

# Water Resources Board Presents Findings

## Beneficial Uses Determined by Several Factors

Beneficial uses in the seven sub-basins of the Rogue River basin were determined by the state water resources board by variance in physical features, degree of economic development, and water use requirements from sub-basin to sub-basin.

The board presented its findings and recommendations at a special meeting in the Jackson county courthouse this morning.

In arriving at its recommendations for the programs proposed in the sub-basins, the board found that domestic use, while small, represents an important factor in existing and presently contemplated needs of water in all sub-basins.

**Municipal Use**

It also found that municipal use represents a significant factor in existing and presently contemplated needs and uses of water in all sub-basins with the exception of those of Little Butte Creek and the Applegate river.

Irrigation use, the board found, is a significant factor either in existing or in presently contemplated needs and uses of water, or both, in all sub-basins except the Lower Rogue. Irrigation use in the Lower Rogue is recommended to permit development of the small potential which exists there, the board noted.

There is power potential existing in the Upper, Middle and Lower Rogue river and the Illinois river sub-basins, but the potential in the Middle Rogue is limited, the board found.

**Power Development**

Development of power in the Lower Rogue basin would seriously interfere with the passage of anadromous fish, it said.

Industrial use does not represent a significant factor in existing or contemplated needs and uses of water in the Upper Rogue, Little Butte creek, Applegate river and Illinois river sub-basins. But industrial use is recommended in these sub-basins to permit development of the small potential there, except in the Little Butte creek sub-basin which does not have sufficient water to support industrial development.

Future major water-using industries in the Bear Creek sub-basin because of limitations on supply, the board noted, will be forced to utilize water from other sub-basins.

**Industrial Purposes**

There is potential for the utilization of water for industrial purposes in the Middle and Lower Rogue river sub-basins.

Mining, the board found, does not represent a significant factor in existing or contemplated needs and uses of water in the Upper Rogue, Little Butte creek, Bear creek and Lower Rogue sub-basins.

Mining requirements should not materially increase above the present level of rights in the Applegate river, Middle Rogue and Illinois river areas because of the present low level of mining activity as compared to the large quantity of rights for that purpose.

The board found that recreation use represents and will continue to bring substantial benefits to the state in the Upper, Lower and Middle Rogue river, and Illinois river sub-basins.

**Unregulated Flows**

Utilization of unregulated flows for recreation will not be a significant factor in presently contemplated needs and uses of water in Little Butte creek, Bear creek and the Applegate river sub-basins.

Wildlife uses represent and will continue to bring benefits to the state in all sub-basins except Bear creek where the relatively high level of development has eliminated most of the more wilderness type of wildlife, the board said.

Fish life uses, the board found, will continue to bring benefits to the state in all sub-basins but enhancement of fish life will be difficult to attain in many areas, particularly the Bear creek basin because of lack of flows in the streams.

**Average Annual Runoff**

The board found that the average annual runoff of the Rogue and its tributaries is sufficient to satisfy all existing and presently contemplated needs and uses of water with the exception of minimizing pollution.

However, because the runoff is variable in time and place, many localities have serious supply problems dur-

ing the low flow period of July, August, September and October. Flows during this period, the board found, are inadequate in many streams to provide present consumptive demands exclusive of pollution abatement.

"Storage of surplus runoff is necessary for major augmentation of the water resource in periods of shortage," the board said.

**Irrigation Water Rights**

Irrigation represents the largest block of water rights in the basin, the board noted, with a total of 39 per cent of the total. Such use is seasonal, it pointed out, and not entirely consumptive in nature. Power rights account for 33 per cent of the total water rights, but are nonconsumptive in nature, and water diverted for power becomes available for other uses at downstream locations.

Mining rights, the board found, represent 25 per cent of the basin total, but the quantity of water being used in active mining operations is less than 1 per cent of the rights.

Domestic, municipal, industrial, recreation, wildlife and fish life rights comprise only 3 per cent of the basin total, the board said.

**Legal Restrictions**

The board found that legal restrictions preclude the attainment of maximum beneficial use of water in the basin.

