



WATER RESOURCES OF THE BAHAMAS

Map Unit

1 Fresh water generally plentiful. Moderate to enormous quantities of fresh water from shallow, fresh water lenses within poorly-stratified Pleistocene limestone aquifers. The water table is within 0 to 6 m (0 to 20 ft) of the surface.

2 Fresh water locally plentiful. Unsuitable to large quantities of fresh water from shallow, fresh water lenses within poorly-stratified Pleistocene limestone aquifers. The water table is within 0 to 6 m (0 to 20 ft) of the surface.

3 Fresh water scarce or lacking. Unsuitable to small quantities of fresh water from shallow, fine-grained, well-sorted Holocene sandy aquifers. The water table is within 0 to 6 m (0 to 20 ft) of the surface.

4 Surface water resources. Unsuitable quantities of fresh water from shallow, poorly-stratified Pleistocene limestone aquifers.

5 Surface water resources. Surface water features including ponds, lakes, creeks and blue holes. Unsuitable to meager quantities of brackish to hypersaline water available. Features on some islands, such as Andros, Eleuthera, and Grand Bahama may contain seasonally fresh water.

6 Areas dominated by wetlands. Unsuitable quantities of saline surface water available.

- National Capital
- ⊙ Largest City
- Populated Place

CONVERSION CHART

| To Convert | Multiply By | To Obtain |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| meters | 3.281 | feet |
| liters per second | 15.84 | gallons per minute |
| liters per second | 60 | liters per minute |
| liters per second | 950 | gallons per hour |
| liters per minute | 380 | gallons per day |
| gallons per minute | 0.063 | liters per second |
| gallons per minute | 3.78 | liters per minute |

HARDNESS TERMS

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Soft | ≥ 0 to 60 mg/L Calcium Carbonate |
| Moderately Hard | ≥ 61 to 120 mg/L Calcium Carbonate |
| Hard | ≥ 121 to 180 mg/L Calcium Carbonate |
| Very Hard | ≥ 181 mg/L Calcium Carbonate |

QUANTITATIVE TERMS

| | |
|------------|--|
| Enormous | ≥ 6 liters per second (L/s) (100 gallons per minute (gal/min)) |
| Very Large | 3 to 6 L/s (50 to 100 gal/min) |
| Large | 1.5 to 3 L/s (25 to 50 gal/min) |
| Moderate | 0.6 to 1.5 L/s (10 to 25 gal/min) |
| Small | 0.25 to 0.6 L/s (4 to 10 gal/min) |
| Very Small | 0.06 to 0.25 L/s (1 to 4 gal/min) |
| Meager | 0.015 to 0.06 L/s (0.25 to 1 gal/min) |
| Unsuitable | < 0.015 L/s (0.25 gal/min) |

QUALITATIVE TERMS

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Fresh water | = maximum Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) < 1,000 milligrams per liter (mg/L); maximum chlorides ≤ 600 mg/L; maximum sulfates (SO ₄) ≤ 300 mg/L |
| Brackish water | = maximum TDS ≥ 1,000 mg/L, but ≤ 15,000 mg/L |
| Saline water | = TDS > 15,000 mg/L |

Note: Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative. Features are from various sources of differing scales. Alignment and locational accuracy are approximate.

Figure C-3. Water Resources C-11