FLOOD HAZARD ANALYSES

COTTONWOOD CREEK in the vicinity of

Buena Vista Colorado

JAN 2 6 1977

COLO. WATER

CONSERVATION BOARD

PLAN OF STUDY

Prepared by the

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD
CHAFFEE COUNTY
TOWN OF BUENA VISTA
USDA - SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

December 1976

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INTRODUCTION

This flood hazard analyses plan of study for Cottonwood Creek in the vicinity of Buena Vista was jointly prepared by representatives of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, Chaffee County, the Town of Buena Vista, and the Soil Conservation Service.

The purpose of the Plan of Study is to describe the objective of the study, the intended uses of the data and report, the intensity of investigations, inter-agency coordination involved, study responsibilities, scheduling, and funding arrangement.

In Colorado, the Soil Conservation Service and other federal agencies are currently engaged in flood hazard studies in cooperation with the Colorado Water Conservation Board. As coordinator for all water studies in the state, the Colorado Water Conservation Board establishes priorities and schedules these studies on a priority basis. The Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Soil Conservation Service entered into a joint coordination agreement for flood hazard analyses on January 27, 1972.

The Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, carries out flood hazard analyses under the authority of Section 6 of Public Law 83-566, Recommendation 9(c) Regulation of Land Use of House Document No. 465, 89th Congress, 2nd Session and in compliance with Executive Order 11296, dated August 10, 1966.

STUDY AREA

The area of study includes the flood plains of Cottonwood Creek in the vicinity of the Town of Buena Vista. The study begins at the confluence of Cottonwood Creek with the Arkansas River and extends upstream through Buena Vista and in a westerly direction to the San Isabel National Forest boundary. Located in the west central part of Chaffee County, Cottonwood Creek drains about 104 square miles. Flood plains in the study vary in width from about 100 feet to over three-quarters of a mile. Total length of the study reach is approximately 6 miles. The Arkansas River is a major tributary to the Arkansas-White-Red, Water Resources Council Region. Location map showing the study area is on page 3.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this study is to prepare flood plain maps for flood plain zoning ordinances and other land use controls, as needed, to reduce potential flood damages and unwise development in the flood plain. The engineering and hydrologic information to be developed during the study will be of use in developing a master drainage plan, in road and bridge planning and design, and in the planning of flood control structures, if needed.

INTENSITY OF INVESTIGATIONS

Studies will be undertaken to develop flood hazard information for the 10-, 50-, 100-, and 500-year frequency floods under existing channel and flood plain conditions. Photogrammetric maps with topography, planimetry, and flood plain information for the 100- and 500-year frequency floods will be prepared on a scale of $1^{11} = 400^{\circ}$. The contour interval will be two feet in the flatter flood plain areas and an appropriate contour interval will be used in the steeper areas compatible to the scale of mapping.

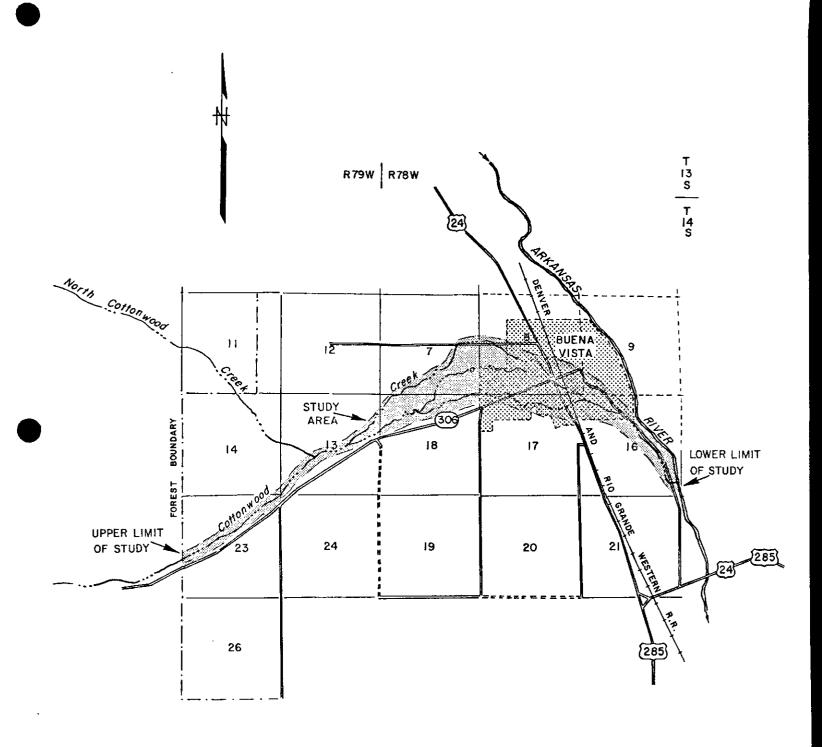
Available basic data such as flooding history, photos, land use, and existing survey data will be collected. Pertinent data from this information will be used in the study.

