Compilation of Records of Surface Waters of the United States, October 1950 to September 1960

Part 8. Western Gulf of Mexico Basins

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER-SUPPLY PAPER 1732

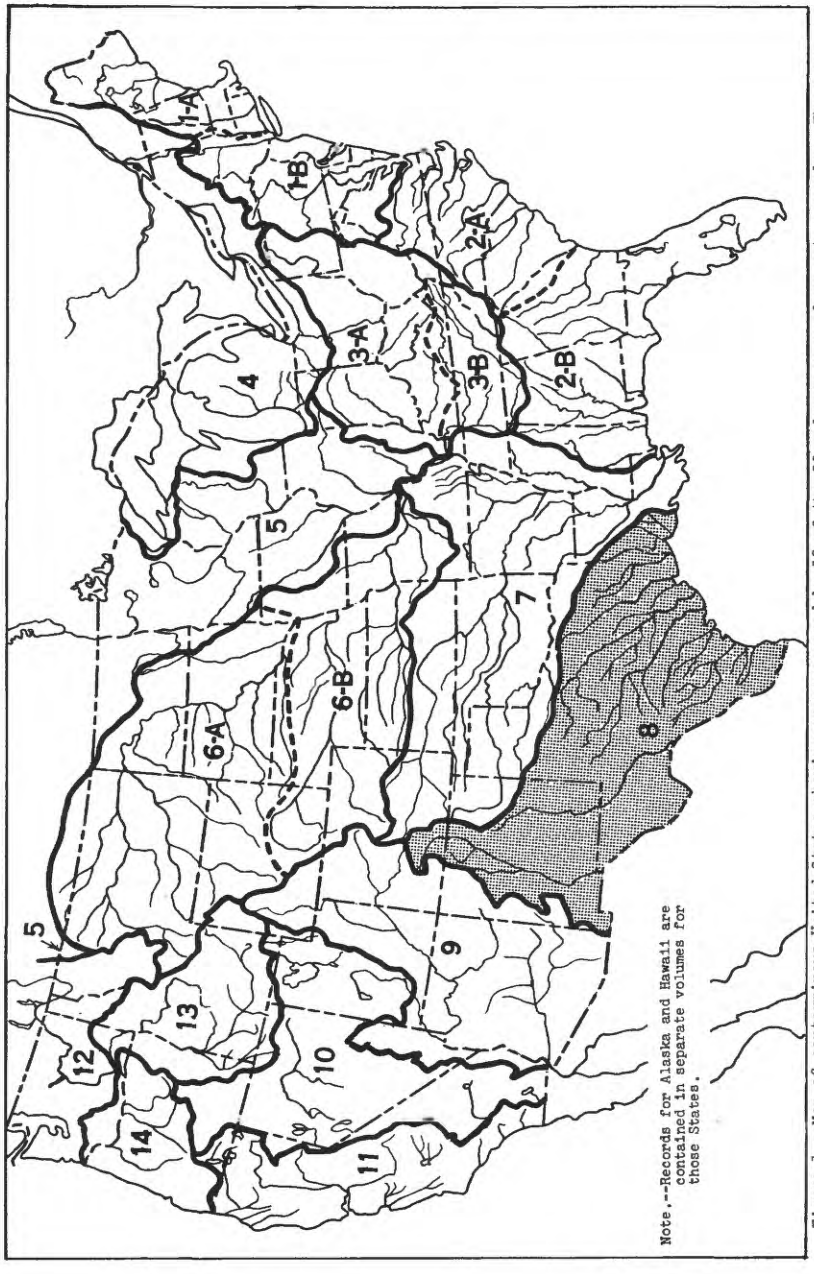

Figure 1.--Map of conterminous United States showing areas covered by 18 of the 20 volumes on surface water supply. The area covered by this report is shaded.

Records prior to September 30, 1950, were summarized in a series of water-supply papers as listed below. Each of these volumes contains a list of the annual reports from which data prior to 1951 were summarized.

Numbers of water-supply papers for 1950 series of compilation reports

WSP	Part	WSP	Part	WSP	Part
1301	1-A	1308	5	1315-A	11-B
1302	1-B	1309	6-A	1315-B	11-A
1303	2-A	1310	6-B	1316	12
1304	2-B	1311	7	1317	13
1305	3-A	1312	8	1318	14
1306	3-B	1313	9	1319	Hawaii
1307	4	1314	10	1372	Alaska

This report is summarized from the following 10 annual reports which contain records of daily discharge for each of the water years from 1951 to 1960.

Annual water-supply papers, Part 8, 1951-60

Water year	WSP	Water year	WSP
1951	1212	1956	1442
1952	1242	1957	1512
1953	1282	1958	1562
1954	1342	1959	1632
1955	1392	1960	1712

In addition to the customary records of discharge collected during the systematic operation of gaging stations, there is much additional hydrologic information available, both published and unpublished.

Lists of flood reports and other special reports are contained in the introductory pages of each of the annual reports listed above.

Records for many stations have been analyzed by an electronic computor to give: the number of days in each year that the discharge was between selected limits (duration tables); the lowest and highest mean discharges for selected numbers of consecutive days in each year; and other statistical summaries.

Data on low flow or peak flows or both are available for many sites other than gaging stations.

Specific information on unpublished data available can be obtained by writing directly to the district engineer for the State in which the site or gaging station is located.

HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

Streamflow, a residual of precipitation after other demands have been met, varies considerably from year to year and from place to place. Figure 2 shows yearly discharge for three widely-separated gaging stations in the report area. The pattern of yearly runoff shown by these streams is generally representative of hydrologic conditions in their part of the report area. Drought conditions that prevailed over most of the area during the period 1951-60 were broken at times by outstanding floods that occurred during each year except 1951. These floods generally covered only small areas, thereby giving relief only to local areas. However, during April to June 1957 flooding occurred over a very large area in Texas that ended the prolonged drought in that State.