

12177700 GORGE RESERVOIR NEAR NEWHALEM, WA

Puget Sound Basin
Upper Skagit Subbasin

LOCATION.--Lat 48°41'53", long 121°12'25" referenced to North American Datum of 1927, in NW ¼ sec.14, T.37 N., R.12 E., Whatcom County, WA, 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.

SURFACE-WATER RECORDS

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 NGVD of 1929 (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, 9,042 acre-ft July 14, elevation, 877.25 ft; minimum recorded contents, 6,875 acre-ft May 2, elevation, 867.69 ft.

MONTH-END ELEVATION AND CONTENTS AT 2400
WATER YEAR OCTOBER 2005 TO SEPTEMBER 2006

Date	Elevation (feet)	Contents (acre-feet)	Change in contents
September 30	873.96	8,238	--
October 31	874.32	8,323	+85
November 30	872.64	7,932	-391
December 31	870.68	7,496	-436
Calendar Year 2005	--	--	-15
January 31	872.41	7,880	+384
February 28	874.27	8,311	+431
March 31	872.57	7,916	-395
April 30	873.04	8,023	+107
May 31	872.21	7,834	-189
June 30	876.76	8,918	+1,084
July 31	870.90	7,543	-1,375
August 31	871.05	7,576	+33
September 30	870.96	7,556	-20
Water Year 2006	--	--	-682