

# Sedimentation in Brownell Creek Subwatershed No. 1 Nebraska

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER-SUPPLY PAPER 1798-C

*Prepared in cooperation with the  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Soil Conservation Service*



U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

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by JAMES C. MUNDORFF

SEDIMENTATION IN SMALL DRAINAGE BASINS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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# CONTENTS

	Page
Abstract.....	C1
Introduction.....	1
Characteristics of the subwatershed.....	2
Climate.....	2
Geology and soils.....	2
Drainage.....	5
Structures and reservoirs.....	8
Runoff.....	11
Method of investigations.....	14
Suspended sediment.....	16
Suspended-sediment discharge.....	16
Particle size of suspended sediment.....	25
Deposited sediment.....	28
Conclusions.....	32
Literature cited.....	33

# ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
PLATE 1. Map showing land use in Brownell Creek subwatershed, 1955-59.....	In pocket
FIGURE 1. Map of Brownell Creek subwatershed.....	C3
2. Block diagram of part of Brownell Creek subwatershed showing the relation of soils to geology and physio- graphic position.....	5
3. Photograph of channel upstream from northeast corner of reservoir 1.....	6
4. Sketch showing runoff pattern under natural conditions and terrace conditions in part of the subwatershed.....	7
5-11. Photographs showing:	
5. Preconstruction site of reservoir 1.....	7
6. Reservoir 1.....	9
7. Reservoir 1A.....	9
8. Large dam about 300 feet upstream from county bridge.....	11
9. Discharge tube, reservoir 1A.....	15
10. Outflow from discharge tube, reservoir 1.....	16
11. Partly submerged vertical stack of automatic suspended-sediment samplers at trash rack, reservoir 1.....	17
12. Graph showing water discharge, accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1, June 23-25, 1955.....	20

	Page
FIGURE 13. Graph showing reservoir gage height, accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1A, June 23-24, 1955.....	C21
14. Photograph of Brownell Creek subwatershed.....	22
15-17. Graphs showing water discharge, accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1:	
15. June 28-29, 1955.....	22
16. July 31-Aug. 1, 1956.....	23
17. Aug. 18, 1956.....	24
18-20. Graphs showing gage height, accumulated rainfall, suspended-sediment concentration, and water discharge, reservoir 1:	
18. July 9-10, 1958.....	25
19. Aug. 5-7, 1958.....	26
20. May 2-4, 1959.....	27
21. Trilinear diagram showing percentage of clay, silt, and sand in samples from Brownell Creek subwatershed...	27
22. Graph showing relation of percentage of clay to suspended-sediment concentration, inflow to reservoirs 1 and 1A.....	28
23. Map showing locations of sampling sections for deposited sediment.....	30
24. Graph showing relation of bulk density to percentage of sand in deposited sediment.....	31

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## TABLES

---

	Page
TABLE 1. Area and capacity of reservoir 1 from survey of March 1955.....	C10
2. Area and capacity of reservoir 1A from survey of March 1955.....	10
3. Reservoir discharge and other hydrologic data, reservoirs 1 and 1A.....	13
4. Hydrologic data, Brownell Creek subwatershed No. 1, Mar. 27-31, 1960.....	14
5. Summary of outflow from reservoir 1, 1955-59.....	18
6. Summary of outflow from reservoir 1A, 1955-59.....	19
7-10. Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment:	
7. Inflow to reservoir 1.....	37
8. Inflow to reservoir 1A.....	42
9. Outflow from reservoir 1A.....	44
10. Outflow from reservoir 1.....	46
11. Bulk density and particle-size distribution of samples of deposited sediment in reservoirs 1 and 1A, 1958.....	48
12. Particle-size distribution of deposited-sediment samples in channel and in reservoir 1, Feb. 19, 1957.....	48
13. Chemical analyses, Brownell Creek subwatershed near Syracuse.....	49

## GLOSSARY

**Automatic suspended-sediment sampler.** A bottle that is equipped with intake nozzle and exhaust tube, that is mounted in a fixed position, and that admits water-sediment mixture when the water rises to the level of the nozzle.

**Drainage density.** The ratio of the total length of all drainage channels to the drainage area.

**Flocculation.** The formation of a large sediment aggregate caused by the coalescence of small particles that are subjected to certain physicochemical conditions.

**Instantaneous suspended-sediment discharge.** The rate at which dry weight of suspended sediment passes a section of a stream or conduit at a given instant.

**Particle-size classification.** In this report the classification is, unless otherwise noted, as follows: Sand, 0.062–2.0 mm; silt, 0.004–0.062 mm; clay, less than 0.004 mm.

**Percent sodium.** The ratio, expressed in percentage, of sodium to the sum of the positively charged ions (calcium, magnesium, sodium, and potassium)—all ions in equivalents per million.

**Relief ratio.** The ratio of the maximum relief in a basin to the longest dimension of the basin parallel to the principal drainage line (Schumm, 1956).

**Sodium-adsorption-ratio.** A ratio for soil extracts and irrigation waters, used to express the relative activity of sodium ions in exchange reactions with soil.

$$\text{SAR} = \frac{\text{Na}^+}{\sqrt{\frac{\text{Ca}^{+2} + \text{Mg}^{+2}}{2}}}$$

The ionic concentrations are expressed in equivalents per million.

**Suspended-sediment concentration.** The weight of dry sediment per unit weight of water-sediment mixture, expressed in parts per million.

**Trap efficiency.** The ratio, expressed as a percentage, of the weight of sediment retained in a reservoir to the weight of sediment entering the reservoir.





## SEDIMENTATION IN SMALL DRAINAGE BASINS

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### SEDIMENTATION IN BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA

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By JAMES C. MUNDORFF

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#### ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of a sedimentation investigation in Brownell Creek subwatershed No. 1 which was made as part of a nationwide investigation of the trap efficiency of detention reservoirs. The subwatershed is in southeastern Nebraska, has a drainage area of 495 acres, receives an average of 28.75 inches of precipitation annually, has a total relief of about 95 feet, and has a surface mantle composed mainly of loess and glacial till.

Average annual runoff, based on records of precipitation and reservoir discharge and on estimates of reservoir evaporation and seepage loss, was 3.3 inches during 1955-59. Precipitation ranged from significantly below normal in 1955 and 1956 to appreciably above normal in 1957-59.

Most of the sediment transported into reservoirs 1 and 1A is silt and clay; generally, less than 10 percent of the suspended sediment is sand. Of the total sediment that enters reservoir 1, all the sand and much of the silt and clay are trapped. Trap efficiency of this reservoir, computed from partly estimated data, was between 90 and 95 percent during 1955-59.

During 1955-59, total sediment discharge from reservoir 1 was about 400 tons, of which 135 tons was discharged during the period June 24-26, 1955. About 77 percent of the sediment from reservoir 1 was discharged during seven outflow periods, each of which was less than 5 days in duration.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Geological Survey, in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service, began an investigation of sedimentation in Brownell Creek subwatershed No. 1 in 1955. This investigation is part of a nationwide investigation of the trap efficiency of detention reservoirs; it was conducted under the general supervision of P. C. Benedict, regional engineer, to 1957 and D. M. Culbertson, district engineer, after 1957.

Records of water discharge were furnished for 1955 and 1956 by D. D. Lewis, district engineer, and for 1957-60 by F. F. LeFever, district engineer. Records of precipitation were furnished by the U.S. Weather Bureau. Valuable information on land use, land treatment measures, and structures was furnished by Gene O'Donnell and R. R. Hraban, Work Unit Conservationists of the Soil Conservation Service. Information on reservoir stage-capacity relations and on bulk density and particle-size distribution of deposited sediment was furnished by H. G. Heinemann, hydraulic engineer, of the Agricultural Research Service.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SUBWATERSHED

Brownell Creek subwatershed No. 1, one of many subwatersheds that compose Brownell Creek watershed, is in the central part of Otoe County, Nebr. (fig. 1), and is part of the Dissected Till Plains of eastern Nebraska. The drainage area of the subwatershed is approximately 495 acres.

#### CLIMATE

The climate of Brownell Creek subwatershed and of southeastern Nebraska is continental and subhumid. At Syracuse, the long-term mean temperatures are about 25°F for January and about 79°F for July. Since about 1900, the range in temperature has been nearly 150°F; a maximum of 116°F and a minimum of -33°F have been recorded. The growing season is usually 160-170 days.

The long-term average annual precipitation at Syracuse is 28.75 inches. On the average, about 55 percent of the total annual precipitation occurs from May to August, and about 75 percent from April to September. During 1955-59 the annual precipitation averaged about 30.3 inches; in 1955 and 1956 it was significantly below normal, and in 1957-59 it was significantly above normal.

Precipitation in Brownell Creek subwatershed was measured at a recording gage near the south side of the subwatershed and at a non-recording gage near the northeastern part of the subwatershed. (See fig. 1.) The available records for these gages extend back only to July 1956. For 1957, 1958, and 1959, the total annual precipitation reported in the subwatershed was significantly less than that reported at a recording gage and a nonrecording gage about 3 miles to the west at Syracuse. Differences in gage maintenance and reporting techniques may be responsible for some of the discrepancy. The discrepancy between the data for the recording gages was appreciably less than that between the data for the nonrecording gages.

Most of the rainfall and runoff are a result of warm-season thunderstorms. For any particular storm, rainfall variability is high even in small areas; therefore, data from the two precipitation gages in the subwatershed give only a general indication of the quantity and distribution of precipitation over the area.

At Syracuse, precipitation events exceeding 0.25 inch occur, on the average, about 31 times a year, and those exceeding 1.0 inch about 7 times.

#### GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Deposits of Pleistocene age mantle the subwatershed. Peorian Loess, of late Pleistocene age, forms a nearly continuous mantle over the eastern half of the area and is on divide areas and upper slopes

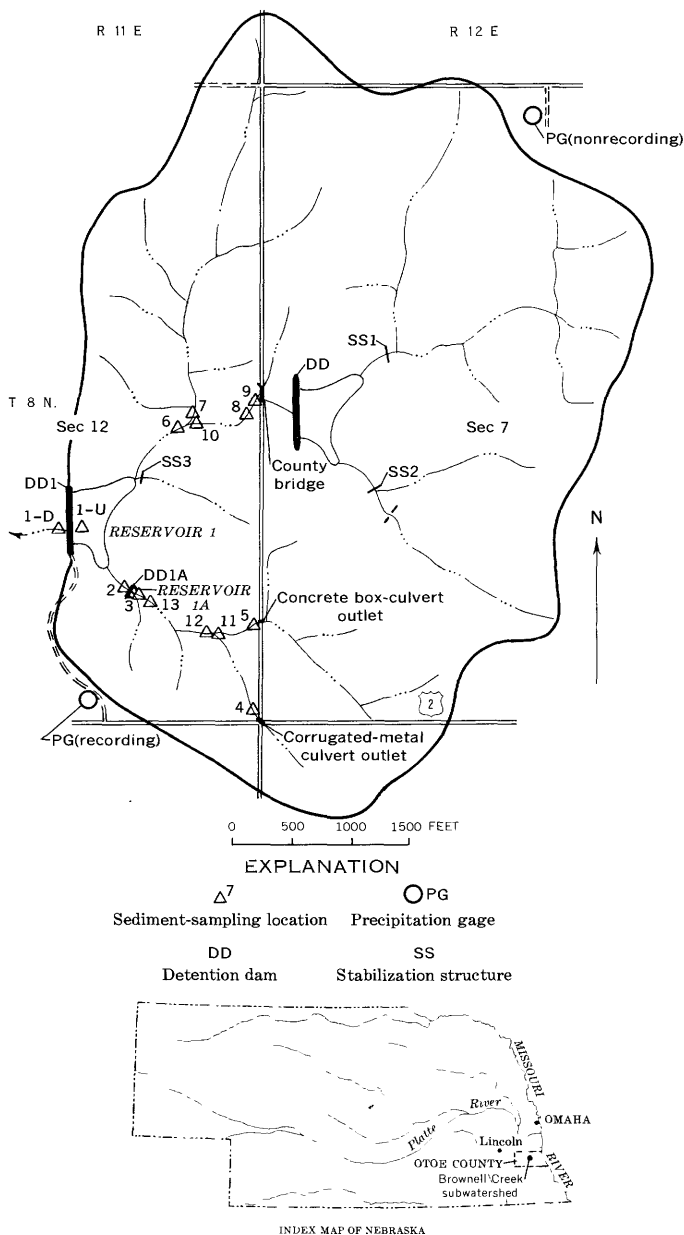


FIGURE 1.—Brownell Creek subwatershed.

in the western half of the area. Loveland Loess, which underlies the Peorian Loess in this southeastern Nebraska area, is not exposed to any significant extent. Kansan Drift, also of Pleistocene age, is generally exposed on moderate to steep slopes in the western part of the subwatershed. The Kansan Drift, which is stratigraphically lower than the Peorian and Loveland Loess, is also topographically lower in most places. Late Pleistocene to Recent alluvium mantles the small, narrow bottomland areas.

Soil development in the subwatershed varies mainly with parent material, physiographic position, and slope. Because climate and vegetation conditions under which soils developed in this small drainage basin were relatively homogeneous, they were unimportant determinants of profile differences. Soils developed on loess are predominant in the eastern half of the area and grade into mainly glacial-till soils in the western part of the subwatershed. Slope, infiltration rate, soil permeability, and parent material may vary within small areas. Severe erosion has exposed the B horizon in small areas of steeply sloping land.

