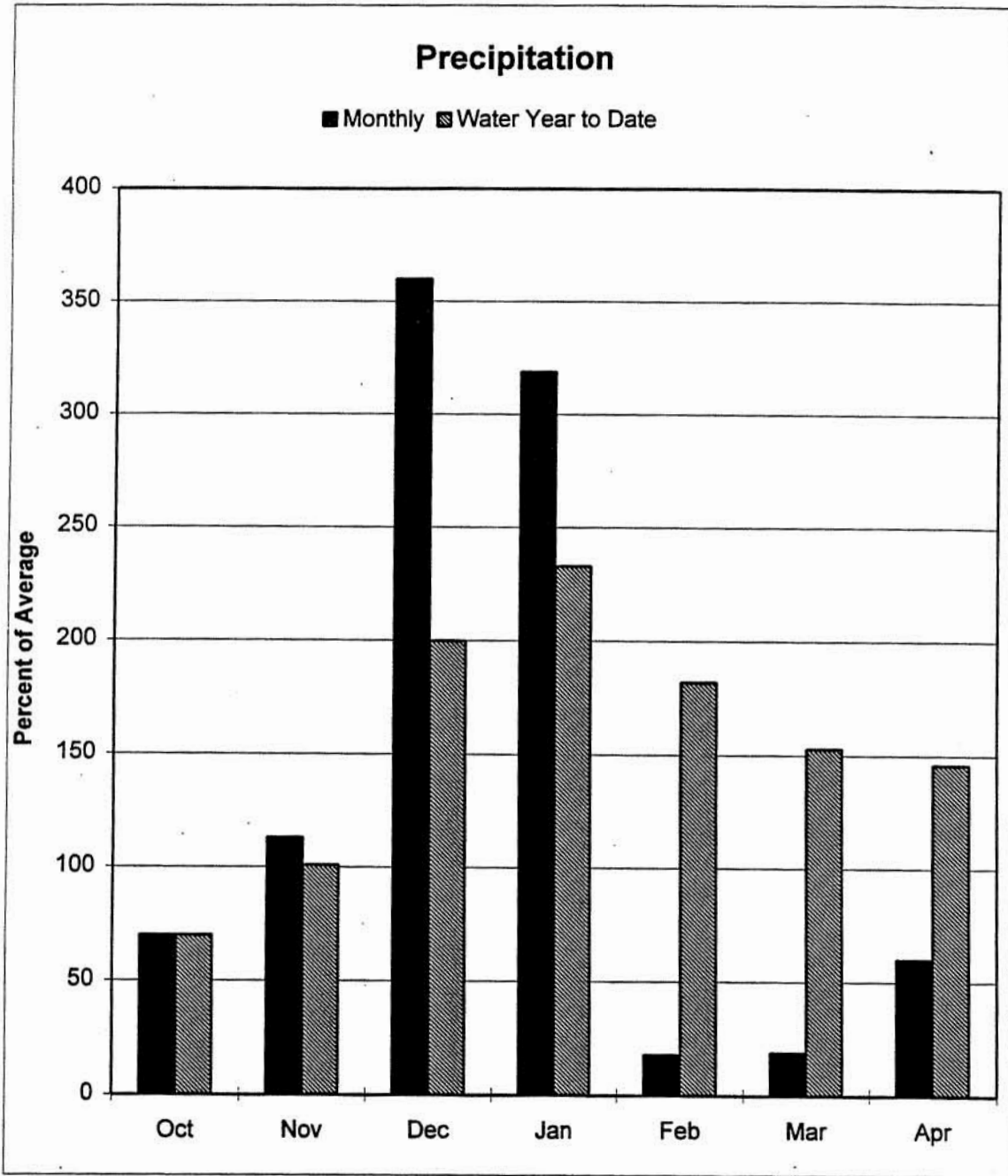
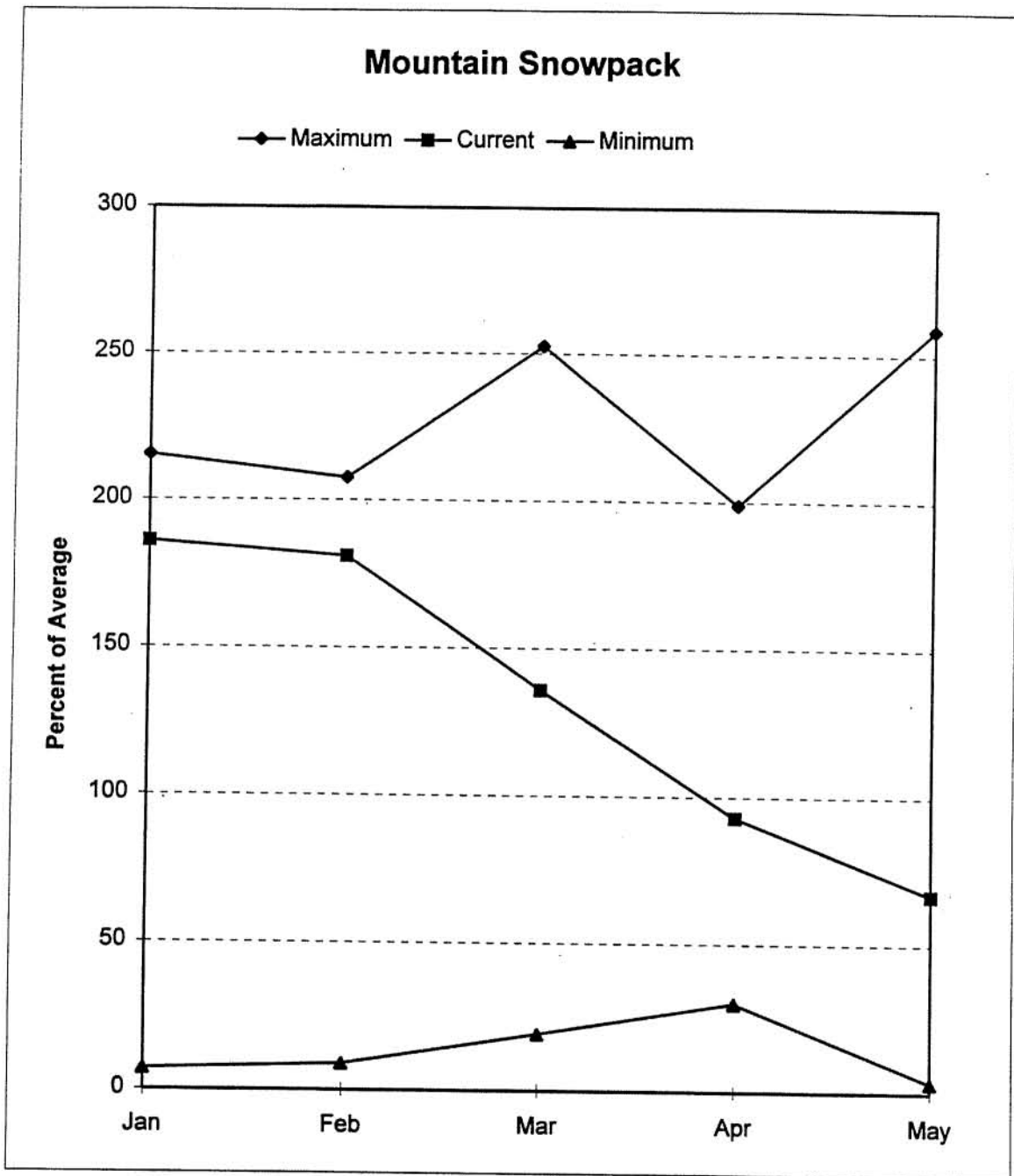


