USER'S GUIDE FOR 8210 BUBBLER WATER LEVEL GAUGE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING APPLICATIONS

(Installation and Operation)

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The 8210 Hydrographic Water Level Gauge was developed to replace the 8200 Digital Water Level Gauge. The new gauge consists of a Sutron 8210 Data Collection Platform (DCP) with a GOES transmitter and a built-in pressure manifold and flow meter assembly and is incased in a Pelican model 1200 equipment case. The new gauge is designed to allow the lid to be opened in an inclement weather without endangering the electronics inside the case. The 8210 is equipped with a GOES radio transmitter to transmit tidal data to NOS headquarters at Silver Spring, Maryland, via GOES satellite through the National Environmental Satellite and Data Information Service (NESDIS) facility at Wallops Island, for quality control and analyses.

The development of the 8210 hydrographic water level gauge is a continuing improvement process of development of Sutron 8200 gauges which were used in the past for the hydrographic survey applications, and cooperative efforts from the Requirements and Development Division (RDD) at Silver Spring, Maryland, the Pacific Regional Office (PRO) at Seattle, Washington, of the Field Operations Division (FOD), both of the Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS), the NOAA Ship Rainier, and the Sutron Corporation. Close interaction among all parties involved has resulted in measurement system modifications by taking into account suggestions and comments from the field user, and maintaining the measurement performance and system compatibility required for data analysis.

Figure 1: **8210 Hydrographic Water Level Gauge**

The hydro gauge measures tides utilizing back pressure from a bubblier orifice installed just below the lowest observed water level. The back pressure is measured using a ParoScientific Pressure Sensor (PAROS). The pressure and feed are controlled with a constant differential flow controller. The flow rate is adjusted using a flow control needle valve and a flow meter. Gas connections to and from the tide gauge utilize quick connect snap lock fittings that close when the connection is removed. This keeps a positive pressure inside the manifold assembly at all times.

The Pelican case lid is vented through a small hole drilled through the lid. This allows the PAROS sensor to compensate for changes in barometric pressure outside the case. The lower compartment uses a bidirectional purge valve that will open when there is a pressure change of one psi or more either inside or outside the case. This will protect the gauge from exploding in the event of a gas leak in the lower compartment and will depressurize the case when transported by aircraft.

General procedures on system installation and operation are summarized in this document. Each gauge enclosure contains a few pages of brief operating instructions summarized from this manual which provide information regarding setup parameters for the Sutron 8210 DCP, a log sheet for recording field visits, operational problems and/or services such as battery replacement, etc.

INTRODUCTION TO THE 8210 HYDRO GAUGE

Main Parts

The hydro gauge components are mounted on three panel sections. The 8210 main section contains the 8210 electronics board and the GOES transmitter. The interconnect section contains the interconnect board, the RS-232 connector, and the two waterproof fuse holders. The gas purging section holds the PAROS pressure sensor, a net envelope used for holding dehumidification packets, and the plumbing for the gas purging system.

Fuses

There are two AGC 6 amp fuses on the front panel of the tide gauge. One is connected to the battery line, and the other is connected to the solar panel. The 8210 electronics panel has two additional fuses, one is in a fuse holder which provides power to the GOES radio transmitter, and the other is on the interconnect board.

Sutron 8210 Data logger

Interconnect Board

Gas Purging compartment
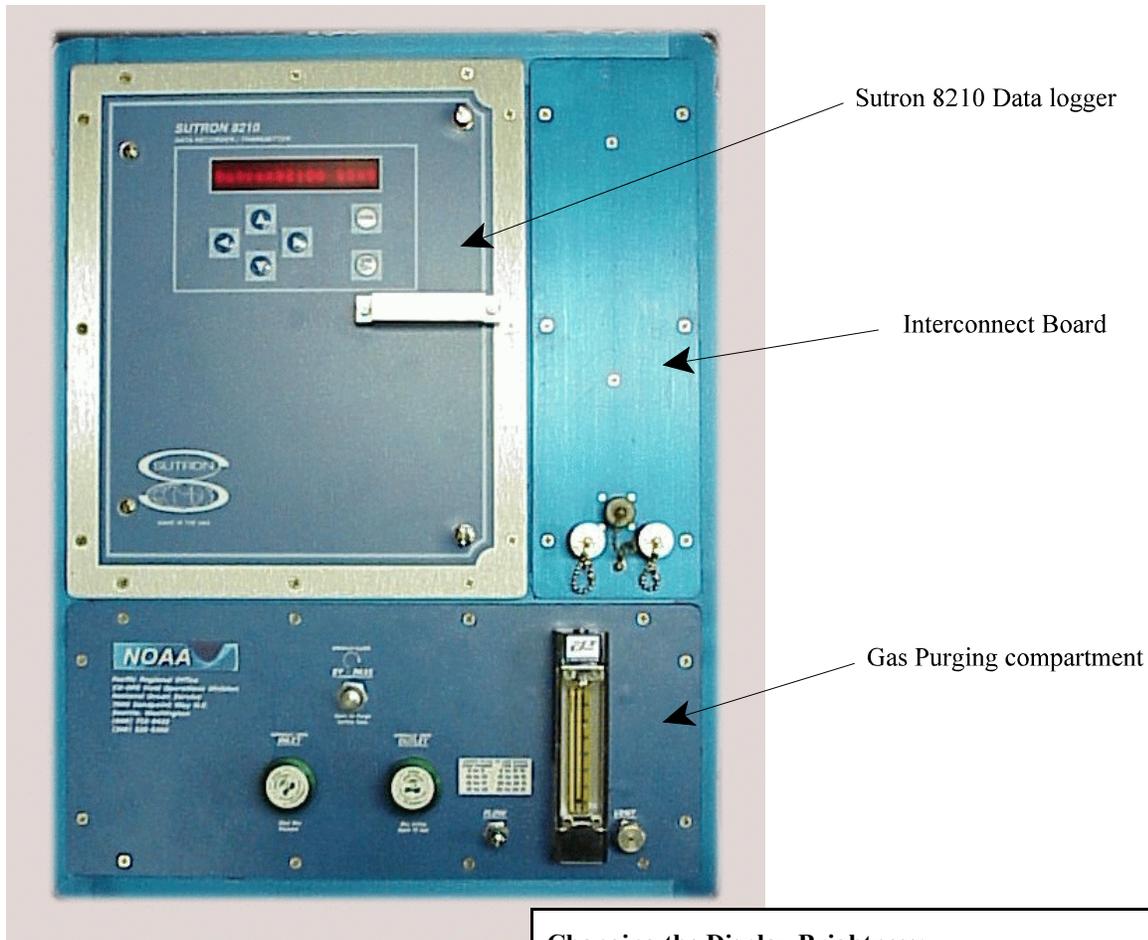
Figure 2: Front Panel of 8210 Hydro Gauge

Changing the Display Brightness:
The brightness of the display can be changed by pressing the "SET" button when the message Sutron 8210 GS49 is displayed The best time to do this is immediately after turning the display on. Each time "SET" is pressed the brightness will change.

Outer Case

The case is an O-ring sealed, water resistant, durable plastic case. Though it is not designed to do so, it will float if dropped overboard. The power connector is a four-pin water resistant connector which connects to the battery boxes. The 8210 gauge uses two 12-volt 26 Amp Hr batteries. The batteries are connected in parallel with a four-conductor 5-foot cable. Each battery box has two connectors wired in parallel, either will provide power to the 8210. The remaining connector is used to daisy-chain the batteries together and on the last battery case connect to the 20-watt solar panel using a 20-foot four-conductor cable. The solar power when a solar panel is utilized, provides power to the 8210 gauge. The Antenna connector is a type "N" female connector. All of the connectors have protective caps. This cap should cover the connectors whenever the connectors are not used.

8210 Water Level Gauge Side View

Power Connector

Antenna Connector

Bidirectional Vent

Snap Lock Quick Disconnect N²
pressure fittings

Battery Connector   MS3106E14s-2s
Pins   Wire Color   Termination
A-------------------Red----------- Battery +
D-------------------Black---------Battery -
B-------------------White---------Solar Panel +
C-------------------Green---------Solar Panel -
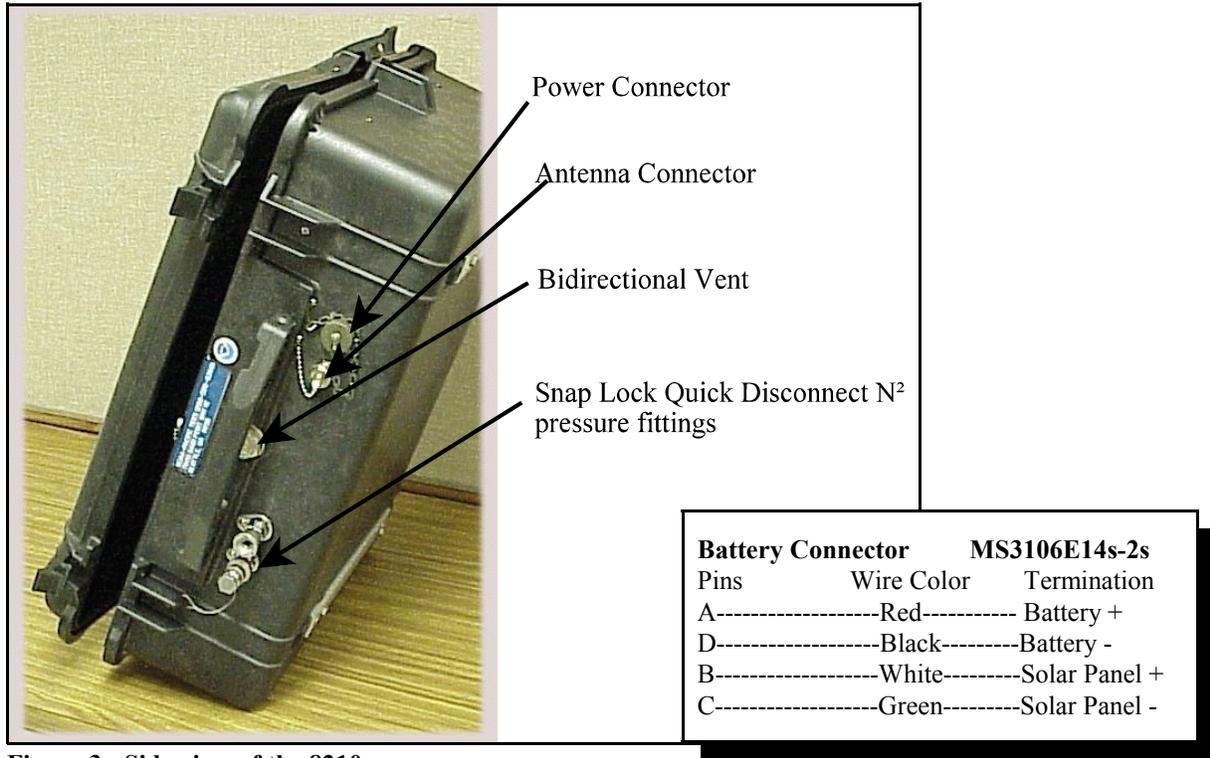
Figure 3: Side view of the 8210 gauge

20 Watt Solar Panel

Battery Boxes

Battery Cables

Each system comes with two
five ft. Battery cables and one
20 ft solar panel cable
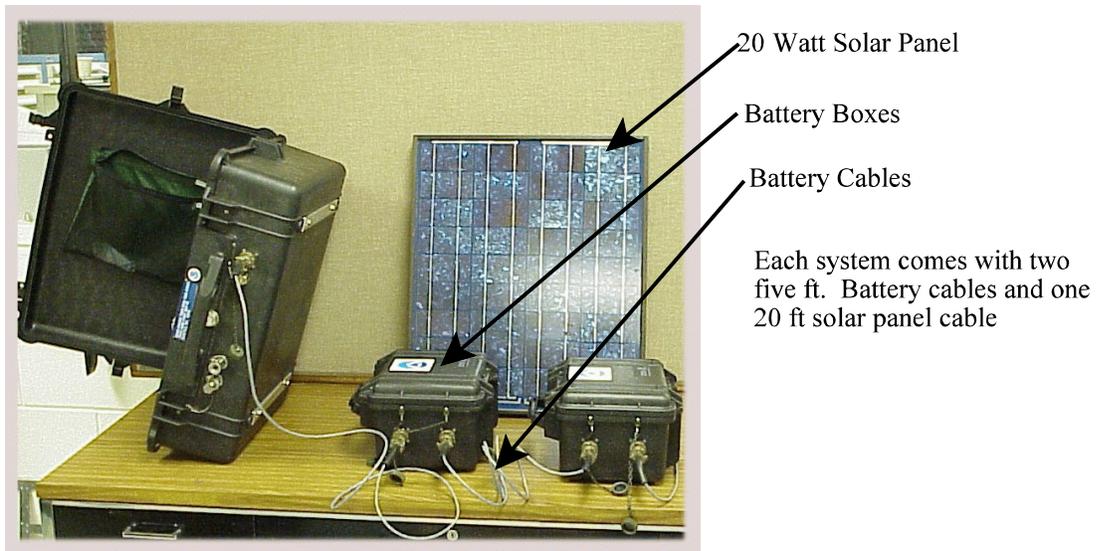
Figure 4: Batteries and Connections

The Pressure Control Panel

There are four valves on the Pressure Control Panel, viz the inlet valve, the bypass valve, outlet valve, and the flow control valve. In addition to the valves there is also a vent port and a flow meter.

