

PROFILE OF SACRAMENTO RIVER, FREEPORT TO VERONA, CALIFORNIA,
FLOOD OF FEBRUARY 1986

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CONVERSION FACTORS

For readers who prefer to use metric (International System) units rather than inch-pound units, the conversion factors for the terms used in this report are listed below:

| <u>Multiply inch-pound unit</u> | <u>By</u> | <u>To obtain metric unit</u> |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| foot (ft) | 0.3048 | meter |
| cubic foot per second (ft ³ /s) | 0.3048 | cubic meter per second |
| inch | 25.40 | millimeter |
| mile (mi) | 1.609 | kilometer |

DEFINITIONS

Sea level: In this report, sea level refers to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD of 1929)--A geodetic datum derived from a general adjustment of the first-order level nets of both the United States and Canada, formerly called mean sea level of 1929.

Water year: The 12-month period ending September 30 each year is termed the "water year"; for example, the year that ended September 30, 1986, was the "1986 water year."

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ABSTRACT

A major storm in February 1986 caused record flooding in the Sacramento River and other nearby basins in north-coastal and central California. As part of an effort to document this flood, the peak water-surface profile of a 33-mile reach of the Sacramento River was surveyed between Freeport and Verona, California. Supplementary profiles in this reach include elevations of the approximate top of levee, flood plain, and the water surface on March 17, 1987. On the Sacramento River at Sacramento, the peak discharge of 117,000 cubic feet per second occurred February 19 and 20, 1986. The peak stage of 30.58 feet on February 19 is the highest of record, including the period prior to construction of large flood-control dams in the Sacramento River basin beginning with Shasta Dam in 1942. The February 1986 flood profile of the Sacramento River between the mouth of the American River and the Sacramento Weir (located upstream from the American River) shows a reverse water-surface slope with a corresponding drop of about 0.13 foot. On the Sacramento River at Verona, upstream from Sacramento, a peak stage of 39.11 feet occurred February 20 (peak discharge 92,900 cubic feet per second) due to runoff from upstream tributaries. The February 1986 peak stage is the highest of record for 1914-87 (no record for years 1918-20, 1922-25). The previous peak stage of record at Verona, March 1, 1940, was 38.20 feet, with a discharge of 79,200 cubic feet per second.

INTRODUCTION

A major storm system caused widespread flooding in north-coastal and central California during February 1986. The area most affected by this storm extends from Eureka south to Santa Cruz (fig. 1). The intensity of the storm is indicated by 24-hour precipitation totals ranging from about 5 inches in the Coast Ranges to over 8 inches in the Sierra Nevada (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1986).

Basins significantly affected by the storm include the lower Russian, Yuba, Feather, Napa, Cosumnes, Mokelumne, American, and Sacramento Rivers. Peaks-of-record occurred in the Napa, lower Russian, Cosumnes, American, and Sacramento Rivers. On the North Fork American River near Auburn, a coffer dam failed on February 18 at the site of the proposed Auburn Dam; the uncontrolled flow was contained in Folsom Lake a few miles downstream. The flood of February 1986 on the Sacramento River in the vicinity of Sacramento is the highest of record, including the period prior to construction of large flood-control dams in the Sacramento River basin beginning with Shasta Dam in 1942.

This report documents the February 19 and 20, 1986, peak water-surface profile of the Sacramento River, peak discharges of the Sacramento and American Rivers, and datum for five gaging stations located in a 33-mi reach between Freeport and Verona (fig. 1). Flows of the Sacramento River are measured at the downstream end (Freeport gage) and at the upstream end of the study reach (Verona gage) about 1 mi downstream from the Fremont Weir. This weir controls the combined overflow to Yolo Bypass from the Sacramento River, Sutter Bypass, and Feather River (pl. 1). The major tributaries in the study reach are the cross canal (near Verona), Natomas east main drainage canal, and American River (pl. 1). Flows of the American River (fig. 1), a major tributary of the Sacramento River, are measured at the American River at Fair Oaks gage. Major drains that are pumped into the Sacramento or American Rivers in the study reach are the north drainage canal, Natomas main drainage canal, and several storm drains in the city of Sacramento and suburbs.

