EIM Help – Time-Series Results Template

Version 4.0
July 2026

How to Use This Help

Use the grid below when you fill out your Results Template. Each row corresponds to a column in the template.

Also see How to Submit Time-Series Data to EIM. It contains a lot of useful tips, especially for dealing with time zone.

Other Templates to Consider

Did you collect discrete water levels from wells? Enter your data in the Well Water Level Template. Find them in the EIM Help Center.

Color Coding in Grid

Color coding gives you a quick indication of required fields. This information is also in the "Requirements" column.

- **Yellow/Bold** = Required
- **Purple** = Required if Field Collection Type is a Measurement
- **Orange** = Required if Field Collection Type is an Observation

Key to Help Fields in Grid

- **Column (Col)**: Column heading (A, B, C, etc.) in the EIM template
- **Field Name**: EIM field name
- **Description**: EIM field description
- **Requirements**: Indicates if field is required, conditionally required, or optional
- **Type**: Type of data field, like text, Number, date, or time
- **Size**: The maximum Number or length of characters allowed
- **Valid Values and Conditions**: Accepted values and format. Longer lists of valid values are at end of document or online.
- **Examples and Guidance**: Examples are in bulleted lists

Grid – How to Fill Out Your Time-Series Results Template

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
A	**Study ID**	**Unique ID** to identify the Study in EIM.	**Required**	Text	20	Must be valid EIM Study ID	Use Study ID from: 1. Your Study form, or 2. A Study already in EIM In a single template, don't submit data for more than one study. To load data for more than one study, use separate templates for each.
B	**Instrument ID**	ID used to uniquely identify the instrument that was used to measure your result values.	**Required**	Text	50	Free text Use the ID on the instrument. If it doesn't have one, create one.	▪ E-61326 ▪ FlowMeter 3A ▪ Instrument7 This field is required to uniquely identify sets of time-series data within a batch that were collected by the same instrument. If you have two or more instruments measuring the same parameter over the same period of time at the same location, this is the field you would use to uniquely identify the different datasets based on instrument.
C	**Location ID**	**Unique ID** to identify the field Location in EIM.	**Required**	Text	15	Must be valid EIM Location ID Each time-series batch must contain only one Location ID for all records.	Location IDs are from Column A in your Location template or an existing location in EIM. You will commonly have multiple result records associated with the same Location ID. All results records associated with a particular sampling location use that Location ID.

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
D	**Study Specific Location ID**	**Unique ID** to identify the field location within a particular Study. Only needs to be unique to the Study, not all of EIM. Can be same as Location ID, an abbreviation of Location ID, or something totally different.	**Required**	Text	40	Free text / preferred format Each time-series batch must contain only one Study-Specific Location ID for all records. An ID of 8 characters or less will display better on the GIS map.	▪ If your Location ID for a monitoring well is "CITGO-34586-MW4," your **Study-Specific Location ID (SSLID)** could be "MW-4." Each **Location ID must be paired 1-to-1 with a SSID.** Once you establish a Location ID/SSLID pairing (by submitting results), use the same pairing for all future data submittals to your study. If you aren't sure what Location ID/SSLID pairings were previously used in your study, download your results data from EIM Search or contact your Data Coordinator. **Download help for** How to Name and Describe Field Locations.
E	**Field Collection Type**	General type of data collection conducted in field.	**Required**	Text	11	▪ **Measurement** - data collected in the field (in-situ) using an instrument, like pH meter. ▪ **Observation** - record of an unsuccessful or rejected measurement(s)	Enter an observation if you want to document a data gap (timespan of unsuccessful or rejected measurements). Enter one observation, with appropriate start and end date/time values, per timespan. Documenting data gaps in EIM is optional. **Download help for** Entering Observations
F	**Field Collector**	Name or type of organization that collected the data.	**Required**	Text	15	Must be a valid EIM Field Collector Code See table of Field Collector valid values (in this document).	▪ Consultant ▪ Ecology

