

SKAGIT RIVER FLOOD CONTROL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 17, 1983

The regular quarterly meeting of the Skagit River Flood Control Committee was held in Hearing Room C, Skagit County Administration Building, on February 17, 1983.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jess Knutzen at 7:30 p.m.

Committee members in attendance were: Chairman Jess Knutzen
Denny LeGro
Steve Ladd
John Thompson
Gerald Mapes
Neil Hamburg
Larry Kunzler
Stanley Zyskowski

Don Nelson, Skagit County Public Works, was also present.

The minutes of the October 28, 1982 meeting were read and approved.

The November 18, 1982 letter from the Board of County Commissioners to the Chairman was read. This letter authorized \$15,000. to be spent on the Flood Control Committee's plan, \$10,000. for debris removal, \$4,000. for river cross-sections and \$1,000. for the early warning system.

There was a general disappointment that the amount was not greater.

A discussion took place regarding a program for the debris removal. The committee will make a recommendation.

It was pointed out that the log jam near Hamilton appears to have some valuable timber in it. It was requested that Don Nelson investigate who would be the owner of this timber.

The Chairman discussed the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' presentation on the flood control operation of the dams. It was requested that copies of this presentation be sent to the members. (Please find a copy of the presentation attached.)

The Chairman requested a meeting of the Executive Committee with the Skagit River Flood Control Council. (Dike and Drainage Commissioners of Skagit County)

Don Nelson reported that the Council will be meeting soon on some other business but this could be worked into that meeting. It was agreed to do this.

A discussion concerning the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act took place. The Chairman and Don Nelson had attended the meeting held by the Forest Service in Sedro Woolley. The Chairman was disappointed by the low priority given to flood control by the Act.

Mr. George Dynes had received a reply from Puget Sound Power & Light Co. regarding their interest in a Sauk River dam. Copies of the letter were distributed to the members. The members were given a chance to read this letter.

The Chairman stated the letter did not appear very optimistic and asked for comments.

Mr. Larry Kunzler stated that he thought the letter quite significant, while he was not for abandoning the Sauk River dam proposal, this letter surely gave it a "backburner" status. Larry felt it opened up a re-look at the Avon by-pass.

Mr. Steve Ladd stated that he had never been very optimistic about the Sauk dam proposal and was not in favor of spending a lot of money to pursue it.

Mr. Neil Hamburg stated that we should not give up so easily. Others in the past have and had they continued, it might be a reality today. The dam proposal could take a long time but work should continue.

Mr. Denny LeGro stated that it was the only proposal that would give all of the valley flood protection.

The Chairman concluded that the majority of those present wished to continue working for a Sauk River dam.

The Chairman asked Mr. Larry Kunzler to comment on the wetlands proposal for Gages Slough as it may effect the decisions of the Committee with regard to the floodway.

Mr. Kunzler stated that Gages Slough qualified as a wetland and the proposal had a 95% chance of approval. Public hearings would be held this spring with the slough being designated a wetland sometime this fall. Larry went on to say that FEMA would be sending their comments on the limited density floodway in the next few days. He was sure the restrictions would be more severe than those indicated in the Committee's report. The designation of Gages Slough as a wetland then could very well be a benefit.

Mr. Neil Hamburg wanted to know what restrictions went along with the wetlands designation.

Mr. Kunzler stated he did not think they would cause unreasonable hardship.

Several of the members were not too sure of this.

Mr. Larry Kunzler commented on the dike elevations as indicated in the Committee's report. As the attendance of this meeting was small, he requested that this item be placed on the agenda for a later meeting.

The Chairman agreed to do this.

