

Drought Update and River Flow Levels in Select Ecology Southwest Region Rivers May – June 2015

**Thurston County Water Purveyors Meeting
June 12, 2015
Mike Gallagher, Water Resources Program**

Dungeness River - Clallam County



September 15, 2014 ~ 62 CFS



Dec. 10, 2014 ~ 5,000 CFS

Dungeness Flow – 2014 Water Year

Washington State Dept. of Ecology

HYPLOT V133 Output 04/14/2015

Period 1 Year Plot Start 00:00_10/01/2013

2013/14

Interval 12 Hour Plot End 00:00_10/01/2014

— 18A050 Dungeness R nr mouth 262.00 Max & Min Discharge (cfs) AT
○ 18A050 Dungeness R nr mouth 262.00 Point Discharge (cfs) Measured flow GF



But this is the snowmelt "bump" in flow last spring. Flow stayed above 400 cfs from May 1 to mid July. Then, as normal, streamflow declined over the rest of the summer.

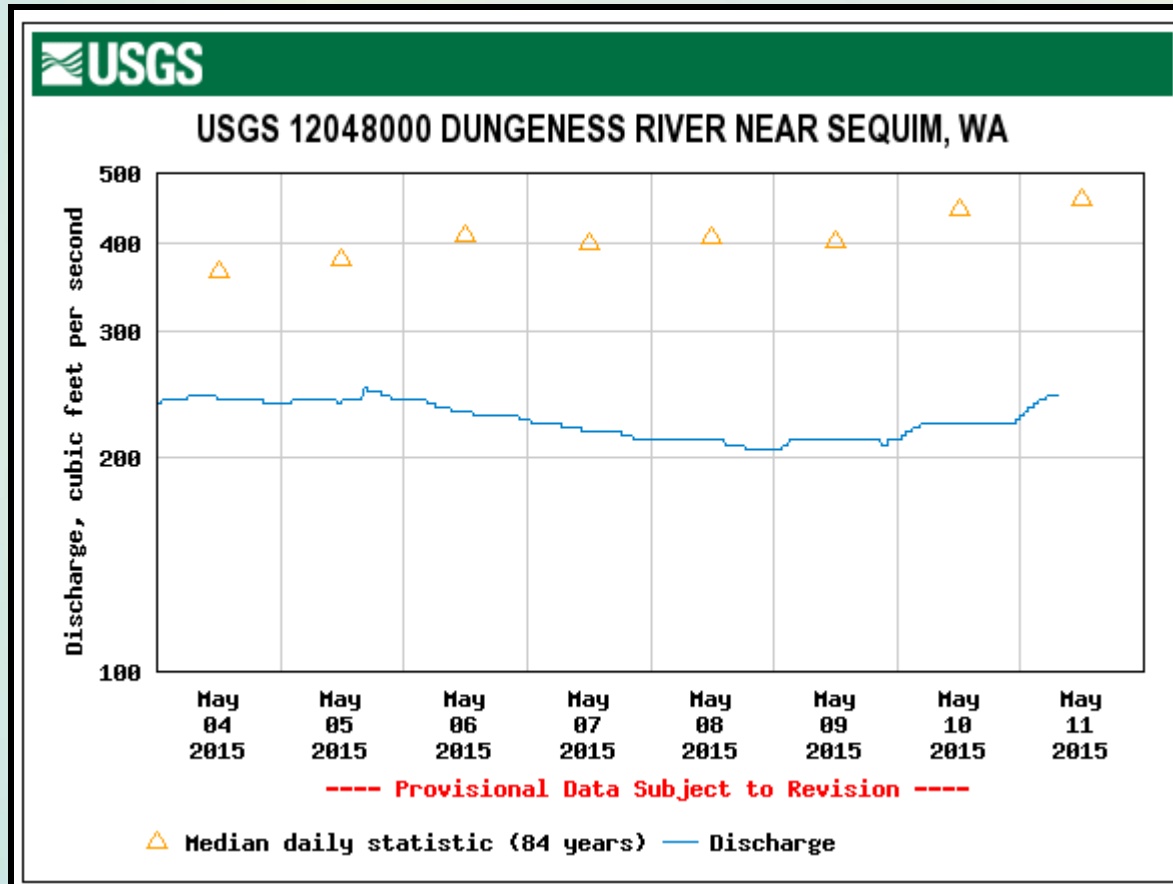
This year (2015), there is no "snowmelt bump"

Flow last year on April 1 and May 1 was at approx 400 cfs

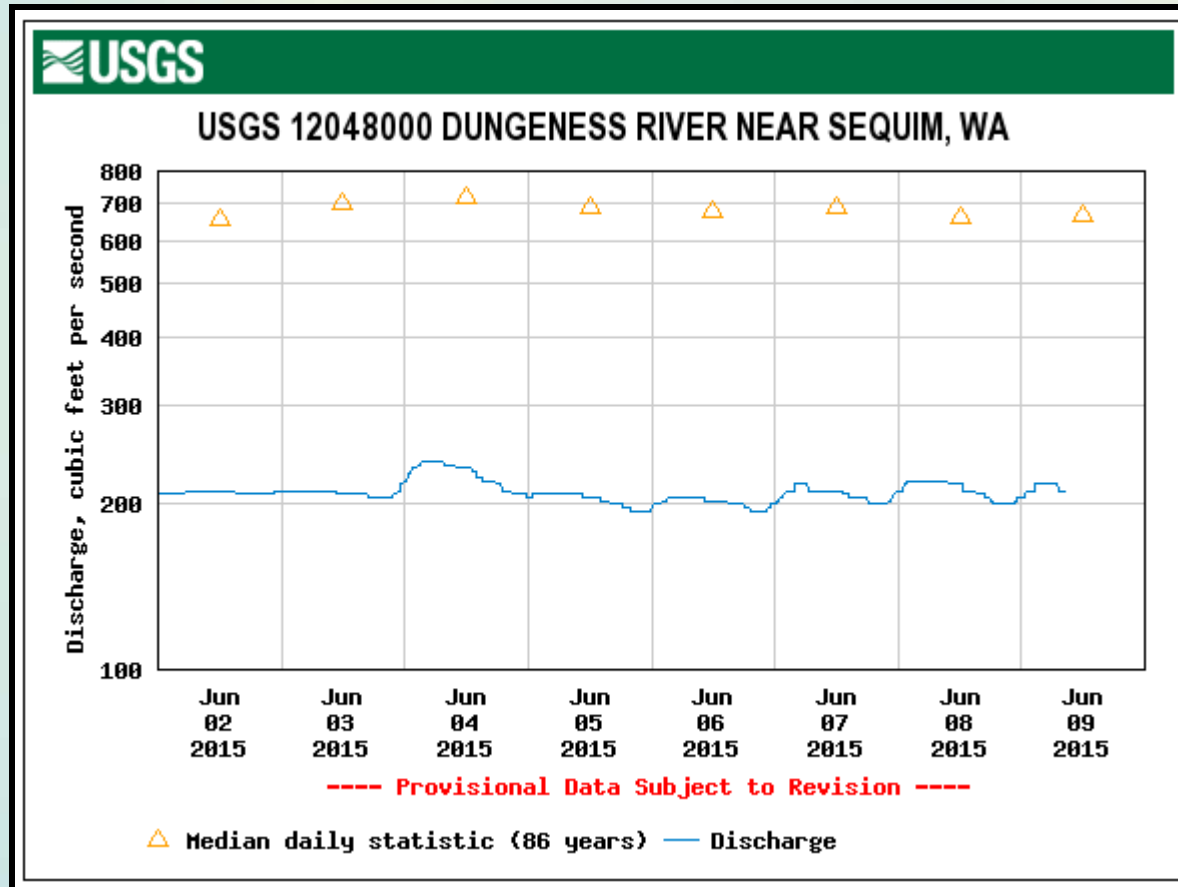
Current Flows in Rivers early May vs early June