A water-surface profile of a minor flood was surveyed March 17, 1987 (discharge 37,000 ft³/s), which shows a typical profile in the reach without the effect of overflow across the Sacramento Weir to Yolo Bypass. To indicate the elevation of the levees and flood plain, approximate profiles of the top of levee and flood plain are shown on plate 1. A flood plain is a nearly flat alluvial lowland bordering a stream, formed by stream processes, that is subject to inundation by floods (Brice and Blodgett, 1978, p. 161).

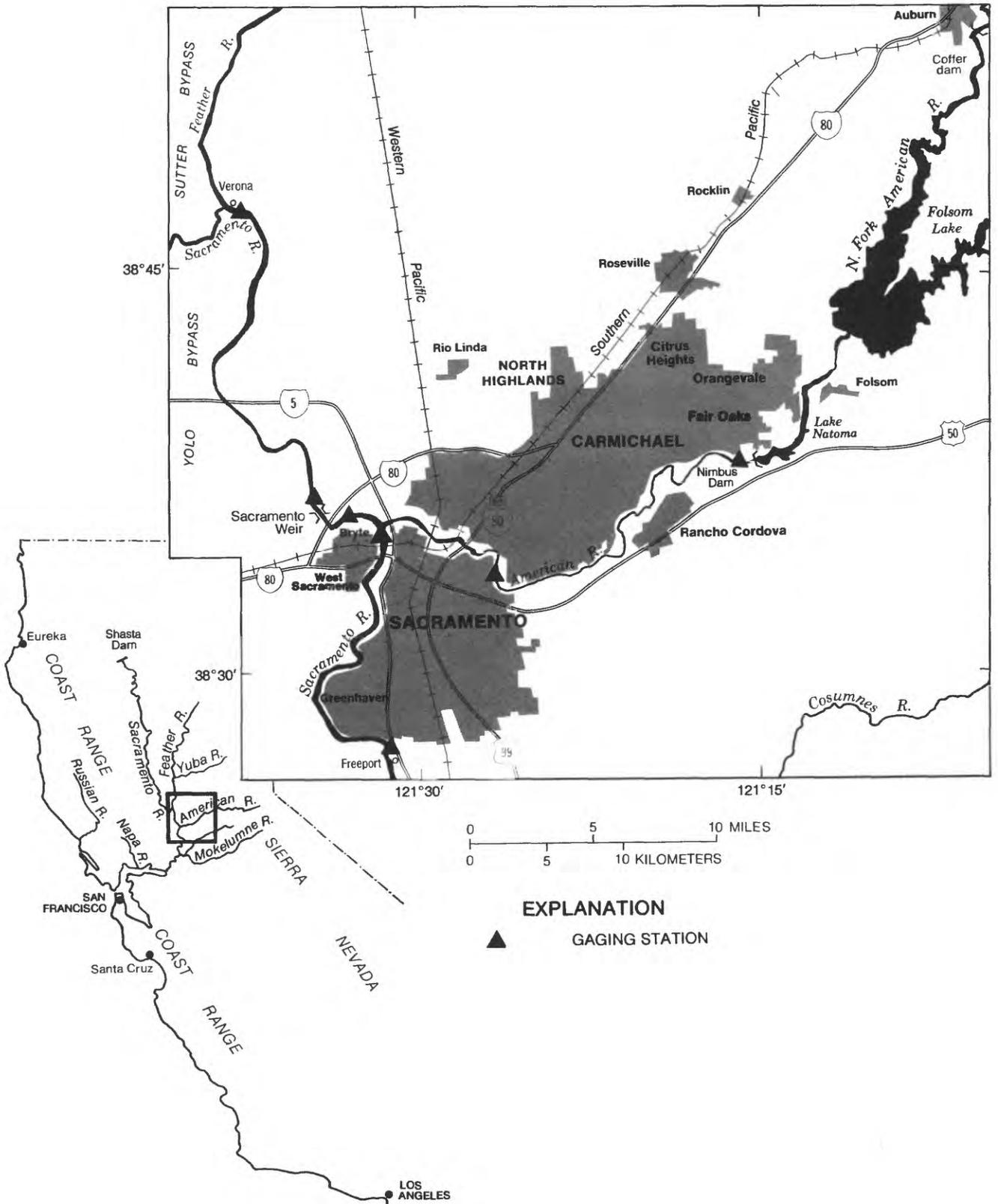


FIGURE 1. Location of study area in vicinity of Sacramento.

