

REPORT ON
HYDROGRAPHIC STUDIES
OF THE
MISSISSIPPI, MINNESOTA, & ST. CROIX
RIVERS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION TWIN CITIES-UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT

DECEMBER, 1965

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### INTRODUCTION

This document represents an accumulation of individual reports prepared on the hydrographic aspects of the rivers within the Project's study area for utilization with data characterizing the quality of these waters. The individual reports have been redesignated herein as chapters and have been numbered sequentially for the readers benefit.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter		Page No.
I	Hydrographs	
	Introduction	1
	Object	
	General Information	i
	Stations Selected	2
	St. Francis - Figure I-1	3
	Lock & Dam #1 - Figure I-2	ž
	Mankato - Figure I-3	Ĭ4
	Carver - Figure I-4	1 1 2 3 3 4 5 5 6 7 7
	St. Paul - Figure I-7	5
	St. Croix Falls - Figure I-8	6
	Stillwater - Figure I-9	7
	Lock & Dam #3 - Figure I-10	7
II	Mean Stream Depths	
	Introduction	9
	Object	9 9 9 10
	General Information	9
	Method of Computation	10
III	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges	•
	Introduction	13
	Object	<b>1</b> 3
	General Information	13
IV	Mean Flow Velocities	
	Introduction	15
	Object	15
	General Information	15
v	Range of Daily Discharges	
	Introduction	20
	Object	20
	General Information	20
VI	Low Flow Frequency	
	Introduction	22
	Object	22
	General Information	22
	Method of Computation	24

		•		
				-
		•		ĩ,
		,		4
-				
				•
				<b>a</b>
				•
				•
				-
			•	

# LIST OF FIGURES

No.		Follows Page
I-J	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Rum River near St. Francis, Minnesota)	8
I <b>-</b> 2	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Mississippi River - Lock and Dam No. 1)	8
I-3	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Minnesota River at Mankato, Minnesota)	8
I-4	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)	8
<b>I-</b> 5	Lower Minnesota Flow Correction	8
<b>1-</b> 6	Minnesota River - Mankato to Carver Prorated Flows	8
I-7	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota)	8
<b>I-</b> 8	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (St. Croix River - St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin)	8
<b>I-</b> 9	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota)	8
I-10	Daily Hydrograph for Period of Water Quality Study April 1964 - September 1965 (Mississippi River - Lock and Dam No. 3)	8
II-1	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 871.0 - 854.1)	12
II <b>-</b> 2	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 853.2 - 848.5)	12
II <b>-</b> 3	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 848.5 - 843.0)	12
II-4	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (Pivor Mile 812 0 - 826 5)	12

		-
	·	ī
		•
		-
		•

# LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

No.		Follows Page
II-5	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 836.5 - 823.5)	12
II <b>-</b> 6	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 823.5 - 815.75)	12
II <b>-</b> 7	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 815.75 - 811.4)	12
II <b>-</b> 8	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 811.4 - 801.5)	12
II <b>-</b> 9	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 801.5 - 788.0)	12
II-10	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 788.0 - 781.0)	12
II-11	Discharge - Depth Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 781.0 - 764.9)	12
II <b>-</b> 12	Discharge - Depth Relationships Minnesota River (River Mile 109.3 - 0.1)	12
II-13	Discharge - Depth Relationships St. Croix River (River Mile 48.0 - 0.8)	12
III-l	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges - Water Years 1940-1964 (Mississippi River - Lock and Dam No. 1)	14
III-2	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges - Water Years 1940-1964 (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)	14
III-3	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges - Water Years 1940-1964 (Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota)	14
III-4	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges - Water Years 1940-1964 (St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota)	14
III-5	Range of Mean Monthly Discharges - Water Years 1940-1964 (Mississippi River - Lock and Dam No. 3)	14
IV-1	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 871.0 - 847.6)	19
IV-2	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 847.0 - 843.0)	19

		٠
		, <b>1</b>
		•
		•
		4

# LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

No.		Follows Page
IV-3	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 843.0 - 836.5)	19
IV-4	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 836.5 - 823.5)	19
IV-5	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 823.5 - 815.75)	19
IA-6	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 815.75 - 811.4)	19
IV-7	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 811.4 - 801.5)	19
I <b>v-</b> 8	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 801.5 - 786.0)	19
<b>IV-</b> 9	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 786.0 - 781.0)	19
IV-10	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Mississippi River (River Mile 781.0 - 764.9)	19
IV-11	Discharge - Velocity Relationships Minnesota River (River Mile 109.3 - 0.1)	19
IV-12	Discharge - Velocity Relationships St. Croix River (River Mile 48.0 - 0.8)	19
V-1	Range of Daily Discharges for Period of Water Quality Survey (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)	21
<b>V-</b> 2	Range of Daily Discharges for Period of Water Quality Survey (Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota)	21
<b>V-</b> 3	Range of Daily Discharges for Period of Water Quality Survey (St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin)	21
VI-l	Low Flow Frequency - December, January, February (Mississippi River at Lock and Dam No. 1)	25
<b>VI-</b> 2	Low Flow Frequency - July, August, September (Mississippi River at Lock and Dam No. 1)	25
VI-3	Low Flow Frequency - December, January, February (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)	25

	•	
		•
		•
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		-
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		-
		•

# LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

No.	•	Follows Page
110.		
AI-jt	Low Flow Frequency - July, August, September (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)	25
VI-5	Low Flow Frequency - December, January, February (Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota)	25
V1-6	Low Flow Frequency - July, August, September (Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota)	25
VI-7	Low Flow Frequency - December, January, February (St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota)	25
8-IV	Low Flow Frequency - July, August, September (St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota)	25
VI-9	Low Flow Frequency - December, January, February (Mississippi River at Lock and Dam No. 3)	25
VI-10	Low Flow Frequency - July, August, September (Mississippi River at Lock and Dam No. 3)	25
	LIST OF TABLES	
		Follows Figure
V-1	Summarization of Discharges on the Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota and the St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin prior to W.Y. 1951	V <b>-</b> 3
	APPENDIX TABLES	
III-A	Mean Monthly Discharges  (Mississippi River - Lock & Dam #1)  (Mississippi River at St. Paul)  (Mississippi River - Lock & Dam #3)  (Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota)  (St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota, St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls plus Apple River near Somerset)	VI=10

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CHAPTER I

HYDROGRAPHS

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#### INTRODUCTION

Hydrographs of the average daily discharge at various gaging stations on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers within the Project study area are presented in this chapter. Eight stations have been selected such that the flow occurring in any segment of any of the streams under study may be determined. The average daily discharges are presented for the period of the Project's routine and intensive surveys from April 20, 1964, through September 30, 1965.

#### OBJECT

These hydrographs are presented in order that instantaneous pollution loadings and assimilative capacities of the rivers may be determined, and so that the general conditions of flow occurring during the period of survey may be compared with predicted conditions of average and drought flow.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

In selecting appropriate gaging stations to adequately represent the numerous segments of stream under study, several factors were considered and some simplifying assumptions were required. Only dams, lock & dam combinations and gaging stations where consistent, daily records are maintained were considered. Their location relative to reaches of stream of particular interest to the Project and their location relative to significant tributaries were also important considerations. The availability of particular records at an early date was a factor in selecting

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the stations as well as in selecting the source of the data. For example, two agencies often keep records for the same gaging station, but the data were obtained from the agency which was able to provide the information at the earliest time.

## STATIONS SELECTED

Hydrographs are presented for the selected gaging stations by the following Figures:

- I-1. Rum River near St. Francis, Minnesota
- I-2. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #1
- I-3. Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota
- I-5. Minnesota River at Mankato, Minnesota
- I-7. Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota
- I-8. St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin
- I-9. St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota
- I-10. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #3

The exact location of the gaging station, the method of measurement, the data source, its reliability and the segments of stream to which it may be applied are discussed below. When applying a point discharge to several miles of stream it is recognized that runoff and groundwater contributions, usually occur along that stream segment. Unless specially noted these contributions are considered negligible as a percent increase of the main stream flow. Where a significant change does occur, provisions for adjustment are provided. Such is the case on the Minnesota River.

In describing the accuracy of the stream flow data, "excellent" indicates that, in general, the error in the daily records is believed to be less than 5 percent; "good", less than 10 percent; and "fair",

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less than 15 percent.

Unpublished records provided by the U. S. Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) are provided to the Project on a provisional basis but are rated for accuracy herein in accordance with the history of the record.

## St. Francis - Figure I-1

Records for the Rum River near St. Francis are provided by the U. S. Geological Survey in a provisional basis for water years 1964 and 1965. The site is located on the right\* bank at the upstream side of a highway bridge, 4 miles south of St. Francis, Minnesota and 15 3/4 miles upstream from the mouth. The gage is a water stage recorder, and the records are good except for periods of ice effect during which they are fair. These flows may be applied to the Rum River from its mouth upstream to the gage. It may also be subtracted from the flow at Lock & Dam #1 to obtain the Mississippi River flow above the confluence of the Rum River. In making such a subtraction, the Rum River flow for the day in question may be subtracted from the Lock & Dam #1 flow for the same day.

# Lock & Dam #1 - Figure I-2

The flow record of the Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #1 is provided by the U. S. Corps of Engineers (U.S.C.E.) for the period of the Project survey. Lock & Dam #1 is located at Mississippi River mile UM 847.6 (UM 0.0 is at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers). The Ford Motor Company operates a hydroelectric plant at this site; and flow is determined by them by means of headwater and generator ratings and supplied

<sup>\*</sup> In keeping with the U.S.D.H.E.W., F.W.P.C.A. STORET System, right and left are determined by facing upstream.

to the U.S.C.E. several times a day. The record is excellent. These flows may be applied to the Mississippi River from just above the mouth of the Minnesota River (UM 844.0) upstream to just below the mouth of the Rum River (UM 871.4). Lock & Dam #1 flows normally agree closely with flows recorded at the Coon Rapids Dam (UM 866.2).

### Mankato - Figure I-3

Records for the Minnesota River at Mankato, Minnesota are provided to the Project by the U.S.G.S. on a provisional basis for water years 1964 & 1965. The gage site is located on the right bank at the downstream side of the Main Street Bridge in Mankato, 1.8 miles downstream from the Blue Earth River at MN 106.4. The gage is a water stage recorder and the records are good except for periods of ice effect during which they are fair. There is some diurnal fluctuation at low and medium stages caused by power plants on the Blue Earth River. These flows are used in conjunction with the record of the Carver gage to determine Minnesota River flows between MN 106.4 and MN 36.0 and may be applied directly to the Minnesota River from MN 106.4 upstream to the mouth of the Blue Earth River (MN 109.3).

In order to best define the flow occurring at any point between the Mankato and Carver gages, a graphical method is provided in Figure I-6 by which the two flows may be prorated. Again a linear increase in flow may be assumed between the two stations (MN 106.4 to MN 36.0) because of numerous small streams and springs located along this stream segment. No single source is significant in itself. To determine the flow at any point between the two stations for a particular day the flows at Mankato and Carver are used for the same day. It is recognized that since the two

stations are 70 miles apart, the degree of accuracy may be reduced because changes in flow do not take place simultaneously at the two gaging stations. The effect, however, would be slight except midway between the stations when the flow regime is greatly altered within one or two days. Even under these circumstances the degree of accuracy would not be less than that of either of the two gaging stations.

#### Carver - Figure I-4

Records for the Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota are provided by the U.S.G.S. on a provisional basis for water years 1964 and 1965. The site is located on the right bank 2 1/2 miles south of Carver at Minnesota River mile MN 36.0 (MN 0.0 is at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers). The gage is a water stage recorder, and the records are good except for periods of ice effect, which are fair. These flows may be applied to the Minnesota River from its mouth upstream to the gage (MN 36.0).

If a more accurate description of the flow condition is desired for stations below MN 36.0, the flow may be increased linearly such that from MN 36.0 to MN 0.0 the total added flow is 5 percent of the flow at MN 36.0 (Carver gage). This rule of thumb is utilized by engineers of the U.S.G.S. and U.S.C.E. and has been found to be the most generally applicable correction factor. It represents the total additions of groundwater and runoff, and may be applied linearly because of the numerous springs and streams located along the lower reaches of the Minnesota River. Figure I-5 provides a simple method of prorating this 5 percent correction over the 36 miles of river segment to determine the flow at any point from the flow at the Carver gage.

## St. Paul - Figure I-7

Records for the Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota are provided

to the Project by the U.S.G.S. on a provisional basis for water years 1964 and 1965. The site is located at UM 839.3 on the left bank in St. Paul, 300 feet upstream from the Robert Street Bridge. The gage is a water stage recorder, and the records are good. There is slight regulation, except during extreme floods, by reservoirs on headvaters and by power plants. Beginning June 20, 1938, sewage from Minneapolis and St. Paul, which formerly entered above the station, was diverted to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Sanitary District sewage treatment plant, thence to the river below the station. Figures of daily discharge do not include this diversion. These flows may be applied to the Mississippi River from just above the mouth of the St. Croix River (UM 811.3) upstream to just below the mouth of the Minnesota River (UM 844.0).

If a more accurate description of the flow condition is desired below the outlet of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Sanitary District (MSSD) sewage treatment plant, the plant discharge may be added to the flow recorded at St. Paul and applied to the Mississippi River from UM 836.3 to UM 811.3.

#### St. Croix Falls - Figure I-8

Records for the St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin are provided by the Northern States Power Company (NSP), which operates a hydroelectric plant there at St. Croix River mile SC 52.5 (SC 0.0 is at the confluence of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers). Flow is computed on the basis of gate openings, head, and plant efficiency, and the records are good. The flow is regulated by another power plant farther upstream. However, fluctuations are moderate and of a short duration, thereby not significantly altering the average daily flow.

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Flows at St. Croix Falls may be applied to the St. Croix River from SC 44.8 upstream to the falls (SC 52.5).

## Stillwater - Figure I-9

Records for the St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota SC 23.3 are derived from the addition of the St. Croix River flow at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin and the Apple River flow near Somerset, Wisconsin. The Apple River flow is measured at the NSP power plant 3.5 miles downstream from Somerset. Headwater and tailwater gages are read hourly and flow is computed on the basis of gate openings, head, and plant efficiency. Records are good except those below 100 cubic feet per second, which are fair. The flow is regulated by another power plant upstream. Both plants are classed as run of the river plants.

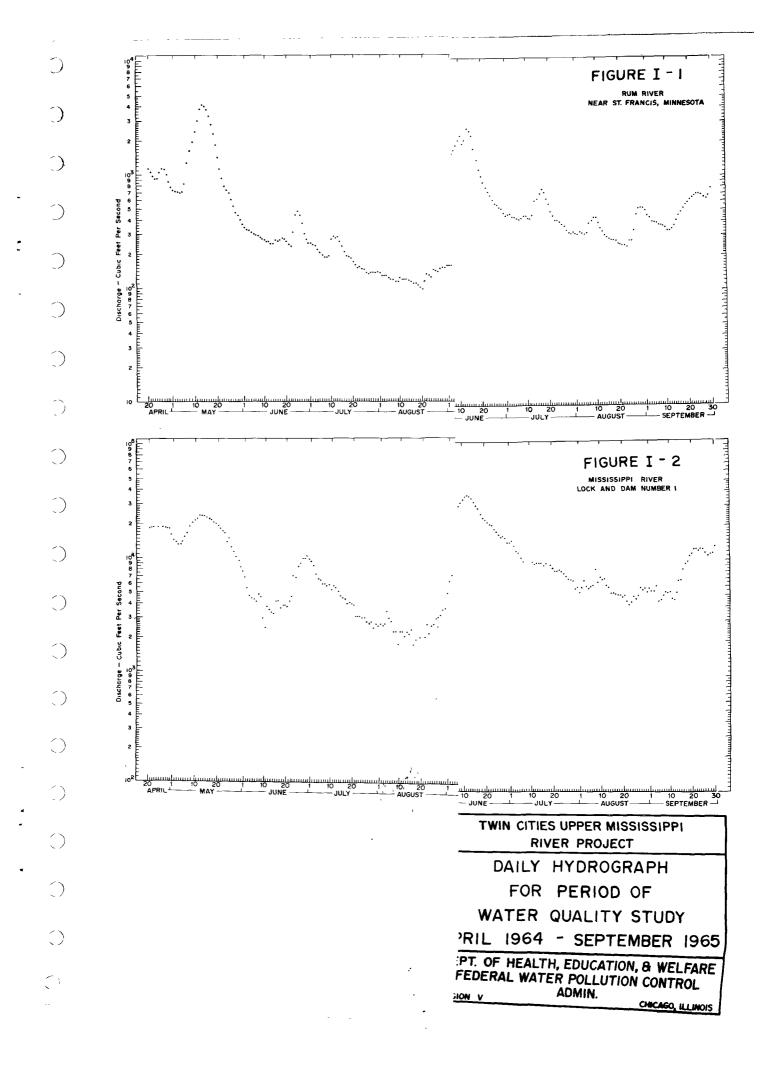
When adding these St. Croix and Apple River flows, they may not be added directly day by day. The St. Croix Falls flow recorded one day does not combine with the Apple River flow recorded near Somerset until the following day. The Somerset flow reached the St. Croix River the same day. Consequently, in combining these records, a one-day shift must be applied prior to addition. The resulting flow shortly reaches Stillwater (SC 23.3). Therefore, the daily flow at Stillwater has been recorded as the flow of the Apple River near Somerset for the same day. plus the flow at St. Croix Falls for the previous day.

This combined flow record may be applied to the St. Croix River from its mouth upstream to the mouth of the Apple River (SC 31.0).