The restrictions include: Oregon law withdraws waters of Mill and Barr creeks in the Upper Rogue basin for protection of fish life.

State statutes grant exclusive rights to Medford for water of Big Butte creek, the springs forming its headwaters and its tributaries for municipal use. The same statute grants the right to the Eagle Point Irrigation district to use 100 cubic feet per second of Big Butte Creek water for power purposes.

Oregon statutes do not permit construction of dams or structures which would interfere with the free passage of fish on the Rogue below a point near Shady Cove, and limits construction of dams between Shady Cove and just upstream from McLeod to the federal government.

**Below Shady Cove**

All water below Shady

Cove has been withdrawn by state laws for domestic, stock, irrigation and municipal purposes.

A state engineer's withdrawal of water of the Rogue and its tributaries above Gold

Ray was to withhold that water from general appropriation for "use and benefit of the irrigation project which is to be jointly investigated under the provisions of Chapter 87, laws of 1913, and the contract

## Independent Cancer Fund Drives Said More Successful

Independent American Cancer society campaigns raise money more successfully than those associated with united fund drives, according to a leaflet circulated by the society this year.

A committee of the society's Jackson county unit met yesterday noon to discuss publicity plans for the annual educational and fund-raising crusade this spring.

Mrs. Mahr Reymers, executive secretary of the unit, declined to comment on last week's criticism in the Oregon Labor Press. The weekly AFL-CIO newspaper in Portland urged a boycott against the cancer society and the March of Dimes in their fund-raising drives because they are not participating in united fund activities.

**Attitude of Society**

"We just want to get across what we stand for," Mrs. Reymers said. She referred to the leaflet as representing the attitude of the society.

"Experience," the leaflet states, "shows that the small percentage (10 per cent) of our units in united funds have not over the years shown as much growth in essential financial support as the great majority which conduct their own campaigns."

"This is why by 1960 all units will conduct separate Crusades. United funds can accept and aid the society's attack on cancer. Or they can impede this attack by fighting this policy."

**Threatens Attack**

"In some cities united funds threaten the national attack on cancer by trying to force

units of the American Cancer society into united funds or by trying to prevent others from leaving."

"There is room in America for both united funds and independent health agencies," the leaflet continues. "The American Cancer society is an emergency agency committed to winning the battle against cancer. When victory is attained - it will close its doors."

The Oregon Labor Press stated last week that if the cancer society's independent crusade succeeds, "other health agencies are sure to withdraw from the United fund to stage independent fund campaigns of their own. And our hard-won United fund principle of 'one drive a year' will be shattered."

**Research Effort**

The cancer society's leaflet also points out that crusade has stimulated a nationwide research effort. The disease, it states, "will strike 40 million men, women and children now living."

The leaflet states that while in 1948 one in four afflicted with cancer were saved, the figure today is one in three. "Thousands owe their lives to the devoted women volunteers, aided by outstanding men, who each April wage a house-to-house educational and fund-raising Crusade to prevent needless deaths from cancer."

"The American Cancer society combination of giving and living must continue until cancer is controlled."

The leaflet adds that the annual crusade is "the accepted way" to attack cancer.

between the state and the United States."

The purpose of the Sept. 6, 1915, withdrawal by the state engineer has been partially fulfilled through the Talent project, whose water right and its priority date are based on the withdrawal, the board noted.

**Engineer's Order**

An engineer's order effective July 27, 1934, provides no further permits to appropriate water of Sucker and Althouse creeks in the Illinois Valley basin for any purpose other than domestic or for mining and power developments where such do not consume water or interfere with existing rights.

The board said almost one-third of the 170,500 acres of irrigable agricultural land in the basin lies within the Middle Rogue River basin, but more than two-thirds of that area is not irrigated, and most of the remainder requires supplemental water for full development.

The highest level of irrigation development, the board noted, exists in the Bear Creek basin. Two-thirds of its irrigable lands will be receiving irrigation water and more than one-half of the irrigated land will be receiving an adequate supply when the Talent project is completed.