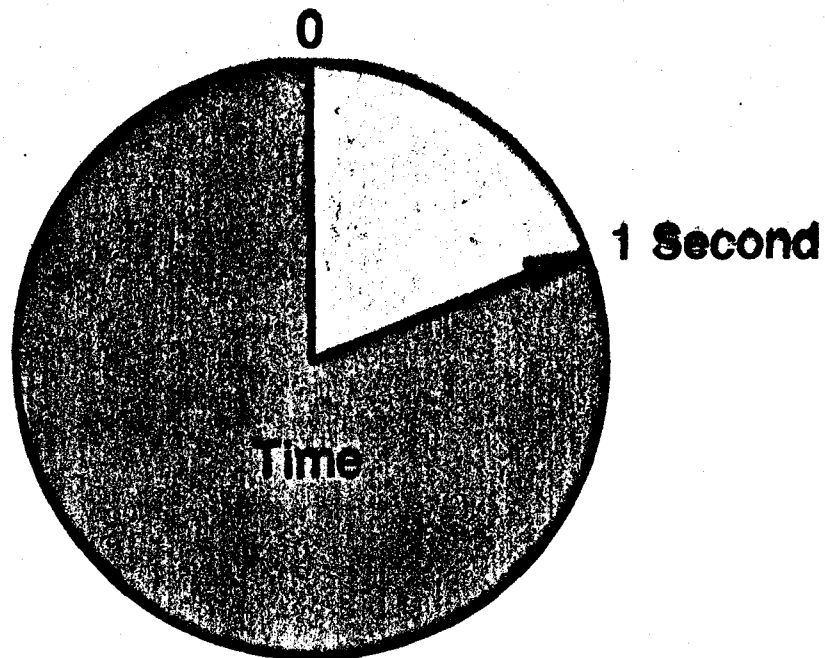
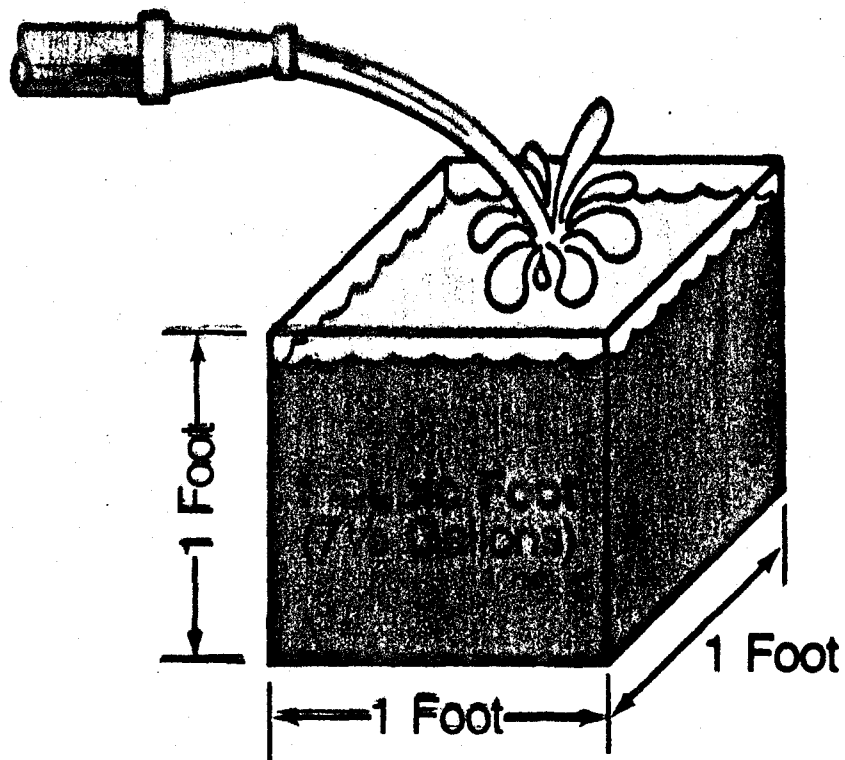
The Chairman stated that he felt the Committee should meet on a quarterly basis and unless something important came up, he would operate on this schedule.

Meeting adjourned.

Flow Rate

Cubic Feet Per Second (C.F.S.)

1.



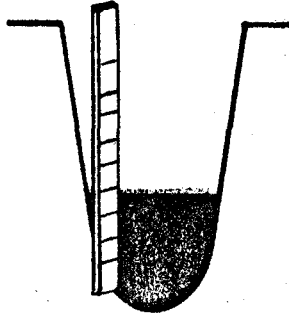
