

SKAGIT RIVER BASIN

12177700 GORGE RESERVOIR NEAR NEWHALEM, WA

LOCATION.--Lat 48°41'53", long 121°12'25", in NW 1/4 sec.14, T.37 N., R.12 E., Whatcom County, Hydrologic Unit 17110005, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, at Gorge Dam on Skagit River, 2.4 mi upstream from Gorge powerplant at Newhalem, and at mile 96.6.

DRAINAGE AREA.--1,159 mi², includes 400 mi² in Canada.

PERIOD OF RECORD.--June 1960 to current year.

GAGE.--Water-stage recorder; prior to Apr. 1, 1962, reference point on Gorge Dam or water-stage indicator in powerhouse. Datum of gage is 0.00 ft City of Seattle Gorge High Dam datum, and 1.792 ft below sea level (Corps of Engineers' benchmark).

REMARKS.--Reservoir is formed by concrete-arch and gravity dam, completed Dec. 27, 1960; storage began June 27, 1960. Usable storage, 2,115 acre-ft between elevations 865 ft, normal lower limit of operation, and 875 ft, top of gates. Lowest outlet at elevation 760 ft. No dead storage. Crest of spillway is at elevation 825 ft. Water used by City of Seattle for power development at Gorge powerplant. Capacity table furnished by City of Seattle. Figures given herein represent total contents.

EXTREMES FOR PERIOD OF RECORD.--Maximum contents, 9,761 acre-ft June 1, 1982, elevation, 880.01 ft; minimum observed contents since normal low operating level was reached in December 1960, 172 acre-ft Aug. 13, 1997, elevation, 781.75 ft (City of Seattle).

EXTREMES FOR CURRENT YEAR.--Maximum contents, 9,230 acre-ft Nov. 12, elevation, 877.99 ft; minimum recorded contents, 6,795 acre-ft Sept. 18, elevation, 867.28 ft.

MONTHEND GAGE HEIGHT AND CONTENTS AT 2400, WATER YEAR OCTOBER 1999 TO SEPTEMBER 2000

Date	Gage height (feet)	Contents (acre-feet)	Change in contents (acre-feet)
Sept. 30.....	870.15	7,381	
Oct. 31.....	872.13	7,816	+435
Nov. 30.....	873.49	8,128	+312
Dec. 31.....	871.41	7,656	-472
CAL YR 1999.....	--	--	-326
Jan. 31.....	871.62	7,702	+46
Feb. 29.....	872.36	7,868	+166
Mar. 31.....	872.03	7,793	-75
Apr. 30.....	872.37	7,870	+77
May 31.....	873.37	8,100	+230
June 30.....	870.31	7,415	-685
July 31.....	873.21	8,063	+648
Aug. 31.....	872.17	7,825	-238
Sept. 30.....	871.45	7,664	-161
WTR YR 2000.....	--	--	+283