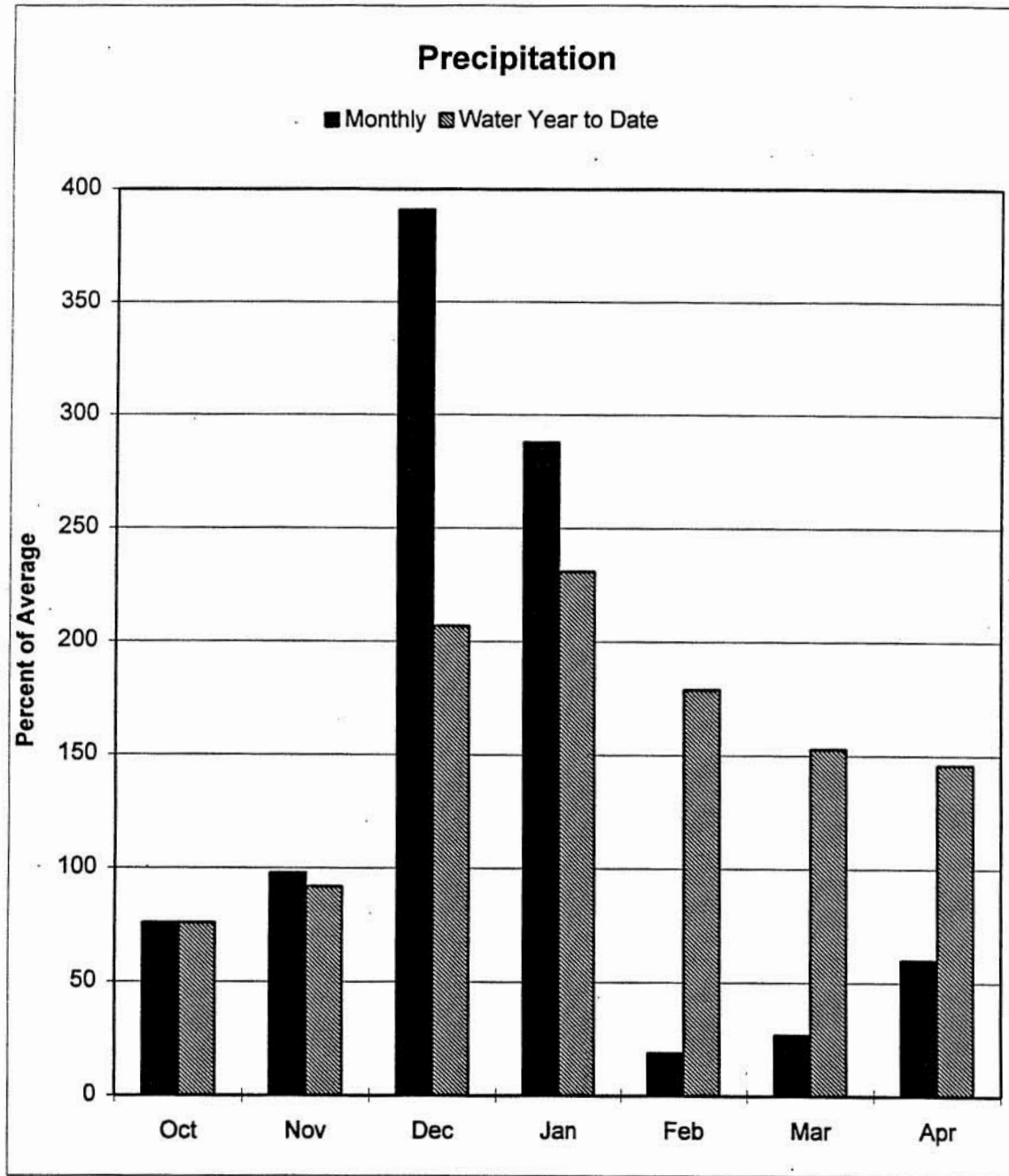
Lake Tahoe Basin



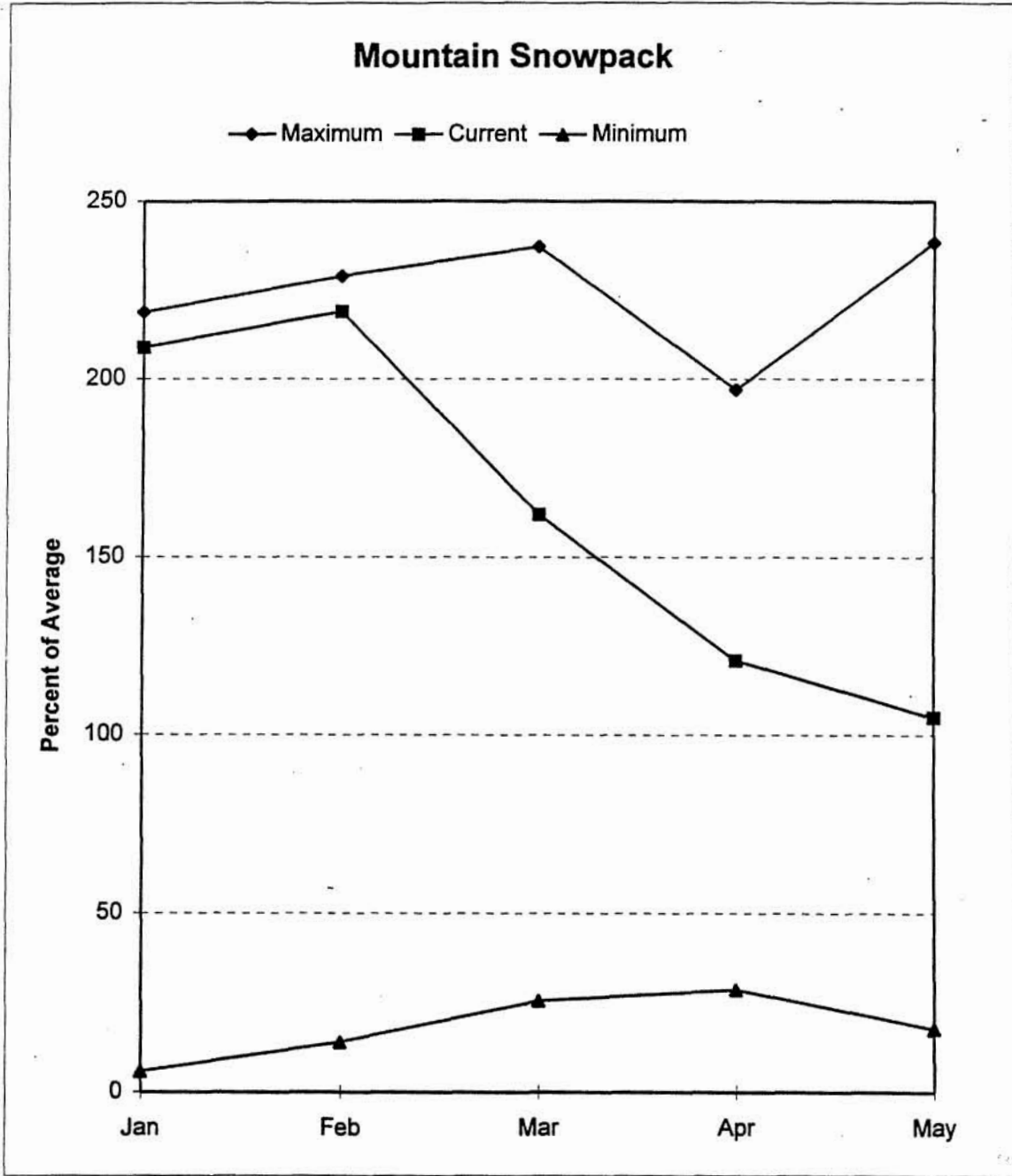
Lake Tahoe Basin



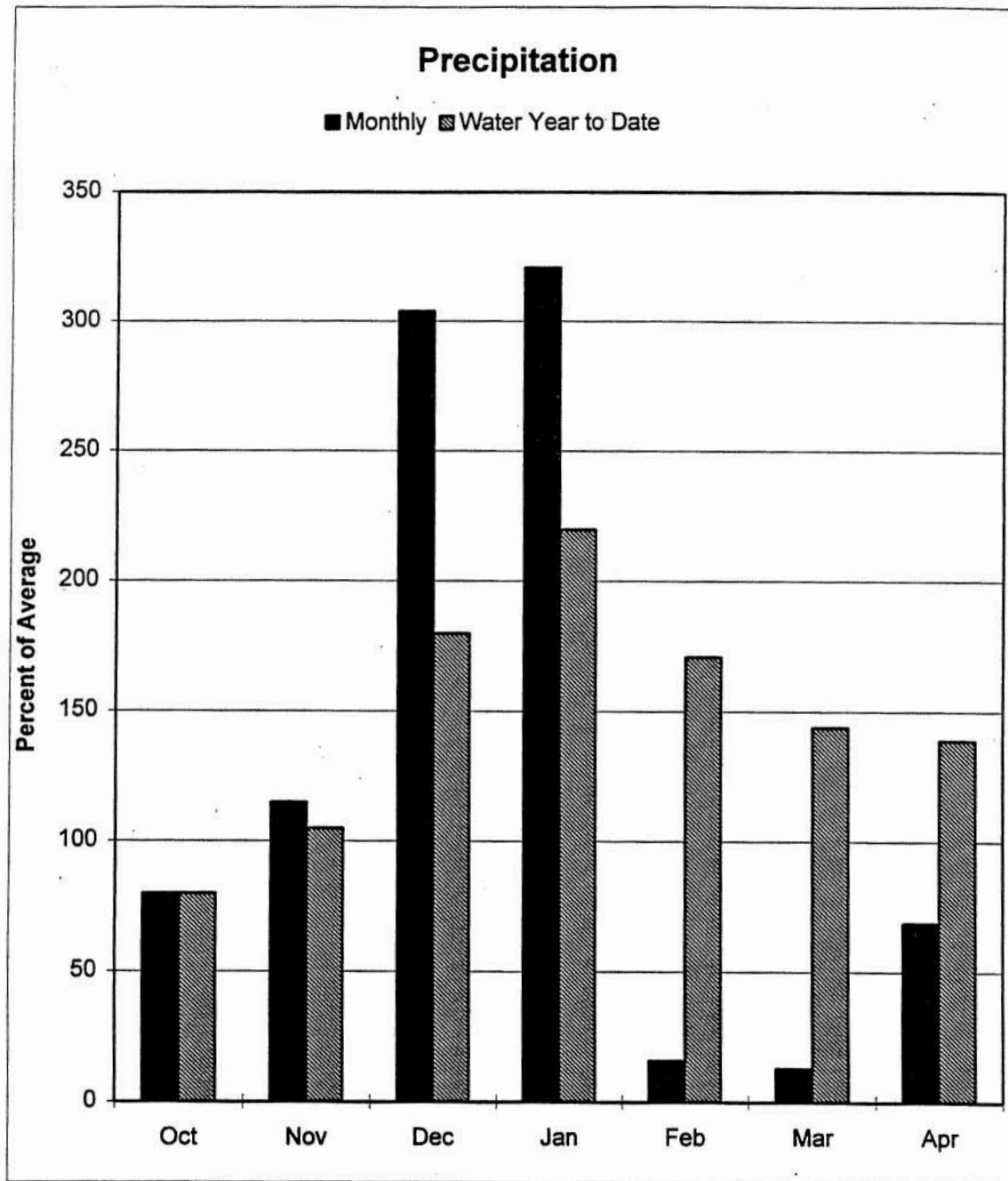
Truckee River Basin



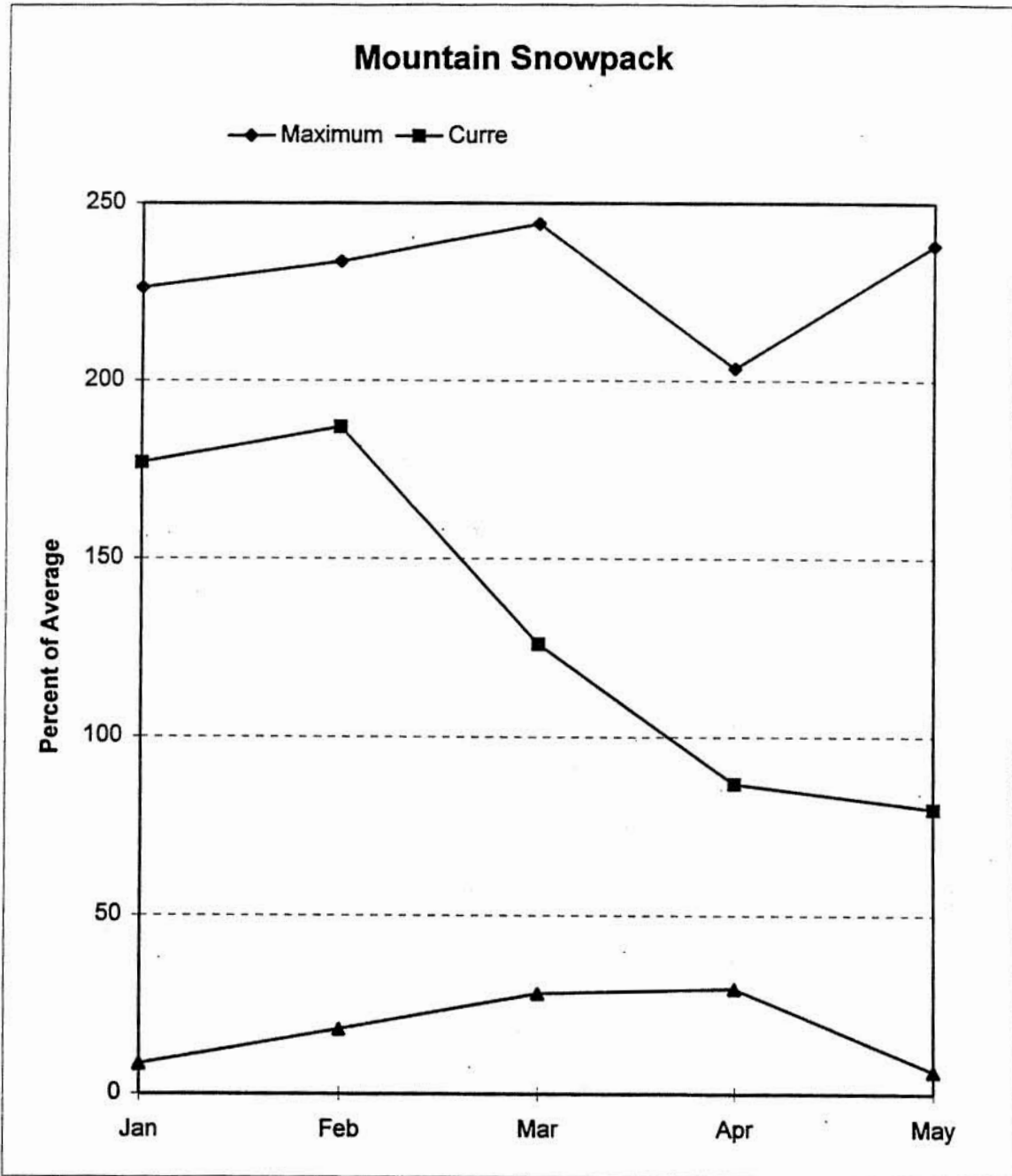
Truckee River Basin