$$\frac{\text{Capacity}}{\text{Time}} = \frac{1 \text{ Cubic Foot}}{1 \text{ Second}} = 1 \text{ Cubic Foot Per Second}$$



Hydrographs

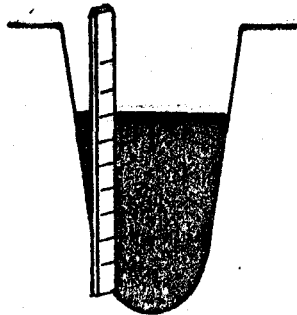
Skagit River Gage at Concrete

24 Feet or
40,000 C.F.S.



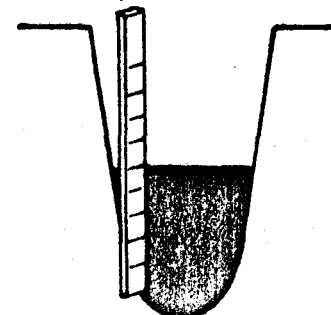
25 December

40 Feet or
147,000 C.F.S.

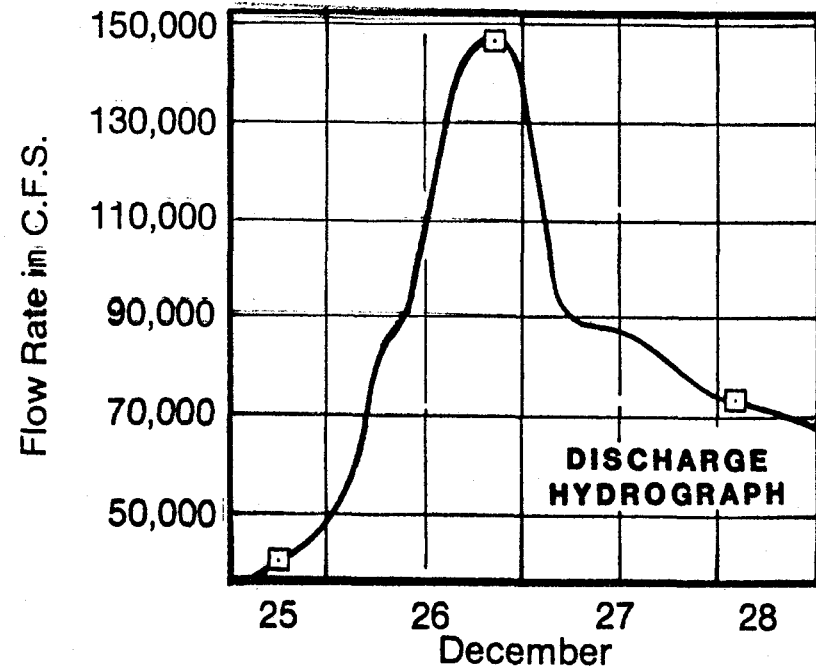
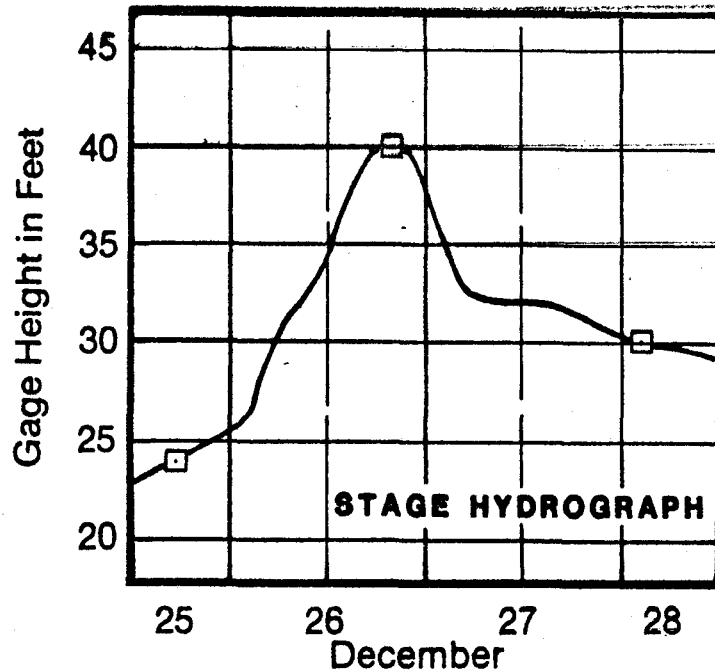


