

State of Idaho DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, Statehouse Mail, Boise, Idaho 83720-9000 Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

July 30, 1996

RECEIVED

PHILIP E. BATT GOVERNOR

Richard Krettin Watermaster, Water District 67-A 1000 W Indian Valley Cambridge, ID 83610

JUL 3 1 1996

KARL J. DREHER DIRECTOR

WATER RESOURCES WESTERN REGION

Re: Field Measurements of 7/23/96, & Reservoir Storage Curve

Dear Mr. Krettin:

Thanks for the opportunity to visit with you last week. Enclosed are the original discharge measurement notes from our two measurements made on July 23. I have made photocopies of these notes for my files, and sent a copy to Steve Lester for his reference as well. The discharge measured at the Little Weiser River below Mill Creek (former USGS station, upper location), was calculated at 36.4 cfs. The measured discharge for the Indian Valley Gray's Creek diversion was computed as 30.3 cfs.

Also enclosed is a stage-storage curve for the C. Ben Ross Reservoir. I obtained this copy from the Department's dam safety files. This rating curve should be easier to use than the table you showed me since you can pick off gage heights and their corresponding storage volumes from the curve, thus avoiding some of the cumbersome interpolation associated with use of the table. It is my understanding that the curve was derived from a reservoir capacity table made in 1935. Please be aware that the stage-storage relation may have lost some accuracy over time due to siltation etc. Also be aware that changes in storage will include some evaporation component, and may also include losses or gains due to seepage, bank storage etc.

Daily or frequent observations of reservoir level changes and use of the curve are probably useful to get a reasonable estimate of the amount of water discharged from the reservoir. However, due to ditch diversions between the reservoir and the river, ditch losses, and the accuracy of the curve itself, I would not recommend relying solely on this method for determining the amount of storage water which is actually injected to the river. I would instead encourage you to make some periodic measurements of the reservoir canals at some convenient location near the river (i.e.; as close as possible to the river), or request reservoir owners or water district to install measuring devices at such locations. Weirs or flumes can be placed in the reservoir canals for a reasonable cost.

Please do not hesitate to call me if I you have questions or need any assistance. I encourage you to keep up the good work

and continue with your periodic measurements of the ditch diversions. I think it would be helpful to make another measurement of the river this season (assuming that the gage height changes). Call Steve Lester or I if you need help with this additional measurement.

Sincerely,

Tim Luke

cc: Steve Lester, Western Region

State of Idaho Department of Water Resources Water District

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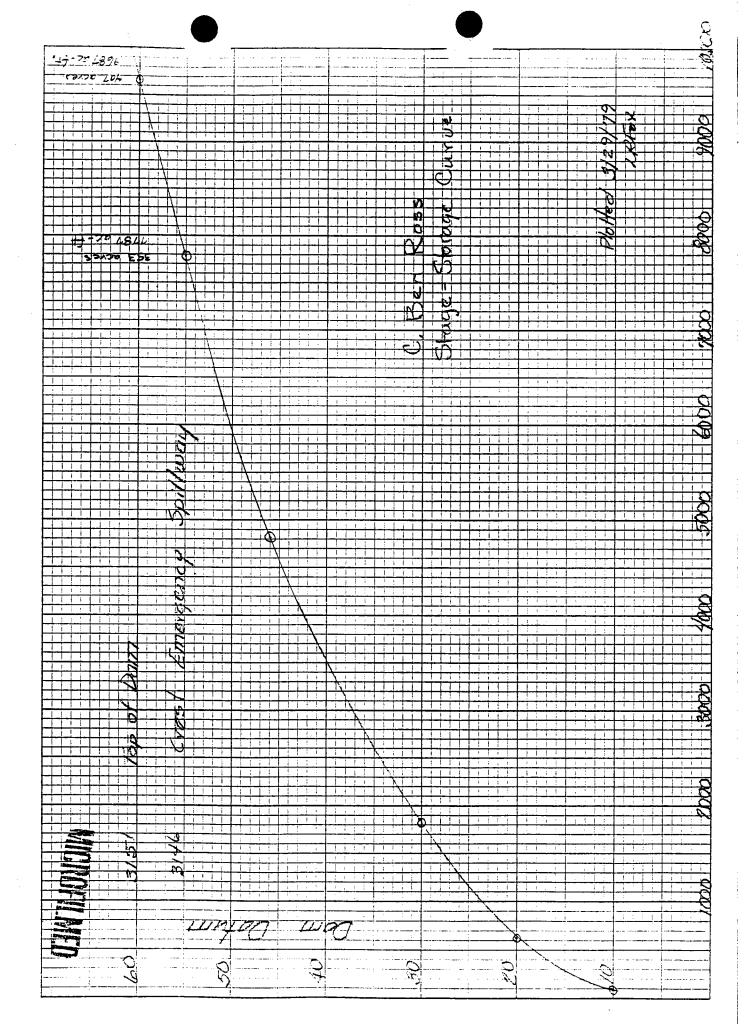
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