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
G	Field Collection Reference Point	Point from which the indicated collection depth was measured.	**Required only for** records with an indicated Field Collection Depth	Text	30	▪ **Land Surface** ▪ **Water Surface** ▪ **Sediment Surface** ▪ **Floor of Structure**	If your instrument is recording measurements while simultaneously being moved in a vertical profile, submit your results using the EIM Result Template as discrete data.
H	Field Collection Depth	Distance from the Reference Point to where the measurement was taken. Positive values represent depths below the reference point. Negative values represent distance above the reference point.	**Required only for** records with an indicated Field Collection Reference Point	Number		There can only be one depth associated with each instrument deployment.	▪ 7.5 - if the instrument you were using was measuring 7.5 centimeters **below Water Surface**. ▪ -5 - if the instrument you were using was measuring 5 feet **above Land Surface**. If depth varies over the deployment period, you can either enter the time-series data without an associated depth, or you will need to enter your results using the EIM Result Template as discrete data.
I	Field Collection Depth Units	Unit of measure associated with the Field Collection Depth	**Required only for** records with an indicated Field Collection Depth	Text	10	▪ **cm** - centimeters ▪ **m** - meters ▪ **in** - inches ▪ **ft** - feet	
J	**Matrix**	Describes the general environmental medium that was measured.	**Required**	Text	14	▪ **Air/Gas** ▪ **Other Liquid** ▪ **Habitat** ▪ **Solid/Sediment** ▪ **Tissue** ▪ **Water**	▪ Water

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
K	**Source**	Describes the environmental resource that was measured. More specific than Sample Matrix.	**Required**	Text	30	Must be a valid EIM Sample Source Code See table of Sample Source valid values (in this document).	▪ Fresh/Surface Water
L	**Start Date**	Date a measurement was taken or an observation was started in the field.	**Required**	Date		MM/DD/YYYY	▪ 06/23/1999 ▪ 12/15/2022
M	**Start Time**	Time a measurement was taken or an observation was started in the field.	**Required**	Time		HH:MM:SS (24 hour)	▪ 19:20 (interpreted as 7:20 PM) ▪ 07:00 (interpreted as 7:00 AM) ▪ 00:07:00 (interpreted as 12:07 AM) ▪ 00:00:00 (interpreted as 12 AM midnight) See the section "Time zone and daylight saving time" in the How to Submit Time-Series Data to EIM help for more information on times.
N	End Date	The date an observation ended.	**Required only if** Field Collection Type is Observation	Date		MM/DD/YYYY Leave this field blank if Field Collection Type is Measurement.	▪ 06/23/1999 ▪ 03/05/2023 Enter an observation if you want to document a data gap (timespan of unsuccessful or rejected measurements). Enter one observation, with appropriate start and end date/time values, per timespan. Documenting data gaps in EIM is optional. **Download help for** Entering Observations.

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
O	End Time	The time an observation ended.	**Required only if** Field Collection Type is Observation	Time		HH:MM:SS (24 hour) Leave this field blank if Field Collection Type is Measurement.	▪ 19:40:36 (interpreted as 7:40 PM) ▪ 9:56 (interpreted as 9:56 AM) ▪ 00:00:00 (interpreted as 12 AM midnight)
P	**Result Parameter Name**	Name of the parameter reported for the result.	**Required**	Text	254	Must be a valid EIM Parameter Name Search for EIM Parameter Names (online).	▪ Temperature, water **Observations** – use "Unable to measure" or "Water level in well (unable to measure)" Need a parameter added to EIM? Contact us online or ask your Data Coordinator.
Q	Result Value	Reported result value for a particular parameter.	**Required if** Field Collection Type is Measurement	Number		Must be a number ▪ No commas	**Observations** – don't fill this out. **Check the accuracy of your instrument and report the appropriate significant digits.** For more info, **download help for** Field Measurements. If viewing your data in Excel, be cautious of auto-reformatting. Digits may be lost unless these cells are formatted as Text. For more information about preserving the formatting in this field, **download help for** Preserving Values Corrupted by Excel.
R	Result Unit	Unit of measure associated with a Result Value.	**Required if** Field Collection Type is Measurement	Text	10	Must be a valid EIM Unit Search for EIM Units (online).	▪ deg C **Observations** – don't fill this out. Need a unit added to EIM? Contact us online or ask your Data Coordinator.

