11427400 French Meadows Reservoir near Foresthill, CA

Sacramento River Basin

LOCATION.--Lat 39°06′32″, long 120°25′49″ referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in SW ¼ NE ¼ sec.32, T.15 N., R.14 E., Placer County, CA, Hydrologic Unit 18020128, in Tahoe National Forest, on left bank, 2.2 mi upstream from French Meadows Dam on Middle Fork American River, 6.9 mi upstream from Chipmunk Creek, and 21 mi northeast of Foresthill.

DRAINAGE AREA.--47.0 mi^2.

SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

PERIOD OF RECORD.--December 1964 to current year.

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder. Datum of gage is NGVD of 1929 (levels by Placer County Water Agency).

COOPERATION.--Records provided by Placer County Water Agency, under general supervision of the U.S. Geological Survey, in connection with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project no. 2079.

REMARKS.--Reservoir is formed by rock-fill dam with earth core. Storage began Dec. 21, 1964. Usable capacity, 125,601 acre-ft, between elevations 5,125 ft, minimum operating level, and 5,263 ft, top of radial gates. Dead storage, 10,804 acre-ft. Reservoir is used to store water for hydroelectric power. Up to 400 ft^3/s diverted from Duncan Creek through a tunnel to reservoir. Water is released through a tunnel to French Meadows Powerplant (station 11427200) at Hell Hole Reservoir (station 11428700) on the Rubicon River; releases began Dec. 13, 1965. Records, excluding extremes, represent contents at 2400 hours. See schematic diagram of Middle Fork American and Rubicon River Basins available from the California Water Science Center.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Prior to Oct. 1, 2008, maximum contents at 2400 hours, 137,700 acre-ft, May 19, 1966, elevation, 5,263.9 ft. Since Oct. 1, 2008, maximum contents, 133,500 acre-ft, June 3, 4, 2009, elevation, 5,260.93 ft. Minimum since reservoir first filled, 28,500 acre-ft, Oct. 21-24, 1991, elevation, 5,157.6 ft.

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum contents, 82,800 acre-ft, May 17, 18, maximum elevation, 5,220.00 ft, May 18; minimum, 54,900 acre-ft, Feb. 14, 15, elevation, 5,191.80 ft, Feb. 15.

Capacity table (elevation, in feet, and contents, in acre-feet)
(Based on a survey by Placer County Water Agency in 1965)

Elevation	Contents	Elevation	Contents	Elevation	Contents
5,125	10,800	5,170	37,100	5,270	146,500
5,130	13,100	5,200	62,400		
5,150	23,700	5,230	94,100		

Suggested citation: U.S. Geological Survey, 2014, Water-resources data for the United States, Water Year 2013: U.S. Geological Survey Water-Data Report WDR-US-2013, site 11427400, accessed at http://wdr.water.usgs.gov/wy2013/pdfs/11427400.2013.pdf

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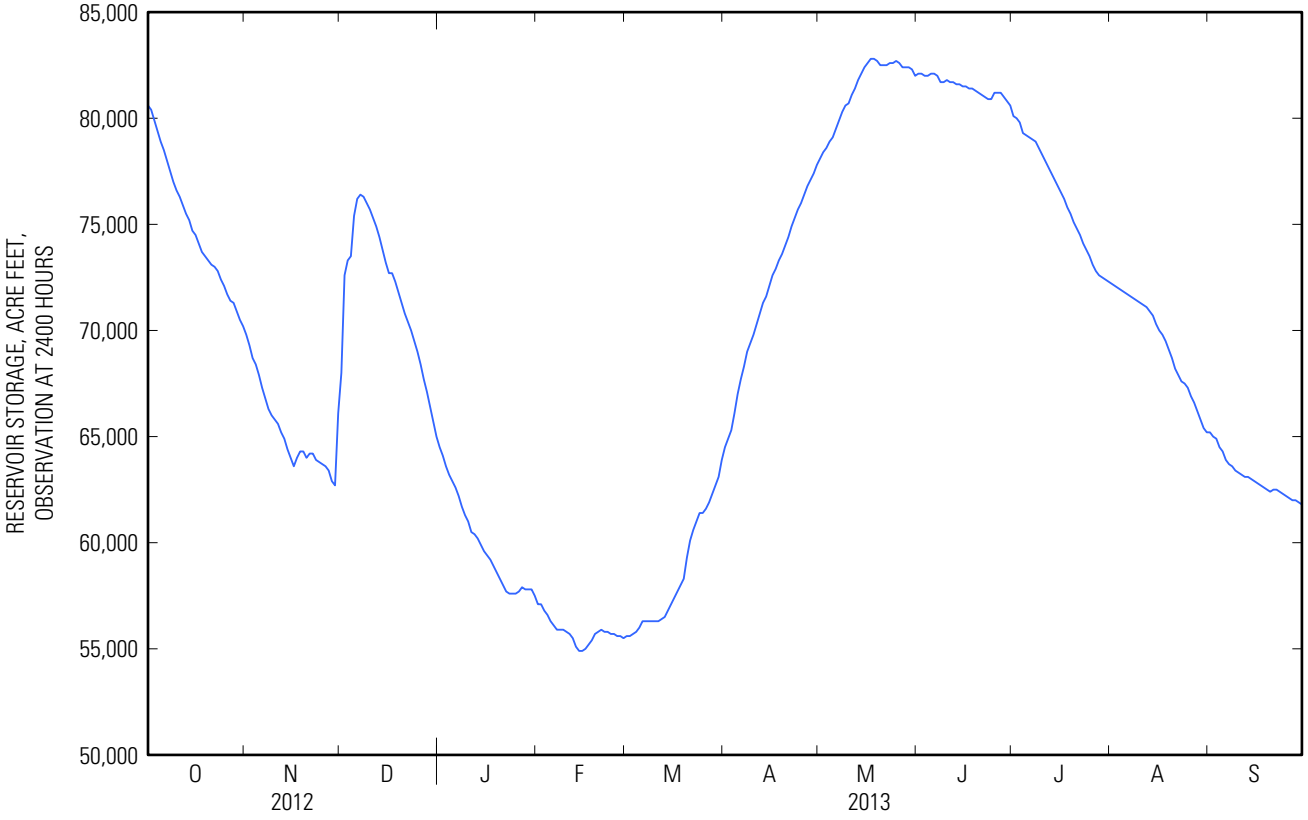
RESERVOIR STORAGE, ACRE FEET
WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 2013
DAILY OBSERVATION AT 2400 HOURS

