apply” button to apply the filter parameters. The visible table will change to reflect your filter parameters.

You can do multiple filters - after you fill in the first and click “Apply”, click the “Add condition” link and you’ll be given another drop-down filter tool. Proceed as described above.

To remove all filters and begin again with the entire data set, click “clear filter”.

The filtered data can be sorted on any field by clicking on the field name and selecting either 'sort ascending' or 'sort descending'. For example, one could filter for all detections of a specific chemical and sort in descending order to see the maximum concentrations.

To export (save) the results of your query (filter), click FILE =>DOWNLOAD. In the resulting dialog box, click SAVE, then SAVE to the desired location. Note that the data that will be saved are your filtered data - the data returned from your query/filter parameters. Also note this will be a .csv file, which can easily be imported into Excel, etc. (For example, in newer versions of Excel, you can simply drag and drop the file into a new blank workbook and it will import correctly). Note also that there are over 483,000 records; some operations may occasionally be slow.

The function for mapping the data in Google Maps will not work properly at this time; since each monitoring sites is normally associated with multiple data records, only one data record would be shown on the pop-up for that site.

Clicking the “Switch to new look” link will modify the layout of the data, and the instructions provided here will no longer apply (although the process in that alternate format is very similar). In this case, you can return to the correct layout through HELP => back to classic look.

For questions about accessing the DPR database through Fusion Tables, contact Xuyang Zhang at Xuyang.Zhang@cdpr.ca.gov. For general questions about Fusion Tables, visit <http://support.google.com/fusiontables/?hl=en>