



WATER-RIGHT DOCKET

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park (see also: KICA)

Docket No: 8

DORST CREEK CAMPGROUND

Preliminary Docket Information

01-12-2015: Memo to File: Refer to Drought Assessment in Docket 1

January 12, 2015

MEMO TO FILE

In 2014, the State of California suffered the third consecutive year of extreme drought. In January 2014, the Governor declared a drought emergency. The State Water Resources Control Board issued projections for the summer of 2014 as to likely calls for curtailment in the state's major watersheds.

In response, WRB contacted all of the NPS units in California regarding the drought and offered WRB's services to assist in preparations for potential calls for curtailment. A few parks responded, and WRB prepared drought assessments for SEKI, YOSE, and LAVO, and also worked with PINN and WHIS. The drought assessments included an inventory of the park's rights and uses, an assessment of the relative seniority of the parks rights, and an estimation of the likelihood of the park's rights being called for curtailment. In spring 2014, WRB sent to SEKI, YOSE, and LAVO the drought assessments with recommendations to ensure that park water needs were protected.

In summer 2014, the Board did issue calls for curtailment of post-1914 rights in order to protect the diversions of senior rights (pre-1914 and riparian). In addition, the State legislature passed laws regarding the management of groundwater—the first legislation regarding groundwater in the State's history. As a result of these developments, WRB updated the drought assessment and provided a final hardcopy to SEKI, LAVO, and YOSE, reflecting these developments.

Given the size of the drought assessment, one hard copy was put into Docket #1 of each park listed above in the section "Other Supporting Information". In the remaining dockets, this Memo to File has been placed, referring readers to the drought assessment located in Docket #1.

In addition, the Drought Assessment is cross referenced as a .PDF in IRMA (Code No. 2242660) in each applicable docket.

Eric Lord
Water Rights Specialist
January 2015



National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Natural Resource Stewardship & Science
Water Resources Division

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Water Rights Branch

Note to File

Date: July 21, 2017
From: Sally Jordan-Hemming, Research Assistant
File: SEKI Dockets (All)
Subject: Other Supporting Information
1) Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks California Drought Assessment

- 1) Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks California Drought Assessment
IRMA – Data Store – Published Report – (Code: 2242660)
<https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2242660>

Description

WRB prepared drought assessments for SEKI, YOSE, and LAVO, and also worked with PINN and WHIS. The drought assessments included an inventory of the park's rights and uses, an assessment of the relative seniority of the parks rights, and an estimation of the likelihood of the park's rights being called for curtailment

May 4, 1960

Memorandum (AIR MAIL)

To: Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
 From: Supervisory Engineer, WDC
 Subject: Working Drawing, Water System, Dorst Creek Campground -
 Sequoia and Kings Canyon

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As no preliminary drawing was made for this project, attached for your approval are two prints of Working Drawing No. W-51-3235, described as Water System, Dorst Creek Campground, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which was signed by Mr. Sanford Hill, Chief, WDC, on April 27, 1960. The approval procedure should be the same as if this were a preliminary drawing.

By copy of this memorandum we are forwarding one print each to the Chief of Design and Construction, and the Regional Director, Region Four.

The estimated cost as shown is \$72,101, while the programmed amount for FY 1961 is \$56,100 for construction.

The plan here presented is considerably different from the one proposed in FCP U-53. The plan as proposed in the FCP was to divert water from another branch of Dorst Creek. Field studies made in the fall of 1959 revealed that to get sufficient head it would be necessary to go above the forks of this stream, and two separate diversions would have been required. These diversion points would be several hundred feet apart. This feature was undesirable, and in addition, there was an almost immeasurable amount of water available in each fork of this stream. No attempt was made to measure it but the Project Supervisor estimated that the combined flow of the two forks at that time was about two to three C.F.M.

The proposed plan would have served the group camping area and Section Four, but would not have taken care of anything in the other sections of the campground.

