

RESEARCH ABSTRACT

**Principal Investigator(s):**

Stan Fox, Jon Lea, Bill Teasley, Bill Woolcock, Bob Nault  
USDA - Soil Conservation Service - Snow survey  
1220 S.W. 3rd Ave., Room 1640  
Portland, OR 97204  
(comm) (503) 326-2757 (FTS) 432-2757

**Study Title:** Snowpack Telemetry (SNOTEL)

**Key Words:** physical                      telemetry                      runoff                      hydrologic  
watershed                      snow                      meteorology                      precipitation                      long-term studies

**Abstract:** The SNOTEL system measures snowpack water content - for runoff forecasts, total annual precipitation, and temperature. We have six such sites on and adjacent to Mount St. Helens.

**Type of Measurement(s):** Ground samples are taken monthly during the snowpack months; electronic measurements are taken daily.

**Frequency of Measurement(s):** The number of measurements are once a month during the snow pack months; the visits are on a maintenance scheduled frequency.

**Data Storage:** The data is stored on the Data General at the Soil Conservation Service in Portland, OR.

**Long-term plans:** Data available for collaborative efforts: The snow survey is an on-going program and has evolved from manual snow courses to the electronic sensors we have today.