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
S	Result Data Qualifier	Standard annotations for documenting issues with Result Values, such as estimates or a correction being performed. Also used for: Well Water Level Measurements. Observations, to explain why a measurement wasn't possible.	**Required** if applicable	Text	3	Must be a valid EIM Result Data Qualifier. The qualifier must be appropriate to the type of data (measurement, well water level, observation). See table of "Result Data Qualifier valid values" (in this document). OR Search for EIM Result Data Qualifier Valid Values (online).	▪ **Measurement**: IA (Instrument result adjusted; reported result meets study objectives) ▪ **Measurement**: EST (Measurement value reported is estimated) ▪ **Observation**: FE (Equipment failure) **Download help for** Adjusted Time-series Data. If you use **EST**, **you must** add a comment to the Comment field (column U) explaining why your result is an estimate.
T	Result Method	Procedure, method or instrument technology used to obtain a result.	**Required if** Field Collection Type is Measurement	Text	20	Must be valid EIM Method Code Search for EIM Method valid values (online).	▪ TEMPTHERMISTOR - Temperature by thermistor ▪ DO-OPTICAL - Dissolved Oxygen (DO) by Optical (Luminescent) Sensor (LDO) **Download help for** About EIM Methods. Need a method added to EIM? Contact us online or ask your Data Coordinator.

Col	Field Name	Description	Requirements	Type	Size	Valid Values and Conditions	Examples and Guidance
U	Comment	For Measurements, this field is for comments about the Result Value. For Observations, this field is used to explain why a measurement couldn't be taken.	**Required if** Field Collection Type is Observation	Text	2000	Free text	▪ **Measurement** - Adjusted Result Value as part of a linear drift identified after deployment. ▪ **Observation** - The pH probe on our Multimeter stopped recording over this period of time for an unknown reason. If you use **EST**, **you must** add a comment explaining why your result is an estimate.
V	Groundwater Result Accuracy	Indicates the estimated accuracy of a well water level measurement.	**Required only for** well water level measurements	Text	3	**Accuracy in feet** ▪ **WL2 -** +0.01ft ▪ **WL1 -** +0.1ft ▪ **WL0 -** +1ft ▪ **WL6 -** >1ft	
W	Groundwater Level Measuring Point ID	ID for the point on the well from which water levels are measured. Often top of well casing (TOC).	**Required only for** well water levels.	Text	8	▪ **TOC1 -** when measured from top of casing ▪ **TOC2 -** when measured from a secondary point at the top of casing (like when the casing gets cut off) ▪ **MP1 -** when measured from access port or similar ▪ **MP2 -** when measured from a secondary access port or similar	Use value you submitted in the Location template (Well Water Level Measuring Point or TOC ID) or that is stored in EIM. If the top of casing gets cut off or you have more than one measuring point, contact your EIM Data Coordinator. They will enter a new Measuring Point ID into EIM for you.

Valid Value Lists

Go back to Field Collector help.

EIM Field Collector Valid Values

Valid Value	Description
Business	Business, Trained Staff
ConsDistrict	Conservation District
Consultant	Consultant, Professional
Ecology	WA Dept of Ecology
GovFed	Government, Misc. Federal
GovLocal	Government, Misc. Local
GovState	Government, Misc. State
GovTribal	Government, Tribal
HealthLocal	Health Dept., Local
HealthState	Health Dept., State
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Valid Value	Description
University	University
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	US Geological Survey
USNPS	US National Parks Service
UtilityPrivate	Utility, Private
UtilityPublic	Utility, Public
Volunteer	Volunteer, Trained
WellDriller	Well Driller
WellOwner	Well Owner
WDFW	WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife
WDNR	WA Dept of Natural Resources

Go back to Sample Source help

EIM Sample Source Valid Values

Air and Gas

Download help for Air, Vapor, and Soil Gas Data.

