

GET TO KNOW YOUR WATERSHED!

Due October 2, 2018

In this exercise you will identify the watershed where you were born using the USGS Watershed Locator website (https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/map_index.html). For this watershed, you will then identify the physical attributes listed below in section one which you will detail in table form. You will then research information on all the items in section two which you will combine into a written section to follow your table using complete sentences and narrative structure. You will also supply a map with caption that contextualizes your watershed. You may also respond to items from the bonus section as well for additional credit. All units are to be metric. Grammar and presentation always count. Cite your sources. If you don't have sources, I can only assume you made this all up and we know that's not going to end well 😊.

SECTION ONE

- Watershed area
- Major rivers and tributaries, including length
- Total water volume (discharge for the main river scaled to volume for the year)
- Climate (mean annual temperature, mean annual precipitation)
- Major cities
- Population and population density

SECTION TWO

- Major industries and commercial use
- Land cover (i.e. think how much residential area, industrial, forest etc.)
- Soils and vegetation
- Demographics
- Native inhabitants with brief timeframe of settlement (use: <https://native-land.ca/>)
- Significant political or environmental issue facing your watershed—either current or potential (e.g. pollution source, species loss, habitat loss etc.)
- How the major river in your watershed got its name, including etymology and meaning.

BONUS

- History of any significant disturbance event (e.g. major pollution, flooding, hurricane, etc.)
- How will climate change most directly impact your watershed?

HELPFUL STUFF

EPA – [Surf Your Watershed](#) (You should really use this one for sure)

National Geographic - [In Your Watershed](#)

NOAA – [Sea-Level Rise Viewer](#)

PBS – [Learn About Watersheds!](#)