Engineering field surveys will be conducted to establish vertical and horizontal ground control and to obtain dimensions of bridges and culverts. About 130 flood plain cross-sections will be needed to adequately define the hydraulic relationships. Cross-section data will be obtained photogrammetrically where feasible.

The magnitude, elevation, and location of flooding for the designated frequency floods will be developed from hydrologic and hydraulic analyses using standard Soil Conservation Service techniques and procedures.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Close coordination will be maintained through the representatives of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, Chaffee County, the Town of Buena Vista, and the Soil Conservation Service to assure the completion of the study in a timely manner. Coordination with other concerned state, federal, and local agencies will be maintained throughout the study by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.





STUDY AREA MAP
COTTONWOOD CREEK
IN THE VICINITY OF
BUENA VISTA
Chaffee County, Colorado

STUDY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Colorado Water Conservation Board will:

- 1. Provide leadership in coordinating all activities.
- 2. Provide technical assistance.
- 3. Designate the location for reference monuments.
- 4. Install approximately 20 permanent reference monuments in the same location and elevation as used in the photogrammetric ground control survey as designated.
- 5. Provide photogrammetric cross-section data.

Chaffee County and the Town of Buena Vista will:

- Provide photogrammetric maps in accordance with the Colorado Water Conservation Board specifications (Specifications are in accordance with National Mapping Standards.)
- 2. Secure all necessary rights of ingress and egress for engineering field surveys.
- 3. Collect historic flooding data.
- 4. Provide maps showing estimated location and density of future urbanization and upstream watershed development.
- 5. Provide meeting room facilities for presentation of final report.

The Soil Conservation Service will:

- Conduct engineering field surveys for hydrologic and hydraulic studies.
- 2. Conduct hydraulic and hydrologic studies, and develop water surface profile and cross-section data.
- 3. Develop flood plain outlines on the photogrammetric maps for the 100- and 500-year frequency floods. Flood plain outlines will be based on existing channel and flood plain conditions.
- 4. Prepare and distribute review draft of the Flood Hazard Analyses Report.
- 5. Provide one set of photo positive mylars with flood plain outlines on a scale of 1'' = 200'.
- 6. Prepare Flood Hazard Analyses Report for publication.

REPORT PREPARATION AND CONTENTS

A preliminary draft of the report on the study will be prepared by the Soil Conservation Service and submitted for review to the officials of Chaffee County, the Town of Buena Vista, and the Colorado Water Conservation Board. After reviews are made, a final copy of the cooperative report will be prepared for publication.

The report will include the following:

- 1. An introduction giving background information on authorities and reasons for the study.
- II. A discussion of historic and current flooding, and flood plain conditions.
- 111. A section on sources of data and methods used in the analyses.
- IV. Narrative describing the results of the study. This section will include exhibits of water surface profiles and representative cross-sections for the selected flood frequencies.
- V. Photogrammetric maps with flood plain outlines for the 100- and 500-year frequency floods on a scale of 1'' = 400'.
- VI. Interpretations and recommendations for appropriate flood plain land use and management. Suggestions for reducing potential flood damages.

The size of the reports will be $11'' \times 8-1/2''$ with appropriate $11'' \times 17''$ foldout sheets for the flood plain maps and engineering drawings.

