

Real Time Water Quality Report Humber River at Humber Village

Deployment Period 2010-06-17 to 2010-07-21

2010-10-28



Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
Department of Environment and
Conservation
Water Resources Management Division

General

- This station is operated as part of the Provincial Real Time Water Quality (RTWQ) network.
- This station is operated year round.
- Staff of the Water Resources Management Division (WRMD) monitors the real-time web page on a daily basis. Any unusual observations are investigated.
- This site is easily accessed and the instrument is removed on a monthly to bi-monthly basis for maintenance and calibration and is reinstalled within one to two days.

Maintenance and Calibration of Instrumentation

- After being freshly calibrated the **DataSonde®** for Humber River at Humber Village was installed on June 17, 2010, and remained deployed continuously until July 21, 2010. This was a normal length deployment period and the instrument maintained good operation for the duration of it.

Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) Measures

- As part of the QA/QC protocol, an assessment of the reliability of data recorded by an instrument is made at the beginning and end of the deployment period. The procedure is based on the approach used by the United States Geological Survey. See **Table 1**.

| Parameter | Rank | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|
| | Excellent | Good | Fair | Marginal | Poor |
| Temperature (oC) | $\leq \pm 0.2$ | $> \pm 0.2$ to 0.5 | $> \pm 0.5$ to 0.8 | $> \pm 0.8$ to 1 | $< \pm 1$ |
| pH (unit) | $\leq \pm 0.2$ | $> \pm 0.2$ to 0.5 | $> \pm 0.5$ to 0.8 | $> \pm 0.8$ to 1 | $> \pm 1$ |
| Sp. Conductance ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) | $\leq \pm 3$ | $> \pm 3$ to 10 | $> \pm 10$ to 15 | $> \pm 15$ to 20 | $> \pm 20$ |
| Sp. Conductance $> 35 \mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (%) | $\leq \pm 3$ | $> \pm 3$ to 10 | $> \pm 10$ to 15 | $> \pm 15$ to 20 | $> \pm 20$ |
| Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) (% Sat) | $\leq \pm 0.3$ | $> \pm 0.3$ to 0.5 | $> \pm 0.5$ to 0.8 | $> \pm 0.8$ to 1 | $> \pm 1$ |
| Turbidity < 40 NTU (NTU) | $\leq \pm 2$ | $> \pm 2$ to 5 | $> \pm 5$ to 8 | $> \pm 8$ to 10 | $> \pm 10$ |
| Turbidity > 40 NTU (%) | $\leq \pm 5$ | $> \pm 5$ to 10 | $> \pm 10$ to 15 | $> \pm 15$ to 20 | $> \pm 20$ |

Table 1

- Upon deployment, a QA/QC **DataSonde®** is temporarily deployed along side the Field **DataSonde®**. Values for temperature and dissolved oxygen are compared between the two instruments. A grab sample is taken to compare with the Field **DataSonde®** for specific conductivity, pH and turbidity parameters. Based on the difference between parameters recorded by the Field **DataSonde®**, QA/QC **DataSonde®** and grab sample, a qualitative statement is made on the data quality upon deployment.
- At the end of a deployment period, readings are taken in the water body from the Field **DataSonde®** before and after a thorough cleaning in order to assess the degree of biofouling. During calibration in the laboratory, an assessment of calibration drift is made and the two error values are combined to give Total Error (T_e). If T_e exceeds a predetermined data correction criterion, a correction based on T_e is applied to the dataset using linear interpolation. Based on the value for T_e , a qualitative statement is also made on the data quality upon removal. Unfortunately in this case the field instrument was not calibrated immediately after being removed from the field and therefore the rankings for removal are based on a simple comparison of the field instrument to the QA/QC instrument.
- The ranking at the beginning and end of the deployment period are shown in **Table 2**. It should be noted that while pH shows a poor comparison with the grab sample results for deployment it compared very well with the QA/QC instrument.