Figure 5: Front of Pressure Control Panel

On the back side of the Pressure Control Panel is the Moore Differential Flow Controller, the PAROS Pressure Sensor, Directional Filter, and Quick Disconnect Fittings which allows easy removal of the panel.

Figure 6: Back View of Pressure Control Unit

Valves

•   The inlet valve is used to open and close the gas flow to the orifice. It is normally open and would be closed when changing the nitrogen cylinder.

•   The bypass valve is used to shunt around the manifold assembly. This valve is used to quickly purge the water out of the bubbler tube and must be closed during data collection.

•   The Flow control valve is used to control the gas flow rate. The greater the tidal range, the larger the required flow. The 8210 tide gauge must be in the upright position to set the flow rate. Once the flow rate is set with it's needle valve, the gauge can be positioned at any angle.

Flow Meter

The 8210 gauge uses a Cole Parmer 0-51 ml/min flow meter to set the flow rate. The scale on the glass tube is simply the length of the tube and does not relate to milliliters. However, all values stated in this manual will refer to the numbers printed on the glass tube.

Differential Flow Controller

The Moore constant differential flow controller maintains a constant gas flow rate over a continually adjustable flow range as set by the flow control valve.

Directional Filter

The directional filter is used to prevent back flow, in the event that the nitrogen gas line is cut or removed from the gas regulator. This will allow the tide gauge to continue to operate for several hours without loss of data, or till the gauge can be fixed, if applicable.

System Tie-Down

The 8210 water level tide gauge can be operated laying flat on its back. The only time this gauge needs to be in an upright position is to set the flow rate as stated above. Several attachment points are available on the bubbler system enclosure for tie-downs at the field site. Metal brackets are provided with each system which can be bolted to each corner on the rear of the enclosure. A carrying handle is located at the right side of the enclosure. Looping cable through this handle on the side would provide a tie-down point for the enclosure. Locks should be used to secure the gauge and can also be used for tide down points.

Electrical and Pressure Connections

All external connections are located near the handle of the enclosure. Connection of the tide gauge to the nitrogen supply and to the orifice line during deployment requires the use of Swagelok® quick disconnect fittings. The orifice fitting uses a red male fitting with a stainless steel Swagelok® tube fitting on the other end. A 3/4 and 11/16-inch wrench is required to tighten this fitting. Nitrogen supply hose is provided with a female quick disconnect fitting attached to it.

Caution: Excessive torque in making these connections must be avoided. See Appendix H instructions and drawing of Swagelok® fittings.

Note the difference between new installation (one and one-quarter turns past finger tight for 1/4-inch and larger tubing sizes) and re-tightening (only one-quarter turn past finger tight).

Caution: Tightening beyond these points will damage the mating surfaces, and result in a gas leak.

The polyethylene orifice tubing could be extended or repaired by joining two pieces using a Swagelok® Splice fitting. In order to avoid leaks, be sure that the tubing ends are cut square and smooth, and the tubing is free from scratches in the area that will be inserted into the fitting.

Wiring and Connections
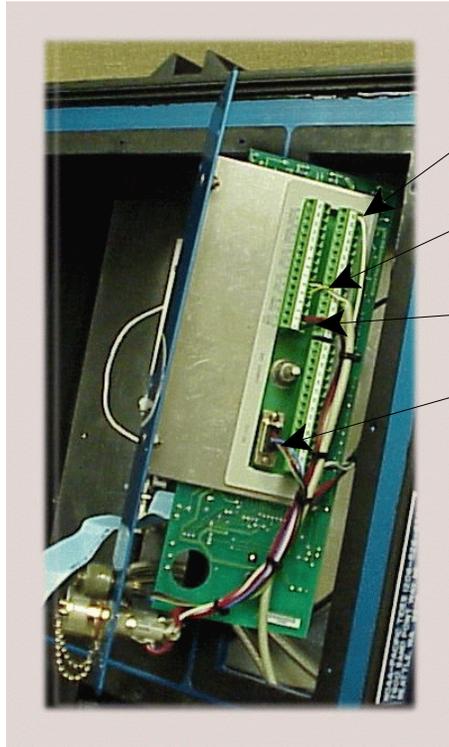
Interconnect board and wire connections.

Solar Panel Connection

SDI-12 PAROS Connection

External Battery Connection

RS-232 Connectioon for external computer

Figure 7: Interconnect board

```
SDI-12 to D9 pin Connector
Pin                      Wire Color                    D9 Connector Female
5-------------------------Yellow----------------------------5 Signal and Power Ground
6-------------------------White-----------------------------9 Power 6 to 16 VDC @15ma
7-------------------------Brown-----------------------------2 SDI-12 Data
```

```
RS-232 --------------ITT Cannon MS3112E-10-6S----------------Wire Color
                         A--------------------Not used
2-----------------------B--------------------TXD------------------------Red
3-----------------------C--------------------RXD-----------------------Green
4-----------------------D--------------------DSR-----------------------Blue
```
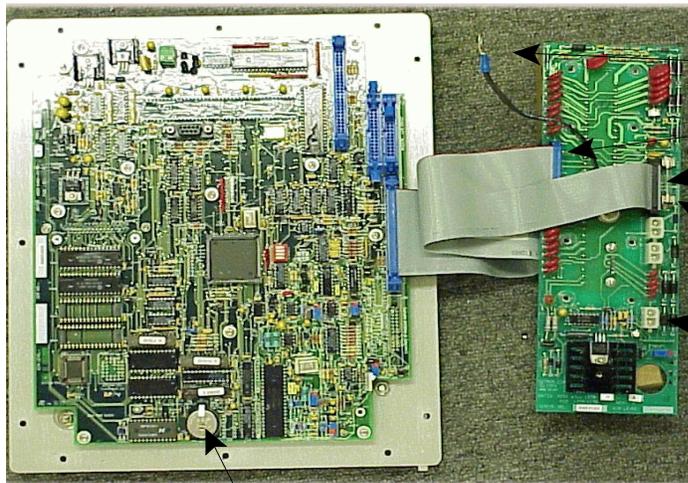

Sutron 8210 CPU Board and Interconnect board.

System Ground wire

Blue ribbon cable connector

Black ribbon cable connector

Fuse AGC-1AMP Provides power to the CPU Board

Connection for UHF Transmitter board

Lithium Battery CR2032 3 volts (Replace if less than 2.8vdc)

Figure 8: Interconnect and CPU Board

GOES Radio Transmitter

CPU Board with UHF Transmitter board

Thumb screws

UHF Transmitter board

Fuse Holder and fuse AGC 6 AMP

Power connector

Ribbon Connector to CPU Board

Type "N" RF connector to Antenna
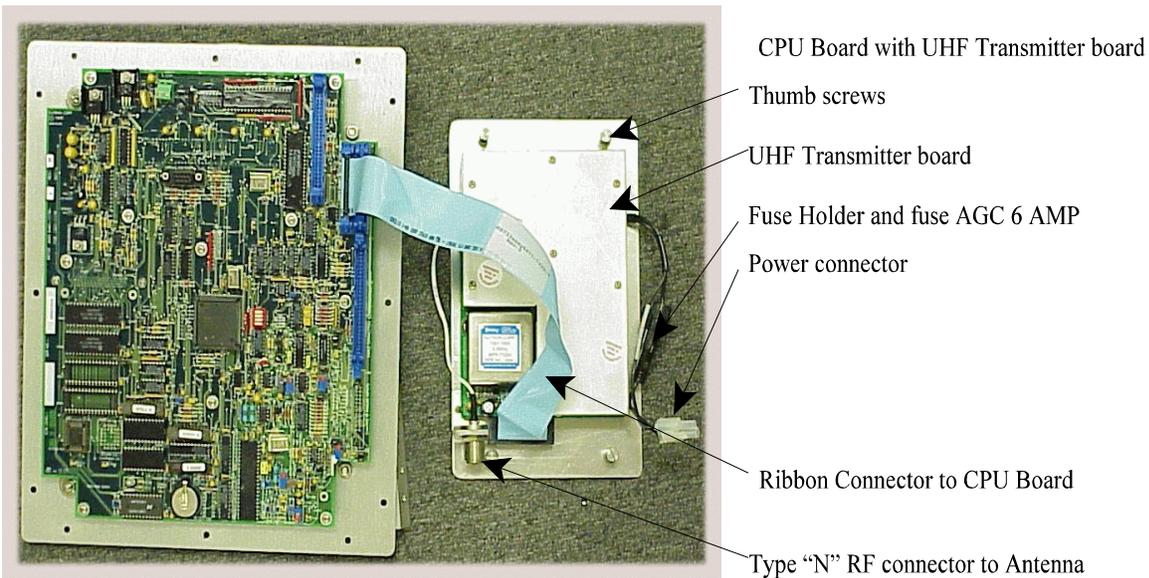
Figure 9: GOES Transmitter and CPU Board

Figure 10: GOES transmitter

The Photo on the left shows the GOES Transmitter mounted in the 8210
Hydrographic water level gauge. It has it's own backing plate and is fastened to the back plate with four thumb screws. A type "N" connector connects the external RF cable to the transmitter assembly. A ribbon cable connects the transmitter directly to the motherboard, which is mounted just above the transmitter.

Transmitter fail-safe reset buton

GOES Radio Fail-safe
The fail-safe circuitry is designed to prevent transmitters from jamming a channel. The fail-safe limits both the length of transmissions and the time between consecutive transmissions. The fail-safe circuit is normally reset from either the front panel, a laptop computer, or by the push-buttons on the front panel of the 8210. To reset the fail-safe from the front panel or PC, you must go to the Main Menu\Recording field. If this field includes "FT" the fail-safe is tripped. To reset the fail-safe condition, press "SET" or "R" in the PC menu several times until the "FT" is deleted. Normally what you will see on the display is recording status "OFF&FT" and it will toggle to "OFF". Typically you will not have to reset the transmitter with the reset switch in the GOES transmitter board.

Nitrogen supply

The nitrogen supply connection uses a 1/4-inch stainless steel Swagelok® quick disconnect fitting. If the new gas supply hose (Swagelok® fittings on both ends) is used, it will require installation of a female quick disconnect fitting and a hose-to-pipe fitting to the nitrogen regulator. No other hose or fitting should be used.

Orifice connection

The orifice connection is a 1/4-inch stainless steel quick disconnect Swagelok® fitting to a 3/8-inch tube to tube fitting using about 12 inch section of bubbler tubing which forms a pigtail. This provides a sacrificial piece of tubing that can be terminated many times if the 3/8-inch connector is damaged or needs to be replaced, without having to replace the more expensive quick disconnect fitting. If connection of the orifice tubing is a new installation, it will require swaging a new ferrule cap to the tubing that goes to the orifice. It is preferable to make this "new installation" by using a spare or old 3/8-inch Swagelok® fitting to swage the ferrules and cap onto the bubbler tubing; then connect this pre-swaged tubing to the pigtail fitting.

Note: Remember it only requires a one and one-quarter turns past finger tight to swage a ferrule to the tubing.

