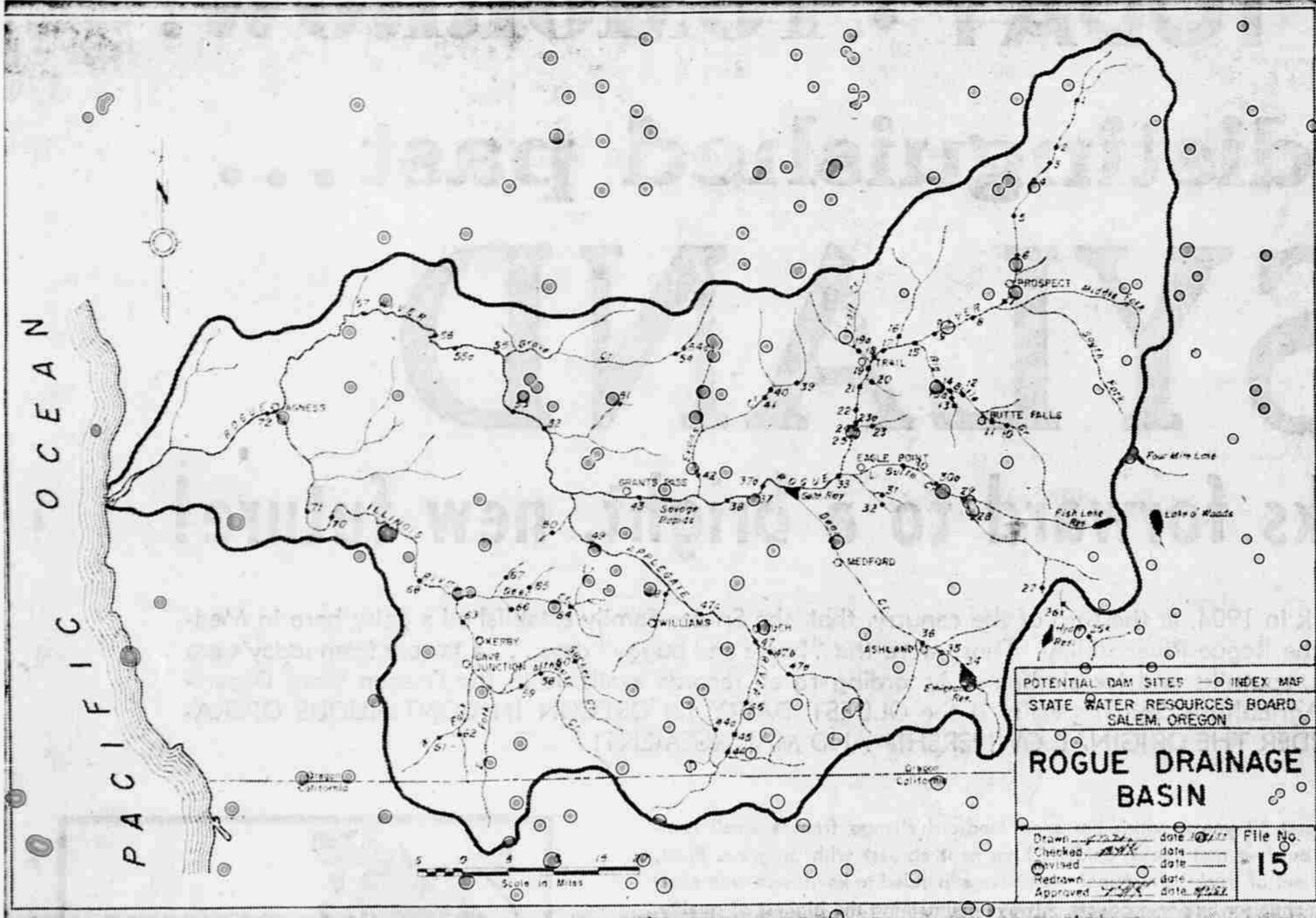


Flood Control Should Be First Consideration, Committee Says



POTENTIAL DAM, RESERVOIR SITES — The map above shows some of the potential dam and reservoir sites in the Rogue river basin. The numbers below correspond to the numbered sites on the map: 1—Hamaker, 2—Diamond, 3—Castle creek, 4—Union creek, 5—Top creek, 6—Riter creek, 7—Cascade gorge, 8—Cascade, 9—Lost creek, 10—Rancheria, 11—Butte Falls, 12—McNeil creek 2, 13—McNeil creek 1, 13a—McNeil creek, 14—Big Butte creek, 15—Butte creek, 16—Elk creek, 17—Elk creek, 18—Lewis creek, 18a—Trail creek, 19—Trail creek, 20—Indian creek,

21—Long Branch, 22—Debenger gap, 23a—Reese creek, 23—Reese creek, 24—Long creek, 25—Reese creek, 25k—Howard, 26k—Grizzly, 27—Dead Indian, 28—Little Butte, south fork, 29—Lake creek, 30a—Upper Brownsboro, 30—Brownsboro, 31—Antelope creek, 32—Dry creek, 33—Little Butte creek, 34—Emigrant enlargement, 35—Clawson, 36—Ashland, 37a—Gold Hill, 37—Gold Hill, 38—Rock Point, 39—Meadows, 40—Upper Evans, 41—Lower Evans, 42—Evans Valley, 43—Ament, 44a—Carberry creek, 44—Squaw creek, 45—French Gulch, 46—McKee bridge, 47a

McCormick, 47b—Little Applegate, 47—Ruch, 47c—Applegate, 48—Williams creek, 49—Applegate, 50—Slate creek, 51—Sexton, 52—Hell Gate, 53—Taylor creek, 54a—Pease bridge No. 2, 54—Pease bridge, 55—Swing bridge, 55a—Ramey falls, 56—Horseshoe Bend, 57—Stairs creek, 58—Upper Althouse, 59—Althouse creek, 60—Sucker creek, 61—Lone Mountain, 62—Indian hill, 63—Kerby, 64—Deer creek, 65—Crooks creek, 66—McMullin creek, 67—Draper creek, 68—Fall creek, 69—Clear creek, 70—Bald mountain, 71—Collier bar, 72—Copper canyon.