SOURCES OF DATA

Flood-profile data of the Sacramento River were obtained at several gaging stations (table 1) and miscellaneous sites in the study reach. One of the gages, Sacramento River near Freeport (auxiliary water-stage recorder), has been discontinued; however, high-water marks were found in the gage structure. Flood-profile data at other sites were obtained from high-water marks and flood elevations observed by local residents. The miscellaneous sites were selected to provide elevations in sufficient detail so that local-channel effects on the water-surface profile could be determined between the various gaging stations.

Flood stage and discharge data for Geological Survey gaging stations were assembled and processed by Robert Simpson of the Sacramento field office. All photographs were furnished by Brian Yost of the Sacramento project office. Flood data for the gages American River at Sacramento; Sacramento River at Bryte Laboratory, near Bryte; Sacramento River above Sacramento Weir near Sacramento; and Sacramento Weir spill to Yolo Bypass were furnished by California Department of Water Resources (H.W. Wolber, written commun., 1987).

VERTICAL CONTROL

All vertical control established in the study reach is based on sea level (see definition on page IV). During field surveys along the Sacramento River, it was found that some bench marks had settled. In those cases, datum adjustments, as shown in table 1, were applied to stages recorded at gaging stations. All gages in the reach between Sacramento River at Sacramento and Sacramento Weir are included in a network using a bench mark (known as TIDAL 3) near the Sacramento River at Sacramento gage as the reference elevation. All high-water marks, top of levee, the crest of the Sacramento Weir, and flood-plain elevations are based on bench-mark elevations established by levels conducted in 1960, 1976, and 1987.

PEAK STAGE AND DISCHARGE

Annual peak stage and discharge data for gages on the Sacramento River at Verona, American River at Fair Oaks, and Sacramento River at Sacramento are given in tables 2, 3, and 4. The peak stage of 39.11 ft (92,900 ft³/s) on the Sacramento River at Verona, February 20, 1986, (table 2) was the highest for the period of record 1914-87 (no data for years 1918-20 and 1922-25). The previous peak gage height at Verona was 38.20 ft on March 1, 1940. To reduce the flow of the Sacramento River in the vicinity of Sacramento, the Sacramento Weir (fig. 2, pl. 1), located 3 mi upstream from the mouth of the American River and 15.4 mi downstream from Verona, was opened February 15, 1986. On February 20, a peak of 128,000 ft³/s was discharged across the Sacramento Weir to the Yolo Bypass (table 5).



FIGURE 2. Sacramento Weir spill to Yolo Bypass near Sacramento. February 18, 1986. View from left bank at downstream side of weir. Length of weir 1,830 feet. Note weir gates floating in stream.

The peak of record on the American River at Fair Oaks (table 3) prior to completion of Folsom Dam occurred on November 21, 1950 (discharge 180,000 ft³/s). The highest peak flow (discharge 134,000 ft³/s, table 5) since construction of Folsom Dam in 1953 was recorded on February 19, 1986, at the American River at Fair Oaks gage. The previous maximum flow since completion of Folsom Dam was 115,000 ft³/s on December 23, 1964 (table 3).

The peak flow of the Sacramento River at Sacramento (table 4) was 117,000 ft^3/s , on February 19, 1986, caused by high inflow from the American River (table 5). A similar flow occurred on February 20, although the gage height was 0.04 ft lower than on February 19 (table 5). High flows on February 20 were the result of tributary inflow to the Sacramento River upstream from Sacramento, as recorded at the Verona gage on February 20. Stages on the Sacramento River at Sacramento gage less than about 13 ft are affected by backwater from the tide. The February 1986 peak stage of 30.58 ft at the Sacramento River at Sacramento gage (fig. 3, table 4) was the highest of record since January 1862 (U.S. Geological Survey, 1959). The peak stage recorded between 1862 and 1949 was 29.6 ft on January 17, 1909 (discharge 103,000 ft^3/s). Gage heights collected at this site from November 1879 to May 1888 and from December 1890 to September 1950 are contained in reports of the U.S. Weather Bureau (U.S. Geological Survey, 1959).



FIGURE 3. Sacramento River at Sacramento gage, February 18, 1986. View downstream along left bank. Gage height 29.1 feet. Peak gage height during flood, 30.6 feet on February 19, 1986.