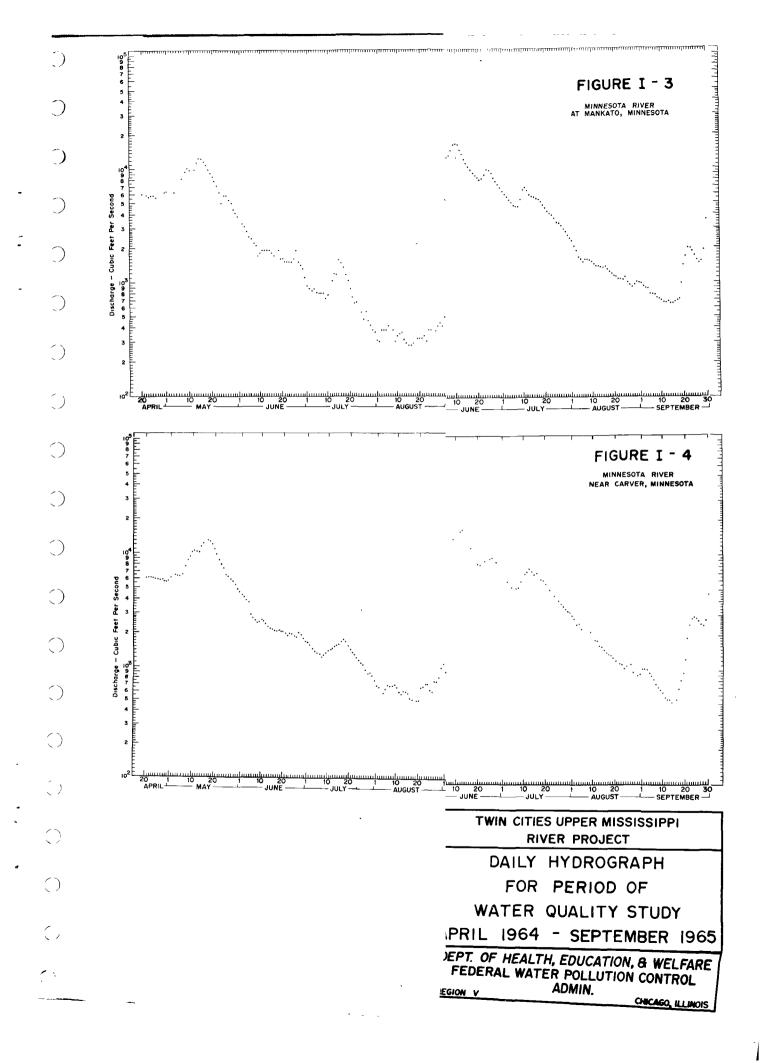
# Lock & Dam #3 - Figure I-10

The flow record of the Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #3 is provided by the U.S.C.E. for the period of the Project survey. Lock & Dam #3 is located at UM 796.9. The flow is determined from gate opening computations

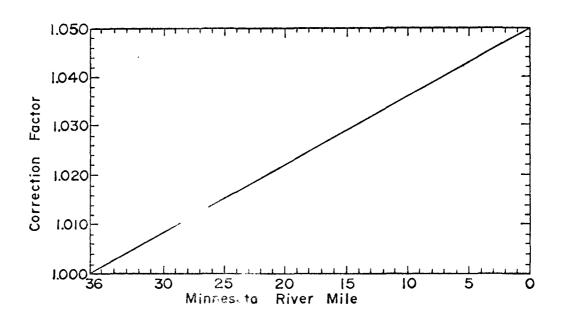
during normal and low flows and from tailwater ratings during high flows. The record is excellent and normally agrees closely with the U.S.G.S. gage at Prescott, Visconsin just below the mouth of the St. Croix River. These flows may be applied to the Mississippi River from just above the mouth of the Chippewa River (UM 763.5) upstream to just below the mouth of the St. Croix River (UM 811.4).



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Flow at river mile N  $^{\circ}$  flow at Carver gage  $\times$  correction factor for river mile N

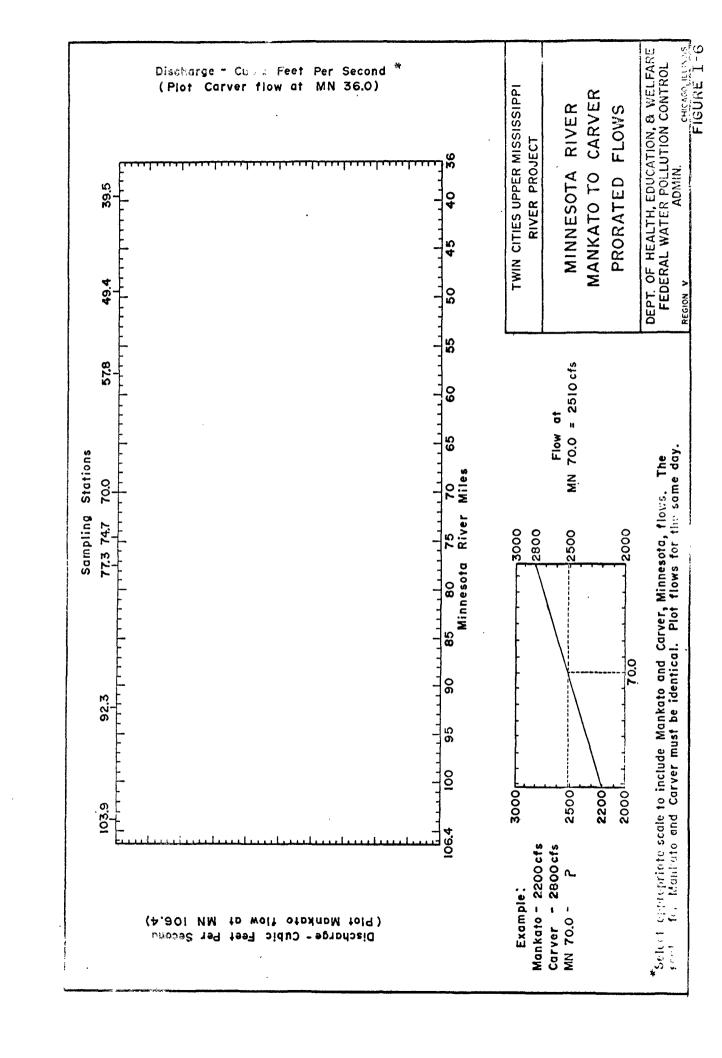
## SAMPLING STATION CORRECTION FACTORS

Station	Correction
MN 1.9	1.047
MN 7.4	1.040
MN 10.8	1.035
MN 14.3	1.030
MN 16.8	1.027
MN 23.0	1.018
MN 25.1	. 1,015
MN 27.5	1.012
MN 29.6	1.009

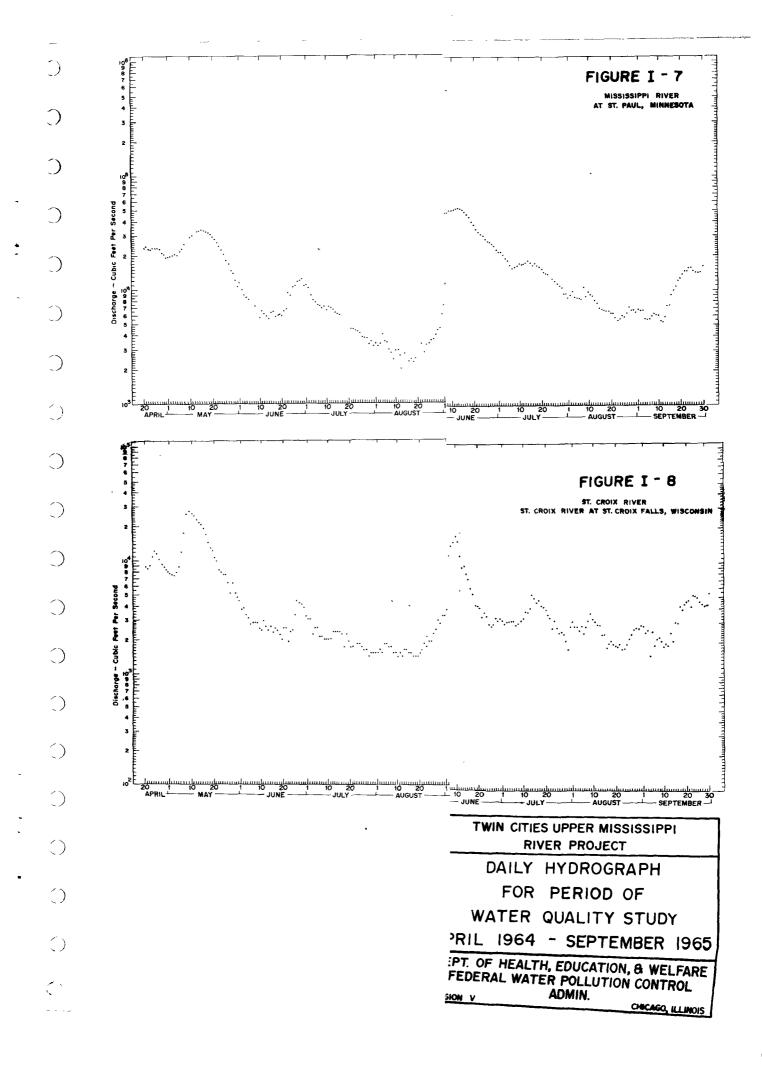
TWIN CITIES UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT

LOWER MINNESOTA FLOW CORRECTION

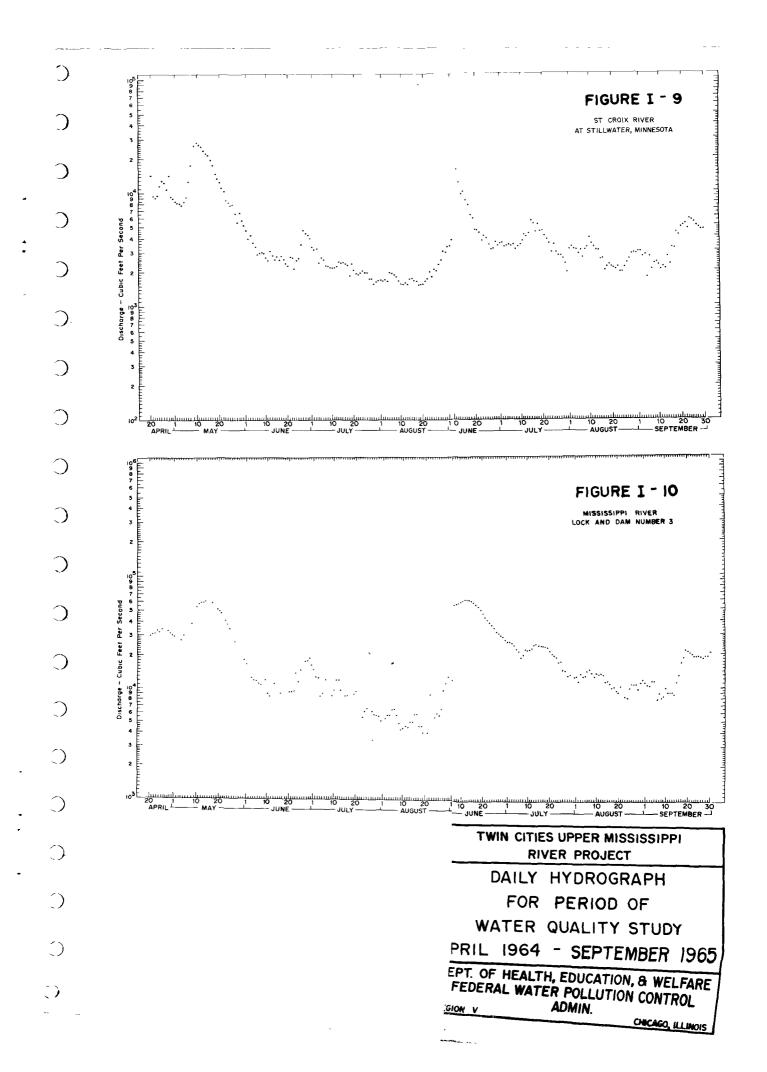
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# CHAPTER II

# MEAN STREAM DEPTHS

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### INTRODUCTION

Mean stream depths for a range of discharges are presented for the Mississippi River from river miles UM 871.0 to UM 764.9 in Figures II-1 through II-11, the Minnesota River from river miles MN 109.3 to MN 0.1 in Figure II-12, and the St. Croix River from river miles SC 48.0 to SC 0.8 in Figure II-13. Discharge-depth relationships have been established for numerous segments of these rivers. The segments were selected on the basis of significant natural and man-made changes in the hydrologic regime, the location of principle wastewater inputs, and to match the river segments used in the discharge-velocity relationships presented in the Chapter "Mean Flow Velocity".

#### OBJECT

Mean stream depths have been determined for use in calculating the reaeration constant  $(k_2)$  for insertion into the oxygen sag equation.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The mean stream depths for the numerous stream segments were calculated for three conditions of stage and flow from cross sections determined by the Project or obtained from other agencies. Cross sections

- 1 UM 0.0 is at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.
- 2 MN 0.0 is at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers.
- 3 SC 0.0 is at the confluence of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers.

obtained from other agencies were for the Mississippi River from UM 859.0 to UM 797.0 and were taken at 1/4 to 1/2 mile intervals. This includes the entire stretch of the Mississippi River from above Minneapolis to Lock & Dam #3. Time and budgetary considerations prevented the development of cross sections at such close intervals on all other segments of the 3 major streams studied by the Project. However, these other segments were cross sectioned by the Project at intervals which provided representation sufficient for the use of the data and in keeping with the Project's needs.

Water surface profiles were developed for three conditions of stage and flow in order to prorate the cross sections. Each flow condition provided a mean stream depth and thus a coordinate for the discharge-depth relationship. Plotting the log of the three coordinates results in a straight line for each segment of stream.

#### METHOD OF COMPUTATION

The computations described were carried out using areas and widths derived from the prorated cross sections. The mean stream depth for the segment of stream between every adjacent pair of cross sections was calculated.

Mean stream depth for any stream segment is defined as the volume of that segment divided by its surface area. From a pair of cross sections the average volume is given by:

$$\frac{A_1 + A_2}{2} \times L$$

the average surface area by:

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where:

 $A_1$  &  $A_2$  = areas of the respective cross sections.

 $W_1$  &  $W_2$  = widths of the respective cross sections.

L = distance between the respective cross sections.

Combining these, the formula reduces to:

Mean Stream Depth = 
$$\frac{A_1 + A_2}{W_1 + W_2}$$

The mean stream depths for the larger stream segments presented in the Figures are distance-weighted averages of the depths obtained from the numerous smaller segments.

The depth values derived are to be used in determining the stream's reaeration capability. Since a stream is not always totally effective from bank to bank in reaerating a water mass moving downstream, the full cross section of a stream was not always used in determining the mean depth. Special judgments were made in areas of slack water, back channels, and extensive submerged floodplains. Slack water and nearly stagnant back channels were not considered in calculating the mean stream depth. The region of submerged floodplains from UM 825.0 to UM 815.2 was the most extensive segment of stream where the percent effectiveness was reduced. In this region the areas of submerged floodplains outside the main channel were considered to be 60 percent effective. This percent effectiveness is the same as that established by the MSSD investigation in developing mean flow velocities which were checked by tracer studies conducted by the Project.

<sup>5 &</sup>quot;Pollution and Recovery Characteristics of the Mississippi River", A Project sponsored by the Minneapolis-St. Paul Sanitary District, 1961, Volume One-Part Three.

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All special changes from 100 percent effective areas are noted in the original calculations available in the Project's Hydrologic Studies-Basic Data file.

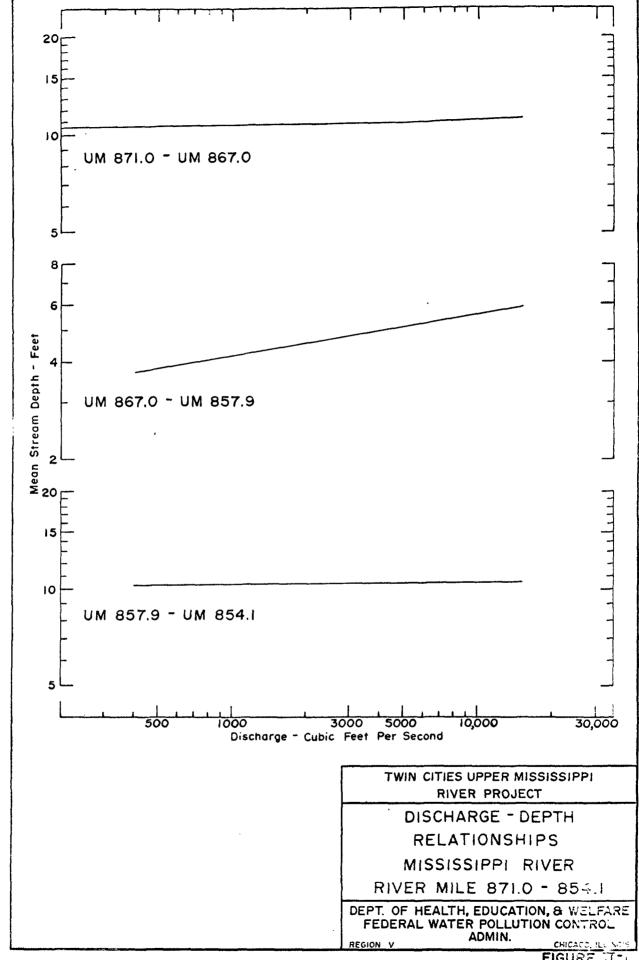
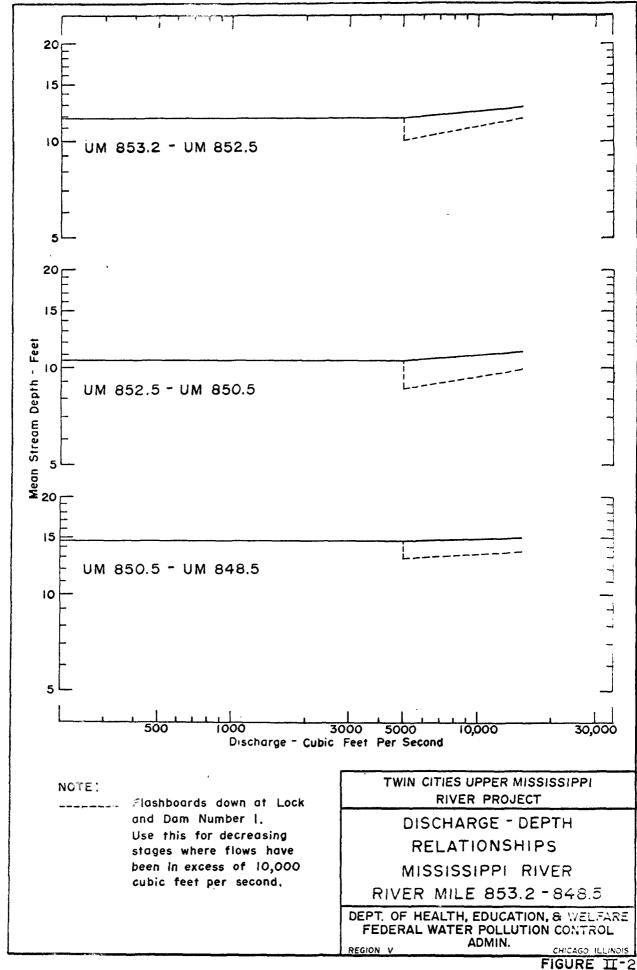
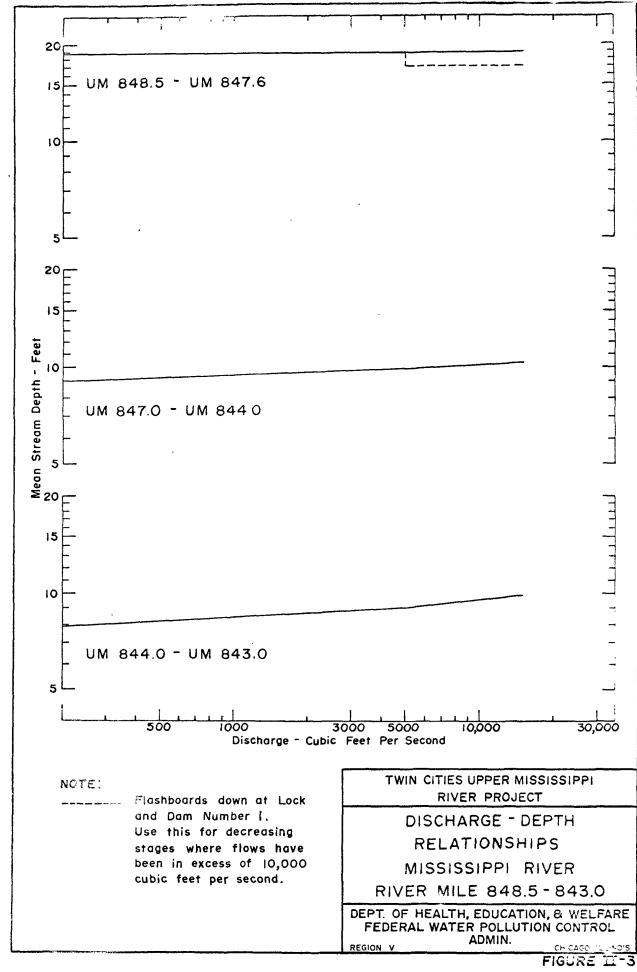
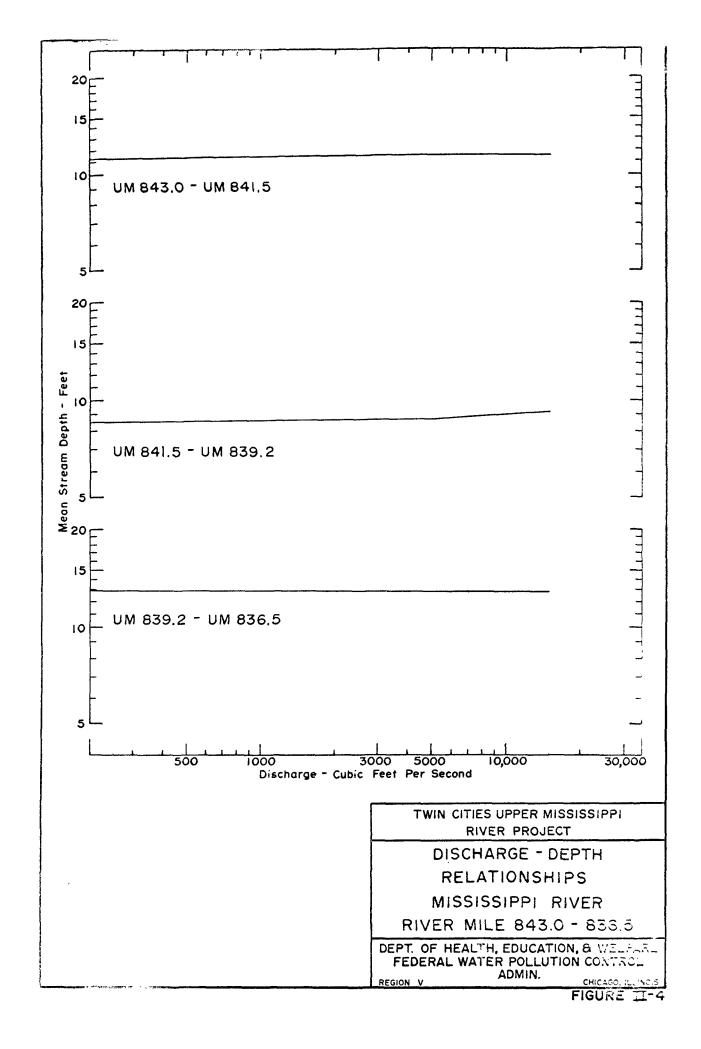
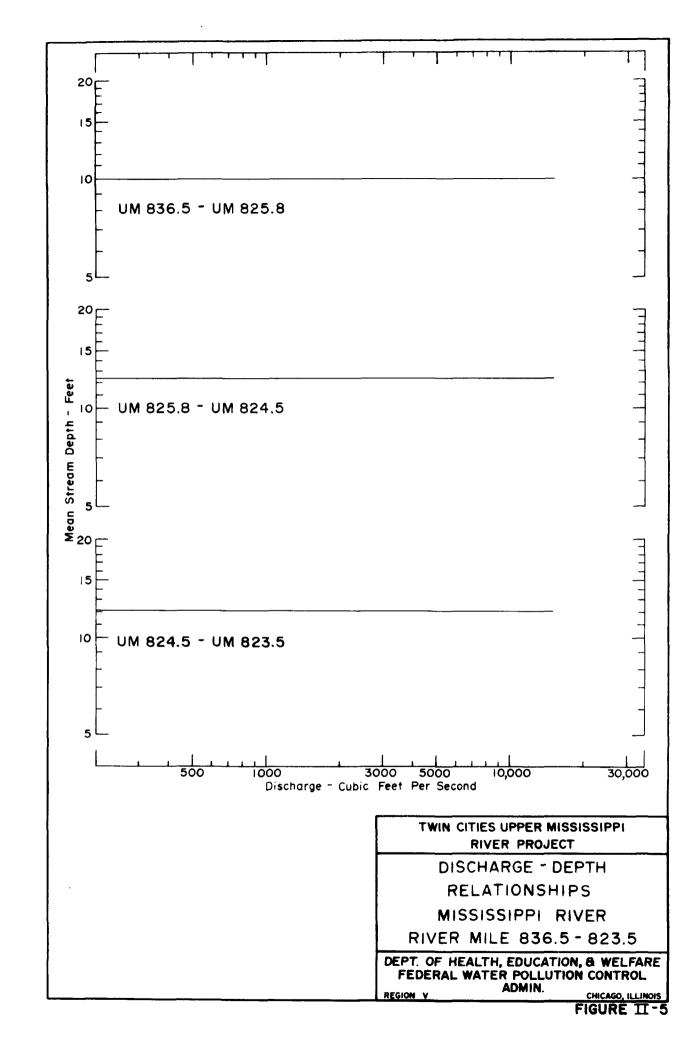


