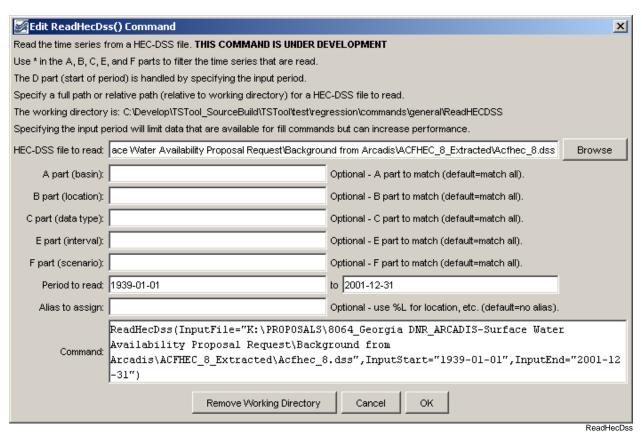# Command Reference: ReadHecDss()
Read time series from a HEC-DSS File
Version 08.17.03, 2008-11-11

The `ReadHecDss()` command reads the time series from an HEC-DSS file. See the **HEC-DSS Input Type Appendix** for information about how time series properties are assigned using HEC-DSS file data.

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the syntax for the command. In the future, it is envisioned that choices for A – F parts will be made available using data from the file.

ReadHecDss() Command Editor

The command syntax is as follows:

```
ReadHecDss(Parameter=Value,…)
```

Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
InputFile	The name of the HEC-DSS input file to read, surrounded by double quotes to protect whitespace and special characters.	None – must be specified.
A	The A part (basin name) to match, using * as a wildcard.	Match all.

Parameter	Description	Default
B	The B part (location) to match, using * as a wildcard.	Match all.
C	The C part (data type) to match, using * as a wildcard.	Match all.
E	The E part (interval) to match, using * as a wildcard.	Match all.
F	The F part (scenario) to match, using * as a wildcard.	Match all.
InputStart	Starting date/time to read data, in precision consistent with data.	Read all data.
InputEnd	Ending date/time to read data, in precision consistent with data.	Read all data.
Alias	Alias to assign to the output time series. See the LegendFormat property described in the **TSView Time Series Viewing Tools** appendix. For example, %L is full location, %T is data type, %I is interval, and %Z is scenario.	None is assigned. However, if the location contains periods that are in conflict with time series identifier convetions, the alias is set to the identifier with periods, and the periods are replaced with spaces in the full time series identifier.

A sample command file is as follows:

```
ReadHecDss(InputFile="sample.dss",InputStart="1992-01-01",
  InputEnd="1992-12-31",Alias="%L %T %Z")
```