FLOOD PROFILES

The profile of the February 1986 flood in the reach between gaging stations at Freeport and Verona is shown on plate 1. The influence of flood releases to the Yolo Bypass at the Sacramento Weir is indicated by the reverse water-surface slope and a corresponding drop in elevation of 0.13 ft in the short reach between the mouth of the American River and the upstream (north) side of the Sacramento Weir. Peak stages on the reach between Freeport and Sacramento occurred on February 19, and preceded peak stages on the reach upstream from Sacramento, as shown in table 5. A water-surface profile surveyed on March 17, 1987 (which was about 0.2 ft lower than the peak for the 1987 water year at the Sacramento River at Verona gage, old site), is generally parallel to the February 1986 flood profile except in the vicinity of the Sacramento Weir (pl. 1). The crest of the Sacramento Weir varies in elevation from 19.9 ft at the north end to 20.6 ft at the south end.

Approximate profiles of the top of levee and flood plain on either bank, depending where the level lines were run, are shown on plate 1. Those profiles indicate the approximate free board (clearance above the water surface to the top of levee) and height of water above the adjacent flood plain (bankfull stage) on the shoreward side of the levee during the flood.

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- ____ 1932b, Stream flow data for flood season of 1926-27: November 1932, 101 p.
- ____ 1932c, Stream flow data for flood season of 1928-29, 1929-30, 1930-31: November 1932, 201 p.
- ____ 1932d, Stream flow data for flood season of 1931-32: November 1932, 99 p.
- ____ 1933a, Stream flow data for flood season of 1925-26: May 1933, 102 p.
- ____ 1933b, Stream flow data for flood season of 1932-33: June 1933, 75 p.
- ____ 1934, Stream flow data for flood seasons of 1933-34: June 1934, 71 p.
- ____ 1943, Flood flows and stages in Sacramento and lower San Joaquin Valleys, 1934-42: September 1943, 439 p.
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- ____ 1946, Flood flows and stages 1944-46: August 1946, 192 p.
- ____ 1948, Flood flows and stages 1946-48: September 1948, 186 p.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1986, Climatological data California, February 1986: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, v. 90, no. 2, 53 p.
- U.S. Geological Survey, 1959, Compilation of records of surface waters of the United States through September 1950, part 11-B. Pacific slope basins in California, Central Valley: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 1315-A, 459 p.

TABLE 1.--Gaging stations in study reach

[USGS, U.S. Geological Survey; DWR, California Department of Water Resources]

| Station | Number | River mile ¹ | Datum adjustment (feet) | Operating agency | Period of record |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Sacramento River at Verona (old site) | 11425500 ² A02150 | 78.9 | -3.00 | USGS DWR | 1914-date |
| Sacramento River at Verona (new site) | 11425500 | 78.1 | -3.00 | USGS | 1986-date |
| Sacramento River above Sacramento Weir, near Sacramento | ² A02108 | 63.5 | ³ -.28 | DWR | 1963-date |
| Sacramento Weir spill to Yolo Bypass, near Sacramento | 11426000 ² A02903 | 63.5 | (⁴) | DWR | 1926-date |
| Sacramento River near Bryte (at Bryte Laboratory) | ² A02104 | 62.1 | ³ -.54 | DWR | 1960-date |
| American River at Fair Oaks | 11446500 ² A07175 | (⁴) | 71.53 | USGS | 1904-date |
| American River at Sacramento | ² A07140 | (⁴) | -3.07 | DWR | 1921,24 1925-date |
| Sacramento River at Sacramento | ⁵ 11447500 ² A02100 | 59.6 | ³ -.15 | USGS | ⁶ 1904-05, 1921, 1948-87 |
| Sacramento River near Freeport (auxiliary water-stage recorder) | 11447650 | 48.6 | 0 | USGS | 1955-81 |
| Sacramento River at Freeport (acoustic velocity meter site) | 11447650 ² B9-1850 | 46.0 | 0 | USGS | 1980-date |

¹River mile distances computed on basis of river mile location shown on U.S. Geological Survey maps (plate 1).

²California Department of Water Resources station number.

³Adjustment to sea level based on levels in 1987. Adjustment applied for water years 1986 and 1987 only.

⁴Not applicable.

⁵Gage heights collected in vicinity of "at Sacramento" gage November 1879 to May 1888, and December 1890 to September 1963 are contained in reports of the National Weather Service.

⁶Gage heights only for water years 1980-87.

