# 11123000 Santa Ynez River below Gibraltar Dam, near Santa Barbara, CA

Santa Ynez River Basin

LOCATION.--Lat 34°31′28″, long 119°41′11″ referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in SW ¼ SW ¼ sec.11, T.5 N., R.27 W., Santa Barbara County, CA, Hydrologic Unit 18060010, in Los Padres National Forest, on left bank, 700 ft downstream from Gibraltar Dam, and 7 mi north of Santa Barbara.

DRAINAGE AREA.--216 $mi^2$.

## SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

PERIOD OF RECORD.--April 1920 to current year. Monthly discharge only prior to October 1933. Daily records for water years 1934-43 in files of U.S. Geological Survey.

REVISED RECORDS.--WDR CA-86-1: 1934-43.

GAGE.--Two water-stage recorders. Elevation of gage on main channel is 1,227 ft above NGVD of 1929. Supplementary gage and sharp-crested weir on release channel from Gibraltar Dam to river at different datum (station 11122010). See WSP 1735 for history of changes on both gages prior to May 20, 1958.

REMARKS.--Records rated good except for Jan. 4 to Feb. 25, which are poor. Estimated record based on hydrographic comparison with Santa Ynez River below Los Laureles Canyon near Santa Ynez (station 11123500) which tends to be excellent at high flow. Peak discharge estimated. The reservoir water surface was entirely blanketed by a very thick coating of granulated wood from Zaca Fire cinders, as well as vast quantities of flood wood. The damtender allowed several large releases to clear debris from the lake. This debris washed down into the channel and gage pool, and left massive accumulations of driftwood in the channel and control. Flow regulated by Jameson Lake (station 11121000) and Gibraltar Reservoir (station 11122000). City of Santa Barbara diverted 1,621 acre-ft during current year from Gibraltar Reservoir; Montecito Water District diverted 1,262 acre-ft during current year from Jameson Lake. See schematic diagram of Santa Ynez River Basin available from the California Water Science Center.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum discharge, 54,200 $ft^3/s$, Jan. 25, 1969, gage height, 25.8 ft, from rating curve extended above 2,100 $ft^3/s$, on basis of computations of flow from gate openings and flow over dam at gage heights 17.5 and 25.8 ft; no flow at times in most years.

**11123000 Santa Ynez River below Gibraltar Dam, near Santa Barbara, CA—Continued**

**DISCHARGE, CUBIC FEET PER SECOND**
**WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 2008**
**DAILY MEAN VALUES**
[e, estimated]