26 December

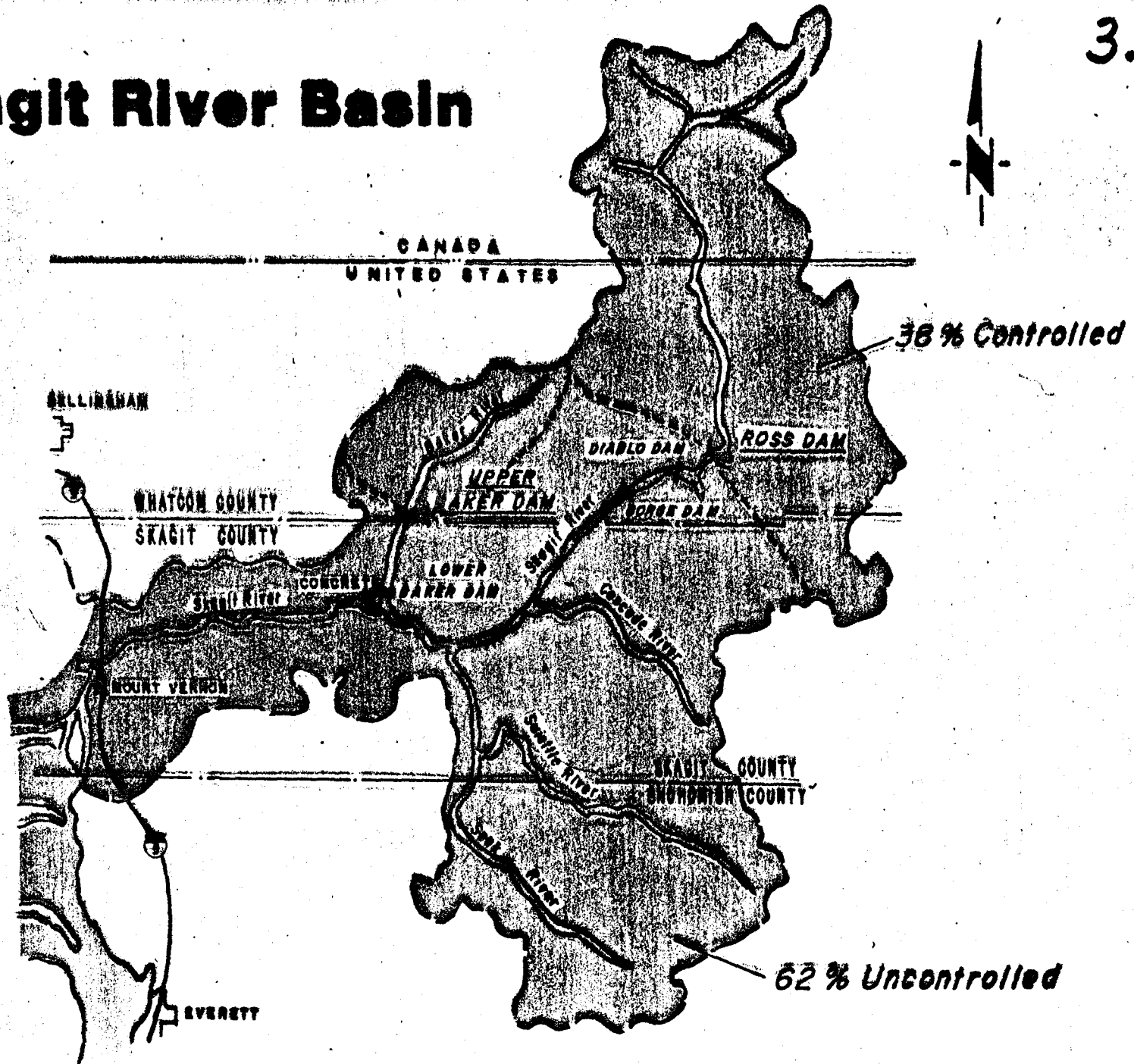
30 Feet or
75,000 C.F.S.