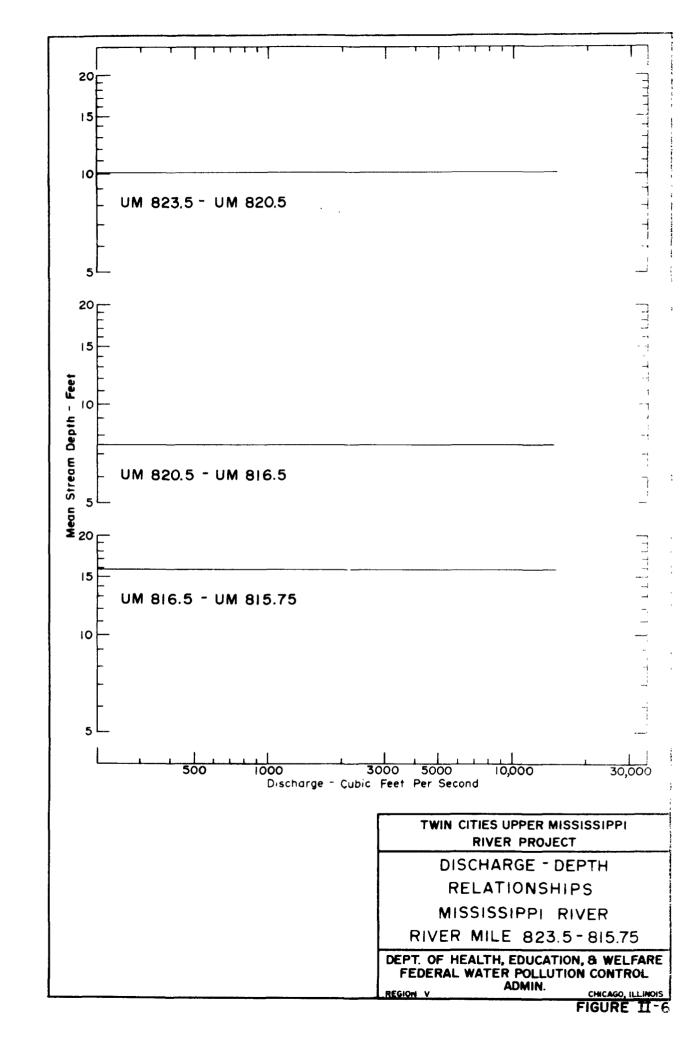
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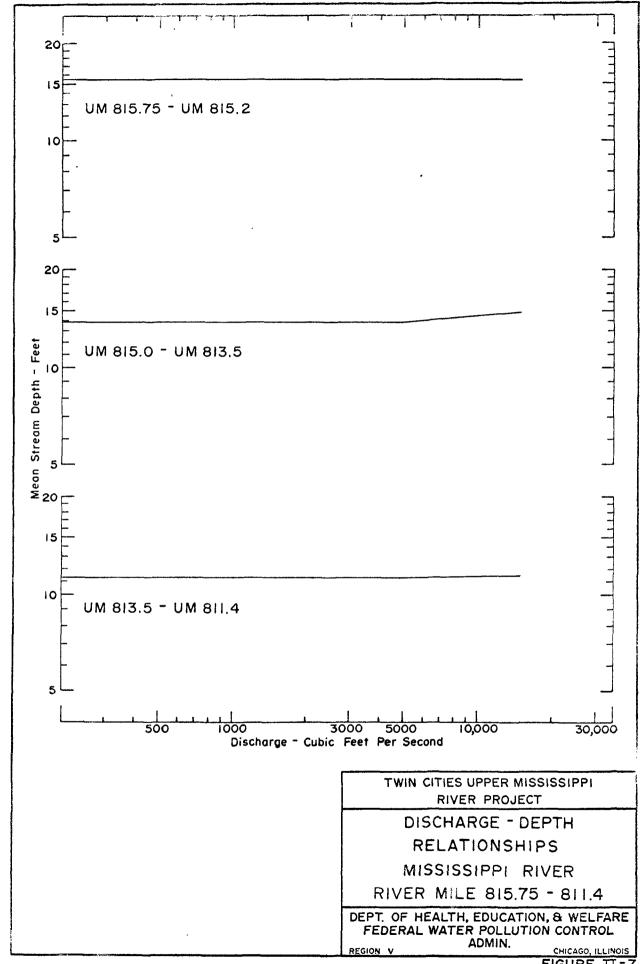
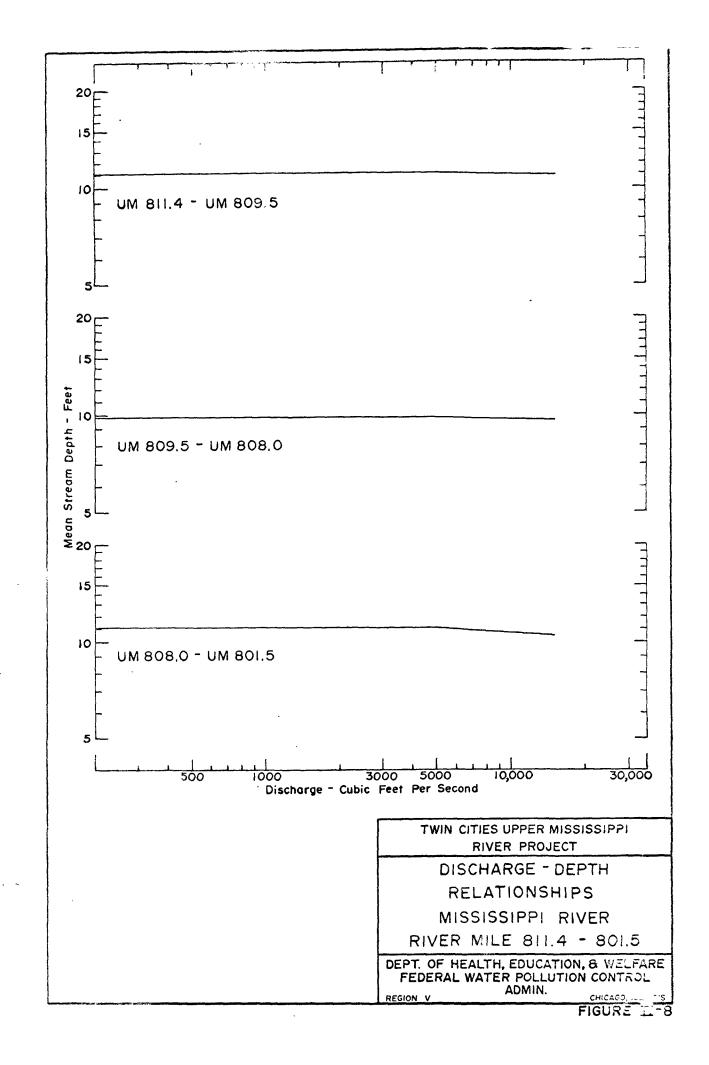


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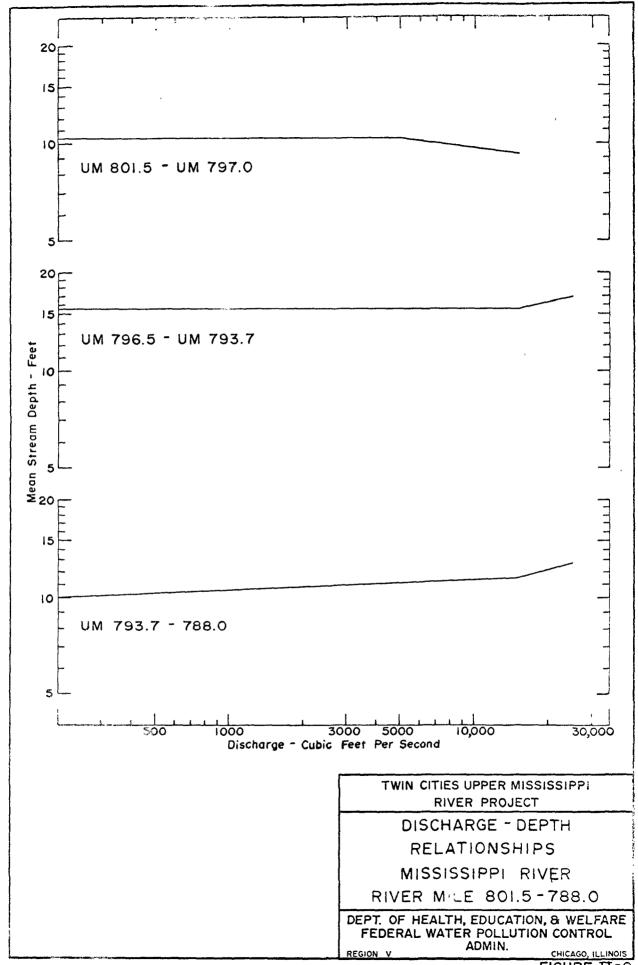
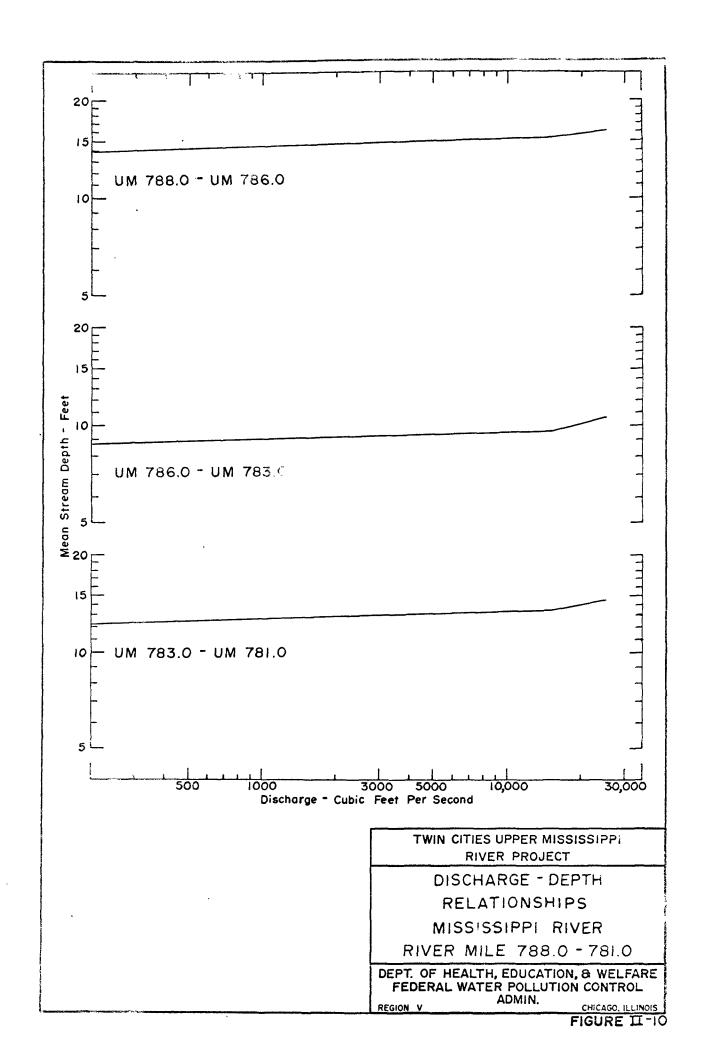