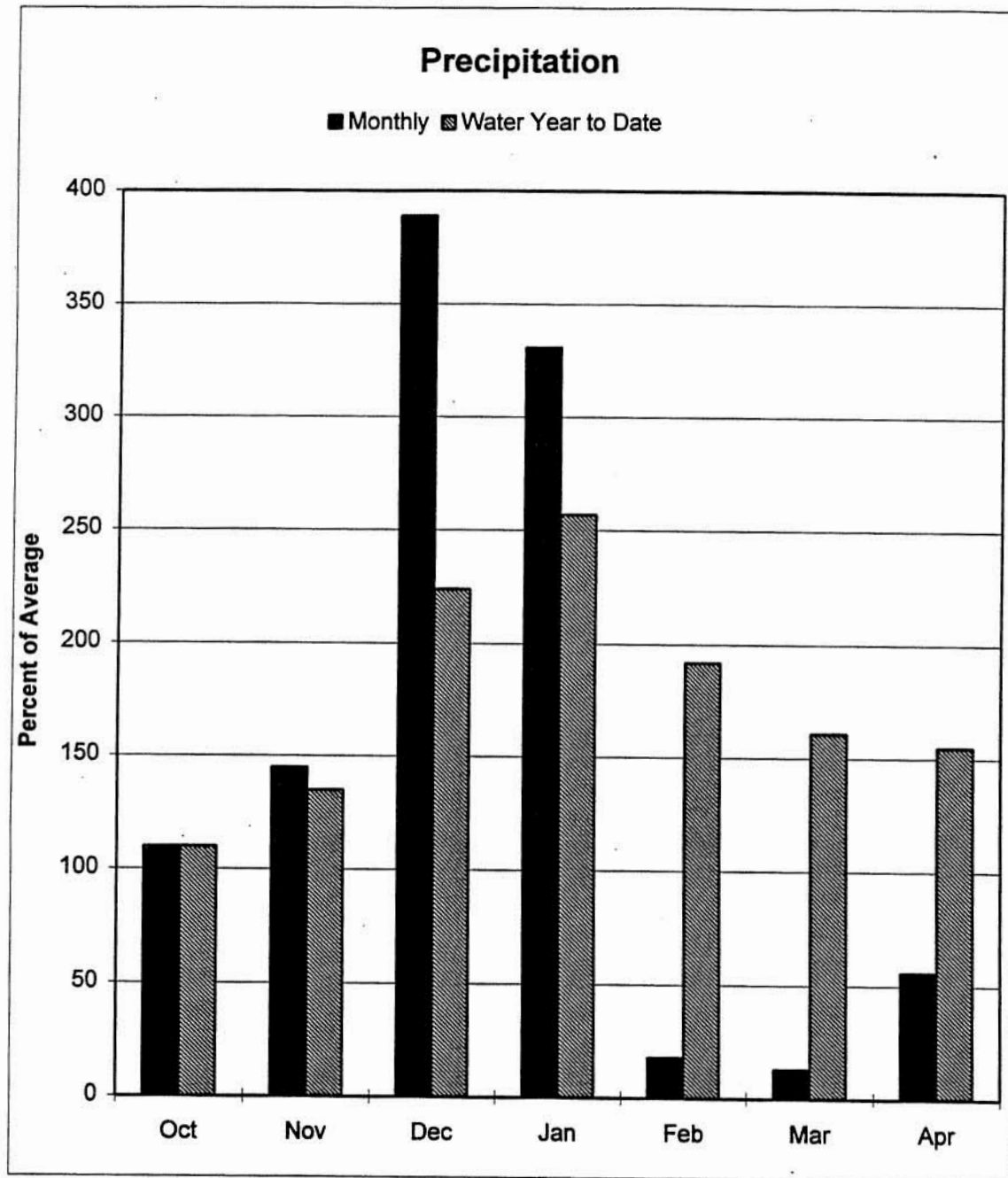
Carson River Basin



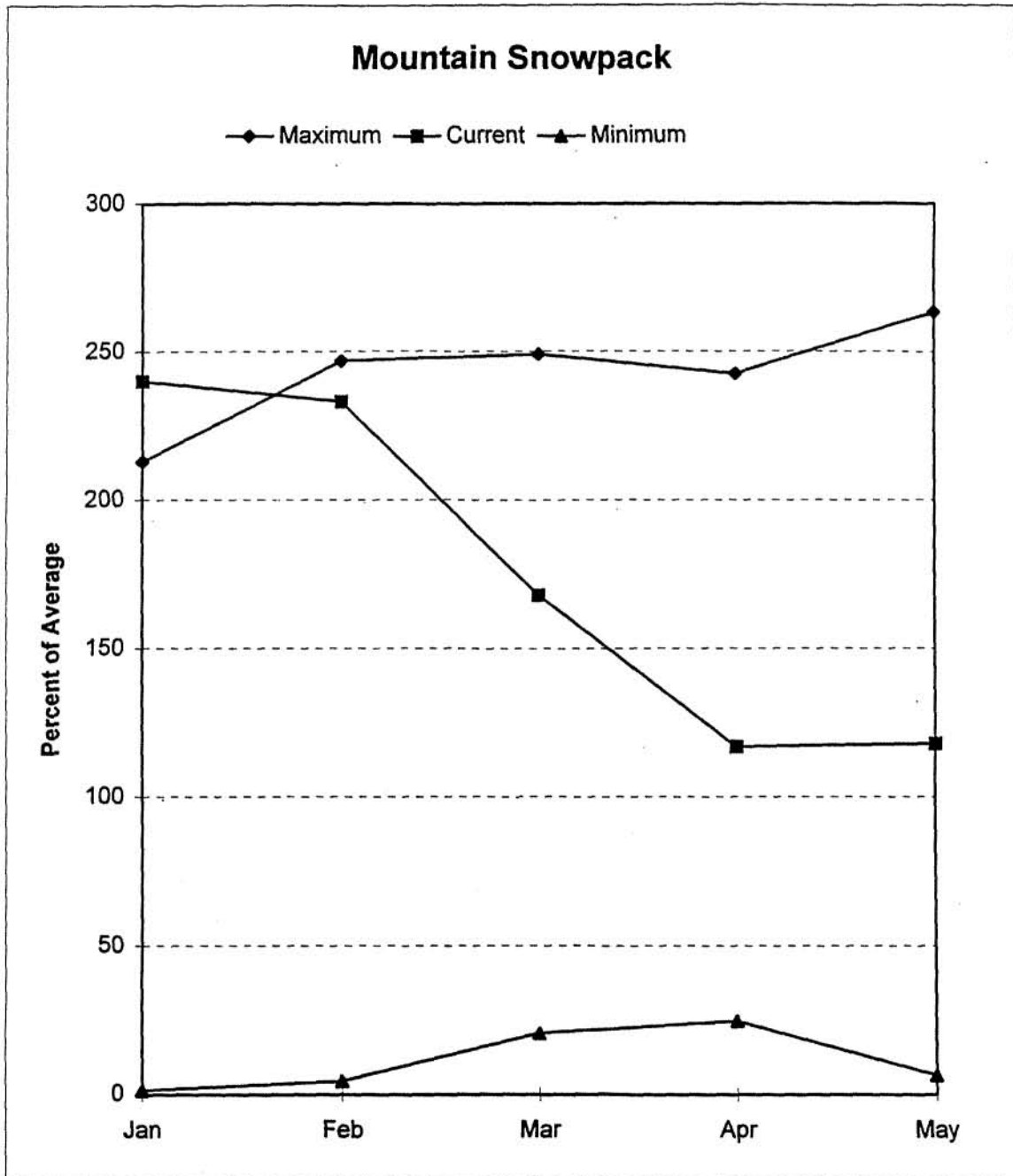
Carson River Basin



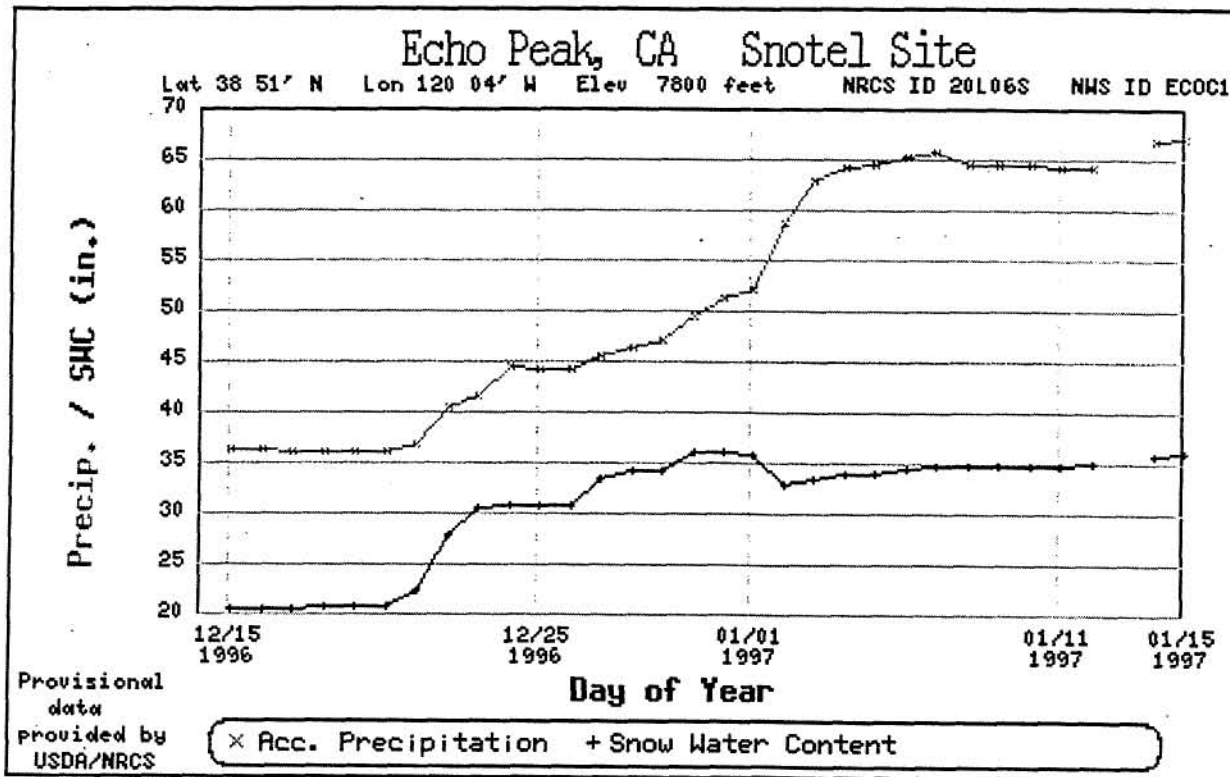
Walker River Basin



Walker River Basin



Snotel Graph

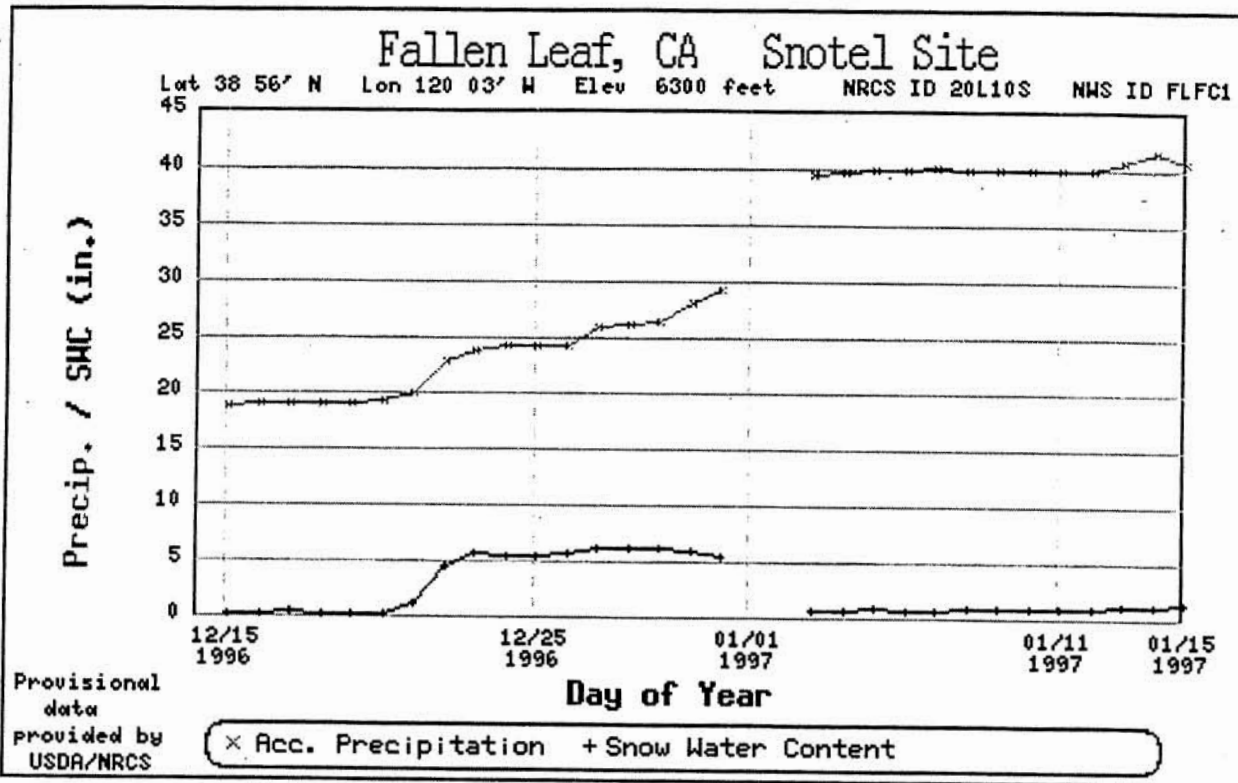


