

Minimum flows and splits between waterways

SACRAMENTO RIVER, CALIFORNIA.

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* From an examination of the records of the United States Geological Survey covering the period 1903-1907, inclusive, it is estimated that the average low-water flow of the Sacramento River below the mouth of the American is as follows: August, 9,230 cubic feet per second; September, 7,820 cubic feet per second; October, 9,580 cubic feet per second; with a minimum discharge of 5,900 cubic feet per second for September, 1905.

* The discharge for August, 1908, is estimated by the district engineer of the United States Geological Survey as 6,740 cubic feet per second. It is estimated that the discharge for September, 1908, was considerably less than that of August, and that it was less than the discharge of September, 1905. The observations of this office during the period August 3-17 gave a discharge of about 7,400 cubic feet per second, of which about 27 per cent flowed through Steamboat Slough and about 24 per cent through Georgiana Slough.

A comparison of this survey with that of the survey of 1895-96 shows that the river is improving as a navigable channel and that it is recovering from the effects of unrestricted hydraulic mining. It is estimated that the river bed for a distance of 14 miles immediately below Sacramento has lowered 2 feet in the past twelve years. The American and the Feather rivers, however, are still full of debris, and the effect of the sand deposits in the American River on the Sacramento River are noticeable for a considerable distance

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1908