A soil survey of Otoe County, Nebr. (Beesley and others, 1950), indicates that 61.6 percent, or 305 acres, of the subwatershed is occupied by soils of the Sharpsburg series, which are developed on Peorian Loess. Of the 305 acres, about 155 acres is Sharpsburg silty clay loam; 112 acres is Sharpsburg silty clay loam, rolling phase; and 38 acres is Sharpsburg silty clay loam, eroded rolling phase. About 29.3 percent, or 145 acres, of the subwatershed is occupied by soils of the Carrington series,<sup>1</sup> which are developed on glacial till. Of the 145 acres, about 5 acres is Carrington clay loam; 125 acres is Carrington clay loam, eroded rolling phase; and 15 acres is Carrington loam, eroded rolling phase. Soils of the Burchard-Carrington complex, developed on glacial till, occupy about 2.0 percent of the subwatershed. The Judson-Wabash complex, developed on colluvial-alluvial material, occupies about 7.1 percent of the subwatershed. Figure 2 shows the relation between soils, parent material, physiographic position, and slope.

Most of the drainage area is under cultivation; corn, sorghum, wheat, and oats are the main crops. Much of the steeply sloping land is in native grass or is seeded to grasses and legumes; small areas of native grass are along the major channels. Nearly all the minor drainageways have been seeded to grass to prevent gully formation. Plate 1 shows the general kinds of land use during 1955-59; these uses are indicative of the diversity of crops and of the rotation system commonly used in the subwatershed. The lack of quantitative data on

<sup>1</sup> In November 1959, the Carrington soil series was discontinued; the present (1962) equivalent of the Carrington in eastern Nebraska is generally the Shelby series (A. R. Aandahl, oral commun., 1962).

## EXPLANATION

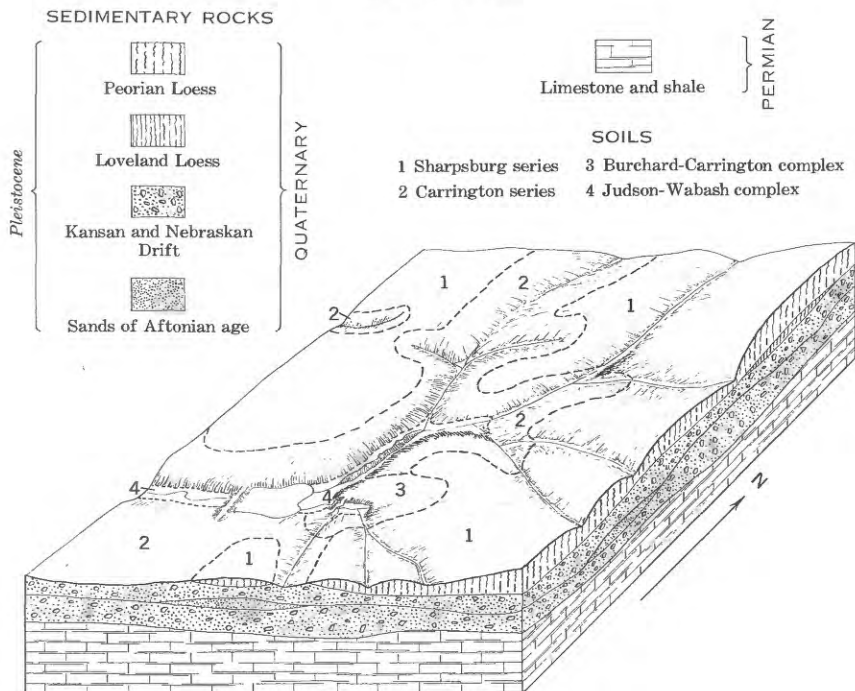


FIGURE 2.—Part of Brownell Creek subwatershed showing the relation of soils to geology and physiographic position. Subsurface geology is inferred. Area shown is about 450 acres.

sediment yield from different parts of the subwatershed upstream from reservoirs 1 and 1A prevents the establishment of the relation of land use to sediment yield from any specific part of the subwatershed during any given year or any given storm. The establishment of this relation would require not only quantitative sediment data but also detailed analysis of the reason why certain crops are grown on a specific area, of the roadside erosion and the natural channel erosion in the subwatershed, of the earthmoving and construction operations in the subwatershed during the period of investigations, of the type of tillage practices, of the type and intensity of precipitation relative to the season and to the type and density of soil cover, of the presence or absence of soil frost during any given storm, and of the natural differences in erodibility of the surface materials that mantle the subwatershed.

## DRAINAGE

Total relief within the drainage area is about 95 feet. Slopes generally are 4–12 percent and range from 100 to 800 feet in length.

The major natural channels of the dendritic drainage system have very steep or vertical banks. The main channel leading into the northeast corner of reservoir 1 is incised 4–8 feet below the flood plain. (See fig. 3.) Graded terraces that are constructed on most of the cultivated land and on some of the pastureland have modified the natural runoff pattern on most of the subwatershed. Figure 4 shows the general runoff pattern under both natural and terrace conditions on about 60 acres adjacent to reservoirs 1 and 1A. The terraces affect surface runoff in two ways: the runoff travels farther and at a lower gradient than the runoff would under natural conditions, and the runoff from any given point in a terraced area generally enters the main channels farther upstream than the runoff would under natural conditions. The drainage area of reservoir 1A is larger under terrace conditions than under natural conditions because runoff that would naturally flow directly into reservoir 1 is caused to enter the channel upstream from reservoir 1A.

Prior to the construction of reservoir 1, the channel that drains the north 370 acres of the subwatershed joined the channel that drains the south 125 acres near the center of the present reservoir site. (See fig. 5.) The present main north channel is a fourth-order stream, and



FIGURE 3.—Channel upstream from northeast corner of reservoir 1.

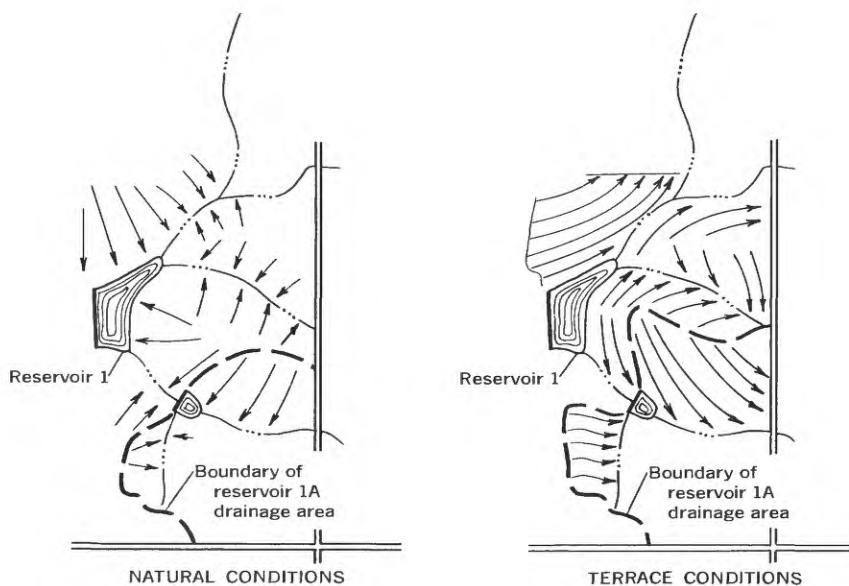


FIGURE 4.—Runoff pattern under natural conditions and under terrace conditions in part of the subwatershed.



FIGURE 5.—Looking north across preconstruction site of reservoir 1. Photograph by Soil Conservation Service.

the main south channel is a third-order stream. The method described by Strahler (1952) was used in determining stream order: the smallest, or "fingertip," channels are the first-order segments, the junction of any two first-order streams form a second-order segment, the junction of any two second-order streams form a third-order segment, and so on.

Relief ratio for the subwatershed is about 0.018. Natural drainage density was 7.3; present drainage density may be slightly different because of routing of runoff from terraced areas and because of the obliteration of some first-order channels during tillage operations and terrace construction. If each graded terrace is regarded as a channel, then the drainage density is probably increased at least fourfold—to 30 or more.

### STRUCTURES AND RESERVOIRS

In 1955, reservoir 1 (fig. 6), which was completed in 1954, had a capacity of 125.6 acre-feet and a surface area of 16.0 acres at the crest of the emergency spillway (elevation 1,144 ft above mean sea level) and a capacity of 30.5 acre-feet and a surface area of 5.0 acres at the top of the drop inlet (elevation 1,134 ft). Table 1 gives the area and capacity at 1-foot increments of elevation for this reservoir.

In 1955, reservoir 1A (fig. 7), which was completed several years before reservoir 1, had a capacity of 4.25 acre-feet and a surface area of 1.29 acres at the crest of the emergency spillway (elevation 1,152 ft above mean sea level) and a capacity of 1.94 acre-feet and a surface area of 0.6 acres at the top of the drop inlet (elevation 1,149.34 ft). Table 2 gives the area and capacity for this reservoir.

Stabilization structures 1, 2, and 3 exert a minor control on runoff and sediment discharge from part of the subwatershed.

In May 1959, a large dam was completed about 300 feet upstream from the county bridge. (See figs. 1, 8.) This large upstream reservoir now detains or stores runoff from about 230 acres. It has a capacity of 14.3 acre-feet and a surface area of 3.5 acres at draw-down elevation of 1,167.5 feet above mean sea level. The capacity is 24.9 acre-feet and the surface area is 5.04 acres at the riser elevation of 1,170 feet; the capacity is 58.6 acre-feet and the surface area is 8.76 acres at the crest of the emergency spillway, elevation 1,175 feet. Outflow from this reservoir begins when the reservoir stage reaches a horizontal inlet, which is about 8 inches in diameter and which taps into the riser of a drop inlet of 24 inches in diameter. The top of the riser is about 2.5 feet higher than the top of the 8-inch drawdown tube. The discharge tube has a circular opening 18 inches in diameter.





FIGURE 6.—Reservoir 1 (June 24, 1955, reservoir elevation about 1,140 ft).



FIGURE 7.—Reservoir 1A (1960).

TABLE 1.—*Area and capacity of reservoir 1 from survey of March 1955*

Gage height (feet)	Elevation (feet above mean sea level)	Surface area (acres)	Capacity (acre-feet)
—11.00-----	1, 122	-----	0.5
—10.00-----	1, 123	-----	1.0
—9.00-----	1, 124	-----	2.0
—8.00-----	1, 125	-----	3.3
—7.00-----	1, 126	-----	5.0
—6.00-----	1, 127	-----	7.0
—5.00-----	1, 128	-----	9.0
—4.00-----	1, 129	-----	12.0
—3.00-----	1, 130	-----	15.0
—2.00-----	1, 131	-----	18.0
—1.00-----	1, 132	3.32	22.0
0.00-----	1, 133	4.15	26.0
1.00-----	1, 134	5.00	30.5
2.00-----	1, 135	5.90	35.5
3.00-----	1, 136	6.85	41.5
4.00-----	1, 137	7.89	48.1
5.00-----	1, 138	8.90	55.6
6.00-----	1, 139	9.98	64.0
7.00-----	1, 140	11.00	73.6
8.00-----	1, 141	12.20	84.4
9.00-----	1, 142	13.50	96.7
10.00-----	1, 143	14.64	110.3
11.00-----	1, 144	16.00	125.6

TABLE 2.—*Area and capacity of reservoir 1A from survey of March 1955*

Gage height (feet)	Elevation (feet above mean sea level)	Surface area (acres)	Capacity (acre-feet)
8.20-----	1, 141.2	0.00	0.00
9.00-----	1, 142	.03	.02
10.00-----	1, 143	.10	.09
11.00-----	1, 144	.16	.22
12.00-----	1, 145	.22	.41
13.00-----	1, 146	.28	.63
14.00-----	1, 147	.34	.92
15.00-----	1, 148	.40	1.29
16.00-----	1, 149	.50	1.74
17.00-----	1, 150	.75	2.33
18.00-----	1, 151	1.03	3.15
19.00-----	1, 152	1.29	4.25



FIGURE 8.—Large dam about 300 feet upstream from county bridge.

Runoff from about 125 acres is detained in reservoir 1A before entering reservoir 1; runoff from about 230 acres is detained in the large upstream reservoir; and runoff from about 10 acres is detained by a small stabilization structure near the northeast corner of reservoir 1. Therefore, runoff from only about 130 acres enters reservoir 1 without having first passed through an upstream structure.

Flow regulation through reservoir 1A is similar to that through reservoir 1 except for the time of detention, which is much shorter because of the small reservoir capacity and the larger discharge tube. The drop-inlet structure at reservoir 1 has a concrete riser which has a rectangular opening 30 by 24 inches, and the discharge tube has a circular opening 18 inches in diameter. The drop-inlet structure at reservoir 1A has a metal riser 48 inches in diameter, and the discharge tube is 36 inches in diameter. Stabilization structures 1 and 2 have earth spillways; stabilization structure 3 has a metal drop-inlet arrangement similar to that of reservoir 1A.

### RUNOFF

Comprehensive analysis of runoff data on the subwatershed is not possible for several reasons: no storage nor discharge data were obtained at three small upstream reservoirs during 1955–59 nor at a large upstream reservoir that was completed in May 1959; complete data are available only for discharge from reservoirs 1 and 1A and are not available for changes in reservoir content throughout the range

of reservoir stage during 1955-59. Although complete runoff data are not available, total runoff in the subwatershed can be approximated. Table 3 shows reservoir discharge and other pertinent hydrologic data for 1955-59. The data on evaporation and seepage were estimated; the data on direct precipitation on the reservoirs were based on data obtained at the precipitation gages in other parts of the subwatershed. Only 0.4 percent of the 125-acre drainage area of reservoir 1A was open water surface; for the remaining 370 acres of the subwatershed, 1.5 percent was open water surface during 1955-58 and 2.8 percent since 1959. Thus, estimated evaporation, seepage, and direct precipitation on reservoir surfaces were proportionately much lower for reservoir 1A than for the rest of the subwatershed.