- **Dungeness River, near Sequim**
- **Deschutes River, near Rainier**
- **Chehalis River, near Porter**
- **Wynoochee River, near Montesano**
- **Hoh River, near Forks**
- **Cowlitz River, near Randle**
- **Walla Walla River, near Touchet**
- **Nisqually River, near National**
- **Yakima River, near Union Gap**
- **Elwha River, near Port Angeles**

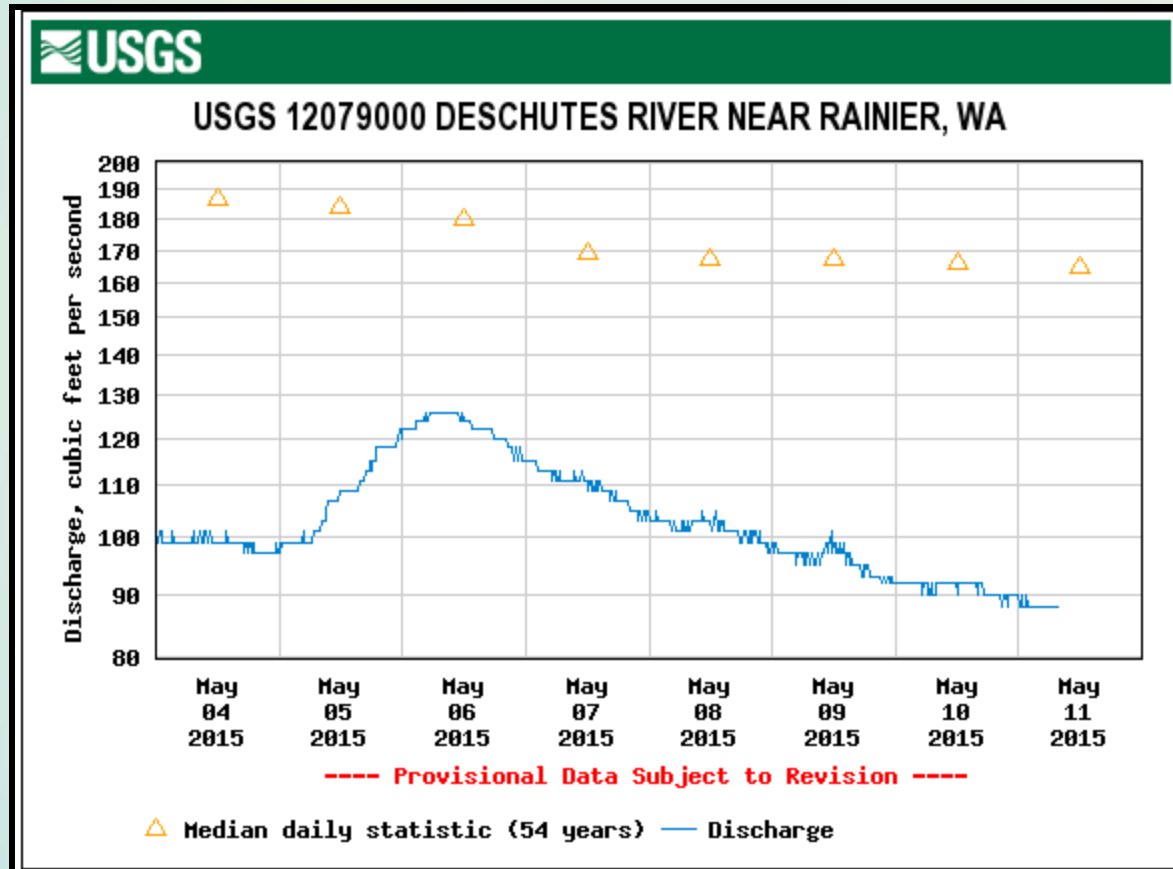
Dungeness River – early May



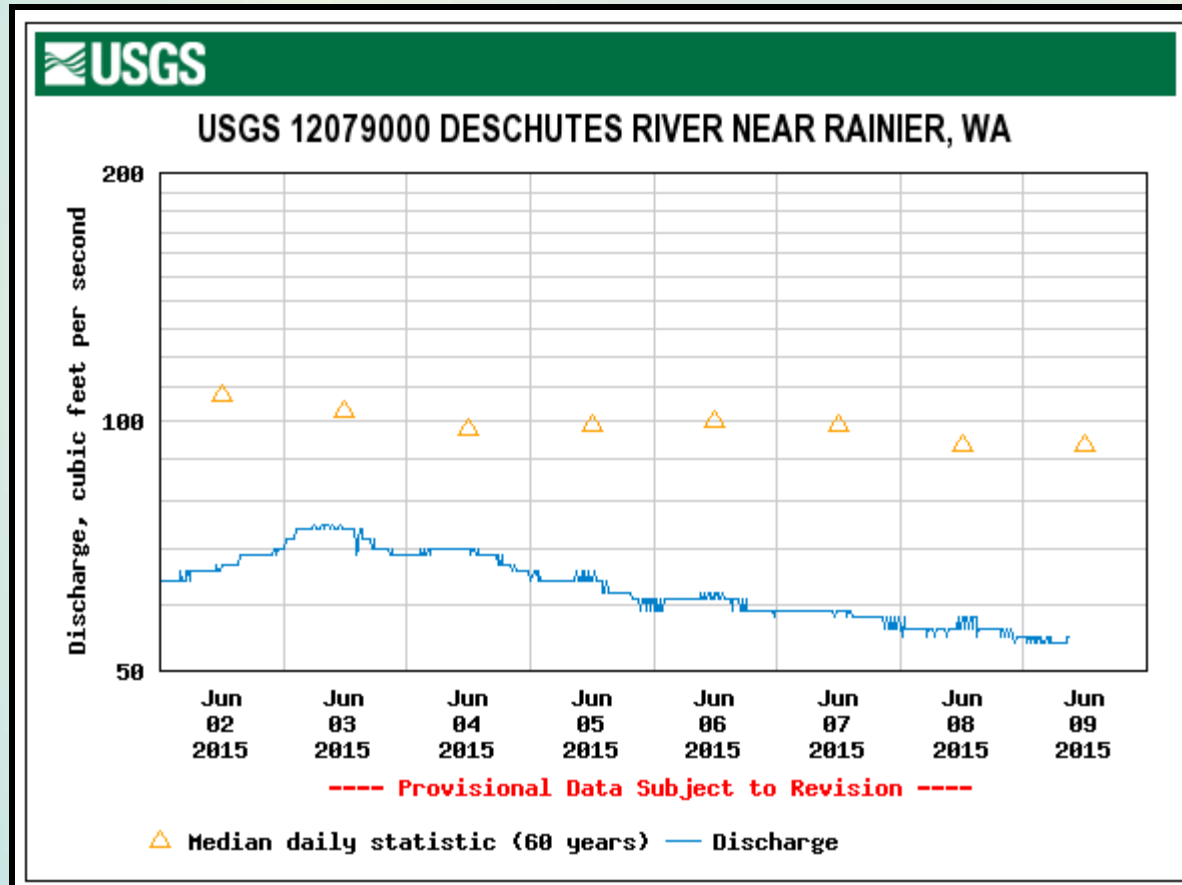
Dungeness River – early June