FIGURE II-9

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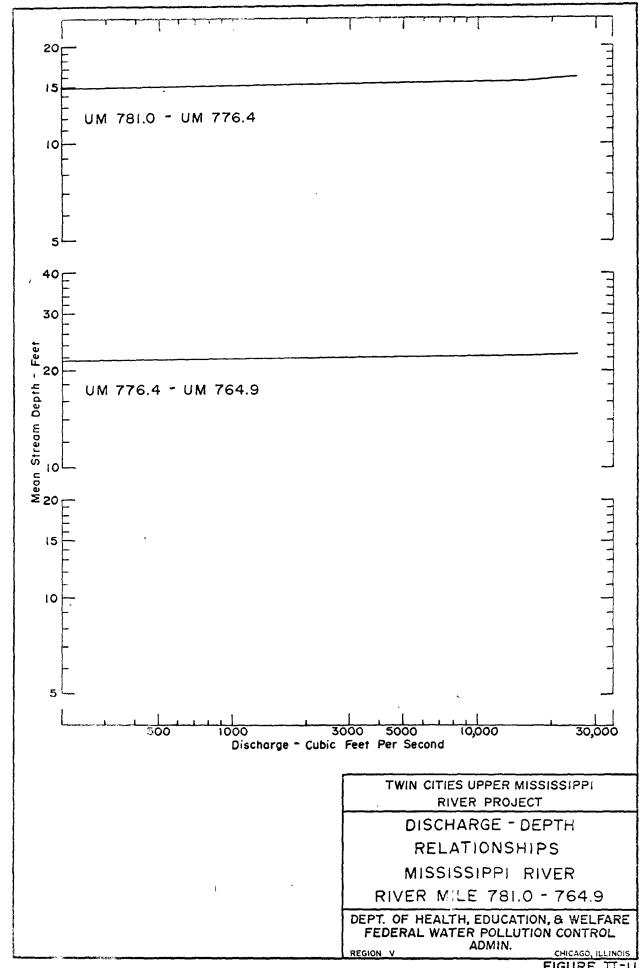
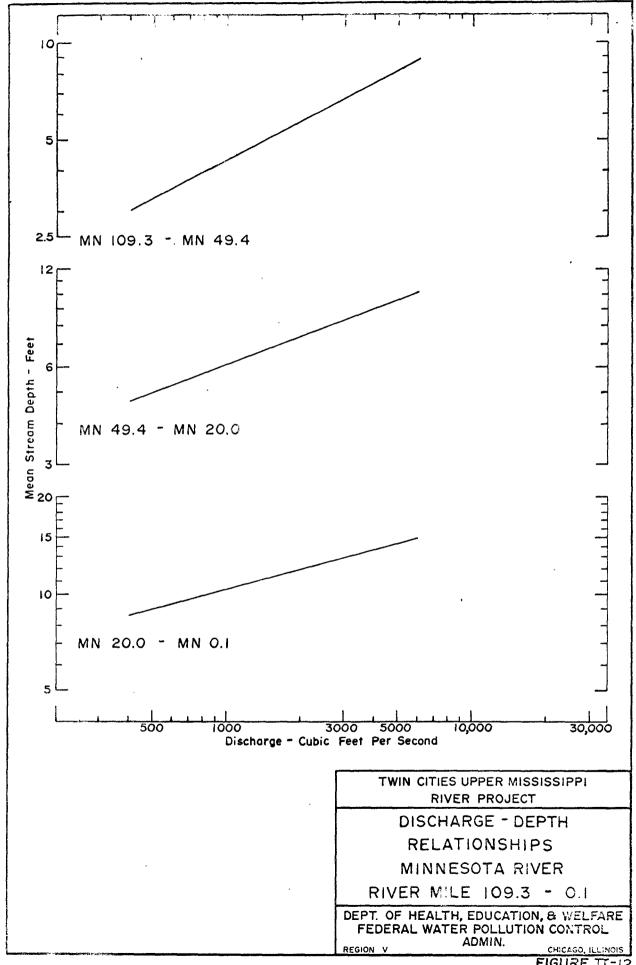
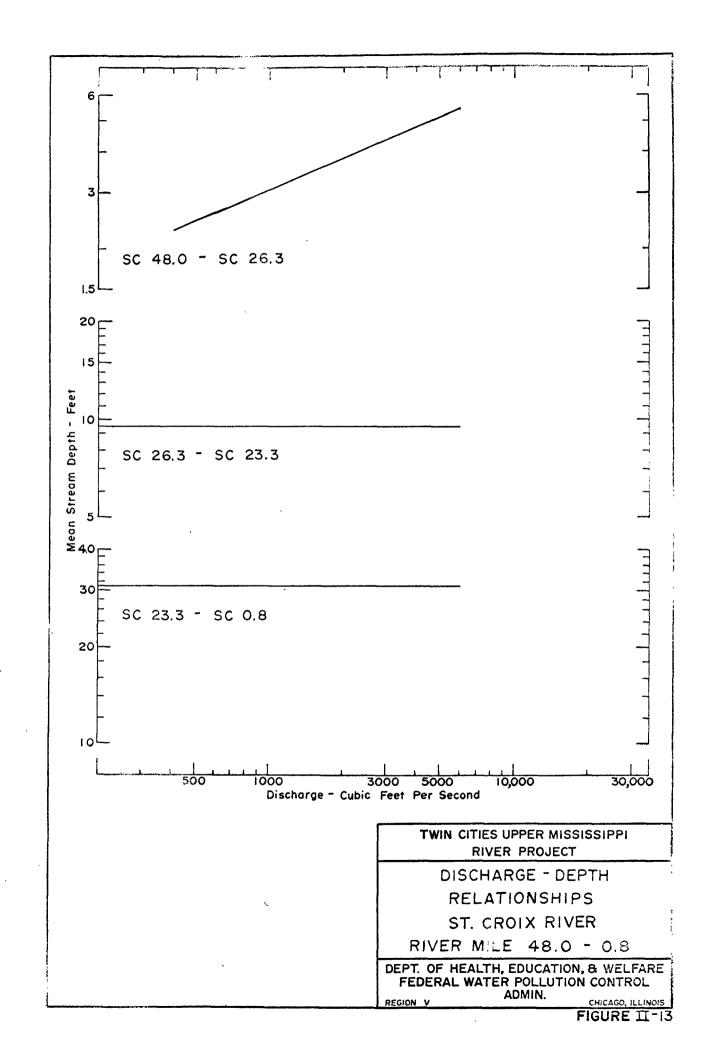


FIGURE II-II



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# CHAPTER III

RANGE OF MEAN MONTHLY DISCHARGES

#### INTRODUCTION

Mean monthly discharges for various gaging stations on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers within the Project study area are presented in this chapter. Five gaging stations were selected such that mean monthly discharges may be determined for any segment of these three streams. The maximum, mean and minimum of the mean monthly discharges were derived from the 25-year period of record from Water Year 1940 through Water Year 1964.

# OFJECT

These monthly plots of average discharge provide a basis for comparison and discussion of general stream conditions and illustrate the direction and magnitude of seasonal variations.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

The range of mean monthly discharges for the selecting gaging stations are given by the following Figures:

- III-1. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #1
- III-2. Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota
- III-3. Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota
- III-4. St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota
- III-5. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #3

The chapter "Hydrographs" includes a discussion of each of these stations as well as general comments concerning their selection. The segment of stream to which the flows may be applied as well as the source and reliability of the record are also provided.

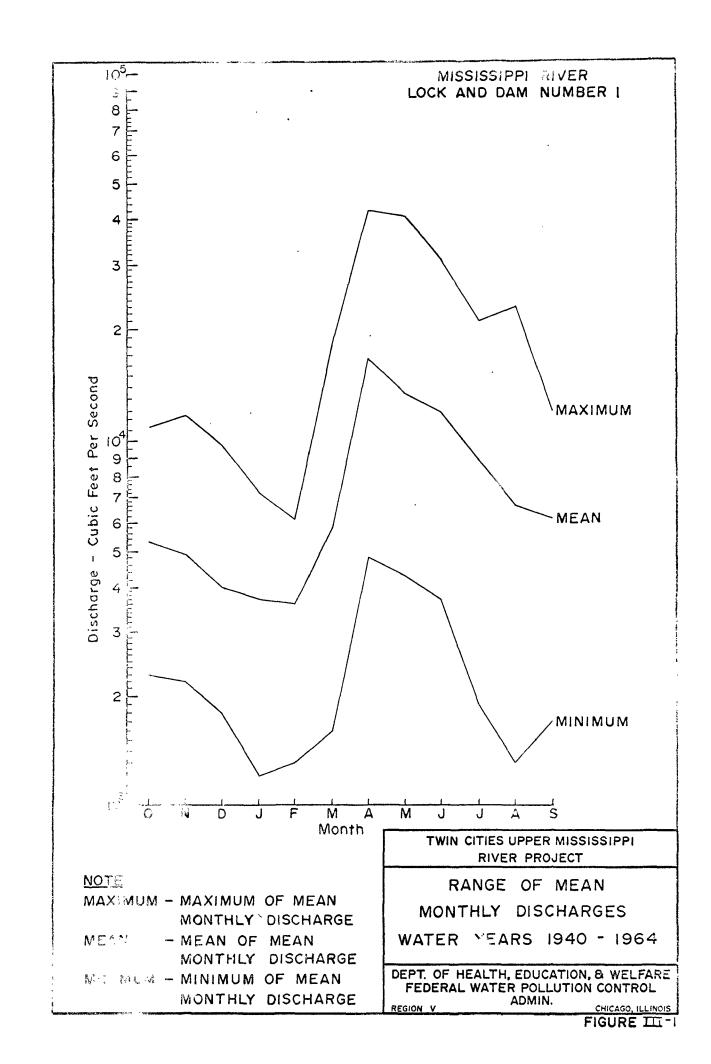
The 25-year period of record used in the determination of the "Range

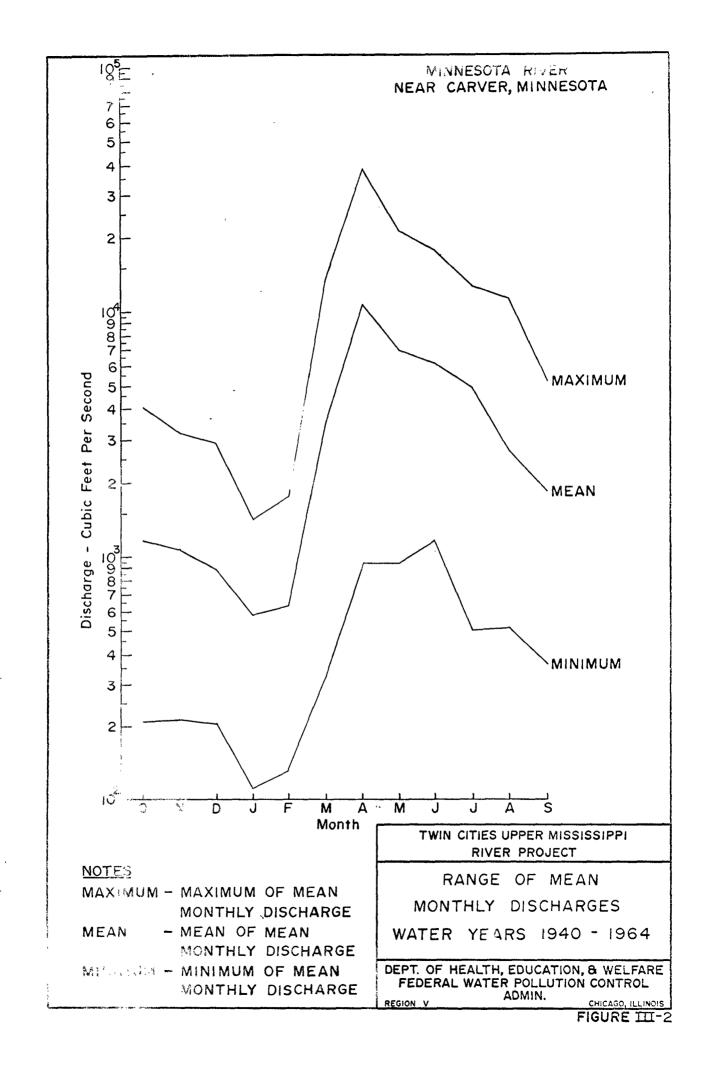
of Mean Monthly Discharges" was selected after scrutiny of each stream's hydrologic history. Most of the information was obtained through consultation with personnel of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, U. S. Geological Survey, Minnesota Department of Conservation and the Northern States Power Company. The following general conditions applicable to the rivers under study were most relevant in selecting water years 1940 through 1964:

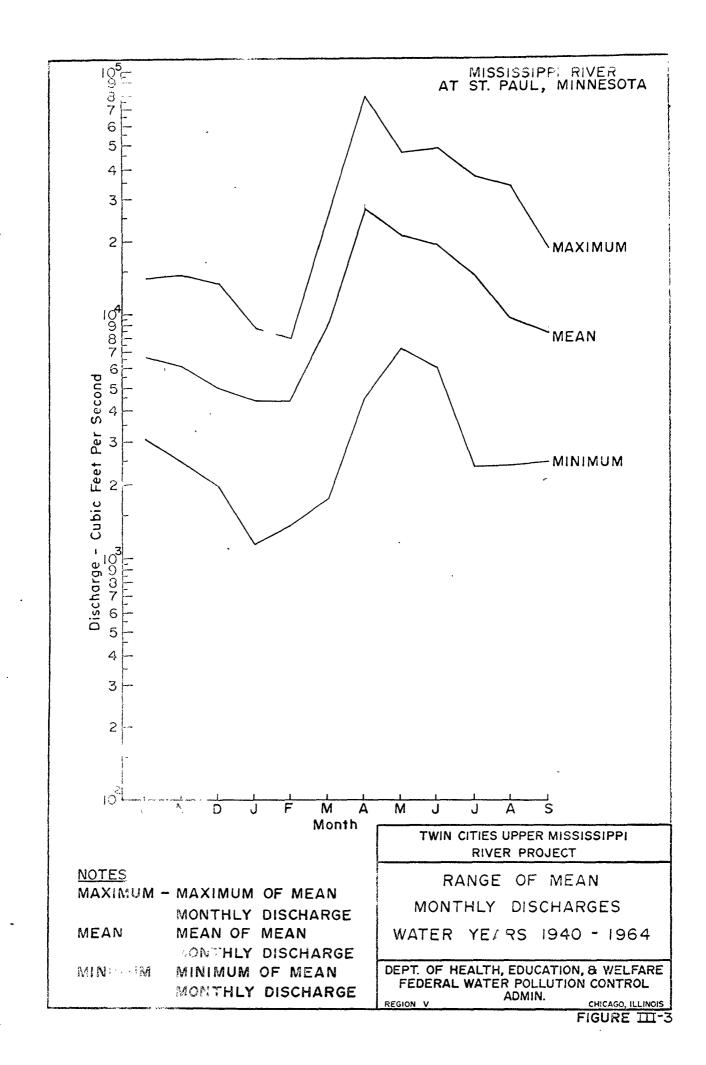
- 1. Major dam construction was completed about 1938.
- 2. There have been no significant changes in storage capacity during this time.
- 3. Operating procedures for the numerous locks, dams, power plants and reservoirs have remained relatively constant.

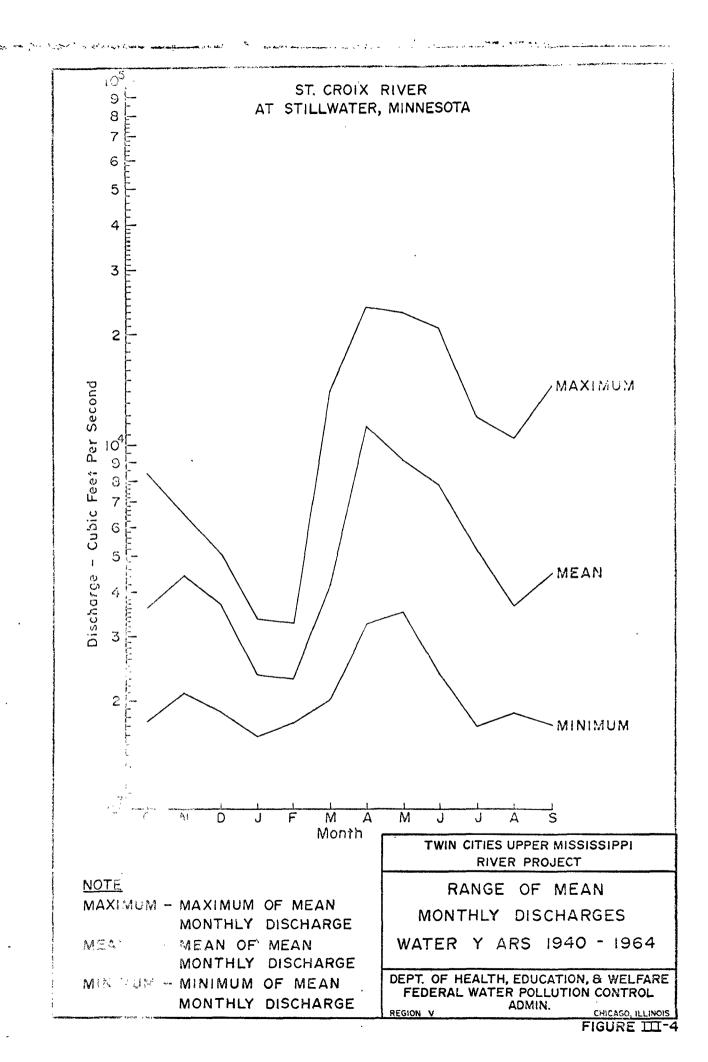
Concerning the derivation of flow of the St. Croix River at Stillwater, the mean monthly discharges of the St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls and of the Apple River near Somerset were added directly with no regard being given to the one day required for flows from St. Croix Falls to reach the mouth of the Apple River. No appreciable error can be noted in utilizing this technique.

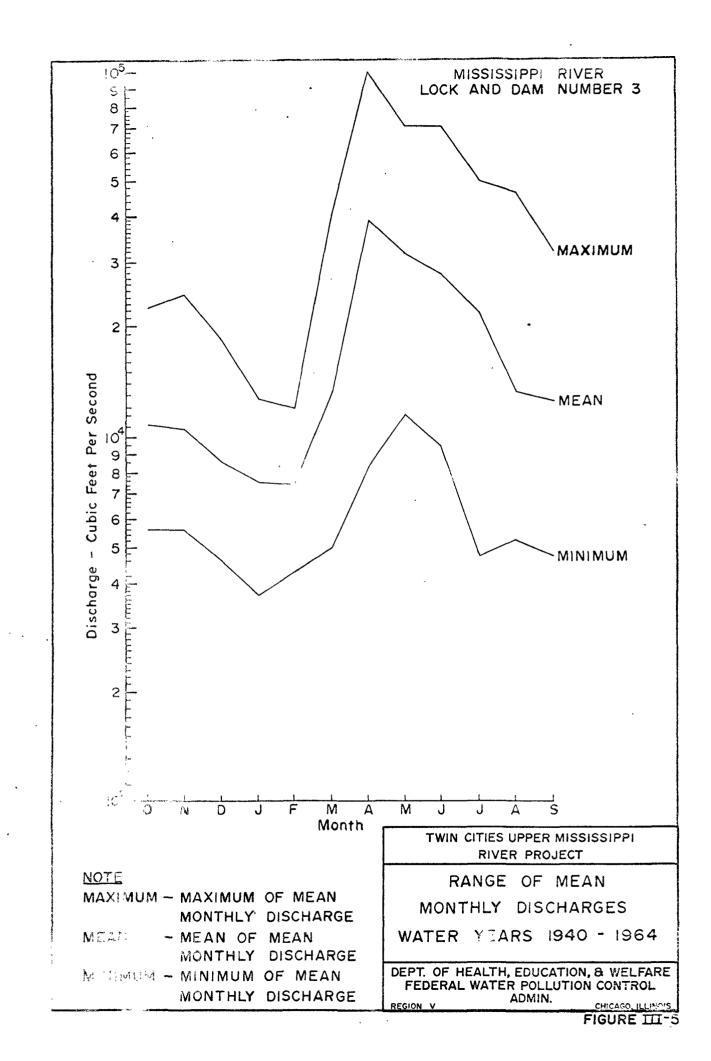
The maximum, minimum and mean of the mean monthly discharges for each station were derived from the compilation of mean monthly discharges presented in Appendix "III-A". The mean discharge for a given month was listed for the 25 consecutive water years, the highest and lowest selected, and the average computed. The same was done for each month thus defining the three curves presented in Figures III-1 through III-5.











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### CHAPTER IV

### MEAN FLOW VELOCITIES

#### INTRODUCTION

Mean flow velocities for a range of discharges are presented for the Mississippi River from river mile UM 871.0 to UM 764.9 in Figures IV-1 through IV-10, the Minnesota River from river miles MN 109.3 to MN 0.1 in Figure IV-11, and the St. Croix River from river miles SC 48.0 to SC 0.8 in Figure IV-12.

Discharge-velocity relationships have been established for numerous segments of these rivers. The segments were selected on the basis of significant natural and man-made changes in the hydrologic regime, the location of principle wastewater inputs, and to match the river segments used in the discharge-depth relationships presented in the chapter, "Mean Stream Depths".

#### OBJECT

Mean flow velocities have been determined for use in calculating the reaeration constant  $(k_2)$  for insertion into the oxygen sag equation and for use in conjunction with the oxygen sag equation to establish the physical downstream location of the sag and stages of recovery.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The mean flow velocities for the numerous stream segments were determined by one of the following three methods and checked by one or both of the other methods:

- 1 UM 0.0 is at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.
- 2 MN 0.0 is at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers.
- 3 SC 0.0 is at the confluence of the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers.

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- 1. Fluorometric tracer studies.
- 2. Values presented in "Pollution and Recovery Characteristics of the Mississippi River', Volume One, Part Three.
  - 3. Volume displacement calculations.

Fluorometric tracer studies were conducted over all reaches of the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers under study by the Project, with the exception of Lake St. Croix and lower Lake Pepin. Tracer studies were conducted using Rhodamine "B" dye as the fluorescing tracer and the Turner Model lll fluorometer for detection. Three general methods of detection were employed: 1) individual analysis of discrete stream samples, 2) continuous monitoring at a fixed point in a stream, and 3) continuous monitoring while traveling by boat up or down the main channel of a stream. The majority of the studies were conducted utilizing the third method for which the details of planning and execution are presented in "Study Plan - Time of Travel Determination Using Tracer Techniques". The first and second methods of detection were avoided as being time consuming and were used only where circumstances prohibited the use of a boat.