The bureau of reclamation

presently is constructing the Talent project, which will increase development in the Bear Creek basin; taking steps to start development of part of the Illinois Valley basin potential; has published a feasibility report on the Merlin division, which considers developing part of the Middle Rogue River basin; is preparing a feasibility report on the Agate dam and reservoir which is designed to increase the level of development in the Bear Creek basin; and has scheduled additional studies in the Middle Rogue and Applegate basins.

Existing low flows at most locations in the basin are not sufficient to supply the desirable base flows requested by the fishery agencies, the board reported.

"Conditions are particularly acute in Bear creek, the Illinois river, the Applegate river and in the Rogue river from Grants Pass to its mouth. At many locations in these streams, the average of flows for at least one month each year is less than the desirable base flows," the board said.

**Desirable Base Flows**

"Physical and legal attainment of desirable base flows will be achieved only through storage," the board pointed out.

Water temperatures unfavor-

able to fish life are common during low flow periods. Temperatures as high as 76 degrees Fahrenheit have been recorded in the Rogue 11 miles above its mouth.

"Flood control," the board reported, "is an item of economic importance, but benefits accruing only from reducing or preventing flood damages will not justify the cost of structures necessary to provide such control."

The board found that flood damages occurred throughout the basin, but the majority was along the Middle Rogue river main stem with 50 per cent of the total damages taking place in a 38-mile stretch between Little Butte creek and the Applegate river. Total damages from the 1955 flood were estimated about \$4,085,530.

**Appreciable Control**

Appreciable control of flood volumes at Grants Pass could be obtained by main stem storage with the degree of control depending upon the location of such storage. The board noted, however, that basin-wide control will be achieved only through both main stem and tributary storage.

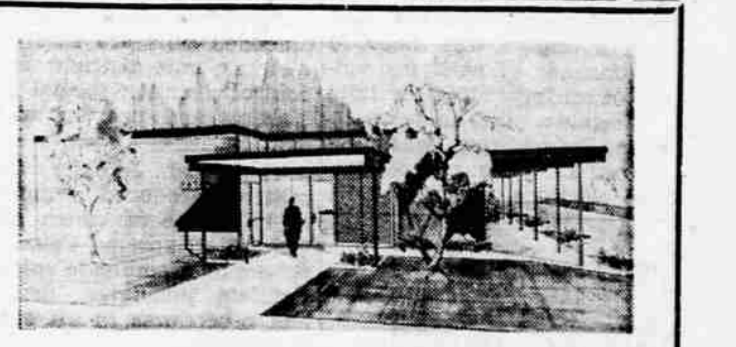
The theoretical power potential of the basin was determined from the average monthly streamflow and maximum heads not conflicting

with existing basin developments or other potential power developments, the board said.

Total power potential equals or exceeds 780,000 kilowatts for 50 per cent of the time. Present installed capacity in the basin is 51,000

kilowatts in the Upper and Middle Rogue basins. An additional 16,000-kilowatt plant is under construction in the Bear creek section of the Talent project.

"The total," the board reported, "is less than 8 per cent of the total basin potential."



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## Girl Attempts to Locate Father

The Jackson County chapter of American Red Cross has been asked to help locate the father of Miss Sandra Johnson, 18, of Bellingham, Wash.

In a letter from Bellingham, the Red Cross chapter there said Miss Johnson's father, Walter Fay Johnson, was born in Medford and would be about 41 years old. He may have moved back to Medford following discharge from the service.

She said her father and mother separated when she was about six, and she would like to contact him. Miss Johnson said she believes her twin brother, Thomas, was named after her father's brother.

Anyone having information about Johnson may contact Mrs. Sheridan Scott at SPRING 3-4937.

## No Nagging Backache Means a Good Night's Sleep

Nagging backache, headache, or muscular aches and pains may come on with over-exercising, emotional upset or day to day stress and strain. And folks who eat and drink unwisely sometimes suffer mild bladder irritation... with that restless, uncomfortable feeling.

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