

The **chan.inp** file is an additional input file that was added to WEPP version 2012.8 to support the Kinematic Wave, Muskingum-Cunge and Muskingum-Cunge (variable) watershed channel routing methods. This file should be placed in the “runs” subfolder along with all the other WEPP input files. The filename is fixed and must be **chan.inp** for the WEPP model to process the information. To use these new channel routing methods the ipeak parameter of the original channel file now supports the following types:

1. Use modified EPIC computation method
2. Use CREAM computation method
3. Kinematic Wave
4. Muskingum-Cunge
5. Muskingum-Cunge (variable)

The original watershed channel file format can be found on pages 68-69 of the WEPP User Summary (<https://www.ars.usda.gov/ARSUserFiles/50201000/WEPP/usersum.pdf>). The channel routing type is specified on line 3 of the file. If the type is specified as 3-5 then the **chan.inp** file is expected to contain additional input for these channel routing methods.

For more information on the new WEPP channel routing methods see the paper by Li Wang:  
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/treearch/pubs/40457>

**Title:** Implementation of channel-routing routines in the Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) model

**Author(s):** Li Wang; Joan Q. Wu; William J. Elliott; Shuhui Dun; Sergey Lapin; Fritz R. Fiedler; Dennis C. Flanagan

**Date:** 2010

**Source:** In: Proceedings of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics Conference on Mathematics for Industry: Challenges and Frontiers; October 9-10, 2009; San Francisco, CA. MI09. Philadelphia, PA: Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics: 120-127.

The format of the **chan.inp** file is the following:

**Line 1:** This contains 2 input parameters for output type and timestep:

- Output Type –
  - 0=none
  - 1=peak flow time and rate
  - 2=daily average flowrate
  - 3=timestep flowrate

- Timestep for routing (seconds)

**Line 2:** Unit area baseflow coefficient ( $\text{m}^3/\text{s}/\text{m}^2$ ) , range  $1\text{e-}6$  or smaller

**Line 3:** Number of channels in the watershed

**Line 4:** Channel element identifiers. These match the identifiers used in the channel structure file. WEPP watershed identifiers are numbered with the hillslopes starting at ID #1 followed by the channels. See the WEPP User Summary pages 64-66

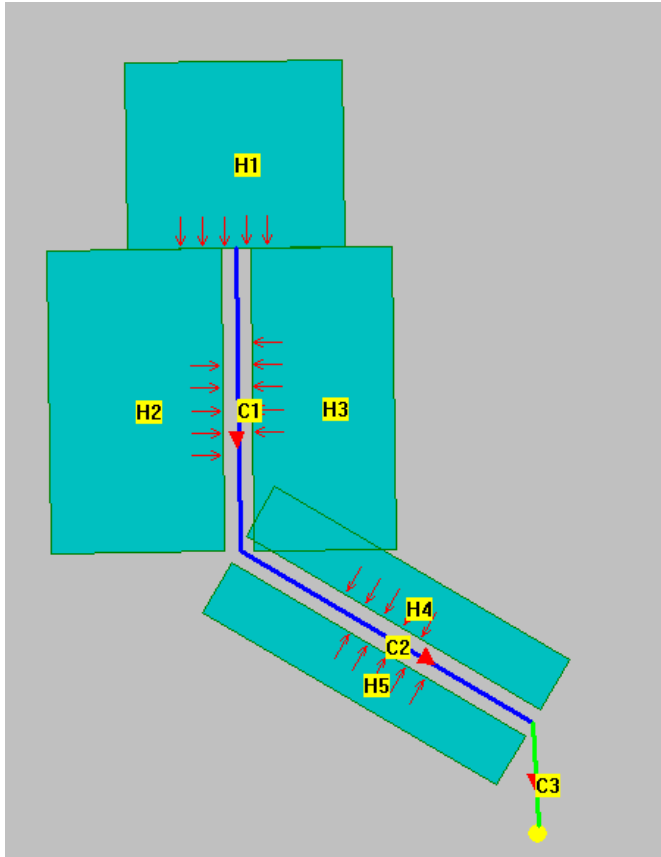
(<https://www.ars.usda.gov/ARUserFiles/50201000/WEPP/usersum.pdf>) for how watershed elements are identified.

### Example chan.inp file:

```
2 600  
7e-007  
3  
6 7 8
```

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This represents a 3 channel watershed with 5 hillslopes, daily average flowrate outputs, 10 minute timestep for routing (600 seconds),  $7\text{e-}07$  unit area baseflow coefficient. The runoff peak calculation method is not specified in this file but in the main channel input file.