SCHEDULING

Scheduling of the major activities will be as shown on page 7.

There are several elements involved in each activity and work will be done concurrently between activities. It is expected, however, that the duration of the study would not exceed 10 months, and that the report should be completed by September 30, 1977.

FUNDING

Total estimated cost for the study is \$40,900. The costs will be shared by Chaffee County, the Town of Buena Vista, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). The estimated cost share for Chaffee County and Buena Vista is \$13,800. Estimated costs for the Colorado Water Conservation Board is \$4,500.

The Soil Conservation Service cost share is \$22,600. The Soil Conservation Service will conduct this flood hazard analyses under authority of Section 6 of Public Law 83-566. Funding for the Flood Hazard Analyses Program is through regular agency appropriations.

Cost estimates are based on items listed under the section <u>Study</u> Responsibilities in this Plan of Study. Itemized cost estimates are shown below:

<u>Item</u>	CWCB	Chaffee County & Buena Vista	scs
Photogrammetric Maps	0	0	0
Cross-Section Data	2,000	13,000	1,200
Engineering Field Surveys	,	600	1,900
Reference Monuments	2,000	0	0
Technical Studies	500	0	2,800
Computer Services	0	0	1,200
Printing Preliminary Report	0	0	400
Photo Positive Mylars	0	0	200
Printing Final Report	0	0	4,000
Other Personnel Services: (a) Ingress & Egress Rights (b) Historic Flooding and	0	100	0
Future Development Data	0	100	0
Travel	0	0	900
TOTAL	\$4,500	\$13,800	\$22,600

FLOOD HAZARD ANALYSES USDA-SCS

COTTONWOOD CREEK in the vicinity of Buena Vista, Colorado

Activity Schedule 1976 - 1977

ACTIVITY	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT
Topographic Mapping		<u> </u>								
Engineering Field Surveys										
Install Reference Monuments										
Collect Historic Flood and Future Development Data			•							
Technical Studies										
Computer Services									<u> </u> 	
Maps - Flood Plain Outlines										
First Draft Report and Reviews										
Final Report								<u> </u>		
						<u></u>		<u> </u>		

It is mutually agreed that this Plan of Study will be in effect only to the extent that appropriated funds are available to all four parties.

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD:
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Date /2/7/76
/ /
CHAFFEE COUNTY:
By Actuallic
Title Chauman Bot of Communicani
Date /2 /3/76
BUENA VISTA:
By Bennard Weber
Title Mayor Pro- Jan
Date 12-2-76
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE:
By (La De Waller
Title St. Cons
Date 12/8/76

COTTONWOOD CRR CONSCOLO WATER LOOD HAZARD STUDY

TECHNICAL SUPPLEMENT

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DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

The study area is located in Central Colorado in the vicinity of Buena Vista, Chaffee County. Approximately 6 miles of Cottonwood Creek main channel and 3.3 miles of overflow secondary channels make up the study area, see location map. The contributing drainage area includes the South, middle and North Forks of Cottonwood Creek, approximately 100 square miles. The drainage originates at the Continental Divide and is tributory to the Arkansas River near Buena Vista.

SCOPE

Cottonwood Creek flows in an Easterly direction through the town of Buena Vista. During flood stage a considerable portion of the town is susceptible to flood damage. The intent of this study is to develop maps and water surface profiles showing flood lines and elevation that might be expected from the 500 year, 100 year, 50 year, and 10 year frequency events. Maps are on a scale of 1 inch equals 200 feet with 2.0 feet contour intervals.

HYDROLOGY

The hydrology phase of this study includes the development of peak discharge values for various desired flood frequencies at selected locations.

A frequency analysis of streamgage records was made in accordance with Water Resources Council Bulletin 17, see included computation sheets.

The values were compared with data from Colorado Water Conservation Board Technical Manual No. 1. Technical Manual No. 1 discharges are slightly higher, however considering it accounts for affects of mixed population, it was selected for use in the study. See percent Chance vs discharge Chart and letter from the Water Conservation Board.