Water Resources Group Points Out Expense of Floods

First consideration should be given to flood control when the state water resources board plans the future development of the waters of the Rogue river basin, the subcommittee on flood control urged in its report to the Jackson county water resources committee.

It is our considered opinion that there is no problem more important facing the Rogue basin," the subcommittee members stated in their report.

"Floods are expensive. They are costing the people of the basin an average of \$400,000 per year along the main stem of the Rogue river alone," according to figures from the bureau of reclamation.

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The December, 1955, flood cost the basin more than \$4 million, according to Army engineers.

Other results of a flood, though less tangible, include disrupted lives, interference with work, jobs, schools, a lowering of property values and loss of tax revenue.

Fear of Floods
The fear of floods keeps much of the best land from being developed, it is pointed out. Rich bottom land which goes down the river is forever lost to its owner, the county, state and nation, and the yearly revenue from that land.

Far from the least of the flood losses are the damage of floods to fish and wildlife. Ben Hilton of Grants Pass testified that immediately after the 1955 flood, he saw sand bars pink with fish eggs downstream from Grants Pass. This is mute testimony of spawning beds destroyed and a terrific loss of fish life, the report stated.

Frances Krouse, of Applegate, testified he counted more than 50 salmon spawning in a hole on his place prior to the 1955 flood. After the flood, spawning bed and fish were gone and a sand bar left in its place.

"A mighty avalanche tearing down a mountain side over a busy highway has no greater destructiveness nor greater potential danger than raging flood waters which roar down our streams in time of flood," the subcommittee stated in its report. "It was only by the grace of God and the unselfish efforts of our Civil Defense and volunteers along the river that no loss of life resulted from the December, 1955, flood."

Joe Shaw of the Rogue Rod and Gun club testified before the Congressional hearing in Medford, 1956, "all the fishing and all the hunting is not worth one human life."

Should Be Cooperative Effort
The securing of flood control in Jackson county and the Rogue basin should be a cooperative effort on the part of every land owner in the basin. Good forestry practices in timber land, with reforestation and the seeding of bare land to grass, sensible range management, with the controlled grazing of mountain pastures, soil conservation practiced on every farm—all of these things will help, it was pointed out in the report.

The one thing which is apparent during the last two years is only storage will give adequate flood protection. That means storage on the main stem of the Rogue river itself and on the larger tributaries.

The committee listed several miscellaneous facts regarding the 1955 flood. Among them were:

"The flood of December, 1955, cost Jackson county \$385,395 in loss or damage to roads, bridges, buildings and other county property," County Judge Rodney Keating testified during a congressional hearing in Medford in 1956.

According to the army en-

gineers report, "The total damage in the Rogue river basin amounted to \$4,048,530 of which \$1,503,370 was to public property and \$503,370 to public property."

"Nearly 14,500 acres of farm land valued at over \$6 million were flooded. Crop damage amounted to about \$200,000."

"Residential property owners suffered damage amounting to over \$1 million."

"The Red Cross spent \$28,380. However, total public aid and relief amounted to \$153,420."

Reservoir Would Have Helped
"The reservoir provided for

Lewis creek dam site would have been effective in reducing the 1955 flood stages on the lower Rogue river."

The following statement was issued by the bureau of reclamation under its alternative plans for the development of the Rogue river basin in 1948:

"Effective flood control requires storage reservoirs, supplemented in some cases by channel correction, levees and bank improvements."

"Studies show that the greatest known flood took place in 1861 when the area was virtually untouched by man. This

indicates that control by vegetative cover alone is entirely inadequate under conditions experienced in the Rogue river basin."

"Flood damage cannot economically be eliminated entirely, but substantial protection can be provided by storage reservoirs."

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Libel Suit Filed Against Newsman On Portland Paper

Portland—Stanley W. Earl, a Portland city commissioner, Saturday filed a half-million-dollar libel suit against the Journal Publishing Company and against former Journal reporter Arthur Bradley Williams.

The suit charges that the newspaper and Williams provided columnist Drew Pearson with material for two columns which purported to link Earl with Portland racketeer James Elkins.

The two columns were not printed in The Journal but were printed, according to Earl's complaint, by most of 700 newspaper subscribers to the column and by the Oregon Teamster, a union publication.

Other Suits Filed
Libel suits have also been filed by Earl against the Coos Bay World, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and the Oregon Teamster.

Earl claims he has been exposed to "public contempt, hatred and ridicule" and that he has suffered "extreme mental agony and suffering."

The suits assert that the Journal Publishing Company and Williams "knowingly and maliciously published of and concerning the plaintiff to one Drew Pearson and one Jack Anderson, a Pearson employee a certain false, defamatory and libelous written statement."

Earl asks a trial by jury.

A record production of sorghum grain in 1957—418 million bushels—is forecast by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That would more than double the 1956 crop and would be 72 per cent above the record crop of 1955.

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