Fluorometric readings of relative concentration were converted to a concentration vs. time plot either by Rustrak recorder where continuous monitoring was employed or by plotting the analyses of discrete samples. Where sampling was not conducted at a fixed point, time and river mile were directly related. From these plots the time and point of the tracer's arrival were determined; a velocity was computed; and knowing discharge, the coordinates of a point were provided for the discharge-velocity relationship.

<sup>4</sup> An investigation sponsored by the Minneapolis-St. Paul Sanitary District. Hereafter referred to as the MSSD investigation.

<sup>5</sup> Twin Cities-Upper Mississippi River Project. "Study Plan - Time of Travel Determination Using Tracer Techniques." 1965. (Mimeographed.)

Three major tracer studies, covering 210 miles of the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers, were conducted at times of distinctly different conditions of flow. Each provided a coordinate for the discharge velocity relationship. Plotting the log of these coordinates results in a straight line for each segment of stream. 6,7,8

Values of time of travel for limited segments of the Mississippi River are presented in the MSSD investigation and are easily converted to mean flow velocity. These values were treated in the same manner to establish the discharge-velocity relationships as were the results of the tracer studies.

Volume displacement calculations were used to develop mean flow velocities for assumed discharges from the cross sections discussed in "Mean Stream Depths". These calculations were carried out to check and compare with the results obtained by tracer study. Where tracer studies were not economically feasible as in the case of Lake Pepin and Lake St. Croix, volume displacement calculations provided the basic data for the discharge-velocity relationships.

The following outlines is a synopsis of the methods used for the various reaches of river to provide the basic data and check for the discharge-velocity relationships.

Worley, John Larry, "A System Analysis Method for Water Quality Management by Flow Augmentation in a Complex River Basin," June, 1963, USPHS, DWS&PC, Region IX.

<sup>7</sup> Velz, C. J., "Factors Influencing Self-Purification and Their Relation to Pollution Abatement, Part II, Sludge Deposits and Drought Probabilities," Sewage and Industrial Wastes Journal, Vol. 21-3, March, 1949.

O'Connor, Donald J., "The Effect of Stream Flow on Waste Assimulation Capacity," Proceedings Seventeenth Purdue Industrial Waste Conference, May, 1962.

#### I. Mississippi River.

- A. Anoka to Lock & Dam #1 (UM 871 UM 847.6).
  - 1. Tracer studies basic data.
  - 2. Volume Displacement check.
- B. Lock & Dam #1 to Lock and Dam #3 (UM 847.0 UM 797.0).
  - 1. MSSD investigation basic data.
  - 2. Tracer studies check.
- C. Lock & Dam #3 through upper Lake Pepin (UM 796.5 UM 776.4).
  - 1. Volume displacement basic data. (Judgments were made concerning the percent effectiveness of the stream cross section. See notes with Figures.)
  - 2. Tracer studies check.
- D. Lower Lake Pepin (UM 776.4 UM 764.9).
  - 1. Volume displacement basic data.
  - 2. No check was provided. However, the judgments of percent effectiveness in upper Lake Pepin correlated very well with the tracer studies, and the same reasoning was applied to this portion of the Lake. See notes with Figures.

#### II. Minnesota River.

- A. Mankato to the mouth (MN 109.3 MN 0.1).
  - 1. Tracer studies basic data.
  - 2. Volume displacement check.

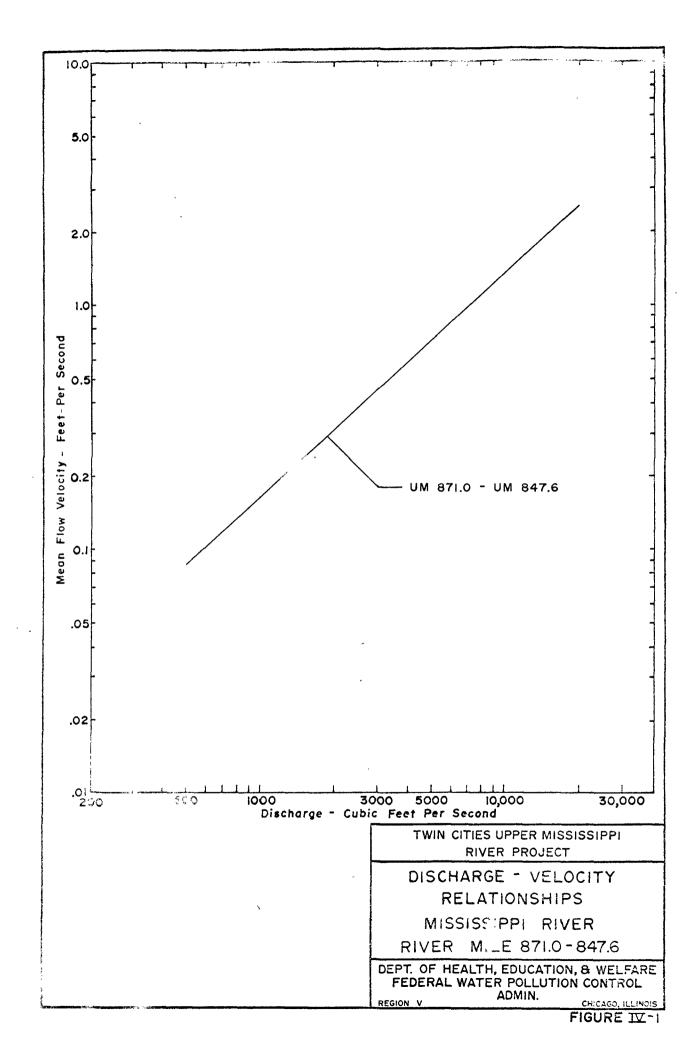
#### III. St. Croix River.

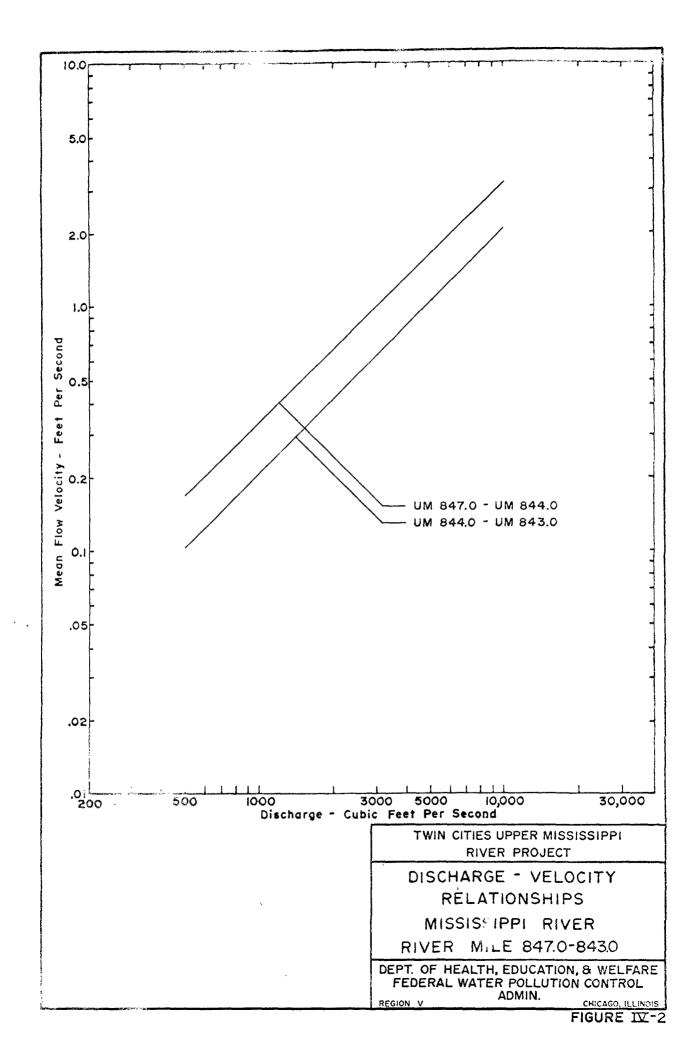
- A. Upper St. Croix River (SC 48.0 SC 26.3).
  - 1. Tracer studies basic data.
  - 2. Volume displacement check.
- B. Lower St. Croix River (SC 26.3 SC 23.3) and Lake St. Croix (SC 23.3 SC 0.8).
  - 1. Volume displacement basic data.
  - 2. No check was provided. However, the percent effectiveness was judged in the same manner as in Lake Pepin where tracer studies supported the assumptions. See notes with Figures.

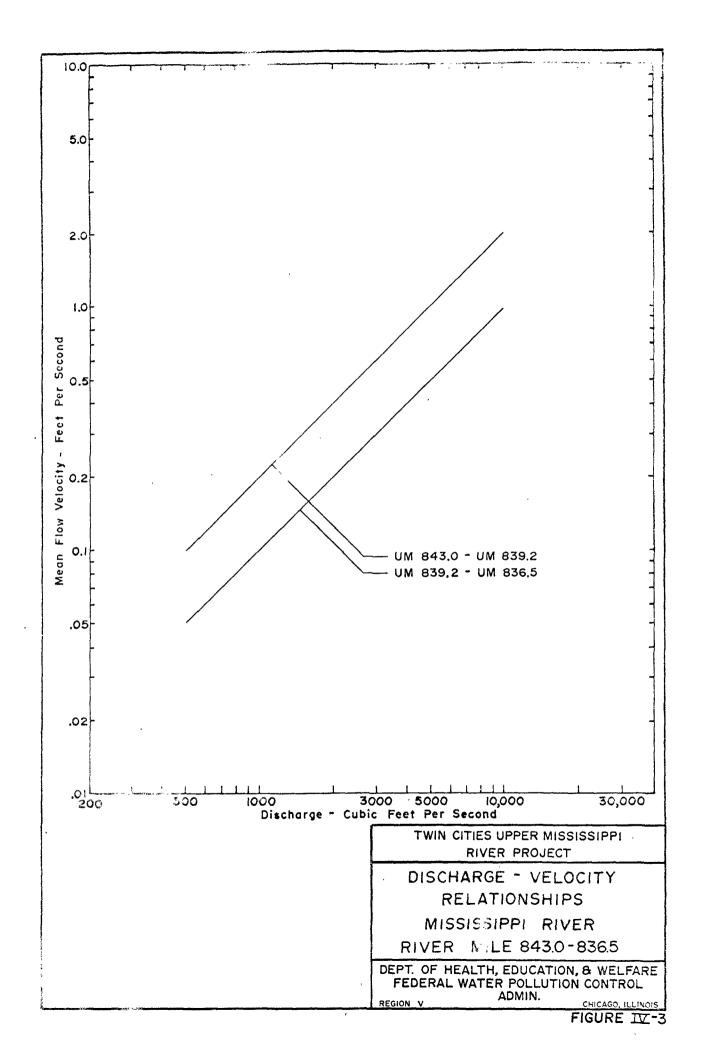
The agreement between the basic data and the check was in most cases excellent, regardless of the combination of methods. There were slight variations for two segments of the Minnesota River, one segment of the St.

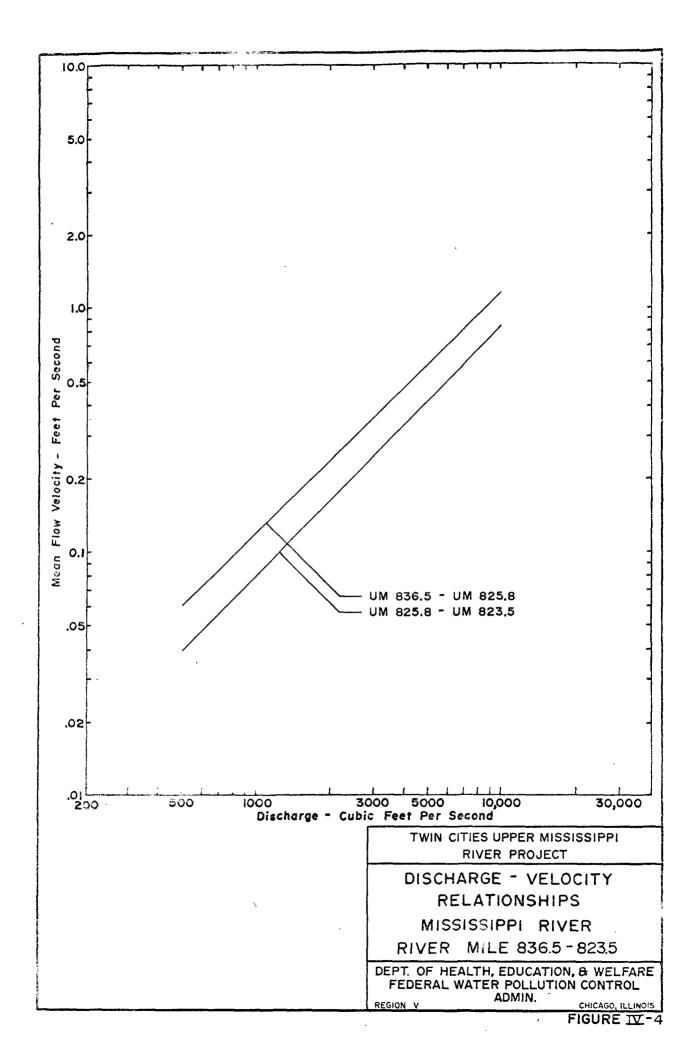
Croix River and in the Spring Lake area of the Mississippi River. In each of these cases, however, the correlation was still very good. The variation usually occurred when the results of one tracer study did not coincide with the relationship established by the results of other tracer studies, the MSSD investigation, and the volume displacement calculations. Such a variation in one study could have been caused by rapidly fluctuating stage or flow, special wind conditions, or a variety of special hydraulic circumstances.

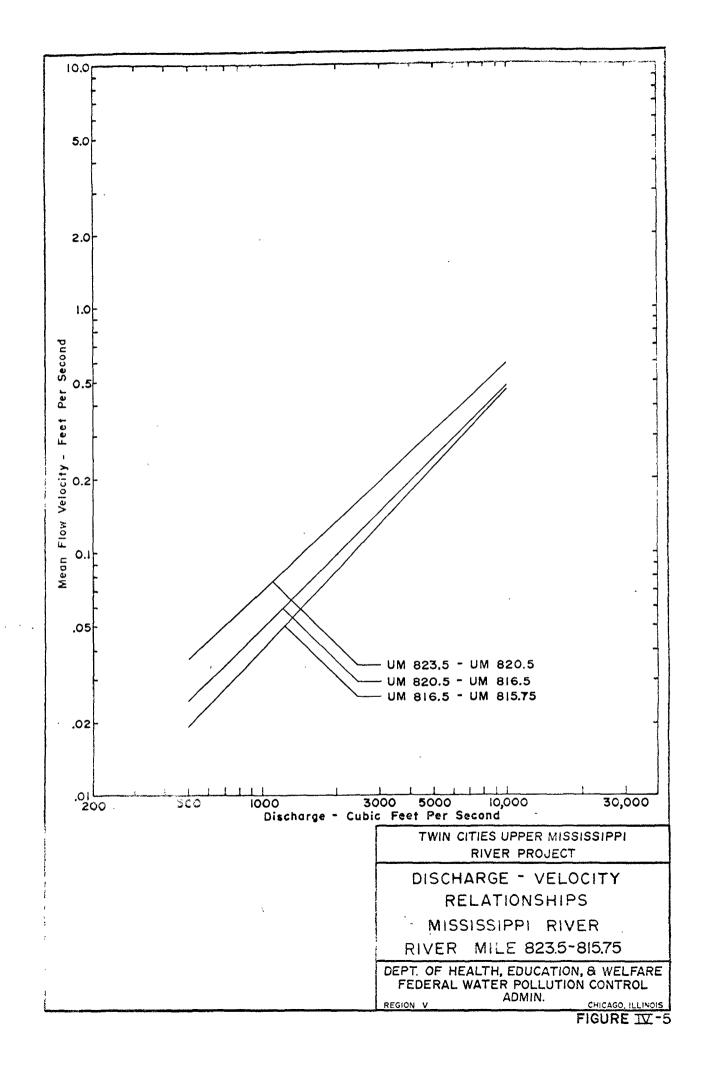
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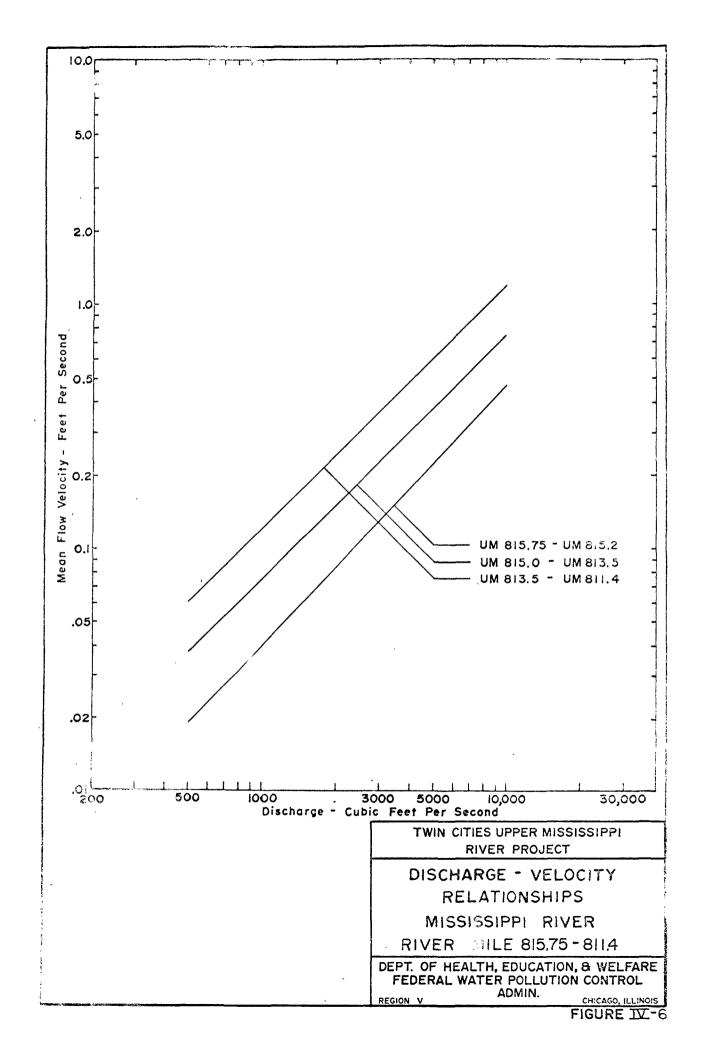