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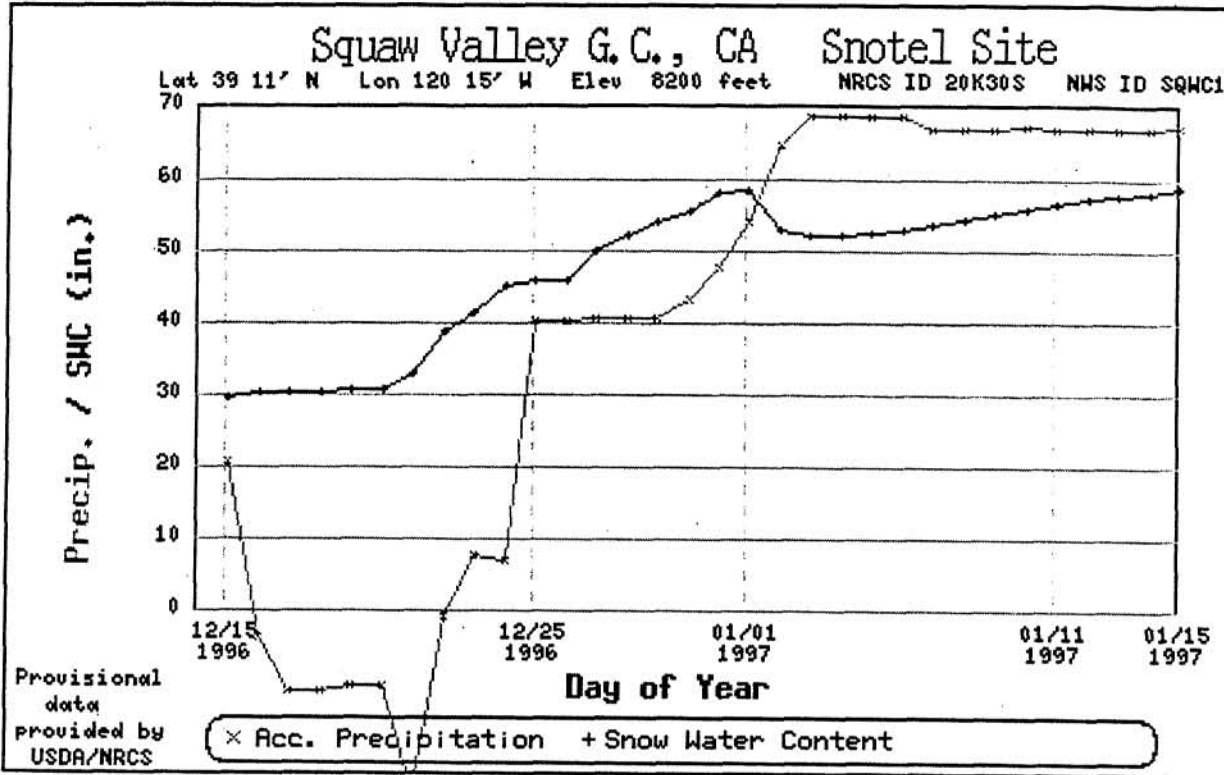


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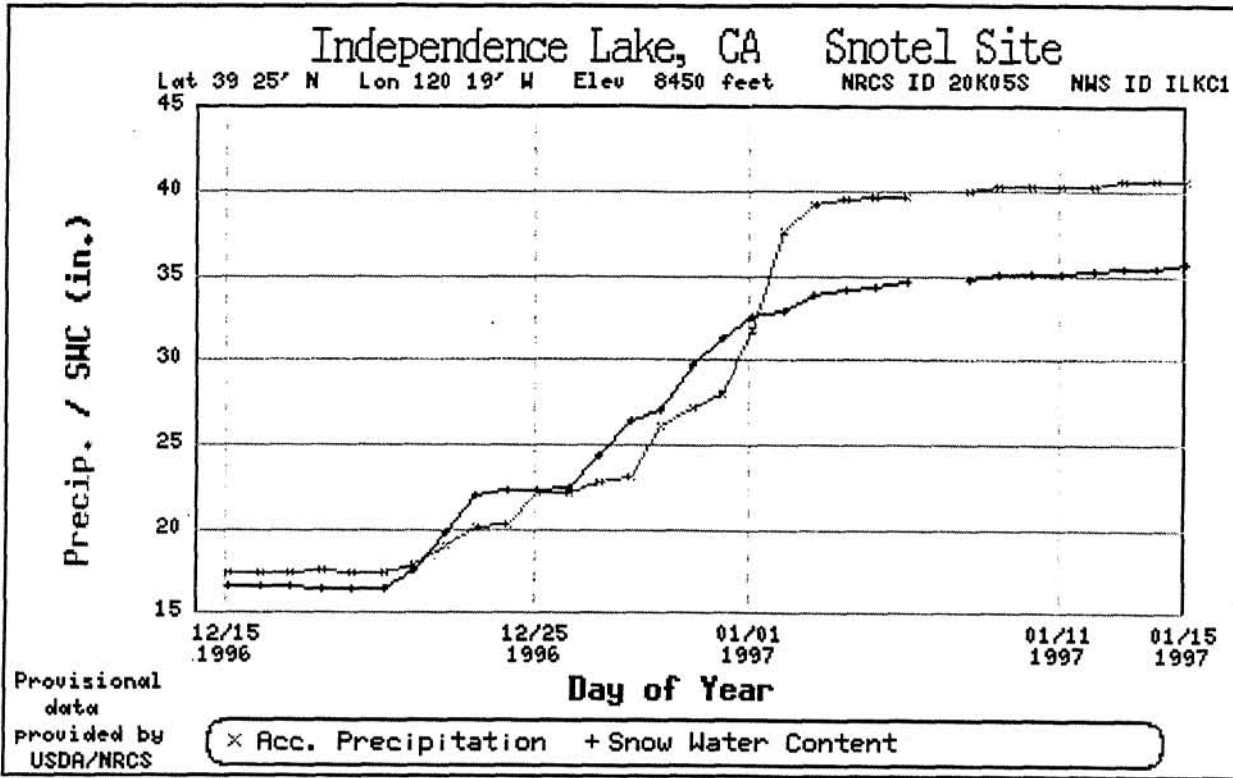


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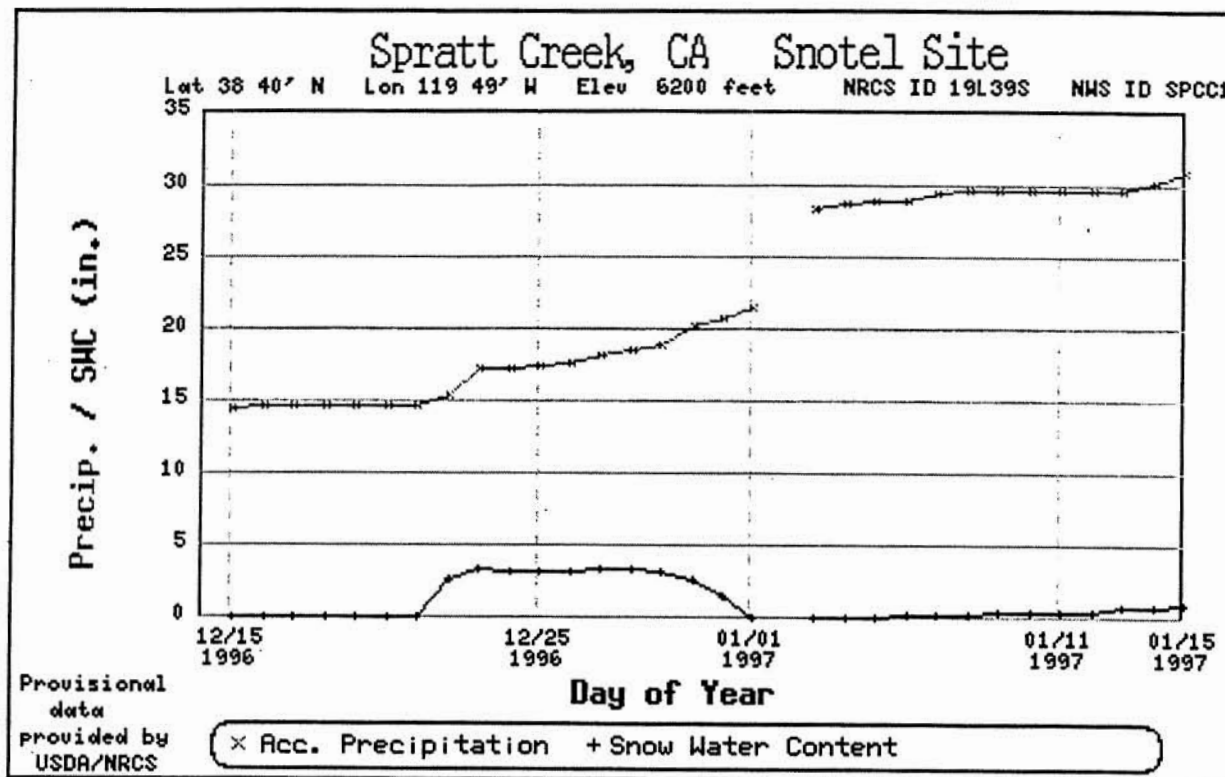