TABLE 2.--Annual peak stage and discharge of the Sacramento River at Verona (old site)

[Data for years 1914-29 obtained from California Department of Public Works, 1914-25, 1932a; 1926, 1933a; 1927, 1932b; 1928, 1928; 1929, 1932c. Gage heights adjusted to sea level]

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1914 | Jan. 4, 1914 | 1 233.6 | |
| 1915 | Feb. 5, 1915 | 1 232.9 | |
| 1916 | Feb. 14, 1916 | 1 231.5 | |
| 1917 | Mar. 2, 1917 | 1 231.3 | |
| 1918-20 | No data | | |
| 1921 | Feb. 2, 1921 | 32.6 | |
| 1922-25 | No data | | |
| 1926 | Feb. 7, 1926 | 332.4 | |
| 1927 | Feb. 22, 1927 | 35.3 | |
| 1928 | Mar. 28, 1928 | 34.75 | |
| 1929 | Feb. 8, 1929 | 25.2 | |
| 1930 | Dec. 17, 1929 | 31.79 | 57,400 |
| 1931 | Jan. 25, 1931 | 19.77 | 26,600 |
| 1932 | Dec. 30, 1931 | 30.77 | 53,300 |
| 1933 | Mar. 31, 1933 | 22.51 | 34,000 |
| 1934 | Jan. 4, 1934 | 30.34 | 47,900 |
| 1935 | Apr. 10, 1935 | 32.75 | 55,800 |
| 1936 | Feb. 25, 1936 | 33.62 | 61,800 |
| 1937 | Mar. 25, 1937 | 31.66 | 52,900 |
| 1938 | Dec. 14, 1937 | 35.23 | 68,400 |
| 1939 | Mar. 16, 1939 | 20.37 | 30,600 |
| 1940 | Mar. 1, 1940 | 38.20 | 79,200 |
| 1941 | Feb. 13, 1941 | 35.65 | 68,900 |
| 1942 | Feb. 8, 1942 | 37.80 | 78,000 |
| 1943 | Jan. 25, 1943 | 34.75 | 67,400 |
| 1944 | Mar. 6, 1944 | 26.42 | 47,100 |
| 1945 | Feb. 6, 1945 | 32.77 | 56,200 |
| 1946 | Dec. 31, 1945 | 33.83 | 61,200 |
| 1947 | Feb. 25, 1947 | 28.05 | 47,000 |
| 1948 | Apr. 19, 1948 | 31.07 | 56,600 |
| 1949 | Mar. 14, 1949 | 30.56 | 56,200 |
| 1950 | Feb. 7, 1950 | 32.18 | 59,500 |
| 1951 | Nov. 22, 1950 | 34.06 | 64,300 |
| 1952 | Feb. 4, 1952 | 32.83 | 61,800 |
| 1953 | Jan. 15, 1953 | 33.44 | 66,300 |
| 1954 | Feb. 19, 1954 | 31.82 | 61,500 |

TABLE 2.--Annual peak stage and discharge of the Sacramento River at Verona (old site)--Continued

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1955 | Dec. 11, 1954 | 22.89 | 36,900 |
| 1956 | Dec. 23, 1955 | 36.81 | 71,400 |
| 1957 | Feb. 26, 1957 | 31.61 | 65,500 |
| 1958 | Feb. 26, 1958 | 35.47 | 69,200 |
| 1959 | Feb. 19, 1959 | 32.26 | 62,900 |
| 1960 | Feb. 9, 1960 | 32.45 | 64,500 |
| 1961 | Feb. 13, 1961 | 27.05 | 48,300 |
| 1962 | Feb. 16, 1962 | 32.55 | 62,300 |
| 1963 | Feb. 1, 1963 | 35.14 | 69,400 |
| 1964 | Jan. 23, 1964 | 28.36 | 50,500 |
| 1965 | Dec. 25, 1964 | 36.65 | 74,200 |
| 1966 | Jan. 10, 1966 | 27.90 | 50,800 |
| 1967 | Feb. 1, 1967 | 33.88 | 67,100 |
| 1968 | Feb. 28, 1968 | 30.48 | 58,600 |
| 1969 | Jan. 26, 1969 | 34.11 | 68,500 |
| 1970 | Jan. 26, 1970 | 36.21 | 77,800 |
| 1971 | Dec. 5, 1970 | 31.00 | 63,200 |
| 1972 | Mar. 2, 1972 | 18.74 | 30,000 |
| 1973 | Jan. 20, 1973 | ⁴ 31.0 | 65,800 |
| 1974 | Jan. 20, 1974 | 34.90 | 74,900 |
| 1975 | Mar. 26, 1975 | 31.17 | 63,700 |
| 1976 | Dec. 8, 1975 | 17.80 | 27,100 |
| 1977 | Jan. 5, 1977 | 11.52 | 14,200 |
| 1978 | Jan. 17, 1978 | 32.52 | 68,300 |
| 1979 | Feb. 24, 1979 | 29.63 | 57,100 |
| 1980 | Feb. 22, 1980 | 35.12 | 80,900 |
| 1981 | Jan. 31, 1981 | 26.89 | 53,300 |
| 1982 | Dec. 21, 1981 | 36.72 | 72,200 |
| 1983 | Mar. 4, 1983 | 35.82 | 79,400 |
| 1984 | Dec. 28, 1983 | 35.42 | 78,100 |
| 1985 | Nov. 30, 1984 | 21.08 | 35,400 |
| 1986 | Feb. 20, 1986 | 39.11 | 92,900 |
| 1987 | Mar. 16, 1987 | 21.35 | 37,400 |