Laptop connection

For the initial installation, it is not necessary to connect the laptop computer. However, when the computer is used for data retrieval, it connects to the gauge via the round ITT Cannon connector on the interconnect board cover using the same cable used to communicate with the Sutron 9000 DCP. One cable is provided with each 8210. The other end of the cable connects to the "Serial COM Port" connector located on the back of the computer.

```
PT06A-10-6P (SR)                                    RS-232 D-9 Pin Connector
a--------------------------System  Ground--------Shield --------------NC
b--------------------------TXD--------------------White----------------2
c--------------------------RXD--------------------Orange---------------3
d--------------------------DSR--------------------Green---------------- 4
e--------------------------Data Ground-----------Black----------------5
f-------------------------------------------------------RED------------------8 Not Used
```

Batteries

The two 12-volt 26-Amp Hr rechargeable batteries, which power the gauge, will operate the gauge for approximately 60 days without the solar panel as shown above in the Figure 11. In this test case a solar panel was not connected to the 8210 gauge and two tests were conducted; First using a single battery and then two batteries. The figure 11 shows that one fully charged battery will provide power to the 8210 gauge for approximately 30 days; and two fully charged batteries will provide power for 60 days without solar panel. In General, for most installations, solar panel should be used in addition to batteries. When the battery voltage drops below 12.0 volts, it should be replaced with a freshly charged battery. At 10.5 volts the GOES transmitter will trip its Fail Safe trigger and quit transmitting. If the battery voltage drops below 9.5 volts, the system will fail to operate.

Note: Allowing a lead acid battery to operate close to being completely discharged (< 11 volts) reduces its life ultimately.

A gel-cell battery has a life expectancy of 5 years. Batteries older than 5 years must be replaced. All new batteries should be marked with the date they were put into service.

The internal lithium RAM backup battery that is located on the CPU board inside the chassis of the 8210, has a minimum life of one year, and should be replaced if the voltage is less than 2.8 volts. The Pacific Regional Office of CO-OPS tests this battery prior to each field season.
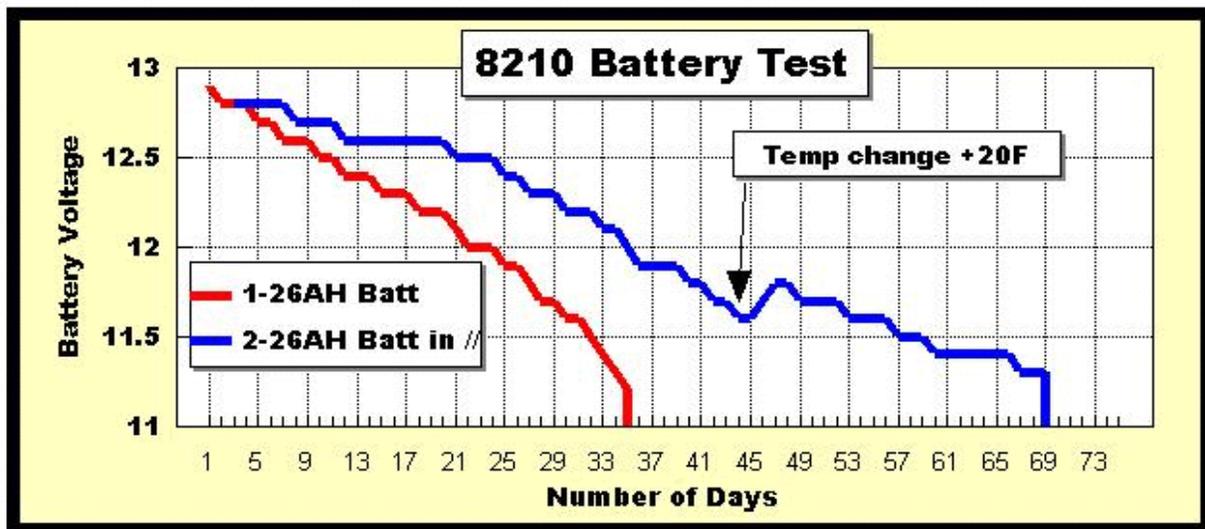
Figure 11: 8210 Battery test without solar panel

START-UP

Sutron 8210 Data Collection Platform

The 8210 Data Collection Platform should be configured for measurement and recording prior to deployment in the field. Thus, the only steps that will be required for the 8210 to start logging data during system installation in the field are (a) install the nitrogen cylinder and orifice, (b) connect the batteries, (c) check the system date and time, and (d) insure that recording is on.

1.   To connect the batteries, connect the battery cable connectors to both the battery boxes and the 8210. They should form a chain starting with the solar panel, to the second battery box, to the first battery box, which connects to the 8210. The 8210 should power up and perform a self-test as soon as power is applied. Even though the gauge will work with one battery box attached, generally, two battery boxes are recommended for data collection.

2.   The date and time of the 8210 should be checked and reset if necessary. Press "*ON/OFF*" button to activate the display. Press the "*DOWN*" arrow twice to display the date. If the date needs to be changed, press the "*SET*" button then use the "*UP*", "*DOWN*", "*LEFT*", "RIGHT" arrows and the "SET" button to adjust the date. Once the date has been set, press the "*DOWN*" to display the time and adjust it, if necessary, using the same technique as for the date. The time should be referenced to UTC (Universal Coordinated Time or Greenwich Mean Time) and must be set to the correct second. UTC time is 8 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time, 9 hours ahead of Alaska Standard Time, and 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time.

3.   Verify that 8210 has recording enabled by pressing the "*DOWN*" arrow once after setting the time. The display should indicate "*Recording ON & TX*". If recording is off, press, "*SET*" to enable recording. If the 8210 had some part of the system set up changed, recording will automatically be set to off.

Bubbler Control Unit

The following steps describe start-up procedures for the bubbler control unit; valve identifications correspond to labels on this unit.

1.   Before opening the nitrogen cylinder valve, make sure that the bubbler outlet valve is OPEN and the inlet valve is CLOSED. The nitrogen pressure regulator, low pressure control valve should be set to minimum pressure (turned fully counterclockwise).

Note: Closing the inlet and outlet valves protects the pressure sensor from over-pressure damage when the feed pressure is set higher than normal (18 psi) to clear the tubing.

2.   Open nitrogen cylinder high pressure valve; set regulator feed valve to 32 psi.

Caution: Never set the feed pressure above 35psi.

3.   Open bubbler bypass valve and purge orifice line. The bypass valve is a control valve that increases the pressure slowly as you open the valve, the valve must be fully open to apply the total feed pressure to the bubbler tube. The bubbler tube should clear rapidly. When the bubbler line is clear, lower the pressure to the desired feed pressure of 18, 25, or 32 psi as indicated in the table below, then close the bypass valve.

4.   Open the inlet and outlet valves and set the flow rate with the flow control valve. The required flow rate depends on the tide range and the length of the tubing at the deployment site.

For the tubing length of up to 200 meter which is the generally used in most of the usual hydro installations, the following gas flow rates are recommended.   To read the table, select (a) maximum orifice depth, and (b) maximum tidal range at deployment site, the intersection of these two (column and row) will provide you flow meter scale setting. From that flow meter scale setting read the required feed pressure in the top second row (vertical intersection with Required Feed Pressure row), and from that flow meter scale setting read (horizontally) in the last column the number of days the 80 cu ft nitrogen tank will last for the selected parameters.

TABLE OF PARAMETERS FOR TUBING LENGTH UP TO 200 METERS

Maximum Orifice Depth (meter)	0 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	
Required Feed Pressure (psi)	18	25	32	
Maximum Tidal Range (meter)	Cole Parmer Flow Meter Scale Settings			80 cu ft Nitrogen Tank will last so many Days
0 to 4	6	5	5	277
4 to 6	11	10	9	203
6 to 8	15	14	13	153
8 to 10	NA	17	16	122
10 to 12	NA	20	19	102

For other Tubing length and more details, refer to Appendix G.

Notes:

(1) These flow settings are for 1.8 times the minimum flow required.

(2) * The minimum flow meter scale setting of 5 is selected because the manufacturer does not provide calibration below that setting.

(3) NA means this case is not applicable because tide range can not be greater than maximum orifice depth.

For minimum gas flow rates, other tubing lengths, and for additional details on ParoScientific Gauge Pressure Parameters, refer to Appendix G.

8210 Gauge GOES Capability

The 8210 gauge should be operated with a GOES antenna at all installations, unless station location is such that the satellite horizon is blocked by mountains, buildings, or heavy forests, then an exception can be granted by the ship's Operations Officer / Team Leader. CO-OPS has assigned Continuously Operating Real Time Monitoring (CORMS) system personnel to monitor hydrographic water level data quality, once CO-OPS has been informed of a gauge installation. If an exception is granted, then it is the responsibility of the ship, or field party, to inform RDD / Manoj Samant (301) 713-2897 ext 190, so that an alternative plan can be established to acquire and process the data. The GOES transmitter must be turned off as shown on the GOES Radio Setup Menu.

Also, when hydrographic water level data is not transmitted, the data quality cannot be monitored and the risk of ensuring good water level data collection during hydrographic survey operations rests with the Captain of the ship. Hydro data with valid and continuous tidal data is generally required to compute the smooth tides.

A tiny basic program FMTPARO3.BAS needs to be uploaded in the 8200 for the GOES satellite capability to work for data transmission.

Caution: Operating this gauge with the GOES transmitter on without terminating the antenna cable connector with either a GOES Antenna or a 50 ohm resistive load can damage the Transmitter.

Refer to Appendix A regarding Guidelines for Operation and Documentation of Hydro Gauges with GOES capability.

SITE VISITS

Staff Observations

The 8210 bubbler gauge stores in its log the water level and battery voltage reading for each 6-minute measurement referenced to UTC. Therefore, when making staff-gauge comparisons during periodic site visits, time should be recorded referenced to UTC along with the staff reading. Note that UTC time is 8 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time and 5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time. Data are recorded in the digitized bubbler at 0, 6, 12, etc., minutes past the hour. Staff readings should be made as close as possible to these times. To view the recorded data from the 8210, use the "NEWEST" display option to provide the gauge measurements that correspond to the staff observations.

Caution: Do not use the "LIVE READINGS" from the 8210 for staff comparisons; this does not reflect the actual measurement of water level being recorded in the system, instead this can cause the 8210 to lock up.

Battery Check

The 8210 external battery voltage should be checked using the 8210 display viewed from the "VIEW DATA", "NEWEST READINGS", "BATTERY" selection from the menu structure. If the battery voltage is below 12 volts, it should be replaced with a freshly charged battery. Removing power from the 8210 should not change setting in the data logger.

Data Retrieval

Data from the internal memory of the 8210 should be uploaded to the external computer during each site visit. The following sections on "Data Retrieval" and "Data Display" describe the data upload and display procedures. In order to see "flat spots" or other indications of problems in the orifice/bubbler hose, the retrieved data should be displayed, checked, and plotted on the computer prior to leaving the station.

Data Retrieval - Direct Connection

Water level data should be retrieved during each visit to the field site, using a laptop computer and a Sutron program called "8210.EXE". This program provides for general communications between the laptop and the 8210. Its data upload option creates a file on the laptop in a directory called 8210/Data which contains the retrieved data in a compressed binary format. This data can subsequently be displayed using another Sutron software package, "LOGPLOT.EXE", as described in the next section.

The data upload option saves the retrieved data in a file on the laptop's hard disk and assigns a file name based on the 8210 serial number combined with the start month and start day of the data dump, using a "log" extension. But, one can rename the data file later. Always name a log file with eight-digit station and dcp# and three-digit log extension. For more than one log file from a particular station, change the three-digit extension as lg1, lg2, etc., as appropriate. For example, a data dump from a 8210 from station number 9414290 and dcp # 1 should be renamed as "94142901.log".

The following are the directions for direct connection data retrieval:

- Turn on the laptop. When the laptop has completed booting, run the DOS program **8210.EXE.** This program enables the laptop to communicate with the 8210. Connect the data cable to the round Cannon connector labeled (RS-232) at the lower portion of the inside upper right panel of the tide gauge, which is normally covered by a weather-tight cap.