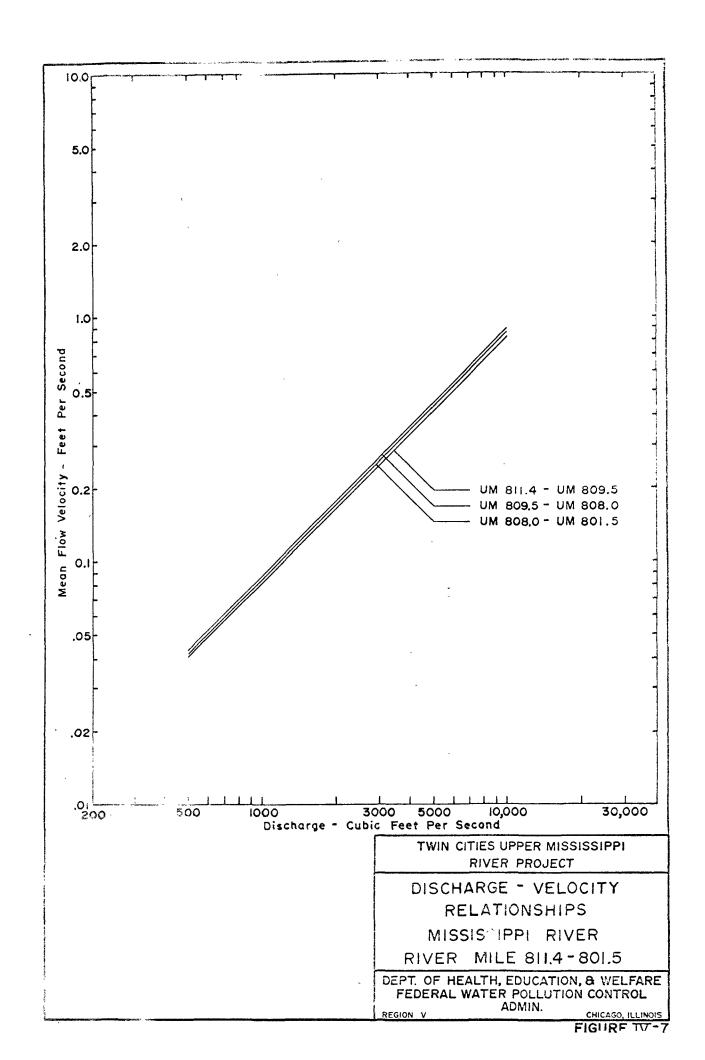




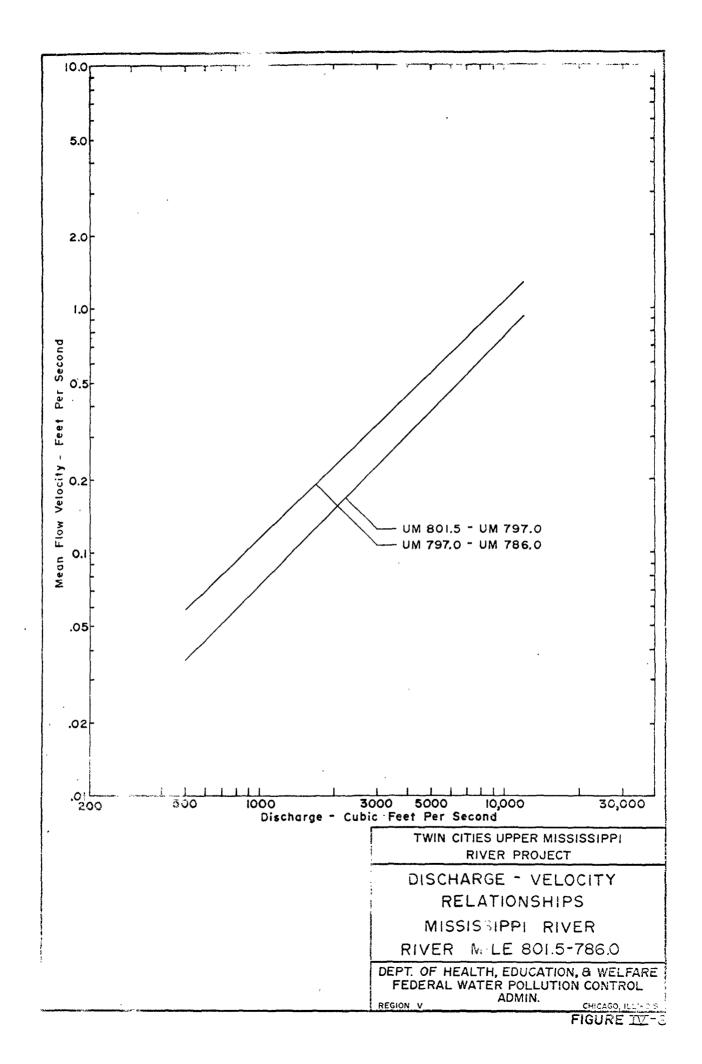


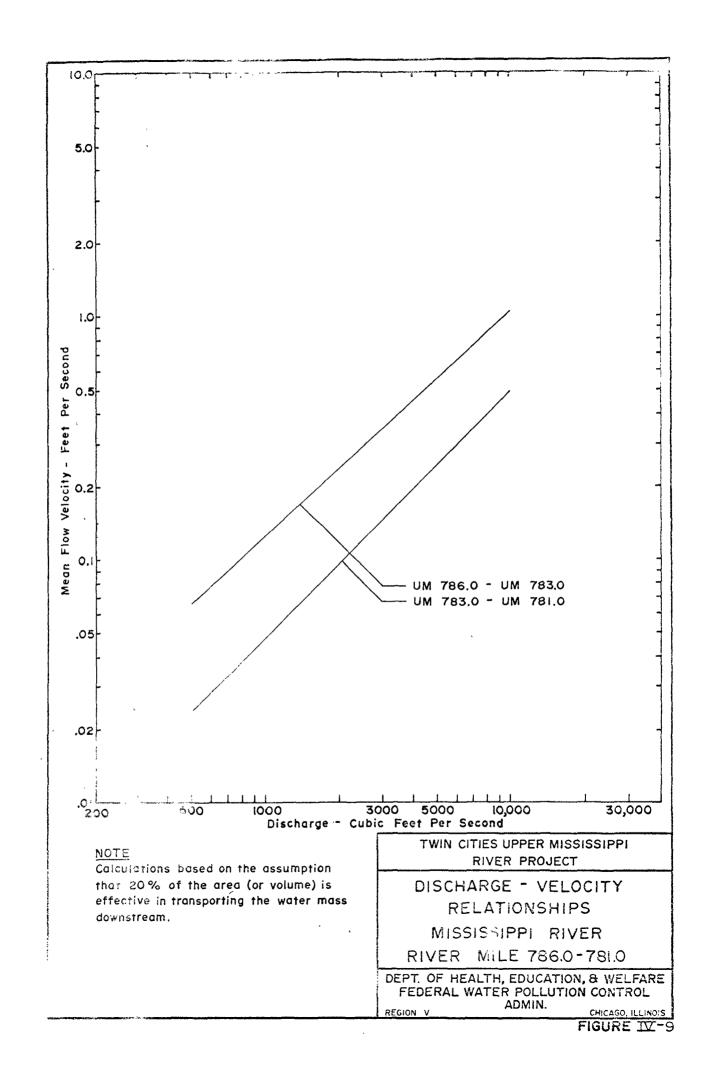






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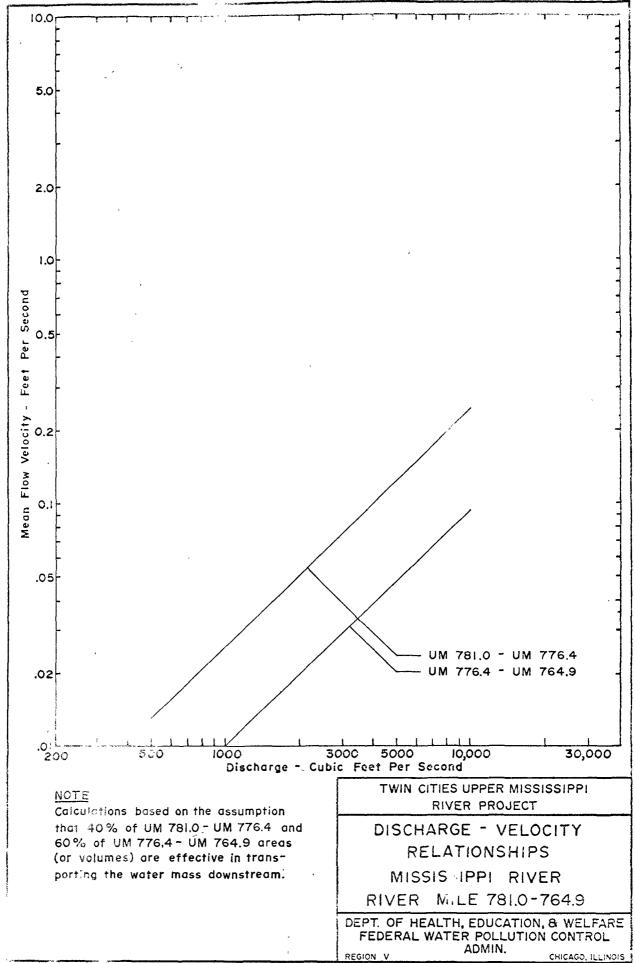
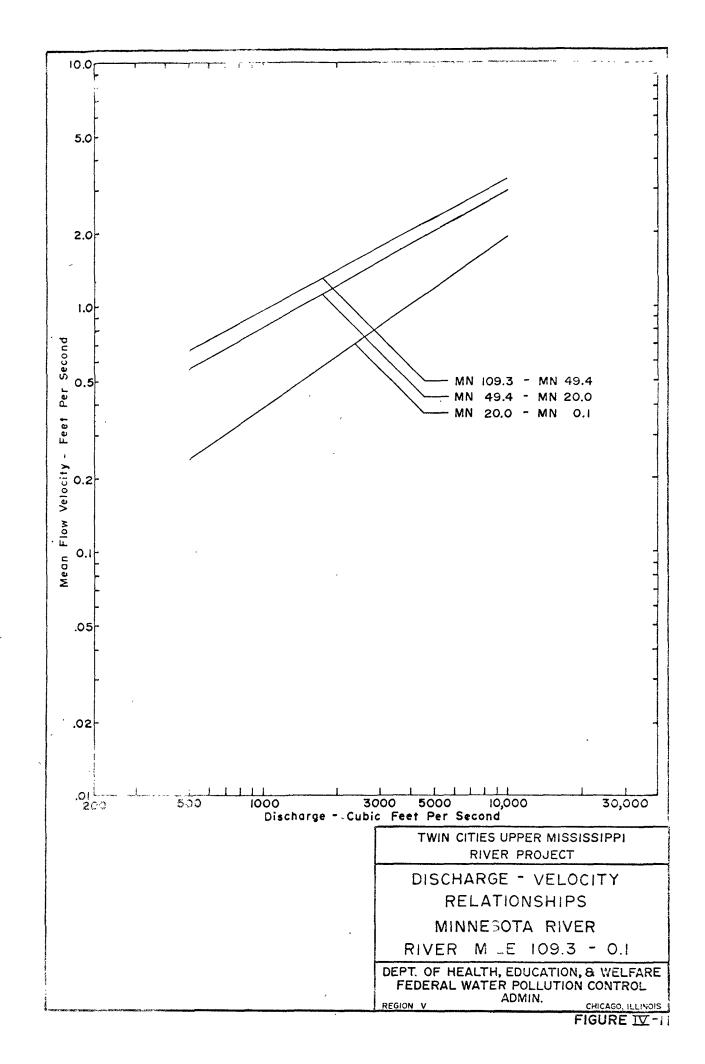
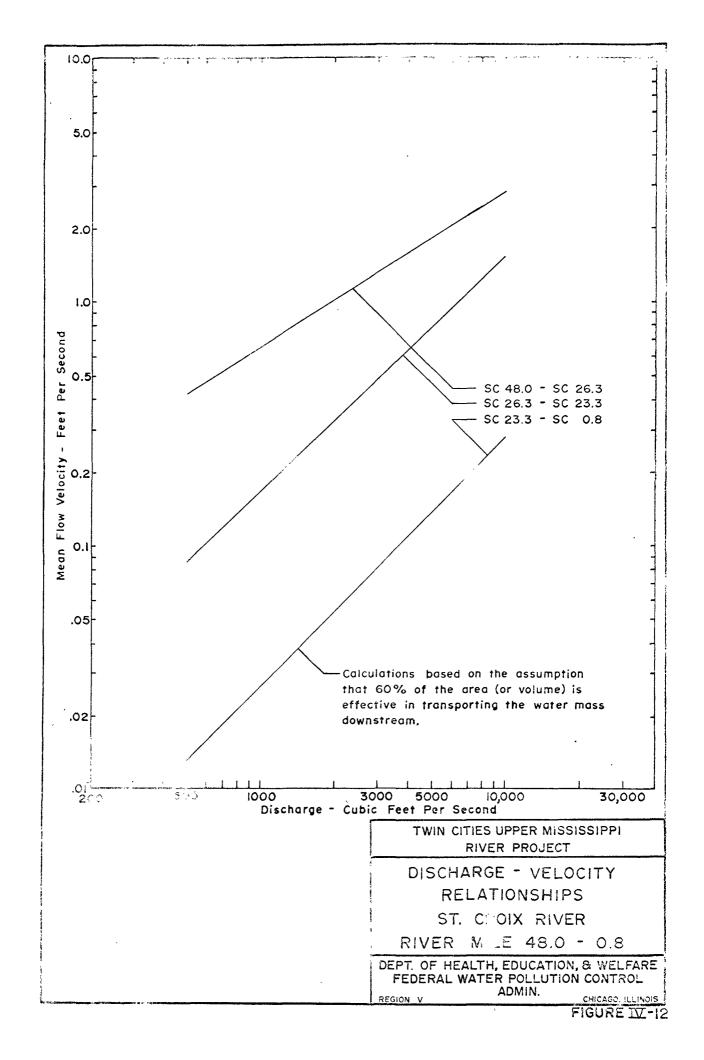


FIGURE IV-10





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# CHAPTER V

RANGE OF DAILY DISCHARGES

#### INTRODUCTION

The general conditions of flow occurring on the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers during the period of the Project's routine and intensive surveys are presented in this Chapter. One gaging station on each of these three rivers has been selected to represent the condition of flow. Daily discharges are catagorized into low, medium and high ranges in keeping with the discharge history of the respective stations.

#### OBJECT

The range of daily discharges are provided in order that water quality data may be grouped according to the discharge range for general interpretation.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The range of discharge conditions for the selected gaging stations are given by the following Figures:

- V-1. Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota
- V-2. Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota
- V-3. St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

A description of these stations and the daily discharge records from which the ranges presented here are derived may be found in this Project's report on Hydrographs.

The Carver gage is located just above that stretch of the Minnesota River which has been studied most carefully by this Project. It therefore provides the most single useful record on that stream and will reflect the

general stream flow conditions of the entire stretch under study.

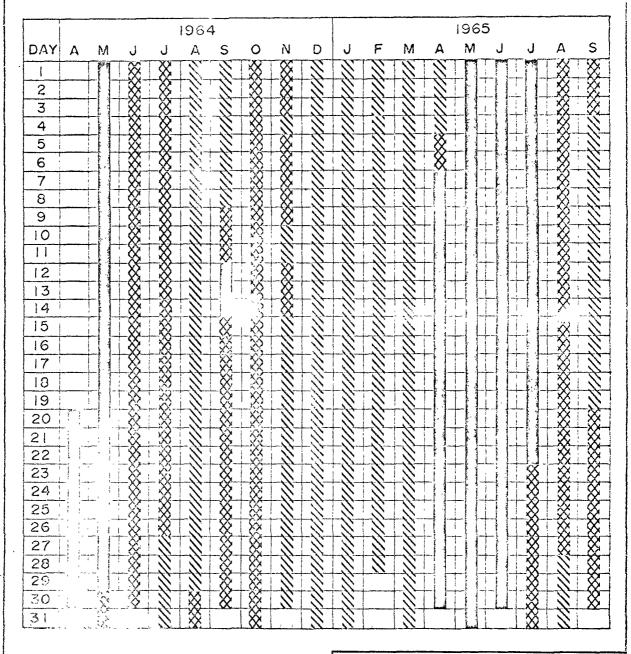
The St. Paul gage provides the most useful record of the Mississippi River because of its location just above that stretch of stream into which considerable waste is being discharged. This record may be applied to the entire stretch of the Mississippi River within the Project study area unless Minnesota or St. Croix River flows are not within or very nearly within the same relative range of flow.

The St. Croix Falls gage is located at the upstream end of the Project study area and reflects accurately the St. Croix River conditions. The Apple River, which flows into the St. Croix River 23 miles below St. Croix Falls does not alter the flow regime of the St. Croix River and therefore the range of flow derived from the St. Croix Falls record may be applied below the confluence of the Apple River.

The flows defining the low, medium and high ranges were selected by examining the U. S. Geological Survey compilation of the discharge records through 1950 (Water Supply Paper 1308) of the three stations used here. Although these records do not correspond to those used by this Project for mean monthly and low flow analysis, they provide a simple and effective means of selecting appropriate ranges of flow. Low flows include the highest minimum daily discharge and the lowest yearly mean discharge. Medium flows include the mean discharge for the period of record but do not include either the highest or lowest yearly mean discharges. High flows include the lowest maximum daily discharge and the highest yearly mean discharge.

Selection of representative discharges for the ranges of flow at the three stations was based upon the mean and daily discharges presented in Table V-1.

# MINNESOTA RIVER BASED ON DISCHARGE GAGE NEAR CARVER MINNESOTA



RANGE I FLOW

5000 Cubic Feet Per Second

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or Less

TWIN CITIES UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT

RANGE OF DAILY 1000 to 4999 Cubic Feet Per DISCHARGES FOR PERIOD OF WATER QUALITY SURVEY

> DEPT. OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, & WELFARE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMIN. REGION V CH'CAGO, ILLINOIS

FIGURE V-I

# DASED ON DISCHARGE GAGE AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

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TWIN CITIES UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT

RANGE OF DAILY
DISCHARGES FOR PERIOD OF
WATER UALITY SURVEY

DEPT. OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, & WELFARE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMIN

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## TWIN CITIES UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER PROJECT

RANGE OF DAILY
DISCHARGES FOR PERIOD OF
WATER PUBLITY SURVEY

FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
ADMIN
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FIGURE V-3

TABLE V-1

	MISSISSIPPI RIVER AT ST. PAUL	MINHES <b>OT</b> A RIVER NEAR CARVER	ST. CROIX RIVER AT ST. CROIX FALLS
Maximum - daily discharges for the period of record prior to W.Y. 1951	107,000 cfs	64,100 cfs	54,900 cfs
Lowest maximum daily discharge for a year prior to W.Y. 1951	9,640 cfs	4,010 cfs	6,140 cfs
Highest Yearly Mean prior to W.Y. 1951	18,200 cfs	5,602 cfs	6,221 cfs
Mean - Annual Discharge for period of record prior to W.Y. 1951	9,442 cfs	3,044 cfs	3,838 cfs
Lowest Yearly Mean prior to W.Y. 1951	1,935 cfs	729 cfs	1,754 cfs
Highest Minimum Daily Discharge for a year prior to W.Y. 1951	4,730 cfs	650 cfs	1,350 cfs
Minimum Daily Discharge for period of record prior to W.Y. 1951	632 cfs	79 cfs	75 cfs

CHAPTER VI

LOW FLOW FREQUENCY

#### INTRODUCTION

Low flow frequency curves, based on average daily flows during winter and summer months for the 25-year period of record from Water Year 1940 through 1964, are presented. A family of curves describing 1, 7, 15, 30 and 60 consecutive day periods of low flow are provided for each of five gaging stations. These stations were selected to provide adequate representation of the segments of the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers within the Project's study area.