¹Staff readings from gage located on right bank of Feather River 60 ft upstream from junction with Sacramento River.

²Once daily staff readings.

³Peak on April 9, 1926, at 31.8 ft.

⁴Gage height is an estimate based on daily average discharge.

TABLE 3.--Annual peak stage and discharge of the American River
at Fair Oaks

[Datum of gage is 71.53 feet above sea level. Prior to Nov. 7, 1930, non-recording gages or water-stage recorders at several sites 2.2 miles downstream all at datum 5.74 feet lower; from Nov. 7, 1930, to Dec. 31, 1957, at site 2.2 miles downstream at datum 6.74 feet lower. Dec. 31, 1957, to July 15, 1970, at datum 6.00 feet higher]

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1862 | 1862 | 38.00 | |
| 1905 | Mar. 19, 1905 | 11.20 | 24,200 |
| 1906 | Jan. 18, 1906 | | 59,700 |
| 1907 | Mar. 19, 1907 | 31.4 | 156,000 |
| 1908 | Dec. 27, 1907 | | 10,300 |
| 1909 | Jan. 14, 1909 | 26.70 | 119,000 |
| 1910 | Dec. 2, 1909 | | 47,000 |
| 1911 | Jan. 31, 1911 | 21.90 | 81,300 |
| 1912 | June 2, 1912 | | 12,100 |
| 1913 | May 18, 1913 | 8.80 | 12,700 |
| 1914 | Jan. 1, 1914 | 16.00 | 74,100 |
| 1915 | May 12, 1915 | 15.04 | 47,900 |
| 1916 | Jan. 3, 1916 | 13.70 | 40,700 |
| 1917 | Feb. 25, 1917 | 13.98 | 42,300 |
| 1919 | Feb. 11, 1919 | 18.50 | 67,500 |
| 1920 | Apr. 16, 1920 | 10.70 | 20,100 |
| 1921 | Jan. 18, 1921 | 14.10 | 39,200 |
| 1922 | Feb. 20, 1922 | 12.50 | 31,600 |
| 1923 | Dec. 13, 1922 | 14.20 | 39,000 |
| 1924 | Feb. 8, 1924 | 7.75 | 14,000 |
| 1925 | Feb. 6, 1925 | 25.00 | 99,500 |
| 1926 | Apr. 6, 1926 | 11.60 | 27,400 |
| 1927 | Feb. 21, 1927 | 19.40 | 67,700 |
| 1928 | Mar. 25, 1928 | 31.45 | 163,000 |
| 1929 | June 16, 1929 | 11.30 | 26,000 |
| 1930 | Mar. 5, 1930 | 11.33 | 24,400 |
| 1931 | Mar. 18, 1931 | 8.87 | 9,900 |
| 1932 | Feb. 7, 1932 | 12.60 | 21,100 |
| 1933 | May 30, 1933 | 11.52 | 16,500 |
| 1934 | Jan. 1, 1934 | 13.50 | 22,600 |

TABLE 3.--Annual peak stage and discharge of the American River
at Fair Oaks--Continued

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1970 | Jan. 19, 1970 | 12.82 | 56,700 |
| 1971 | Jan. 15, 1971 | 3.73 | 8,270 |
| 1972 | Feb. 9, 1972 | 2.89 | 6,060 |
| 1973 | Jan. 14, 1973 | 9.42 | 32,700 |
| 1974 | Jan. 17, 1974 | 8.46 | 27,600 |
| 1975 | Mar. 25, 1975 | 3.85 | 8,450 |
| 1976 | Oct. 17, 1975 | 1.19 | 3,770 |
| 1977 | Dec. 6, 1976 | .56 | 1,920 |
| 1978 | May 5, 1978 | 3.92 | 8,660 |
| 1979 | Feb. 23, 1979 | 6.14 | 16,500 |
| 1980 | Jan. 15, 1980 | 17.27 | 84,800 |
| 1981 | June 9, 1981 | 2.42 | 5,140 |
| 1982 | Feb. 16, 1982 | 17.92 | 91,100 |
| 1983 | Dec. 22, 1982 | 10.14 | 36,200 |
| 1984 | Dec. 28, 1983 | 12.18 | 48,500 |
| 1985 | Dec. 7, 1984 | 1.57 | 5,200 |
| 1986 | Feb. 19, 1986 | 27.96 | 134,000 |

TABLE 4.--Selected annual peak stage and discharge of the Sacramento River at Sacramento

[Data for years 1920-48 obtained from California Department of Public Works, 1920-25, 1932a; 1926, 1933a; 1927, 1932b; 1928, 1928; 1929-31, 1932c; 1932, 1932d; 1933, 1933b; 1934, 1934; 1935-42, 1943; 1943-44, 1944; 1945-46, 1946; 1947-48, 1948. Peak discharge data for 1920-48 not available. Gage heights for years 1963-85 may be higher than actual peak stages by about 0.1 ft because of variable settlement of reference bench marks]

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1909 | Jan. 17, 1909 | 29.6 | 103,000 |
| 1920 | Apr. 18, 1920 | 20.8 | |
| 1921 | Jan. 19, 1921 | 26.4 | |
| 1922 | Feb. 21, 1922 | 24.3 | |
| 1923-24 | No data | | |
| 1925 | Feb. 6, 1925 | 27.9 | |
| 1926 | Apr. 9, 1926 | 24.7 | |
| 1927 | Feb. 18, 1927 | 26.9 | |
| 1928 | Mar. 26, 1928 | 29.5 | |
| 1929 | Feb. 7, 1929 | 17.0 | |
| 1930 | Mar. 6, 1930 | 24.3 | |
| 1931 | Mar. 21, 1931 | 10.8 | |
| 1932 | Dec. 29, 1931 | 23.0 | |
| 1933 | Apr. 1, 1933 | 14.0 | |
| 1934 | Jan. 4, 1934 | 21.2 | |
| 1935 | Apr. 8, 1935 | 28.6 | |
| 1936 | Feb. 22, 1936 | 28.7 | |
| 1937 | Mar. 22, 1937 | 26.3 | |
| 1938 | Feb. 11, 1938 | 27.7 | |
| 1939 | Mar. 17, 1939 | ¹ 11.6 | |
| 1940 | Feb. 27, 1940 | 28.5 | |
| 1941 | Dec. 28, 1940 | 27.25 | |
| 1942 | Jan. 27, 1942 | 28.25 | |
| 1943 | Jan. 22, 1943 | 28.85 | |
| 1944 | Mar. 5, 1944 | 17.60 | |
| 1945 | Feb. 2, 1945 | 27.64 | |
| 1946 | Dec. 29, 1945 | 27.28 | |
| 1947 | Feb. 15, 1947 | 18.18 | |
| 1948 | Apr. 18, 1948 | 22.50 | |
| 1949 | Mar. 14, 1949 | 20.36 | 61,300 |
| 1950 | Feb. 7, 1950 | 24.55 | 80,200 |
| 1951 | Nov. 21, 1950 | 30.14 | 104,000 |
| 1952 | Jan. 15, 1952 | 26.84 | 87,400 |
| 1953 | Jan. 21, 1953 | 25.46 | 80,000 |
| 1954 | Mar. 11, 1954 | 23.73 | 76,800 |

TABLE 4.--Selected annual peak stage and discharge of the Sacramento River at Sacramento--Continued

| Water year | Date | Gage height (feet) | Peak discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1955 | Dec. 10, 1954 | 13.89 | 44,000 |
| 1956 | Dec. 23, 1955 | 28.67 | 95,300 |
| 1957 | Mar. 6, 1957 | 25.75 | 84,700 |
| 1958 | Apr. 7, 1958 | 27.62 | 88,900 |
| 1959 | Feb. 20, 1959 | 21.64 | 67,400 |
| 1960 | Feb. 10, 1960 | 21.39 | 69,600 |
| 1961 | Feb. 14, 1961 | 15.89 | 49,800 |
| 1962 | Feb. 16, 1962 | 22.85 | 70,500 |
| 1963 | Feb. 1, 1963 | 28.52 | 98,100 |
| 1964 | Jan. 23, 1964 | 17.31 | 52,800 |
| 1965 | Dec. 25, 1964 | 29.36 | 99,700 |
| 1966 | Jan. 10, 1966 | 16.80 | 53,000 |
| 1967 | Jan. 31, 1967 | 27.40 | 90,900 |
| 1968 | Feb. 29, 1968 | 20.80 | 66,800 |
| 1969 | Jan. 21, 1969 | 28.18 | 95,500 |
| 1970 | Jan. 24, 1970 | 28.24 | 94,100 |
| 1971 | Dec. 5, 1970 | 21.79 | 73,700 |
| 1972 | Mar. 6, 1972 | 10.29 | 33,300 |
| 1973 | Jan. 19, 1973 | 26.74 | 93,400 |
| 1974 | Jan. 21, 1974 | 27.18 | 95,000 |
| 1975 | Mar. 26, 1975 | 21.85 | 74,400 |
| 1976 | Dec. 8, 1975 | 9.19 | 30,600 |
| 1977 | Jan. 5, 1977 | ² 5.18 | 13,700 |
| 1978 | Mar. 9, 1978 | 23.70 | 79,300 |
| 1979 | Feb. 24, 1979 | 21.43 | 71,300 |
| 1980 | Jan. 15, 1980 | ³ 27.83 | ⁴ 94,600 |
| 1981 | Jan. 31, 1981 | ⁵ 15.68 | ⁴ 54,100 |
| 1982 | Feb. 16, 1982 | 27.70 | ⁴ 103,000 |
| 1983 | Dec. 24, 1982 | ⁶ 27.20 | ⁴ 97,800 |
| 1984 | Dec. 26, 1983 | 27.40 | ⁴ 94,500 |
| 1985 | Nov. 30, 1984 | 12.17 | ⁴ 42,000 |
| 1986 | Feb. 19, 1986 | ⁷ 30.58 | ⁴ 117,000 |
| 1987 | Mar. 17, 1987 | ⁷ ⁸ 10.78 | ⁴ 39,400 |

¹Daily mean gage height.

²Maximum elevation Jan. 2, 1977.

³Maximum elevation Jan. 14, 1980.

⁴Discharge determined at Sacramento River at Freeport gaging station.

⁵Maximum elevation Feb. 1, 1981.

⁶Maximum elevation Dec. 23, 1982

⁷Gage height for years 1986-87 corrected for settlement of reference bench marks based on level surveys in 1987.

⁸Maximum elevation March 16, 1987.

TABLE 5.--February 1986 peak stage and discharge at selected gaging stations on the American and Sacramento Rivers

[All gage heights referenced to sea level]

| Station | Day | Time (hours P.s.t.) | Gage height (feet) | Discharge (cubic feet per second) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Sacramento River at Verona (old site) | 20 | 0215 | 39.11 | 92,900 |
| Sacramento Weir spill to Yolo Bypass, near Sacramento ¹ | 20 | 0115 | 30.56 | 128,000 |
| Sacramento River near Bryte ¹ | 20 | 0015 | 30.65 | (²) |
| American River at Fair Oaks | 19 | 1315 | 99.49 | 134,000 |
| American River at Sacramento ¹ | 19 | 0215-0230 | 40.32 | (²) |
| Sacramento River at Sacramento | 19 | 1530 | 30.58 | ³ 117,000 |
| | 20 | 0400 | 30.54 | ³ 117,000 |
| Sacramento River at Freeport | 19 | 1900 | 25.11 | 117,000 |

¹Peak stage and discharge data furnished by California Department of Water Resources.

²Not available.

³Discharge considered same as Sacramento River at Freeport gage.