## RELATION OF AVERAGE DISCHARGE TO DRAFT-STORAGE FOR FLOW AUGMENTATION SURFACE WATER FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF PRECIPITATION DRAINAGE AREA AND RUNOFF The natural flow of streams is often insufficient to meet The frequency distribution of yearly flows of the Wabash The magnitude of the average discharge at the gaged the demands for water during low-flow periods. Storage of locations within the basin shows a close relationship to the River at Logansport as shown on the graph below indicates water during periods of high flow for release during drier HUNTINGTON RESERVOIR that there is a 50-percent probability that the annual runoff size of their drainage area. The relation line (see graph below) periods can increase the usefulness of the available water. An will exceed 10.6 inches. This runoff will be exceeded on an gives the ratio of average discharge for the 1931-66 period analysis of the streamflow records yields a general Altitude (feet) Capacity (acres) average of once every 2 years. The frequency distribution of of record to drainage area. relationship from which the required amount of storage for 4,100 12,500 annual precipitation at Wabash, Indiana shows a 50-percent Minimum pool various draft rates can be determined (Hardison, 1966 and Seasonal pool 900 probability that the annual precipitation any year will exceed Riggs, 1964). Parameters necessary to use the curve are the Maximum pool 7,900 average flow, which can be estimated on the basis of the drainage area, and the median 7-day low flow. This low-flow Regulation of flow Discharge (cfs) value can be estimated by interpolation from data shown on Apr 15- Sept 14 Normal minimum flow the map. More reliable information would result from Sept 15-Nov 30 Depletion from seasonal pool 55 plus inflow Dec 1- Apr 14 Normal flow correlating low-flow measurements at the site with 5,500 Maximum permissible release continuous gaging station records. Example: For a drainage 1000 area of 400 square The draft storage relations are presented on the graph miles, the average dis-500 \_\_\_ charge is 320 cubic feet. below. Given the mean discharge and the median 7-day low flow, the amount of storage required to maintain a desired per second SALAMONIE RESERVOIR draft rate can be estimated for either a 5-percent or a Capacity (acre-feet) Altitude (feet) 10 - percent chance of deficiency. Allowance for Reservoir level evaporation and seepage losses should be included in the 13,100 60,700 263,600 draft rate, or added to the storage required. 755 793 2,860 9,340 Seasonal pool Maximum pool Regulation of flow Discharge (cfs) Apr 1-Sept 14 Normal minimum flow Sept 15-Nov 30 Depletion from seasonal pool 310 plus inflow Dec 1-Mar 31 Normal flow 7,000 Maximum permissible release examples cited in DRAINAGE AREA, IN SQUARE MILES 5 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 95 GRAPH SHOWING RELATION OF AVERAGE DISCHARGE TO PROBABILITY, IN PERCENT, THAT THE ANNUAL RUNOFF AND ANNUAL PRECIPITATION MISSISSINEWA RESERVOIR DRAINAGE AREA DURING ANY YEAR WILL EXCEED THE INDICATED VALUE Reservoir level (acre-feet) GRAPH SHOWING FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF THE 1,280 3,180 12,830 ANNUAL RUNOFF OF THE WABASH RIVER AT LOGANS-23,300 Minimum pool As expressed in mathematical form, this relation line PORT AND ANNUAL PRECIPITATION AT WABASH, 1931-67 75,200 Seasonal pool is: $\overline{Q} = 0.8$ A, where $\overline{Q}$ is the average annual discharge, 779 368,400 Maximum pool in cubic feet per second, at any stream location with a known drainage area A, in square miles. The formula may be used to Regulation of flow Discharge (cfs) An annual runoff of 19 inches and an annual precipitation predict an approximate average discharge at any site within Normal minimum flow of 48 inches have a 5-percent probability of being exceeded, Sept 15-Nov 30 Depletion from seasonal pool 340 plus inflow or may be expected to be exceeded about once every 20 Dec 1-Mar 31 Normal flow 5-percent chance of deficiency Maximum permissible release 7,000 years. An annual runoff of about 3.7 inches and an annual ----10-percent chance of deficiency precipitation of 27 inches have a 95-percent probability of being exceeded, or may be expected not to be exceeded about once every 20 years. The distribution of runoff at other gaging stations is fairly MEDIAN 7-DAY LOW FLOW, IN RATIO TO AVERAGE similar to that at Logansport. For planning purposes, the DISCHARGE curve can be applied to other sites with a fair degree of GRAPH SHOWING, DRAFT-STORAGE CURVES confidence. The curves are dimensionless ratios, therefore, any units of flow can be used as long as consistency is maintained. Suggested units are cubic feet per second (cfs) for discharge and cfs-days for storage. One cfs-day equals 0.646 million VARIATION OF PRECIPITATION AND RUNOFF The annual and monthly variation of precipitation and If at a site, the mean discharge is estimated as 100 cfs and runoff are indicated by the graphs at the left and right. The the median 7-day low flow is estimated as 5 cfs, and the records of annual precipitation in the basin and the annual desired dependable flow is 20 cfs, the required storage can be runoff measured at Logansport for water years 1953-67 estimated. The desired draft is 20 percent of the mean flow, were used to estimate the annual evapotranspiration from and the ratio of the median 7-day low flow to the average the basin (Pierce, L.B., 1955). discharge is 0.05. The graph indicates that a storage of about The average values for the period are: precipitation, 8 percent of the average annual runoff is required for a 5-percent chance of deficiency. The average runoff is 35.0 inches; runoff, 10.3 inches; and evapotranspiration, 24.7 inches. Evapotranspiration is the most uniform of the 100 cfs x 365 days or 36,500 cfs-days, and 8 percent is