



July 12, 2006

Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2006.13

Subject: Field Methods— Release of Personal Computer Field Forms (PCFF) Version 5.2.1a

The purpose of this Note is to announce the release of Version 5.2.1a (07/07/2006) of the Personal Computer Field Forms (PCFF) software, which corrects one critical* and three minor bugs that were found in PCFF release 5.2.1 (06/01/2006):

- Bug that prevented the remark code for turbidity from being uploaded to NWIS*.
- Bug that prevented the turbidity meter type from being printed on the field note sheet.
- Bug that prevented the pH calibration from the alkalinity form from printing on the field note sheet.
- Bug in the microbiology form that calculated incorrect recount values in the case where all counts were non-ideal. This did not affect the initial count, which is the value loaded into the NWIS database.

The software can be obtained from <http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/pcff.html>.

Instructions for installing and configuring PCFF, as well as recovering a backup, are also available at this link. User documentation and help for PCFF functions are available from within PCFF. **Users should make sure that their database is backed up prior to updating PCFF.**

The downloadable file available from the link above is named PCFF_CD521a.zip. This file may also be used to create a CD-ROM from which PCFF can be installed or updated. To create the CD, unzip the files to a new folder. Then write the unzipped files to a CD. The PCFF install screen will open automatically when the CD is placed in the computer. If there is no previous version of PCFF installed, then PCFF 5.2.1a will be installed. If a previous version of PCFF is installed, it will be updated to version 5.2.1a and user data and settings will be retained.

Detailed information about fixes, enhancements, and updates in this version of PCFF is provided in the README file that's also available at the link above.

Questions about the software should be referred to Frank Crenshaw (fccrensh@usgs.gov).

If this Note was forwarded to you and you'd like to have your name placed on the WaQI Notes distribution, please send email to nlsnow@usgs.gov.

WaQI Notes are archived on the Office of Water Quality web site, <http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/WaQI/index.html>