

Floods notes of Skagit at Reflector Bar, Sept. 16, 1922.

General.- On Sept. 15 when returning to Davis ranch from Thunder Creek, a one-hour reconnaissance for flood marks on the Skagit was made in the (1) right side canyon above Reflector Bar. After descending it was found that it was the (2) Right side canyon where I had desired to descend and where the flood marks were on the canyon walls. The trip was profitable as faint evidence ~~xx~~ of the large flood could be traced on the left canyon wall across from where I was. By hand level this was found to be 18.0 feet above water surface of Sept. 15, 18.0 plus 3.3 equals 21.3.

Drift of the 1909 flood was found on the slide rock up to elevation 12.5 feet above water surface of Sept. 15. 12.5 plus 3.3 equals 15.8.

On Sept. 16 the crest of the early flood was found at ght. 20.8 in crevices of rock cliff just above Reflector Bar recorder.

The wave crest of the 1921 flood is about .7 feet below that of 1909 at the 1909 high water mark at Stetattle Creek.

The 1921 flood was about .6 or .8 below 1909 flood at the Davis ranch. The 1921 flood came so near that of 1909 in the canyon above Reflector Bar gaging station that they cannot be separated by observation from a distance.

The rapid dimming of the 1909 flood marks, the difficulty of finding the early flood mark on the trees where it was bright in 1879, The freshness of the river sand and gravel where the river topped the bank at Reflector Bar, the condition of the Cedar stump at Ruby: all these lead to the assumption that the great flood was that of Dec. 4, 1861. The old Indian who told Hart and others at Sedro Woolley in 1879 that the flood was when he was a boy either referred to another flood or they did not understand him. By hand levels to drift the 1921 flood was found to be 14.5 feet at inclined gage. Flood of 1909 was found to be 15.8 by taking center of drift log lodged at right cable tower. Assuming that log lodged at crest of flood and was floating half out of water.

Later note: Data with measurement of May 2, 1918 makes the crest 15.0 ft. use it in preference.

J.E.S.