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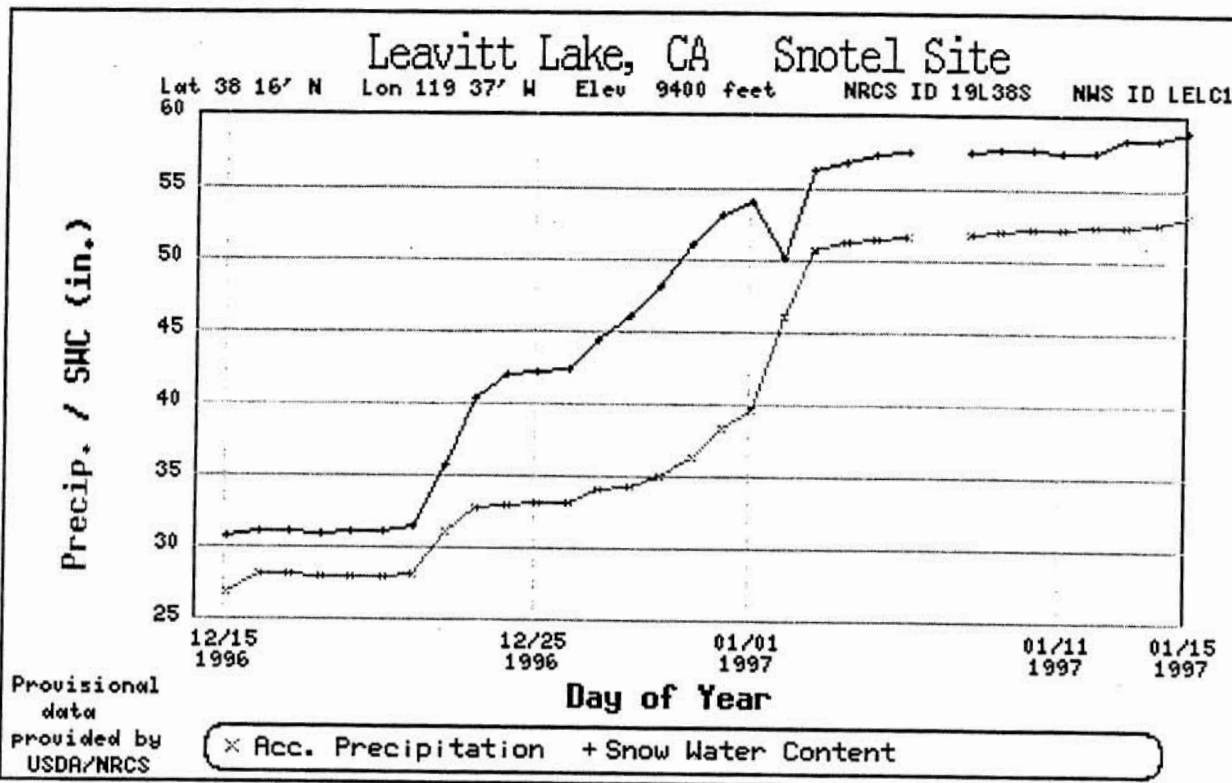


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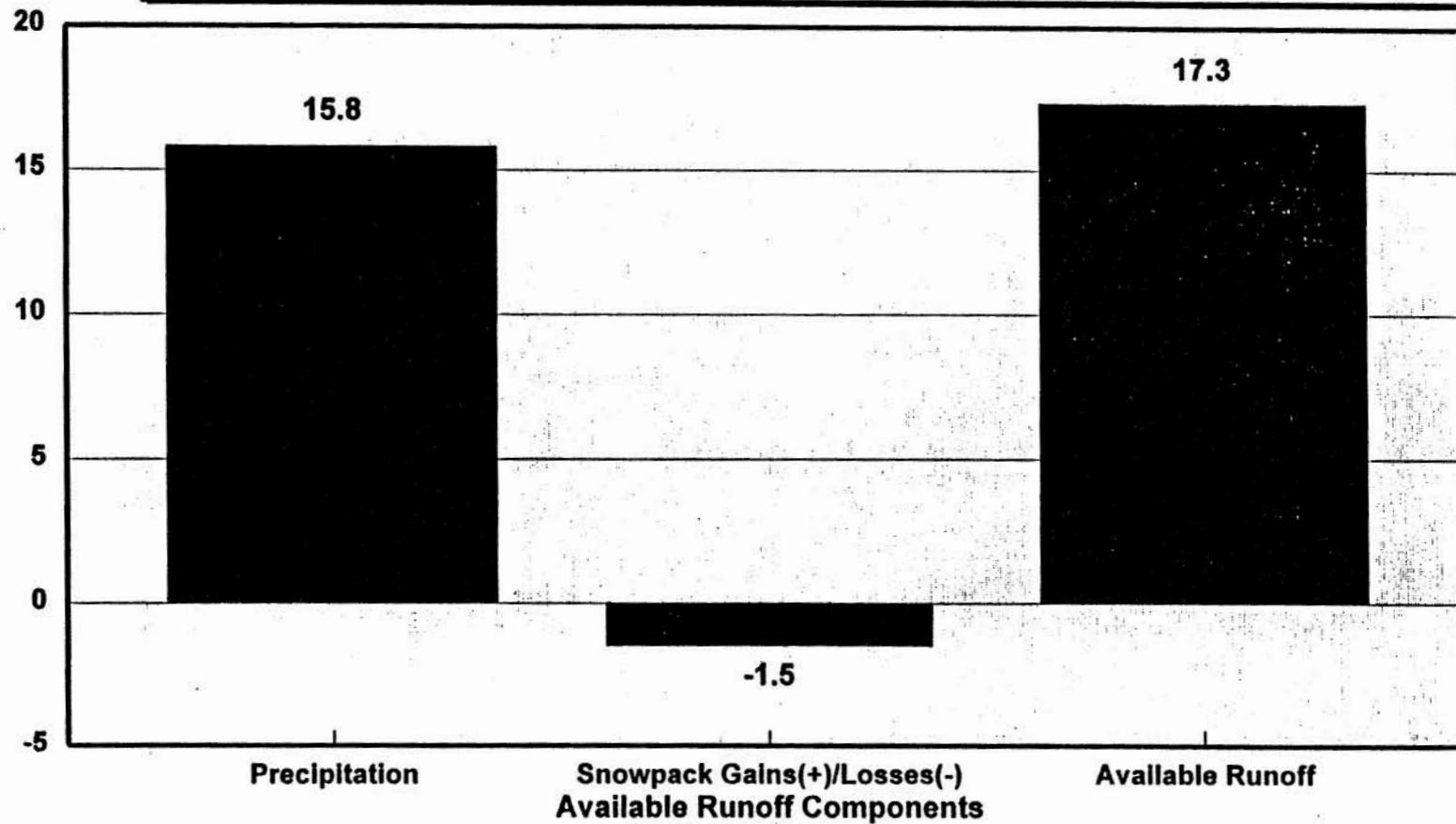
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Echo Peak (Elevation: 7,800 feet)

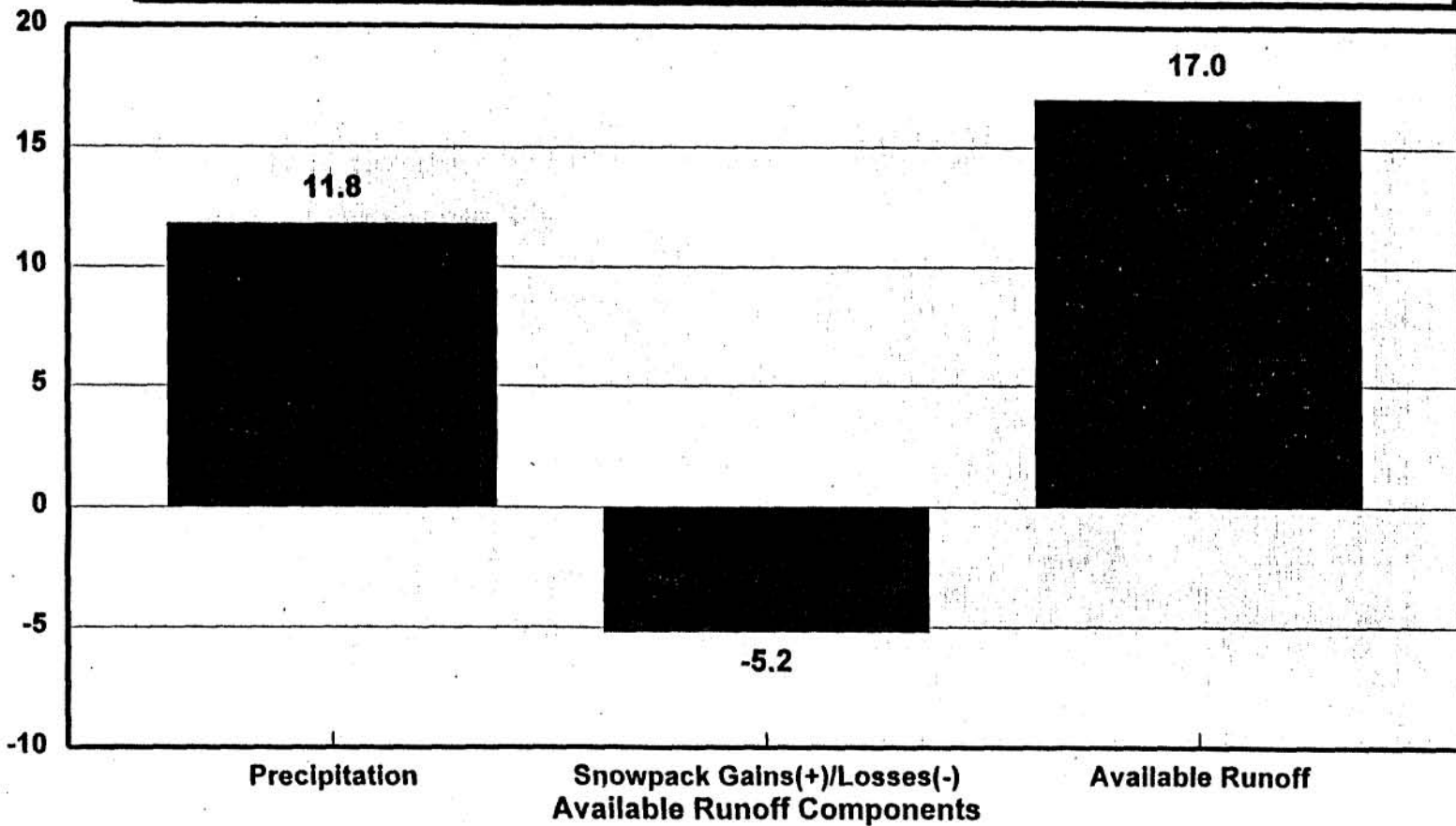
Composition of Total Available Runoff (Inches)--12/30/96-01/06/97