This procedure provided necessary peak discharge frequency values at the streamgage site. Values at other locations along the stream were determined from a procedure in Colorado Water Conservation Board Technical Manual No. 1, pg. 4 - Flood Information Near Gage Sites on the Same Stream. Subsequently a drainage area vs peak discharge curve (figure 1) was developed for convenience and to maintain consistency in selecting flows at several selected locations.

An overflow channel comes into operation at a location 1.1 mile down-stream from the North Fork confluence. At this point out of bank flows from the main channel continue in a Easterly direction following several secondary channels. The main channel heads in a Northeasterly direction. Discharge values continuing in the main channel remain nearly the same for all discharge-frequency values equal to or greater than the capacity of the channel, approximately 600 c.f.s.

Another division of flow occurs along the secondary channels at a point about 1500 feet downstream from the first location. Consequently flood

flows proceed into Buena Vista in three different locations and several individual channels. Figure 2 shows the selected distribution of flows based on channel hydraulics and to some extent estimations.

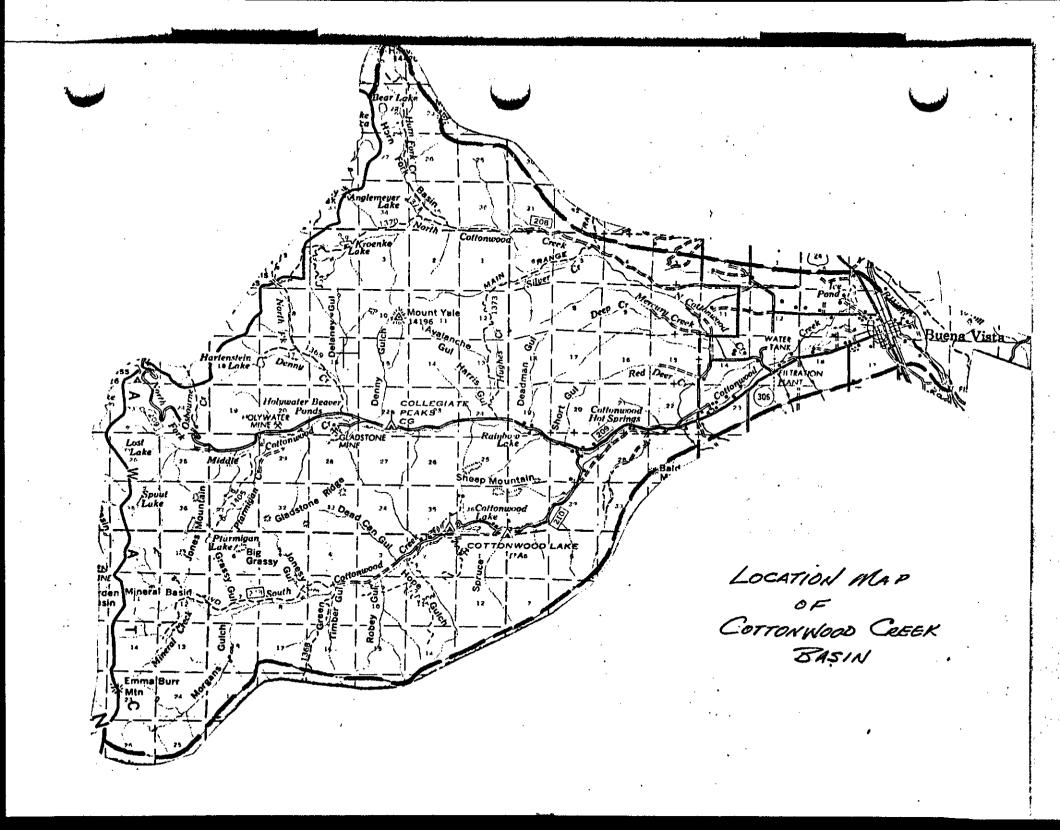
HYDRAULICS

The hydraulic analysis consisted of computing water surface profiles along the main and secondary channels. Soil Conservation Service WSP-2 computer program was used to develop the profiles. Necessary data includes flood plain cross section information (digitized from 1"= 200 ft topographic maps), reach lengths, channel and flood plain hydraulic roughness coeffcients, and discharge values from the hydrologic analysis. Specific information such as hydraulic roughness coefficients, cross section data, etc, are available at the Soil Conservation Service State Office in Denver, Colorado. It should be noted that through much of the flood plain perched channel flow exists. This is an elevated channel which receives inflow from some location upstream and maintains a flatter slope than the primary channel.