- The other end of the data cable connects to the serial port on the computer (a 9-pin sub-D male on most laptops; a 25-pin sub-D male on older PC's, which will require a 9-pin male to 25-pin female adaptor). The computer serial port must be set for COM1, as the Sutron software will only communicate through COM1.

- When you are hooked up and ready to start, execute **8210.EXE**. The program will boot-up and in about 5 seconds, the main screen of the 8210 will appear.

- Go to **(U) Upload/Download** data. The default Transfer Protocol is now YMODEM. It's best to leave this as is. Make sure the date is the date of the data you want; otherwise change it using the (**D**) command. Then select (**S**) **Send** to Serial Port. A screen will pop up at this point showing some download preparation activity. The download should ensue and finish by itself.

- When data collection has finished correctly, press the **OK** button that will be displayed. The upload/download data screen will be showing as Completed at the bottom of the screen along with the file size. You can now decode this data using LOGPRN.EXE, another Sutron program (see next section).

Data Display - Direct Connection

Data uploaded to a disk can be displayed in the form of a screen plot with a program "LOGPLOT.EXE", also written by Sutron. This program reads the compressed binary data file created by "TW8210.EXE", allows selection of parameters to be displayed, and allows selection of scaling on the vertical axis. The following steps demonstrate how to generate the screen plot on the laptop computer.

Run the file **"LOGPLOT.EXE".** The program will prompt for the data file to be graphed such as **"94142901" <Enter>**, where "94142901" is the name of the data file to be plotted. It is not necessary to include the file extension (.log). The screen will display the measured parameters available to be plotted.

Press <cursor down> **<Enter>**. This selects PAROS water level data to be plotted.
Press **<P>** to initiate plotting. The program will request a y-axis minimum value.
Type **0 <Enter>**. The program will next request a y-axis maximum value.
Type **50 <Enter>**. The program will display a graph of the tide in meters, with the horizontal axis being date and time.

With this software you can change the time scale which is plotted by typing <**1>** for one day, **<2>** for two days, etc., **<W>** for a week and **<M>** for a month of data.

The tide height scale can be changed manually or, if the plot is re-initiated, the software will automatically select a vertical scale based on the data range:
Press **<Enter>**. This will bring back the parameter selection screen.
Press **<P>**. The program will request a minimum value (it will display the actual minimum found in the data file).
Press **<Enter>**. The program will request a maximum value (it will display the actual maximum found in the data file).
Press **<Enter>**. The program will display a graph with an expanded vertical scale depending on the actual minimum and maximum values in the data file.

To exit the "LOGPLOT" program, press **<Esc>**.

The screen plot can be printed on a printer. To do this, the DOS program **"GRAPHICS.COM"** must be run before running the "**LOGPLOT.EXE**" software. This program has been included in the laptop startup program (autoexec.bat). While the plot is displayed, press **<print_screen>.** On some computers, you must press both the **<Shift>** and the **<print_screen>** keys simultaneously; on others, pressing **<print_screen>** alone is adequate.

Sutron-Authored Programs

Two other Sutron-authored programs are provided on the laptop that can be run from DOS prompt which may by helpful in examining the data. The two programs are LOGPRN.EXE and LOGSTAT.EXE

LOGPRN.EXE converts the compressed binary ".LOG" data file into an ASCII file (".PRN" extension) which can be imported into a spreadsheet program. When the

program is run, the file name should be followed with " /z", example ("94142901 /z"). These options will insert zeros for non-recorded data.

LOGSTAT.EXE program reads the compressed binary (".LOG") file and displays daily statistics such as maximum, minimum, mean, and number of data points on the computer screen.

PCMCIA Card Reader

The data from the 8210 can be quickly retrieved using a PCMCIA card to temporarily hold the data so that it can be read later with a laptop computer. The advantage of this method is that it is fast, easy, and does not require additional equipment such as a laptop computer in the field. The 8210 is programmed to use a PCMCIA (static RAM memory) card up to two megabytes in size. Anything larger than that will not work.

Caution: It is not recommended that the PCMCIA card slot be opened in the field especially if it is raining. The exposed slot can allow water into the lower electronics compartment and its pins are easily damaged by water.

Caution: Always put the protective cover over the card slot when it is not in use.

Downloading Data to a PCMCIA (Ram) Card

Note: Only a PCMCIA (static RAM) card up to, but not greater than, two megabytes of memory will work with the 8210.

Note: A PCMCIA (static RAM) card requires an internal battery. This card is not intended for long term storage of data or system setups.

Have a PCMCIA (RAM) card ready for downloading. Make sure all previous data has been copied elsewhere and removed. To erase it completely, scroll down to **DUMP DATA**, then press **right arrow** once, then scroll down to **Erase RAM card**. Press **SET**, and you will see messages "Erasing RAM card" followed by "Complete". If there is data on the RAM card and there is space for more data, the RAM card function will simply append the new data to the existing data as a new log file. Hence, if the appending of a file is not desired, then make sure the old data on the ram card is erased prior to recording new data.

To Download

Insert the PCMCIA (RAM) card in its slot. Power the display on and scroll down to **Dump Data**. Then **right arrow** once and then down until you see "RAM Card" displayed. With "RAM Card" displayed, press **Set**, and if it downloaded correctly, you should see the message "Complete # Bytes where # signifies number of bytes. If you see "Ram Error", you should first try erasing the RAM card, or if that fails, try a different RAM card.

To View Data

Copy the downloaded file which will be called Ramcard.crd to your 8210 directory which should contain the various Sutron utilities including RAMCARD.EXE. From a DOS prompt execute **RAMCARD.EXE/X**. This will extract the logfile(s) to the 8210 directory. Just executing RAMCARD.EXE will just show you the files without extracting them. Once you have the created log files, you can use LOGPRN.EXE and LOGPLOT.EXE programs to view the data, as explained before.
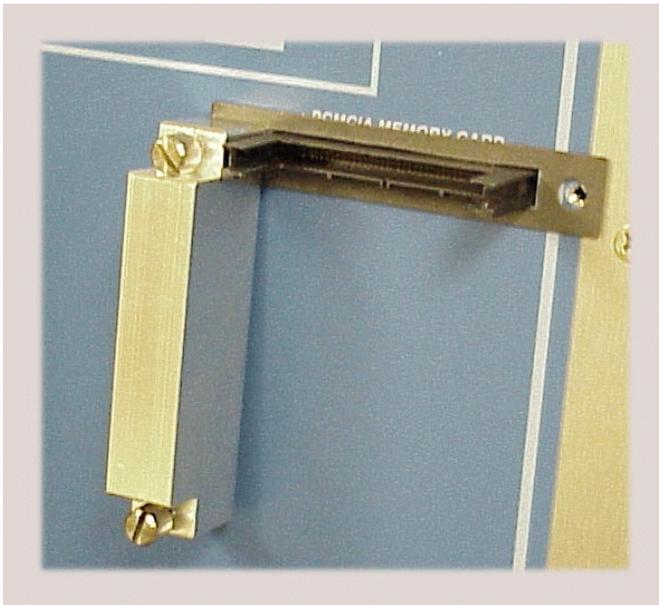
Figure 12: PCMCIA Card Slot

8210 MENUS

```
                SUTRON Model 8210A G49
                Data Recorder Software
        _____

MAIN MENU
        N - Unit Name                   99999991
        D - Set Date                    10/20/2000
        T - Set Time                    14:53:19
        R - Recording Status            On&Tx
        C - Clear Alarm                 Normal
        V - View Sensor Data
        S - System Setup Options
        U - Upload/download Data
        E - EEROM Setup Options
        P - Protocol Setup Options
        M - Modem Setup Options
        G - GOES Radio Options
        I - Inspect System
        A - Application Menu
```

"Unit Name" is the station number assigned to the location of the tide equipment when it is deployed. It needs to be changed each time the equipment is setup in a new location.

Caution: If Recording Status is ON& TX the UHF Radio is transmitting. A 50Ω resistor, or an antenna must be attached to the RF connector on the side of the gauge. (See GOES Radio Setup Menu below to toggle the transmitter off.)

The Figure above is the Main Menu of the 8210. To select a menu item, type the letter from the menu and change appropriately, e.g., one can change the unit name , date, time, or to toggle the recording and transmitter on or off.

```
EEROM Setup Menu
        M - Serial Port Mode            USER
        U - User Baud Rate              9600
        R- Radio (LOS) Baud Rate        0
        C - Com Baud Rate               0
        T - Transfer Baud Rate          9600
        S - SDI-12 Baud Rate            1200
        E - Entry Key Required          OFF
        D - Log Dump                    ALL-BIN
        L - User Time Limit (sec)       600
        O- Power on Delay (10*ms)       1
        P - Pressure Delay (10*ms)      5
        A - Analog Delay (10*ms)        5
        K - Auto Startup Keys
        1 - Time Format                 24 HOUR
        2 - Date Format                 MDY
        3 - Basic Prog Size (KB)        6
Choose:___
```

User time limit sets the amount of time that the user can stay on line, until they are kicked off. To reconnect, press F10 if TS8210 is the communications program being used, or remove the RS-232 connector from the 8210, or from the back of your computer, and then reconnect it. This will return you to the main menu.

The system setup menu is used to configure each sensor that has been enabled normally. All sensor are configured in the lab. Each Item is selected in order when configuring the gauge.

System Setup Menu

     M- Measurement Schedules
     E- Enable Sensors
     C- Configure Sensors
     A- Alarm Options
     B- Basic Program
     P- Change Password
     I- Init Setup
     Z- Zero Counters

Choose: ___

Measurement Schedules

M - Measurement Interval	00:06:00
I - Sampling Interval	00:00:08
T - Measurement Time	00:07:40
S - Sampling Time	00:04:30
P - Switched Power Time	00:04:30
A - Samples to Average	22
L - Measurement per Log	1
B - Basic Run Interval	00:06:00
R - Basic Run Time	00:00:00
O - Switched Power Options	OFF

Choose: ___

Enable Sensors:
The 8210's GOES transmissions are formatted by a "Tiny Basic" program. This program requires certain sensors be enabled and no others. The screen below shows the required sensors. The PAROS sensor can be seen by selecting the [M]ore option.

Note: The Sensors that are enabled are preceded with an *. The required enabled sensor for this gauge are #BUF, Outliers, Deviation, Battery, and by selecting [M]ore you see the SDI0-1 which was renamed and selected for PAROS sensor.

[SELECT SENSORS]

CHOOSE [U]p   [D]OWN   [L]eft   [R]ight [ENTER]   [N]ame   [M]ore:

Analog1	Counter3	WindDir4	Ground	INP2
Analog2	* #BUF	WaterLevel	Reference	INP3
Analog3	Frequency	* Outliers	Amplifer	INP4
Analog4	Frequency1	* Deviation	Optional	INP5
Analog5	Frequency2	Serial	GoesClock	INP6
Analog6	Frequency3	* Battery	Out1	INP7
Analog7	Frequency4	Sft8500	Out2	INP8
Analog8	WindSpeed1	Rain	Out3	INP9
Pressure	WindSpeed2	Og100	Out4	INP10
Encoder1	WindSpeed3	Org700	Out5	INP11
Encoder2	WindSpeed4	Timer1	Out6	INP12
Counter	WindDir1	Timer2	Out7	
Counter1	WindDir2	DataPack	Out8	
counter2	WindDir3	Excitation	INP1	

Configure Sensors

GOES Radio Setup Menu

T - Transmit Mode		Basic
S - Satellite ID		3350:3560
I - International		OFF
F - Format	(ST)	BINARY
C - Carrier	(ST)	SHORT
1 - Carrier	(ST)	072
2 - TX Time	(ST)	01:46:05
3 - TX Rate	(ST)	03:00:00
4 - #Data Items /TX	(ST)	31
5 - Data Time	(ST)	00:00:00
6 - Data Interval	(ST)	00:06:00
R - Random Setup Menu		

Choose:_____

> Note: By Toggling "T" for Transmit Mode, the GOES Transmitter can be turned off when it is not required. This will prevent damaging the transmitter when no antenna or 50 ohm load can be attached.