Valid Value	Additional Info
Indoor Air	Download help for "Air, Vapor, and Soil Gas Data"
Outdoor Air	Download help for "Air, Vapor, and Soil Gas Data"
Soil Gas	Gaseous elements and compounds in the small spaces between particles of the earth and soil. Download help for "Air, Vapor, and Soil Gas Data"
Bulk Atmospheric Deposition	Bulk Atmospheric Deposition – Collected during dry periods and precipitation events. Download help for "Atmospheric Deposition Data"
Dry Atmospheric Deposition	Dry Atmospheric Deposition – Collected during dry periods or sheltered from precipitation. Download help for "Atmospheric Deposition Data"
Wet Atmospheric Deposition	Wet Atmospheric Deposition – Collected only during precipitation events. Download help for "Atmospheric Deposition Data"

Animal and Plant

Valid Value	Additional Info
Animal Tissue	Download help for "Fish and Shellfish Tissue Data"
Animal Tissue - Lab Exposure	Animal tissue purposefully exposed to specific contaminants in a lab setting.
Plant Tissue	
Periphyton	Mixture of algae, cyanobacteria, heterotrophic microbes, and other elements that are attached to submerged surfaces in aquatic settings. Download help for "Periphyton Chemistry"
Freshwater Taxonomy	Taxonomic information about freshwater organisms. Download help for "Benthic Invertebrate Identification and Counts."
Salt/Marine Taxonomy	Taxonomic information about salt/marine water organisms. Download help for "Benthic Invertebrate Identification and Counts."

Sediment, Porewater, and Elutriate

Note: EIM does not have rigid definitions of fresh, salt or brackish. Your specific project may define those. For example, the 2013 Sediment Management Standards, Chapter 173-204 WAC, has guidelines for defining marine, brackish and freshwater sediments and porewater.

Valid Value	Additional Info
Freshwater Sediment	
Brackish Sediment	
Salt/Marine Sediment	
Freshwater Porewater	Porewater is the water filling the spaces between grains of sediment or soil.
Brackish Porewater	Porewater is the water filling the spaces between grains of sediment or soil.
Salt/Marine Porewater	Porewater is the water filling the spaces between grains of sediment or soil.
Elutriate	Supernatant of a sediment and lab water mixture (this is not porewater).

Soil and Substrate

Valid Value	Additional Info
Rock/Gravel	
Soil	Use “Soil” for duff samples and indicate “sampled duff” in Field Collection Comment.

Stormwater

Download help for Stormwater and Combined Sewer Data.

Valid Value	Additional Info
CSO Outfall	Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) outfall.
CSS In-Line	Combined Sewer System (CSS) in-line.
CSS Catch Basin	Combined Sewer System (CSS) catch basin.
Stormwater BMP Effluent	Stormwater, Best Management Practice (BMP) effluent.
Stormwater BMP Mid	Stormwater, Best Management Practice (BMP) treatment zone (like stormwater pond).

Valid Value	Additional Info
Stormwater BMP Influent	Stormwater, Best Management Practice (BMP) influent.
Stormwater Catch Basin	
Stormwater In-Line	Stormwater, in-line conveyance or drainage.
Stormwater Outfall	
Stormwater Sheetflow	
Precipitation	

Water

Note: EIM does not maintain rigid definitions of marine, fresh or brackish water.

Valid Value	Additional Info
Fresh/Surface Water	
Brackish Water	
Salt/Marine Water	
Groundwater	Download help for "Well Information and Data"
Pit Water	Standing water at bottom of excavation pit or trench, composed of pooled surface water runoff, groundwater seepage, or both. Download help for Entering Pit Water Data.
Precipitation	
Spring/Seep	Spring or Seep. Download help for Spring and Seep Data.

Other

Valid Value	Additional Info
Industrial Discharge	Discharge from an industrial source (permitted).
Landfill Leachate	Leachate sampled from a landfill leachate collection system. Download help for "Landfill Monitoring Data"
Sewer In-Line	Sewer system, in-line.
Source - Other	Point source or discharge that is not stormwater, industrial, or WWTP.
WWTP Effluent	Wastewater treatment plant effluent.

Valid Value	Additional Info
WWTP Influent	Wastewater treatment plant influent.

Go back to Result Data Qualifier help

EIM Result Data Qualifier Valid Values

Measurement Data Qualifiers

Use with discrete or time series field data.