The data in table 3 indicate that the average annual runoff for the entire Brownell Creek subwatershed was 3.3 inches during 1955-59 and that runoff was somewhat lower from the drainage area of reservoir 1A than from the rest of the subwatershed.

Brownell Creek subwatershed is in the Little Nemaha River basin. Discharge data show that the average annual runoff for the drainage area (218 sq miles) of Little Nemaha River near Syracuse was about 3.8 inches during 1955-59.

Between December 27, 1959, and about March 15, 1960, exceptionally heavy snowfalls occurred in southeastern Nebraska. On March 21, 1960, a detailed snow survey was made in Brownell Creek subwatershed. For this area of less than 1 square mile, over 500 observations of snow depth and about 20 moisture-content determinations were made. Random observations indicated that the ground was frozen in most of the watershed, but the depth of frost was not determined. Melting was insignificant between March 21 and March 26; a reconnaissance of the area on March 26 indicated no change in snow depth from that measured on March 21. The snow over the subwatershed averaged 1.03 feet in depth and was rather uniformly distributed. Moisture content of the snow averaged 3.49 inches of water in each foot of snow; this exceptionally high moisture content was caused by considerable melting and compaction between about February 25 and March 20. Moisture-content determinations of the snow cover in Lincoln, Nebr., on March 22 indicated 3.60 inches of water in each foot of snow.

On March 27, 1960, the snow began to melt very rapidly and by the evening of March 28, an estimated 95 percent or more of the snow cover in the subwatershed had melted. At the time the melting began, all reservoirs were at maximum dead-storage capacity; therefore, reservoir outflow was equal to inflow, and none of the runoff resulted in additional reservoir storage. Runoff, as indicated by the discharge from reservoir 1 during March 27-31, was the result of snowmelt.

## BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA C13

TABLE 3.—*Reservoir discharge and other hydrologic data, reservoirs 1 and 1A*

	Reservoir 1A	Reservoir 1-1A	Reservoir 1
Area-----acres--	125	370	495
<b>Reservoir discharge, in acre-feet</b>			
1955 <sup>1</sup> -----	22	83	105
1956-----	11	38	49
1957-----	7. 8	19	27
1958-----	57	146	203
1959-----	36	<sup>2</sup> 187	<sup>2</sup> 223
1955-59-----	<sup>3</sup> 134	473	607
<b>Reservoir discharge, in percentage of total</b>			
1955-----	21	79	100
1956-----	22	78	100
1957-----	29	71	100
1958-----	28	72	100
1959-----	16	84	100
1955-59-----	22	78	100
<b>Precipitation, in inches</b>			
1955-----			<sup>4</sup> 23. 77
1956-----			<sup>4</sup> 22. 59
1957-----	<sup>5</sup> 26. 57	<sup>6</sup> 25. 31	<sup>7</sup> 25. 94
1958-----	<sup>5</sup> 39. 23	<sup>6</sup> 37. 96	<sup>7</sup> 38. 65
1959-----	<sup>5</sup> 29. 89	<sup>6</sup> 30. 17	<sup>7</sup> 30. 03
1955-59-----			<sup>7</sup> 28. 20
<b>Reservoir evaporation,<sup>8</sup> in acre-feet</b>			
1955-----	2	19	21
1956-----	2	17	19
1957-----	1	14	15
1958-----	2	18	20
1959-----	2	37	39
1955-59-----	9	105	114
<b>1955-59 Miscellaneous data</b>			
Direct precipitation on surface of reservoir-----acre-feet--	6	72	78
Estimated seepage loss-----do--	5	35	40
Total runoff-----do--	<sup>9</sup> 142	<sup>10</sup> 541	683
Average annual runoff-----inches--	2. 7	3. 5	3. 3

<sup>1</sup> Includes new storage in reservoir 1 and estimated discharge from reservoir 1A for October 1954 to March 1955.<sup>2</sup> Includes 15 acre-feet of new storage.<sup>3</sup> Total rounded.<sup>4</sup> At Syracuse.<sup>5</sup> 4 miles northeast of Syracuse.<sup>6</sup> 3 miles north-northeast of Syracuse.<sup>7</sup> Average.<sup>8</sup> Based on pan-evaporation data at Lincoln and on information from Kohler, Nordenson, and Baker (1959).<sup>9</sup> Total runoff=reservoir 1A inflow+direct precipitation on reservoir 1A=reservoir 1A outflow+evaporation+seepage.<sup>10</sup> Total runoff=reservoir 1 inflow+direct precipitation on reservoir 1=reservoir 1 outflow+evaporation+seepage+storage-reservoir 1A outflow.

Computations based on average snow depth and average moisture content indicate that 148 acre-feet of water was contained in the accumulated snow. The discharge from reservoir 1 during March 27–31 was about 115 acre-feet and represents about 78 percent of the water incorporated in the snow cover in the subwatershed (see table 4); 33 acre-feet of the water in the snow apparently did not enter the reservoirs. Most of this unaccounted for water probably infiltrated the soil in areas where ground frost was absent or where the upper part of the soil profile was not frozen, or it infiltrated the soil after temporary terrace storage. Some of the melt water may have recharged the ground-water reservoir, and minor amounts may have been lost through sublimation from the snow surface and through evaporation from the reservoirs.

TABLE 4.—*Hydrologic data, Brownell Creek subwatershed No. 1 Mar. 27–31, 1960*

	Drainage area		Water in snow cover (acre-feet)	Discharge		Runoff, percentage from snowmelt
	Acres	Percentage of total		Acres-feet	Percentage of total	
Reservoir 1A.....	125	25	37	20	17	54
1–1A.....	370	75	111	95	83	86
1.....	495	100	148	115	100	78

### METHOD OF INVESTIGATIONS

From April 1, 1955, to September 30, 1959, suspended sediment was sampled at 14 locations in Brownell Creek subwatershed. (See fig. 1.) Outflow from reservoirs 1 and 1A was sampled at locations 1–D, 1–U, and 2; upstream from these reservoirs, flow was sampled at locations 3–13. Locations 10–13 were not used before June 30, 1956.

Outflow was sampled from reservoir 1A at the discharge tube (fig. 9) and from reservoir 1 at the discharge tube (fig. 10) and at the trash rack that protects the inlet of the discharge tube. Samples were collected at the discharge tubes with a U.S. DH-48 sampler and at the trash rack with automatic suspended-sediment samplers in vertical stacks on the upstream corners of the rack (fig. 11). At reservoir 1, samples were also collected at the discharge tube by a continuous suspended-sediment sampler having the intake nozzle in a fixed position inside the discharge tube.

Inflow to the reservoirs was sampled with a U.S. DH-48 sampler or with a handline sampler at locations 4–13 and with automatic suspended-sediment samplers at locations 3, 6–8, 10, and 13. The automatic samplers were placed in the channels so that the initial samples were collected when the flow reached a depth of about 0.7 foot. Automatic samplers were arranged in vertical stacks so that

successive samples were obtained as the stage increased. Manual sampling at locations 5 and 9 was done by a local resident, who was assisted by Geological Survey personnel during periods of major runoff.

Reservoir stage recorders are on the upstream side of the dams at reservoirs 1 and 1A. (See figs. 6, 7.) Water discharge measurements are made about 100 feet downstream from the discharge tubes of the reservoirs.

The suspended-sediment concentrations of all samples, in parts per million by weight, were determined in the laboratory. The particle-size distribution of the suspended sediment in selected samples was determined by standard methods based on the fall velocity of the particles. The particle-size distribution of the sand from samples of deposited sediment was determined by the sieve method; the particle-size distribution of the silt and clay was determined by sedimentation methods.

For days of significant discharge, the suspended-sediment concentrations were plotted on the gage-height chart, and a smooth curve was drawn through the plotted points; the mean daily concentration was determined from this curve. Daily suspended-sediment discharge, in tons, was computed by multiplying daily mean concentration by



FIGURE 9.—Discharge tube, reservoir 1A.



daily mean water discharge and by a constant. On days when both concentration and water discharge were changing rapidly, each day was divided; sediment discharge that had been computed separately for parts of the day were totaled for the daily discharge.

## SUSPENDED SEDIMENT

### SUSPENDED-SEDIMENT DISCHARGE

The periods of significant outflow from reservoir 1 between April 1955 and September 1959 are summarized in table 5. The sediment discharge and water discharge shown for these periods represent about 99 and 88 percent, respectively, of the total from April 1955 to September 1959; a few very small sediment discharges are not included. The weighted suspended-sediment concentrations are the concentrations that would result if all the water and all the sediment discharged during a given period were uniformly mixed. For the periods shown in this table (99 percent of the sediment discharge and 88 percent of the water discharge), the weighted concentration is 587 parts per million. If the remaining 12 percent of the water



FIGURE 10.—Outflow from discharge tube, reservoir 1 (June 24, 1955, water discharge about 32 cfs).





FIGURE 11.—Partly submerged vertical stack of automatic suspended-sediment samplers at trash rack, reservoir 1 (June 24, 1955, reservoir elevation about 1,140 ft).

discharge, which had a weighted concentration of only 24 ppm, is included, the weighted concentration for all the water discharged from the reservoir between April 1955 and September 1959 would be 525 ppm.

The periods of significant outflow from reservoir 1A during 1955–59 are summarized in table 6. Because the drainage area is small in size, has flash-type runoff characteristics and a short detention time, the data for reservoir 1A are probably much less reliable than those for reservoir 1.

Sediment discharge from reservoir 1 as a result of the storm of June 23–24, 1955, was greater than that during any other single period from 1955 to 1959, inclusive, and represents about one-third of the total sediment discharge from reservoir 1 during 1955–59. Hydrologic information for reservoirs 1 and 1A is shown in figures 12 and 13. Samples at location 3 indicate that the peak suspended-sediment concentration for inflow occurred during the initial sharp rise in stage. During a 12-hour period on June 23–24, 4.30 inches of rain fell at a maximum intensity of about 2.00 inches per hour. At reservoir 1, peak inflow, based on preliminary data, was about 700 cfs; peak out-

TABLE 5.—Summary of outflow from reservoir 1, 1955-59

Date	Discharge		Sediment discharge (tons)	Weighted suspended-sediment concentration (ppm)
	Cubic feet per second—days	Acre-feet		
1955				
Apr. 23-24	4.54	9.0	10.0	818
Apr. 25-30	.22	.44	.9	1,520
June 24-26	29.7	58.9	135	1,680
June 28-29	3.32	6.6	11	1,230
1956				
July 2-4	6.47	12.8	11	630
July 31-Aug. 1	3.23	6.4	1.0	115
Aug. 18-20	14.7	29.2	25	630
1957				
Apr. 3-5	3.91	7.8	3.1	294
June 16-18	5.02	10.0	3.1	229
July 1-2	4.38	8.7	3.9	330
1958				
Mar. 5-6	2.60	5.2	.6	85
July 10-12	15.0	29.8	18.7	462
July 17	1.88	3.7	.6	118
July 19	6.98	13.8	10.1	536
July 20-25	1.22	2.4	1.1	334
Aug. 5-7	34.5	68.4	44.5	478
Aug. 8-14	2.82	5.6	1.7	242
Sept. 3-6	20.3	40.3	23.3	425
Sept. 7-10	1.83	3.6	.8	162
Sept. 14-15	1.18	2.3	.5	157
Sept. 21-24	2.39	4.7	1.1	170
1959				
Feb. 22-28	8.25	16.4	1.2	54
Mar. 25-31	8.0	15.9	1.7	79
May 2-6	22.4	44.9	43.6	721
May 7-17	5.37	10.7	4.1	283
May 18	10.6	21.0	23.0	804
May 19-22	7.07	14.0	5.6	293
May 23-31	10.0	19.9	7.1	263
June 1-6	2.02	4.0	.7	128
June 30	7.18	14.2	2.2	113
July 1-5	3.46	6.9	1.1	118
Total	250.54	497.5	397.3	

flow was 32.8 cfs; peak suspended-sediment concentration of outflow was 3,400 ppm; maximum instantaneous sediment discharge was 275 tons per day; and total sediment discharge was 135 tons. The peak inflow of about 700 cfs, or about 905 cfs per square mile, is indicative of the intensity of the precipitation and runoff during this storm.

The peak inflow probably would have exceeded 700 cfs if the upstream control structures had not been present. Figure 14 is an aerial view of the reservoirs and part of the subwatershed on June 24, 1955.

Summaries of other selected periods of major discharge from reservoir 1 are shown in figures 15-20.

About 77 percent of the total sediment discharge from reservoir 1 during 1955-59 occurred during seven outflow periods, each of which was less than 5 days in duration. About 88 percent of the total sediment discharge was during 11 outflow periods that had a combined duration of 30 days.