28 December



Skagit River Basin



Flood Control Responsibilities

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE — SEATTLE

Forecasts weather and river conditions

CORPS OF ENGINEERS — SEATTLE

Monitors weather, river and reservoirs

Provides regulating instructions to dams

PUGET SOUND POWER & LIGHT AND SEATTLE CITY LIGHT

Maintains flood storage space

Operate dams — gate changes

SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

Provides flood information to the public

Coordinates flood emergency activities

Reservoir Regulation Guidelines for Flood Control

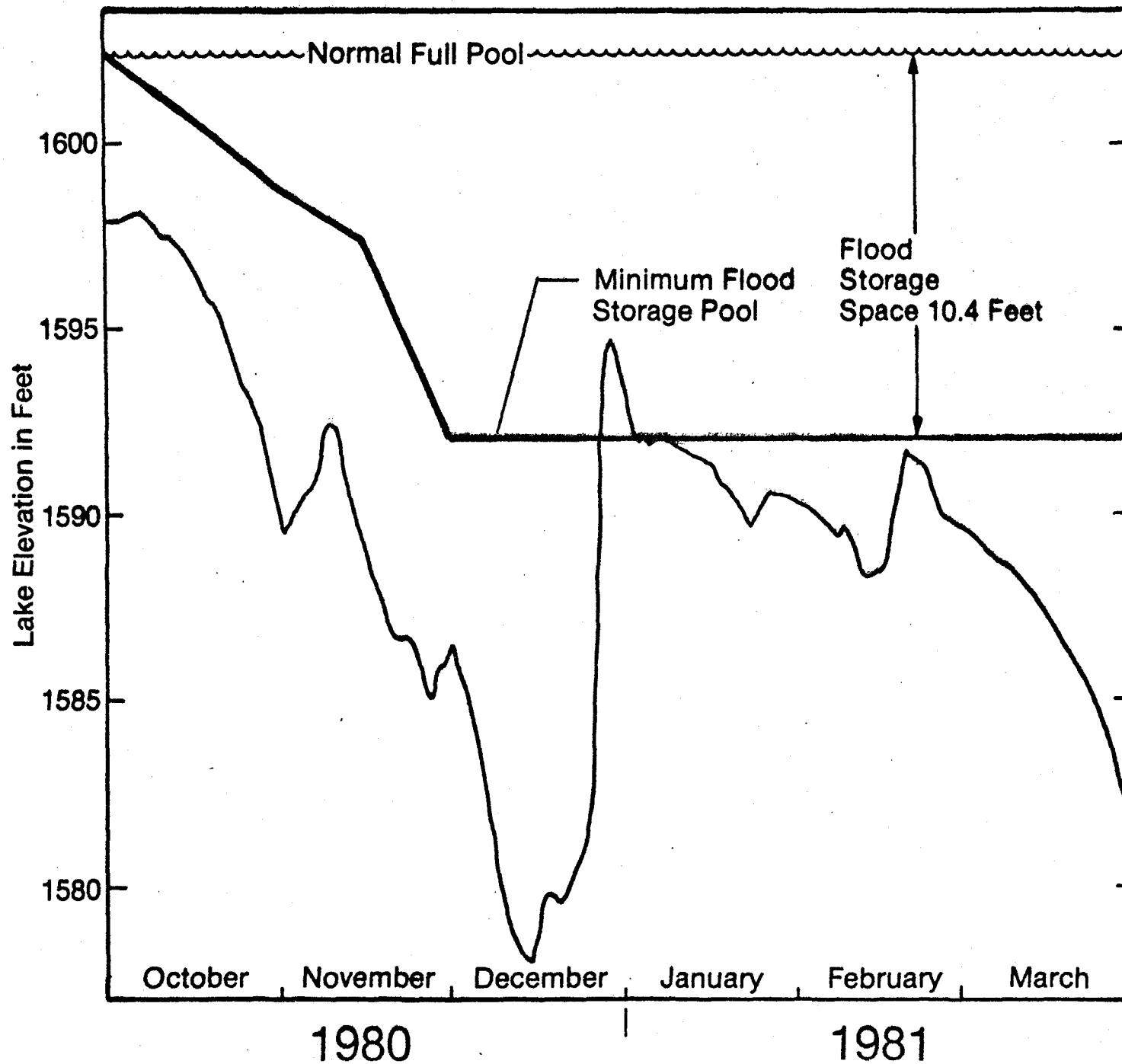
10.

- **Regulate flows forecast to exceed 90,000 c.f.s. (32.2 feet) at Concrete**
- **Reduce outflow from dams (except minimum power flows)**
- **Store floodwater in reservoir**
- **Release stored water when flow at Concrete recedes**
- **Maintain recession at Concrete**