- With the exception of water quantity data (Stage), all data used in the preparation of the graphs and subsequent discussion below adhere to this stringent Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) protocol. Water Survey of Canada is responsible for QA/QC of water quantity data. Corrected data can be obtained upon request.

| Humber River at Humber Village (NF02Y10012) | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|
| Date (yyyy-mm-dd) | Parameter | Ranking |
| 2010-06-17 Deployment | Temp (°C) | Excellent |
| | pH (units) | Poor |
| | Sp. Conductivity (uS/cm) | Good |
| | Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) | Excellent |
| | Turbidity (NTU) | Excellent |
| 2010-07-21 Removal | Temp (°C) | Excellent |
| | pH (units) | Excellent |
| | Sp. Conductivity (uS/cm) | Excellent |
| | Dissolved Oxygen (%) | Fair |
| | Turbidity (NTU) | Excellent |

Table 2

Data Interpretation

- The water temperature (**Figure 1**) ranged from a minimum of 7.60 °C to a maximum of 17.14 °C, with a rising trend throughout the deployment period.
- There are two periods when temperature takes a noticeable dip around July 4th to 5th and July 9th to 11th. These dips do not appear to be caused by changes in flow but are most likely related to cooling trends in air temperature during the days preceding each dip. Because this is a large river with a significant lake (Deer Lake) a few kilometres upstream, water temperature is relatively slow to respond to changes in air temperature.
- There is a noticeable diurnal temperature trend with a gentle drop during cooling each night.

