

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

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GOODWIN J. KNIGHT, Governor
FRANK B. DURKEE, Director of Public Works
HARVEY O. BANKS, State Engineer

REPORT ON INVESTIGATION AND
WATERMASTER SERVICE

ON

PARKER CREEK STREAM SYSTEM

Lassen County, California

1955 SEASON

Sacramento, California

February, 1956

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SUBMISSION TO, AND ADOPTION BY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

I, J. M. Page, Senior Hydraulic Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, submit the within contained report entitled "Report on Investigation and Watermaster Service on Parker Creek Stream System, Lassen County, California, 1955 Season".

/s/ J. M. Page

Senior Hydraulic Engineer

I, W. R. Gianelli, Supervising Hydraulic Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, approve this "Report on Investigation and Watermaster Service on Parker Creek Stream System, Lassen County, California, 1955 Season".

/s/ W. R. Gianelli

Supervising Hydraulic Engineer

I, L. G. Jopson, Assistant State Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, approve and adopt this "Report on Investigation and Watermaster Service on Parker Creek Stream System, Lassen County, California, 1955 Season", as a report of the Department of Public Works.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Department of Public Works of the State of California, this 24th day of February, 1956.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

/s/ L. G. Jopson

By

L. G. Jopson
Assistant State Engineer

ORGANIZATION

STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Frank B. Durkee Director of Public Works
A. D. Edmonston* State Engineer
Harvey O. Banks State Engineer
L. C. Jopson Assistant State Engineer

The activity covered by this report is under the
direction of

W. R. Gianelli
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*Retired November 1, 1955

REPORT ON INVESTIGATION AND WATERMASTER SERVICE ON
PARKER CREEK STREAM SYSTEM
LASSEN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1955 SEASON

INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth report prepared in connection with adjudication of water rights on ~~Parker~~ ^{Parker} Creek stream system and covers the period ~~June 1, 1955~~ ^{April 11,} 1955, through the end of the irrigation season, September 30, 1955.

The adjudication proceeding was initiated on December 5, 1950, by the filing of a petition with the State Engineer requesting determination of the rights of the various claimants to water of Parker Creek stream system as provided in Part 3, Division 2 of the Water Code. Following granting of the petition on January 19, 1951, an investigation of the stream system was made, the results of which are set forth in "Report on Water Supply and Use of Water on Parker Creek Stream System, Lassen County, California, April, 1952". Additional yearly reports have been written at the end of the 1952, 1953 and 1954 irrigation seasons, setting forth supplementary data on water supply, use of water, and a discussion of the results of trial distribution.

On April 18, 1955 the Order of Determination was entered in the records of the Division of Water Resources and a copy was served on all parties to the proceedings on May 2, 1955.

Water was distributed during the 1955 season in accordance with an agreement for watermaster service, signed by ninety percent of the owners of conduits on the stream system, and which called for distribution of water in accordance with the Order of Determination, setting forth the water right schedules as contained therein.

Details of the allotments contained in the Order of Determination were discussed with individual water users prior to their entering into the agreement for distribution.

Supplementary data gathered in 1955 and results of the distribution of water are presented in this report under headings as follows: (1) Introduction, (2) Water Supply, (3) Distribution of Water and, (4) Changes in Ownership of Lands and Water Rights. Plate 1 at the end of the text presents hydrographs of Parker Creek at Highway 395 for the years 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955. Two appendixes follow the text and plate, including Appendix A entitled "Precipitation and Water Supply", and Appendix B entitled "Agreement for Watermaster Service During 1955 Season".

WATER SUPPLY

Water supply available for use during the 1955 season was less than during any season since the investigation was initiated in 1951. At no time during the season was water available for all allotments. By June 16 the flow of Parker Creek at Highway 395 had stopped.

Precipitation

Records of precipitation collected by the United States Weather Bureau at Susanville Airport, six miles east of Susanville, are presented at the end of this report as Table 1 of Appendix A. These records show that 1954-55 precipitation was 73 per cent of the ten year average at the station. Annual precipitation at this station in inches and in per cent of the last 10-year average are listed in the following tabulation for the years since 1950-51.

Year	Precipitation, in inches	Per Cent of last 10-year average
1950-51	13.58	117
1951-52	18.72	169
1952-53	13.70	118
1953-54	9.63	87
1954-55	8.09	73

Runoff

An automatic water stage recorder was maintained on Parker Creek at Highway 395 during the irrigation season. A record of the daily mean discharge of this station is included as Table 2 of Appendix A.