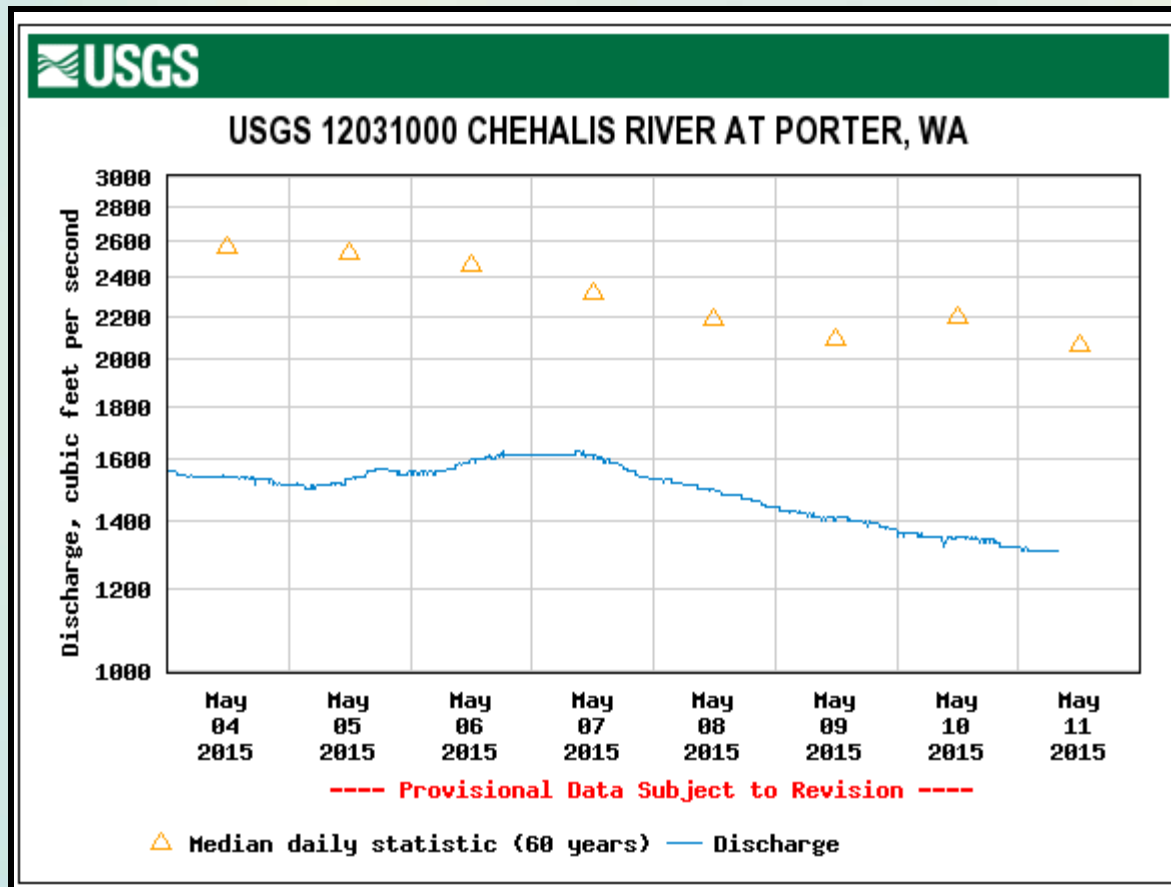
Deschutes River – early May



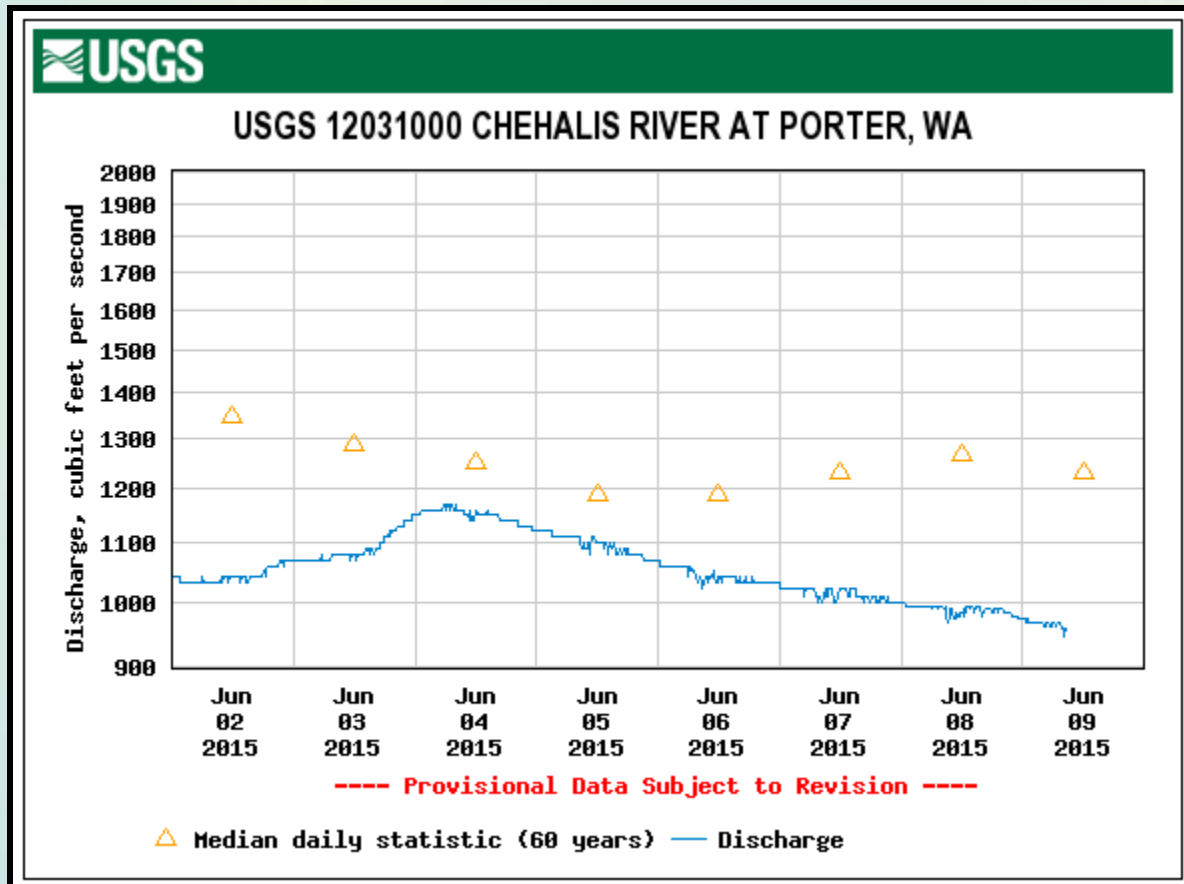
Deschutes River – early June



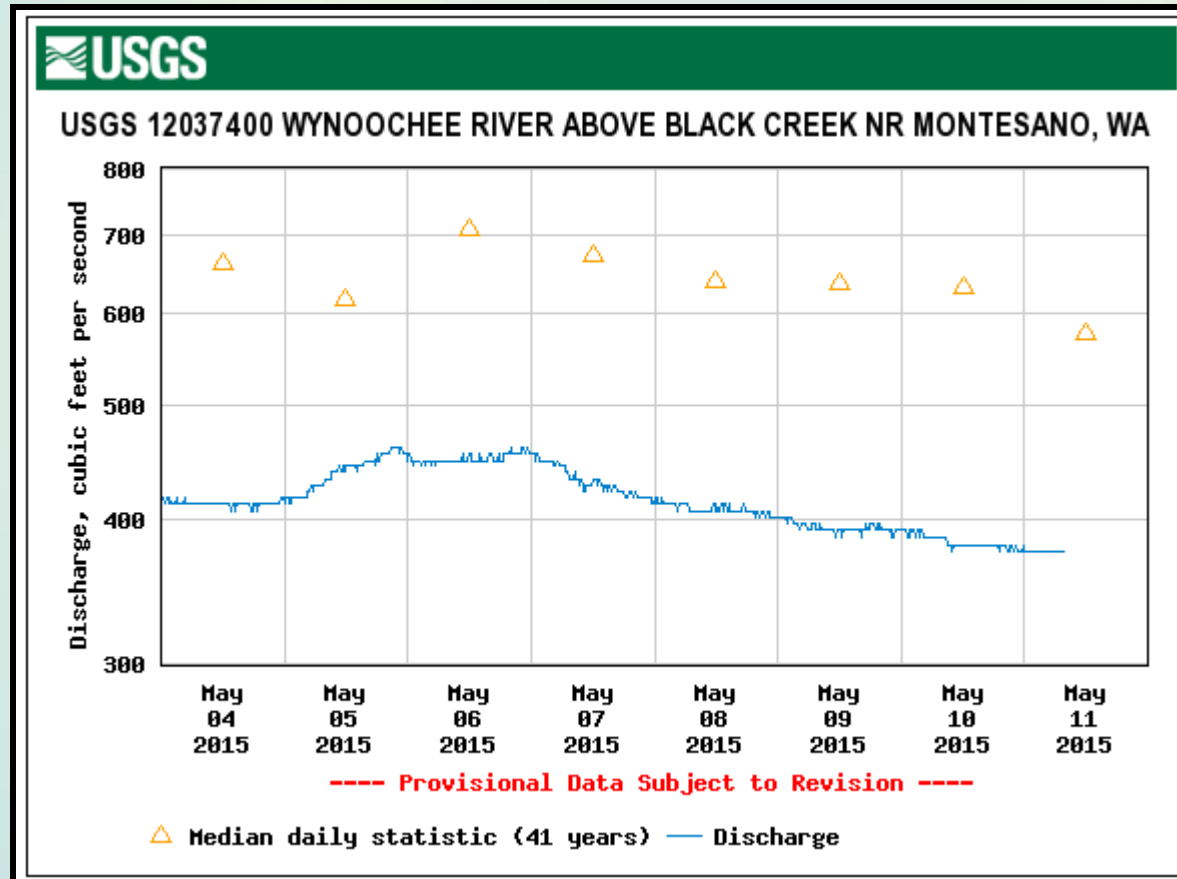
Chehalis River – early May



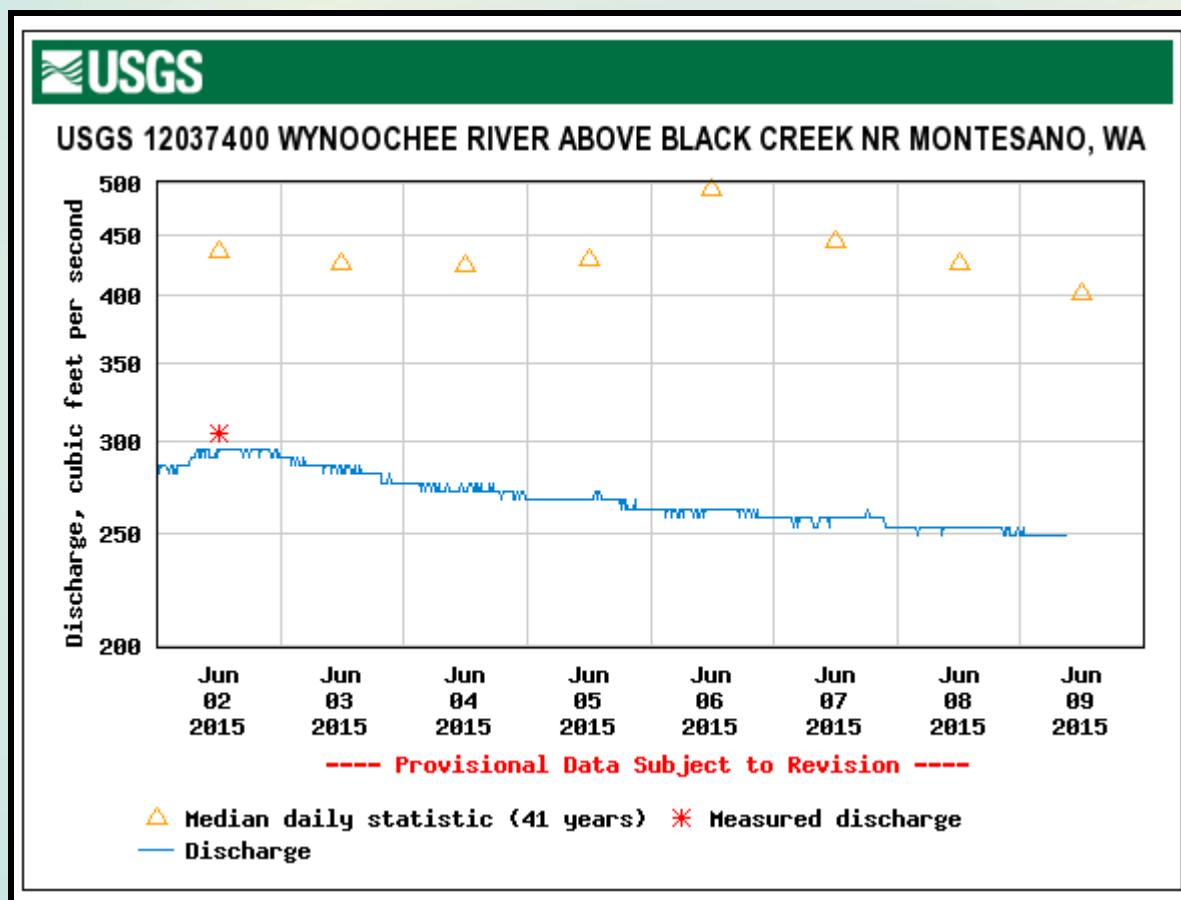
Chehalis River – early June