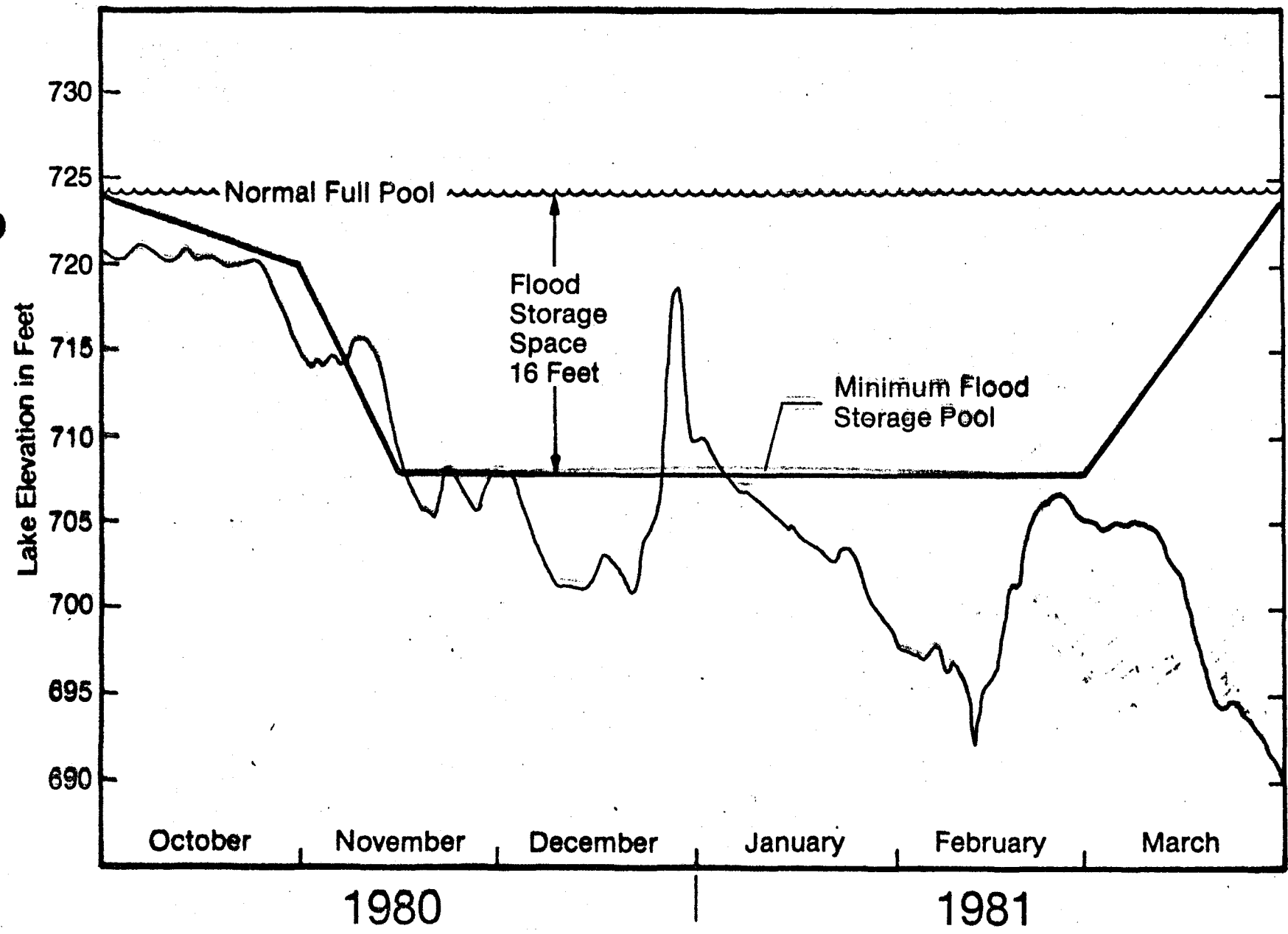
INR 5

Ross Lake and Dam

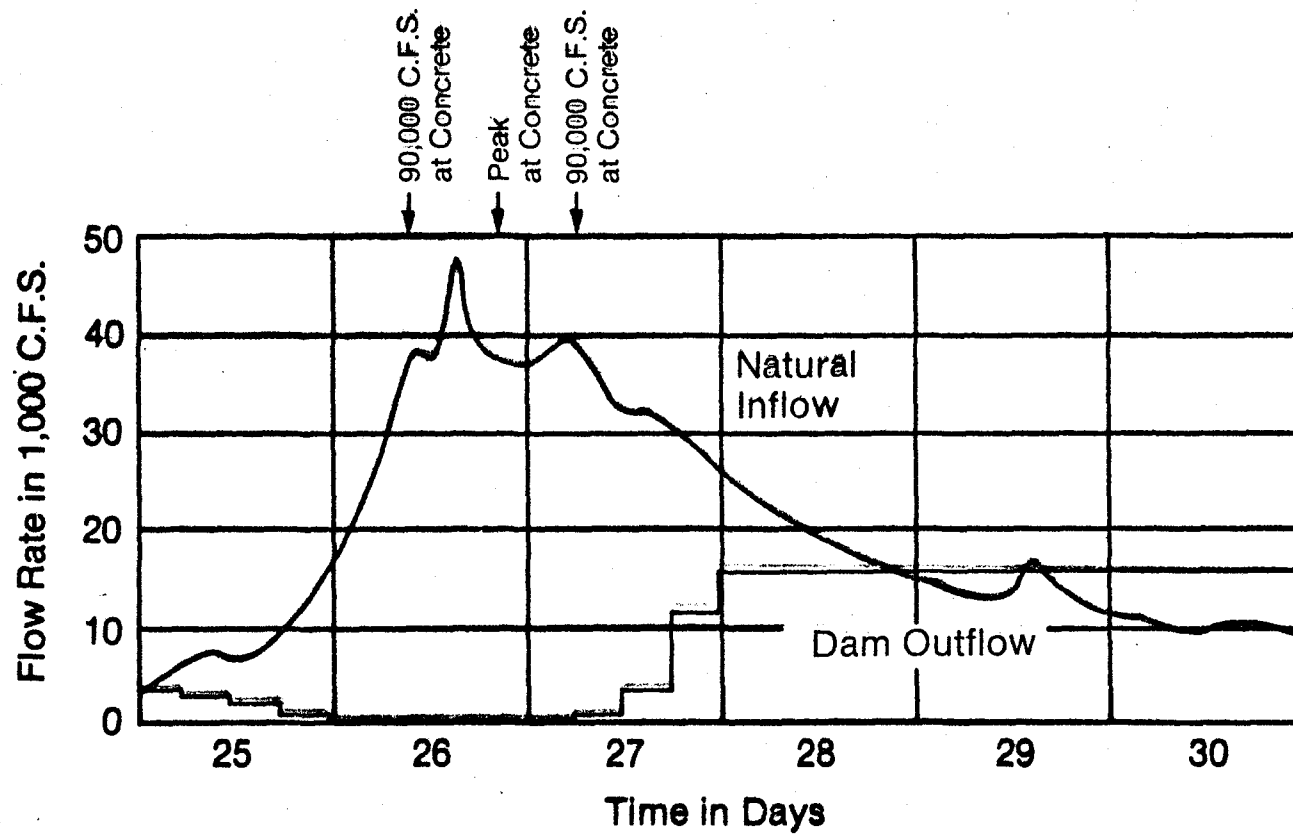
11.