about 2,900 cfs-days, or 1,900 million gallons. This is above factors ranging annually from 21 inches to 29 inches, the storage capacity required without adjustment for seepage while precipitation ranged from 27.6 inches to 41.9 inches, and runoff from 4.0 to 16.2 inches. There is not a good and evaporation losses. Adjustment for these can be made relation between yearly values of precipitation and runoff. when the reservoir is designed. This is primarily due to the annual change in basin storage. It is estimated that this factor, largely ground-water storage, varied from an annual increase of 4.5 inches to an annual decrease of 4.9 inches, the annual average being a decrease of 0.3 inch for this particular 15-year period. GRAPHS SHOWING ANNUAL VARIATION OF PRECIPITATION, In addition to the variation between years, the distribution EVAPOTRANSPIRATION, AND RUNOFF within a year is of interest. The monthly graphs are based on the normal monthly precipitation and the average monthly GRAPHS SHOWING MONTHLY VARIATION IN PRECIPITATION runoff. Factors other than precipitation are important in AND RUNOFF (1953-67) explaining the seasonal pattern of runoff. The major factor is evapotranspiration, which is greatest from May through September. To allow higher utility of the water, the excess flow during the winter months could be stored for release Wabash River during the summer, when the demand is high. Base from U.S. Geological Survey; Example cited in text Chicago, 1964; Fort Wayne, 1962; Danville, and Muncie, 1965 Dams and reservoirs as of 1970 PERCENT OF TRAVEL TIME AT AVERAGE DISCHARGE B. GRAPH SHOWING RELATION OF TIME-OF-TRAVEL OF LEADING EDGE OF DYE CLOUD TO DIS-CHARGE EXPRESSED IN PERCENT Reference gage: Eel River at Logansport -OF AVERAGE AREAL VARIATION OF STREAMFLOW CHARACTERISTICS Continuous records of streamflow are being collected at 18 points in the basin. In addition, low-flow partial record stations have been operated for several years, and some measurements at other points have been obtained (see surface-water availability map). Selected streamflow characteristics are indicated for each Reference gages: Upstream gaging stations gaged site. The flows are given in both cubic feet per second (cfs) and cubic feet per second per square mile (cfsm). The average discharge for 1931-66 is shown at the continuous Example cited in text record sites which have 6 or more years of record. Six of the ---- Not determined ----station records include the 1931–66 period, and the average **EXPLANATION** discharge at the other stations was estimated on the basis of correlation of shorter records with the long-term records. The TRAVEL TIME OF LEADING EDGE, IN HOURS median (2-year) 7-day low flow and the 10-year, 7-day low Continuous record gaging station C. GRAPH SHOWING RELATION OF A. GRAPHS SHOWING CUMULATIVE TRAVEL TIME OF LEADING EDGE OF DYE CLOUD AT AVERAGE DISCHARGE flow are shown at all sites. These values are based on the THE TRAVEL TIMES OF THE LEADobserved record at the long-term continuous gaging stations, ING EDGE AND PEAK CONCENand estimated on the basis of concurrent record of discharge Low-flow partial record gaging station or continuous record measurements at the short-term continuous record stations. station with less than 5 years of record low-flow partial-record stations and miscellaneous sites. The TIME-OF-TRAVEL OF WATER stream. As an example, if a spill of a harmful contaminant flow characteristics presented are for essentially natural into the Wabash River occurred at Wabash, when the conditions. The rate of travel of water has been investigated for the Miscellaneous measurement site discharge there was 340 cfs, when would the leading edge and main stem of the Wabash River below New Corydon, except peak concentration of the contaminant reach Peru? The Three multipurpose reservoirs have been completed in the Basin boundary from Bluffton to Huntington, and for the Eel River below average discharge at Wabash is 1,346 cfs. Three hundred past few years. These reservoirs, built by the U.S. Army, South Whitley. The elapsed time for the leading edge of a dye forty cfs is approximately 25 percent of the average Corps of Engineers in cooperation with the State of Indiana, cloud to travel between indicated points when the flow is discharge. The elapsed time at average discharge is have primary purposes of flood control and recreation. CONTOUR INTERVAL 50 FEET River miles above mouth, interval 10 miles equal to the average discharge is shown on graph A. A means determined, from graph A, to be 10 hours. Graph BDATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL Low-flow augmentation is of a lesser importance, but is of computing travel time for different rates of flow is shown indicates that at 25 percent of average flow, the travel expected to be significant, as illustrated by the normal Station number on graph B. Using the time of travel for the leading edge, the time is approximately 200 percent of the travel time at 573 0.840 minimum release. In addition, the scheduled lowering to Average discharge time of travel of the peak concentration can be obtained Median 7-day low flow average flow, so the leading edge would reach Peru 20 hours permanent pool beginning September 15 comes at the time 10-year, 7-day low flow 23.0 .034 SURFACE-WATER AVAILABILITY MAP from graph C. (200 percent of 10 hours) after the spill. Based on this time of lower natural flow. Consequently the low flows Numbers on left are in cubic feet per second and on right are These relations could serve as a means of planning for the for the leading edge and the relationship shown on graph C, downstream from these reservoirs will be substantially in cubic feet per second per square mile the time for the peak concentration would be 25 hours. operation of water intakes in case of a contamination of the increased.