Snowpack Gains(+) = Accumulation / Snowpack losses(-) = Depletion

Fallen Leaf (Elevation: 6,300 feet)

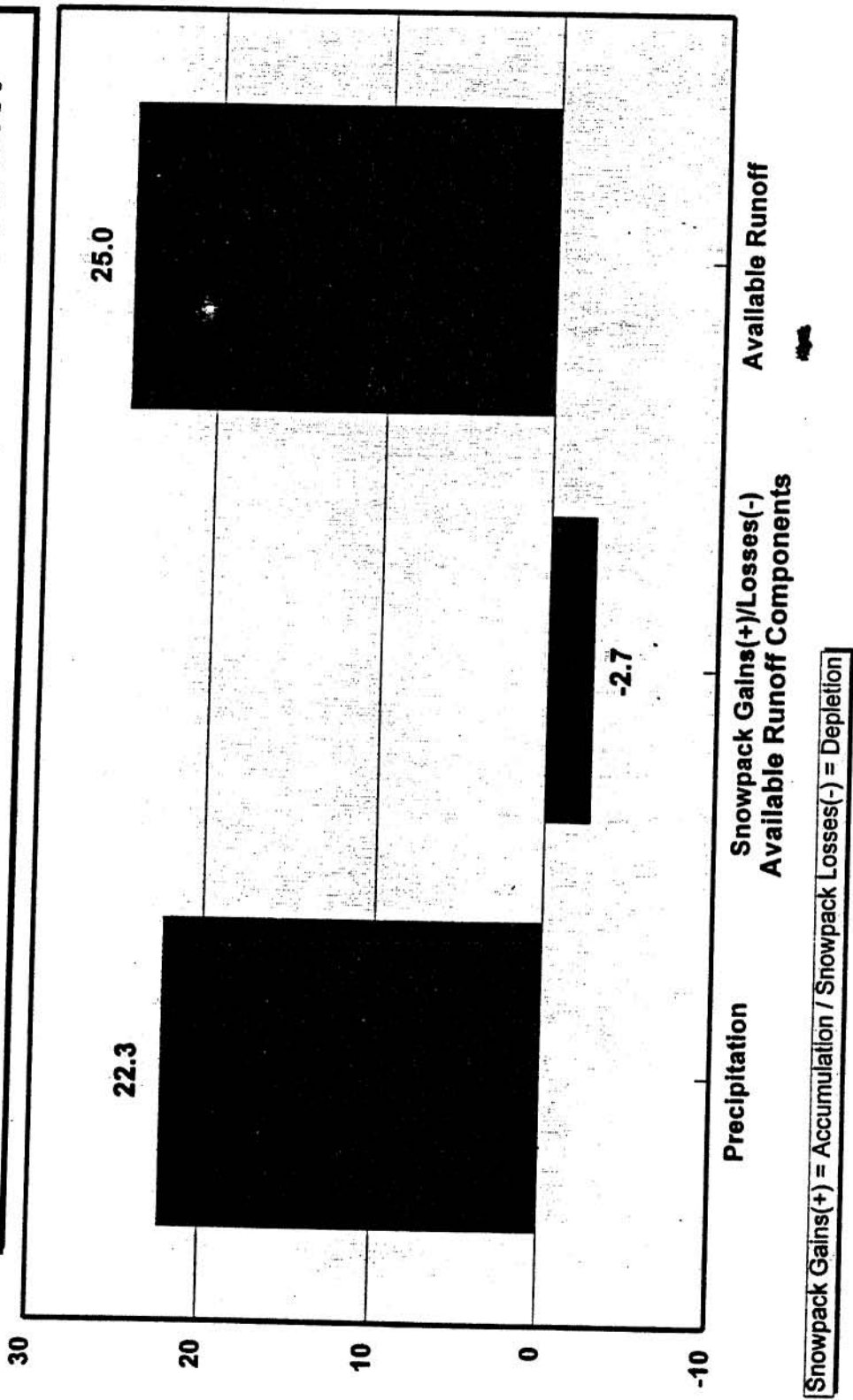
Composition of Total Available Runoff (Inches)--12/30/96-01/06/97



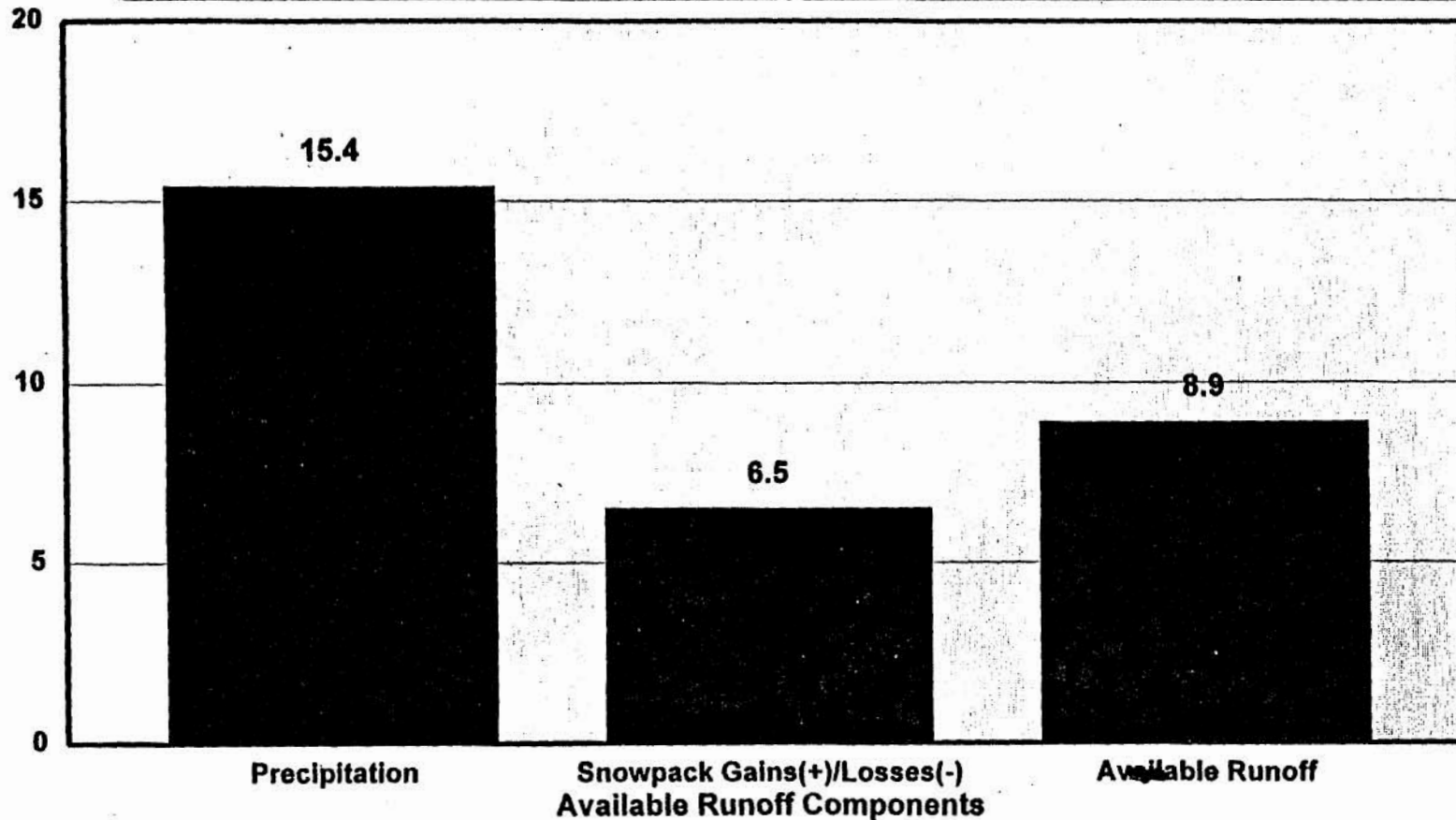
Snowpack Gains(+) = Accumulation / Snowpack Losses(-) = Depletion

Squaw Valley G.C. (Elevation: 8,200 feet)

Composition of Total Available Runoff (Inches)--12/30/96-01/06/97



Leavitt Lake (Elevation: 9,400 feet)
Composition of Total Available Runoff (Inches)--12/30/96-01/06/97



Snowpack Gains(+) = Accumulation / Snowpack Losses(-) = Depletion

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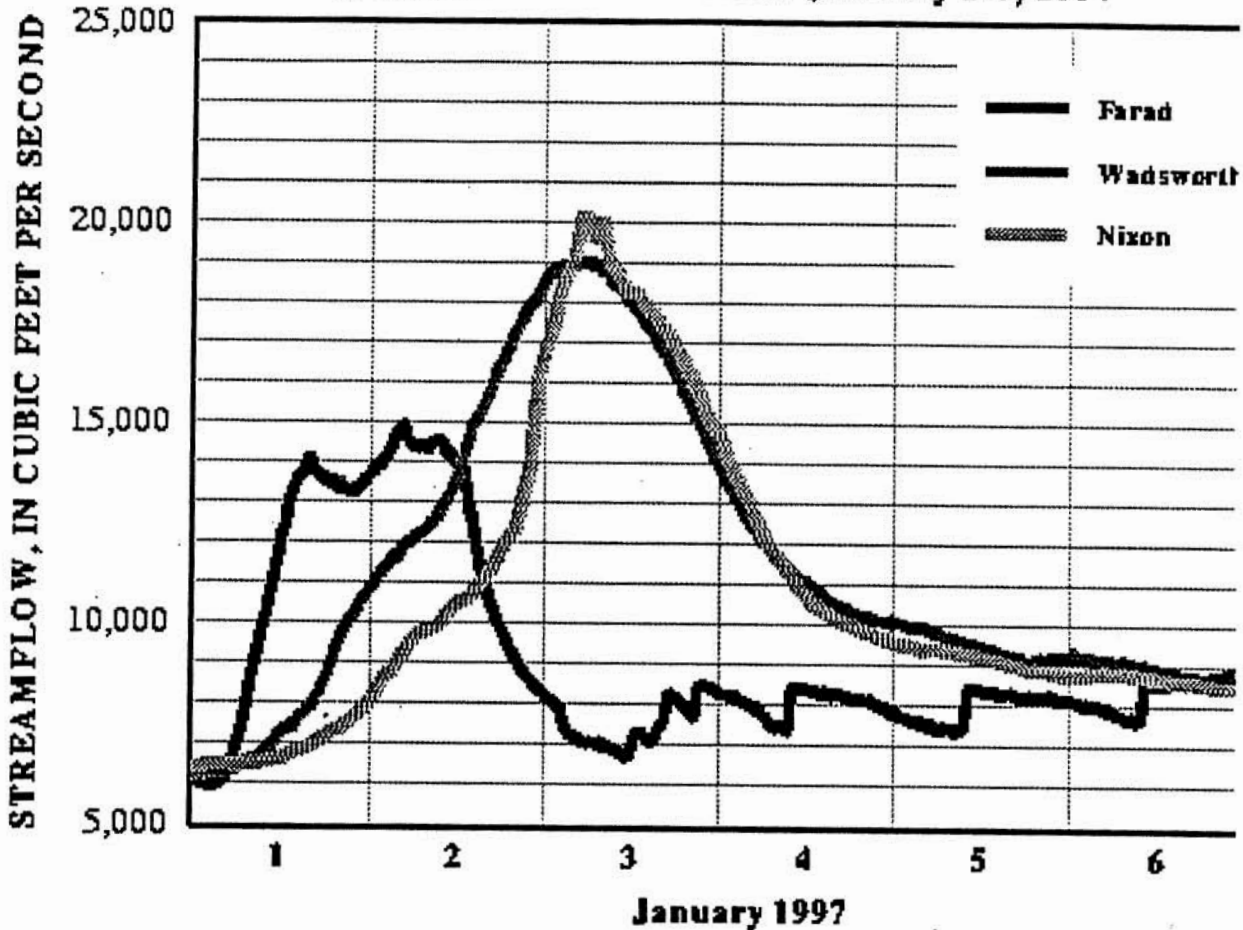
January 1997 Floods: Truckee Flood Wave



Water Resources of Nevada

Truckee River Flood Wave

**U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVIEW
Truckee River Flood Wave January 1-7, 1997**



The Truckee River flood wave crested at Farad, CA January 2 1997 at 4:45 AM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 13.17 feet (approx. 15,000 cubic feet per second.)