In the above example, the GOES Radio is setup to transmit using Platform ID or Satellite ID of 3350:3560 on channel 072 at 1:46:05 GMT every 3 hours. Traditionally these parameters are assigned to the gauge and <u>not to the station location</u>; hence, they need not be changed. However, in the event that a gauge has failed during operation, and it has been determined that the new gauge would use the same Platform ID as the failed gauge, this is the menu that would be used to make the appropriate changes. Generally, when a gauge fails, and replacement gauge is installed, the replaced gauge's platform ID, channel, transmit time will be used and Requirements and Development Division (RDD) would be informed of the new transmit parameters.

Note: When Transmitting every 3 hours there is always a +00:00:05 second Offset applied to the Transmit Time.

Random Setup menu is not used for Hydro.

APPENDIX A
GUIDELINES FOR OPERATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF HYDRO GAGES
WITH GOES CAPABILITY

Hydrographic field parties shall follow the following guidelines:

Transmitting data using GOES

It is critical that these lines of communications and that timing factors be considered in the field planning. Lack of advance notification may cause a delay in the permission to start transmissions or the possible loss of data during the first few days of data collection.

1. Assignment of platform IDs and station numbers for tide station installations:

In general, unless the platform IDs have been pre-assigned, a request in writing, by fax or via telephone, for a platform ID for each gauge scheduled to collect and transmit data by GOES is required and should be submitted at least 1 month prior to the start of the hydro survey. The request must include the station number, name, and latitude and longitude of each upcoming installation. If an exact station location is unknown and no station number has been assigned, provide the name of the general area and an approximate latitude and longitude of the project area. The request will be forwarded to Wallops Island for platform ID assignment and Radio Frequency Authorization. A response is usually made within 2 weeks, at which time the installation log sheets will be faxed to the appropriate field party.

In cases where platform IDs have been pre-assigned to data collection platforms (DCPs), such as Sutron 8210 hydro gauges, the field party needs to provide information such as location and the appropriate gauge number (and the corresponding platform ID). For new station installations, request the assignment of station numbers as stated above.

2. Record and documentation requirements:

Prior to the start of data transmission at a site, confirm the gauge platform ID, related transmission parameters such as channel and transmit time, station installation date, gauge and all sensor serial numbers, by faxing the Next Generation Water Level Measurement System (NGWLMS) Site Report and Field Tide Note to RDD. This facilitates the configuration of that station in the Data Processing and Analysis Subsystem (DPAS) prior to the receipt of the first data transmission before the beginning of the hydro operations.

CAUTION: Failure to provide advance confirmation, as stated in Section 2 above, may result in the loss of transmitted data until the station is configured in DPAS.

3. Removal of tide stations and reinstallation of gauges:

Always contact RDD and inform in advance the date of removal of a hydro gauge. Generally, the data collection efforts are monitored, and if a platform transmission ceases from a particular site, then it would be difficult to judge whether the loss of transmission is caused by malfunction of a gauge or actual removal.

If an installed gauge at an original site is to be removed and reinstalled at a different site, then the following additional information shall be provided at least one month prior to the reinstallation of that gauge at the new site. Provide:

Station number, name, and expected date of removal of the existing gauge.
Station number, name, latitude, longitude, and expected date of installation of the gauge at the new location.

Note: If the new location is uncertain, but within a specified area, provide an estimated latitude and longitude to the nearest minute. RDD will provide the assigned station number.

If deemed necessary, a new installation log sheet will be issued, as appropriate, with the same GOES ID and different related parameters, such as pointing angle of the antenna. The new log sheet will then be faxed to the field party requesting the information. Otherwise, all other information remains the same except for the station number, name, latitude and longitude.

CAUTION: Transmission of data by GOES requires advance planning and absolute certainty regarding the documentation requirements. Please follow these guidelines and all should go well. If there are any questions or help needed, please contact the following personnel.

East Coast Hydro Operations   West Coast Hydro Operations
Thomas F. Landon   Manoj R. Samant
Tel.: 301/713-2897 x191   Tel.: 301/713-2897 x190
E-mail: Thomas.Landon@noaa.gov   E-Mail: Manoj.Samant@noaa.gov
Fax: 301/713-4465 or 4435   Fax: 301/713-4465 or 4435

Common Address:
Requirements and Development Division
1305 East West Highway, SSMC4
Station 6409 for Tom Landon
Station 6350 for Manoj Samant
Silver Spring, MD 20910

APPENDIX B
8210 SOFTWARE NAVIGATION

The 8210 DCP is used with the Hydro gauges. For configuration information other than shown below, please contact the Requirements and Development Division, N/OPS1 at 301/713-2897.

The front panel of the 8210 allows the user to navigate, view, and change the programming variables. **[ON/OFF]** Turns unit display/program on and off and deletes current data input entry when pressed during programming. **[Set]** Opens and closes an input variable data field (an open or empty field is indicated by a flashing display).

Arrow Keys use: **Right Arrow:** Takes the user one step forward.
                     Down Arrow: Takes the user one step down.
                     Up Arrow: Takes the user back to the previous reading.
                     Left Arrow: 1- takes the user to head of group.
                                   2 - takes the user back to beginning.

UNIT ID: Set the unit ID to read Station & DCP#. e.g. "Assigned Site ID Number 94546521"

DATE: (MMDDYY) Set to the current date in Greenwich, England GMT Date.

TIME: (GMT)   Must be set to the nearest second. (**Correct time setting to GMT is critical**.)

RECORDING: (ON/OFF)   Must be set to **ON** if data is to be logged in 8210. Will automatically switch off when changes are made to programming. When a transmitter is enabled, the display will read **ON&TX**

ALARM: Normal

VIEW DATA:---------Live Readings--------#BUF
                                        Outliers
                                        Deviation
                                        Battery
                                          PAROS   (Do not try to read live PAROS readings as this may lockup the 8210)

                           Newest Readings-----#BUF
                                        Outliers
                                          Deviation
                                          Battery
                                          PAROS

```
              Oldest Reading-------#BUF
                                    Outliers
                                    Deviation
                                    Battery
                                    PAROS
              Alarm Status


SYSTEM SETUP:  Measurement Schedule-Measurement Interval        00:06:00
                                    Sample Interval             00:00:08
                                    Measurement Time            00:07:40
                                    Sample Time                 00:04:30
                                    Pwr. Time                   00:04:30
                                    # Samples/set               022
                                    Measurement/log             001
                                    Baslnt                      00:06:00
                                    BasTim                      24:00:00
                                    Pwr Mode                    OFF


              Enable Sensors-------#BUF           (ON/OFF)---- __ __ __
                                    Outliers       (ON/OFF)-----__ Lg __
                                    Deviation      (ON/OFF)----- __  Lg __
                                    Battery        (ON/OFF)----- Me Lg __
                                    PAROS          (ON/OFF)------___Lg Av


              Configure Sensors   #BUF-----------Measure        OFF
                                    Log            OFF
                                    Average        OFF
                                    Interval       00:00:00
                                    Value   ____   (live reading)
                                    Slope          0001.00
                                    Offset         00.000
                                    Right Digits   (0)
                                    Elevation      (0)


                          Outliers-------Measure        OFF
                                    Log            ON
                                    Average        OFF
                                    Interval       00:00:00
                                    Value          ____   (live reading)
                                    Slope          0001.00
                                    Offset         00.000
                                    Elevation      (0)
```

```
                              Right Digits   (0)

                Deviation------Measure       OFF
                              Log            ON
                              Average        OFF
                              Interval       00:00:00
                              Value          ____  (live reading)
                              Slope          0001.00
                              Offset         00.000
                              Elevation      (0)
                              Right Digits    (3)


                Battery---------Measure      ON
                              Log            ON
                              Average        OFF
                              Interval       00:00:00
                              Value          ____  (live reading)
                              Slope          0001.00
                              Offset         00.000
                              Elevation      (0)
                              Right Digits   (2)


                PAROS--------Measure         OFF
                              Log            ON
                              Average        ON
                              Interval       00:00:00
                              Value          ____  (live reading)
                              Slope          0001.00
                              Offset         00.000
                              Elevation      (0)
                              Right Digits   (3)


    Alarm Options--------#BUF-----------Enable     OFF
                              Groups         000
                              Control        OFF
                              1-High Alarm   OFF
                              1-Low Alarm    OFF
                              3-ROC Alarm    OFF
```

Alarm Limits
        High Limit   0.000
        Low Limit   0.000
        ROC Level   0.000
        DeadBand   0.000

Alarm Phrases
        Prefix (Name)   0
        Suffix (Units)   0

Outliers--------Enable   OFF
                Groups   000
                Control   OFF
                1-High Alarm OFF
                1-Low Alarm OFF
                3-ROC Alarm OFF

Alarm Limits
        High Limit   0.000
        Low Limit   0.000
        ROC Level   0.000
        DeadBand   0.000

Alarm Phrases
        Prefix (Name)   0
        Suffix (Units)   0

Deviation------Enable   OFF
                Groups   000
                Control   OFF
                1-High Alarm OFF
                1-Low Alarm OFF
                3-ROC Alarm OFF

Alarm Limits
        High Limit   0.000
        Low Limit   0.000
        ROC Level   0.000
        DeadBand   0.000

Alarm Phrases
        Prefix (Name)   0

Suffix (Units)   0

                             Battery---------Enable   <u>OFF</u>
                                        Groups   <u>000</u>
                                        Control   <u>OFF</u>
                                        1-High Alarm <u>OFF</u>
                                        1-Low Alarm   <u>OFF</u>
                                        3-ROC Alarm <u>OFF</u>

                             Alarm Limits
                                        High Limit   0.000
                                        Low Limit   0.000
                                        ROC Level   0.000
                                        DeadBand   0.000

                             Alarm Phrases
                                        Prefix (Name)   0
                                        Suffix (Units)   0

                             PAROS-------- Enable   <u>GOES</u>
                                        Groups   <u>000</u>
                                        Control   <u>OFF</u>
                                        1-High Alarm <u>OFF</u>
                                        1-Low Alarm   <u>OFF</u>
                                        3-ROC Alarm <u>OFF</u>

                             Alarm Limits
                                        High Limit   0.000
                                        Low Limit   0.000
                                        ROC Level   0.000
                                        DeadBand   0.000

                             Alarm Phrases
                                        Prefix (Name)   0
                                        Suffix (Units)   0

Basic Program   Puts user in the programing mode do not go there (Type Quit to EXIT)
                     Change Password----------Password   Not Used   See Note below
                     Init Setup   Clears all Programing
                     Zero Counter   Clears Error Counters

Note: <u>Do NOT SET A PASSWORD</u>

DUMP DATA----------Start   MM/DD/YY

                Auto Dump   Off

                RAM Card   (pressing "Set" will automatically start data dump to the RAM Card .)

                Serial Port   (pressing "Set" will automatically start data dump to the serial port.)

                Read Card Setup   (Used to up-load system program from RAM Card.)

                Write Card Setup   (Will send the current system setup to the RAM Card.)

                Erase RAM Card   (Will clear all information on the RAM Card.)

GOES Setup-----------Transmit Mode <u>Basic</u>   (Will enable the transmitter on and off)

                Satellite ID   <u>   </u>   (Set the GOES ID Number assigned to this unit.)

                International   OFF

                Format   <u>BINARY</u>

                Carrier   <u>SHORT</u>

                Channel   <u>   </u>   (Set the channel number assigned the GOES ID number above.)

                TX Time   <u>   </u>   (Set the time that is assigned the GOES ID number above.)

                TX Rate   <u>03:00:00</u>   (Set the time interval between transmissions.)

                # Data Items/TX   <u>31</u>

                Data Time   <u>00:00:00</u>

                Data Interval   00:06:00

                RANDOM SETUP

EEROM SETUP-------Serial Rate   <u>USER</u>

                User Rate   <u>9600</u>

                Radio (LOS)   0   (Line of sight radio not used in the gauge.)

                Com Rate   0   (Data Modem not used in this gauge.)