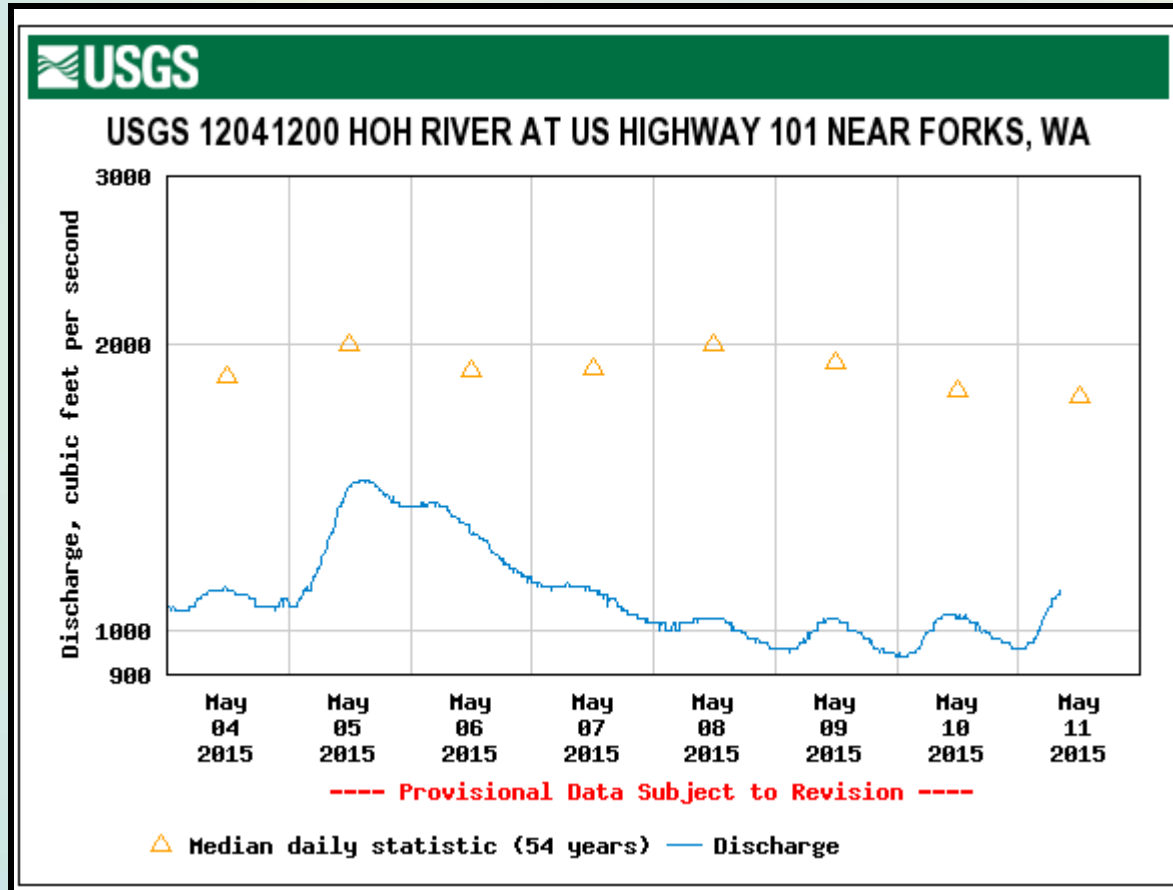
Wynoochee River – early May



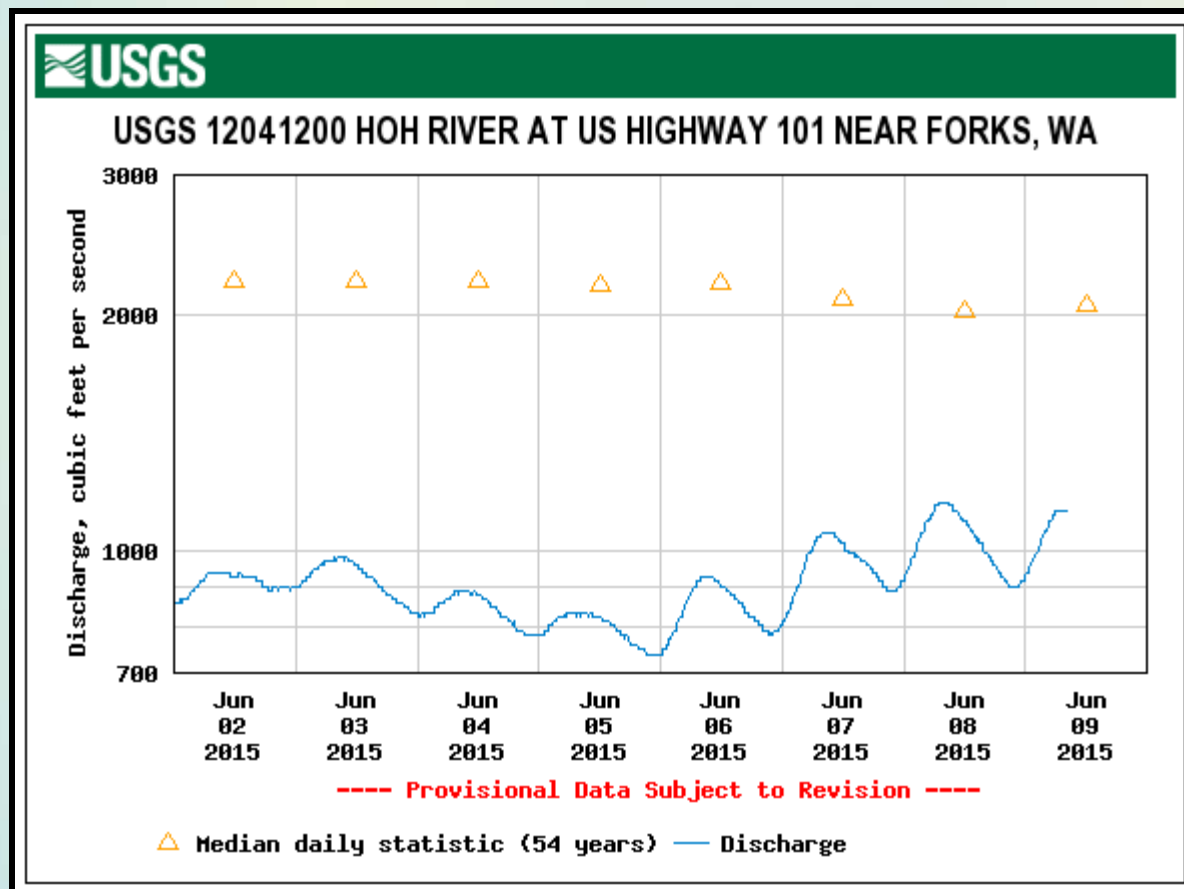
Wynoochee River – early June



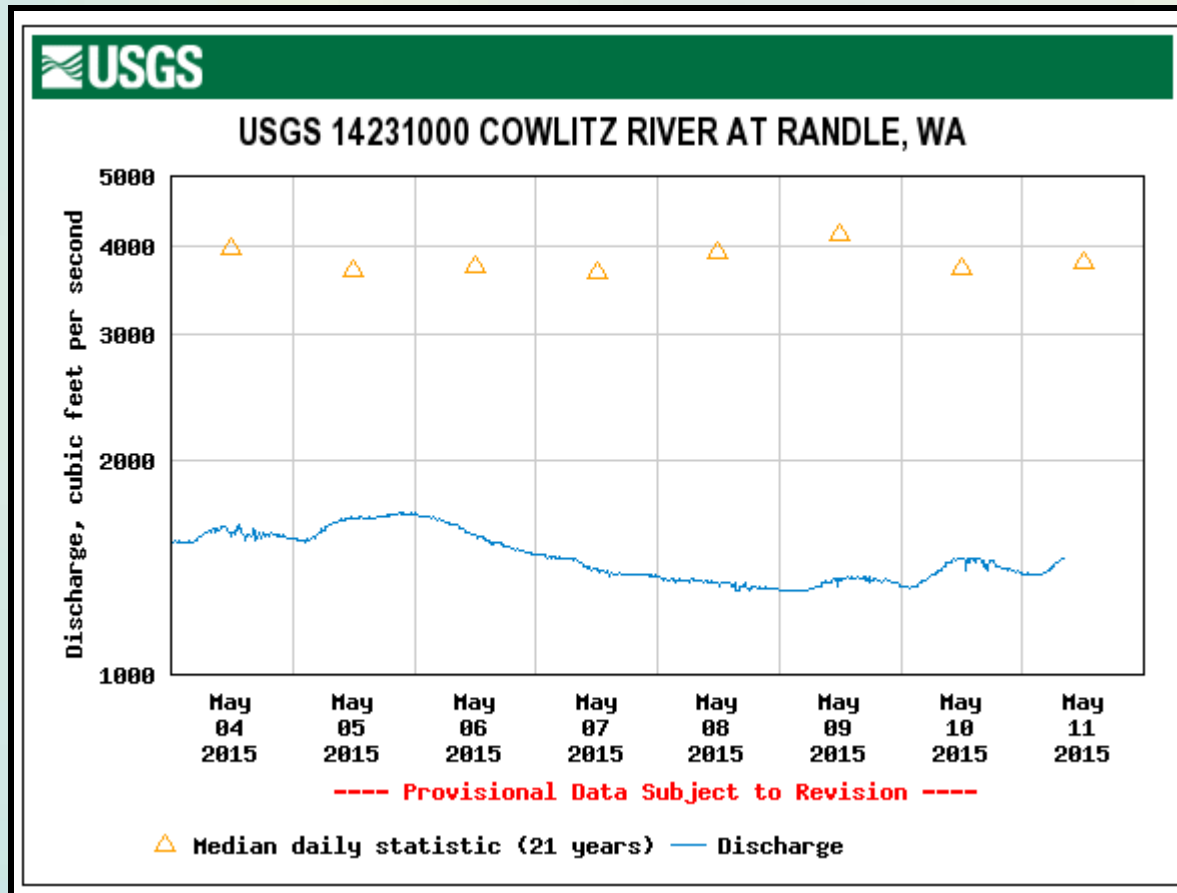
Hoh River - early May



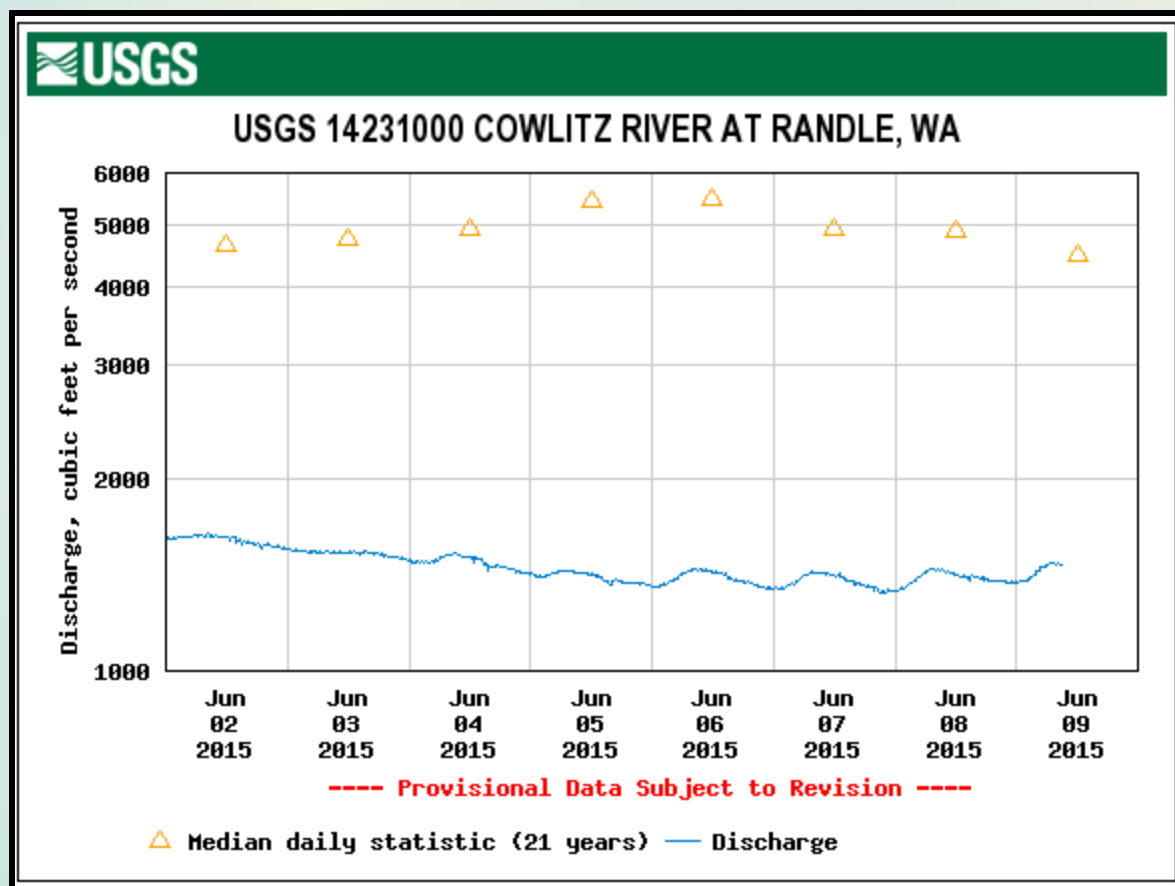