Due to the fact that the water supply from this source was almost nil, an investigation was made of the branch of Dorst Creek from which the present system is being diverted. A 90° V-notch weir was set in flesh board grooves of the present diversion structure and readings were observed at several times over about a two-week period

SEALED

in November. The flow seemed to be practically constant at 37 C.F.M. Most of the time this stream will produce much more water than this minimum, or near minimum, flow. High-water marks indicate that at some time there had apparently been a flow of perhaps 200 c.f.s. or more in this stream.

The present diversion is a 4-inch line from a box in the open stream, without benefit of filtration and without storage.

The diversion system presented in this drawing would be upstream about 180' from the present diversion, and the outlet pipe would be about 30' higher than the present outlet pipe. The top of the proposed spillway is approximately another 5' above the invert of the diversion pipe. The diversion structure is to be a concrete dam 10' high and 35' long, anchored into solid granite on the bottom and both abutments, with a 10' wide spillway. Back of the dam will be located four 8" perforated pipe covered with graded gravel and sand. The perforated pipes connect with a collection box upstream from the dam, and the water is then diverted by a 4" supply line or a 4" drain line, which feeds back to the stream. About 265' downstream from the diversion would be located a chlorinator house, housing a water-operated solution feed chlorinator. The portion of the water chlorinated would be fed back into the 4" supply line in a manhole, at a point 5' above the water surface of the storage reservoir, in order that there be no back pressure against the chlorination.

From the chlorinator the water would go to a 50,000-gallon steel tank at Station 4+70, the bottom of which is at elevation 6853 and the overflow at 6868. The system is designed to operate the chlorinator manually, keeping the reservoir full and wasting a small amount of chlorinated water back to the stream through the overflow pipe.

The water is to be diverted from the steel tank in a 6" cast iron cement-mortar-lined pipe and then go through a 6" meter; thence to the area to be served in the Group Camping Area and Section Four. At Station 29+75.48 the 6" line ends and the line becomes a 4" loop 4340' long and serving the five proposed comfort stations and a proposed amphitheater with water and fire protection, along with a number of water hydrants to serve the campsite. A number of valves have been shown in the plans to isolate portions of the line. We have planned for 3' of cover over the pipes, and the pipes are also graded and provided with drains so that the entire system can be drained if so desired.

The plan as shown on the drawing is to connect the 6" line to the existing 4" line at Station 19+00. The 4" line back of this tie would be abandoned and the existing system would be supplied with chlorinated water. It is believed that the existing 4" Universal cast-iron pipe is in fair shape and could be salvaged by the Park forces at very little cost, as it is either above ground or covered very lightly throughout. The plan also calls for a tee for a future 4" supply to future campgrounds, and provides for tying in the 6" line with the existing 2" line at Station 29+70; to better serve Sections Two and Three. The existing 2" galvanized steel line below this point, now serving the Group Camping Area, would be abandoned and could be salvaged - all or in part - by Park forces, if thought desirable.

This system not only provides for the area requested in the RCR, but will provide more and better water for the existing system, and will provide for some future expansion in the area.

The estimate exceeds the programmed construction amount by \$16,001, or approximately 13%. It is our recommendation that nothing be deleted from this project, however, in attempting to bring the cost down to the programmed amount, nor do we recommend changing to another type of pipe in an attempt to save a few dollars in initial cost. We note that there are funds available for FY 1961 which are being proposed for use in the Hospital Rock, Potrero and Buckeye Flat area. Since we do not at the present time have the survey data needed to proceed with the design of this work, it is our suggestion that a portion of this money be diverted to this project which is ready for construction provided we have sufficient funds.

(Sgd.) P. E. Smith

P. E. Smith
Supervisory Engineer

In duplicate

Attachments

Copy to: Chief of BSC) (AIR MAIL)
Reg. Dir., Region Four) (regular mail) cc. w/attach.
✓ Chief, Water Resources Section

Docket Information

Number of Documents in Docket 5

Documents Dated from 5/4/1960 to 7/21/2017

Docket Compiled: 7/25/2017