#### OBJECT

These curves may be used to predict the minimum average flow for 1, 7, 15, 30 or 60 consecutive days during either the winter or summer months which is likely to occur in any given span of time up to 26 years.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

A family of low flow frequency curves for the winter months of December, January and February and the summer months of July, August and September for each of the selected gaging stations are presented in the following Figures:

- VI-1. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #1 winter months
- VI-2. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #1 summer months
- VI-3. Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota winter months
- VI-4. Minnesota River near Carver, Minnesota summer months
- VI-5. Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota winter months
- VI-6. Mississippi River at St. Paul, Minnesota summer months

- VI-7. St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota winter months
- VI-8. St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minnesota summer months
- VI-9. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #3 winter months
- VI-10. Mississippi River at Lock & Dam #3 summer months

The chapter "Hydrographs" includes a discussion of each of these stations as well as general comments concerning their selection. The segment of stream to which the flows may be applied as well as the source and reliability of the record are also provided.

The 25-year period of record, used in the computation of the average low flow for the consecutive day periods, was selected after scrutiny of each stream's hydrologic history. The information was obtained largely through consultation with personnel of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, U. S. Geological Survey, Minnesota Department of Conservation and the Northern States Power Company. The following general conditions applicable to the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers were most relevant in selecting Water Years 1940 through 1964:

- 1. Major dam construction was completed about 1938.
- 2. There have been no significant changes in storage capacity during that period.
- 3. Operating procedures for the numerous locks, dams, power plants and reservoirs have remained relatively constant.

The amount of storage capacity made possible by the erection of dams and the operation of these dams is of particular importance where low flow frequency analyses are to be made. With the possible exception of Lake Pepin and Lake St. Croix, there is little storage capacity in the river systems of the Project's study area. Furthermore, upstream reservoirs are not operated to their fullest potential to modify either high or low

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flows. For various reasons upstream reservoir levels have been maintained within certain limits. On the St. Croix and Apple Rivers, the Northern States Power Company operates hydroelectric plants under approximately "run-of-the-river" conditions.

The governing philosophies of the agencies that operate the locks, dams, power plants and reservoir affecting the study area have remained relatively unchanged since 1939. The existence of these facilities and their operation do alter the natural hydrology. However, since neither the facilities nor methods of operation changed during the period of record and as long as these conditions do not change, the low flow frequency curves derived from this period are certainly valid and can be used to predict expected low flows for similar intervals in the future.

4

#### METHOD OF COMPUTATION

All computations required to plot these frequency curves were performed by a digital computor. The program was written, checked and executed by the Project's Data Processing Unit.

The procedure described below was carried out for winter and summer months at every gaging station. The average daily discharges for every year were arrayed, and the lowest average daily discharge was selected. Every consecutive 7-day average was computed and the lowest selected. The minimum average flow for the 15, 30 and 60 consecutive day periods was calculated in the same way. The minimum average flows for the consecutive day periods were then arrayed in ascending order and their recurrence interval calculated from the formula:

$$Tr = \frac{n+1}{m}$$

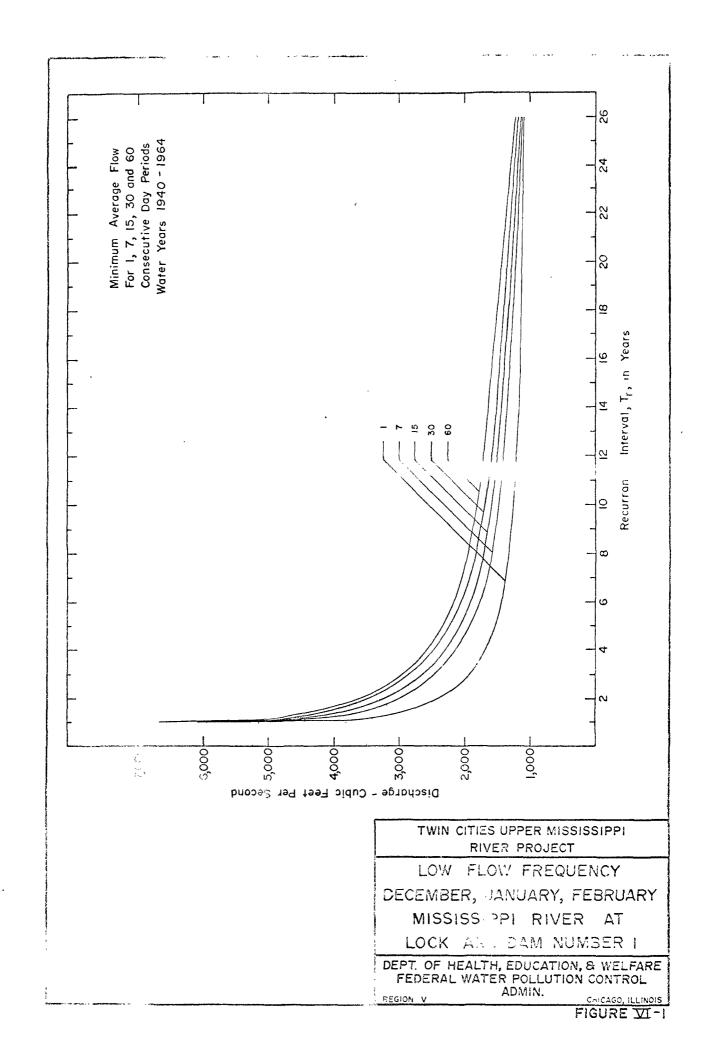
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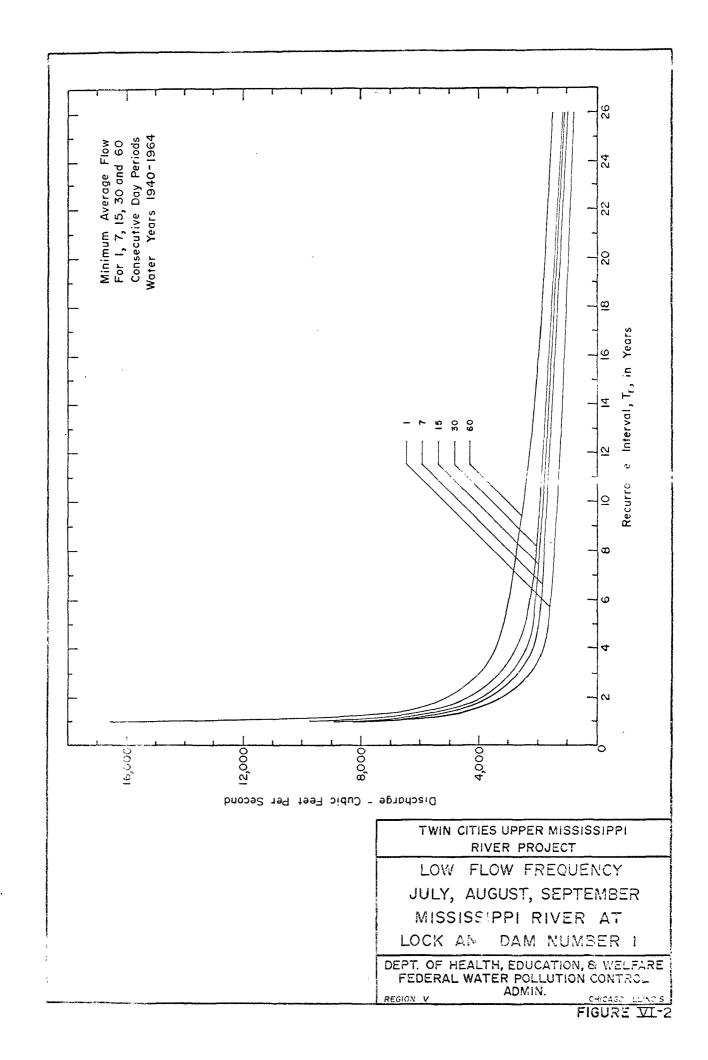
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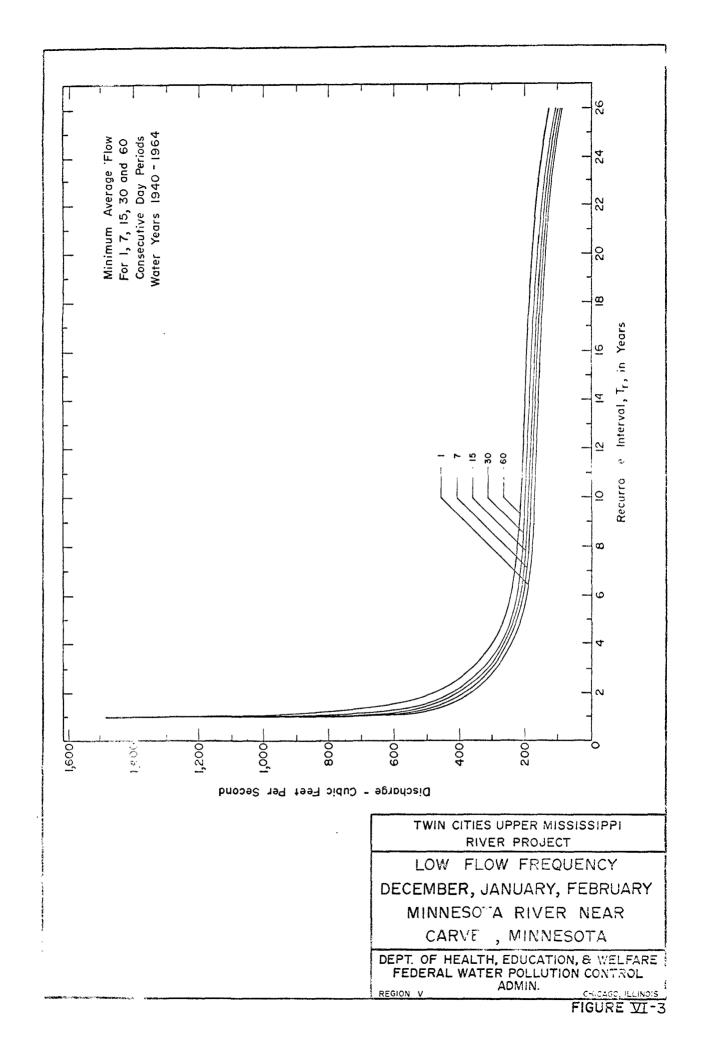
Tr = recurrance interval in years
n = number of years of record
m = rank of the event (m = 1 for the lowest flow
in the array)

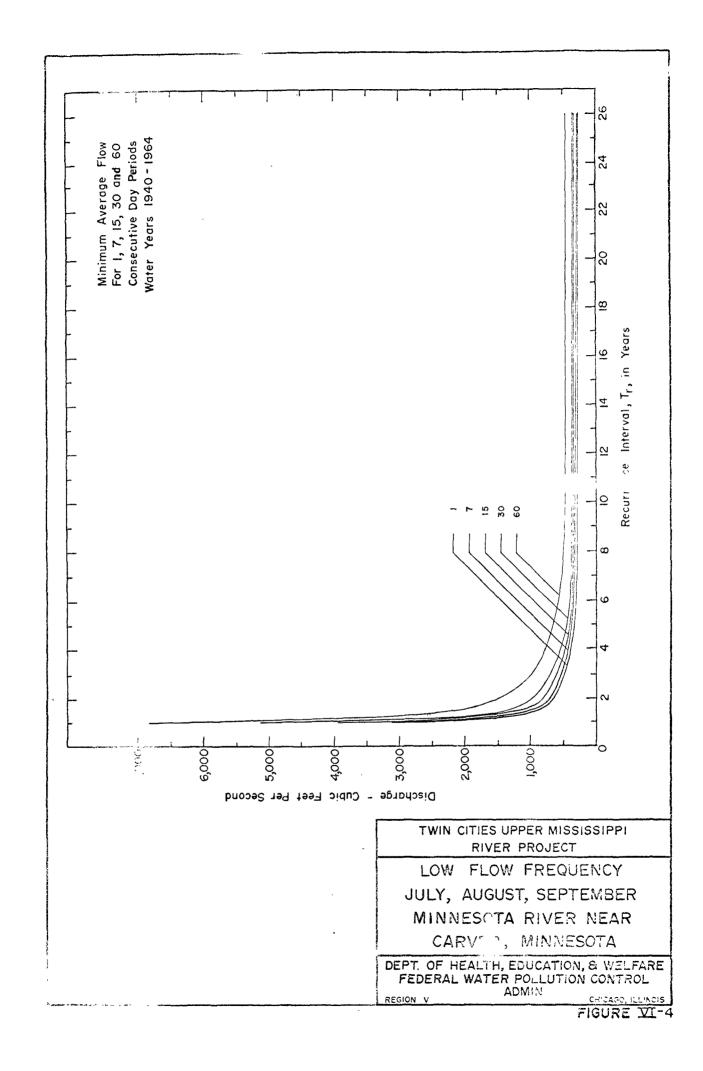
After plotting flow vs. recurrance interval, the lines of best fit were drawn. This resulted in one family of curves for the winter months and a similar set for the summer months at each of the selected gaging stations.

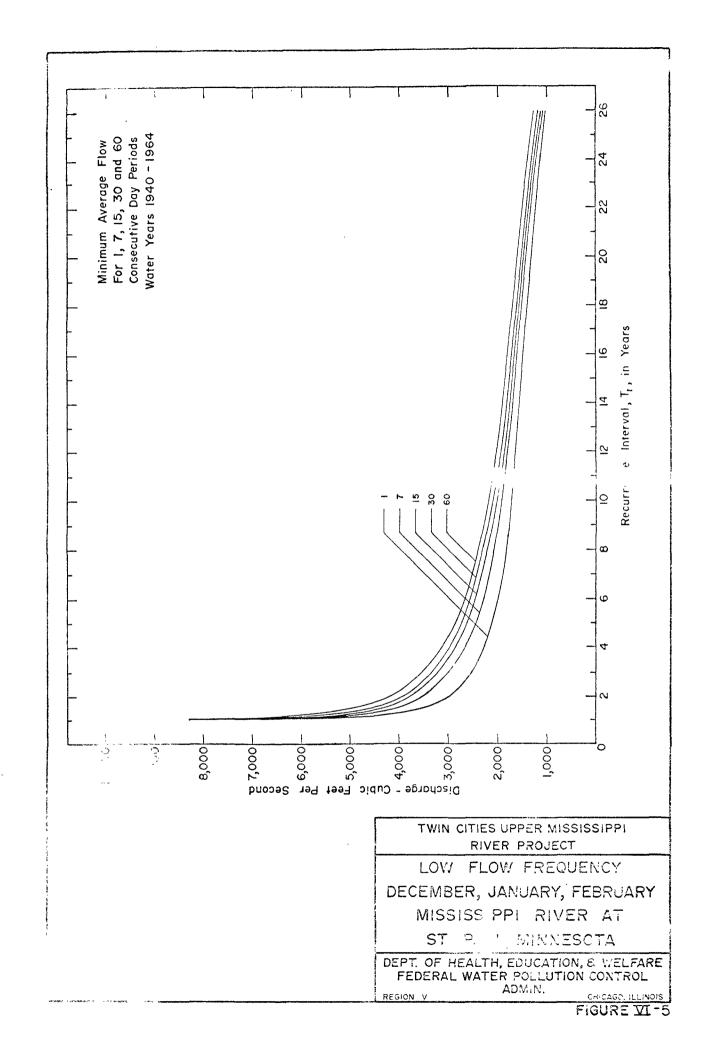
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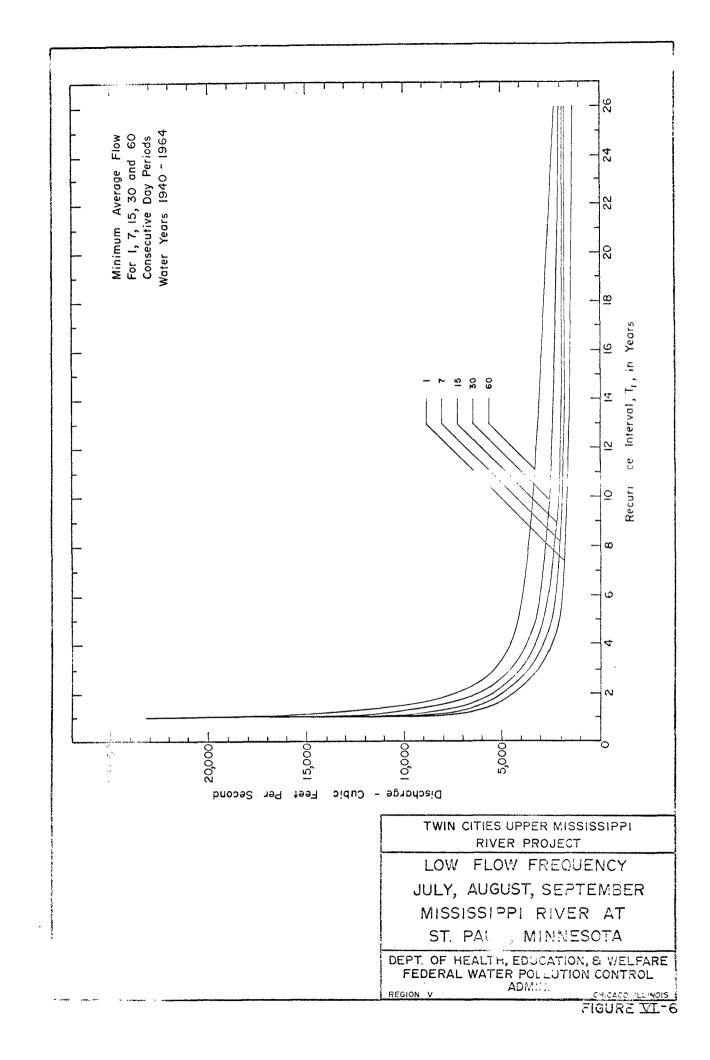


