

11433300 Middle Fork American River near Foresthill, CA

Sacramento River Basin

LOCATION.--Lat 39°00'22", long 120°45'35" referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in NW ¼ NW ¼ sec.4, T.13 N., R.11 E., Placer County, CA, Hydrologic Unit 18020128, in Tahoe National Forest, on right bank, 1.6 mi downstream from Oxbow Powerplant, 2.0 mi upstream from Mad Canyon, and 3.3 mi east of Foresthill.

DRAINAGE AREA.--524 mi².

SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

PERIOD OF RECORD.--October 1958 to current year.

CHEMICAL DATA: Water year 1979.

BIOLOGICAL DATA: Water year 1979.

REVISED RECORDS.--WDR CA-03-4: 2000 (instantaneous maximum discharge).

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder. Elevation of gage is 1,070 ft above NGVD of 1929, from topographic map. Prior to Oct. 22, 1965, at site 3.2 mi downstream at different datum. Oct. 22, 1965, to Aug. 28, 1985, at site 400 ft downstream at different datum.

COOPERATION.--Records, including diversion through Oxbow Powerplant (station 11433212), 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.--Flow regulated by French Meadows Reservoir, Hell Hole Reservoir, Loon Lake (stations 11427400, 11428700, and 11429350, respectively), Stumpy Meadows Lake, usable capacity, 20,000 acre-ft, several smaller reservoirs, and Oxbow Powerplant. Robbs Peak Powerplant (station 11429300) and Georgetown Divide Ditch, capacity about 60 ft³/s, divert water out of basin upstream from station. See schematic diagrams of lower Sacramento River Basin and Middle Fork American and Rubicon River Basins available from the California Water Science Center.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum discharge, 310,000 ft³/s, Dec. 23, 1964, gage height, 69.0 ft, from floodmarks, site and datum then in use, caused by overtopping of the partly constructed Hell Hole Dam on the Rubicon River, from rating curve extended above 28,000 ft³/s, on basis of slope-area measurement at gage height 38.0 ft and slope-conveyance study at gage height 69.0 ft, at site and datum then in use; next highest peak, 123,000 ft³/s, Jan. 2, 1997, gage height, 29.56 ft, from rating curve extended above 37,000 ft³/s; minimum, 35 ft³/s, Oct. 10-20, 1961.

11433300 Middle Fork American River near Foresthill, CA—Continued

DISCHARGE, CUBIC FEET PER SECOND
WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 2013
DAILY MEAN VALUES

[e, estimated]

Day	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1	322	255	4,530	1,230	1,190	724	662	494	514	393	453	382
2	138	304	7,670	1,220	1,000	580	850	531	438	390	418	440
3	146	248	3,750	1,210	988	550	773	538	535	408	476	388
4	158	234	1,870	1,110	1,090	754	771	448	553	447	533	388
5	157	220	2,560	1,090	944	792	746	393	593	424	499	444
6	167	192	2,480	719	1,020	695	619	499	411	390	513	486
7	171	191	1,760	1,030	846	927	710	448	408	380	405	635
8	170	177	1,610	821	623	755	809	457	504	356	402	417
9	168	544	1,530	1,040	687	612	703	465	420	367	450	382
10	169	597	1,460	1,060	692	607	732	676	416	440	380	358
11	169	660	1,370	1,070	730	711	669	646	405	377	464	359
12	169	721	1,280	1,050	826	787	617	731	402	369	516	411
13	169	680	1,340	1,050	779	686	562	729	403	371	507	372
14	168	587	1,310	1,040	860	673	612	754	392	375	460	429
15	168	423	1,240	1,100	800	724	755	488	413	371	510	387
16	166	650	1,220	1,100	417	761	669	515	377	368	485	377
17	204	774	1,780	997	618	697	767	651	367	371	355	386
18	199	1,140	1,870	1,090	572	680	621	583	394	338	401	376
19	170	988	1,610	1,050	519	646	528	630	401	316	429	425
20	173	876	1,410	1,060	754	1,090	458	254	391	204	435	483
21	204	926	1,380	1,020	623	1,400	618	256	401	344	384	406
22	229	929	1,430	1,040	575	1,200	552	704	408	307	379	419
23	264	786	1,960	1,070	571	918	572	609	375	e319	379	472
24	243	648	2,260	1,080	500	791	565	649	e400	e330	369	441
25	229	670	1,800	1,070	584	775	554	703	e450	e342	442	518
26	223	761	2,030	1,260	567	687	512	487	496	e353	487	400
27	178	774	1,530	1,290	578	739	474	679	445	365	584	458
28	238	1,050	1,560	1,080	618	662	442	827	434	376	417	389
29	251	1,160	1,340	1,130	---	657	462	860	362	381	440	398
30	245	5,070	1,260	1,060	---	501	423	763	432	366	388	363
31	239	---	1,240	1,230	---	647	---	561	---	364	416	---
Total	6,064	23,235	61,440	33,467	20,571	23,428	18,807	18,028	12,940	11,302	13,776	12,589
Mean	196	774	1,982	1,080	735	756	627	582	431	365	444	420
Max	322	5,070	7,670	1,290	1,190	1,400	850	860	593	447	584	635
Min	138	177	1,220	719	417	501	423	254	362	204	355	358
Ac-ft	12,030	46,090	121,900	66,380	40,800	46,470	37,300	35,760	25,670	22,420	27,320	24,970
Diversion, in acre-feet, through Oxbow Powerplant	897	27,580	58,800	53,570	29,350	29,670	25,380	30,490	19,190	16,310	21,300	18,880

STATISTICS OF MONTHLY MEAN DATA FOR WATER YEARS 1959 - 2013, BY WATER YEAR (WY)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Mean	415	619	1,157	1,511	1,702	1,791	1,748	1,548	1,028	677	634	535
Max	1,634	2,952	7,172	8,778	8,815	5,076	5,782	4,642	3,300	1,836	1,142	1,084
(WY)	(1963)	(1984)	(1965)	(1997)	(1986)	(1983)	(2006)	(1963)	(1983)	(1983)	(1983)	(1983)
Min	54.3	47.1	64.8	85.2	111	240	110	120	124	99.2	47.2	42.8
(WY)	(1961)	(1960)	(1960)	(1991)	(1991)	(1977)	(1977)	(1977)	(1977)	(1966)	(1959)	(1962)

11433300 Middle Fork American River near Foresthill, CA—Continued

SUMMARY STATISTICS

	Calendar Year 2012		Water Year 2013		Water Years 1959 - 2013	
Annual total	315,121		255,647			
Annual mean	861		700		1,111	
Highest annual mean					2,723	1982
Lowest annual mean					179	1977
Highest daily mean	7,790	Mar 16	7,670	Dec 2	65,000	Dec 23, 1964
Lowest daily mean	138	Oct 2	138	Oct 2	35	Oct 19, 1961
Annual seven-day minimum	158	Oct 2	158	Oct 2	38	Oct 14, 1961
Maximum peak flow			15,600	Dec 2	310,000	Dec 23, 1964
Maximum peak stage			19.53	Dec 2	69.00	Dec 23, 1964
Annual runoff (ac-ft)	625,000		507,100		804,800	
Total diversion (ac-ft)^a	390,300		331,400			
10 percent exceeds	1,590		1,220		2,280	
50 percent exceeds	614		538		740	
90 percent exceeds	261		253		118	

^a Diversion, in acre-feet, through Oxbow Powerplant (station 11433212).

