

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES



GOODWIN J. KNIGHT, Governor  
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REPORT ON  
WATERMASTER SERVICE  
IN  
SELAD CREEK WATERMASTER SERVICE AREA  
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
1954 SEASON

Sacramento, California  
December, 1954

## Stream Flow

An automatic water stage recorder was installed on Seiad Creek above all diversions on July 20 to provide a continuous record of stream discharge. Daily mean discharge of Seiad Creek at this station is tabulated in Table 2. An automatic water stage recorder was also installed at the 2- $\frac{1}{2}$  foot weir in the Grant Lowden ditch on the W. R. Shadburne property. This recorder measures the water delivered to Fred C. Jensen. Intermittent observations and measurements were also made of Darky Creek, Canyon Creek, and Seiad Creek below all diversions. The estimated monthly mean inflow and outflow as computed from these measurements is presented in Table 3.

## DISTRIBUTION OF WATER

The water rights from Seiad Creek stream system are grouped in two divisions in the Seiad Creek decree. The divisions and the schedules defining the water rights in the decree are as follows:

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Seiad Creek  | Schedule 3 |
| Canyon Creek | Schedule 4 |

## Seiad Creek

The diversion dam on the lowermost ditch (Diversions 12) to which first, second, and third priority water rights attach continued to be involved in litigation between W. R. Shadburne and Fred C. Jensen. Court action was initiated by W. R. Shadburne in Superior Court of Siskiyou County, to require Fred C. Jensen to show cause why the dam for Diversion 12 should not be removed. The case was dismissed when it was shown that the dam was

not located on W. R. Shadburne's property but was on land owned by a third party, Frank A. Smith, who had granted permission for such use of his property.

Throughout the irrigation season sufficient water was diverted by Fred C. Jensen through Diversion 12 to meet the irrigation requirements of his lands. The amount diverted, however, was less than the total of the first, second, and third priority rights which attach to the ditch. This made it possible to deliver water to approximately 90 per cent of the fourth priority rights throughout the summer.

During the 1954 season the leasee of the Adrain L. Wigley et. al. property installed a pump below Diversion 12 to supply water to their saw-mill log pond. This made it possible for them to divert their fourth priority right either by pumping or through the Grant Lowden ditch (Diversion 12). By coordinating the diversions it was possible to utilize the small amount of water which leaked through the dam at Diversion 12.

A summary of distribution of water for the season is shown in the following tabulation:

| Priority | Percentage of allotments available |        |           |
|----------|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
|          | July                               | August | September |
| First    | 100                                | 100    | 100       |
| Second   | 100                                | 100    | 100       |
| Third    | 100                                | 85     | 65        |
| Fourth   | 100                                | 90     | 90        |

Canyon Creek

The available water supply was sufficient to supply all demands throughout the season.

CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP OF LANDS AND WATER RIGHTS

No changes in ownership of lands and water rights have occurred subsequent to filing "Statement of Selad Creek Watermaster Service Area, County of Siskiyou, State of California, for 1954".

TABLE 1

PRECIPITATION AT HAPPY CAMP,  
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
1953-1954

In Inches

| Month         | Normal<br>precipitation | 1953-1954<br>precipitation |
|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| October       | 3.40                    | 5.78                       |
| November      | 6.81                    | 13.01                      |
| December      | 8.63                    | 5.16                       |
| January       | 8.05                    | 23.15                      |
| February      | 7.23                    | 7.41                       |
| March         | 5.34                    | 4.40                       |
| April         | 2.63                    | 4.97                       |
| May           | 1.71                    | 0.02                       |
| June          | 0.83                    | 1.43                       |
| July          | 0.35                    | 0.00                       |
| August        | 0.12                    | 0.81                       |
| September     | 0.67                    | 1.08                       |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>45.77</b>            | <b>67.22</b>               |

TABLE 2

## DAILY MEAN DISCHARGE OF SEIAD CREEK ABOVE ALL DIVERSIONS

July 20 to September 27, 1954

In Cubic Feet Per Second

| Day                    | July | August | September |
|------------------------|------|--------|-----------|
| 1                      |      | 4.6    | 3.8       |
| 2                      | N    | 4.6    | 3.8       |
| 3                      | O    | 4.6    | 3.8       |
| 4                      |      | 4.6    | 3.8       |
| 5                      |      | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 6                      | R    | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 7                      | E    | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 8                      | C    | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 9                      | O    | 4.0    | 3.8       |
| 10                     | R    | 4.0    | 3.9       |
| 11                     | D    | 4.0    | 3.8       |
| 12                     |      | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 13                     |      | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 14                     |      | 4.2    | 3.8       |
| 15                     |      | 4.0    | 3.9       |
| 16                     |      | 4.0    | 3.8       |
| 17                     |      | 3.9    | 3.8       |
| 18                     |      | 3.9    | 3.8       |
| 19                     |      | 3.9    | 3.8       |
| 20                     | 4.6  | 3.9    | 3.8       |
| 21                     | 4.6  | 3.9    | 3.7       |
| 22                     | 4.2  | 3.9    | 3.7       |
| 23                     | 4.2  | 3.9    | 3.7       |
| 24                     | 4.6  | 3.9    | 3.8       |
| 25                     | 4.6  | 3.9    | 3.7       |
| 26                     | 4.8  | 3.8    | 3.7       |
| 27                     | 4.6  | 3.8    | 3.7       |
| 28                     | 4.7  | 3.9    | No        |
| 29                     | 4.7  | 3.9    | Record    |
| 30                     | 4.7  | 3.8    |           |
| 31                     | 4.7  | 3.8    |           |
| Mean                   | 4.6  | 4.1    | 3.8       |
| Runoff in<br>acre-feet | 109  | 250    | 203       |

Total for period - 562 acre-feet

TABLE 3

## MONTHLY MEAN DISCHARGE OF SELIAD CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES

July 20 to September 27, 1954

In Cubic Feet per Second

| Month     | Inflow                  |        |        |              | Outflow                 |
|-----------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|-------------------------|
|           | Seiad Creek             | Canyon | Darkey | Total        | Seiad Creek             |
|           | above all<br>diversions | Creek  | Creek  | water supply | below all<br>diversions |
| July      | 4.6                     | 0.7    | 0.1    | 5.4          | 0.5                     |
| August    | 4.1                     | 0.6    | 0      | 4.7          | 0                       |
| September | 3.8                     | 0.5    | 0      | 4.3          | 0                       |

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SUBMISSION TO, AND ADOPTION BY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

I, L. C. Jopson, Principal Hydraulic Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, submit this "Report on Watermaster Service in Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, Siskiyou County, California, 1954 Season".

/s/ L. C. JOPSON  
Principal Hydraulic Engineer

I, Harvey O. Banks, Assistant State Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, approve this "Report on Watermaster Service in Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, Siskiyou County, California, 1954 Season".

/s/ Harvey O. Banks  
Assistant State Engineer

I, A. D. Edmonston, State Engineer and Chief of the Division of Water Resources, Department of Public Works of the State of California, approve and adopt this "Report on Watermaster Service in Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, Siskiyou County, California, 1954 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 20 day of January 1955.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By /s/ A. D. Edmonston  
A. D. Edmonston  
State Engineer

(SEAL)

ORGANIZATION

STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Frank B. Durkee . . . . . Director of Public Works  
A. D. Edmonston . . . . . State Engineer  
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## INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth annual report on watermaster service in the Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, and covers the period of water distribution in 1954 beginning July 1 and terminating September 30.

The service area was created by order of the Division of Water Resources on November 6, 1950, to include all water rights as determined by the decree entered in the Seiad Creek Adjudication proceeding on April 3, 1950, Superior Court, Siskiyou County, No. 13774. Watermaster service has been provided during each irrigation season since the service area was created, and annual reports have been prepared to show the work accomplished during each season.

The report is presented under four headings as follows: Introduction, Water Supply, Distribution of Water, and Changes in Ownership of Lands and Water Rights. Following the text are tables presenting precipitation data at Happy Camp and water supply records at various locations within the area.

## WATER SUPPLY

### Precipitation

Data on precipitation, as compiled from records of the United States Weather Bureau Station at Happy Camp, are presented in Table 1.

Annual precipitation at this station for the period from October 1, 1953, to September 30, 1954, was about 147 per cent of normal. It is assumed that the 1953-1954 precipitation for the Seiad Valley area has the same relationship to normal precipitation as does the Happy Camp Station.

Recorder

Grant Cowden ditch  
to measure water delivered  
to Fred C. Jensen