Water-Data Report 2012

12371550 FLATHEAD LAKE AT POLSON, MT

Pend Oreille Basin
Flathead Lake Subbasin

LOCATION.--Lat 47°41'49", long 114°09'41" referenced to North American Datum of 1983, in SW ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼ sec.4, T.22 N., R.20 W., Lake County, MT, Hydrologic Unit 17010208, at Polson.

DRAINAGE AREA.--7,086 mi^2.

SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

PERIOD OF RECORD.--October 1, 1998 to current year. April to August 1900, daily lake elevations only, at site near Holt, 6 mi east of Somers (elevation unknown). August 1908 to November 1909 (fragmentary), January 1910 to Sept.30, 1998 published as "at Somers". Monthend contents only for some periods, published in Water Supply Paper 1316. Prior to April 1923, published as "at Polson." Oct. 1, 1941 to Sept. 30, 1998, unpublished daily lake elevations at Polson are available in files at the USGS Water Science Center located in Helena, Montana.

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder. Elevation of the gage is 2,880 ft., Somers Datum (2,799 ft), referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. Subtract 1 foot to convert Somers datum to sea level. July 1 to Dec. 12, 1923, nonrecording gage at Somers site.

REMARKS.--Natural storage in Flathead Lake increased by construction of Kerr Dam 4 mi downstream from natural lake outlet; storage began Apr. 11, 1938. Usable capacity, 1,791,000 acre-ft at controlled spillway elevation 2,893.00 ft. Dead storage unknown below 2,878 ft, elevation of natural outlet. Minimum operating level, 572,300 acre-ft, elevation 2,883.00 ft for on-site power generation. Water is used for power production, flood control, recreation, and irrigation. Figures given herein represent usable contents. U.S. Geological Survey satellite telemeter is located at the station.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum contents, 2,208,000 acre-ft, June 19, 1933, elevation, 2,896.26 ft; minimum, 347,000 acre-ft, Dec. 5, 1936, elevation, 2,881.07 ft.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum daily contents, 1,791,000 acre-ft, June 28, elevation, 2,893.00 ft; minimum, 680,000 acre-ft, Mar. 26, elevation, 2,883.91 ft.

CAPACITY TABLE

Elevation, in feet	Contents, in acre-ft
2,883	572,300
2,886	930,300
2,888	1,172,000
2,890	1,417,000
2,892	1,665,000
2,894	1,917,000

