

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
Sacramento District  
American River peak discharge estimates for Jan. 1862 at Fair Oaks gage

This is one of three documents which contain American River peak discharge estimates for January 1862 flood event at the Fair Oaks gage (USGS 11446500). These documents were produced to help size and design Folsom Dam by estimating the largest flood the dam and reservoir would experience.

1941	Bossen Leslie E. Bossen, Assistant Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  "THE 1862 FLOOD ON THE AMERICAN RIVER, CALIFORNIA" (Aug. 1941)  Source: Ronald Stork, Friends of the River, 1418 20th Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95811
1941	Bossen Leslie E. Bossen, Assistant Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  "DISCHARGE RATING CURVES OF AMERICAN RIVER AT FAIR OAKS AND AT FOLSOM" (Aug. 1941)  Source: Ronald Stork, Friends of the River, 1418 20th Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95811
1943	Bossen Leslie E. Bossen, Assistant Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District  "THE FLOOD CREST OF JANUARY, 1943 ON THE AMERICAN RIVER" (Feb. 1943)  Source: Ronald Stork, Friends of the River, 1418 20th Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95811

Collected by Gary Estes  
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THE FLOOD CREST OF JANUARY, 1943  
ON THE AMERICAN RIVER

At this writing the 1943 flood crest elevations of American River at Fair Oaks U.S.G.S. station of 31.1 and last reported discharge of about 145,000 c.f.s. for this crest checks very well the decision reached after study of previously available highwater data and hydraulic properties relating to American River at Fair Oaks and Folsom (see American River hydraulic study by Bossen, August 1941) concerning the magnitude of the 1928 flood at Fair Oaks. Folsom crest gage height is unknown at this time but drift marks were observed at both the Folsom bridge and the Old Stone Mill site upstream. The flood crest at the bridge was at about 139.7 elevation U.S.G.S. datum. The 1943 and other highwater levels at the Stockton-Coover Mill Site upstream of Folsom bridge are as follows:

Jan. 1942 flood	164.3	from drift line U.S.E.D.
Mar. 1940 flood	168.0	from drift line U.S.E.D.
Feb. 1925 flood	168.8	from State records
Dec. 1937 flood	171.1	from drift line U.S.E.D.
Mar. 1907 flood	171.8	from photo U.S.G.S. publication
Jan. 1943 flood	172.9	from drift line U.S.E.D.
Mar. 1928 flood	175.0	U.S.G.S. observation checked by drift line U.S.E.D.
Jan. 1862 flood	182.9	from notes by Leit

Elevations are U.S.G.S. datum and all levels are corrected to give levels at the same point of observation.

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