## Additional Output Files

Channel Water Balance

Channel water Balance

Inflow = Total inflow above channel outlet, includes baseflow, all sources m<sup>3</sup>  
 Outflow = water flow out of channel outlet, m<sup>3</sup>  
 Storage = water surface storage at the end of the day, m<sup>3</sup>  
 Baseflow = Portion of inflow from baseflow, m<sup>3</sup>  
 Loss = Transmission loss in channel, infiltration, m<sup>3</sup>  
 Balance = water balance error at end of day, 0=balanced m<sup>3</sup>  
 inflow-outflow-loss-(change in surface storage)

Year	Day	Elmt_ID	Chan_ID	Inflow	Outflow	Storage	Baseflow	Loss	Balance
1	1	6	1	3819.55	3797.07	45.82	3819.55	22.49	0.00
1	1	7	2	4893.09	4838.18	113.09	1096.02	9.09	0.00
1	1	8	3	4838.18	4721.92	135.30	0.00	3.17	0.00
1	2	6	1	3819.55	3813.23	45.92	3819.55	6.23	0.00
1	2	7	2	4909.25	4906.43	113.40	1096.02	2.51	0.00
1	2	8	3	4906.43	4905.21	135.68	0.00	0.85	0.00
1	3	6	1	3819.55	3819.06	45.95	3819.55	0.46	0.00
1	3	7	2	4915.09	4914.79	113.50	1096.02	0.19	0.00
1	3	8	3	4914.79	4913.94	135.81	0.00	0.72	0.00
1	4	6	1	3819.55	3819.02	45.95	3819.55	0.54	0.00
1	4	7	2	4915.04	4914.83	113.50	1096.02	0.22	0.00
1	4	8	3	4914.83	4914.03	135.81	0.00	0.80	0.00
1	5	6	1	3819.55	3812.89	45.92	3819.55	6.70	0.00
1	5	7	2	4908.91	4906.32	113.39	1096.02	2.71	0.00
1	5	8	3	4906.32	4905.85	135.67	0.00	0.61	0.00
1	6	6	1	3819.55	3819.00	45.95	3819.55	0.52	0.00
1	6	7	2	4915.03	4914.70	113.50	1096.02	0.21	0.00
1	6	8	3	4914.70	4913.78	135.81	0.00	0.78	0.00
1	7	6	1	3819.55	3813.05	45.92	3819.55	6.54	0.00
1	7	7	2	4909.07	4906.54	113.39	1096.02	2.64	0.00
1	7	8	3	4906.54	4906.08	135.67	0.00	0.60	0.00

Channel Routing Output – Peak Flow Time and Rate (output type 1)

Channel Routing Output  
 Kinematic wave method

Peak Flow Time and Rate

Year	Day	Elmt_ID	Chan_ID	Time(s)	Peak_Discharge(m <sup>3</sup> /s)
1	1	6	1	600.	4.39E-02
1	1	7	2	600.	5.65E-02
1	1	8	3	600.	5.65E-02
1	2	6	1	42000.	4.41E-02
1	2	7	2	45600.	5.68E-02
1	2	8	3	45600.	5.68E-02
1	3	6	1	40800.	4.42E-02
1	3	7	2	42000.	5.69E-02
1	3	8	3	42000.	5.69E-02
1	4	6	1	600.	4.42E-02
1	4	7	2	600.	5.69E-02
1	4	8	3	600.	5.69E-02
1	5	6	1	600.	4.42E-02
1	5	7	2	600.	5.69E-02
1	5	8	3	600.	5.69E-02
1	6	6	1	40800.	4.42E-02
1	6	7	2	43800.	5.69E-02
1	6	8	3	44400.	5.69E-02
1	7	6	1	600.	4.42E-02
1	7	7	2	600.	5.69E-02
1	7	8	3	600.	5.69E-02
1	8	6	1	40800.	4.42E-02
1	8	7	2	43800.	5.69E-02
1	8	8	3	43200.	5.69E-02
1	9	6	1	600.	4.42E-02
1	9	7	2	600.	5.69E-02

Channel Routing Output – Daily Average Flow Rate (output type 2)

Channel Routing Output  
Kinematic wave method

Daily Average Flow Rate

Qavg = Daily average discharge, m<sup>3</sup>/s  
Runvol = Total runoff, m<sup>3</sup>

Year	Day	Elmt_ID	Chan_ID	Qavg	Runvol
1	1	6	1	4.39E-02	3797.07
1	1	7	2	5.60E-02	4838.18
1	1	8	3	5.47E-02	4721.92
1	2	6	1	4.41E-02	3813.23
1	2	7	2	5.68E-02	4906.43
1	2	8	3	5.68E-02	4905.21
1	3	6	1	4.42E-02	3819.06
1	3	7	2	5.69E-02	4914.79
1	3	8	3	5.69E-02	4913.94
1	4	6	1	4.42E-02	3819.02
1	4	7	2	5.69E-02	4914.83
1	4	8	3	5.69E-02	4914.03

Channel Routing Output – Timestep Flow Rate (output type 3)

Channel Routing Output  
Kinematic wave method

Timestep Flow Rate

Year	Day	Elmt_ID	Chan_ID	Time(s)	Discharge(m <sup>3</sup> /s)
1	1	6	1	600.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	1200.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	1800.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	2400.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	3000.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	3600.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	4200.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	4800.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	5400.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	6000.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	6600.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	7200.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	7800.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	8400.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	9000.	4.39E-02
1	1	6	1	9600.	4.39E-02