                Transfer Rate <u>9600</u>

                SDI Rate   <u>1200</u>

                Enter Reqd   <u>OFF</u>

                Log Dump   <u>All Bin</u>

                Time Limit   <u>(6000)</u>   (Sets the amount of time the display will remain on.)

```
                    Power Delay    (1)
                    Press Delay    (5)
                    Analog Delay   (5)
                    Autokey        _____
                    Tim fmt        24Hour
                    Date fmt       M/D/Y
                    Basic size     (6)


PROTOCOL-----------Master         (Not used)
                    Carrier Delay   (7)
                    Reply Delay     (0)
                    ACK Delay      (100)
                    TN Rate        00:00:00
                    TA Rate        00:00:00
                    Retry In       00:00:00
                    # Retries      (3)


INSPECT SYSTEM--Perform Self Test
                    Display Status
                    Clear Status
                    Enter SDI-12 Cmd.    (Can be used to command the SDI-12 sensor.)
                    Talk to Modem
                    GOES Radio Test-----(S)elftest
                                        (R) andom
                                        (I)nfo to Sutron(This test, formats a message and
                                                           transmits it on channel 151)
                     Monitor SSP
                     Production Test
```

Password Note: Do NOT SET A PASSWORD

"Change password" is used to set an access password for the 8210 in the "System Setup Menu". Up to 5 letters may be entered to specify the password. When the password is blank it is disabled and the system will not prompt for the password. When the password is not blank the 8200 will prompt for the password when you first try to use a setup menu. If the password is entered correctly you will have access to all of the 8200 setup menus. You will not need to enter the password again until the display is turned off or you log off if using a PC or modem.

If you forget the password it can be initialized to blank (disabled) by pressing the down arrow key while powering up the 8200. If the message "password INIT" flashes on the screen the operation was done correctly.

Note 2: "Slope" and "Offset" are determined in the lab through calibration. For the PAROS Sensor, it is internally calibrated, and there would be no other Slope or Offset is required.
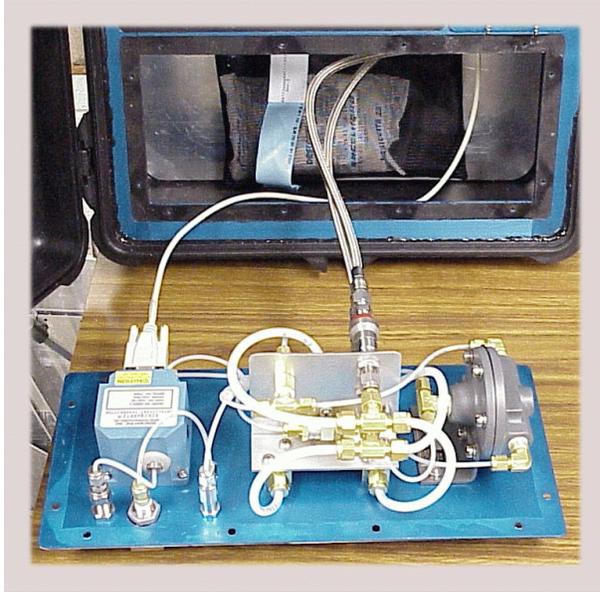
This Photo shows the Pressure control unit extended for leak testing note that the control unit has been twisted 180˚ to permit access to the fittings. Do not forget to check two fitting that are still inside the case at end of the medial braided hoses.

Figure 13: Pressure Control Unit Leak Testing
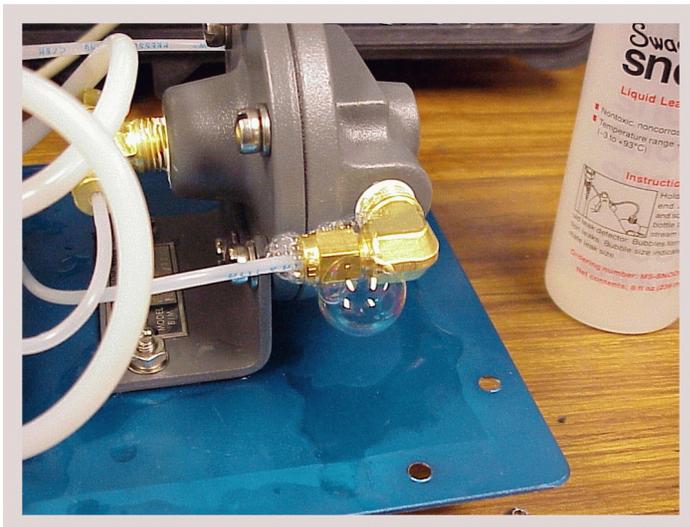
Note the bubbles forming around this fitting. Swagelok® "Snoop®" is a solution specially formulated to form bubbles around leaking fittings. A mix if one or two drops of Vicks Intensive Care hand lotion in a pint of water could be used if Snoop® in not available.

Figure 14: Leaking Fitting

Wilmington Preliminary Waterlevel

This example shows a temperature related leak as the temprature goes down a leak starts, as the temperature goes up the leak seals.
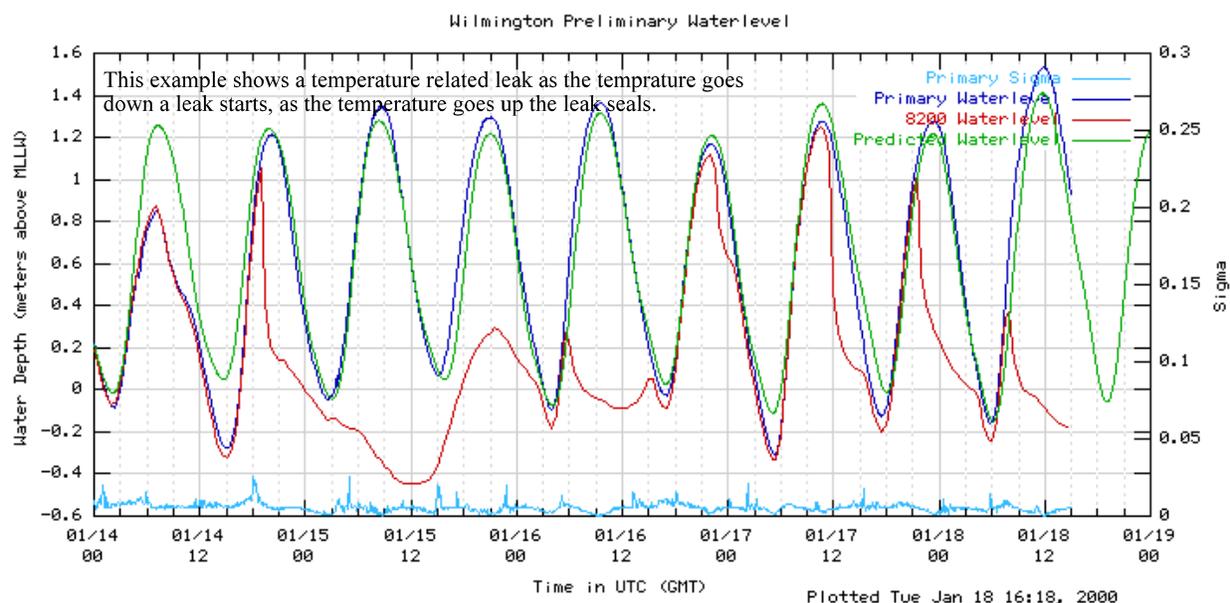
Figure 15: Wilmington Data Example

In the example above, the red tide curve is a bubbler type tide gauge. A leak starts and the pressure drops in the bubbler line. This loss of pressure will sometimes drop all the way to 0 psi. More often as the pressure drops, the leak will stop because the fitting is tight enough to hold the lower pressure, but not tight enough to contain a higher pressure associated with higher tides. As the pressure increases, the leak recurs again starting the process over and over again. A leak will sometimes only manifests itself in cold weather. As the temperature drops as shown in the lower graph, the plastic bubbler tubing shrinks faster than metal fitting causing a leak. The best way to avoid temperature related leaks is to check the gauge before the orifice is installed. The 8210 tide gauge has self-closing quick disconnect fittings on both the input and output of the gauge. By connecting the input to a nitrogen tank and over-pressurize the system to 36 psi, then turn off the valve on the nitrogen tank and wait 15 to 30 minutes. Check for any loss of pressure. If there is a loss of pressure look for the leak by removing the pressure control unit. It should be noted that the 8210 motherboard must be removed before removing the pressure control unit. Use a leak detection liquid like Snoop®, and look for the formation of bubbles around the leaking joint. Tighten that joint and test again. Figure 13 and 14 on back page show the leak testing of the pressure control unit.
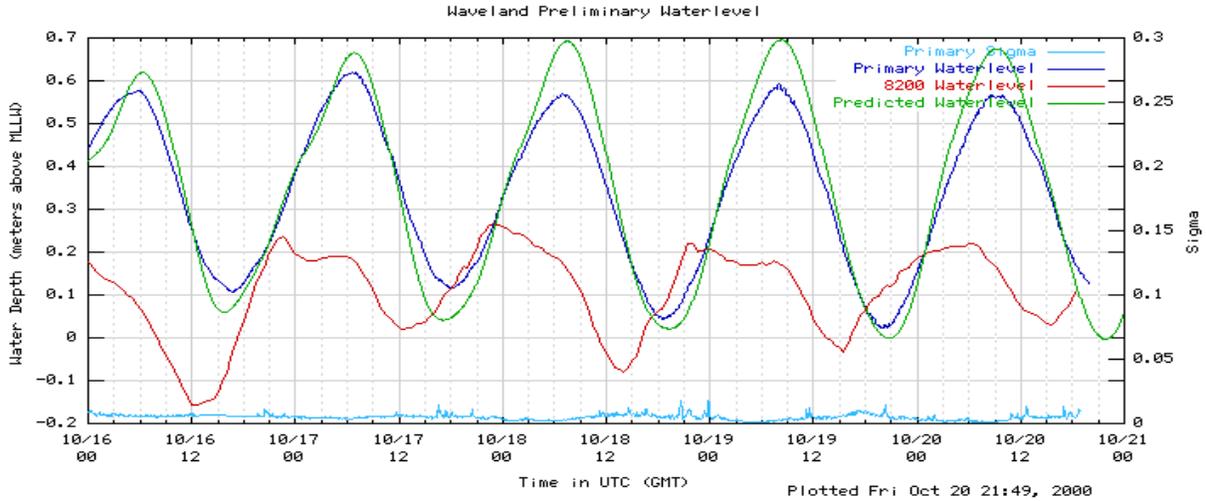
Figure 16: Waveland Data Example

The Waveland water level example shows a station that has run out of gas notice how there is still a rise and fall of water levels but it dose not track the predicted and acoustic measurements.
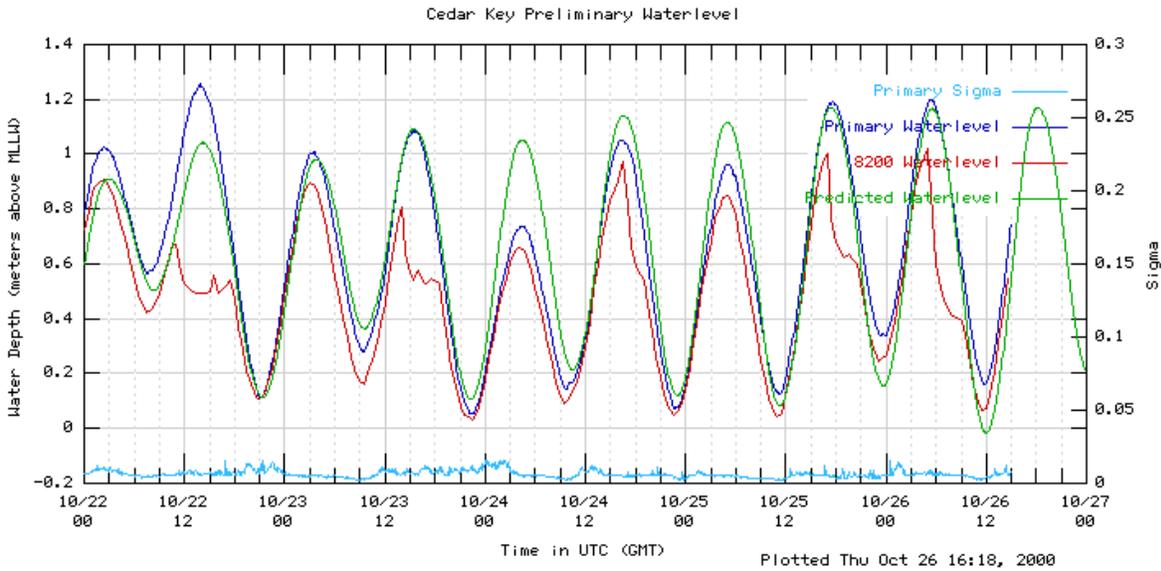