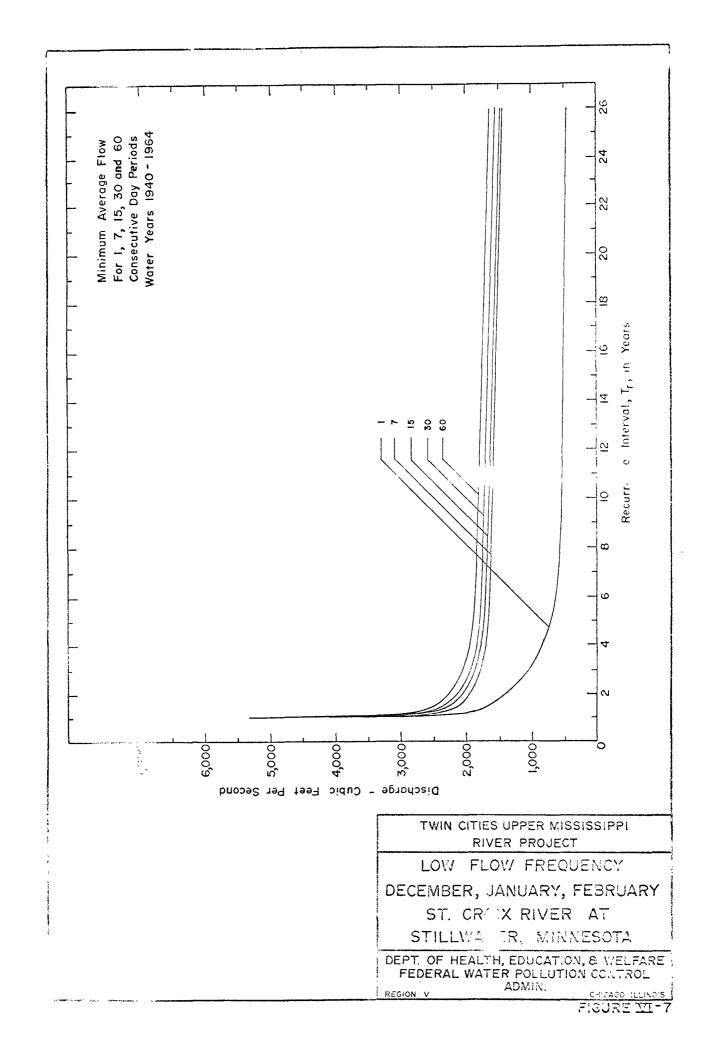


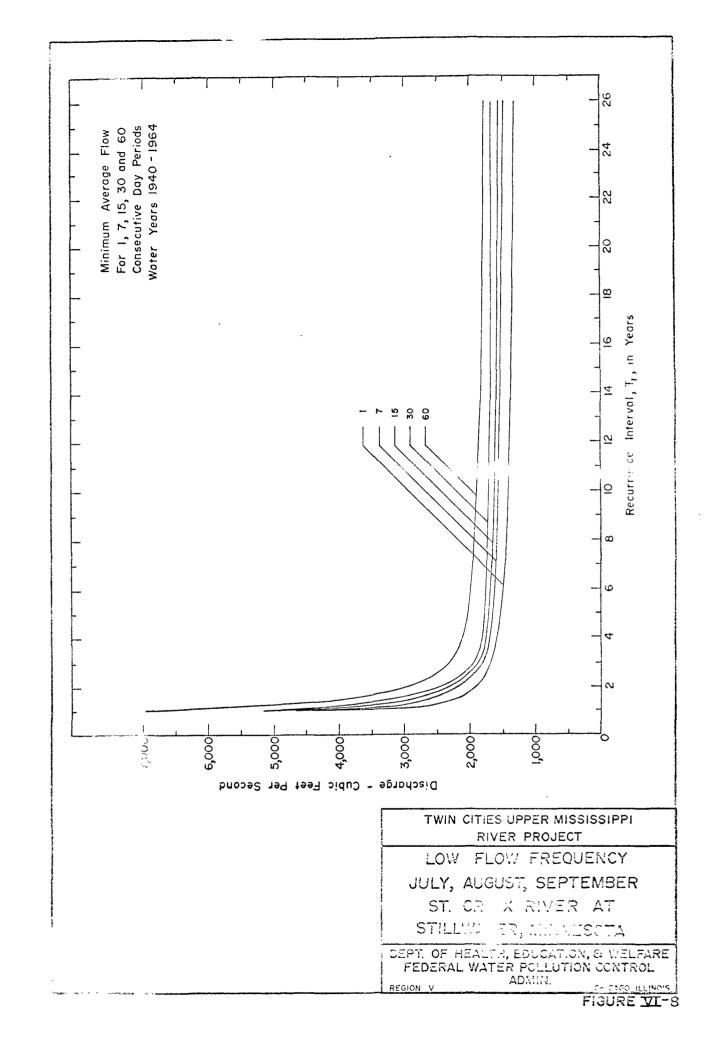




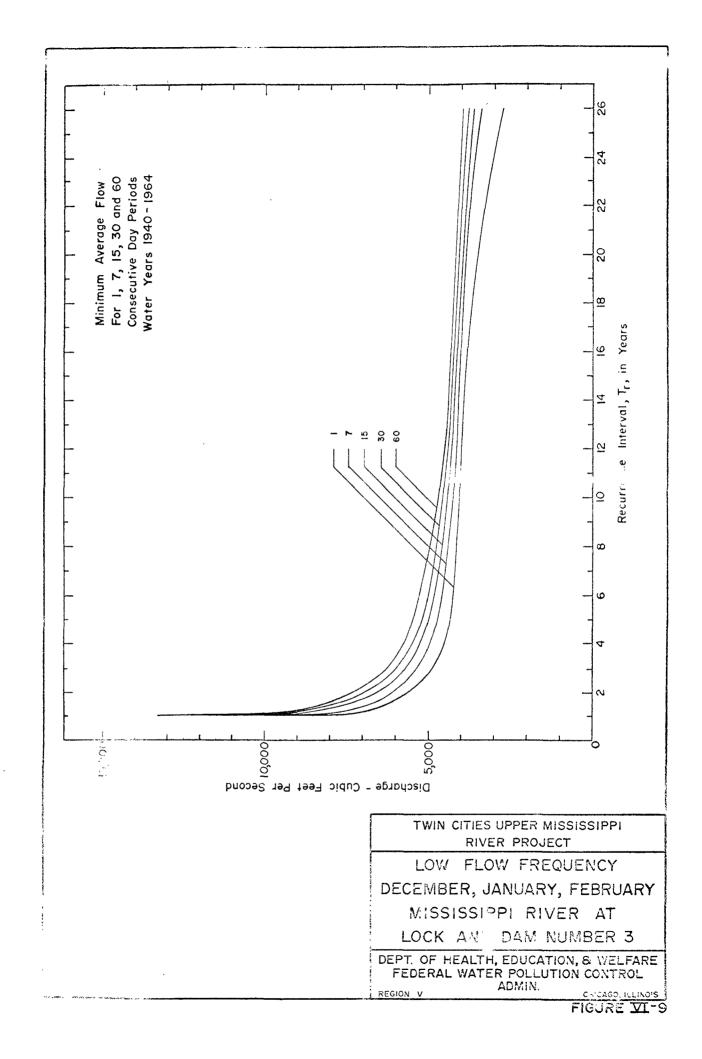


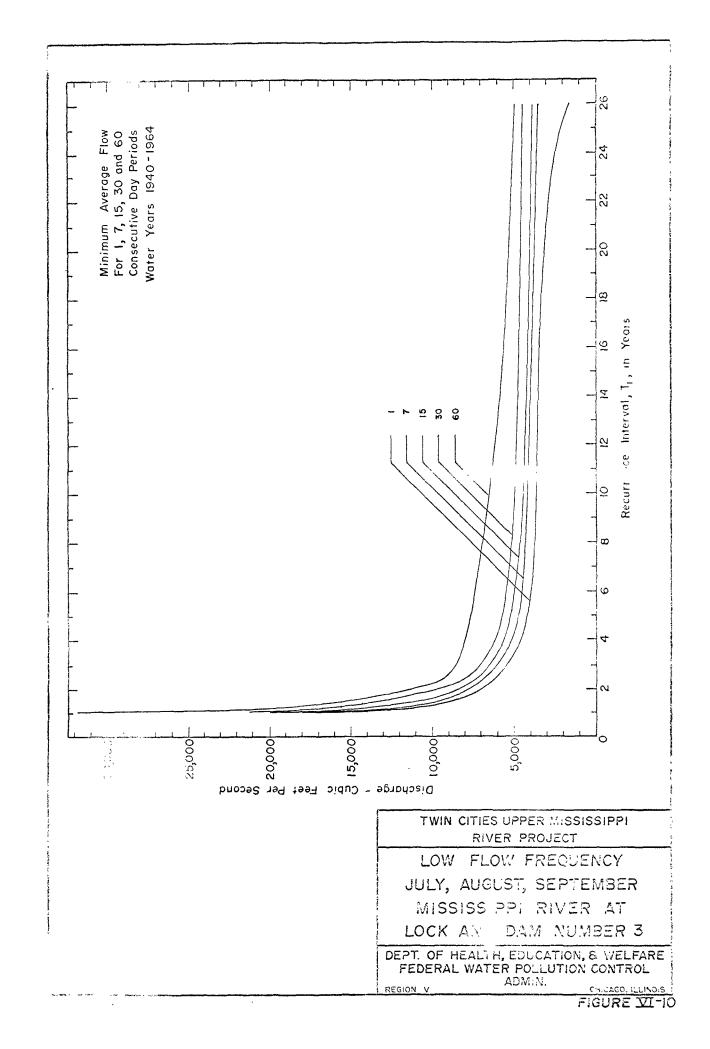






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APPENDIX "III-A"

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MESISSIPPI RIVER - LOCK & DAM #1

	Sept.	1,00 0,00
	Aug.	24,7,7,800 2,4,7,7,800 2,4,7,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,4,000 2,000
	July	1, 200 1,
	June	13,000 13,000 13,000 11,100 11,100 17,800 17,800 17,600 10,000 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600 15,600
	May	35.000 11,200 12,200 12,900 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300 10,300
MONTH	Apr.	10,300 25,200 25,200 11,500 11,500 12,300 12,300 13,300 13,300 13,300 13,300 13,300 15,400 10,900 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800 12,800
	Mar.	11, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000,
	Fcb.	1, 0, 4, 4, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
	Jan.	1 9 6 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
	Dec.	1 9 4 4 4 7 7 6 9 9 4 6 4 6 9 6 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9
	Nov.	2, 200 2, 200 2, 200 2, 400 2, 400 3, 400 12, 400 13, 500 14, 500 15, 500 16, 500 17, 500 18, 500
	Oct.	10, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 2
A.F.A.P.	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	1942 1942 1942 1944 1944 1945 1955 1955 1955 1955 1956 1956 1956 195

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MESSISSIPPI RIVER AT ST. PAUL

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	Sept.	2,653 10,750 10,750 10,560 9,208 9,208 1,005 10,510 10,510 10,510 10,510 10,527 10,654
	Aug.	237,051 23,060 10,050 10,050 10,050 10,050 10,050 117,390 117,300
	July	35
	June	6,189 20,550 20,610 47,750 24,400 13,400 6,255 6,981 17,050 13,800 13,800 13,800 13,800 13,900 13,190 27,610 7,253 13,190 27,610 7,253 13,190 27,610 7,253 13,190 27,610 7,963 475,357 19,014 477,750 6,189
	May	2,702 21,170 19,000 43,730 17,410 12,110 34,460 21,580 26,600 29,170 7,862 13,020 13,690 27,350 13,860 23,930 21,242 45,350 7,171 7,171 7,171 8,820 13,860 23,930 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171 7,171
	Apr.	13,460 10,710 10,710 18,720 20,330 20,330 20,330 20,330 10,940 10,970 11,680 11
MONTH	Mar.	227, 1, 757 2, 997 2, 997 2, 160 10, 340 10, 340 11, 980 11, 980 11, 980 12, 130 13, 260 14, 174 17, 14, 174 17, 189 18, 189
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	Jan.	10, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 2
	Lec.	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,0
	Nov.	12, 65 12, 67, 7 12, 67, 7 13, 68, 87, 7 14, 050, 4 15, 050, 4 16, 050, 4 17, 050, 4 18, 050,
	Oct.	11, 490 11, 490 11, 490 12, 690 12, 690 13, 690 14, 690 13, 690 14, 690 15, 610 16, 610 17, 880 18, 610 18,
YEAR		1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1954 1955 1957 1959 1960 1960 1960 1960 Mean Min.

MESSISSIPPI RIVER - LOCK & LAM #3

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	Sept	4,700	25,100	22,000	14,300	14,300	16,000	10,300	8.400	, r,	6,700	8,400	31,900	16,800	16,700	13,100	10,700	8,100	23,200	9,500	9,800	10,300	5,500	16,500	09,60	17,100	334.400	13,400	31,900	4,700	
	Aug.	5,200	7,100	13,100	18,900	20,200	16,700	8,800	8,800	9,400	9,200	9,100	15,700	29,500	46,100	11,500	19,000	18,200	21,700	004,9	6,400	6,400	6,200	19,000	13,500	2,900	352,000	14,100	46,100	5,200	
	July	4,700	12,800	15,400	31.800	10,100	20,100	31,500	25,60	7,700	11,700	12,700	34,800	004,64	40,000	28,100	18,000	12,300	004,84	15,400	10,600	11,100	6,700	26,300	12,500	8,500	533,200	21,300	7,64	4,700	
	June	11,300	27,800	30,400	61,800	70,500	38.400	32,900	30,500	9,000	9,400	27,200	25,800	19,300	51,800	34,500	12,000	19,700	33,400	12,600	17,600	24,300	11,600	37,300	27,500	12,100	009,689	27,600	70,500	6,400	
	May	17,900	22,300	31,800	26,500	62,300	25,700	17,900	46,400	28,400	17,100	70,300	14, 400	40,300	39,700	47,900	12,300	19,900	20,100	12,000	15,800	35,300	27,400	38,900	21,800	39,900		31,300			
	Apr.	21,500	51,400	17,300	50,600	28,400	144,700	35,500	16,500	53,300	38,500	54,000	71,900	100,100	38,200	30,100	31,900	43,100	25,700	21,800	8,300	39,300	20,300	50,500	21,300	23,100	967.300	38,700	100,100	8,300	
MONTH	Mar.	5,000	10,500	12,400	13,300	13,100	40,200	34,800	12,300	22,500	16,700	11,500	11,000	15,400	21,200	17,100	12,600	8,000	12,200	12,300	6,300	7,300	12,000	8,800	11,900	6,900	355, 300	14,200	40,200	2,000	
	Feb.	4,300	6,200	8,100	9,700	10,400	10,000	7,900	9,100	7,200	6,000	6,700	8,000	12,800	000,6	10,900	7,200	6,800	5,500	7,900	4,300	008'9	4,700	5,300	6,000	5,300	184.600	7,400	12,800	4,300	
	Jan.	3,700	000,0	7,600	004,5	9,100	9,500	7,500	10,800	7,000	5,500	6,200	7,900	13,700	8,200	10,000	7,700	7,200	5,900	8,600	4,500	8,100	4,300	5,300	6,400	5,100	186.600	7,500	13,70c	3,700	
	Dec.	4,600	7,100	10,200	8,700	10,700	9,400	9,500	28.01	8,300	5,800	2,000	8,000	18,300	8,500	10,800	8,600	8,600	7,500	10,800	5,100	7,700	5,800	000,9	7,600	5,500	212,900	8,500	18,3cc	009,4	
	Nov.	5,600	α,000	15,900	12,100	11,900	12,700	10,400	20.200	3,000	7,000	8,400	7,400	24,400	9,300	12,000	11,400	9,000	10,000	16,100	7,800	8,100	7,000	8,200	10,100	008,9	268.700	10,700	24°,4CC	2,600	
	Oct.	5,900	7,100	20,100	16,300	10,000	12,700	14,000	19 60	7,600	5,600	10,300	10,000	22,300	9,200	10,900	13,900	9,500	6,600	15,400	6,400	9,800	7,200	6,500	12,400	7,300		11,100	22,3cc	2,600	***
YEAR		1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1017	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1961	FO.T.	Mean	Max.	Min.	
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MEAN MONTHLY DISCHARGES MINNESOTA RIVER NEAR CARVER

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	Sept.	4, c, i,
	Aug.	5000 5000
	July	1,3,826 1,3,826 1,5,751 1,5,500 1,3,837 1,2,64,90 1,2,64,90 1,2,64,00
	June	12, 24, 21, 24, 26, 28, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20
	May	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1
MONTH	Apr.	2, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6,
	Mar.	322 4, 1, 2, 252 2, 1, 252 2, 1, 255 2, 255 2, 255 2, 255 2, 255 2, 252 3, 256 2, 253 3, 562 1, 037 1, 037 1, 037 81, 1, 27 81, 1, 23 81, 2, 66 81,
	Feb.	250 251 251 770 770 770 788 788 798 441 830 830 830 830 830 830 830 830
	Jan.	11,399 11,125 11,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125 12,125
	Dec.	202 705 1,233 2,003 2,003 384 2,316 2,886 1,068 1,068 2151 2,151 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,153 2,886 2,068 2,153 2,068 2
	Nov.	211 2, 254 1, 503 1, 503 3, 192 889 1, 790 1, 790 1, 219 1, 219 1, 219 27, 047 27, 047 27, 047 27, 047 21, 082 3, 192 3, 192 3, 192 1, 198 1, 198 1, 198
	Oct.	209 1,162 1,162 1,490 2,718 879 879 1,068 1,068 1,068 1,241 1,241 1,573 1,573 2,398 1,176 1,176
YEAR		1940 1940 1942 1944 1945 1945 1950 1951 1953 1954 1953 1954 1955 1957 1962 1964 Min.

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MEAN MONTHLY DISCHARGES ST. CROIX RIVER AT STILLWATER, MINNESOTA ST. CROIX RIVER AT ST. CROIX FALLS PLUS APPLE RIVER NEAR SOMERSET

	ept.	700 183 889	991 793	784 012 315	705 142 928	283 621 220	633 452 848	063 311 856	, 201 , 252 , 252	073 987	513 421 183 700
	Se	디기구			H (V H	4	W E/N	<u> </u>		(4 (4)	110,
	Aug.	1,985 1,950 2,931	4,029	2,550 2,491 2,224	1,834 2,502	4,119 6,228 10,478	4,251 8,659 4,618	3,125	2,458 2,851 2,851 1,851 1,875	2,158	89,461 3,578 10,478 1,834
	July	1,690 2,655 4,484	5,426 8,360	6,335 7,153 2,288	1,995 3,839 2,850	10,050 12,494 6,917	10,918 4,429 3,900	7,585	2,684 472,974 472,974	1,806	127,885 5,115 12,494 1,690
	June	3,307	17,344	12,619 14,042 5,997	2,359	8,801 5,786 13,624	13,623 4,234 5,038	9,554	5,295 3,556 3,556	5,486	190,827 7,633 20,453 2,359
	May	7,545 4,854 11,113	7,873	5,310 4,566 9,225	4,559 7,435 22,677	6,707 5,492 13,904	17,810 4,035 6,380	5,314	8,581 13,993 186,111	6,779 13,247	225,063 9,003 22,677 3,486
	Apr.	7,123 17,049 6,397	13,610	13,971	7,692	19,586 23,395 13,070	13,445	9,357	3,636 9,672 7,658 11,051	5,773	291,930 11,677 23,395 3,232
MONTH	Mar.	2,011 2,193 4,295	2,979	9,978	3,988	2,811 3,283 7,74	3,570	4,320 3,301	2,444 3,347 2,683	3,134	102,282 4,091 14,989 2,011
	Feb.	1,751 2,153 2,365	2,410 2,401	2,321 2,754 2,401	1,982	2,167 3,274 2,726	3,025 2,829 7,829	2,217	2,236 1,935 2,010	1,815	57,477 2,299 3,274 1,720
	Jan.	2,586 2,335 2,478	2,238	2,327 2,916 2,864	2,118	3,362	2,783	2,867	2,705 1,985 2,051	1,961	58,758 2,350 3,362 1,586
	Dec.	1,869 2,450 3,643	2,956	2,498	2,041 2,041	2,432 5,064 90,064	3,322	2,831 2,953	2,104	2,148	69,095 2,764 5,064 1,869
	Nov.	2,093 3,446 6.041	3,298	3,373 3,721 6,998	2,339	2,567 9,143 821	3,405 4,548 4,378	3,716	, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,	2,572	92,146 3,686 9,148 2,093
	Oct.	2,074 1,806 8,304	3,679 2,911	3,400	2,341	3,178 7,765 9,968	2,876 6,412 113	2,840 3,428	0,000 0 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0,000 0 0,000 0	2,935 2,174	90,219 3,609 8,304 1,742
YEAR		1940	1943	1945 1946	1948	1951 1952 1952	1954	1957	1959 1960 1961	1963	Total Mean Max. Min.

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