### Command Reference: TableToTimeSeries()

Create time series from a table

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The TableToTimeSeries () command creates time series from a table. This command can be used when a command to read time series from a specific file format or datastore has not been implemented or parsing the table is easier. The table typically is read using one of the following commands:

- ReadTableFromDataStore() for example, define an ODBC DSN connection to a database and query time series using an SQL statement.
- ReadTableFromDelimitedFile() for example, read time series from a commaseparated-value (CSV) file.
- ReadTableFromExcel() for example, read time series from a comma-separated-value (CSV) file
- ReadTableFromHTML() envisioned for the future.
- ReadTableFromXML() under development.

TSTool internally represents tables as a collection of columns, where a column contains values of a consistent data type (e.g., integer, string, double). A time series table requires at a minimum a date/time column (or separate date and time columns), at least one data value column, and optionally one or more columns for data flags. Data represented in three table designs are handled by this command:

- Data for multiple locations/series stored in a single column (common in a database or stream of data from a data logger) specify the LocationColumn command parameter referred to as single column format in this command.
- Data for multiple locations/series stored in multiple columns (common in spreadsheets and CSV files) do not specify the LocationColumn command parameter but instead specify the ValueColumn and optionally LocationID parameters referred to as multiple column format in this command.
- Data for one or multiple stations represented in a block of data with time on both axes (e.g., year in first column and months in other columns) this is referred to as block format and is under development.

The command provides flexibility to specify time series metadata (e.g., data source, units) as command parameters, or read from the file. However, this flexibility is limited by practical considerations in supporting likely data formats. One current limitation of the command is that TSTool does not determine table column names during discovery mode (discover mode is a partial command run that allows data such as time series and table identifiers to be provided to later commands for editing). Consequently, although this command will create time series when run, it does not produce time series information in discovery mode and the time series will not be listed in later command editors. This limitation may be addressed in future TSTool updates.

Care must be taken when processing very large tables because TSTool may run out of memory. A solution is to process smaller tables and also use the FreeTable() command. Other commands that do not require the intermediate table can also be used.

The data values can be taken from a column of type integer, double, or string. Data needed to form the time series identifier is stripped of periods (.) because periods interfere with the TSID convention.

# Example 1: Single Column for Time Series Values with Time Series Identifier Information Specified by Command Parameters

An example of a table with single data value column with flags is shown in the following figure (note that a column is used for the location identifier and that the location is different for the topmost and bottommost records).

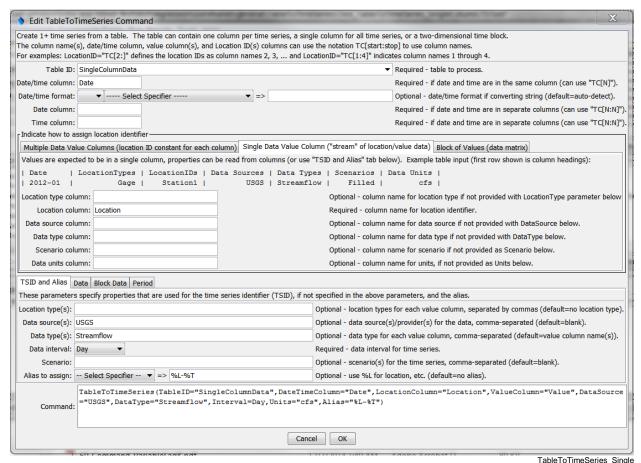


TableToTimeSeries\_Single\_DataTable

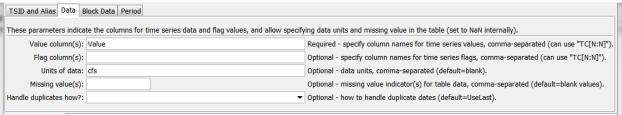
Simple Table with Data Values in a Single Column

In the above example, the list of unique time series is determined by examining the location column contents. Other time series metadata such as data source and units can be assigned using the DataSource, Units, and similar parameters.

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the command syntax when processing single-column data from the above example. Note that time series metadata are specified with command parameters.



TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor for Table with Data in a Single Column



TableToTimeSeries\_Single\_Data

TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor Data Parameters

# Example 2: Single Column for Time Series Values with Time Series Identifier Information Specified in Table

The following example is also treated as single-column because a single column of data values is present. However, metadata are taken from other columns. This data format is consistent with a database query where several tables have been joined together. Although not efficient because time series metadata is repeated for every row, the format is convenient for data translation. Use the DataSourceColumn, UnitsColumn and similar parameters to specify metadata. The unique list of time series will be determined from the combinations of location identifier and other metadata.

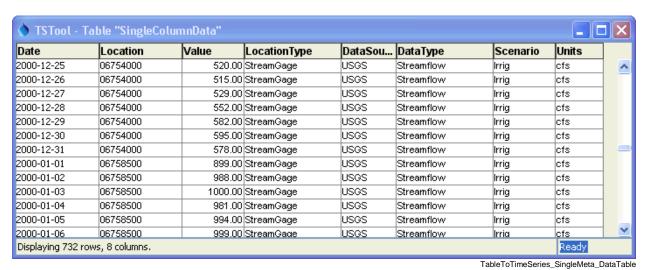
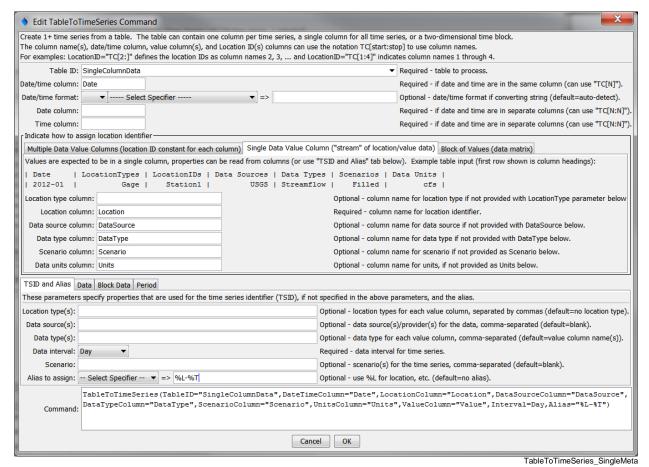


Table with Data Values in a Single Column and Metadata Provided in Other Columns

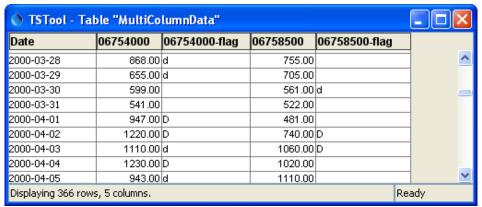
The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates syntax when processing single-column data from the above example. Time series metadata are specified with command parameters. The ValueColumn parameter in the **Data** tab is specified as "Value".



TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor for Table with Single Data Column and Metadata Columns

### **Example 3: Multiple Columns for Time Series Values with Time Series Identifier Information Specified in Command Parameters**

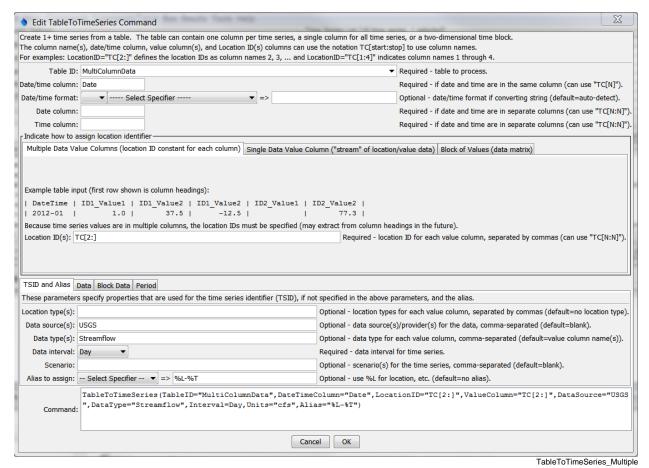
An example of multi-column data with flags for each time series is shown in the following figure:



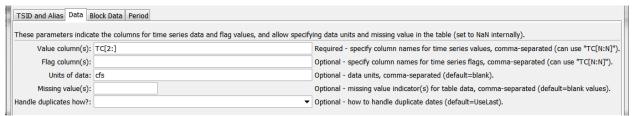
**Table with Multiple Data Columns** 

TableToTimeSeries\_Multiple\_DataTable

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the syntax for the command when processing multi-column data from the above table.



TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Multiple Column

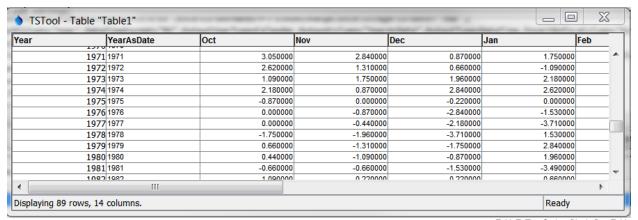


TableToTimeSeries\_Multiple\_Data

TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Multiple Column, Data Tab

#### **Example 4: Time Series Values Specified in a Block**

The following data example illustrates monthly time series values specified in a block.



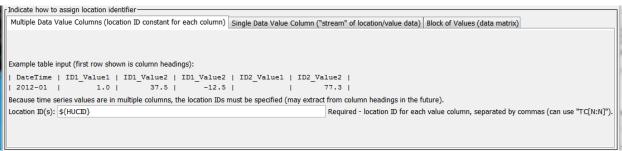
TableToTimeSeries\_Block\_DataTable

**Table with Block Data Format** 

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the syntax for the command when processing block data from the above table.

♦ Edit TableToTimeSeries Command					
Create 1+ time series from a table. The table can contain one column per time series, a single column for all time series, or a two-dimensional time block.  The column name(s), date/time column, value column(s), and Location ID(s) columns can use the notation TC[start:stop] to use column names.  For examples: LocationID="TC[2:]" defines the location IDs as column names 2, 3, and LocationID="TC[1:4]" indicates column names 1 through 4.					
Table ID: Tabl	le1	▼ Required - table to process.			
Date/time column: Year	rAsDate	Required - if date and time are in the same column (can use "TC[N]").			
Date/time format:	▼ Select Specifier =>	Optional - date/time format if converting string (default=auto-detect).			
Date column:		Required - if date and time are in separate columns (can use " $TC[N:N]$ ").			
Time column:		Required - if date and time are in separate columns (can use "TC[N:N]").			
Indicate how to assign					
Multiple Data Value Co	Columns (location ID constant for each column)   Single Data Value Colu	umn ("stream" of location/value data) Block of Values (data matrix)			
I II	Values for a single time series are expected to be in a block, for example as shown below. Configure data mapping using the "Block Data" tab below.  For a single time series, use the "Multiple Data Value Columns" tab to specify the location ID.				
	Year   Jan   Feb   Mar   Apr   May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sep   Oct   Nov   Dec     2012     1.0   3.3   1.5   4.5   4.6   3.0   2.5     2.3   1.0   0.5   0.4				
Fo	For multiple time series where the ID is in a column, use the "Single Data Value Column" tab to specify the location ID.				
į.	Location ID   Year   Jan   Feb   Mar   Apr   May   Jun   Jul   Aug   Sep   Oct   Nov   Dec     Station1   2012   1.0   3.3   1.5   4.5   4.6   3.0   2.5     2.3   1.0   0.5   0.4     Station2   2012   2.0   6.3   4.5   1.5   2.6   2.0   1.5   5.6   5.3   4.0   3.5   2.4				
TSID and Alias Data Block Data Period					
These parameters spec	cify properties that are used for the time series identifier (TSID), if not	specified in the above parameters, and the alias.			
Location type(s):		Optional - location types for each value column, separated by commas (default=no location type).			
Data source(s): NRCS	S	Optional - data source(s)/provider(s) for the data, comma-separated (default=blank).			
Data type(s): SWS	1	Optional - data type for each value column, comma-separated (default=value column name(s)).			
Data interval: Mont	th ▼	Required - data interval for time series.			
Scenario:		Optional - scenario(s) for the time series, comma-separated (default=blank).			
Alias to assign: Se	elect Specifier ▼ ] =>  %L-%T	Optional - use %L for location, etc. (default=no alias).			
Command: taT	TableToTimeSeries(TableID="Table1",DateTimeColumn="YearAsDate",LocationID="\${HUCID}",ValueColumn="Oct",DataSource="NRCS",DataType="SWSI",Interval=Month,Alias="%L-%T",BlockLayout=Period,BlockLayoutColumns=MONTH,BlockLayoutRows=YEAR,BlockOutputYear Type=Water)				
Cancel OK					
TableToTimeSeries_Bloc					

### TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Block Format



TableToTimeSeries\_Block\_Location

#### TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Block Format – Location ID

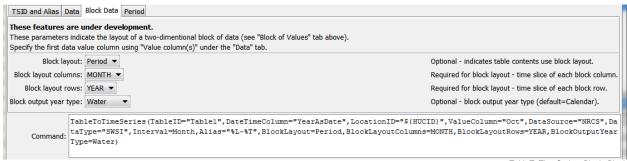
```
| Indicate how to assign location identifier | Multiple Data Value Columns (location ID constant for each column) | Single Data Value Column ("stream" of location/value data) | Block of Values (data matrix) |

| Example table input (first row shown is column headings): | DateTime | ID1_Value1 | ID1_Value2 | ID1_Value2 | ID2_Value1 | ID2_Value2 | | 2012-01 | 1.0 | 37.5 | -12.5 | | 77.3 | |

| Because time series values are in multiple columns, the location IDs must be specified (may extract from column headings in the future). |
| Location ID(s): | ${HUCID} | Required - location ID for each value column, separated by commas (can use "TC[N:N]").
```

TableToTimeSeries\_Block\_Location

TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Block Format – Layout Parameters



TableToTimeSeries\_Block\_Block

TableToTimeSeries() Command Editor For Table with Data in Block Format – Block Parameters

The command syntax is as follows:

TableToTimeSeries (Parameter=Value, ...)

#### **Command Parameters**

Parameter	Description	Default
TableID	The identifier for the table to read. Can be specified using processor \${Property}.	None – must be specified.
DateTime Column	The column for date/time, when date and time are in one column. If the table was read in a way that the column type is "date/time", then the values are used directly. If the table was read in a way that the column type is "string", then the string is parsed using default logic or the DateTimeFormat parameter if specified.	Required if DateColumn is not specified.
DateTime Format	The format for date/time strings in the date/time column, if strings are being parsed. If blank, common formats such as YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm and MM/DD/YYYY will automatically be detected. However, it may be necessary to specify the format to ensure proper parsing. This format will be used to parse date/times from the DateTimeColumn or the merged string from the DateColumn and TimeColumn (if specified). The format string will depend on the formatter type. Currently, only the "C" formatter is available, which uses C programming language specifiers. The resulting format includes the formatter and specifiers (e.g., C:%m%d%y).	Will automatically be determined by examining date/time strings.
DateColumn	The name of column that includes the date, used when date and time are in separate columns.	Required if DateTimeColu mn is not specified.
TimeColumn	The name of column that includes the time, used when date and time are in separate columns. If both DateColumn and TimeColumn are specified, their contents are merged with a joining colon character and are then treated as if DateTimeColumn had been specified.	Required if DateColumn is specified and the interval requires time.
LocationID	Used with multiple data column table. The location identifier(s) to assign to time series, separated by columns if	None – must be specified for