Figure 17: Cedar Key Data Example

The Cedar Key data graph shows a leaking fitting probably in the manifold assembly. As the pressure increases the leak starts, and then pressure drops, and then as pressure builds again the leak opens again.
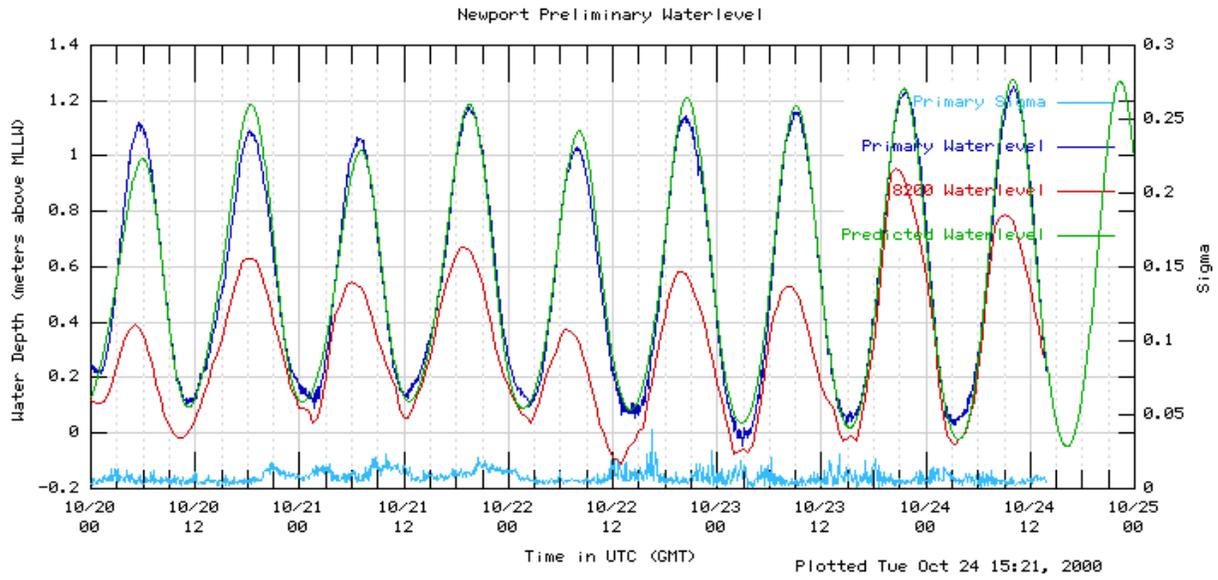
Figure 18: Newport News Data Example

In this example for Newport News data graph either the tank pressure is getting low or the low pressure feed is not great enough to follow the full tidal range. There just is not enough pressure to push the bubble out of the end of the orifice.
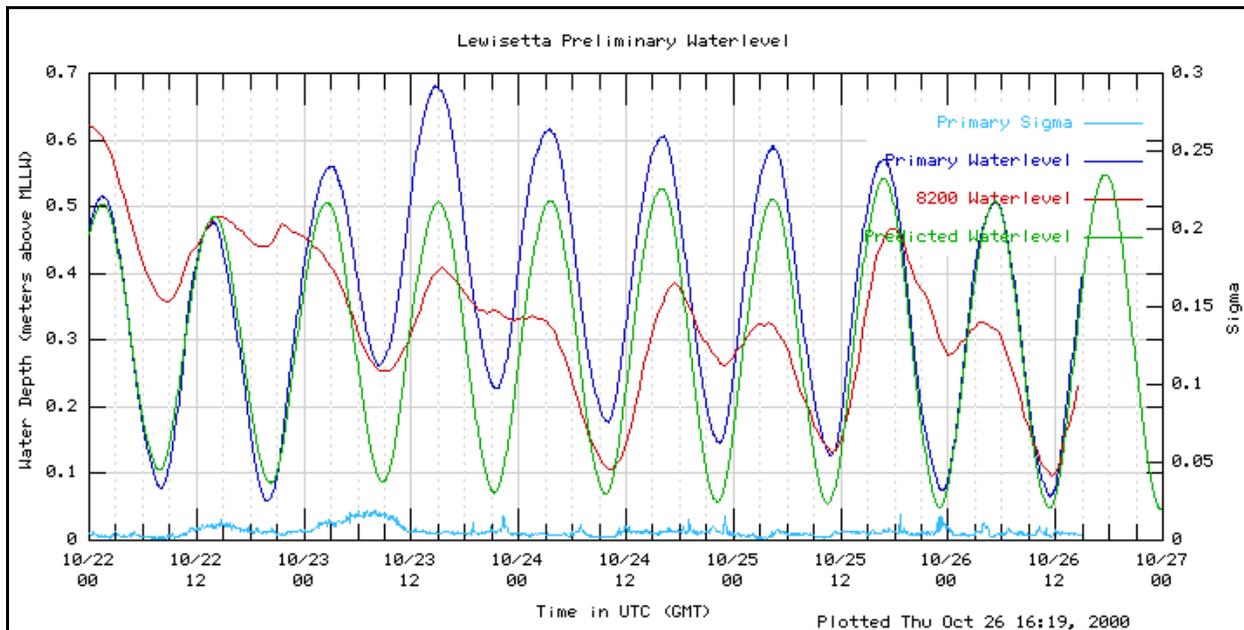

Figure 19: Lewisetta Data Example

This is another example of a clogged or buried orifice at Lewisetta.

APPENDIX D
TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

In most cases, if there is a problem with a tide gauge that is not easily resolved, call Pacific Regional Office, and get assistance from one of the technicians.

Display will not light	1. Battery discharged or worn out. Check battery voltage for the display to light. It needs to be greater than 9.5 volts. For the system to work correctly, the battery voltage should be greater than 12.0 volts. 2. Check the solar panel or external charger. 3. The system may be resetting. This could take several minutes. 4. Check fuses. The battery fuse is on the cover to the interconnect board and a fuse that supplies power to the 8210 CPU board is located on the interconnect board.
Display is too dim.	To change the display brightness, press the "SET" key when the display is at the top of the MAIN MENU.
No data in the log (missing data)	Recording is OFF in the main menu. Turn recording to ON. If there is data from one or the other sensor, check the configured sensor to see if the LOG option is switched on for the sensor that is not logging data. If the log shows no PAROS data, change-out the tide gauge, and return it to the Pacific Regional Office at Seattle.
8210 losing clock time when the battery is disconnected	Make sure the RAM battery on the CPU board is >2.6 volts. Check the battery jumper near the RAM battery, it should be on.
System runs for a short time and then resets	Possible low battery voltage. If problem persists return unit to factory.

GOES Transmitter will not Transmit	1. Using an external through-line watt meter, check forward power to the antenna or resistive load. There should be approximately 7-10 watts of power. 2. Check reflected power, it should be less than 2.5 watts 3. Using an ohm meter, check the resistance from the center pin of the antenna connector to the threaded shell of the same connector. It should have a DC resistance of less than 3 ohms. 4. Check the battery voltage. The battery should drop only 0.5 volts when the radio is transmitting. The battery voltage must be greater than 10.5 volts and less than 14.9 volts for the transmitter to work. 5. Check the battery connection in the battery box. Make sure it is tight. Check the connecters. Make sure they are tight. 6. Look along the path of the GOES antenna. See if it is pointing at a mountain, building, or trees. Any of these could block the signal from reaching the satellite. 7. Make sure fail-safe has not tripped. Use system status display to check or look at recording status. It will say "ON&FT" if the fail-safe is tripped. To reset the fail-safe using the front panel, go to the recording status and press **SET** until the FT goes away. There is also a hardware reset on the GOES transmitter board near the ribbon cable. By momentarily pressing this button, the fail-safe should reset. 8. Check the fuse to the GOES transmitter board. There is an in-line fuse on the power cable to the GOES transmitter.
Can not transfer data to the PCMCIA (RAM) card	The RAM or PCMCIA data card has an internal battery. Check this battery. It should be greater that 2.8 volts.

Fuses	There are several fuses protecting the 8210 water-level gauge. The following list shows all the voltage protection devices for this unit. Fuses designated RVx are thermal fuses and automatically reset when they cool off. They cannot be changed in the field.

1. Interconnect board	F1	1amp 3AG	12V to CPU board	
	RV1, RV3	60ma	RS85 protection	
	RV2	.45 amp	SDI-12 port +12V	
2. CPU	RV1	.66amp	J1 pin 1 Aux +12V protection	
	RV2	.66amp	Switched +12 V protection	
3. GOES module	In Line	5 amp 3AG	+12 to Radio	
4. Top panel interconnect	Fuse left	6amp 3AG	Solar panel fuse	
5. Top panel interconnect	Fuse Right	6amp 3AG	Battery Fuse.	

Antenna

There are two types of antennas that may be encountered in the field.

The first is the Yagi type, which is a highly directional antenna that has a typical power gain of 9 to 12 dB. Effective power is doubled every 3 dB. In other words, the signal at the receiver will be twice as strong if the antenna has a gain of 3 dB. This is due to the concentration of power created by the tightness of the beam from the antenna. A typical Yagi antenna has a beam of (20˚) degrees.

The most common type of antenna that NOS uses for transmitting to GOES is the flat plate antenna. This antenna has a very wide beam (96˚) and a gain of 3 dB. With a beam this wide, obstructions that are some distance away have little effect on the signal quality. The primary concern is that there should be a clear view of the satellite. If the satellite is behind a mountain, ship, or building, there is little chance that the signal will get through. In addition to keeping any objects out of the direct line-of-sight path to the satellite, maintain at least a meter (3 feet) clearance on each side. It is also a good idea to maintain a distance of 1 meter (3 feet) from any other antennas. If the roof of the building is made of fiberglass, the antenna can be mounted inside.

|	
Antenna Testing	The inherent design of the Mod 14 antenna exhibits a dead short to dc voltage. This can be seen by connecting an ohm meter from the outer shell of the antenna connector to the inter pin of the same connector. This should read less then 1 ohm. When you test the antenna resistance in the field, disconnect the coaxial cable from the front of the hydro gauge. Measure from the center pin to the outer shell of the coaxial connector on the cable. This resistance is somewhat dependent on the length of the coaxial cable that you are using, but, the resistance should be less than 3 ohms. If the resistance is greater than 3 ohms, the antenna should be replaced or repaired. The resistance is due to corrosion either between the connection of the two internal antenna plates or in the coaxial cable and/or its connectors. Extremely high resistance is caused by a broken connection between the two plates. To test the antenna, remove it from the coaxial cable, and measure the resistance again.
Antenna Cables, Connectors, and Mounting	NEVER coil the antenna cable. This will make the RF signal induce a magnetic field around the coil. When the field collapses into the cable, the induced signal cancels the transmitted signal distorting the data quality. Antenna connectors should be wrapped with "Scotch 130c liner less rubber splicing tape"; then the connector is wrapped with "Scotch 33" black electrical tape; then painted with "Scotch Coat". This practice proved, from years of experience on the ships, to prevent any water from getting into the connectors. The type of tape used is very important regarding connectors' ability to withstand extreme temperature changes. A two-inch pipe works well to mount the antenna on. Typically, NOS uses a 10-foot section, a "T" coupling, and a 6-foot section to mount the antenna and solar panels. The "T" junction is used to secure the pipe to the side of the tide house.