12371550 FLATHEAD LAKE AT POLSON, MT—Continued

ELEVATION OF RESERVOIR WATER SURFACE ABOVE DATUM, FEET
WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2011 TO SEPTEMBER 2012
DAILY MEAN VALUES
[e, estimated]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	2,892.76	2,890.98	2,889.88	2,888.11	2,885.99	2,885.23	2,884.14	2,889.16	2,889.84	2,892.74	2,892.81	2,892.58
2	2,892.76	2,890.87	2,889.86	2,888.03	2,885.93	2,885.18	2,884.31	2,889.30	2,889.89	2,892.72	2,892.77	2,892.56
3	2,892.77	2,890.80	2,889.83	2,887.93	2,885.86	2,885.08	2,884.43	2,889.38	2,890.07	2,892.72	2,892.82	2,892.58
4	2,892.76	2,890.69	2,889.86	2,887.89	2,885.79	2,885.05	2,884.47	2,889.36	2,890.34	2,892.78	2,892.80	2,892.59
5	2,892.78	2,890.61	2,889.80	2,887.76	2,885.72	2,884.98	2,884.59	2,889.31	2,890.61	2,892.79	2,892.79	2,892.61
6	2,892.82	2,890.57	2,889.78	2,887.75	2,885.65	2,884.94	2,884.65	2,889.31	2,890.96	2,892.80	2,892.77	2,892.70
7	2,892.78	2,890.48	2,889.74	2,887.67	2,885.56	2,884.88	2,884.70	2,889.25	2,891.36	2,892.81	2,892.78	2,892.66
8	2,892.81	2,890.42	2,889.70	2,887.61	2,885.50	2,884.84	2,884.78	2,889.17	2,891.63	2,892.82	2,892.80	2,892.66
9	2,892.84	2,890.41	2,889.63	2,887.55	2,885.45	2,884.75	2,884.81	2,889.05	2,891.79	2,892.83	2,892.79	2,892.66
10	2,892.82	2,890.36	2,889.56	2,887.49	2,885.41	2,884.68	e2,884.83	2,889.00	2,891.98	2,892.85	2,892.78	2,892.60
11	2,892.74	2,890.30	2,889.51	2,887.44	2,885.41	2,884.59	e2,884.93	2,889.05	2,892.18	2,892.86	2,892.78	2,892.62
12	2,892.72	2,890.21	2,889.45	2,887.35	2,885.36	2,884.51	2,885.03	2,889.07	2,892.29	2,892.86	2,892.78	2,892.66
13	2,892.74	2,890.19	2,889.40	2,887.28	2,885.34	2,884.38	2,885.16	2,889.05	2,892.34	2,892.88	2,892.77	2,892.67
14	2,892.72	2,890.19	2,889.32	2,887.16	2,885.34	2,884.40	2,885.30	2,889.03	2,892.45	2,892.85	2,892.72	2,892.67
15	2,892.67	2,890.18	2,889.25	2,887.10	2,885.34	2,884.34	2,885.47	2,889.04	2,892.54	2,892.87	2,892.81	2,892.68
16	2,892.59	2,890.16	2,889.18	2,887.02	2,885.31	2,884.29	2,885.56	2,889.09	2,892.66	2,892.93	2,892.74	2,892.70
17	2,892.49	2,890.10	2,889.11	2,886.83	2,885.32	2,884.29	2,885.69	2,889.19	2,892.68	e2,892.91	2,892.72	2,892.70
18	2,892.41	2,890.21	2,889.05	2,886.92	2,885.28	2,884.27	2,885.84	2,889.35	2,892.77	e2,892.84	2,892.70	2,892.70
19	2,892.31	2,890.10	2,888.97	2,886.92	2,885.26	2,884.19	2,885.97	2,889.50	2,892.83	2,892.83	2,892.70	2,892.70
20	2,892.21	2,890.05	2,888.88	2,886.83	2,885.27	2,884.03	2,886.04	2,889.57	2,892.93	2,892.86	2,892.69	2,892.70
21	2,892.11	2,890.02	2,888.84	2,886.72	2,885.27	2,884.12	2,886.24	2,889.61	2,892.97	2,892.85	2,892.69	2,892.71
22	2,891.99	2,889.94	2,888.76	2,886.65	2,885.25	2,884.10	2,886.39	2,889.58	2,892.95	2,892.87	2,892.66	2,892.71
23	2,891.91	2,889.95	2,888.69	2,886.59	2,885.29	2,884.08	2,886.57	2,889.70	2,892.89	2,892.85	2,892.64	2,892.72
24	2,891.84	2,889.98	2,888.61	2,886.53	2,885.30	2,884.03	2,886.79	2,889.91	2,892.84	2,892.83	2,892.58	2,892.73
25	2,891.74	2,889.91	2,888.53	2,886.37	2,885.27	2,883.98	2,887.15	2,890.05	2,892.83	2,892.84	2,892.62	2,892.75
26	2,891.62	2,889.95	2,888.45	2,886.34	2,885.29	2,883.91	2,887.58	2,890.07	2,892.82	2,892.86	2,892.63	2,892.77
27	2,891.51	2,889.91	2,888.37	2,886.29	2,885.35	2,883.92	2,888.02	2,889.99	2,892.91	2,892.86	2,892.61	2,892.78
28	2,891.41	2,889.91	2,888.30	2,886.21	2,885.34	2,883.93	2,888.51	2,889.96	2,893.00	2,892.86	2,892.61	2,892.78
29	2,891.28	2,889.92	2,888.24	2,886.13	2,885.29	2,883.94	2,888.86	2,889.89	2,892.95	2,892.86	2,892.57	2,892.76
30	2,891.19	2,889.92	2,888.21	2,886.07	---	2,883.98	2,889.07	2,889.81	2,892.83	2,892.84	2,892.59	2,892.76
31	2,891.05	---	2,888.12	2,886.03	---	2,884.12	---	2,889.79	---	2,892.81	2,892.62	---
Max	2,892.84	2,890.98	2,889.88	2,888.11	2,885.99	2,885.23	2,889.07	2,890.07	2,893.00	2,892.93	2,892.82	2,892.78
Min	2,891.05	2,889.91	2,888.12	2,886.03	2,885.25	2,883.91	2,884.14	2,889.00	2,889.84	2,892.72	2,892.57	2,892.56

USEABLE CONTENTS IN THOUSANDS OF ACRE-FEET, AT END OF MONTH

Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1,547	1,407	1,187	934	845	705	1,303	1,391	1,770	1,767	1,743	1,761

CHANGE IN CONTENTS, IN ACRE-FEET

Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
-214,000	-140,000	-220,000	-253,000	-89,000	-140,000	598,000	88,000	379,000	-3,000	-24,000	18,000

Calendar Year 2011……...0
Water Year 2012……..….0