

Meeting Summary
DWR/Interested Party Meeting
September 4, 2025
Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency, Yuba City

Addendum to Summary prepared by David Gordon, DWR

Water Operations and Studies

It was stated that a DWR hydrograph has demonstrated that the outflows from a 1/500 year flood could be contained to 150,000 cfs if the reservoir was allowed to be emptied to elevation 813 ft, the bottom of the spillway gates.

Reservoir Starting Elevation/Soil Wetness Index/Snow Melt Run off

During discussions of the soil wetness index and its use in reducing the reservoir starting index (flood pool) the DWR representatives agreed that the present estimate was not based on science, unlike the snow melt run off, and that therefore could not be used in the forecast of inflows. It was pointed out that thus its use in adjusting the flood pool was questionable, particularly without some recognition of snow melt run off. The DWR is continuing to study soil wetness in the hope that in future it will be sufficiently well understood that it can be included in the forecast of inflows.