The flood wave then moved through Reno/Sparks NV and towards Wadsworth NV. It crested at Wadsworth, NV about 24 hours after the Farad peak flow, on January 3 1997 at 4:45 AM. The provisional peak stage was

19.62 feet (approx. 20,100 cubic feet per second.)

Just prior to entering Pyramid Lake, the flood wave crested at Nixon, NV on January 3, 1997 at 05:00 AM.
The provisional peak stage at that time was 13.92 feet (over 19,500 cubic feet per second.)



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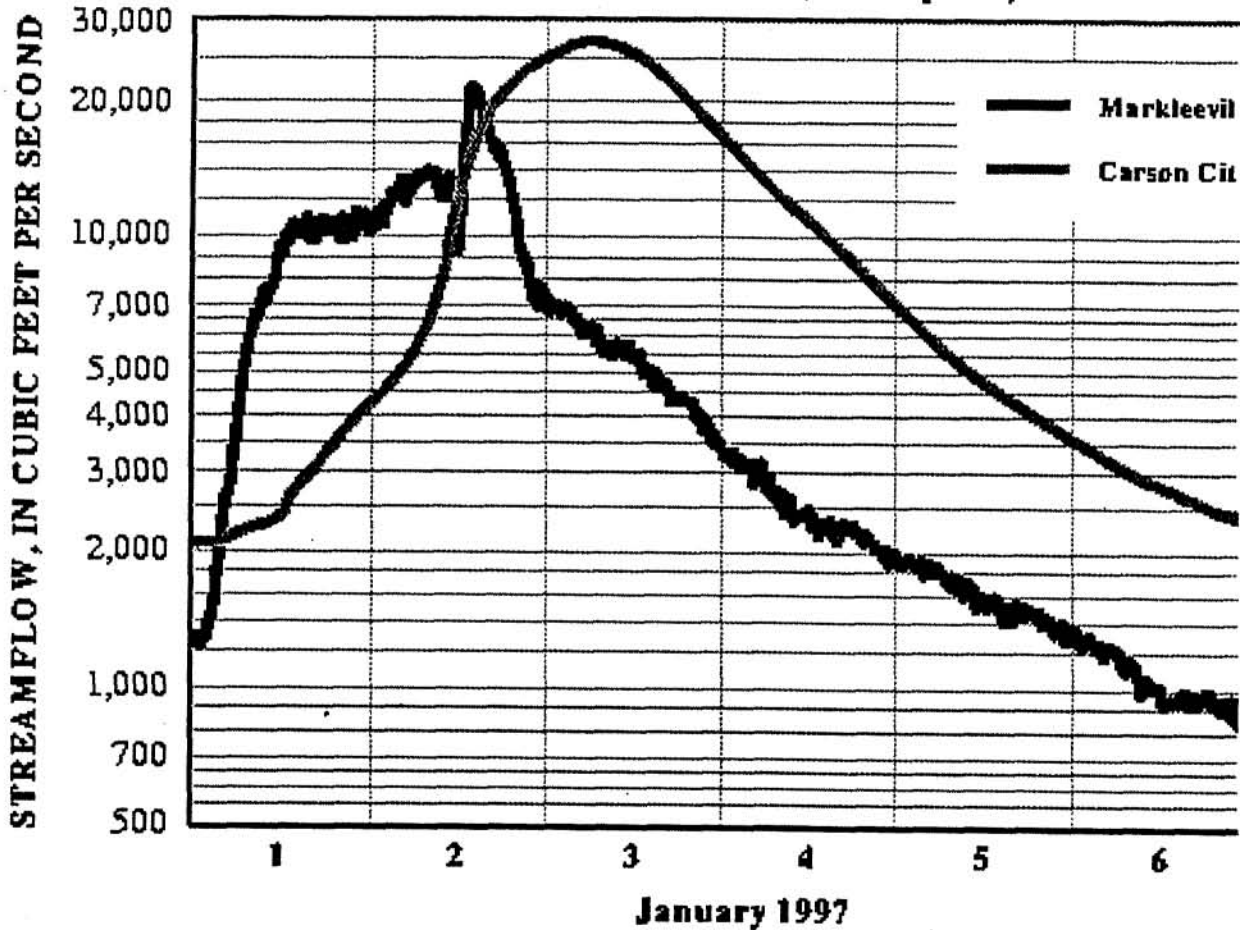
January 1997 Floods: Carson Flood Wave



Water Resources of Nevada

Carson River Flood Wave

**U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVIEW
Carson River Flood Wave January 1-7, 1997**



The Carson River flood wave crested on the East Fork Carson River at Markleeville, CA January 2, 1997 at 1:45 PM. The provisional stage was 11.78 feet (revised from 12.20 feet) and the provisional flow was 21,000 cubic feet per second (revised from 23,500 cubic feet per second).

The flood wave then moved through Carson Valley and past the gaging station at Carson City, at the north end

of Carson Valley. It crested at Carson City on January 3, 1997 at 5:30 AM. The provisional stage was 18.40 feet and the provisional flow was 27,200 cubic feet per second.

The gaging station at Fort Churchill, which is just above Lahontan Reservoir, was destroyed by the flood wave.



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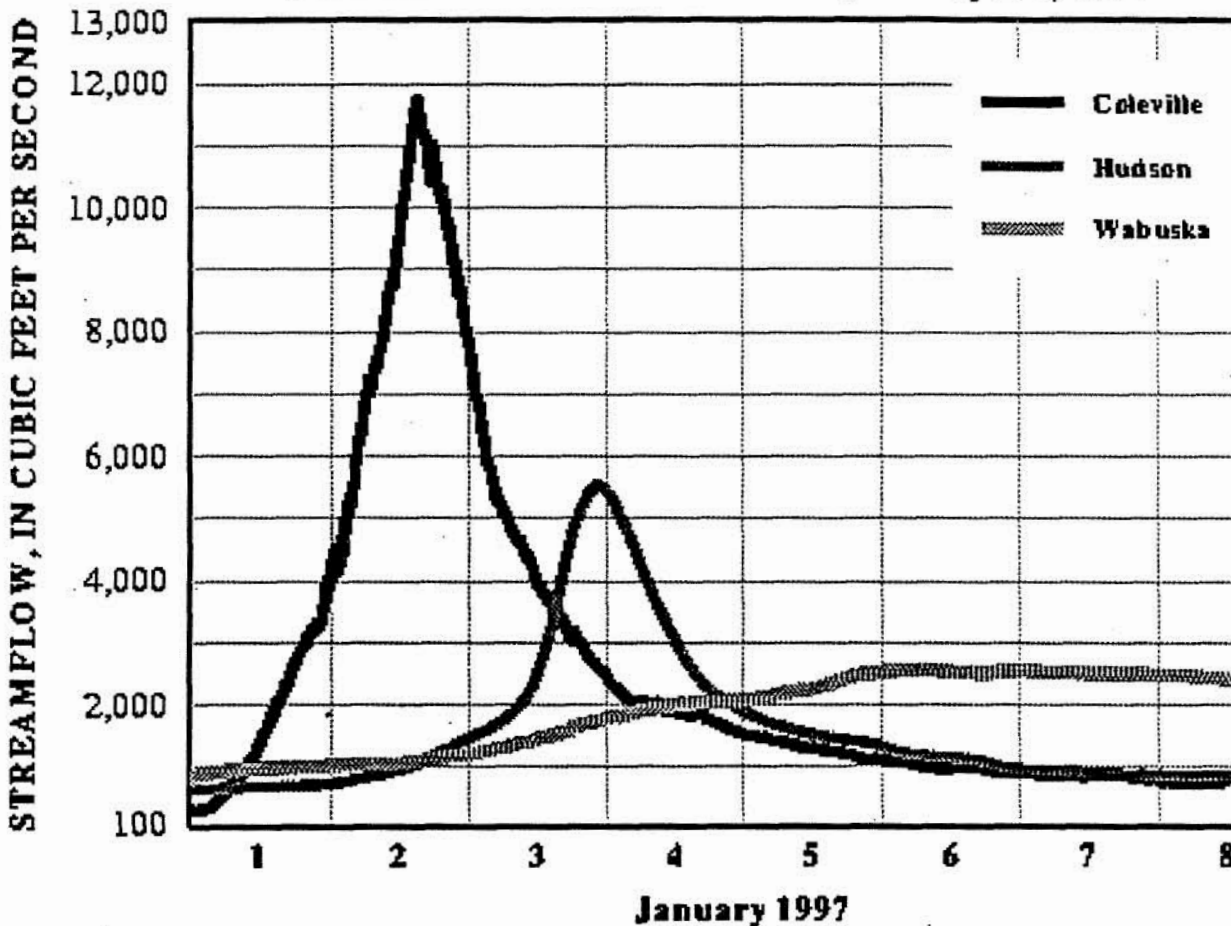
January 1997 Floods: West Walker Flood Wave



Water Resources of Nevada

West Walker River Flood Wave

**U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVIEW
West Walker River Flood Wave January 1-8, 1997**



The West Walker River flood wave crested at West Walker River below Little Walker River near Coleville, CA on January 2 about 3 PM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 10.06 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 11,700 cubic feet per second.

The flood wave passed through a long, narrow canyon south of Walker, CA. As the WestWalker River enters

Antelope Valley, it is diverted into Topaz Lake, a reservoir near the California-Nevada state line with a capacity of 59,400 acre-feet. When reservoirs are operated for flood control, they act as a very large detention basin, first holding the flood water and then releasing the water at a slower rate.

The flood wave then passed the gaging station at West Walker River near Hudson, NV, near where the West Walker River leaves Smith Valley, cresting on January 3 about 11 PM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 12.25 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 5,530 cubic feet per second. The flood peak is now less than half what it was at Coleville, this is due in part to the regulation at Topaz Lake.