Qualifier	Description
EST	Measurement value reported is estimated. See comment for additional detail. (Note - You must add a comment to the Result Comment (column AZ) or Result Additional Comment (column BA) field explaining why your result is an estimate).
EQP	Inconsistent equipment performance (sensor, instrument, etc.); reported result meets study objectives.
IA	Instrument result adjusted; reported result meets study objectives.
OOR	Out of range; dataset not in expected range for instrument type, data type, or historical climatology; reported result meets study objectives.
OUT	Outlier within dataset; single result is unexpected or discontinuous.
REJ	Data are unusable for all purposes. Results rejected due to serious deficiencies in the ability to analyze the sample or conduct a measurement and meet quality control criteria. For samples the presence or absence of the analyte cannot be verified.
VAR	Variation within dataset; multiple results creating an unexpected pattern.

Observation Data Qualifiers

Well-specific observation data qualifiers are under Well Water Level data qualifiers, in the next section.

Qualifier	Description
FA	No site access.
FD	Site was dry.
FE	Equipment failure.
FH	Flow too high to measure.
FI	Ice-impacted.
FL	Above or below instrument or method limit.
FS	Stagnant water - no flow.
FT	Flow tidally impacted.

Well Water Level Data Qualifiers

Includes well-specific observation data qualifiers, marked with an asterisk.

Qualifier	Description
WLA	Well water level affected by atmospheric pressure.
WLB	Well water level affected by tidal stage.
WLC	Well water level affected by ice.
WLD	Well was dry during measurement attempt*
WLE	Well was flowing recently.
WLF	Well was flowing and could not be measured*
WLG	Nearby well(s) flowing during measurement.
WLH	Nearby well(s) flowing recently.
WLI	Well site was being injected during measurement.
WLJ	Nearby well site(s) being injected during measurement.
WLK	Water was cascading down inside of well.
WLL	Well water level affected by brackish or saline water.

Qualifier	Description
WLM	Well was plugged and not in hydraulic contact with the aquifer.*
WLN	Well measurement discontinued.*
WLO	Well water level affected by/could not be measured due to obstruction in well.*
WLP	Well site was being pumped during measurement.
WLR	Well site was pumped recently.
WLS	Nearby well(s) being pumped during measurement.
WLT	Nearby well(s) pumped recently.
WLV	LNAPL (floating product) or other foreign substance on well water.
WLW	Well was destroyed and could not be measured*
WLX	Well water level affected by nearby surface-water stage.
WLZ	Well water level affected by other conditions. **Note**: You must add a comment to the Result Comment field (column AZ) or Result Additional Comment field (column BA) explaining the conditions.

Data Qualifiers No Longer In Use

Still used with older data in EIM.

Qualifier	Description
C	See Result Comment for qualifying statement

Document Revision History

Revision Date	Revision No.	Summary of Changes	Reviser(s)
9/10/13	2013.01	Changes to EIM data model	CN
10/13/17	3.0	Changed versioning system and made formatting updates for new help center. Moved to Word/PDF from Excel for accessibility reasons.	CN
01/27/20	3.1	Clarified language in several fields about how to submit observations	KC

Revision Date	Revision No.	Summary of Changes	Reviser(s)
05/03/20	3.2	Removed dash from Study-Specific Location ID in Field Name column	KC
03/31/23	3.3	In EIM Result Data Qualifier valid value table, for EST qualifier, fixed the column name and number of the field that the explanatory comment should be put in	KC
10/12/23	3.4	Added note that if using EST qualifier an explanation should be put into comment field, removed Lab (Sample) Data Qualifiers from data qualifier table and Result Validation Level valid values section because neither applies to time-series measurements, added note to description of WLZ data qualifier.	KC
10/31/23	3.5	Added sentence to Start Time “See the section “Time zone and daylight saving time” in the “How to Submit Time-Series Data to EIM” help document for more information on times.”	KC
12/13/23	3.6	Removed Groundwater Result Accuracy valid values in meters (WL3, WL4, WL5, WL7) because they were deactivated in 2020.	KC
08/26/24	3.7	Updated wording in Groundwater Level Measuring Point ID and Groundwater Result Accuracy. Updated description of Field Collection Type of Measurement to “data collected in the field (in-situ) using an instrument, like pH meter.” Replaced word “derive” with “obtain” in Result Method description.	KC
07/09/2026	3.8	Updates for Check Data	CN