Flood plain maps, plotted profiles, and a table of peak discharge vs elevation are shown in the main report and therefore not repeated here.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Location Map.
- 2. Frequency Analysis Computations.
- 3. Figure 1, Peak Discharge vs Drainage Area.
- 4. Figure 2, Flow Distribution.



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COTTORWOOD CREEK STREAMFROW RECORD

HISTORIC DATA/HIGH OUTLIER TEST (see page 16)

1.	Using your judgment, do the highest peaks in the systematic record
	depart from the trend of the data?
2	Yes No
٠.	
	Yes No
3.	If answer to question 1 or 2 is yes, can the high peaks be assigned an historic return period?
	Yes No If yes make historic data/high outlier adjustment.
-	RETAIN 1957 EVENT IN SYSTEMATIC RECORD
	LOW OUTLIER TEST (see page 16)
Knov	en: Xn = 2.13958 (VEAR 1963) N = 37
	8 = 2.57794 G = -0.1 (MAP SKEW)
	S = 0.16598
	$ X_n - \bar{X} > [2.5+1.2 \log (N/10)] (1.0-0.4\bar{G})$ Eq. 5
	2.13989-3.51794 = J. 37774 0.16598
	[2.5+1.2 Lod 3]][1-0.4(-0.1)]= 3.30912
	2.27774 \$ 3.30912 :. No OUTLIER
٠.	RETAIN 1963 EVENT IN SYSTEMATIC RECORD
If i outl	nequality is true, X_n is a low outlier; test next lowest peak as a low ier.

COMPUTE BASIC STATISTICS (See page 10)

$$\Sigma(X-\overline{X})^2 = \cdot$$

$$\Sigma(X-\bar{X})^3 =$$

$$N = 31$$

FROM PROGRAMABLE CALCULATOR

ARITHMETIC MEAN :
$$\Sigma \bar{X} = \Sigma X/N - J.5/194$$

STANDARD DEVIATION
$$S = \left[\sum (X-\overline{X})^2/(N-1)\right]^{0.5}$$

$$S = \{ [\Sigma X^2 - (\Sigma X)^2 / N] / (N-1) \}^{0.5} = 0.16598 \qquad \underline{Eq. 3b}$$

$$G = N \Sigma (X-\tilde{X})^3/(N-1)(N-2) S^3$$

$$G = [N^2 \Sigma X^3 - 3N \Sigma X \Sigma X^2 + 2 (\Sigma X)^3]/N (N-1) (N-2)S^3 = Eq. 4b$$

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FREQUENCY CURVE (See page 9)