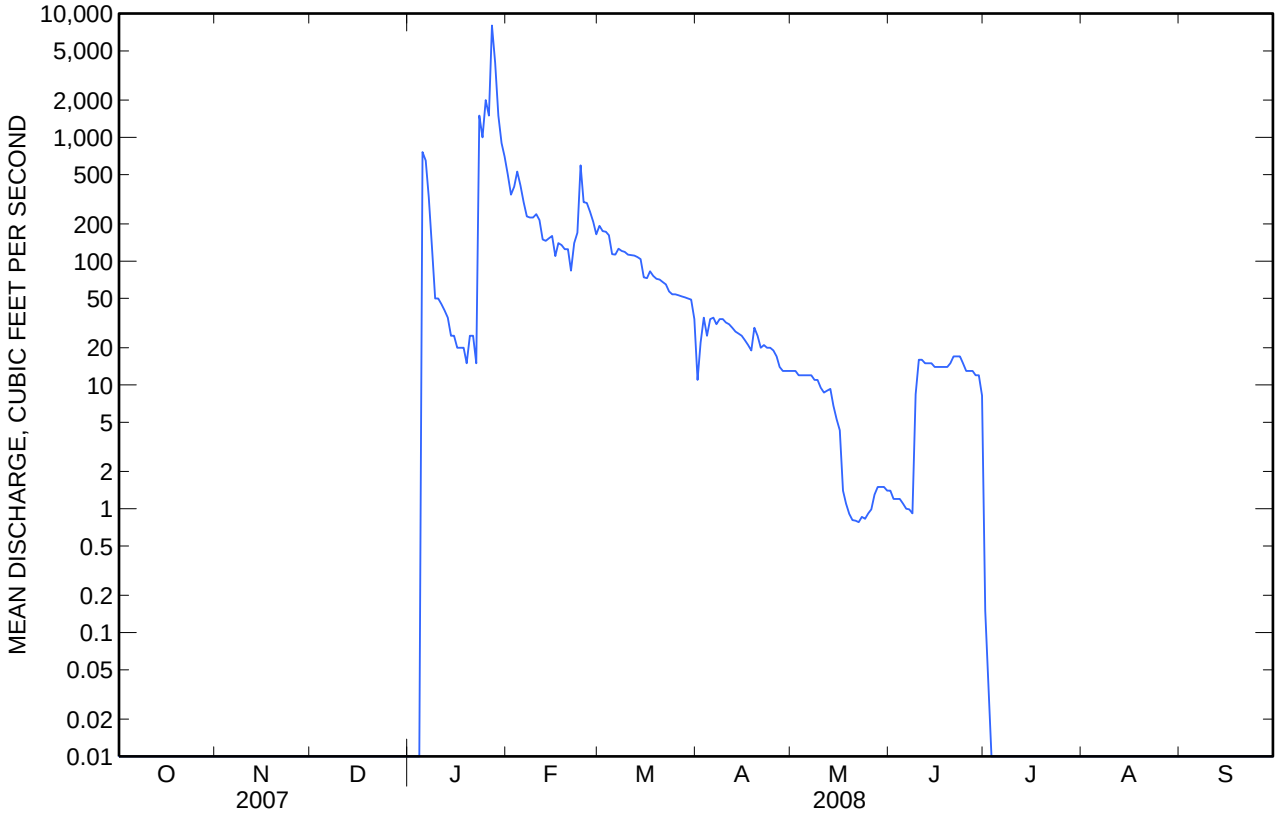
| Day | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e500 | 193 | 11 | 13 | 1.4 | 0.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e345 | 175 | 22 | 13 | 1.2 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e400 | 173 | 35 | 12 | 1.2 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e0.00 | e530 | 162 | 25 | 12 | 1.2 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e760 | e410 | 114 | 34 | 12 | 1.1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e650 | e300 | 113 | 35 | 12 | 1.0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e330 | e230 | 126 | 31 | 12 | 0.99 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e130 | e225 | 121 | 34 | 11 | 0.92 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e50 | e225 | 119 | 34 | 11 | 8.4 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e50 | e240 | 113 | 32 | 9.5 | 16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e45 | e215 | 112 | 31 | 8.7 | 16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e40 | e150 | 111 | 29 | 9.0 | 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e35 | e146 | 108 | 27 | 9.3 | 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e25 | e153 | 104 | 26 | 6.8 | 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e25 | e160 | 74 | 25 | 5.3 | 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e20 | e110 | 73 | e23 | 4.3 | 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e20 | e140 | 83 | e21 | 1.4 | 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e20 | e135 | 76 | 19 | 1.1 | 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e15 | e125 | 72 | 29 | 0.91 | 14 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e25 | e125 | 71 | 25 | 0.81 | 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e25 | e84 | 68 | 20 | 0.80 | 17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e15 | e140 | 65 | 21 | 0.78 | 17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e1,500 | e170 | 57 | 20 | 0.86 | 17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e1,000 | e595 | 54 | 20 | 0.83 | 15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e2,000 | e300 | 54 | 19 | 0.92 | 13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e1,500 | 295 | 53 | 17 | 0.99 | 13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e8,000 | 251 | 52 | 14 | 1.3 | 13 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 28 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e4,000 | 208 | 51 | 13 | 1.5 | 12 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e1,500 | 165 | 50 | 13 | 1.5 | 12 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | e900 | --- | 49 | 13 | 1.5 | 8.2 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | 0.00 | --- | 0.00 | e700 | --- | 34 | --- | 1.4 | --- | 0.00 | 0.00 | --- |
| Total | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 23,380.00 | 7,072 | 2,880 | 718 | 177.50 | 316.61 | 0.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Mean | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 754 | 244 | 92.9 | 23.9 | 5.73 | 10.6 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Max | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8,000 | 595 | 193 | 35 | 13 | 17 | 0.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Min | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 84 | 34 | 11 | 0.78 | 0.92 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Ac-ft | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 46,370 | 14,030 | 5,710 | 1,420 | 352 | 628 | 0.4 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

**STATISTICS OF MONTHLY MEAN DATA FOR WATER YEARS 1934 - 2008, BY WATER YEAR (WY)**

| | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mean | 0.76 | 5.54 | 26.1 | 145 | 251 | 236 | 105 | 30.3 | 8.03 | 3.39 | 1.90 | 0.63 |
| Max | 32.6 | 336 | 607 | 2,077 | 3,090 | 1,712 | 1,168 | 441 | 126 | 43.6 | 24.1 | 13.5 |
| (WY) | (1984) | (1966) | (1967) | (1969) | (1998) | (1983) | (1958) | (1998) | (1998) | (1983) | (1995) | (1998) |
| Min | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (WY) | (1960) | (1959) | (1944) | (1938) | (1949) | (1948) | (1948) | (1940) | (1960) | (1960) | (1960) | (1960) |

**11123000 Santa Ynez River below Gibraltar Dam, near Santa Barbara, CA—Continued**

**SUMMARY STATISTICS**

[e, estimated]

| | Calendar Year 2007 | | Water Year 2008 | | Water Years 1934 - 2008 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual total** | 0.00 | | 34,544.30 | | | |
| **Annual mean** | 0.00 | | 94.4 | | 66.9 | |
| **Highest annual mean** | | | | | 437 | 1969 |
| **Lowest annual mean** | | | | | 0.00 | 1961 |
| **Highest daily mean** | 0.00 | Jan 1 | e8,000 | Jan 27 | 26,600 | Jan 25, 1969 |
| **Lowest daily mean** | 0.00 | Jan 1 | 0.00 | Oct 1 | 0.00 | Dec 16, 1933 |
| **Annual seven-day minimum** | 0.00 | Jan 1 | 0.00 | Oct 1 | 0.00 | Dec 16, 1933 |
| **Maximum peak flow** | | | | | 54,200 | Jan 25, 1969 |
| **Maximum peak stage** | | | | | 25.80 | Jan 25, 1969 |
| **Instantaneous low flow** | | | | | 0.00 | Dec 16, 1933 |
| **Annual runoff (ac-ft )** | 0.00 | | 68,520 | | 48,490 | |
| **10 percent exceeds** | 0.00 | | 151 | | 81 | |
| **50 percent exceeds** | 0.00 | | 0.00 | | 0.08 | |
| **90 percent exceeds** | 0.00 | | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |