



PONDS 3.2 TECHNICAL MEMO

Date: September 25, 2006

Re: **Composite Curve Numbers and DCIA, etc., in PONDS SCS Hydrograph**

The input data for the PONDS SCS Hydrograph input data includes the following:

Field	Value
Scenario	1
Hydrograph Type	Single-basin SCS Hydrograph
Description	
Units	English
Contributing Basin Area (acres)	
Time Of Concentration (minutes)	
DCIA (percent)	
Curve Number	
Design Rainfall Depth (inches)	
Design Rainfall Duration (hours)	
Shape Factor	
Rainfall Distribution	

Exhibit I. Screen dump of SCS Hydrograph input

Generally speaking, there are two approaches which users commonly use in regards to inputting curve numbers and DCIA, as described below.

Case 1:

- A composite curve number is entered which takes into account both the DCIA and non-DCIA areas.
- The DCIA percent is entered as zero, since it is already included in the composite curve number.
- The runoff is calculated based on the composite curve number, which is applied to the entire basin area, since the DCIA is zero.

Case 2

- A curve number is entered for which takes into account only the non-DCIA area.
- The DCIA as a percentage of the total basin area is entered.
- The runoff from the DCIA and non-DCIA are calculated separately based on the percentage of the total basin area contributing to each (as determined by the percentage of DCIA entered). The DCIA and non-DCIA runoff are then summed together.
- PONDS assumes a curve number of 98 for the DCIA.

Example

Consider a runoff basin with the following parameters

- Contributing basin area = 10 acres
- Time of concentration = 30 minutes
- DCIA = 40% (i.e., 4 acres in this example)
- Non-DCIA curve number = 60
- Design rainfall depth = 6 inches
- Design rainfall duration = 24 hrs
- Shape factor: UHG 323
- Rainfall distribution: Orange County 10 Year - 24 Hour

Case 1 uses a weighted average curve number which considers both the DCIA and non-DCIA, and the percentage of DCIA is zero.

Case 2 uses a curve number for non-DCIA only, and the percentage of DCIA is entered (non-zero).

Calculation of the composite curve number for Case 1 is shown in Table 1, and the hydrograph input data for both Case 1 and Case 2 are shown in Table 2, below.

Table 1. Weighted Average Curve Number Calculation for Example, Case 1			
Description	Area, A (acres)	Curve Number, CN	A x CN
DCIA	4	98	392
non-DCIA	6	60	360
Total	10		752
Weighted Avg CN		75.20	

Table 2. SCS Hydrograph Input Data for Example Problem		
	Case 1	Case 2
Contributing basin area (acres)	10	10
Time of concentration (minutes)	30	30
DCIA (%)	0	40
Curve Number	75.20	60
Design rainfall depth (inches)	6	6
Design rainfall duration (hrs)	24	24
Shape factor	UHG 323	UHG 323
Rainfall distribution	Orange County 10 yr- 24 hr	Orange County 10 yr- 24 hr

The resulting inflow hydrographs for this example, as well as summary statistics, are shown in Exhibit 2 below. Notice that the results are similar though not identical.

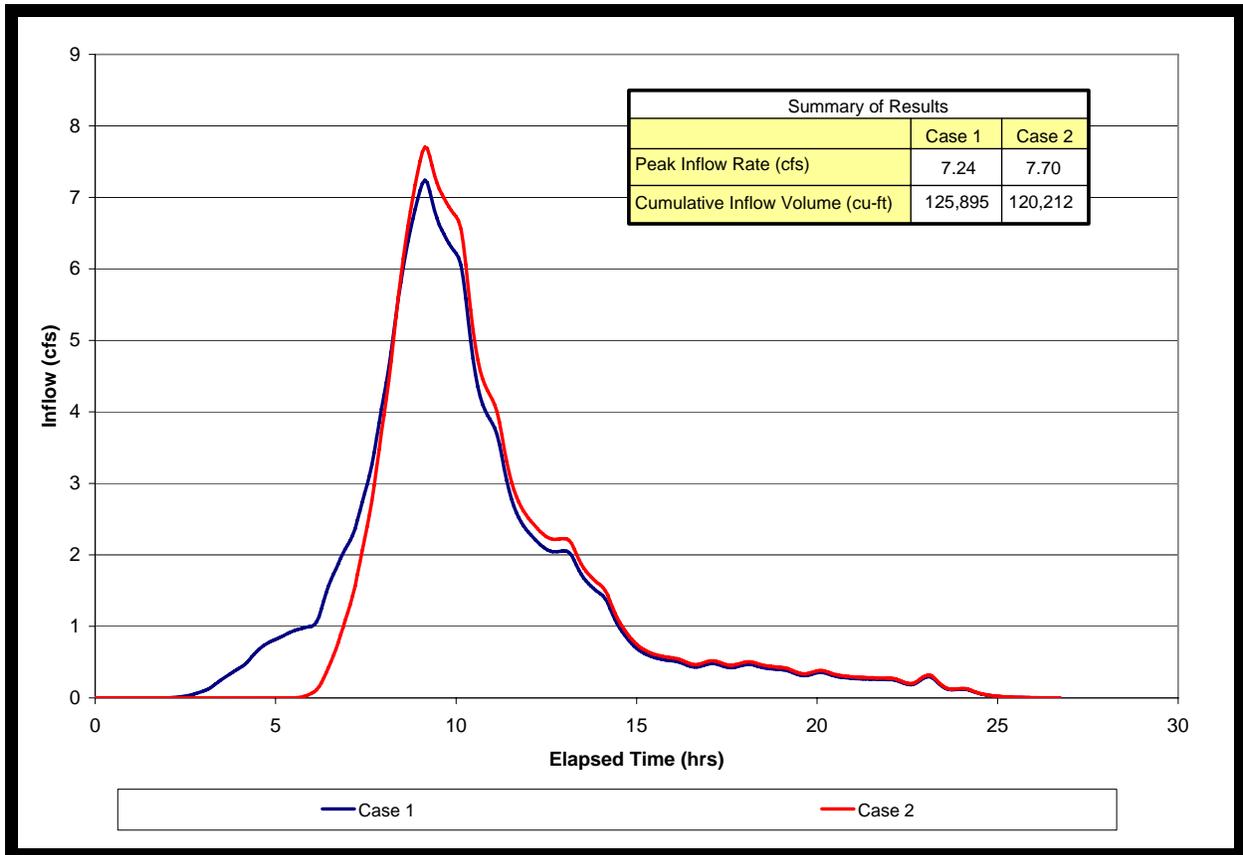


Exhibit 2. Inflow hydrographs for example, Case 1 and Case 2