Baker Lake and Upper Baker Dam

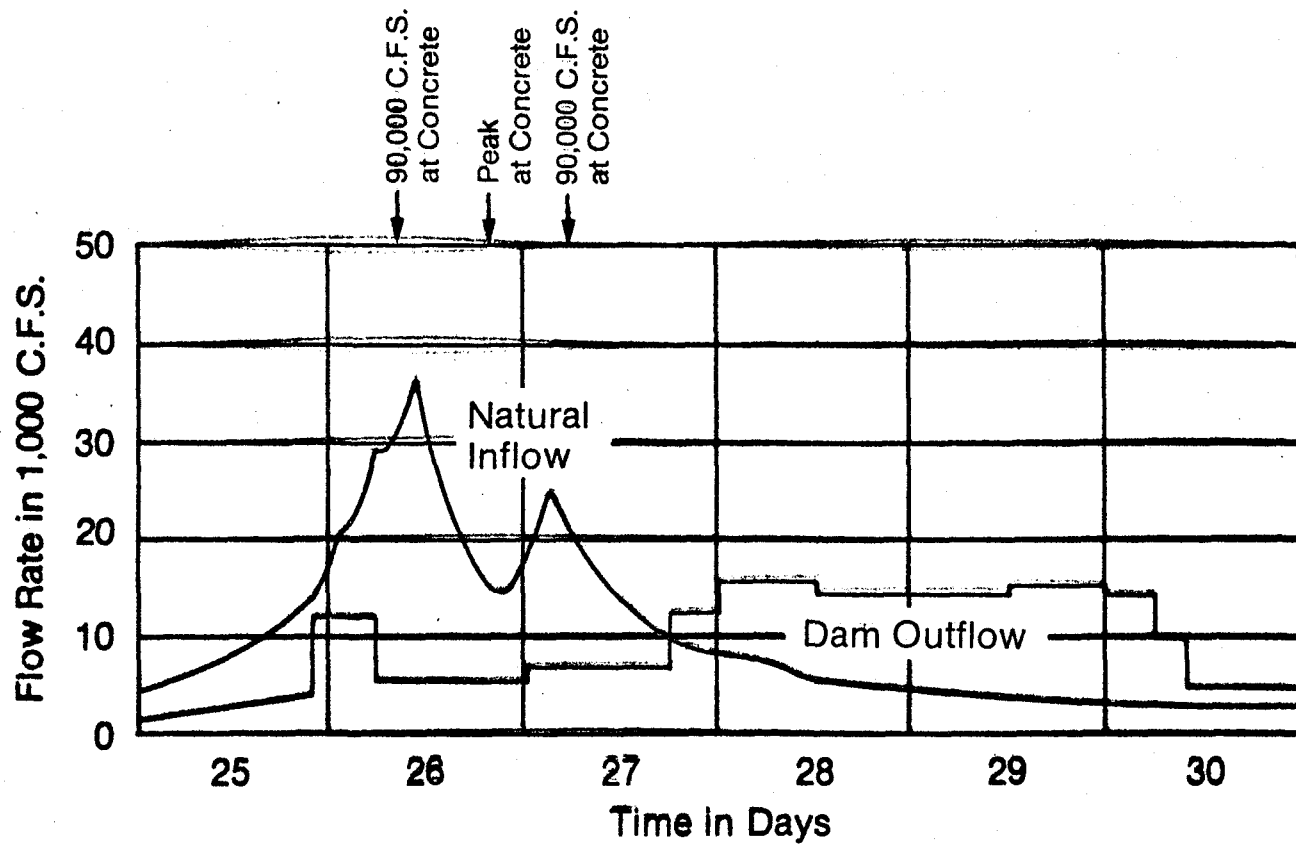


Skagit River at Ross Dam December 1980 Flood



Skagit River at Upper Baker Dam December 1980 Flood

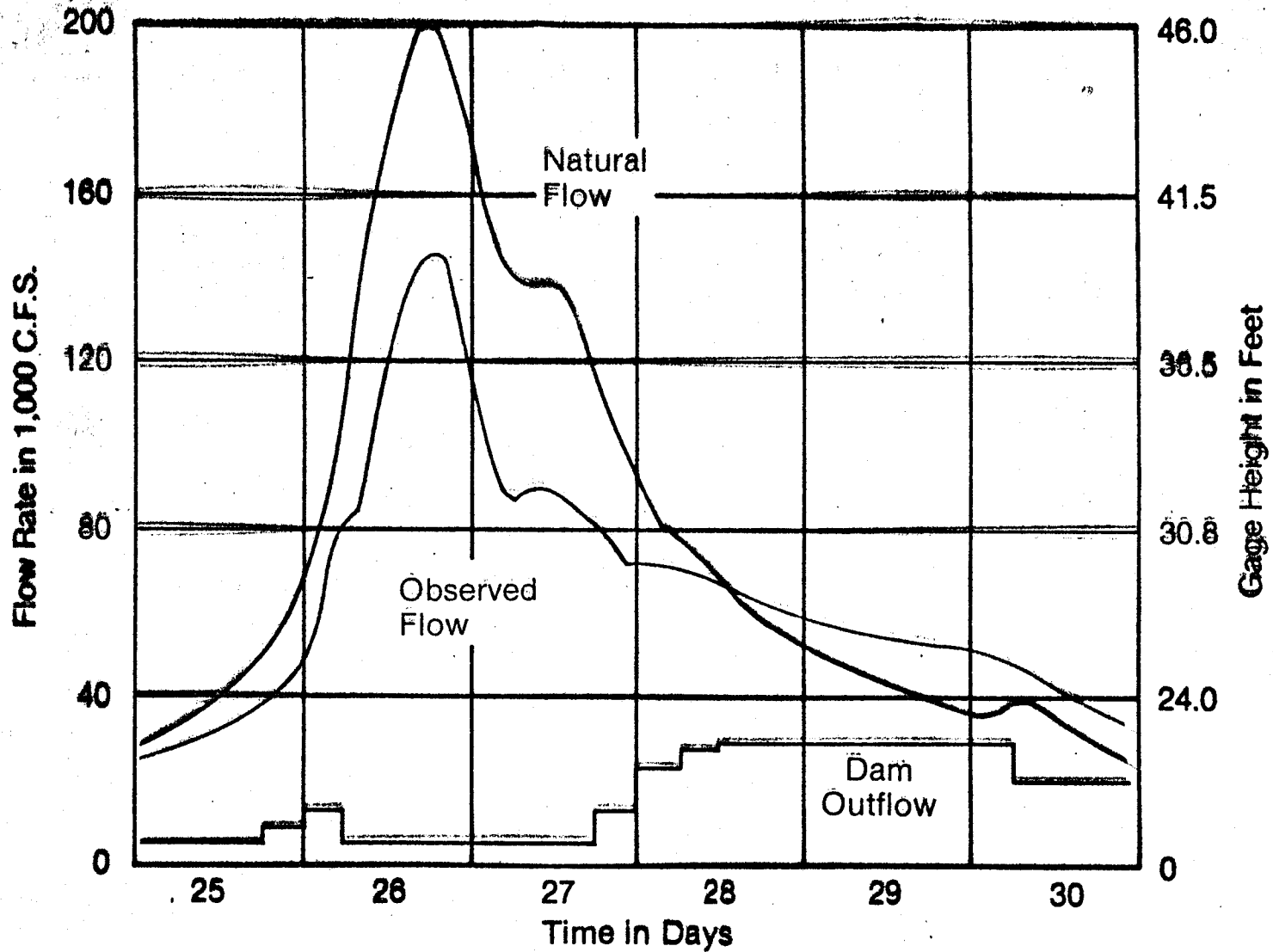
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Skagit River at Concrete