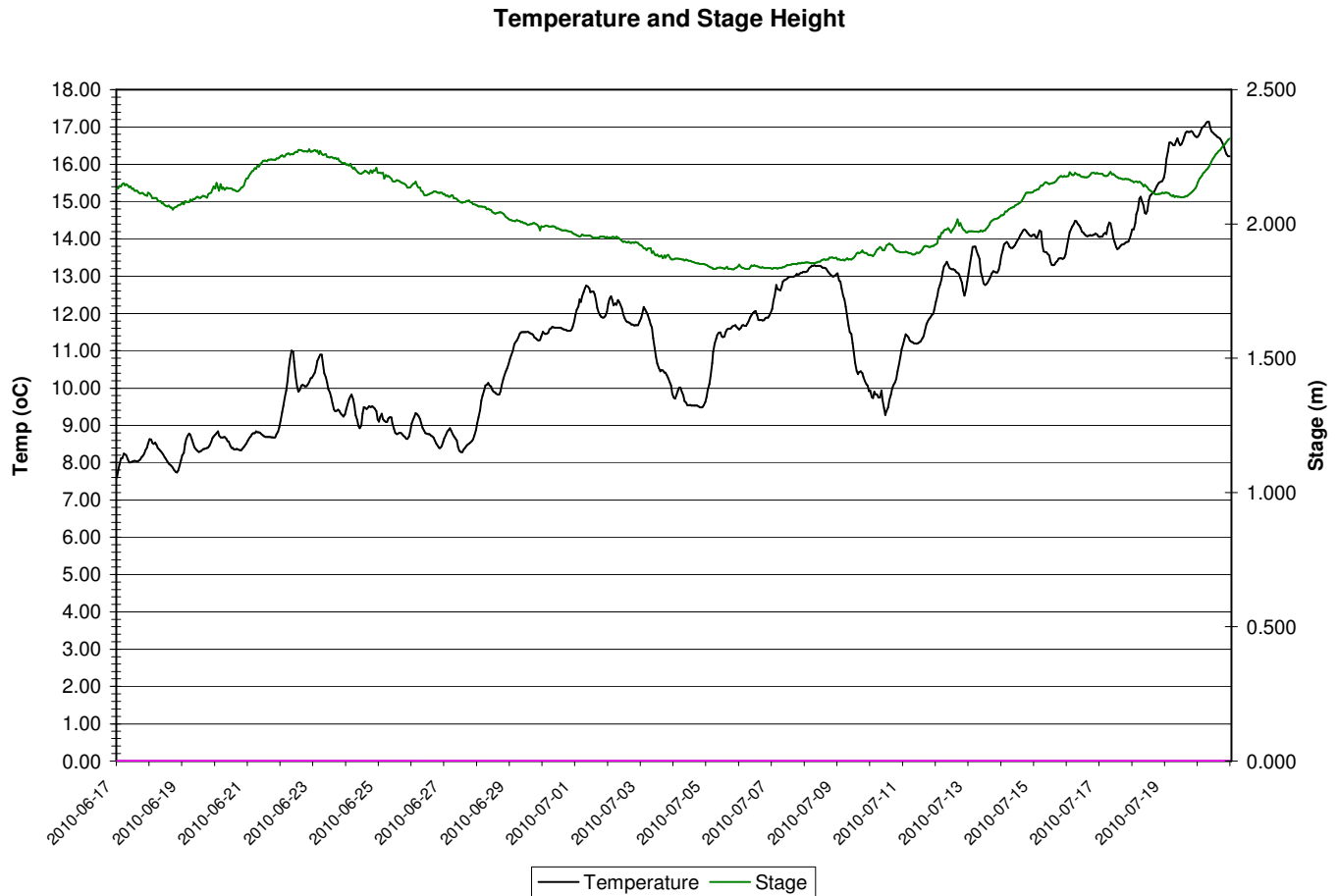
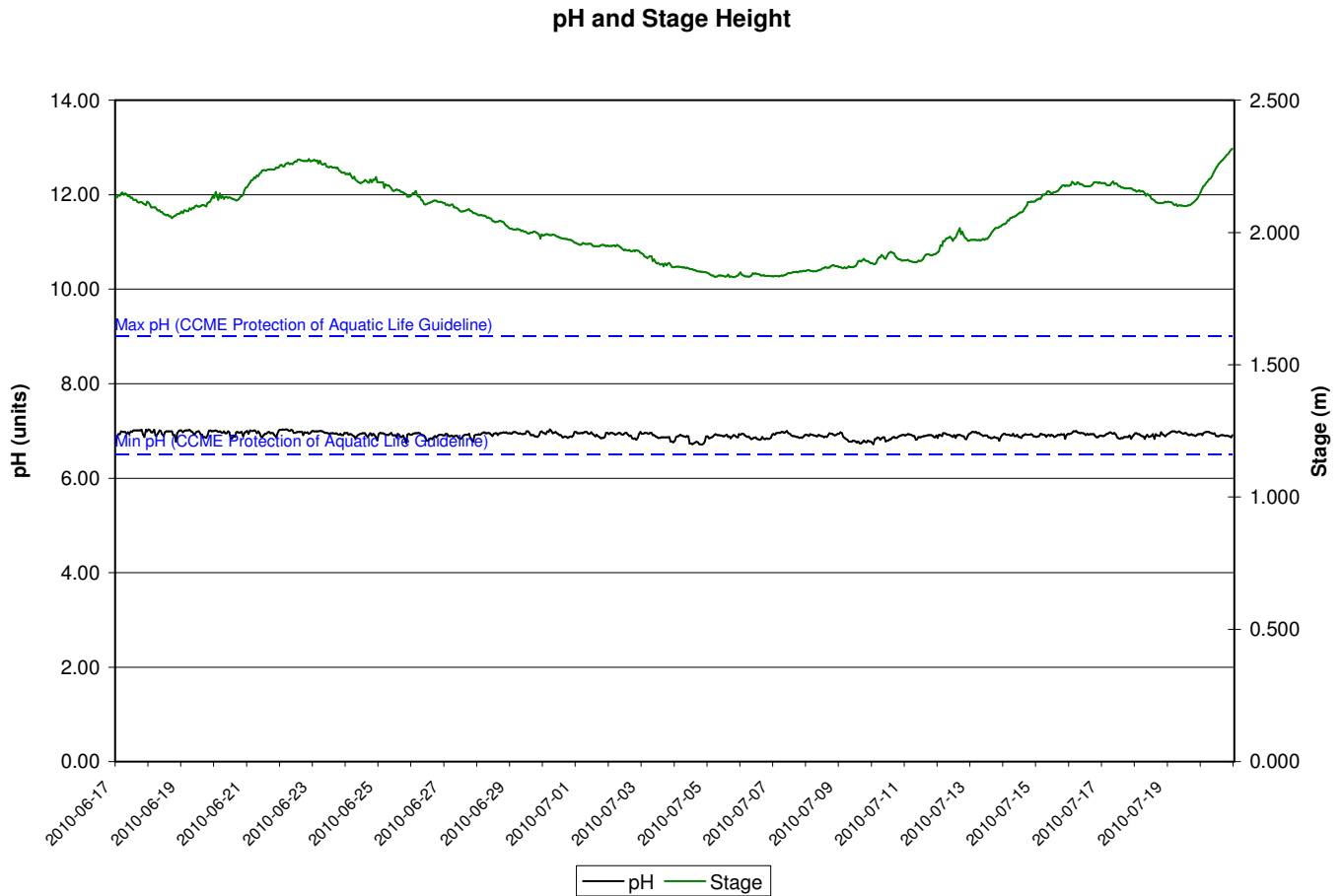
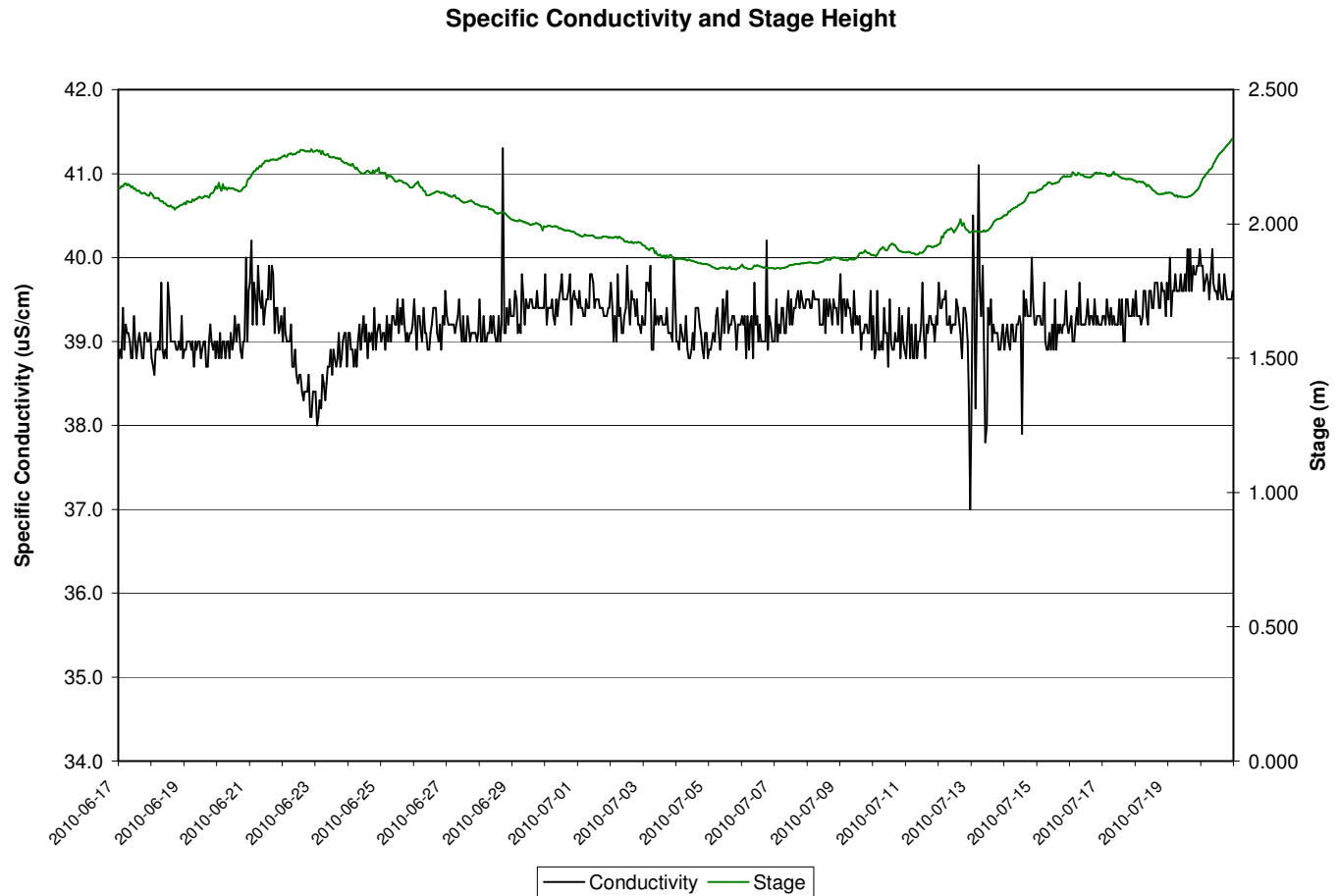