APPENDIX E
PNEUMATIC CONNECTIONS

INLET   OUTLET

INLET VALVE   BY - PASS   OUTLET VALVE

DIRECTIONAL
FILTER

MOORE
DIFFERENTIAL
FLOW
CONTROLLER

COLE
PARMER
FLOW
METER

PAROSCIENTIFIC
DIGIQUARTZ
MODEL NO 6030G-S

FLOW
CONTROL
VLAVE

VENT
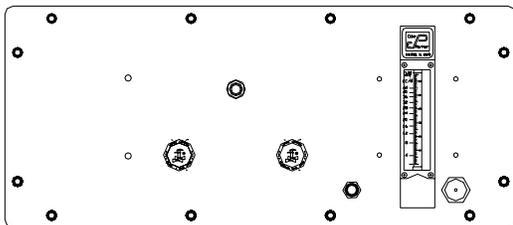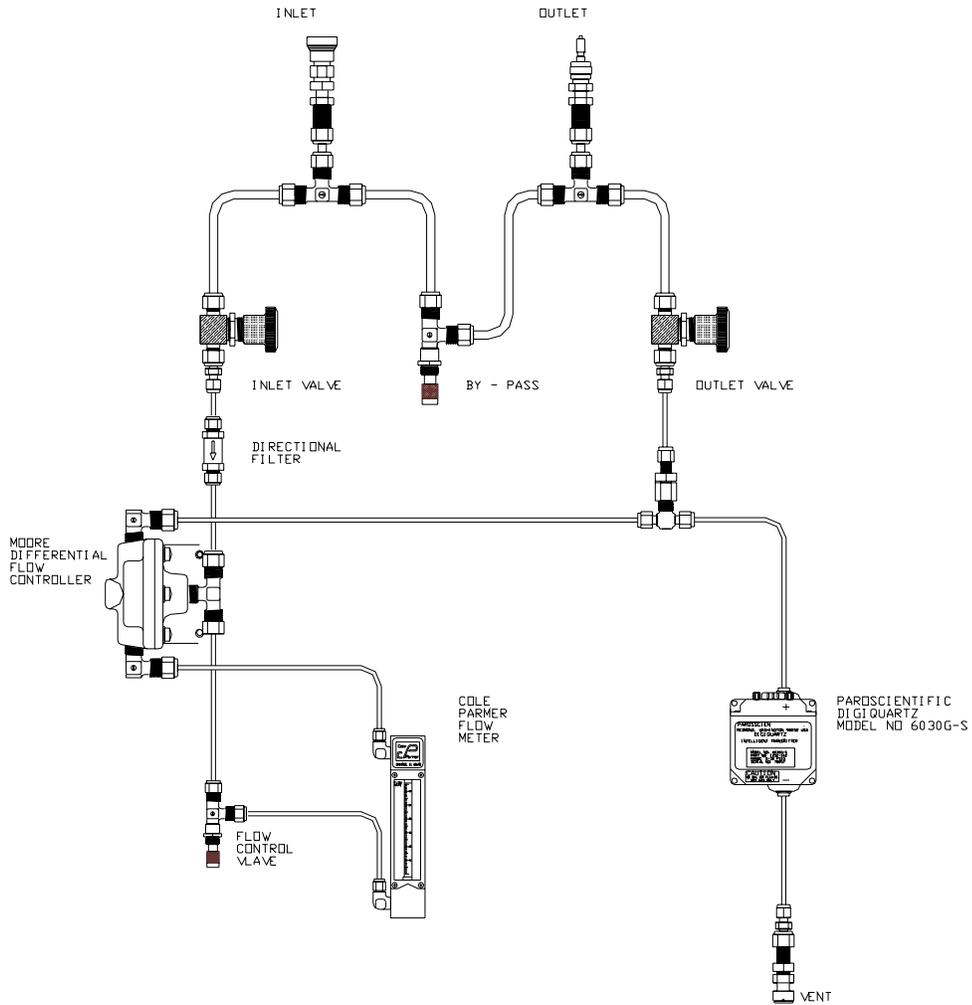
TOLERANCE		DESCRIPTION	
		PACIFIC OPS SECT.	
DWG JDR	11/00	PNEUMATIC	
CHK		CONNECTIONS	
APVD		DWG NO. FOB00051	REV
ISSUE		SCALE	SH OF

APPENDIX F
CHANGING THE NITROGEN TANK

LOW
PRESSURE
GAUGE

HIGH
PRESSURE GAUGE

NITROGEN
HIGH
PRESSURE
VALVE

CONTROL
VALVE

Regulstor
Fitting

NITROGEN
BOTTLE

SUPPLY
HOSE

NITROGEN
NON
FLAMMABLE
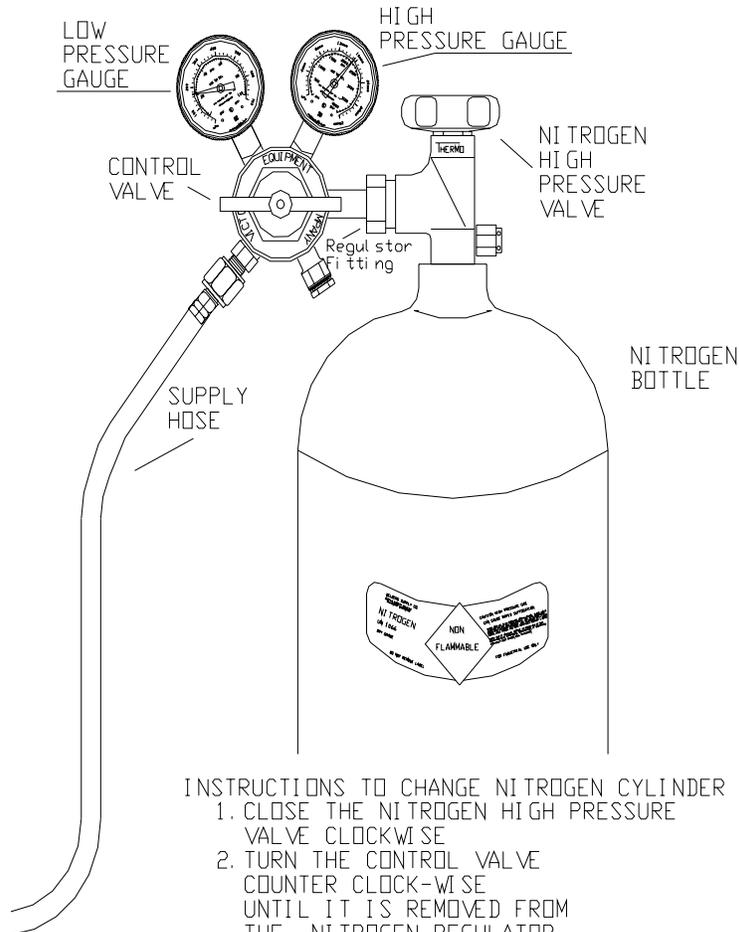
INSTRUCTIONS TO CHANGE NITROGEN CYLINDER
1. CLOSE THE NITROGEN HIGH PRESSURE
   VALVE CLOCKWISE
2. TURN THE CONTROL VALVE
   COUNTER CLOCK-WISE
   UNTIL IT IS REMOVED FROM
   THE NITROGEN REGULATOR.
   THE CONTROL VALVE MAY BE A GREEN
   KNOB INSTEAD OF THE "T-HANDLE" SHOWN
3. REMOVE REGULATOR WITH 12" WRENCH
   TURNING COUNTER CLOCK-WISE.
4. REPLACE THE NITROGEN BOTTLE.
   TORQUE THE REGULATOR FITTING HARD.
5. OPEN THE HIGH PRESSURE VALVE.
6. REPLACE THE CONTROL VALVE TURNING
   THE CONTROL VALVE CW SLOWLY UNTIL
   THE LOW PRESSURE INCREASES SLIGHTLY
   OR REACHES THE CORRECT LOW PRESSURE
   SETTING OF 30-35   SEE NOTE 2

NOTE:

1. DO NOT USE TEFLON TAPE ON THE REGULATOR
   FITTING. (THIS IS A METAL TO METAL
   HIGH PRESSURE SEAL)
2. IF LOW PRESSURE IS TOO HIGH TURN THE
   CONTROL VALVE COUNTER CLOCK-WISE AND
   WAIT UNTIL THE PRESSURE BLEEDS DOWN
   TO SET THE ADJUSTMENT TO THE CORRECT
   VALUE.

APPENDIX G
GAUGE PRESSURE PARAMETERS

Generally the table given on Page 12 for up to 200 m tubing length and one given below for tubing length up to 500 m should be used to select the required feed pressure and flow meter scale settings once the maximum orifice depth and the maximum tidal range is known.

To use these tables, select (a) maximum orifice depth and (b) Maximum tidal range at the deployment site and then the table will provide you information regarding (1) required feed pressure (2) Cole Parmer flow meter scale settings and (3) how many days approximately the 80 cu ft nitrogen tank will last at those selected parameters. The intersection of maximum orifice depth value column and the maximum tidal range row will provide you with the Cole Parmer flow meter scale setting, then read the required feed pressure vertically in the same column in the top second row (vertical intersection with Required Feed Pressure row); and from that flow meter scale setting read (horizontally) in the last column the approximate number of days the 80 cu ft nitrogen tank will last for the selected parameters.

TABLE OF PARAMETERS FOR TUBING LENGTH UP TO 500 METERS

Maximum Orifice Depth (meter)	0 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	
Required Feed Pressure (psi)	18	25	32	
Maximum Tidal Range (meter)	Cole Parmer Flow Meter Scale Settings			80 cu ft Nitrogen Tank will last so many Days
0 to 4	18	17	15	126
4 to 6	26	24	22	84
6 to 8	32	30	28	63
8 to 10	NA	35	33	50
10 to 12	NA	40	37	42

Notes:

(1) The flow settings are 1.8 times the minimum flow required.

(2) NA implies the case is not applicable since tide range can not be greater than orifice depth.

The following two tables are provided as general information. These tables can be used when there is a specific need to determine the flow meter settings in circumstances not covered by the other two tables.

The table below provides the theoretical minimum flow rate for a given tidal range and tubing length. The longer the bubbler tube is, the greater flow rate is required to maintain the nitrogen at the end of the orifice.

MINIMUM GAS FLOW RATE (CC PER MINUTE) @ STP

			Length of Tubing		
Tidal Range	**100 m**	**200 m**	**500 m**	**1000 m**	**2000 m**
2 m	1	1	3	7	14
4 m	2	3	7	14	27
6 m	2	4	10	21	41
8 m	3	6	14	27	55
10 m	4	7	17	34	68
12 m	5	9	21	41	82

The orifice is 1 inch diameter and 7 inches tall and standard temperature and pressure are assumed for this computation.

To read the above table, select the tubing length and the tidal range at the deployment site, and at the intersection of these two will provide you the theoretical minimum gas flow rate in cc/min.   Before using the next table, put a factor of safety, such as 1.8, on the minimum gas flow rate to obtain a desired gas flow rate.

Then using the next table, the intersection of this desired gas flow rate and the maximum orifice depth at the deployment site, will provide you the value of the flow meter scale setting. Read from this intersection of scale setting, vertically at the second top row the necessary supply pressure in psi, and horizontally in the last column the approximate days the 80 cu ft nitrogen tank will last for these parameters.

COLE PARMER FLOW METER SETTINGS
FOR VARIOUS FLOW RATES AND SUPPLY PRESSURE COMBINATIONS

Maximum Orifice Depth (meter)	0 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	
Required Feed Pressure (psi)	18	25	32	
Desired gas flow @ STP (cc/min)	Cole Parmer Flow Meter Scale Settings			80 cu ft Nitrogen Tank will last so many Days
5	6	5	4	315
10	14	13	12	157
15	21	19	18	105
20	27	24	23	79
25	32	29	27	63
30	36	33	31	52
35	40	37	35	45
40	44	41	38	39

Here is some relevant information:
1 cubic (cu) foot = 28320 cubic centimeters (cc)
1 cu foot /Per Day = 19.67 cc/minute
NOS normally uses 80 cu foot size of nitrogen cylinders for hydro applications.

APPENDIX A
GAUGE PRESSURE PARAMETERS

This is an example of the depth consideration necessary for the deployment of the orifice. Additionally, it shows the various parameters (pressure & depths) that is involved in the tide gauge system.

Gauge installations where the there is a large tidal range will require special attention be given to the tidal height at the time of installation, the depth of water where the orifice is being installed, and at the same time make sure you do no exceed the maximum depth range of the Paroscientific Digiquartz pressure sensor.

Max Range of Sensor (36 psi - 81")

Nitrogen Cylinder Feed Pressure (32 psi - 72")

Height considerations for deployment of tide gauge

Maximum depth of sensor (orifice) is 81 feet

Feed Pressure of Nitrogen Cylinder (Should never be set above 35 psi)

Calculate extreme predicted tidal range before deployment and have a graph or table of predicted heights to use during deployment to make sure you have deep enough water to cover low tides, and at the same time make sure you are not exceeding the feed Pressure height.

Ocean Floor

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