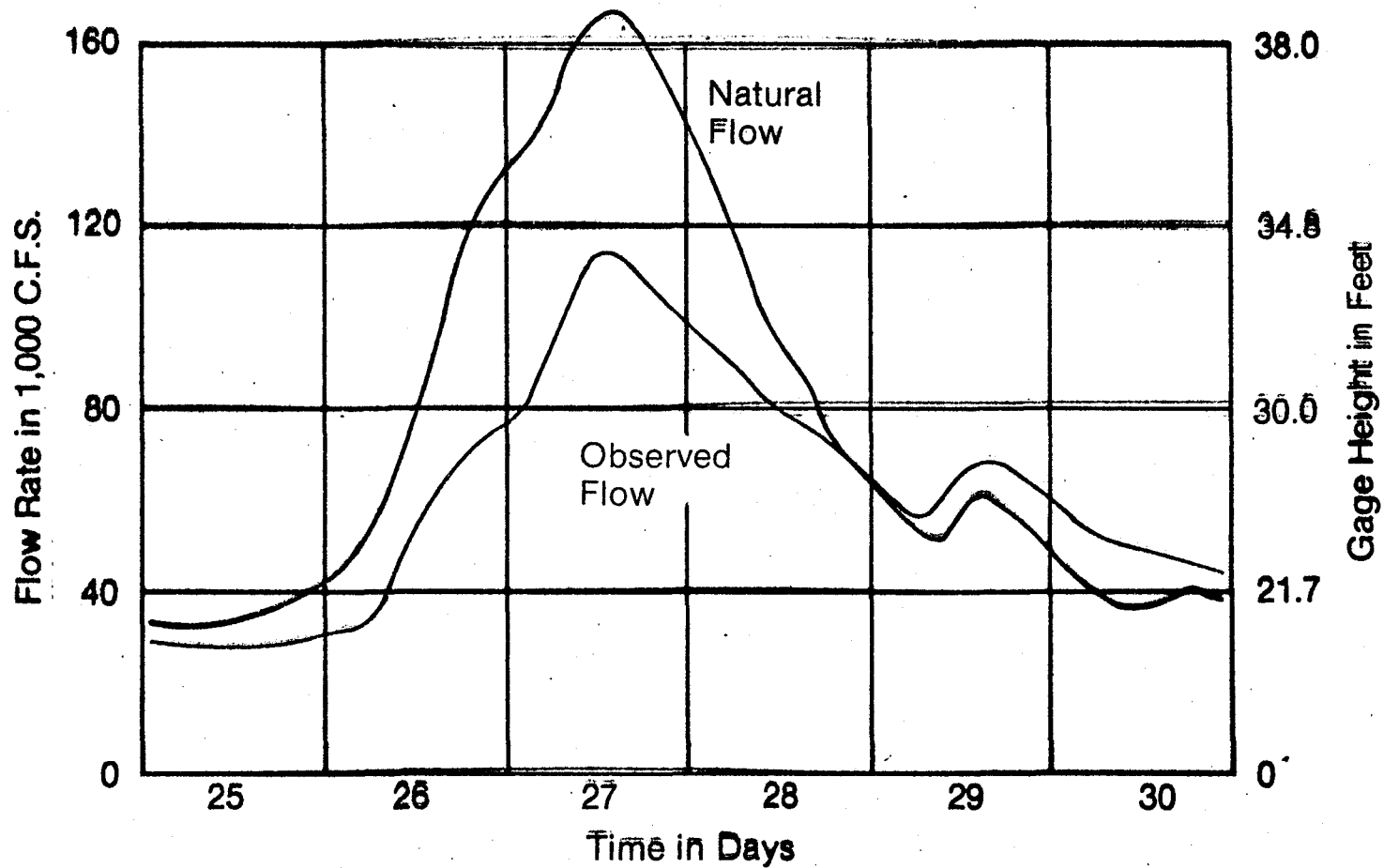
December 1980 Flood

15.



Skagit River at Mount Vernon December 1980 Flood

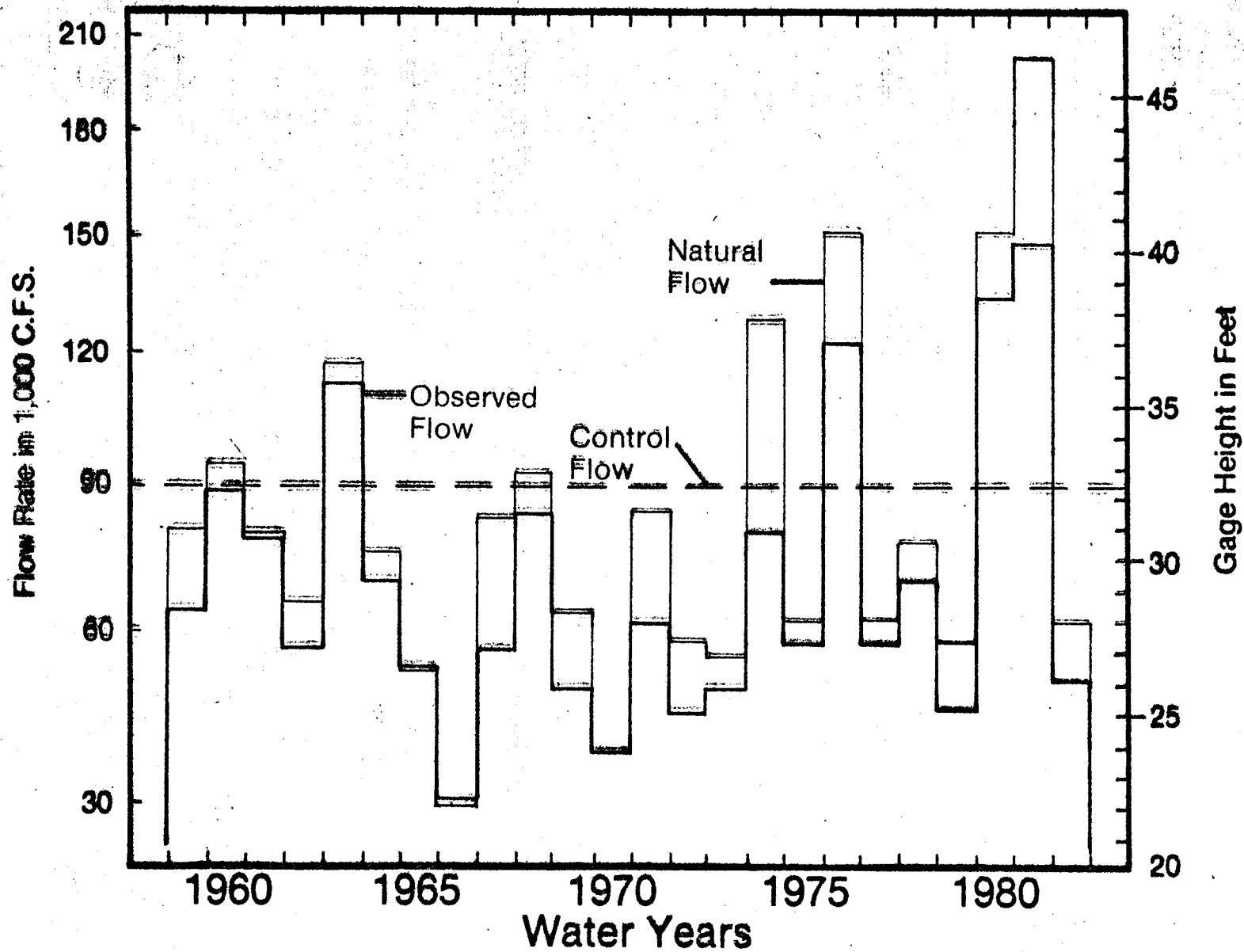
16.



Skagit River at Concrete

Effects of Reservoir Storage

17.



Summary

- Corps regulates flows above 90,000 c.f.s. (32.2 ft.) at Concrete
- Dams incidently regulate flows below 90,000 c.f.s.
- Dams provide flood damage reduction
- But dams cannot eliminate the possibility of flooding