

## 11436950 Caples Lake near Kirkwood, CA

Sacramento River Basin

LOCATION.--Lat 38°42'27", long 120°02'55" referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in SW ¼ SW ¼ sec.18, T.10 N., R.18 E., Alpine County, CA, Hydrologic Unit 18020129, Eldorado National Forest, on Caples Lake Dam near the center of the earthfill portion, and 1.3 mi east of Kirkwood.

DRAINAGE AREA.--13.5 mi<sup>2</sup>.

### SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

PERIOD OF RECORD.--October 1985 to current year. Unpublished records for water years 1981-85 available in files of the U.S. Geological Survey.

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder since Oct. 1, 1991. Datum of gage is 7,894.0 ft above NGVD of 1929 (levels by Pacific Gas and Electric Company). Prior to Oct. 1, 1991, nonrecording gage read periodically except for Oct. 16, 1986, to Sept. 30, 1987; Dec. 18, 1990, to May 26, 1991; and July 30 to Sept. 16, 1991, when there was a water-stage recorder at same site and datum.

COOPERATION.--Records were collected by El Dorado Irrigation District, under general supervision of the U.S. Geological Survey, in connection with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project no. 184.

REMARKS.--Lake is formed by one earthfill and one concrete dam at spillway; dam was completed and storage began in 1924. Capacity, 21,580 acre-ft, between gage heights 6.0 and 62.0 ft, top of 3 ft of flashboards; capacity, 19,751 acre-ft, at spillway level. Released water is measured at Caples Creek Release (station 11436999). When gage height is above spillway crest of 59.0 ft, there is leakage or spill which is not measured. Released water is used for power development on South Fork American River. See schematic diagram of South Fork American River Basin available from the California Water Science Center.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum contents, 22,505 acre-ft, June 28, 29, 2003, gage height, 62.27 ft; minimum, 758 acre-ft, Oct. 29, 2008, gage height, 12.17 ft.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum contents, 22,200 acre-ft, July 11-19, maximum gage height, 61.78 ft, July 17; minimum, 758 acre-ft, Oct. 29, gage height, 12.17 ft.

**Capacity table (gage height, in feet, and contents, in acre-feet)  
(Based on survey by El Dorado Irrigation District, dated Sept. 30, 1999)  
(CORRECTED)**

Gage Height	Contents						
15.0	1,347	30.0	6,086	45.0	12,743	60.0	21,103
20.0	2,665	35.0	8,129	50.0	15,331	62.0	22,338
25.0	4,254	40.0	10,349	55.0	18,122		

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**RESERVOIR STORAGE, ACRE FEET**  
**WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2008 TO SEPTEMBER 2009**  
**DAILY OBSERVATION AT 2400 HOURS**

[e, estimated]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	e938	900	1,290	1,440	1,760	2,250	3,010	6,370	17,600	21,800	20,600	17,400
2	e936	987	1,290	1,460	1,770	2,310	3,070	6,710	17,900	21,900	20,500	17,300
3	e934	1,010	1,290	1,470	1,780	2,380	3,120	7,090	18,100	21,900	20,400	17,200
4	e932	1,030	1,290	1,470	1,800	2,420	3,150	7,350	18,400	22,000	20,300	17,100
5	e932	1,040	1,280	1,480	1,810	2,440	3,190	7,720	18,500	22,100	20,200	16,900
6	e930	1,050	1,280	1,480	1,830	2,460	3,240	8,090	18,700	22,100	20,000	16,800
7	e928	1,070	1,280	1,480	1,840	2,480	3,310	8,430	18,800	22,100	20,000	16,700
8	e926	1,090	1,270	1,480	1,870	2,490	3,380	8,750	18,900	22,100	19,900	16,500
9	e926	1,110	1,270	1,490	1,880	2,500	3,420	9,080	19,100	22,100	19,700	16,400
10	e924	1,120	1,270	1,490	1,890	2,510	3,460	9,420	19,200	22,100	19,600	16,300
11	e916	1,120	1,270	1,490	1,910	2,520	3,480	9,850	19,300	22,200	19,600	16,200
12	e908	1,140	1,270	1,490	1,930	2,530	3,510	10,300	19,400	22,200	19,400	16,100
13	e900	1,160	1,270	1,490	1,950	2,530	3,570	10,700	19,600	22,200	19,300	16,000
14	e893	1,190	1,280	1,490	1,970	2,530	3,630	11,200	19,700	22,200	19,200	15,800
15	e889	1,200	1,300	1,490	1,990	2,530	3,670	11,700	19,800	22,200	19,100	15,700
16	e885	1,210	1,300	1,490	2,020	2,540	3,700	12,100	20,000	22,200	19,000	15,600
17	e879	1,230	1,290	1,500	2,050	2,550	3,740	12,500	20,100	22,200	18,900	15,500
18	e873	1,240	1,290	1,500	2,060	2,570	3,830	12,700	20,300	22,200	18,800	15,400
19	e867	1,250	1,300	1,500	2,070	2,590	3,980	13,100	20,500	22,200	18,700	15,300
20	e862	1,250	1,300	1,500	2,080	2,620	4,190	13,600	20,600	22,100	18,600	15,200
21	e856	1,260	1,320	1,510	2,090	2,670	4,460	14,100	20,800	22,100	18,500	15,100
22	e850	1,260	1,340	1,540	2,120	2,720	4,760	14,400	20,900	21,900	18,400	14,900
23	e841	1,270	1,340	1,600	2,160	2,740	5,020	14,800	21,000	21,800	18,300	14,800
24	e827	1,270	1,360	1,640	2,170	2,750	5,230	15,200	21,100	21,600	18,200	14,700
25	e814	1,270	1,400	1,670	2,180	2,770	5,340	15,500	21,200	21,500	18,100	14,700
26	e801	1,280	1,410	1,690	2,190	2,790	5,440	15,800	21,300	21,400	18,000	14,600
27	e788	1,280	1,410	1,700	2,200	2,810	5,570	16,100	21,500	21,200	17,900	14,500
28	764	1,280	1,420	1,720	2,210	2,840	5,670	16,500	21,600	21,100	17,800	14,500
29	758	1,290	1,430	1,720	---	2,890	5,790	16,800	21,700	20,900	17,700	14,500
30	764	1,290	1,430	1,740	---	2,930	5,920	17,100	21,800	20,800	17,600	14,400
31	769	---	1,440	1,750	---	2,960	---	17,400	---	20,700	17,500	---
<b>Max</b>	938	1,290	1,440	1,750	2,210	2,960	5,920	17,400	21,800	22,200	20,600	17,400
<b>Min</b>	758	900	1,270	1,440	1,760	2,250	3,010	6,370	17,600	20,700	17,500	14,400
<b>Gage height, in feet, at end of month</b>	12.23	14.74	15.38	16.64	18.39	21.00	29.58	53.68	61.07	59.30	53.90	48.26
<b>Change in contents, in acre-feet</b>	-175	+521	+150	+310	+460	+750	+2,960	+11,480	+4,400	-1,100	-3,200	-3,100

	Calendar Year 2008	Water Year 2009
<b>Max</b>	19,300	22,200
<b>Min</b>	758	758
<b>Change in contents, in acre-feet</b>	-10,560	+13,456

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