VI.2.2 OPERATIONAL FORECAST SYSTEM INITIALIZATION

This Section contains a list of the steps to be followed when
initializing the Operational Forecast System (OFS).

It also contains an explanation of some of the material needed, some
items to consider as one is going through the steps, some explanation
of what the programs do with the information and references to other
documentation that contains additional information.

Following is a summary of the initialization steps. The names of
programs used and associated documentation are in parentheses. Steps
can be done at the same time are indicated.

    1. determine file sizes
        (FILESIZE, I.5-FILESIZE)

    2. create files
        (FILECRAT, I.5-FILECRAT)

    3. define user parameters for Preprocessors
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-DEFINE-USER)

    4. define stations
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-DEFINE-STATION)

    5. run NETWORK command
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-NETWORK)

    6. define FMAP areas
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-DEFINE-AREA)

        Steps 7 and 8 can be done at the same time and can be done at
        the same time as steps 4, 5 and 6.

    7. define Basin Boundaries (optional)
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-DEFINE-BASIN)

    8. define Rating Curves
        (FCINIT, VI.3.4B-DEF-RC)

        Steps 9 and 10 can be done at the same time.

    9. define MAP, MAPX, MAT and MAPE areas
        (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-DEFINE-AREA)

    10. define Segments
        (FCINIT, VI.3.4B-SEGDEF)

    11. define Forecast Groups
        (FCINIT, VI.3.4B-FGDEF)

    12. define Carryover Groups
        (FCINIT, VI.3.4B-CGDEF)

13. run ORDER command
         (PPINIT, VI.3.3B-ORDER)

During the initialization process, problems can occur if a program
run terminates abnormally when writing to any of the data bases or
data files. Programs PPINIT and FCINIT print a message and stop
running if a problem occurred on the previous run. If any program
terminates abnormally while writing to a file, it is best to recover
the files from the most recent backup and then rerun the jobs that
have written to the files since the date of the backup. In some
cases, if the user knows exactly what took place, recovery from a
backup is not necessary. It is recommended that all users maintain
backup copies of their operational files.

The RRS Preprocessor Function can be run as soon as any stations with
RRS data are defined, but typically will not be run until after the
PPINIT command NETWORK is run.

The MAT and MAPE Preprocessors Functions can be run after one area is
defined.

The MAP, MAPX, FMAP Preprocessors Functions and the Forecast
Component Execution Function (FCEXEC) cannot be run until all
initialization steps are complete.