Hoh River – early June



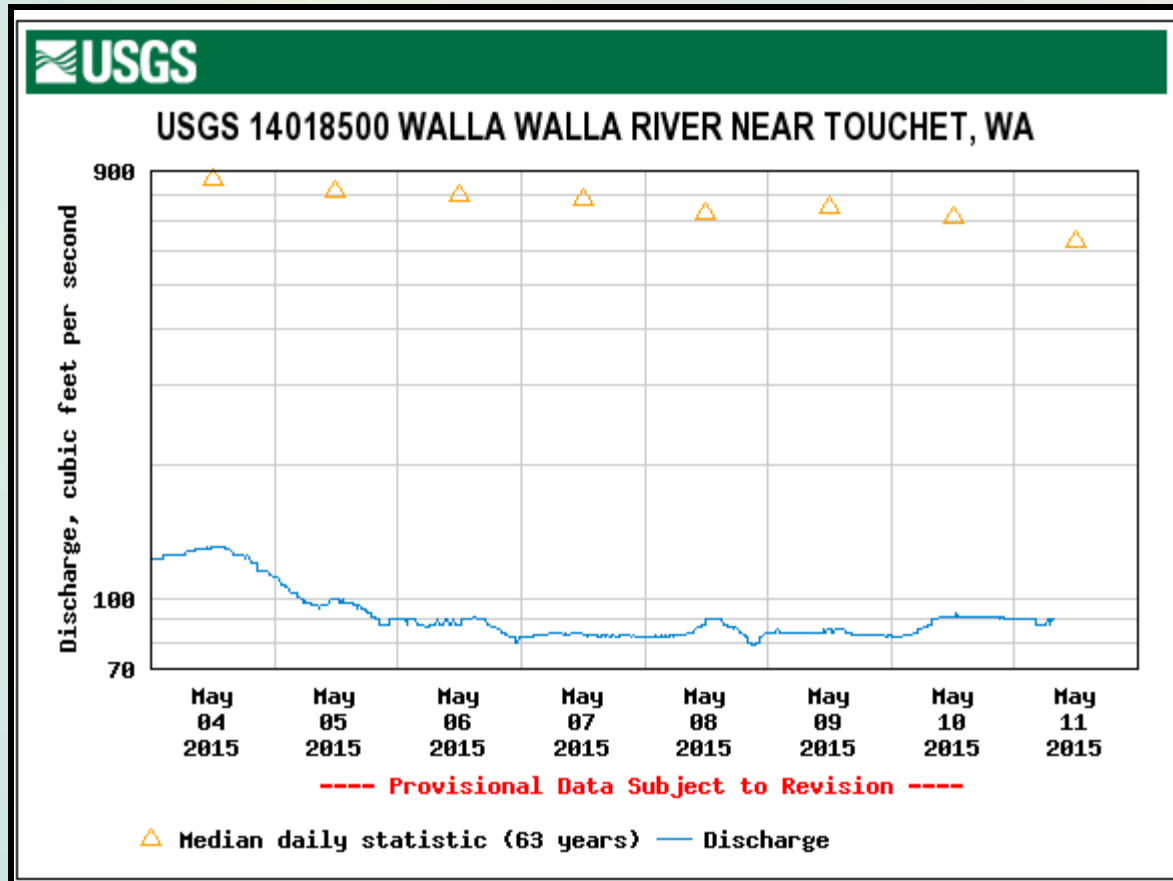
Cowlitz River – early May



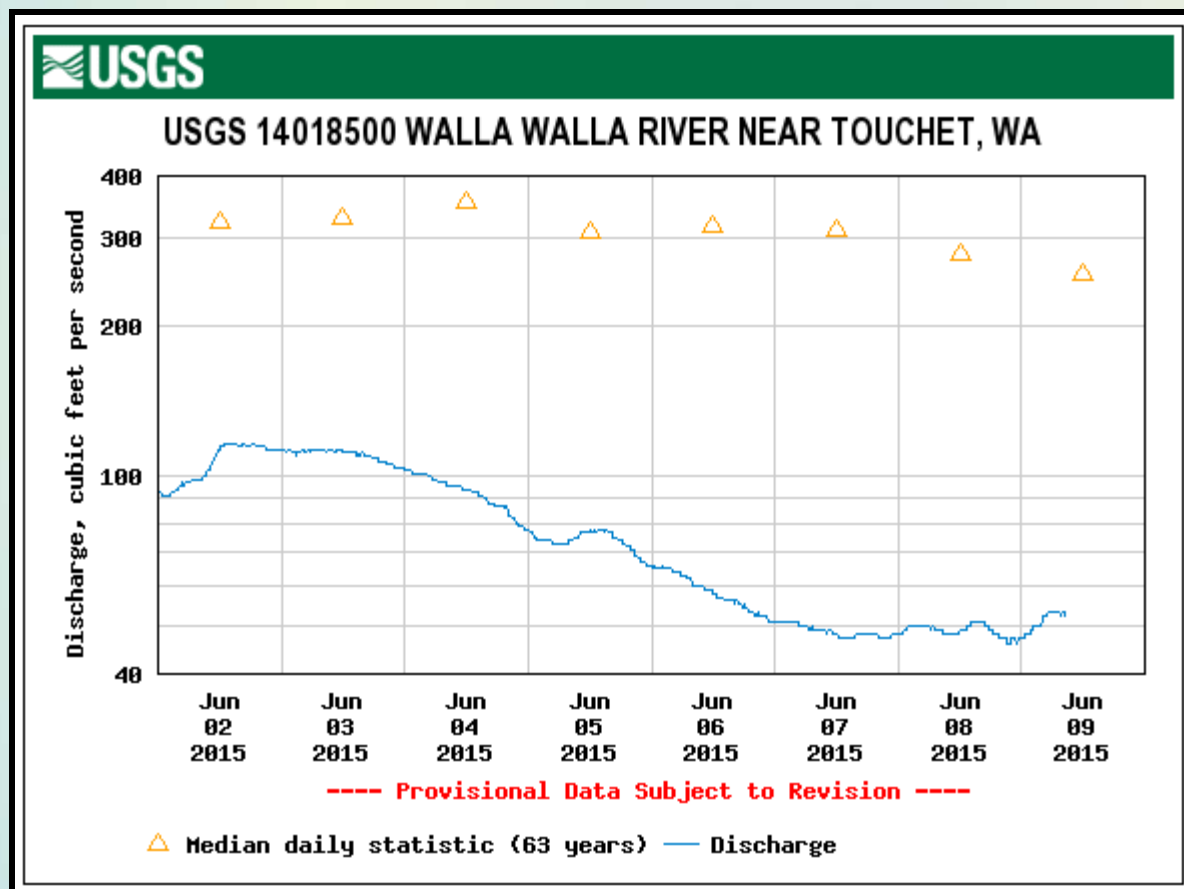
Cowlitz River – early June



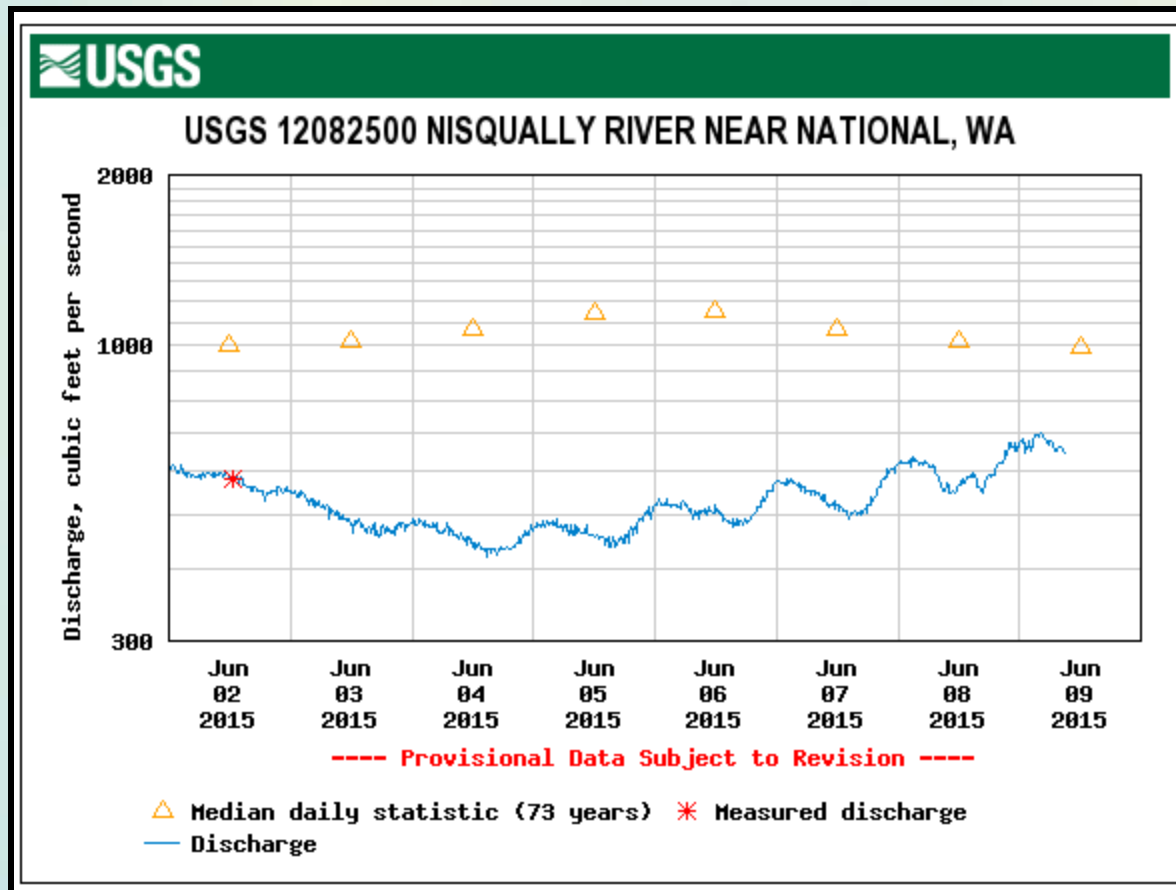
Walla Walla River – early May