Parameter	Description	Default
	more than one column is read from the table. Column names	multiple column
	can be specified as literal strings or as TC[start:stop] to	data tables.
	match table column names, where start is 1+ and stop is	
	blank to read all columns or a negative number to indicate the	
	offset from the end column. Can be specified using processor	
	\${Property}.	
LocationType	Used with single data column table. The name of the	Do not assign a
Column	column containing the location type.	location type.
LocationColumn	Used with single data column table. The name of the	None – must be
	column containing the location identifier.	specified for
		single column data
		tables.
DataSource	Used with single data column table. The name of the	Use the
Column	column containing the data source.	DataSource
		parameter, which
		can be blank.
DataType	Used with single data column table. The name of the	Use the
Column	column containing the data type.	DataType
		parameter, which
ScenarioColumn	Hardwith day lade askers table. The server of the	can be blank.
Scenariocorumn	<b>Used with single data column table</b> . The name of the column containing the scenario.	Use the Scenario
	Column containing the scenario.	parameter, which
		can be blank.
UnitsColumn	Used with single data column table. The name of the	Use the Units
OHI COCCI CHAI	column containing the data units.	parameter, which
	column containing the data diffusi	can be blank.
LocationType	The location type(s) to assign to time series for each of the	No location type
	value columns (or specify one value to apply to all columns).	will be assigned.
DataSource	The data source (provider) identifier to assign to time series	No data source
	for each of the value columns (or specify one value to apply to	will be assigned.
	all columns).	
DataType	The data type to assign to time series for each of the value	Use the value
	columns (or specify one value to apply to all columns). Can	column names for
	be specified using processor \${Property}.	the data types.
Interval	The interval for the time series. Only one interval is	None – must be
	recognized for all the time series in the table. Interval choices	specified.
	are provided when editing the command. If it is possible that	
	the date/times are not evenly spaced, then use the	
	Irregular interval (this is difficult to do for multiple data	
	column tables).	
Scenario	The scenario to assign to time series for each of the value	No scenario will
	columns (or specify one value to apply to all columns).	be assigned.
Alias	The alias to assign to time series, as a literal string or using	No alias will be
	the special formatting characters listed by the command	assigned.
	editor. The alias is a short identifier used by other commands	
	to locate time series for processing. Can be specified using	
	<pre>processor \${Property}.</pre>	

Parameter	Description	Default
ValueColumn	The name(s) of column(s) containing data values. Separate column names with commas. The TC[start:stop] notation discussed for LocationID can be used. Only one column should be specified for single data column table.	None – must be specified.
FlagColumn	The name(s) of column(s) containing the data flag. Separate column names with commas. The TC[start:stop] notation discussed for LocationID can be used. If specified, the number of columns must match the ValueColumn parameter, although specifying blank column names is allowed to indicate that a value column does not have a corresponding flag column.	Flags are not read.
Units Missing	The data units to assign to time series for each of the value columns (or specify one value to apply to all columns).  Strings that indicate missing data in the table (e.g., "m"),	No units will be assigned.  Interpret empty
	separated by commas.	column values as missing data.
Handle DuplicatesHow	<ul> <li>Indicate how to handle duplicate date/time values in the table:         <ul> <li>Add – add the duplicate values (missing values are ignored)</li> <li>UseFirstNonmissing – set the output to the first non-missing value</li> <li>UseLast – set the output to the last value processed, even if missing</li> <li>UseLastNonmissing – set the output to the last non-missing value processed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	UseLast
BlockLayout	<ul> <li>Indicates how data are laid out when in block format:</li> <li>Period – a single block is used for the entire period</li> </ul>	Block layout is not used.
BlockLayout Columns	<ul> <li>Indicates the time slice for values in columns:</li> <li>Month – each column includes a month</li> </ul>	
BlockLayout Rows	Indicates the time slice for values in rows:  • Year – each row includes a year	
BlockOutput YearType	Indicates the year type for the data block. For example, if columns are in rows and the output year type is Water, then the first value column is October.  • Calendar – January to December  • NovToOct – November to October  • Water – October to September	Calendar
InputStart	The date/time to start reading data. Can be specified using processor \$ { Property }.	All data or global input start.
InputEnd	The date/time to end reading data. Can be specified using processor \${Property}.	All data or global input end.