



1999 California Hydrologic Data Report

11427400 FRENCH MEADOWS RESERVOIR NEAR FORESTHILL, CA

LOCATION.--Lat 39°06'32", long 120°25'49", in SW 1/4 NE 1/4 sec.32, T.15 N., R.14 E., Placer County, Hydrologic Unit 18020128, Tahoe National Forest, on left bank, 2.2 mi upstream from dam, on Middle Fork American River, 6.9 mi upstream from Chipmunk Creek, and 21 mi northeast of Foresthill.

DRAINAGE AREA.--47.0 mi².

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

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

REMARKS.--Reservoir is formed by rockfill 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 ft³/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. See schematic diagram of Middle Fork American and Rubicon River Basins.

COOPERATION.--Records provided by Placer County Water Agency, under general supervision of the U.S. Geological Survey, in connection with a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum contents, 137,700 acre-ft, May 19, 1966, elevation, 5,263.9 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, 131,500 acre-ft, June 27, elevation, 5,259.5 ft; minimum, 62,100 acre-ft, Nov. 16, elevation, 5,199.6 ft.

Capacity table (elevation, in feet, and contents, in acre-feet)

(Based on a survey by Placer County Water Agency in 1965)

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

RESERVOIR STORAGE (ACRE-FEET), WATER YEAR OCTOBER 1998 TO SEPTEMBER 1999

DAILY OBSERVATION AT 2400 HOURS

DAY	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
1	88000	70400	65200	70500	84800	100400	91900	93700	118200	130800	119900	105400
2	87500	69700	65400	70600	84900	100900	91400	94200	119100	130500	119300	104900
3	86900	69200	66500	70600	85100	101100	91000	94400	119300	130400	118800	104500
4	86400	68400	66900	70700	85400	101100	90500	94200	119500	130400	118300	104200
5	85800	67600	67100	70800	85600	100900	90200	94100	119700	130200	117900	103900

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6	85400	66800	67300	70800	85900	100700	89700	94400	120000	129800	117400	103600
7	84800	66200	67500	70900	87100	100300	89200	95000	120300	129400	117000	103100
8	84400	65900	67600	70900	88400	100000	88700	95500	120800	129100	116600	102700
9	83900	65300	67700	71000	90400	99600	88100	95700	121200	128700	116200	102200
10	83300	64700	67800	71000	91200	99200	87700	96100	121600	128300	115800	101700
11	82700	64200	67900	71100	91800	98800	87100	96500	122100	128200	115300	101500
12	82200	63600	68000	71100	92200	98300	86600	97300	123000	127800	114800	101100
13	81500	63000	68100	71200	92700	97800	86300	98200	124100	127400	114300	100800
14	81100	62700	68300	71300	93000	97300	85900	98500	124900	127000	113800	100300
15	80600	62400	68400	71600	93400	96900	85800	98800	126000	126700	113400	99800
16	80000	62100	68600	72000	94000	96400	85700	99000	127100	126300	112900	99400
17	79500	62200	68800	72600	94900	96100	85900	99400	127800	126000	112500	98900
18	79000	62200	69000	74800	95600	95700	86400	100000	128500	125700	112000	98600
19	78300	62300	69200	76400	95900	95400	86900	100500	129300	125300	111400	98300
20	77700	62300	69400	78800	96400	95000	87600	101600	130000	125100	110800	97900
21	77200	62300	69500	79800	96800	94700	88300	103000	130400	124500	110600	97300
22	76500	62400	69600	80600	97100	94300	88700	104700	130700	124100	110200	97000
23	76100	62900	69700	81800	97300	93800	88900	106600	130900	123700	109700	96400
24	75400	63100	69800	82400	97600	93400	89300	108700	131200	123300	109200	95900
25	75000	63200	69900	82800	97900	93000	90000	111000	131200	123000	108700	95500
26	74100	63200	70000	83300	98200	92800	90900	113100	131400	122500	108300	95000
27	73300	63300	70100	83500	98500	92700	91500	115000	131400	122000	107700	94500
28	72500	63400	70100	83800	99000	92500	92200	116300	131200	121600	107200	94100
29	71900	63700	70200	84000	---	92200	93200	116900	131200	121000	106900	93600
30	71100	64800	70300	84300	---	92200	93500	117200	131100	120500	106400	93000
31	70700	---	70300	84600	---	92100	---	117500	---	120300	105800	---
MAX	88000	70400	70300	84600	99000	101100	93500	117500	131400	130800	119900	105400
MIN	70700	62100	65200	70500	84800	92100	85700	93700	118200	120300	105800	93000
a	5208.4	5202.5	5208.0	5221.6	5234.2	5228.3	5229.5	5249.1	5259.2	5251.2	5239.8	5229.1
b	-17800	-5900	+5500	+14300	+14400	-6900	+1400	+24000	+13600	-10800	-14500	-12800
CAL YR	1998	b	+19700									
WTR YR	1999	b	+4500									

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