Known: $\bar{X} = 2.51794$

GA = 0.4

S = 0.16598

K values from Appendix 3

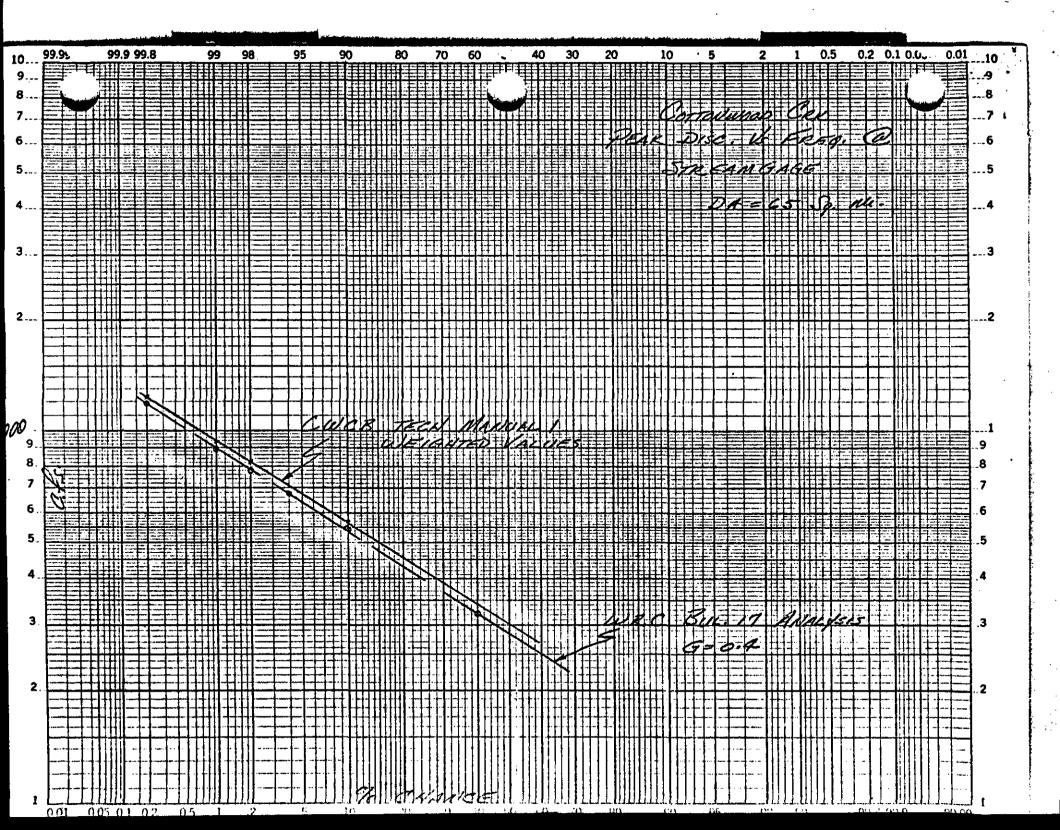
 $Log Q = \bar{\lambda} + KS$

Eq. 1

EXCEEDANCE PROBABILITY	<u>K</u>	Log Q	<u>Q</u>
0.90			•
0.80			
0.50	-0.06651		321 Cls
0.10	1.31671		545
0.04	1.88039		676
0.02	2.26/33	•	182
0.01	2.61539		195
0.005			
0.002	3.36566	•	1192

Plot on Log Probability paper.

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BENJAMIN F. STAPLETON Chairman, Denver

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RICHARD D. LAMM Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

823 STATE CENTENNIAL BUILDING
1313 SHERMAN STREET

May 20, 1977

TELEPHONE (303) 892-34

FELIX L. SPARKS

LAREN D. MORRL Deputy Directo

Mr. Wayne Smith
U. S. Soil Conservation Service
P.O. Box 17107
Denver, Colorado 80217

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Colorado Water Conservation Board has reviewed the hydrologic analysis for the Buena Vista - Cottonwood Creek flood hazard study submitted by your office.

After discussions with the U. S. Geological Survey, Mr. Wilkes from your staff and our own analysis of the available data we recommend that the methods and values published in the CWCB Technical Manual #1 should be used for the following reasons:

- 1) The upper Arkansas River Valley is an area of mixed population floods. Technical Manual #1 takes this into account to some degree whereas the single station analysis did not.
- 2) Based on a strict interpretation of Water Resource Council Bulletin 17, the 1957 peak 1180 cfs would have had a recurrence interval of about 10,000 years which does not appear to be very reasonable based on other available data.
- 3) Using Technical Manual #1, the 1957 peak would have a recurrence interval of 300 years -400 years.

Mr. Wayne Smith May 20, 1977 page two

Based on Technical Manual #1 the values we recommend for the Cottonwood Creek station are:

 $Q_{10} = 572 \text{ cfs.}$

 $Q_{50} = 822 \text{ cfs}$

 $Q_{100} = 936 \text{ cfs}$

 $Q_{500} = 1230 \text{ cfs}$

To compute the discharges at Buena Vista either the regression equations or the equation on page 4 of the Technical Manual should be used.

Please contact me if you have any questions about our recommendations.

Sincerely

E. I. JENCSOK, P.E.

Supv. Water Resource

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