Figure 1

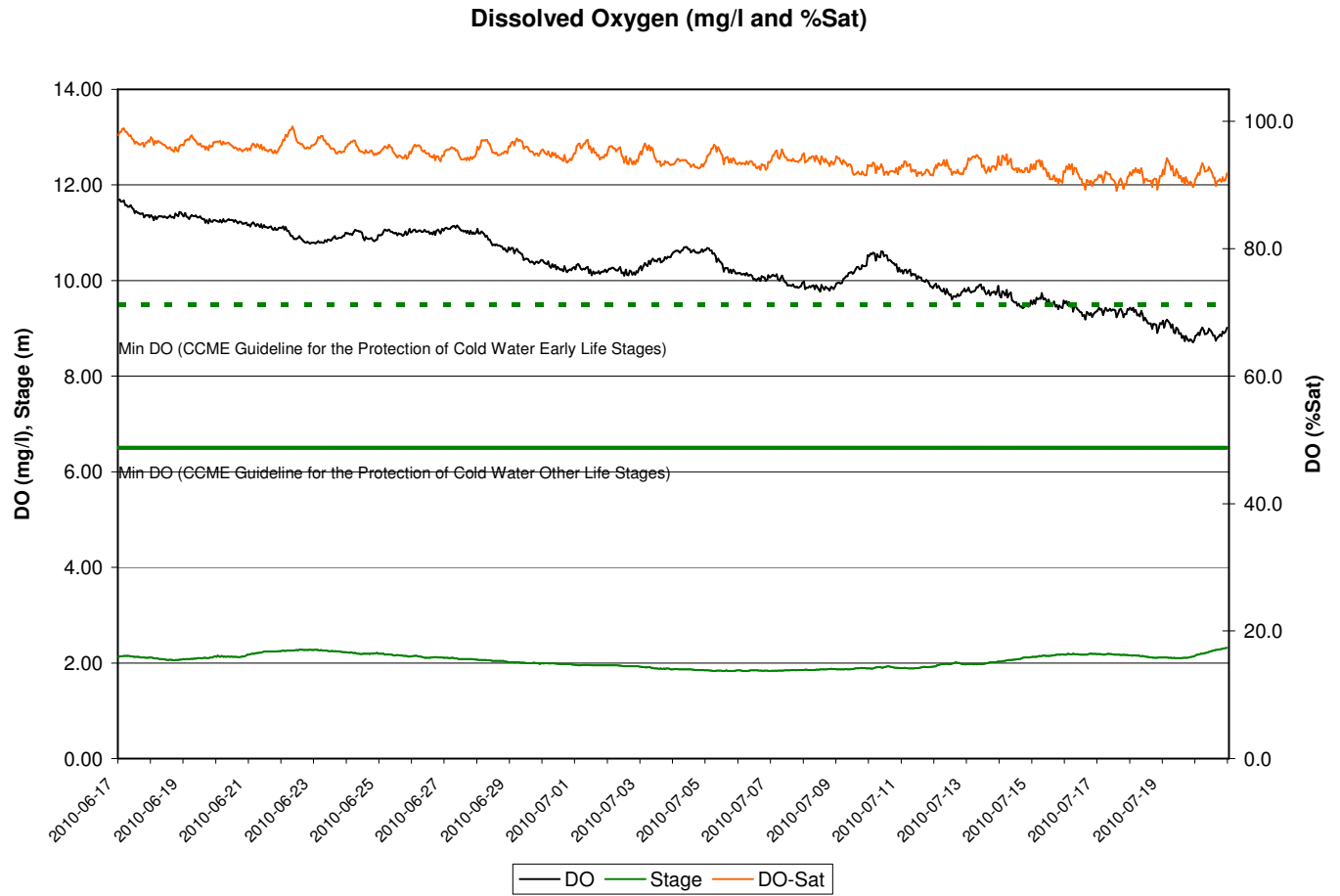
- The pH ranged from a low of 6.71 to a high of 7.03 and remained quite stable throughout the deployment period. (**Figure 2**).
- All pH readings were within the range of 6.5 to 9.0 recommended by CCME for the protection of aquatic life.