A comparison of monthly mean discharge in cubic feet per second of Parker Creek at Highway 395 during the 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1955 irrigation seasons follows:

Year	April	May	June	July
1951	2.7	2.1	0.8	0.3
1952	12.8	11.4	4.4	1.7
1953	3.1	3.5	1.9	0.4
1954	No Record	1.0	0.8	0.5
1955	1.0	1.2	0.2	0

Runoff of Parker Creek for 1955 season was lower than any preceding year of this investigation, with the result that the water supply was completely utilized throughout the season.

DISTRIBUTION OF WATER

The "Agreement for Watermaster Service During the 1955 Season",

which was adopted by the water users, and provided for the appointment of a watermaster by the Department to distribute the water of Parker Creek stream system in accordance with the Order of Determination, ^{a copy of this agreement} is contained in Appendix B of this report.

Runoff during April and May provided water for all first priority allotments but second priority allotments were limited to 25 per cent of their requirements throughout that period. Water was not available at any time during the season for third and fourth priority allotments. After the first of June the available water below Highway 395 decreased rapidly until June 16 when flow at this station ceased for the remainder of the season.

Efficacy of the rights as set forth in the Order of Determination was illustrated by the lack of dissention between water users during the season of minimum water supply.

CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP OF LANDS AND WATER RIGHTS

No changes in ownership of lands and water rights occurred during the 1955 irrigation season.

APPENDIX A

PRECIPITATION AND WATER SUPPLY

Table of Contents

1. Precipitation at Susanville Airport, Lassen County, California, 1945-46 to 1954-55.
2. Daily Mean Discharge of Parker Creek at Highway 395.

TABLE 1

PRECIPITATION AT SUSANVILLE AIRPORT, LASSEN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

1945-46 TO 1954-55

In Inches

Year	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Season
1945-46	2.92	2.01	3.65	0.40	0.89	2.21	0.25	0.07	0.01	0.59	0	0.20	12.20
1936-47	0.25	3.28	1.50	0.25	1.28	1.37	0.67	1.13	0.47	0	.18	0.02	10.40
1947-48	1.57	0.07	0.15	0.91	0.66	0.85	1.85	1.39	1.43	0	0	0.04	8.92
1948-49	0.61	0.48	1.55	0.24	0.60	0.97	0.01	1.89	0	.04	0	0.24	6.63
1949-50	0.01	1.11	0.17	1.36	1.86	1.36	0.72	0.36	0.98	0	.21	1.33	9.47
1950-51	2.44	3.11	2.03	2.06	0.78	0.09	1.56	0.86	0.50	0	.21	0.03	12.58
1951-52	1.93	1.06	3.49	4.79	2.21	3.10	0.32	0.53	0.19	.67	0	0.43	18.72
1952-53	0.14	1.07	3.39	3.72	0.08	1.03	0.79	1.71	0.50	.96	.10	0.21	13.70
1953-54	0.63	1.47	0.06	2.52	2.34	1.48	0.35	0	0.53	0	0	0.25	9.63
1954-55	0.16	1.22	2.65	0.82	0.68	0.52	0.60	* 0.13	* 0.40	.02	0	0.89	8.09
10-year mean	1.07	1.49	1.86	1.71	1.14	1.22	0.71	0.81	0.50	0.23	0.06	0.36	11.16

* Estimated

TABLE 2

DAILY MEAN DISCHARGE OF PARKER CREEK AT HIGHWAY 395

April 11 to June 30, 1955

In Cubic Feet per Second

Day	April	May	June	July	August	September
1	N	1.2	.7	N	N	N
2	O	1.2	.7	O	O	O
3		1.1	.7			
4	R	1.1	.6	F	F	F
5	E	1.1	.6	L	L	L
	C			O	O	O
6	O	1.1	.5	W	W	W
7	R	1.3	.5			
8	D	2.0	.4			
9		1.8	.3			
10		1.8	.3			
11	1.0	1.7	.3			
12	1.0	1.8	.2			
13	1.0	2.0	.2			
14	1.0	1.7	.1			
15	1.0	1.4	.1			
16	1.0	1.0				
17	1.0	1.0				
18	1.0	1.0	N			
19	1.0	1.0	O			
20	1.0	1.1				
21	1.0	1.2	F			
22	1.0	1.2	L			
23	1.0	.7	O			
24	1.0	.8	W			
25	1.0	.8				
26	1.2	.9				
27	1.2	.9				
28	1.2	.9				
29	1.2	.7				
30	1.2	.7				
31		.8				
Mean	1.0	1.2	.2			
Runoff, in acre-feet	42	73	12			

Total for period - 127 acre-feet.

APPENDIX B

AGREEMENT FOR WATERMASTER
SERVICE DURING 1955 SEASON

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
STATE ENGINEER

IN THE MATTER OF THE DETERMINATION OF)
THE RIGHTS OF THE VARIOUS CLAIMANTS)
TO THE WATER OF PARKER CREEK STREAM)
SYSTEM IN LASSEN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA)

AGREEMENT FOR WATERMASTER
SERVICE DURING
1955 SEASON

WHEREAS, the above entitled proceeding is pending before the Department of Public Works of the State of California, Division of Water Resources, State Engineer, in which the rights in and to the water, and in and to the use thereof, from Parker Creek stream system, of all the claimants hereunto subscribed are involved; and

WHEREAS, said department has completed its investigation of the stream system; all proofs of claims of water rights have been filed; an abstract of said proofs of claims has been prepared and is on file in the office of said department; hearings have been held on all contests filed in the proceedings; and an "Order of Determination" determining and establishing the several rights in and to the water of said stream system is being prepared in the above entitled proceeding by said department, and which will be served on the parties thereto in the near future all in accordance with the provisions of the Water Code; and

WHEREAS, the claimants hereunto subscribed desire distribution of the water of said stream system during the 1955 season under the supervision of said department to assure the orderly distribution of water and to observe whether respective rights as set forth in said Order are satisfactory to the claimants;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY AGREED by and between each and every claimant hereunto subscribed and among all of said claimants, that said department under authority conferred by Section 226 of the Water Code, may distribute the water of said Parker Creek stream system among the various claimants hereunto subscribed

in accordance with Schedule No. 3 in said Order of Determination, it being understood and agreed that the following plan of distribution and apportionment of water shall be for the period extending from the date hereof to October 1, 1955, only, and subject to such provisions as are set forth in said "Order of Determination" which will be served on all parties at an early date, and the following:

1. Nothing herein contained shall be, or shall be construed as, an admission by any claimant that his legal rights or the legal rights of any other claimant are as herein provided; and the distribution of water in accordance with the "Order of Determination" shall not in any way prejudice the rights which have been claimed.

2. Said department may appoint a watermaster to distribute the water of Parker Creek stream system during the period from the date hereof to October 1, 1955, and said watermaster shall have power and authority to inspect and regulate the diversions of all the claimants hereunto subscribed in accordance with the "Order of Determination," and in the exercise of such authority may enter upon the lands of said claimants for the purpose of such inspection and regulation, and may establish and maintain such gaging stations and measuring devices in said stream system and diversion conduits as may be necessary or convenient.

3. It is further agreed that in order to meet the costs of such distribution by the watermaster during the 1955 season, the claimants hereunto subscribed will pay to the Division of Water Resources on or before May 15, 1955, the amount of \$100.00 which amount shall be apportioned among the various parties hereto in accordance with the assessments set forth in Schedule I hereunto annexed and made a part hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have affixed their hands
this 7th day of April, 1955.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
W. T. Bailey	Milford
Lenora M. Bailey	Milford
Warren Bass	Janesville
Ruth Lagier et al C. Hoffman	Susanville
E. B. George	Janesville
E. E. Mankins	Janesville

SCHEDULE 1

APPORTIONMENT OF COST OF WATERMASTER SERVICE
ON PARKER CREEK STREAM SYSTEM DURING 1955 SEASON

Name of Claimant	Continuous Flow Equivalent Cu. Ft. Per Sec.	Portion of Expense
William Ahern and Zella J. Ahern	0.01	\$ 0.93
W. T. Bailey and Lenora M. Bailey	2.06	22.15
George B. Bailey, Annie K. Bailey, William T. Bailey, and Lenora Bailey	0.01	0.93
A. Ross Cutter and Emma C. Cutter	0.25	3.32
Ervy B. George and Marie George	0.89	9.69
Clarence Hoffman and Wilma Hoffman	0.50	5.81
Warren E. Bass and Hilda R. Bass	1.38	14.56
Ruth Lagier, Dan L. Dieter, Esther E. Smith and Wilma Hoffman c/o Clarence Hoffman	3.64	37.03
Gladys Servilican Mankins	0.20	2.82
Almon L. Row	0.01	0.93
F. J. Zepensky	0.10	1.83
TOTALS	9.05	\$100.00

APRIL 5 10 15 20 25 MAY 5 10 15 20 25 JUNE 5 10 15 20 25 JULY 5 10 15 20 25 AUGUST 5 10 15 20 25 SEPTEMBER 5 10 15 20 25

HYDROGRAPHS
OF
PARKER CREEK AT HIGHWAY 395
1951, 1952, 1953, 1954 & 1955

