



USGS Water Resources Data Report - California

INTRODUCTION

The Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, obtains a large amount of data pertaining to the water resources of California each water year. These data, accumulated during many water years, constitute a valuable database for developing an improved understanding of the water resources of the State. To make these data readily available to interested parties outside the U.S. Geological Survey, the data are published annually in this report series entitled "Water Resources Data--California."

This report includes records on surface water in the State. Specifically, it contains (1) discharge records for streamflow-gaging stations and crest-stage partial-record streamflow stations; (2) stage and contents records for lakes and reservoirs; (3) water-quality records for streamflow-gaging stations and partial-record stations; and (4) precipitation records for stations. Records included for stream stages are only a small fraction of those obtained during the water year.

The series of annual reports for California began with the 1961 water year with a report that contained only data relating to the quantities of surface water. For the 1964 water year, a similar report was introduced that contained only data relating to water quality. Beginning with the 1975 water year, the report format changed to include data on quantities of surface water, quality of surface and ground water, and ground-water levels. From the 1985-1993 water years, a separate volume for ground-water levels and quality was published for California. The ground-water volume was discontinued in the 1993 water year. After the 1993 water year, information on how to access ground-water data is published annually in a fact sheet.

Prior to introduction of this series and for several water years concurrent with it, water-resources data for California were published in U.S. Geological Survey Water-Supply Papers. Data on stream discharge and stage and on lake or reservoir contents and stage, through September 1960, were published annually under the title "Surface-Water Supply of the United States, Parts 10 and 11." For the 1961 through 1970 water years, the data were published in two 5-year reports. Data on chemical quality, temperature, and suspended sediment for the 1941 through 1970 water years were published annually under the title "Quality of Surface Waters of the United States," and water levels for the 1935 through 1974 water years were published under the title "Ground-Water Levels in the United States." These Water-Supply Papers may be consulted in public libraries of the principal cities of the United States and may be purchased from U.S. Geological Survey, Map Distribution, Box 25286, MS 306, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

Publications similar to this report are published annually by the U.S. Geological Survey for all States. Each report has an identification number consisting of the two-letter State abbreviation, the last two digits of the water year, and the volume number. For archiving and general distribution, the reports for 1971-74 water years also are identified as water-data reports. These water-data reports are for sale in paper copy or in microfiche by the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161. From the 1990 water year through the 1994 water year, all water-data reports also are available on Compact Disc--Read Only Memory (CD-ROM). A limited number of CD-ROM discs are available for purchase from U.S. Geological Survey, Earth Science Information Center, Open-File Reports Section, Box 25286, MS 517, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

Additional information, including current prices, for ordering specific reports may be obtained from the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Placer Hall, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819, by telephone (916) 278-3000 or :

- Walter C. Swain, (916) 278-3024, wcswain@maildcasr.wr.usgs.gov
- Patricia A. Shiffer, (916) 278-3100 pshiffer@maildcasr.wr.usgs.gov

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If you have any questions or comments about this document contact:

webmaster@maildcasr.wr.usgs.gov

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