**Figure 2**

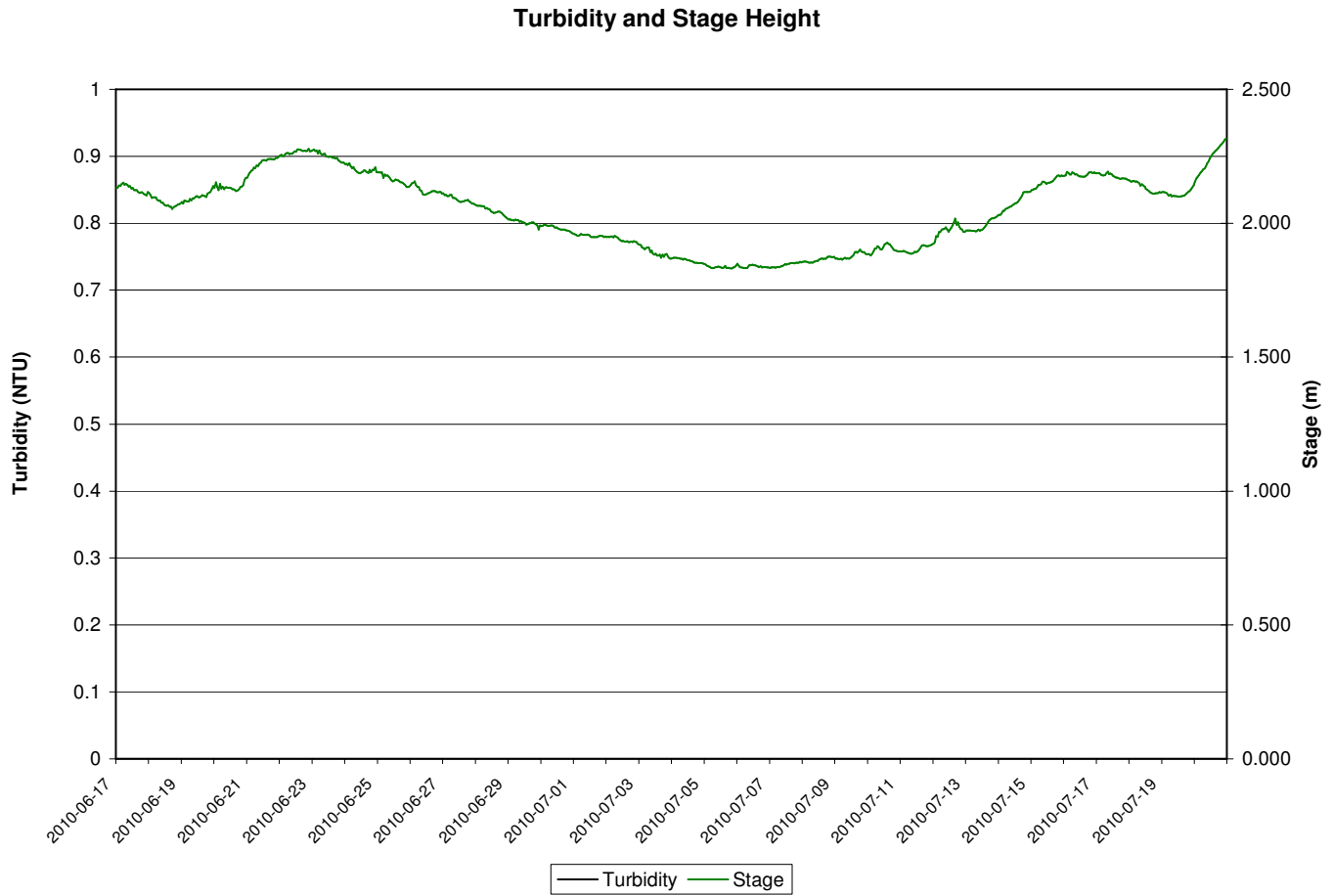
- The specific conductivity (**Figure 3**) ranged from a minimum of 37.0 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ to a maximum of 41.3 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ over the deployment period.
- Stage height and flow were relatively stable throughout the deployment period and did not seem to have a significant impact on conductivity. However a noticeable rise in stage height around June 21st to 22nd does seem to correspond with a drop in conductivity.

