

**15281000 KNIK RIVER NEAR PALMER, AK**

Knik Arm Basin  
Matanuska Subbasin

LOCATION.--Lat 61°30'18", long 149°01'50" referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in NE ¼ SE ¼ sec.2, T.16 N., R.2 E., Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK, Hydrologic Unit 19020402, (Anchorage C-6 quad), near the right bank on downstream side of bridge on Old Glenn Highway, 7 mi south of Palmer, 7 mi upstream from Alaska Railroad bridge, 9 mi downstream from Friday Creek, and about 17 mi downstream from Knik Glacier.

DRAINAGE AREA.--1,180 mi<sup>2</sup>, approximately.

**SURFACE-WATER RECORDS**

PERIOD OF RECORD.--October 1959 to January 1988, annual maximum, water year 1989, October 1991 to September 1992, April 2001 to current year (no winter record).

REVISED RECORDS.--WRD-AK-77-1: 1974-75 (Instantaneous maximum discharge).

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is 33.68 ft above North American Vertical Datum of 1988. Prior to June 27, 1960, nonrecording gage, and June 27, 1960 to April 25, 1974, water-stage recorder at old bridge 100 ft upstream at original 1929 datum. April 26, 1974 to April 18, 1976, recording gage at site 0.4 mi upstream at different datum.

REMARKS.--Records fair except for estimated daily discharges, which are poor. Flood peaks due to outbreak of glacier-dammed Lake George, 1948-62, 1964, 1965, published in WSP 1936. Streamflow augmented by glaciers, which cover 54 percent of the basin.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum discharge, 355,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, July 26, 1961, gage-height 24.30 ft., site then in use, caused by release of stored water (Lake George) behind Knik Glacier. Maximum gage-height, 24.35 ft., July 17, 1960, caused by release of stored water (Lake George) behind Knik Glacier; minimum daily, 260 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, March 1-31, 1962.

EXTREMES OUTSIDE PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum discharge since at least 1948, 359,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, July 18, 1958, gage height, 25.30 ft, at site in use beginning 1959, from outbreak of glacier-dammed Lake George.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum discharge, 54,900 ft<sup>3</sup>/s, August 1, 13.72 ft; minimum discharge not determined, occurs during winter.

## 15281000 KNIK RIVER NEAR PALMER, AK—Continued

**DISCHARGE, CUBIC FEET PER SECOND**  
**WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2008 TO SEPTEMBER 2009**  
**DAILY MEAN VALUES**

[e, estimated]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	4,010	---	---	---	---	---	e600	2,490	11,800	17,800	49,600	18,000
2	3,760	---	---	---	---	---	e600	2,910	11,700	19,100	40,600	17,100
3	3,550	---	---	---	---	---	e600	3,530	12,800	20,300	34,300	16,600
4	3,400	---	---	---	---	---	e600	4,840	14,300	21,500	32,700	14,800
5	3,290	---	---	---	---	---	e610	5,450	15,600	22,800	32,500	14,100
6	3,160	---	---	---	---	---	e610	5,340	15,800	25,200	32,800	14,200
7	3,040	---	---	---	---	---	e610	4,830	15,900	27,900	30,600	14,000
8	2,960	---	---	---	---	---	e610	4,560	18,200	31,100	28,500	14,000
9	e2,750	---	---	---	---	---	e610	4,890	20,500	33,600	26,600	12,800
10	e2,600	---	---	---	---	---	e610	5,220	21,000	33,600	23,300	12,800
11	e2,500	---	---	---	---	---	e630	5,330	23,000	33,300	22,400	14,300
12	e2,400	---	---	---	---	---	e670	5,460	23,600	33,100	20,200	15,400
13	e2,320	---	---	---	---	---	e700	6,010	21,200	33,000	20,400	14,900
14	e2,230	---	---	---	---	---	e730	6,490	19,700	32,100	20,600	13,400
15	e2,170	---	---	---	---	---	e760	6,770	17,900	30,500	22,100	11,700
16	e2,110	---	---	---	---	---	e790	6,640	19,100	30,100	25,100	10,900
17	e2,050	---	---	---	---	---	e840	6,530	19,700	29,800	24,600	12,500
18	e1,990	---	---	---	---	---	e910	6,760	18,900	29,900	22,800	13,400
19	e1,930	---	---	---	---	---	e980	7,230	18,200	29,700	21,100	12,900
20	e1,870	---	---	---	---	---	e1,050	7,700	17,400	29,600	19,200	11,800
21	e1,810	---	---	---	---	---	e1,100	8,040	17,700	31,600	17,500	11,300
22	e1,750	---	---	---	---	---	e1,150	8,430	17,000	35,000	16,500	11,000
23	e1,690	---	---	---	---	---	e1,180	8,650	17,100	34,800	16,500	9,280
24	e1,630	---	---	---	---	---	1,220	8,620	16,500	29,300	15,700	7,450
25	e1,570	---	---	---	---	---	1,200	9,140	16,400	25,900	14,100	6,420
26	e1,510	---	---	---	---	---	1,290	10,200	17,000	26,100	13,300	6,400
27	e1,450	---	---	---	---	---	1,640	12,200	17,400	29,800	13,500	6,110
28	e1,390	---	---	---	---	---	1,930	12,600	16,400	34,600	14,700	5,550
29	e1,330	---	---	---	---	---	2,050	11,800	16,300	40,100	17,300	5,030
30	e1,270	---	---	---	---	---	2,220	11,400	16,800	45,600	18,600	4,540
31	e1,210	---	---	---	---	---	---	11,700	---	51,100	18,000	---
<b>Total</b>	70,700	---	---	---	---	---	29,100	221,760	524,900	947,900	725,700	352,680
<b>Mean</b>	2,281	---	---	---	---	---	970	7,154	17,500	30,580	23,410	11,760
<b>Max</b>	4,010	---	---	---	---	---	2,220	12,600	23,600	51,100	49,600	18,000
<b>Min</b>	1,210	---	---	---	---	---	600	2,490	11,700	17,800	13,300	4,540
<b>Med</b>	2,110	---	---	---	---	---	775	6,640	17,300	30,100	21,100	12,800
<b>Ac-ft</b>	140,200	---	---	---	---	---	57,720	439,900	1,041,000	1,880,000	1,439,000	699,500
<b>Cfsm</b>	1.93	---	---	---	---	---	0.82	6.06	14.8	25.9	19.8	9.96
<b>In.</b>	2.23	---	---	---	---	---	0.92	6.99	16.55	29.88	22.88	11.12

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