Water Quality Metadata

Last updated: 12/8/2025

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Station Overview

Location: Pier 25, New York, NY (40.720474, -74.016363)

Data collection period: July 2018 – present

Parameters: pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, turbidity, salinity, water temperature, and water depth above sonde

Previous location: Pier 26, New York, NY (40.721538 , -74.015600)

Previous data collection period: 9/16/2016-July 2018

Previous parameters: pH, dissolved oxygen, specific conductance, turbidity, salinity, water temperature, and water depth above sonde

Contacts

Brittney Flaten, HRECOS Coordinator

NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Email: brittney.flaten [at] dec.ny.gov

Station Description

The purpose of the Hudson River Park Pier 25 station is to generate a consistent and precise stream of water quality data to the general public and interested stakeholders. The goal in collecting this data is to ultimately inform Hudson River management policies, restoration efforts, and extreme event planning. This station was selected due to its location near the NYC Harbor and in lower Manhattan, one of the world's most heavily developed and densely populated urban environments.

The Hudson River Park Pier 26 station is located on the northwestern piling at the end of Pier 26 (40.721538 N, 74.015600 W). The water depth at this location ranges from 4.0 to 6 meters. Sensors are deployed on a YSI EXO2 sonde, approximately 2 meters off the bottom.

Depth measurements corrected for influence of atmospheric pressure in real-time (see here for more information). This calculation is performed within the data logger using barometric pressure from the co-located weather station, applied to the following equation:

*Corrected depth = measured depth + ((1013 - barometric pressure) * .0102)*

When station was moved from Pier 26 to Pier 25 in July of 2018, the same equipment was used to rebuild.

Special Remarks

Date	Remark
2/1/2017	**Noticeable drift in conductivity and pH**
4/13/2017	**pH and conductivity sensors replaced**
4/25/2017	**Conductivity measurements suspicious, probe was recalibrated on this date**
6/28/2017	**Fish found living in sonde probe guard**
9/11/2017	**Conductivity and DO drift noted**
9/20/2017	**Data logger failure. Internal sonde memory used as backup**
9/26/2017-10/11/2017	**Depth not corrected for barometric pressure due to data logger failure**
11/28/2017	**Transmission issues resolved**
July 2018	**Station permanently moved from Pier 26 to Pier 25 due to long-term construction project**

Distribution Terms

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Data Quality Assurance

Data collection and verification have been performed on all parameters since the establishment of this station according to the HRECOS Quality Assurance Project Plan(s), which are available at www.hrecos.org

Code Definitions

Parameters

WTMP	Water temperature	Degrees Celsius
SPCO	Specific conductance	uS/cm
SALT	Salinity	See remarks below
PH	pH	
TURB	Turbidity	See remarks below
DOPC	Dissolved oxygen saturation	Percent (%)
DOCONC	Dissolved oxygen concentration	mg/L
DEPTH	Depth above instrument	m

CHLA	Chlorophyll	RFU
PHYCO	Phycocyanin	RFU

Flag code definitions:

A	Accepted data
P	Provisional data
S	Suspect data, consult comment codes
R	Rejected data, consult comment codes
C	Corrected data, consult comment codes

Comment code definitions:

<u>General Errors</u>	
GIM	Instrument malfunction
GIT	Instrument recording error, recovered telemetry data
GMC	No instrument deployed due to maintenance or calibration
GPF	Power failure
GQR	Rejected due to QAQC checks
GSM	See metadata
GIC	No instrument deployed due to ice
GNF	Deployment tube clogged / no flow
GOW	Out of water event
<u>Sensor Errors</u>	
SBO	Blocked optic
STF	Catastrophic temperature sensor failure
SCF	Conductivity sensor failure
SDF	Depth port frozen
SDP	DO membrane puncture
SDO	DO suspect
SIC	Incorrect calibration or contaminated standard
SNV	Negative value
SPC	Post calibration out of range
SSD	Sensor drift
SSM	Sensor malfunction
SOW	Sensor out of water
SSR	Sensor removed for deployment
STS	Turbidity spike
SWM	Wiper malfunction or loss
<u>Other comments</u>	
CAB	Algal bloom
CAF	Acceptable calibration/accuracy error of sensor
CAP	Depth sensor in water, affected by atmospheric pressure
CBF	Biofouling
CCU	Cause unknown
CDA	DO hypoxia
CDB	Disturbed bottom
CDF	Data appear to fit conditions

CFK	Fish fill
CIP	Surface ice present
CLT	Low tide
CMC	In field cleaning and maintenance
CMD	Mud in probe guard
CND	New deployment
CRE	Significant rain event
CSM	See metadata
CTS	Turbidity spike
CVT	Possible vandalism
CWD	Data collected at wrong depth
CWE	Significant weather event

YSI EXO2 Sensor Specifications

Consult description and remarks for upgrade dates.

Parameter: Temperature
Units: Celsius (C)
Sensor Type: Thermistor
Model#: 599870-01
Range: -5 to 50 C
Accuracy: -5 to 35: +/- 0.01, 35 to 50: +/- .005
Resolution: 0.01 C

Parameter: Specific conductance
Units: mS/cm or uS/cm
Sensor Type: 4-electrode cell with autoranging
Model#: 599870-01
Range: 0-200 mS/cm
Accuracy: 0 to 100: +/- 0.5% of reading or 0.001 mS/cm; 100 to 200: +/- 1% of reading
Resolution: 0.001 mS/cm to 0.1 mS/cm

Parameter: Salinity
Units: practical salinity units (psu)/parts per thousand (ppt)
Sensor Type: Calculated from conductivity and temperature
Range: 0 to 70 psu
Accuracy: +/- 1.0% of reading pr 0.1 ppt, whichever is greater
Resolution: 0.01 psu

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen % saturation
Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning
Model#: 599100-01
Range: 0 to 500% air saturation

Accuracy: 0-200% air saturation: +/- 1% of the reading or 1% air saturation, whichever is greater
200-500% air saturation: +/- 5% or reading
Resolution: 0.1% air saturation

Parameter: Dissolved Oxygen mg/L (Calculated from % air saturation, temperature, and salinity)
Units: milligrams/Liter (mg/L)
Sensor Type: Optical probe w/ mechanical cleaning
Model#: 599100-01
Range: 0 to 50 mg/L
Accuracy: 0-20 mg/L: +/-0.1 mg/l or 1% of the reading, whichever is greater
20 to 50 mg/L: +/- 5% of the reading
Resolution: 0.01 mg/L

Parameter: pH
Units: pH units
Sensor Type: Glass combination electrode
Model#: 599701 (guarded) or 599702 (wiped)
Range: 0 to 14 units
Accuracy: +/- 0.01 units within +/- 10° of calibration temperature, +/- 0.02 units for entire temperature range
Resolution: 0.01 units

Parameter: Turbidity
Units: formazin nephelometric units (FNU)
Sensor Type: Optical, 90-degree scatter
Model#: 599101-01
Range: 0 to 4000 FNU
Accuracy: 0 to 999 FNU: 0.3 FNU or +/-2% of reading (whichever is greater); 1000 to 4000 FNU +/- 5% of reading
Resolution: 0 to 999 FNU: 0.01 FNU, 1000 to 4000 FNU: 0.1 FNU

Parameter: Chlorophyll
Units: micrograms/Liter, RFU
Sensor Type: Optical probe
Model#: 599102-01
Range: 0 to 400 ug/Liter; 0 to 100 RFU
Accuracy: Dependent on methodology
Resolution: 0.1 ug/L chl a, 0.1% RFU

Parameter: Phycocyanin
Units: micrograms/Liter, RFU
Sensor Type: Optical probe
Model#: 599102-01
Range: 0 to 100 ug/Liter; 0 to 100 RFU

Accuracy: Dependent on methodology
Resolution: 0.1 ug/L PC, 0.1% RFU

Remarks on Sensor Specifications and Units

Consult description and remarks for upgrade dates.

Specific conductance:

Historically, specific conductance data from HRECOS sites was reported in millisiemens/cm (mS/cm). However, beginning in 2019, reporting switched to microsiemens/cm (uS/cm). All data files available on hrecos.org have been converted to reflect this change.

Salinity:

The 6600 series sondes report salinity in parts per thousand (ppt) units, the EXO sondes report practical salinity units (psu).

Turbidity:

The 6600 series sondes report turbidity in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU), the EXO sondes use formazin nephelometric units (FNU).

Chlorophyll and Phycocyanin Disclaimer:

YSI chlorophyll sensors (6025 or 599102-01) are designed to serve as a proxy for chlorophyll concentrations in the field for monitoring applications and complement traditional lab extraction methods; therefore, there are accuracy limitations associated with the data that are detailed in the YSI manual.

Remarks on Data Correction

From May 2019 to March 2026, data were collected and reviewed by the United States Geological Survey, according to their standard operating procedure which is outlined in the following document:

Wagner, R.J., Boulger, R.W., Jr., Oblinger, C.J., and Smith, B.A., 2006, Guidelines and standard procedures for continuous water-quality monitors—Station operation, record computation, and data reporting: U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods 1–D3, 51 p. https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/tm1D3

Part of data review includes correcting for sensor drift if it occurred during deployment. Per USGS protocol, provisional data are flagged as P and once reviewed they are flagged as A, even if data correction occurred.