**Figure 3**

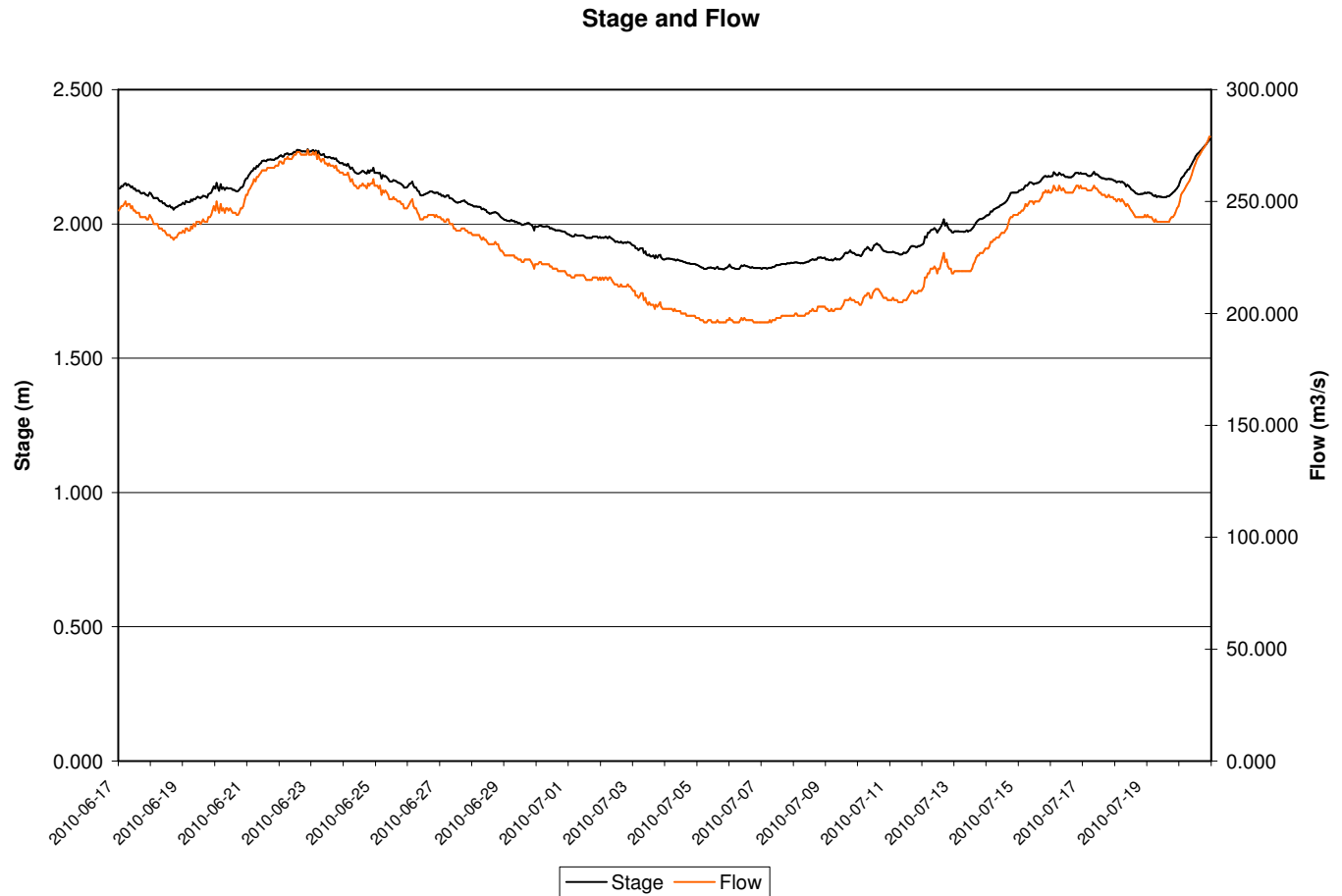
- The dissolved oxygen (**Figure 4**) values ranged from a minimum of 8.71 mg/L to a maximum of 11.70 mg/L over the deployment period with percent saturation ranging between 89.1% and 99.2%.
- Dissolved oxygen (mg/L) is generally inversely proportional to water temperature and a gentle declining trend over the deployment period is related to the increasing temperature trend. There is also a noticeable diurnal fluctuation of dissolved oxygen related to the diurnal temperature trend.
- Throughout the deployment period, all dissolved oxygen values fell above the limits recommended by CCME *Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life* (cold water/other life stages (above 6.5 mg/L). While most of the values are above the 9.5 mg/L guideline set for cold water/early life stages during the last week of the deployment period values fall below this guideline.

**Figure 4**

- The turbidity values (**Figure 5**) were consistently at 0 NTU for the entirety of the deployment period.

**Figure 5**

- The stage height or water level (**Figure 6**) ranged from a minimum of 1.831 m to a maximum of 2.317 m with the corresponding flow ranging from 196 m³/s to 279 m³/s.