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	80,600	69,800	68,000	64,500	57,100	55,600	64,500	78,100	82,100	80,100	72,200	65,200
2	80,400	69,300	72,600	64,100	57,100	55,600	64,900	78,400	82,100	80,000	72,100	65,000
3	79,900	68,700	73,300	63,600	56,800	55,700	65,300	78,600	82,000	79,800	72,000	64,900
4	79,400	68,400	73,500	63,200	56,600	55,800	66,100	78,900	82,000	79,300	71,900	64,500
5	78,900	67,900	75,400	62,900	56,300	56,000	67,000	79,100	82,100	79,200	71,800	64,300
6	78,500	67,300	76,200	62,600	56,100	56,300	67,700	79,500	82,100	79,100	71,700	63,900
7	78,000	66,800	76,400	62,200	55,900	56,300	68,300	79,900	82,000	79,000	71,600	63,700
8	77,500	66,300	76,300	61,700	55,900	56,300	69,000	80,300	81,700	78,900	71,500	63,600
9	77,000	66,000	76,000	61,300	55,900	56,300	69,400	80,600	81,700	78,600	71,400	63,400
10	76,600	65,800	75,700	61,000	55,800	56,300	69,800	80,700	81,800	78,300	71,300	63,300
11	76,300	65,600	75,300	60,500	55,700	56,300	70,300	81,100	81,700	78,000	71,200	63,200
12	75,900	65,200	74,900	60,400	55,500	56,400	70,800	81,400	81,700	77,700	71,100	63,100
13	75,500	64,900	74,400	60,200	55,100	56,500	71,300	81,800	81,600	77,400	70,900	63,100
14	75,200	64,400	73,800	59,900	54,900	56,800	71,600	82,100	81,600	77,100	70,700	63,000
15	74,700	64,000	73,200	59,600	54,900	57,100	72,100	82,400	81,500	76,800	70,300	62,900
16	74,500	63,600	72,700	59,400	55,000	57,400	72,600	82,600	81,500	76,500	70,000	62,800
17	74,100	64,000	72,700	59,200	55,200	57,700	72,900	82,800	81,400	76,200	69,800	62,700
18	73,700	64,300	72,300	58,900	55,400	58,000	73,300	82,800	81,400	75,800	69,500	62,600
19	73,500	64,300	71,800	58,600	55,700	58,300	73,600	82,700	81,300	75,500	69,100	62,500
20	73,300	64,000	71,300	58,300	55,800	59,300	74,000	82,500	81,200	75,100	68,700	62,400
21	73,100	64,200	70,800	58,000	55,900	60,100	74,400	82,500	81,100	74,800	68,200	62,500
22	73,000	64,200	70,400	57,700	55,800	60,600	74,900	82,500	81,000	74,500	67,900	62,500
23	72,800	63,900	70,000	57,600	55,800	61,000	75,300	82,600	80,900	74,100	67,600	62,400
24	72,400	63,800	69,500	57,600	55,700	61,400	75,700	82,600	80,900	73,800	67,500	62,300
25	72,100	63,700	69,000	57,600	55,700	61,400	76,000	82,700	81,200	73,500	67,300	62,200
26	71,700	63,600	68,400	57,700	55,600	61,600	76,400	82,600	81,200	73,100	66,900	62,100
27	71,400	63,400	67,700	57,900	55,600	61,900	76,800	82,400	81,200	72,800	66,600	62,000
28	71,300	62,900	67,100	57,800	55,500	62,300	77,100	82,400	81,000	72,600	66,200	62,000
29	70,900	62,700	66,400	57,800	---	62,700	77,400	82,400	80,800	72,500	65,800	61,900
30	70,500	66,100	65,700	57,800	---	63,100	77,800	82,300	80,600	72,400	65,400	61,800
31	70,200	---	65,000	57,500	---	63,900	---	82,000	---	72,300	65,200	---
Max	80,600	69,800	76,400	64,500	57,100	63,900	77,800	82,800	82,100	80,100	72,200	65,200
Min	70,200	62,700	65,000	57,500	54,900	55,600	64,500	78,100	80,600	72,300	65,200	61,800
Gage height, in feet, at end of month												
	5,207.91	5,203.88	5,202.64	5,194.69	5,192.50	5,201.51	5,215.32	5,219.26	5,217.91	5,210.04	5,202.90	5,199.24
Change in contents, in acre-feet												
	-10,800	-4,100	-1,100	-7,500	-2,000	+8,400	+13,900	+4,200	-1,400	-8,300	-7,100	-3,400

	Calendar Year 2012	Water Year 2013
Change in contents, in acre-feet	+7,000	-19,200

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