TABLE 6.—*Summary of outflow from reservoir 1A, 1955-59*

Date	Discharge		Sediment discharge (tons)	Weighted suspended-sediment concentration (ppm)
	Cubic feet per second—days	Acre-feet		
1955				
Apr. 23-----	0.9	1.8	6.0	2,470
June 24-----	6.2	12.3	94	5,620
June 28-----	1.0	2.0	7.0	2,590
1956				
July 2-3-----	1.8	3.6	10	2,060
July 31-----	1.0	2.0	7.0	2,590
Aug. 18-----	2.6	5.2	8.0	1,140
1957				
Apr. 2-4-----	1.8	3.6	10	2,060
June 17-----	1.0	2.0	2.6	960
July 1-----	1.1	2.2	3.5	1,180
1958				
Mar. 5-29-----	1.6	3.2	1.2	280
July 10-11-----	5.7	11.3	12	780
July 17-25-----	3.6	7.1	7.4	760
Aug. 5-6-----	11.7	23.2	30	950
Sept. 3-6-----	3.7	7.3	12	1,200
Sept. 14-24-----	1.3	2.6	2.0	570
1959				
Mar. 13-20-----	2.1	4.2	4.0	710
Mar. 25-31-----	1.4	2.8	2.4	630
May 2-5-----	4.0	7.9	15	1,390
May 6-14-----	.7	1.4	1.8	950
May 18-----	4.7	9.3	24	1,890
May 19-31-----	2.5	5.0	6.5	960
June 30-----	2.2	4.4	4.7	790
Total-----	62.6	124.4	271.1	-----

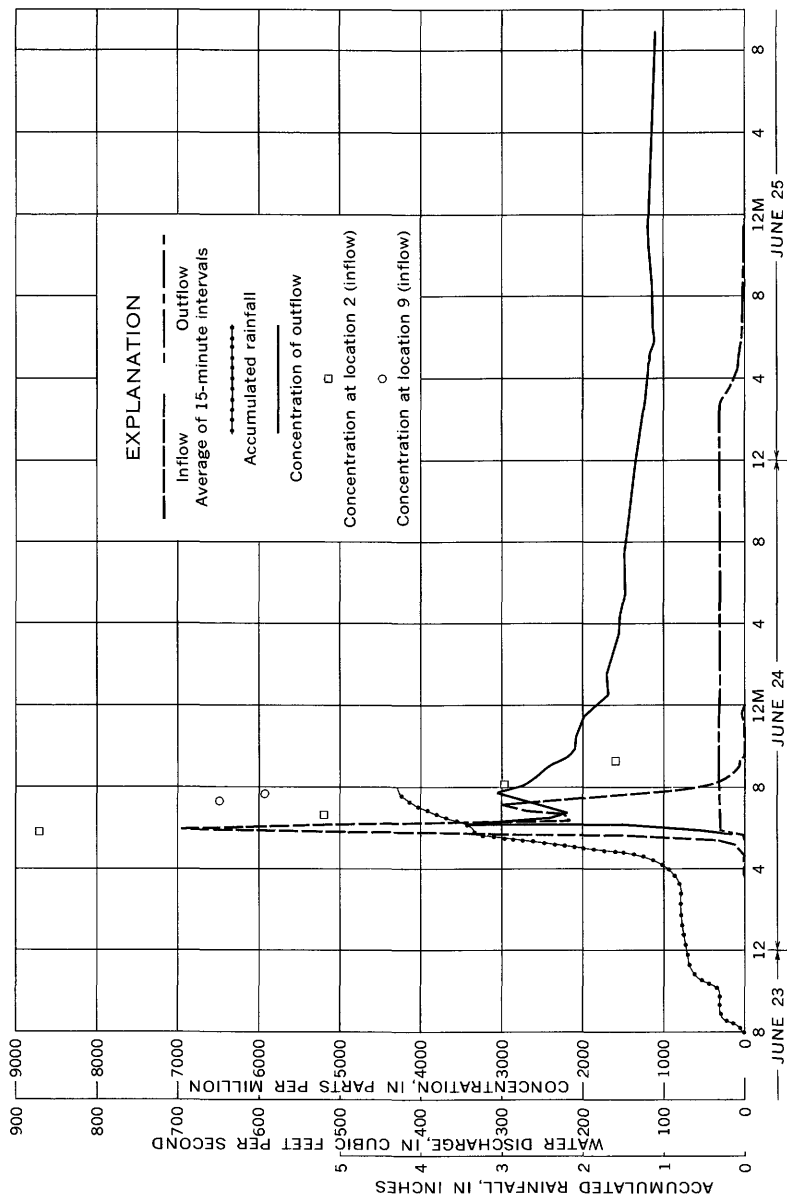


FIGURE 12.—Water discharge (inflow and outflow), accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1, June 23–25, 1955.

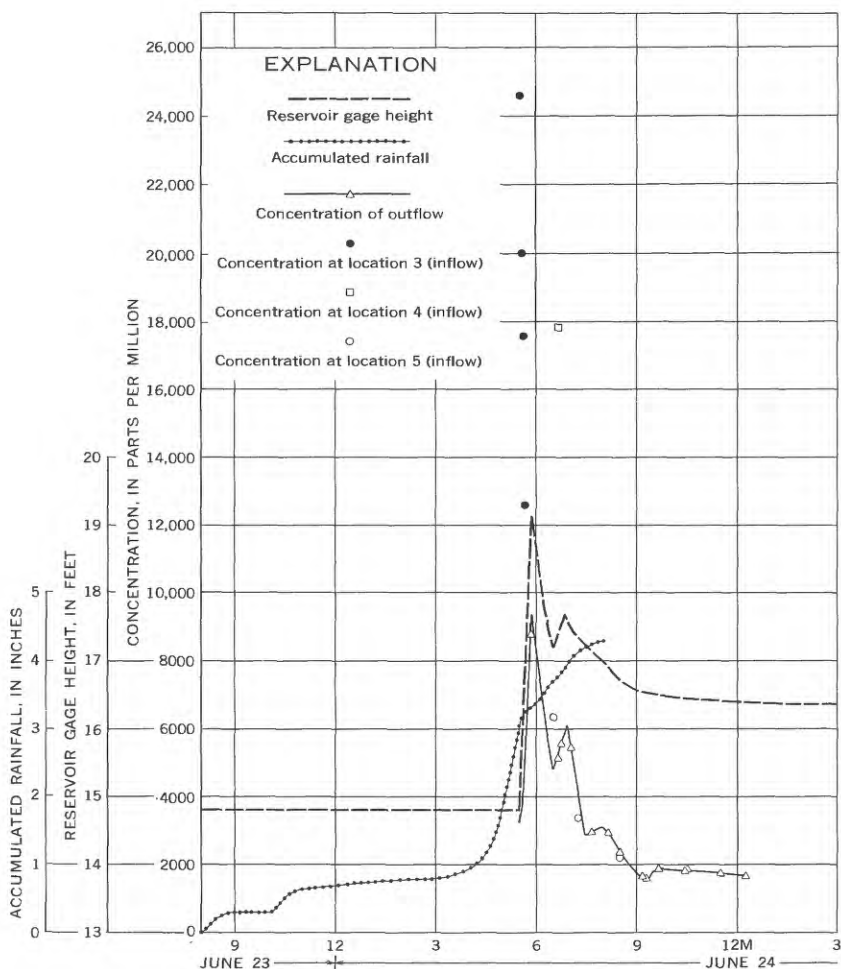


FIGURE 13.—Reservoir gage height, accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1A, June 23-24, 1955.



FIGURE 14.—Downstream view of part of Brownell Creek subwatershed, June 24, 1955  
Photograph by Soil Conservation Service.

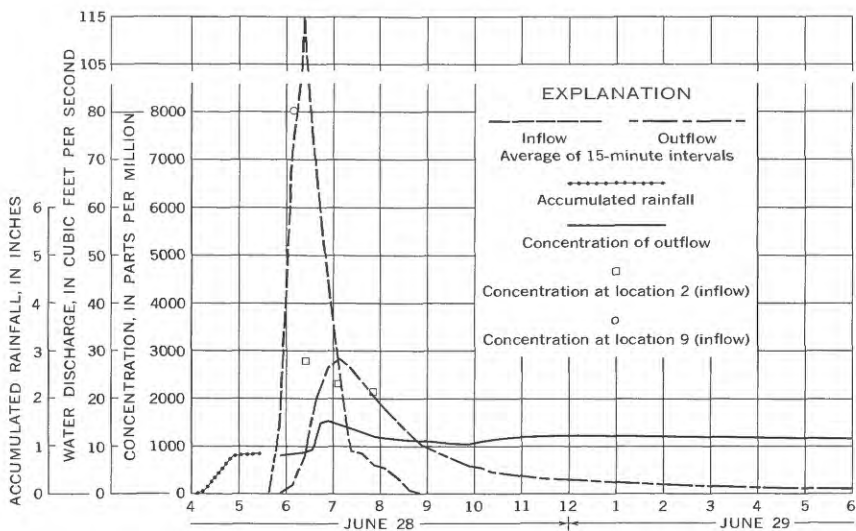


FIGURE 15.—Water discharge (inflow and outflow), accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1, June 28-29, 1955.

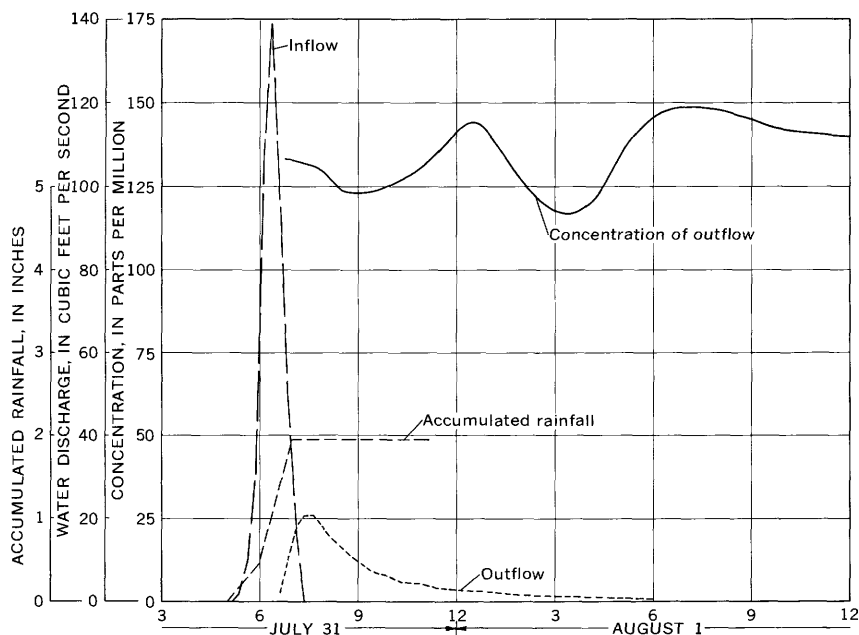


FIGURE 16.—Water discharge (inflow and outflow), accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1, July 31–Aug. 1, 1956.

The large upstream reservoir, which was completed in 1959, retains much of the sediment derived from the eastern part of the subwatershed and reduces significantly the sediment discharge into reservoir 1. The sediment discharge from both the upstream reservoir and reservoir 1A is predominantly clay; therefore runoff from about 70 percent of the subwatershed transports mainly clay into reservoir 1. Although some of this clay is undoubtedly deposited in reservoir 1, a large part remains in suspension and is discharged from the reservoir. Since May 1959, a disproportionately large percentage of the sediment deposited in reservoir 1 is derived from the northwestern part of the subwatershed because the runoff flows directly into reservoir 1 without first passing through the other reservoirs.

Field observations and data on inflow and outflow concentrations indicate that an inflow of high suspended-sediment concentration may behave as a density (turbidity) current upon entering the reservoir. The relation of outflow concentration to inflow concentration for a given runoff period varies with such factors as the intensity and duration of runoff, reservoir stage at the beginning of the runoff period, maximum reservoir stage during the runoff period, antecedent inflow conditions, and water temperature of inflow and reservoir water.

Suspended-sediment discharge cannot be computed for the different

inflow sampling sites; however, the instantaneous suspended-sediment discharge into the reservoir at selected times can be computed from partly estimated data. On June 24, 1955, the maximum instantaneous suspended-sediment discharge into the reservoir was probably about 35,000 tons per day; this discharge probably prevailed for only a few minutes. Maximum discharges of 10,000–25,000 tons per day probably occurred for periods of a few minutes in 1956, 1958, and 1959. The data indicate that maximum inflow concentration and suspended-sediment discharge either precede or coincide with maximum water discharge.

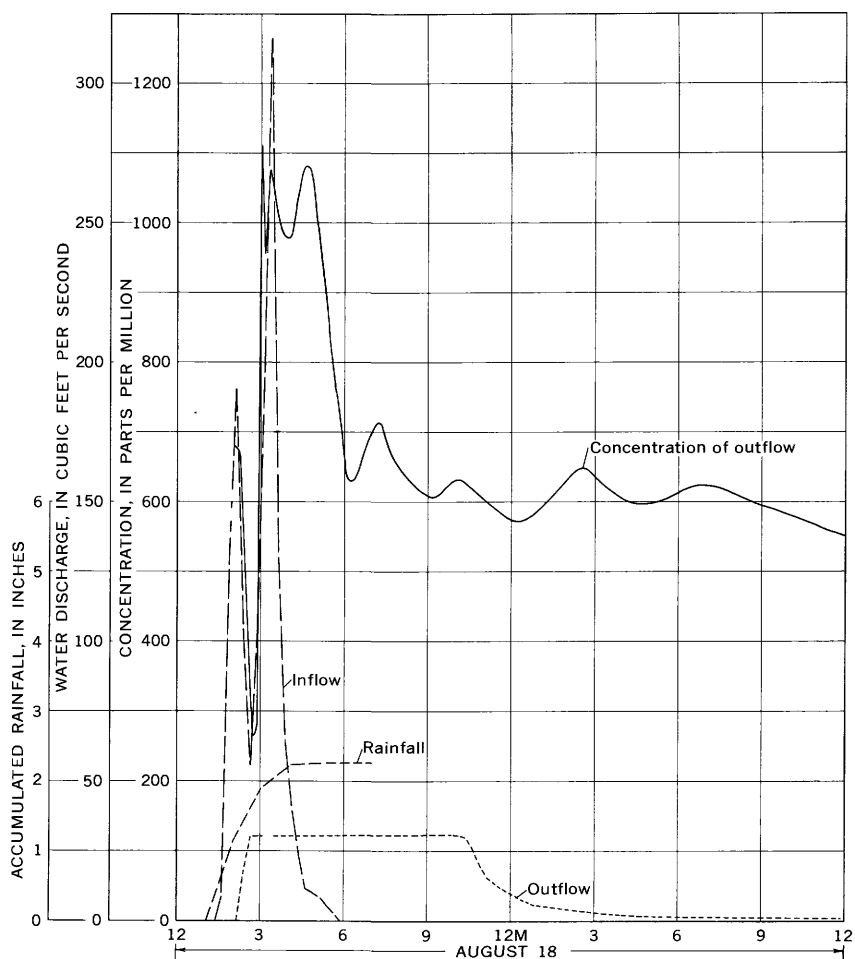


FIGURE 17.—Water discharge (inflow and outflow), accumulated rainfall, and suspended-sediment concentration, reservoir 1, Aug. 18, 1956.