The flood wave then entered Mason Valley, where the West Walker joins with the East Walker to form the Walker River. Mason Valley is a large broad valley that tends to reduce and extend the peak discharge. The Walker River flood wave crested near Wabuska on January 6 about 6:15 AM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 10.89 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 2,580 cubic feet per second. The hydrograph for this gaging station shows how the flood wave has been reduced and extended as it passed through Mason Valley.

Below Wabuska, the Walker River passes through Weber Reservoir, which has a capacity of 10,700 acre-feet. The Walker River flows into Walker Lake, which has no outlet.



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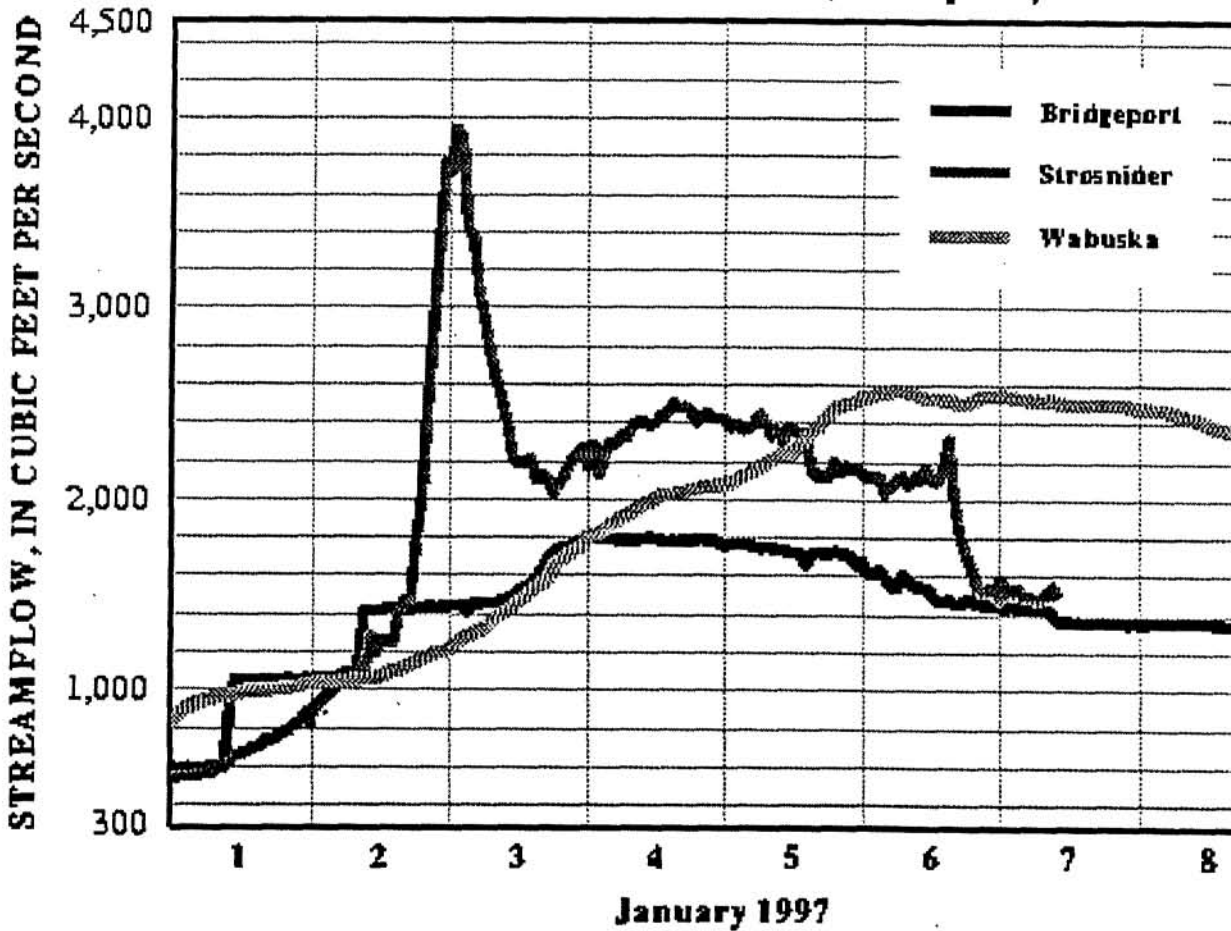
January 1997 Floods: East Walker Flood Wave



Water Resources of Nevada

East Walker River Flood Wave

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVIEW
East Walker River Flood Wave January 1-8, 1997



The East Walker River flood wave crested at East Walker River near Bridgeport, CA January 4 about 10:15 AM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 6.73 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 1,810 cubic feet per second. This gaging station is below Bridgeport Reservoir, which has a capacity of 42,460 acre-feet. The stair stepping seen on January 1 and 2 is the result of gates on the dam being opened.

It takes about 12 hours for the water that passes the Bridgeport gage to reach the gaging station upstream of Strosnider Ditch near Mason, NV. Between these two gaging stations there are no large streams that flow into the East Walker River, but the drainage area increases by more than 300 percent in a series of narrow canyons. The unregulated flow between these two gaging stations caused the flood wave to peak on January 3 at 1:30 AM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 9.65 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 4,000 cubic feet per second. A secondary peak, in response in part to the releases from Bridgeport Reservoir, occurred on the afternoon of January 4. Late on January 6, most of the streamflow at the Strosnider gaging station was from the releases from Bridgeport Reservoir.

The flood wave then entered Mason Valley, where the East Walker joins with the West Walker to form the Walker River. Mason Valley is a large broad valley that tends to reduce and extend the peak discharge. The Walker River flood wave crested near Wabuska on January 6 about 6:15 AM. The provisional peak stage at that time was 10.89 feet and the provisional discharge was approximately 2,580 cubic feet per second. The hydrograph for this gaging station shows how the flood wave has been reduced and extended as it passed through Mason Valley.

Below Wabuska, the Walker River passes through Weber Reservoir, which has a capacity of 10,700 acre-feet. The Walker River flows into Walker Lake, which has no outlet.



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January 1997 Floods: Peak Flow Summary



Water Resources of Nevada

Table 1 shows provisional data for key gaging stations in the Truckee, Carson, and Walker River basins.

DISCHARGE is the volume of water (or more broadly, volume of fluid plus suspended sediment) that passes a given point within a given period of time.

STAGE or GAGE-HEIGHT is the water-surface elevation referred to some arbitrary gagedatum. Gage height is often used interchangeably with the more general term "stage," although gage height is more appropriate when used with a reading on a gage.

RECURRENCE INTERVAL is the average number of years within which a flood stage or discharge is statistically expected to be exceeded once. In terms of probability, there is a 2-percent chance that a 50-year flood will occur in any given year.

For information on Stage and Discharge measurement methods see the U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1123: Stream-Gaging Program of the U.S. Geological Survey.

Flood narratives for January 7, 1997, January 6, 1997, January 4, 1997, and January 3, 1997.

Table 1. Provisional data for key gaging stations (P--estimated peak, C--current data, pre-crest).

Lake, River and Station ID	Station Name	Peak of Record Stage (ft)	Peak of Record Discharge (cfs)	Status as of 3/1/97 noon Unless otherwise indicated	Recurrence Interval in years for flood January '97
Lake Tahoe					
10337000	Lake Tahoe at Tahoe City, CA	6,231.26 (1907)	--	6,229.37 feet above sea level on 1-6-97 @ 0800	
Truckee River					
10346000	at Farad, CA	14.50 (1950)	17,500 (1950)	P 13.17 ft 15,000 cfs on 1-2-97 @ 0445	<50
10348000	at Reno, NV	13.83 ft (1950)	--	REVISED 3-1-97 P 14.94 ft 18,200 cfs on 1-2-97	<50
10348200	at Sparks, NV	--	--	REVISED 3-1-97 P 16.16 Bankfull Stage on 1-1-97	

10350000	at Vista, NV	16.76 (1963)	18,900 (1963)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 24.04 ft 18,500 cfs on 1-2-97	50
10350400	at Tracy, NV	15.20 (1986)	17,500 (1986)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 13.75 ft 20,200 cfs on 1-2-97	>50
<u>10351600</u>	below Derby Dam	14.26 (1963)	18,400 (1963)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 14.56 ft 19,700 cfs on 1-3-97	>50
<u>10351650</u>	at Wadsworth, NV	--	--	REVISED 3-1-97 P 20.17 ft 20,100 cfs on 1-3-97	>50
<u>10351700</u>	near Nixon, NV	13.01 (1986)	16,300 (1986)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 13.92 ft 19,500 cfs on 1-3-97	>50
Carson River					
<u>10308200</u>	E. Fork near Markleeville, CA	10.21 (1963)	15,100 (1963)	REVISED 1-6-97 P 11.78 ft 21,000 cfs on 1-2-97 @ 1530	>100
10309000	E. Fork near Gardnerville, NV	11.88 (1955)	16,700 (1955)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 12.8 ft 20,000 cfs	>100
<u>10310000</u>	W. Fork at Woodsfords CA	9.00 (1963)	4,890 (1963)	REVISED 3-1-97 100% of flow in new channel, Estimated P 8,000 cfs	>100
10311000	at Carson City, NV	16.00 (1955)	30,000 (1955)	P 18.40 ft 27,500 cfs on 1-3-97 @ 1130	<100
10311700	at Dayton, NV	--	--	Gage destroyed	
<u>10312000</u>	near Ft. Churchill, NV	13.35 (1986)	16,600 (1986)	REVISED 3-1-97 Gage destroyed P 22,300 cfs, on 1-3-97 @ 2000 Estimated	>100
10312150	below Lahontan Reservoir	8.05 (1983)	2,970 (1983)	REVISED 3-1-97 C 7.30 ft 2,320 cfs Controlled reservoir release	
Walker River					
<u>10293000</u>	E. Walker near Bridgeport, CA	4.95 (1943)	-- -- 1,390 (1963)	REVISED 1-15-97 P 6.73 ft 1,810 cfs on 1-4-97 @ 1015 Controlled reservoir release	
10296000	W. Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	8.10 (1950)	6,220 (1950)	REVISED 1-15-97 P 10.06 ft 11,700 cfs Rating Extension on 1-2-97 @ 1500	>100

10296500	W. Walker near Coleville, CA	-- --	6,500 cfs (1937)	REVISED 1-9-97 Gage destroyed 9.12 ft 6,500 cfs Last reading received on 1-2-97 @ 1330	>100
10297500	W. Walker at Hoyo Br. near Wellington, NV	9.32 (1995)	2,600 (1995)	P 13.60 ft 5,800 cfs on 1-3-97 Estimated	>100
10300000	W. Walker near Hudson, NV	7.42 (1955)	2,700 (1955)	REVISED 1-15-97 P 12.25 ft 5,530 cfs Rating extension on 1-3-97 @ 2300	>100
10301500	Walker near Wabuska, NV	-- -- 10.81 (1995)	3,280 (1906) -- --	REVISED 3-1-97 P 10.92 ft 2,600 cfs on 1-6-97 @ 0615	<50
10302002	near Schurz, NV	--	2,290 (1995)	REVISED 3-1-97 P 7.39 ft 2,370 cfs, on 1-9-97 @ 2115	

Who to Contact for Information



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