

State Areas Face Water Shortages

PORTLAND (AP) — Parts of Oregon may face serious water shortages this year, the Department of Agriculture said today in reporting that the outlook for the spring and summer shows supplies ranging only from fair to very poor.

At the same time, the U. S. Geological Survey said river runoff in most of the Northwest was far below average in January.

W. T. Frost, snow survey supervisor in Oregon for the Agriculture Department, said the water content of the state's snowpack is extremely low, now averaging only 46 per cent of the 15-year average for Feb. 1.

The situation is the most critical in the Willamette Watershed, only 27 per cent of average.

Normally, Frost said, about two-thirds of the winter's total snow is on the ground by Feb. 1. Surveys show, he said, that only 30 per cent of a normal year's total was found.

At 20 key reservoirs, survey teams found irrigation water supplies only 65 per cent of the average.

"The streamflow outlook for the coming irrigation season (April through September) is poorer than at this time last year in most areas of the state. Forecasts vary from 23 per cent on the Owyhee to 87 per cent on the Lostine in the Wallawas. Most critical situations are the streams flowing into the Ochoco, Drew and Owyhee reservoirs and for Silvers River. Predictions for these are below 40 per cent of average."

The Geological Survey said only streams in the northwestern part of the region escaped the low river runoff, and added that precipitation in January in Eastern Oregon and Southern Oregon was less than 50 per cent of the average.

Total storage in eight major power dams on the Columbia River System was about 371,000 acre feet less than last year at the end of January. Twenty large irrigation reservoirs were 1,371,000 acre feet below a year ago.

"Low river runoff was reported in the Upper Flathead River, and Upper Clark Fork in Montana; the Kettle and Oanigan Rivers in British Columbia; all of Idaho from the Salmon River south to the headwaters of the Snake River; all of Oregon east of the Deschutes River; and all of Western Oregon south of Salem."

"Runoff was high in the Upper Columbia above Revelstoke, the Fraser River and the Spout River in British Columbia; and the Wenatchee, Green, Skykomish and Skagit rivers in Northwestern Washington," the report said.

As an indication of the deficiency in precipitation, the report said the January snowfall at Crater Lake National Park in Oregon was only 40.5 inches, compared to an average of 136.5.

Grange News

SUMMER LAKE

PAISLEY—Cub Scout Pack 14 provided entertainment during a meeting of Summer Lake Grange here Saturday, Jan. 29.

The boys were featured in a play, "King John and Robin Hood," and a flag drill. Participating were Miles Vernon, Darrell, Jerry, and Timmy Green, David Greth, Dan Clark, David Atkins, Dwayne Kemery, Joe Oliver and Gary Atchley.

Accompanying the den mothers, Leona Wagoner, Gladys Clark, and Alice Greth, were Marion Oliver and Ruby Green.

A display of scout handiwork was exhibited for grangers.

Mitchell Hart and Frank Foreman, Oregon Cattlemen's Association insurance representatives, visited with individual grange members during the evening.

Lake County Sheriff Don Woodruff will speak at the next meeting Feb. 12.

Home Economics Club members agreed to hold a workday Feb. 22 to prepare for a meeting of the county pomona grange to be held Feb. 25.

Miss Laura Kennedy, Lake County 4-H agent, will be present to give a laundry demonstration.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Claggett served refreshment to guests and grange members.

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