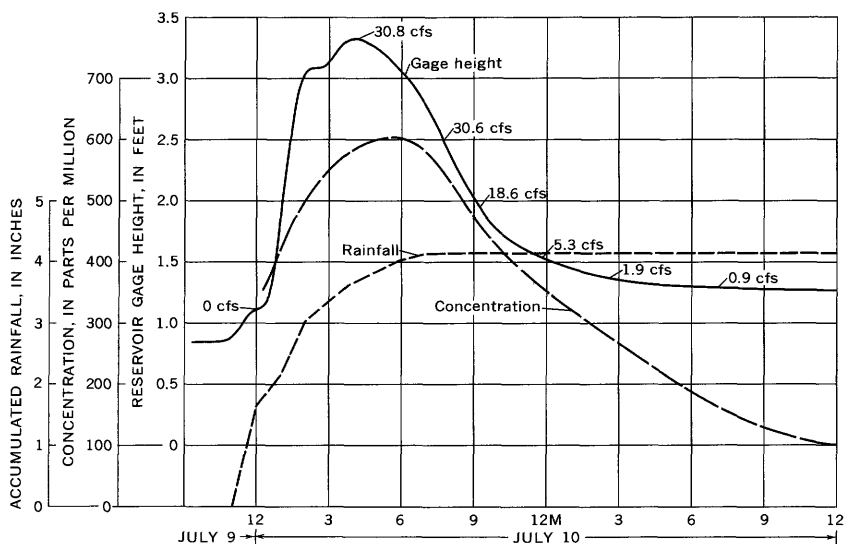


FIGURE 18.—Gage height, accumulated rainfall, suspended-sediment concentration, and water discharge, reservoir 1, July 9–10, 1958.

#### PARTICLE-SIZE OF SUSPENDED SEDIMENT

Particle-size distribution of suspended-sediment samples (shown graphically in figure 21,) indicates that the outflow (tables 7, 8) has a higher percentage of clay than the inflow (tables 9, 10), that most of the sand entering reservoir 1A is trapped, and that all the sand and much of the silt and clay entering reservoir 1 are trapped.

Figure 22 shows that the percentage of clay is related to the suspended-sediment concentration of inflow to reservoirs 1 and 1A. Although the plotted points show considerable scatter, the curve indicates a general tendency for the percentage of clay to decrease as suspended-sediment concentration increases. The concentration of clay generally increases, however, as the total suspended-sediment concentration increases.

For selected inflow and outflow samples, particle-size distribution of the silt-clay fraction was determined by two different settling mediums—distilled water having a dispersing agent added and native water. (See tables 7–10.) Such data on size distribution may indicate roughly the degree and extent of flocculation and deposition in a reservoir; however, a considerable part of the clay shown for the dispersed analysis may have been transported into the reservoir as silt- or sand-size soil aggregates, and preparation of the sample for analysis under dispersed conditions destroys these aggregates. Differences between size distribution in the two different mediums may be caused as much by destruction of original soil aggregates as by the flocculating ability of the native water.

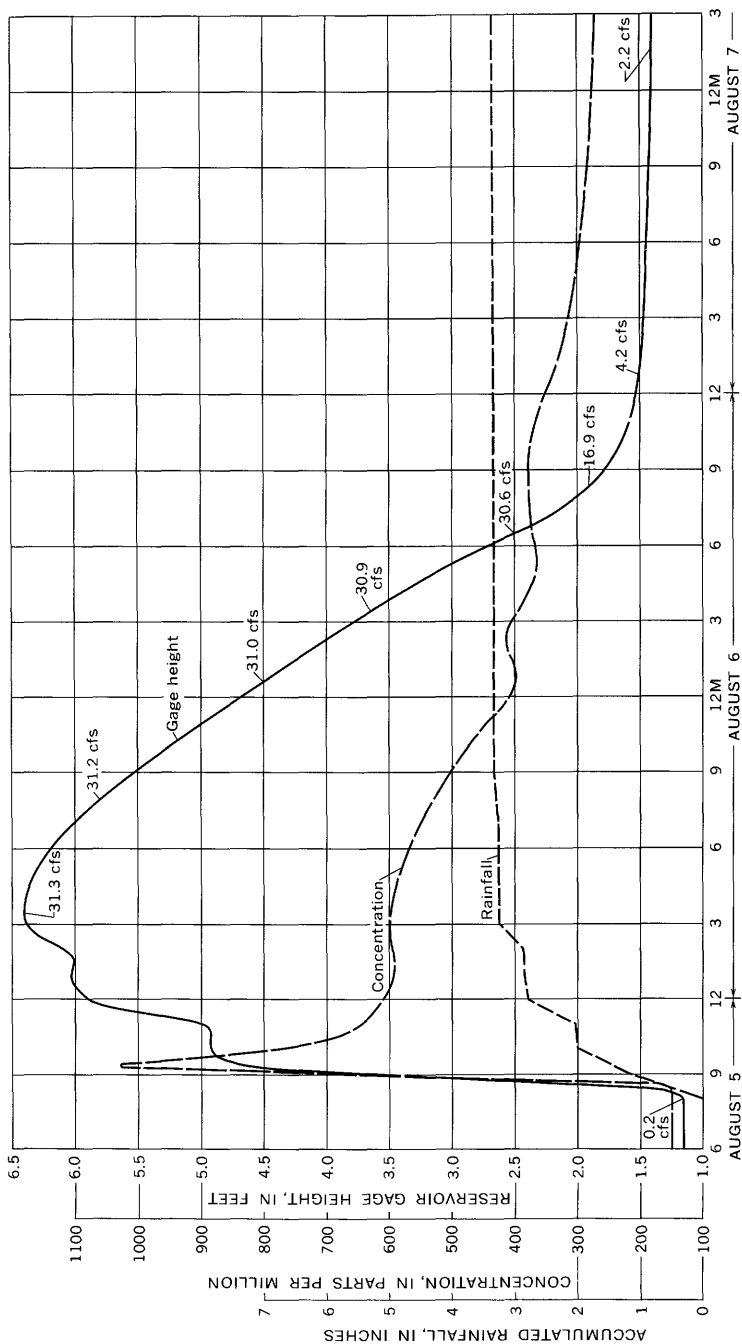


FIGURE 19.—Gage height, accumulated rainfall, suspended-sediment concentration, and water discharge, reservoir 1, Aug. 5-7, 1958.

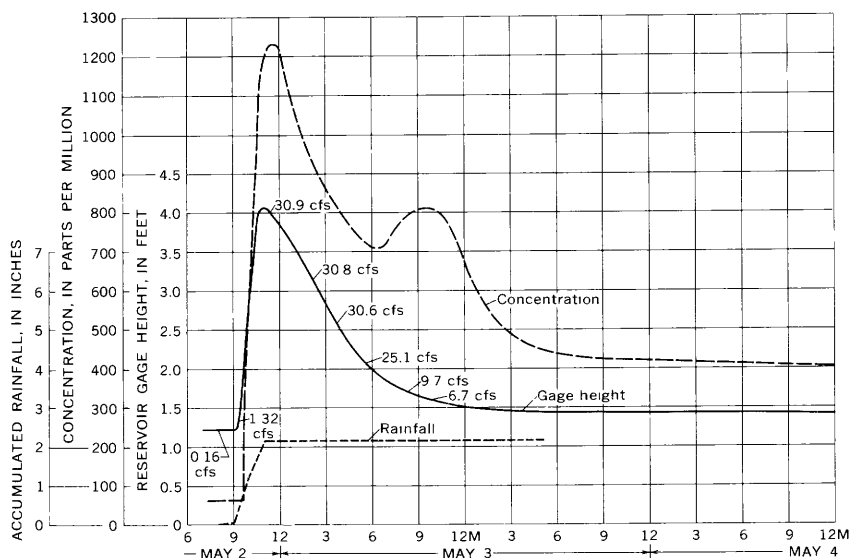


FIGURE 20.—Gage height, accumulated rainfall, suspended-sediment concentration, and water discharge, reservoir 1, May 2-4, 1959.

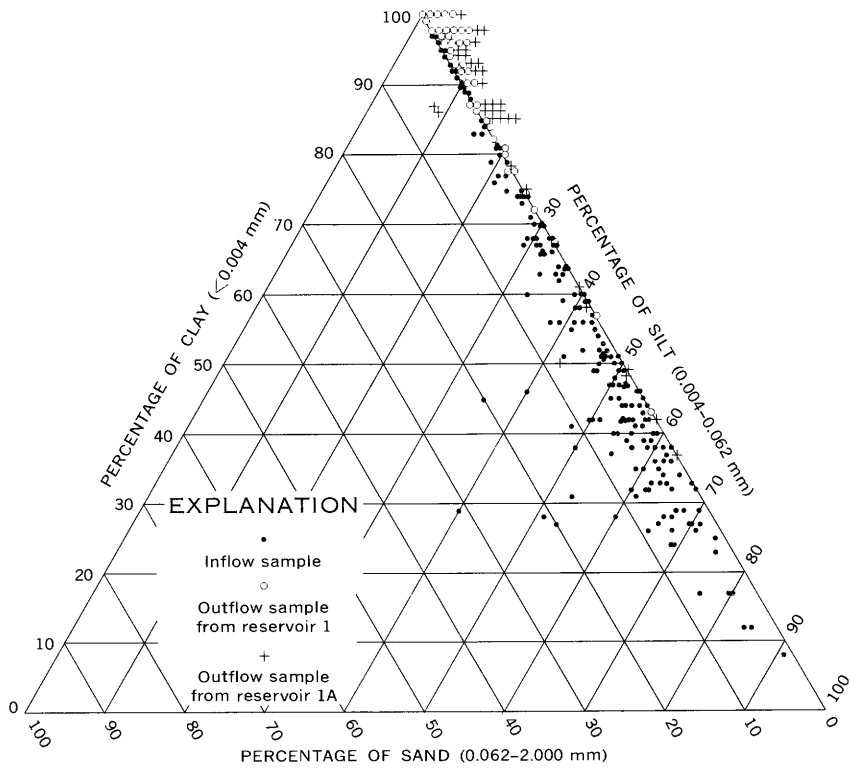


FIGURE 21.—Percentage of clay, silt, and sand in samples from Brownell Creek subwatershed.

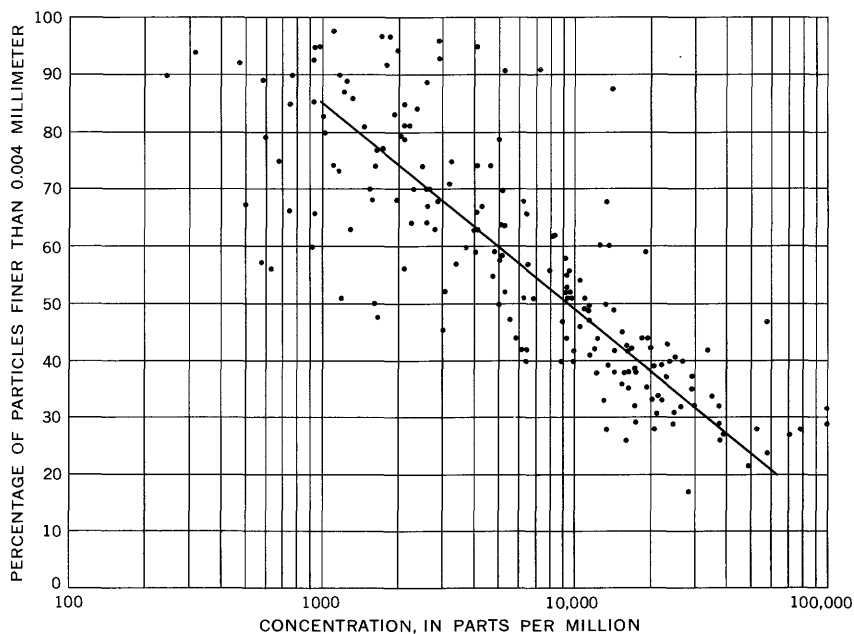


FIGURE 22.—Relation of percentage of clay to suspended-sediment concentration, inflow to reservoirs 1 and 1A.