**Figure 6**

Climate Data










- Climate data for the full deployment period from the nearest station (Corner Brook) is included in Appendix A.

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Appendix A

Daily Data Report for June 2010

| <u>D</u> <u>a</u> <u>y</u> | <u>Max</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Min</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Mean</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Heat</u> <u>Deg</u> <u>Days</u> °C  | <u>Cool</u> <u>Deg</u> <u>Days</u> °C  | <u>Total</u> <u>Rain</u> mm  | <u>Total</u> <u>Snow</u> cm  | <u>Total</u> <u>Precip</u> mm  | <u>Snow on</u> <u>Grnd</u> cm  | <u>Dir of</u> <u>Max</u> <u>Gust</u> 10's Deg | <u>Spd of</u> <u>Max Gust</u> km/h |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 17† | 16.5 | 2.5 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 18† | 15.0 | 8.5 | 11.8 | 6.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 19† | 18.0 | 6.5 | 12.3 | 5.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 20† | 19.0 | 10.5 | 14.8 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 22.7 | 0.0 | 22.7 | 0 | | |
| 21† | 13.5 | 10.0 | 11.8 | 6.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0 | | |
| 22† | 14.0 | 6.5 | 10.3 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 23† | 26.5 | 11.5 | 19.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 24† | 21.5 | 12.5 | 17.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 25† | 17.0 | 13.5 | 15.3 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 4.4 | 0.0 | 4.4 | 0 | | |
| 26† | 20.0 | 7.5 | 13.8 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 27† | 17.0 | 8.5 | 12.8 | 5.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 28† | 17.0 | 7.0 | 12.0 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 29† | 19.5 | 10.5 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0 | | |
| 30† | 15.5 | 11.0 | 13.3 | 4.7 | 0.0 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 2.4 | 0 | | |

Daily Data Report for July 2010

| <u>D</u> <u>a</u> <u>y</u> | <u>Max</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Min</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Mean</u> <u>Temp</u> °C  | <u>Heat</u> <u>Deg</u> <u>Days</u> °C  | <u>Cool</u> <u>Deg</u> <u>Days</u> °C  | <u>Total</u> <u>Rain</u> mm  | <u>Total</u> <u>Snow</u> cm  | <u>Total</u> <u>Precip</u> mm  | <u>Snow on</u> <u>Grnd</u> cm  | <u>Dir of</u> <u>Max</u> <u>Gust</u> 10's Deg | <u>Spd of</u> <u>Max Gust</u> km/h |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 01† | 23.0 | 11.5 | 17.3 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 02† | 18.0 | 8.5 | 13.3 | 4.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 03† | 24.0 | 11.0 | 17.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0 | | |
| 04† | 19.0 | 15.5 | 17.3 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 05† | 21.5 | 15.5 | 18.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 3.4 | 0 | | |
| 06† | 16.5 | 13.0 | 14.8 | 3.2 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0 | | |
| 07† | 15.5 | 11.5 | 13.5 | 4.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 08† | 21.5 | 12.0 | 16.8 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 6.4 | 0.0 | 6.4 | 0 | | |
| 09† | 22.5 | 14.5 | 18.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 10† | 27.0 | 19.0 | 23.0 | 0.0 | 5.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 11† | 22.0 | 17.5 | 19.8 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 18.3 | 0.0 | 18.3 | 0 | | |
| 12† | 25.0 | 16.5 | 20.8 | 0.0 | 2.8 | 9.9 | 0.0 | 9.9 | 0 | | |
| 13† | 30.0 | 18.5 | 24.3 | 0.0 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 14† | 25.5 | 18.0 | 21.8 | 0.0 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 0.0 | 4.3 | 0 | | |
| 15† | 18.5 | 12.5 | 15.5 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 16† | 24.0 | 11.5 | 17.8 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 17† | 23.0 | 16.0 | 19.5 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |
| 18† | 30.0 | 19.0 | 24.5 | 0.0 | 6.5 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0 | | |
| 19† | 25.0 | 16.5 | 20.8 | 0.0 | 2.8 | 6.8 | 0.0 | 6.8 | 0 | | |
| 20† | 23.0 | 16.0 | 19.5 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 0 | | |
| 21† | 26.0 | 14.0 | 20.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | | |