

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

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REPORT ON
WATERMASTER SERVICE
IN
SEIAD CREEK WATERMASTER SERVICE AREA
SISKIYOU 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 Watermaster Service in Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, Siskiyou 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 Watermaster Service in Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, Siskiyou County, California, 1955 Season".

/s/ W. R. Gianelli

Supervising Hydraulic Engineer

I, L. C. Jopson, Assistant State Engineer, 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, 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. C. Jopson

By _____
L. C. Jopson
Assistant State Engineer

ORGANIZATION

STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth annual report on watermaster service in the Seiad Creek Watermaster Service Area, and covers the period of water distribution in 1955 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 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, 1954, to September 30, 1955, was about 79 per cent of *the mean*. It is assumed that the 1954-1955 precipitation for the Seiad Valley area has the same relationship to normal precipitation as does the Happy Camp station.

Stream Flow

An automatic water stage recorder was installed on Seiad Creek above all diversions on July 29 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 (Diversión 10) on the W. R. Shadburne property. This recorder measures the water delivered to Fred C. Jensen.

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

There was sufficient water to satisfy all requirements until about the first of August. During August it was necessary to limit the fourth priority users to domestic water. It was noted at this time that the W. R. Shadburne property is dependent upon the fourth priority water in the Lower Rainey Ditch (Diversión 9) for domestic water. From the first of August until the end of the irrigation season first and second priority users were supplied in accordance with their demands. Varying percentages of the third priority were available during August. The extreme shortage of water during the latter part of the irrigation season was made less critical by the fact

that the tenant on the Stanley P. Schwartz property did not demand all of his second priority water.

The mill pond on the Adrian L. Wigley property is normally supplied with a fourth priority allotment, but fourth priority water was not available after the first of August. Since the mill is a controlling factor in the economy of Seiad Valley, the other water users on Seiad Creek agreed that the mill pond should be supplied with water during this dry year. This was accomplished by diverting the entire flow of Seiad Creek into the Grant Lowden Ditch, (Diversion 10) thence through the mill pond, and back to Seiad Creek where it was rediverted into the Lower Lowden Ditch (Diversion 12) for irrigation purposes. Part of the water in the Grant Lowden Ditch (Diversion 10) was intermittently allowed to continue down the Ditch past the mill to supply domestic water for houses owned by Fred C. Jensen. No agricultural land was irrigated under the Grand Lowden Ditch (Diversion 10) during the 1955 season. To further conserve water, the owners of the mill installed a pump below the Lower Lowden Diversion Dam (Diversion 12) to catch seepage, and intermittently pumped water into the mill pond. This pumping increased the flow through the mill pond into the Lower Lowden Ditch (Diversion 12).

During the 1955 season no water was diverted into, and no land was irrigated under, the Upper Chase, (Diversion 2) Upper Lowden, (Diversion 5) Middle Rainey, (Diversion 6) or Smith Ditches (Diversion 11).

A summary of the water available during 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	12	0
Fourth	100	0	0

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 occurred during the period covered by this report in ownership of lands and water rights as shown in "Statement of Selad Creek Watermaster Service Area, County of Siakiyou, State of California, for 1955".

TABLE 1
 PRECIPITATION AT HAPPY CAMP,
 SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 1954-1955
 In Inches

Month	Mean precipitation	1954-1955 precipitation
October	3.10	1.67
November	6.81	5.70
December	8.63	10.48
January	8.05	6.11
February	7.23	2.65
March	5.34	2.58
April	2.63	4.52
May	1.71	0.26
June	0.83	0.33
July	0.35	0.42
August	0.12	0.00
September	0.67	1.48
TOTALS	45.77	36.20

TABLE 2

DAILY MEAN DISCHARGE OF SEIAD CREEK ABOVE ALL DIVERSTIONS

July 29 to September 30, 1955

In Cubic Feet per Second

Day	July	August	September
1		3.5	2.4
2	N	3.4	2.4
3	O	3.2	2.4
4		3.1	2.3
5	R	3.1	2.3
6	E	3.1	2.3
7	C	3.1	2.3
8	O	3.0	2.3
9	R	3.0	
10	D	3.0	
11		3.0	N
12		2.9	O
13		2.9	
14		2.9	
15		2.9	
16		2.8	R
17		2.8	E
18		2.8	C
19		2.8	O
20		2.6	R
21		2.6	D
22		2.6	
23		2.6	
24		2.6	
25		2.6	
26		2.5	
27		2.5	
28		2.5	
29	3.8	2.5	
30	3.6	2.5	
31	3.6	2.4	
Mean	3.7	2.8	2.4
Runoff in acre-feet	22 (a)	17 1/2	37 (b)

(a) 3-day period
(b) 8-day period

Total for period 233 acre-feet