### DEPOSITED SEDIMENT

The trap efficiency of reservoir 1 eventually will be computed using data from reservoir surveys and data on sediment discharge from the reservoir. At present (1961), the results of the surveys are not available and the amount of sediment deposition in the reservoir is not known. Deposition in reservoir 1 can be computed, however, from the available data on concentration and particle-size distribution of inflow from different parts of the subwatershed, on sediment discharge from reservoirs 1 and 1A, data on estimates of runoff distribution within the subwatershed, and from a small amount of data on bulk density of reservoir deposits. About 4.5 acre-feet of sediment is estimated to have been deposited in reservoir 1 and in backwater reaches of channels leading into this reservoir. Trap efficiency of reservoir 1 is estimated to have been between 90 and 95 percent during 1955–59, but the trap efficiency (computed as the ratio, expressed as a percentage, of the weight of sediment retained in the reservoir to the weight of sediment entering the reservoir) has probably decreased since the completion of the large upstream reservoir in 1959. Much less sediment probably enters reservoir 1, and of the sediment that does enter, the percentage of clay is probably higher than it was before construction of the upstream reservoir. Most of the sediment

that is discharged from the upstream reservoir is clay, and much of this clay probably remains in suspension and is discharged from reservoir 1. The decrease in sediment inflow to reservoir 1 is probably greater than the decrease in sediment discharge from reservoir 1, and the result should be an apparent decrease in trap efficiency of reservoir 1; however, the upstream reservoir probably has a trap efficiency similar to that of reservoir 1, and the actual decrease in trap efficiency of reservoir 1 will, no doubt, be slight. The rate of sediment accumulation in reservoir 1 has probably decreased markedly since about May 1959.

Reservoir bottom samples from eight locations in reservoir 1 and from three locations in reservoir 1A (fig. 23) were obtained and analyzed by the Agricultural Research Service during the spring of 1958. For reservoir 1, the average bulk density of the samples, expressed as grams per cubic centimeter, was 1.16; for reservoir 1A, the average bulk density of the three samples was 0.89. For reservoir 1, the bulk density generally increased with depth and averaged 1.06 for about the upper 4 inches of sediment deposited, 1.19 for the material about 4–8 inches below the surface of the deposit, and 1.25 for the material more than 8 inches below the surface. For the samples collected at reservoir 1A, bulk density was not related to depth. (See table 11.)

The correlation between particle-size distribution of deposited material and bulk density is only fair. However, the sample having the highest percentage of sand had the highest bulk density (reservoir 1), and the sample having the highest percentage of clay had the second lowest bulk density (reservoir 1A). Figure 24 shows the relation between percentage of sand and bulk density.

For reservoir 1, the percentage of sand ranged from 9 to 43, and the percentage of clay ranged from 23 to 40; for reservoir 1A, the percentage of sand ranged from 8 to 20, and the percentage of clay from 27 to 46. The particle-size classification used for this series of samples is that followed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture: sand, 0.05 to 2.0 mm; silt, 0.002 to 0.05 mm; clay, less than 0.002 mm. Particle-size analyses were made on about half the samples obtained and the results are given in table 11.

In February 1957, samples of deposited sediment were collected between the northeast corner of the reservoir and the junction of the two main channels that drain the northern two-thirds of the subwatershed. Figure 23 shows the location of the sampling sections, and table 12 shows the particle-size distribution of the sampled material. In the reach from the downstream edge of the delta to the termination of channel backwater, the particle-size distribution of

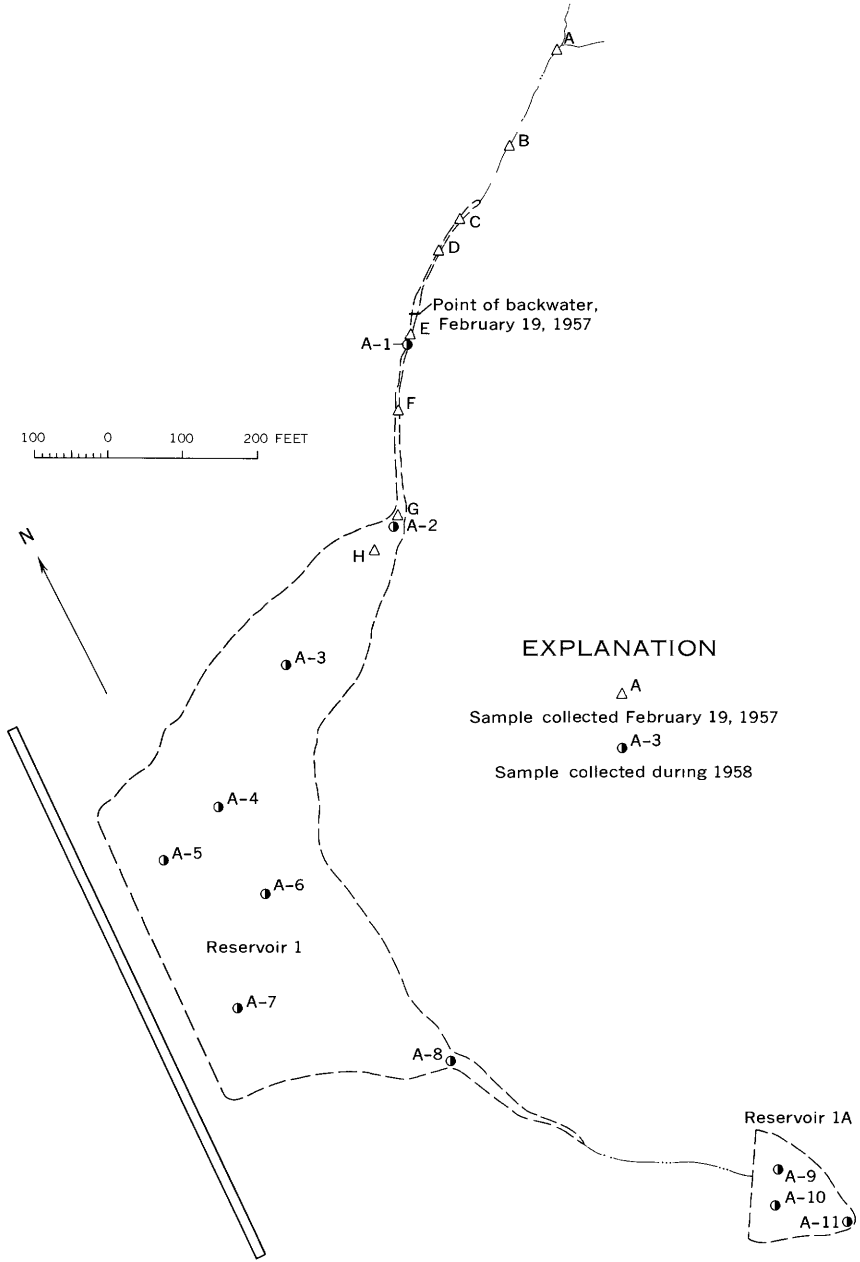


FIGURE 23.—Locations of sampling sections for deposited sediment.

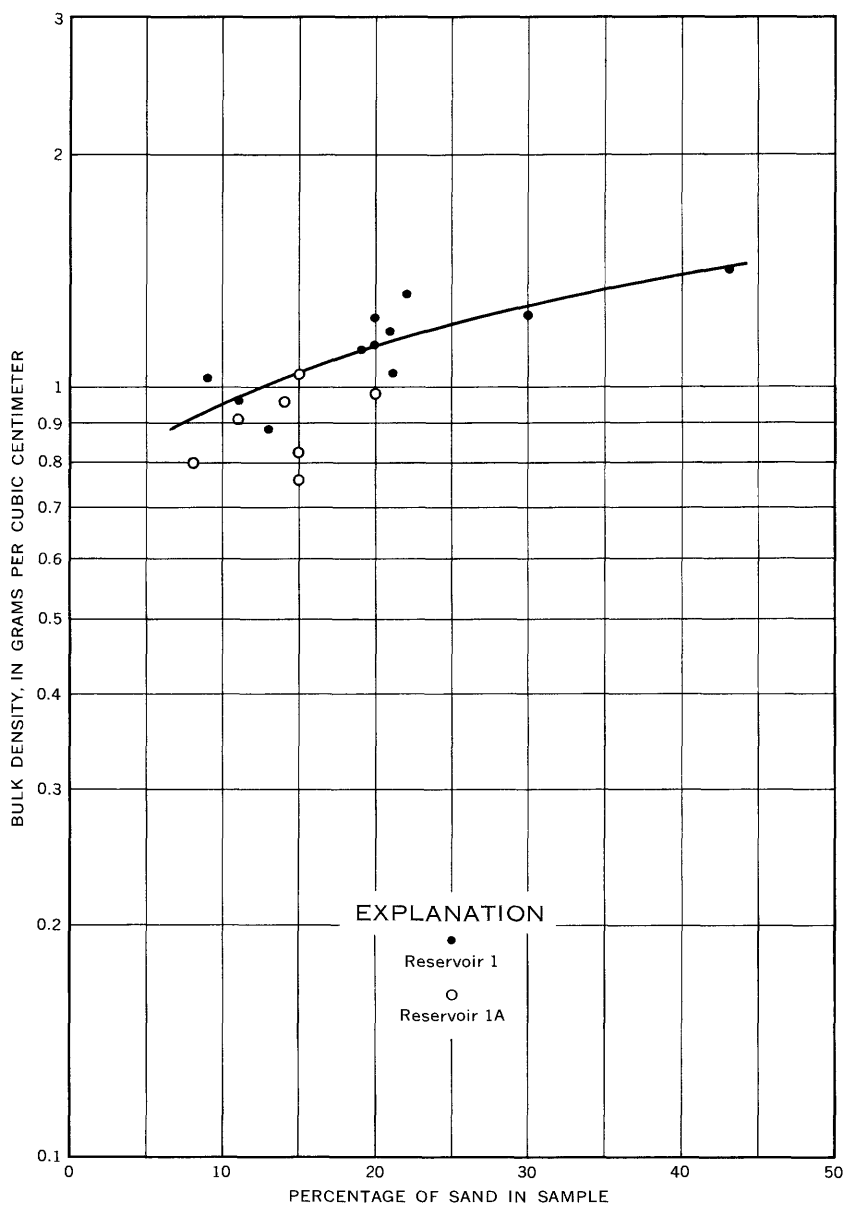


FIGURE 24.—Relation of bulk density to percentage of sand in deposited sediment.

deposited sediment was relatively uniform. Upstream from the channel backwater, the material contained a high percentage of sand and some gravel.

Field observations indicate that the extent and particle-size composition of the channel deposits are affected by reservoir stage at the beginning of a runoff period, maximum reservoir stage during a runoff period, characteristics and duration of channel flow, recurrence of minor flows after major flows, and the season in which the flow occurs. An appreciable part of the sediment deposited in channel backwater during high reservoir stages is probably transported as bedload into the reservoir by subsequent minor flows during low reservoir stages.

In April 1957, a composite sample of material from the delta was obtained at the upstream end of reservoir 1A. Particle-size analysis of this sample showed 26 percent silt and clay, 69 percent sand, and 5 percent gravel.

The major source of the transported sand and gravel is probably the glacial till deposits; minor sources are valley alluvium and severely eroding road surfaces and ditches.

A comparison of suspended-sediment size analyses in native water and in distilled water containing a dispersing agent shows that the native water is of such chemical quality as to induce significant flocculation of sediment during quiescent settling in the laboratory; however, flocculation under natural conditions in the reservoir is not necessarily of this same magnitude. Results of chemical analyses of water samples (inflow and outflow) are shown in table 13.

### CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions resulted from sedimentation investigations that were made in Brownell Creek subwatershed during 1955-59:

1. Average annual runoff in the subwatershed was 3.3 inches.
2. The sediment transported into reservoirs 1 and 1A was mostly silt and clay. All the sand and most of the silt and clay that entered reservoir 1 were trapped. The trap efficiency of reservoir 1, computed from partly estimated data, was between 90 and 95 percent.
3. A large dam, completed upstream from reservoir 1 in 1959, will reduce the quantity of sediment transported into, and the trap efficiency of, reservoir 1.
4. During 1955-59, about three-fourths of the total sediment discharged from reservoir 1 occurred during seven outflow periods, each of which was less than 5 days in duration.



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## TABLES

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TABLE 7.—*Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment, inflow to reservoir 1*

[Methods of analysis; P, pipet; S, sieve; N, in native water; W, in distilled water; C, chemically dispersed; M, mechanically dispersed; V, visual accumulation tube. Sampling location shown in fig. 1]

Date	Time		Sampling location	Suspended sediment										Methods of analysis		
	a.m.	p.m.		Concentration of suspension analyzed (ppm)	Concentration of suspension (ppm)	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters										
						0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031	0.062	0.125	0.250		0.500	1.000
1955 June 24			7	49,200	14,500	18	23	31	43	65	98	100				VPWCM
			7	39,600	11,900	22	27	34	44	70	97	99				VPWCM
			6	28,200	9,080	12	17	28	39	74	97	99				VPWCM
	7:20		9	6,480	8,360	35	42	50	60	78	93	97		100		VPWCM
	7:40		9	6,480	7,080	15	27	41	56	78	93	97		100		VPWCM
June 28			9	5,920	5,710	38	44	52	62	81	97	99		100		VPWCM
			7	14,200	3,970	42	49	52	66	84	96	99		100		VPWCM
			8	16,300	4,390	29	35	44	56	79	95	98		100		VPWCM
	6:10		9	8,040	3,260	49	56	62	76	92	99	100				VPWCM
1956 June 24		12:30	7	34,100	13,400	39	42	48	62	84	97	99		100		VPWCM
		1:30	6	16,300	12,500	18	26	32	47	79	97	99		100		VPWCM
		1:00	7	100,000	21,500	30	32	38	49	80	94	96		99	100	VPWCM
		1:00	7	100,000	21,200	20	26	34	48	80	94	96		99	100	VPWCM
		1:05	7	58,000	12,100	30	33	37	50	80	97	98		99	100	VPWCM
July 3		1:05	7	58,000	12,200	43	47	52	63	83	97	98		99	100	VPWCM
		1:20	7	14,700	11,100	26	38	48	60	84	99	100		99	100	VPWCM
		1:15	8	58,400	26,300	19	24	31	43	78	93	97		99	100	VPWCM
		1:15	8	58,400	20,700	12	17	26	40	75	98	99		99	100	VPWCM
		1:25	8	5,880	6,180	43	47		63	98	100	100				VPWCM
		3:40	9	2,260	4,340	72			91		100	100				VPWCM
	9:15		9	810	1,990	64			91		100	100				SPWCM
	9:55		7	1,020	2,520	80	83		89		99	100				VPWCM
	10:00		10	1,760	3,740	71	77		90		99	100				VPWCM
	10:05		6	1,620	3,780	71	74		88		99	99		100		VPWCM
	10:10		8	1,680	3,880	72	77		90		98	99		100		VPWCM
	10:45		6	1,310	3,240	81	86		91		97	99		99	100	VPWCM

TABLE 7.—Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment, inflow to reservoir 1—Continued

Date	Time		Sampling location	Suspended sediment										Methods of analysis		
	a.m.	p.m.		Concentration (ppm)	Concentration of suspension analyzed (ppm)	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters										
						0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031	0.062	0.125	0.250		0.500	1.000
1956—Continued																
July 31.		7:00	9	6,940	4,220	49	51	59	73	91	98	100				SPWCM
		7:00	9	6,940	4,060	24	36	53	70	89	98	100				SPN
		8:00	9	2,130	1,050	85	85	88	94	97	100					SPWCM
		6:40	6	100,000	5,040	27	29	30	42	72	97	98	99	100		VPN
		6:40	6	100,000	4,700	9	12	18	39	68	97	98	99	100		VPWCM
		6:25	7	35,200	7,460	30	34	41	54	80	99	99	100			VPN
		6:25	7	35,200	7,310	5	8	15	26	48	99	99	100			VPN
		6:35	8	37,200	7,200	27	29	35	46	76	96	98	99	100		VPN
		6:35	8	37,200	7,200	8	12	20	35	68	96	98	99	100		VPN
		2:40	9	4,970	4,280	48	50	57	72	87	97	99	100			VPN
Aug. 18.		2:40	9	4,970	4,210	24	36	52	68	87	99	100				VPN
		3:10	9	1,220	2,700	79	87	94	99	100						PWCM
		2:10	7	21,500	6,890	30	34	39	49	79	97	98	99	100		VPN
		2:10	7	21,500	7,120	12	27	32	48	76	97	98	99	100		VPN
		2:15	8	78,600	8,400	28	28	34	46	76	95	98	99	100		VPWCM
1957																
		9:00	10	8,940	7,070	41	47		62		98	99	100			VPWCM
		11:00	10	14,700	9,700	34	42		57		96	98	100			VPWCM
			10	17,200	10,100	27	38		67		97	99	100			VPWCM
			6	11,200	7,000	38	49		59		96	99	100			VPWCM
			10	1,130	2,100	97					100					VPWCM
		5:50	7	10,500	3,040	49	54	60	69	87	99	100				VPWCM
			7	6,300	1,950	22	40	60	74	92	99	100				VPWCM
		8:00	7	20,600	3,640	28	31	43	43		84	91	96	100		VPWCM
		7:20	10	21,400	4,700	25	28		40		88	95	98	100		VPWCM
		7:30	10	15,300	3,000	34	36				97	99	100			VPWCM
		7:50	10	15,300	3,000	34	36				97	99	100			VPWCM
		7:45	6	26,900	3,920	40	40	49	60	85	99	100				VPWCM
		7:55	6	11,400	2,890	42	47	51	62	77	97	99	100			VPWCM
		8:10	6	25,000	6,070	35	41	48	59	83	98	100				VPWCM
	8:25	6	11,100	2,980	44	51	53	60	78	99	100				VPWCM	
		7	1,820	1,640		92		98		100					VPWCM	
	12:30	10	2,630	1,230		70		83		99					VPWCM	
	12:20	10	2,630	1,230		70		83		99					VPWCM	
	12:35	6	2,230	1,890		81		91		100					VPWCM	
	12:40	6	2,170	2,060	74	79		92		100					VPWCM	

## BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA C39

July 1	12.30	7	6,590	3,800	50	57	81	100	90	95	100	SPWCM
	12.45	7	6,230	3,990	61	68	83	100	90	95	100	SPWCM
	12.45	10	15,900	4,400	33	38	55	88	97	99	100	VPWCM
	1.00	10	7,360	3,330	33	38	57	85	97	99	100	VPWCM
	12.45	6	9,700	3,100	50	51	68	98	99	100	100	VPWCM
	12.45	6	8,390	4,720	48	56	71	98	99	100	100	VPWCM
	1.20	6	18,600	5,010	38	44	63	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	1.05	6	9,450	5,740	44	53	70	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	3.35	10	2,160	1,120	80	81	90	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
Oct. 12	8.55	6	2,130	1,120	73	79	85	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	8.50	7	592	1,720	76	79	80	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	10.45	10	1,020	2,840	75	80	94	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	11.35	10	756	2,810	85	85	93	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	11.35	10	2,670	4,050	89	89	98	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	11.35	10	2,890	87	94	96	96	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
Oct. 22	9.25	10	1,990	5,800	93	96	100	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	9.25	10	2,920	5,800	91	95	99	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	9.45	10	4,100	5,890	89	93	96	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
	9.35	6	2,910	5,320	89	93	96	100	100	100	100	SPWCM
1958												
Feb. 27	10.50	10	3,090	4,720	47	52	70	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	10.35	7	1,690	2,320	46	48	57	98	99	99	100	VPWCM
	10.40	6	1,750					94	96	99	100	V
Apr. 3	10.30	9	4,060	5,300	56	59	82	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
Apr. 12	8.30	9	13,400	4,100	65	68	81	98	99	100	100	VPWCM
July 9	11.30	7	70,300	13,200	25	27	42	80	90	96	99	VPWCM
July 10	12.30	6	19,400	6,270	52	59	82	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	1.00	6	23,400	7,060	40	43	62	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12.50	7	7,220	5,610	57	62	77	98	100	100	100	VPWCM
July 17	9.15	10	601					98	99	100	100	V
	9.10	7	1,180	2,860	87	90	94	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	9.05	6	1,270	3,400	84	89	95	96	98	100	100	VPWCM
July 19	12.30	10	24,000	7,940	35	40	60	96	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12.50	7	19,500	6,970	40	44	63	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12.10	7	51,800	10,600	26	28	41	94	96	99	100	VPWCM
	12.20	7	23,400	12,500	32	35	53	97	99	100	100	VPWCM
	12.15	6	11,000	5,630	44	49	68	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12.35	6	23,100	15,900	33	37	56	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12.55	6	20,800	5,820	40	42	62	99	99	100	100	VPWCM
Aug. 5	9.00	10	28,700	8,280	32	37	55	92	98	100	100	VPWCM
	8.45	6	36,700	15,500	32	37	54	99	99	100	100	VPWCM
	9.10	6	12,900	10,200	30	33	50	96	99	100	100	VPWCM

TABLE 7.—*Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment, inflow to reservoir 1—Continued*

Date	Time		Sampling location	Suspended sediment										Methods of analysis		
	a.m.	p.m.		Concentration (ppm)	Concentration of suspension analyzed (ppm)	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters										
						0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031	0.062	0.125	0.250		0.500	1.000
1958—Continued		1:10	10	633	1,240	54	56		63		94	98	100			VPWCM
		3:50	10	503	1,010	67	67		71		96	99	100			VPWCM
		11:15	10	21,900	6,360	35	39		55		95	99	100			VPWCM
		11:30	10	11,500	3,990	38	41		57		97	99	100			VPWCM
		10:50	7	8,810	6,490	37	40		56		94	98	99	100		VPWCM
		11:05	7	9,870	7,070	37	40		58		96	99	100			VPWCM
		11:15	7	13,400	7,880	26	28		40		79	92	96	99	100	VPWCM
		11:00	6	13,500	8,340	44	50		68		100		99	100		VPWCM
		11:10	6	38,400	14,200	23	26		40		91	97	99	100		VPWCM
		11:20	6	13,600	5,220	36	39		56		97	99	100			VPWCM
1959		11:45	6	9,290	5,390	40	44		61		97	99	100			VPWCM
			10	21,100	3,350	50	56		72		97	100				VPWCM
		8:40	6	13,500	4,030	51	60		72		99	100				VPWCM
		8:50	7	3,000	3,140	40	45		54		80		95	99	100	VPWCM
		9:00	10	14,200	2,150	77	88		96		100					VPWCM
		2:00	6	7,360	2,810	79	91		96		100					VPWCM
		2:10	6	10,000	6,260	38	42		56		92	97	99	100		VPWCM
		9:25	6	11,200	3,400	47	49		65		99	100				VPWCM
		9:35	6	9,420	5,550	46	51		65		93	96	98	100		VPWCM
		9:40	7	9,170	6,340	52	55		70		96	98	99	100		VPWCM
		9:55	6	12,000	3,720	38	42		58		96	99	100			VPWCM
		9:55	6	12,000	6,370	29	33		47		95	99	100			VPWCM
		10:00	10	22,100	6,370	29	33		47		96	98	99	100		VPWCM
		10:05	7	9,650	4,310	47	52		67		96	98	99	100		VPWCM
		10:10	7	9,080	5,010	52	58		73		98	99	100			VPWCM
		10:10	6	9,260	3,080	50	51		67		98	99	100			VPWCM
		10:15	10	19,300	5,680	31	35		50		94	99	100			VPWCM



## BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA

C41

May 3.	9:30	-----	10	2,110	2,210	50	56	-----	64	-----	95	99	100	-----	VPWCM
	10:25	-----	6	1,620	2,820	47	50	-----	62	-----	100	99	100	-----	VPWCM
May 9.	-----	-----	10	1,334	1,670	60	94	-----	95	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
May 18.	-----	-----	7	16,600	18,000	40	42	-----	61	-----	98	98	99	100	VPWCM
	-----	-----	7	17,300	18,000	35	38	-----	55	-----	98	98	100	-----	VPWCM
	-----	-----	7	5,030	5,470	69	79	-----	83	-----	98	99	99	100	VPWCM
	-----	-----	6	2,660	5,900	58	64	-----	78	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
May 19.	-----	-----	6	30,200	5,200	28	32	-----	45	-----	94	97	99	100	VPWCM
	-----	-----	10	26,200	5,500	20	32	-----	46	-----	92	97	100	-----	VPWCM
	-----	-----	10	24,600	5,000	20	31	-----	48	-----	99	100	100	-----	VPWCM
	-----	-----	10	4,100	5,480	56	63	-----	75	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
May 26.	5:15	-----	6	3,100	3,000	64	70	-----	85	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
May 29.	5:35	-----	6	4,210	3,900	65	74	-----	92	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
June 18.	1:00	-----	6	1,360	1,860	67	68	-----	76	-----	98	100	-----	-----	VPWCM
June 30.	-----	-----	6	17,600	1,070	30	42	-----	62	-----	99	100	-----	-----	VPWCM
	5:15	-----	7	17,631	1,140	91	84	-----	95	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
Sept. 18.	10:20	-----	6	2,301	2,770	83	84	-----	89	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
Sept. 19.	-----	-----	6	3,270	3,160	82	91	-----	100	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
Sept. 20.	6:20	-----	6	1,890	1,050	97	97	-----	82	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM
	-----	-----	6	2,950	3,970	63	68	-----	82	-----	100	-----	-----	-----	VPWCM

TABLE 8.—*Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment, inflow to reservoir 1A*

[Methods of analysis: P, pipet; S, sieve; C, in distilled water; M, mechanically dispersed; V, visual accumulation tube. Sampling locations are shown in fig. 1]

Date	Time		Sampling location	Suspended sediment										Methods of analysis		
	a.m.	p.m.		Concentration (ppm)	Concentration of suspension analyzed (ppm)	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters										
						0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031	0.062	0.125	0.250		0.500	1.000
1955	June 24	5:30	3	24,600	9,680	24	29	40	55	80	99	100				VPWCM
		5:35	3	20,000	7,800	26	33	45	60	90	100					VPWCM
		5:38	3	17,600	7,120	24	32	45	65	90	100					VPWCM
		5:40	3	12,600	1,610	56	60	67	75	91	100					VPWCM
		6:30	5	6,360	5,870	38	51	61	75	90	98	99	100			VPWCM
		6:30	5	6,360	4,960	17	27	44	63	88	98	99	100			VPWCM
		6:40	4	17,800	7,530	25	29	33	38	52	69	81	90	92	95	VPN
		7:15	5	3,380	5,080	44	57	66	76	89	99	100				VPWCM
		8:30	5	2,210	3,210	56	60	64	71	76	88	99	100			VPWCM
			3	3,730	1,470	60	60	60	76	91	100					VPWCM
1956	June 28	6:00	3	10,700	3,820	41	46	55	69	89	100					VPWCM
		6:03	3	16,300	5,610	30	38	50	65	87	100					VPWCM
		6:20	5	3,240	2,080	66	75		84	94	100					VPWCM
			3	913	1,450	84			95		100					SPWCM
		1:20	5	380	1,810	50			74			97	100			VPWM
		4:00	5	906	2,520	58	60		70		93	96	98	100		VPWCM
		9:10	11	1,490	3,830	78	81		91		100					VPWCM
		9:20	12	1,110	3,130	70	74	110	84		99	100				VPWCM
		9:25	13	1,180	4,190	69	73		85		99	100				VPWCM
1956	July 31	10:00	5	320	1,660	57			83		97	99	100			VPWM
			5	733	1,510	62	66	74	80	95	99	100				SPWCM
		7:10	5	210							100					S
		8:15	5	210												
1956	Aug. 18	2:45	5	5,360	5,300	54	64	73	85	97	100					SPWCM
		2:45	5	5,360	5,130	27	45	64	81	96	100					SPN
		3:15	5	5,180	5,830	52	64	73	85	97	100					SPWCM
		3:15	5	5,180	5,750	25	46	64	81	94	100					SPN

## BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA C43

1967

June 14	6:45	13	6,420	2,380	65	66	78	98	100	99	99	100	VPWCM
	7:00	13	4,830	1,390	59	59	72	97	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	7:10	13	4,060	980	66	66	74	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
July 1	10:30	13	4,830	3,660	48	55	70	96	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	10:45	13	2,860	1,850	63	63	76	96	98	100	100	100	VPWCM
	11:00	13	4,340	3,130	61	67	81	98	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	11:50	5	2,500	6,450	60	74	84	87	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	12:30	5	1,300	3,260	63	63	76	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	1:40	5	1,682	1,650	57	75	86	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
	3:30	5	243	972	90	90	94	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
Oct. 12	11:10	5	473	1,430	71	92	94	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	11:25	13	1,240	3,820	46	51	60	98	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	11:20	14	594	1,210	86	89	93	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
Oct. 22	9:55	5	954	1,780	95	97	96	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	10:00	11	1,740	2,680	91	97	100	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	10:03	12	987	1,860	95	95	99	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	10:07	13	1,550	3,220	68	70	77	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
1968													
Feb. 27	10:00	13	2,180	3,110	34	90	44	94	95	97	100	100	VPWCM
July 17	8:45	5	761	1,820	89	90	94	100	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
July 19	7:05	13	947	2,980	63	66	73	98	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
Aug. 5	8:20	13	5,130	4,210	54	58	78	99	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
	8:25	13	6,280	4,560	39	42	59	92	98	100	100	100	VPWCM
1969													
Mar. 26	9:20	13	5,330	6,950	48	52	72	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 2	9:30	13	20,500	8,070	35	39	56	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 3	9:45	13	15,700	4,370	39	42	59	97	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 4	10:15	13	3,200	3,300	66	71	85	99	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 18	1:10	13	1,970	2,130	63	68	78	97	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 26	2:30	13	12,300	3,080	43	44	60	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
May 30	5:15	13	15,700	4,320	42	45	62	97	99	100	100	100	VPWCM
June 18	1:35	13	2,340	2,400	66	70	79	100	94	100	100	100	VPWCM
June 23	1:00	13	4,560	3,690	43	46	55	86	96	99	100	100	VPWCM
June 32	7:30	13	6,170	7,060	37	41	55	89	96	99	100	100	VPWCM
Sept. 18	3:45	13	4,730	6,270	65	74	81	100	98	100	100	100	VPWCM
Sept. 19	10:15	13	1,950	2,560	76	83	89	98	100	100	100	100	VPWCM
Sept. 20		13	2,640	2,980	64	67	78	98	99	100	100	100	VPWCM

TABLE 9.—*Particle-size analyses of suspended sediment, outflow from reservoir 1A*

[Methods of analysis: P, pipet; S, sieve; N, in native water; W, in distilled water; C, chemically dispersed; M, mechanically dispersed; V, visual accumulation tube. Sampling location 2 is shown in fig. 1]

Date	Time		Discharge (cfs)	Suspended sediment							Methods of analysis	
				Concen- tration (ppm)	Concen- tration of suspension analyzed (ppm)	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters						
	a.m.	p.m.				0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031		0.062
1955 June 24	5:50		73	8,730	7,240	36	49	62	79	97	100	SPWCM
	5:50		73	8,730	7,310	12	25	38	58	90	100	SPN
	6:56		37	5,260	5,860	45	58	72	85	96	100	SPWCM
	6:56		37	5,260	6,240	20	37	58	79	98	100	SPN
	9:18		2.4	1,590	1,310	78	87	89				100
June 28	9:18		2.4	1,590	1,060	28	50	79				100
		12:15	10	1,640	2,180	84	90	95	100			PWCM
		7:06	34	2,320	2,090	75	85	88	100			PWCM
		7:06	34	2,320	1,650	28	49	79	99	100		P.N.
		7:51	13	2,190	2,460	71	86	93	93		95	100
1956 July 3	9:35		2.7	1,100	3,280	68	70		73		100	SPWCM
		7:05	10	1,380	1,520	72	75	86	93	97	100	SPWCM
		7:05	10	1,380	1,400	35	61	87	97	98	100	SPN
		8:10	1.6	658	884	84	86	94	96	99	100	SPWCM
		10:05	.17	719	1,240	84	87	89	91	93	100	SPWCM
Aug. 18	3:00		47	4,840	6,000	58	67	80	92	99	100	SPWCM
	3:00		47	4,840	6,190	23	42	65	86	97	100	SPN
	4:00		12	1,540	1,760	86	93			97	100	SPWCM
	6:45		.36	1,420	1,640	84		97		97	100	SPWCM
1957 June 17	8:15		14.4	1,210	1,930	73	86		97		100	SPWCM
	8:45		11.8	1,040	1,780	77	85		94		100	SPWCM
	9:20		5.7	917	1,200	87	94		100		100	PWCM
		1:35	1.0	713	1,220	93			99		100	SPWCM
		3:10	.17	1,090	1,690	81	87		94		100	SPWCM

## BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA C45

July 1	1.00	2.7	1,480	2,500	80	85	93	100	SPWCM
	1.30	2.2	1,450	1,790	87	92	98	100	SPWCM
1953									
July 17	9.40	4.0	181	1,080	98			100	SPWCM
	11.25	.7	148	698				100	SPWCM
July 19	7.15	2.7	845	2,380	87	92	97	100	SPWCM
Sept. 4	12.40	2.9	1,150	4,860	79	86	96	100	SPWCM
	2.10	.7	748	1,530		87	96	100	SPWCM
1959									
Mar. 26	9.55	5.0	670	1,950	87	93	98	100	SPWCM
May 4		3.1	1,300	1,320	95		96	100	SPWCM
May 6	12.30	.36	1,000	1,290	96	98	98	100	SPWCM
May 18		2.4	1,520	4,080	70	78	90	100	SPWCM
		.36	1,220	3,300	99	94	99	100	SPWCM
		4.20	1,100	1,560	88	95	100	100	PWCM
		5.15	765	1,060	94	96	97	100	PWCM
May 21	10.55	.05	659	1,390	96	100			PWCM
May 31	12.20	.03	982	2,630	80	85	97	100	PWCM
June 30	1.45	4.8							SPWCM



# BROWNELL CREEK SUBWATERSHED NO. 1, NEBRASKA C47

1958

July 10.	9:30	15.7	338	1,880	92	98	100	SPWCM
July 11.	10:10	1.6	286	992	90	92	100	SPWCM
July 17.	10:15	5.6	109	1,230	98	99	100	SPWCM
July 19.	11:15	5.8	113	658	95	100	100	SPWCM
Aug. 6.	9:30	5.3	540	2,610	92	95	100	SPWCM
		31.0	401	1,860	98	96	100	SPWCM
		31.1	412	2,610	86	93	100	SPWCM
		31.1	365	338	93	98	100	SPWCM
Sept. 4.	12:00	30.1	498	2,360	73	75	100	SPWCM
	12:20	30.9	649	1,590	76	82	100	SPWCM
	1:55	30.8						
1959								
Mar. 26.	9:45	6.1	91	603		97	100	SPWCM
May 2.		30.9	1,220	1,710	77	83	100	SPWCM
May 3.	1:00	30.9	1,070	1,700	82	93	100	SPWCM
	10:30	4.1	798	1,170	92	97	100	SPWCM
	11:30	4.6	684	2,570	90	98	100	SPWCM
		4.0	612	1,250	98	98	100	SPWCM
May 9.		4.0	311	1,270	100		100	SPWCM
May 18.		1.8	311	3,220	81	91	100	SPWCM
May 19.		30.8	776	3,110	64	78	100	VPWCM
		1.7	752					

<sup>1</sup> Daily mean.

TABLE 11.—*Bulk density and particle-size distribution of samples of deposited sediment in reservoirs 1 and 1A, 1958*

[Data from Agr. Research Service, Lincoln, Nebr.]

Sampling location	Depth of sample below surface of deposit (inches)	Bulk density (g per cc)	Percentage finer than indicated size, in millimeters				
			0.002	0.005	0.020	0.050	2.000
A-1-----	2-5	1.15					
	5-9	1.19	31	31	54	79	100
	9-13	1.30					
	13-17	1.11	35	37	56	81	100
	17-21	1.30					
A-2-----	2-6	.89	33	34	57	87	100
	6-10	1.01					
	10-14	1.25	29	30	51	70	100
	14-18	1.32					
A-3-----	1-4	1.23	33	38	59	80	100
	4-8	1.36					
A-4-----	1-4	1.42	23	24	41	57	100
	4-8	1.51					
A-5-----	1-4	.88					
	4-8	.97	40	43	70	89	100
A-6-----	1-5	.80					
	5-9	1.05	34	35	58	79	100
	9-13	1.14					
A-7-----	1-3	1.03	38	43	70	91	100
A-8-----	2-5	1.14	33	34	59	80	100
	5-8	1.21					
	8-12	1.32	33	34	57	78	100
A-9-----	2-7	.87					
	8-12	.96	31	31	57	86	100
	12-16	.86					
	19-23	1.04	27	29	54	85	100
	25-29	.85					
A-10-----	3-7	.80	46	50	75	92	100
	12-16	.89					
	16-20	.83	38	39	64	85	100
	20-24	.70					
A-11-----	2-6	.76	29	33	54	85	100
	7-11	.98					
	11-15	.91	40	40	66	89	100
	15-19	1.02					
	19-23	.99	33	35	57	80	100

TABLE 12.—*Particle-size distribution of deposited-sediment samples in channel and in reservoir 1, Feb. 19, 1957*

[Sampling locations shown in fig. 23]

Sampling location	Percent finer than indicated size, in millimeters													
	0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.031	0.062	0.125	0.250	0.500	1.000	2.000	4.000	8.000	16.000
A						78	80	87	95	99	99	99	100	
B						49	51	59	81	91	94	95	96	100
C						36	37	47	85	99	100			
D						38	39	45	67	81	89	95	98	100
E	24	27	31	42	67	89	94	99	100					
F	24	28	33	42	67	90	96	100						
G	17	21	26	39	75	94	96	98	99	100				
H	18	22	26	35	67	91	95	99	100					



TABLE 13.—*Chemical analyses, Brownell Creek subwatershed near Syracuse*  
[Sampling locations shown in fig. 1]

Date	Sampling location	Calcium (Ca)	Magnesium (Mg)	Sodium (Na)	Potassium (K)	Bicarbonate (HCO <sub>3</sub> )	Dissolved solids		Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Non-carbonate hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Percent sodium	Sodium-adsorption-ratio	Specific conductance (micro-mhos per cm at 25°C)	pH
							Residue on evaporation at 180°C	Tons per acre-foot						
1955	1-U June 16 June 24	27	6.9	8.8	6.9	114	54	0.07	96	3	15	0.4	254	7.8
		8.0	2.2	1.4	3.3	---	60	.08	29	---	8	.1	72.8	6.7
		9.0	3.8	1.4	3.5	---	81	.11	34	---	12	.1	78.7	6.6
		13	3.0	3.0	3.2	---	53	.07	45	---	8	.2	117	6.6
		8.0	2.2	1.3	2.6	---	63	.08	29	---	12	.1	89.9	6.8
		12	2.4	2.7	3.1	---	129	.18	40	---	12	.2	101	6.7
1956	1-D 23	23	5.2	6.4	6.1	---	---	---	79	---	14	.3	200	7.0
	July 2 July 3	8.0	2.9	3.7	9.8	---	123	.17	32	---	15	.3	108	7.8
		9.5	2.5	4.1	11	---	135	.18	34	---	16	.3	112	7.8
		7.5	2.3	3.0	4.7	---	79	.11	28	---	13	.2	84.2	7.8
		8.5	2.1	2.5	4.4	---	66	.09	30	---	16	.2	93.9	7.6
		21	5.3	4.6	4.7	---	103	.14	74	---	11	.2	177	8.3
1957	1-D July 31	12	2.0	4.4	9.1	---	106	.14	38	---	16	.3	127	7.4
		9	2.3	4.1	8.5	---	88	.12	37	---	16	.3	113	7.5
		11	2.3	4.1	6.1	---	114	.16	24	---	21	.3	87.5	7.3
		6.5	1.9	3.9	5.8	---	---	---	18	---	21	.3	57.0	7.0
		5.0	1.3	3.0	5.8	---	---	---	25	---	19	.3	71.0	7.2
		6.5	2.1	3.4	2.9	---	124	.17	61	---	12	.2	154	6.0
1957	1-U Feb. 19 Apr. 5 Oct. 1	27	5.5	5.0	5.7	112	119	.16	90	0	10	.2	210	8.0
		20	4.9	4.1	5.2	86	107	.15	70	0	10	.2	169	7.3
		33	7.4	6.1	6.7	148	148	.20	113	0	10	.3	258	7.7
		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1958	1-U June 19	45	13	19	7.5	---	242	.33	166	---	19	.6	400	7.7
		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1959	1-U Feb. 25	24	6.1	6.8	12	112	159	.22	85	0	13	.3	233	6.7
		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---