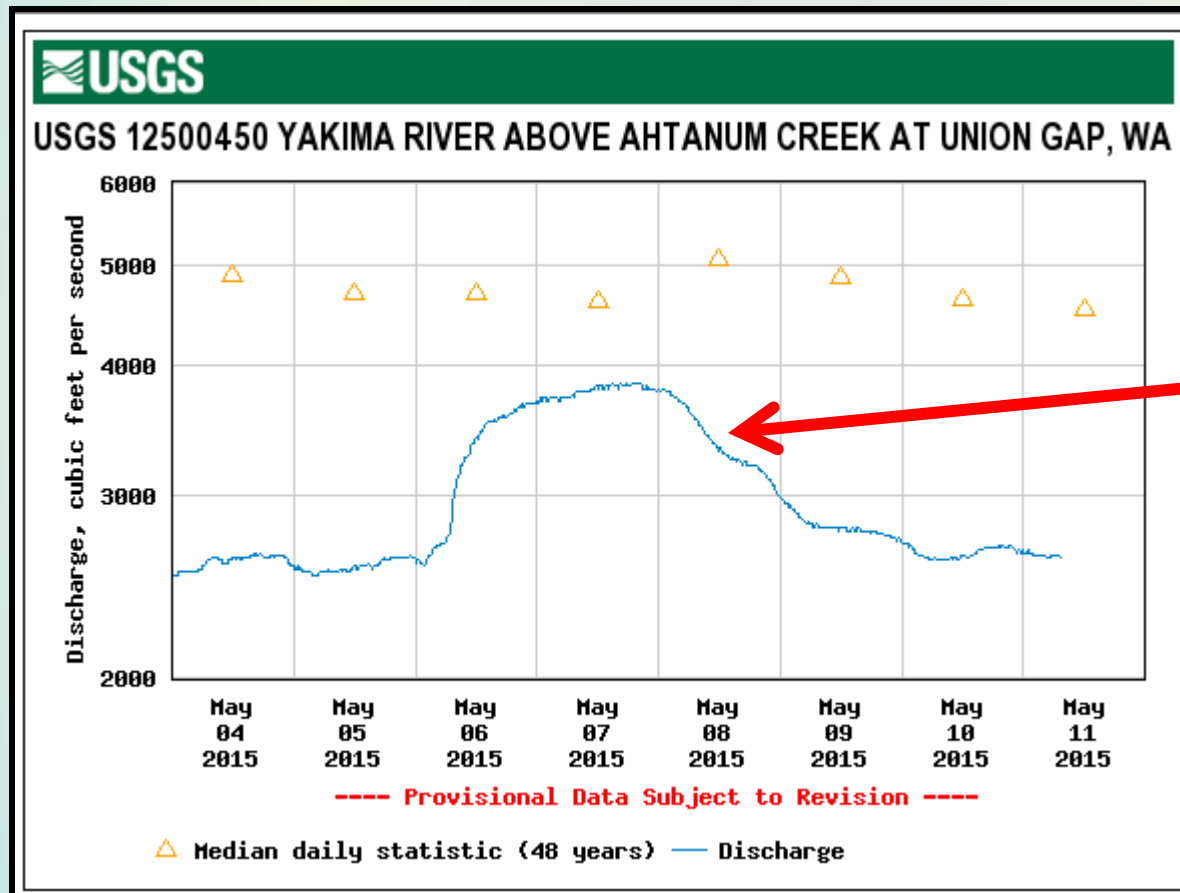
Walla Walla River – early June



Nisqually River – early June

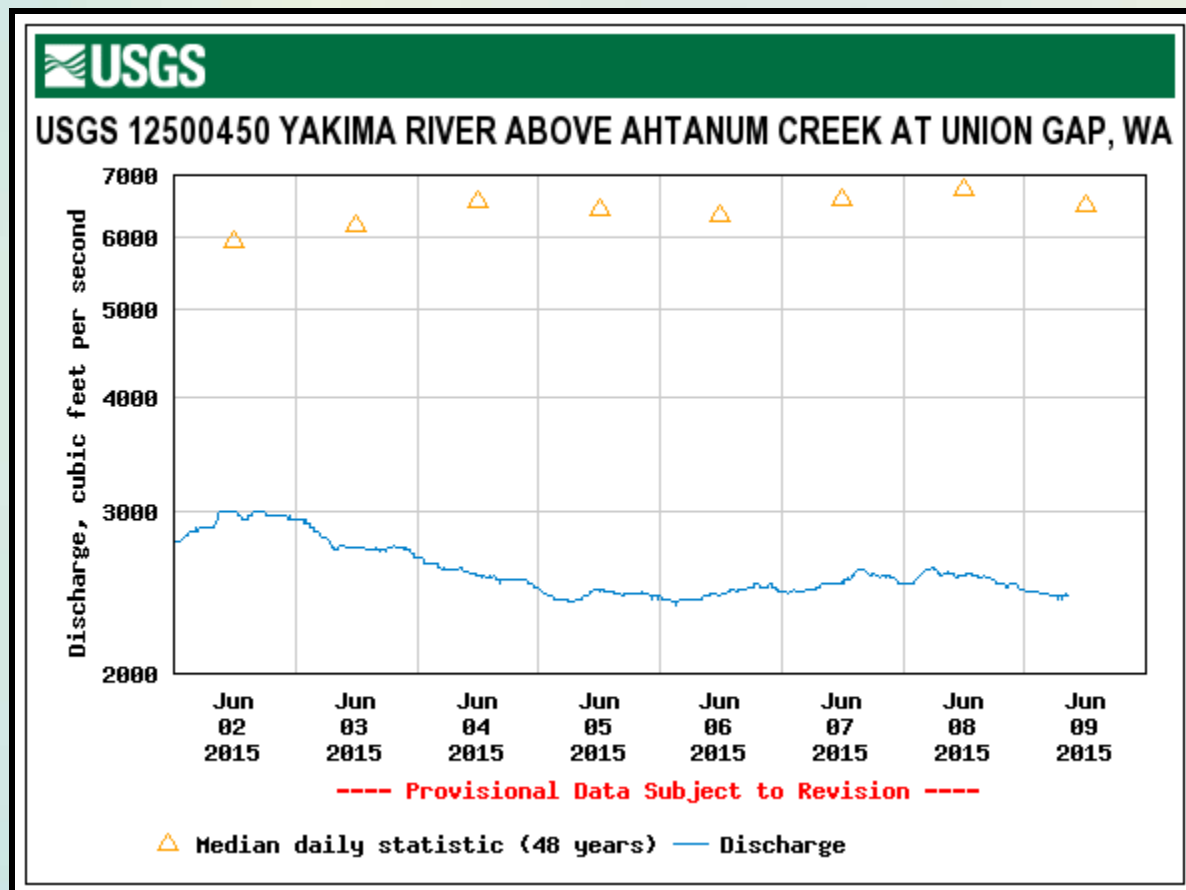


Yakima River – early May



Pulse flow to stimulate out migration of Spring Chinook

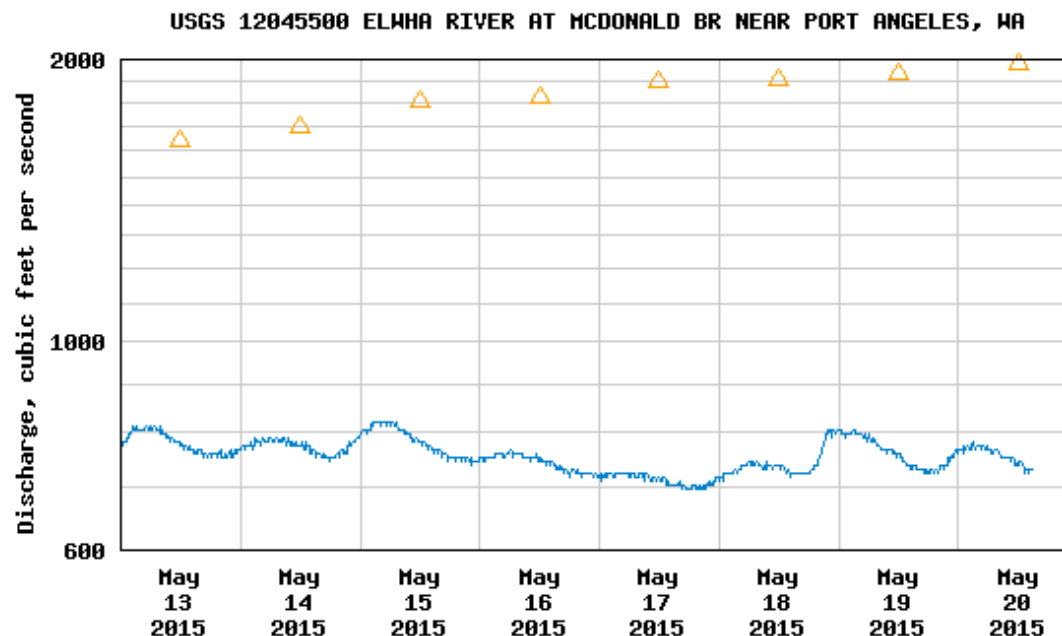
Yakima River – early June



Elwha River - mid May

Discharge, cubic feet per second

Most recent instantaneous value: 731 05-20-2015 15:00 PDT



---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

△ Median daily statistic (100 years) — Discharge

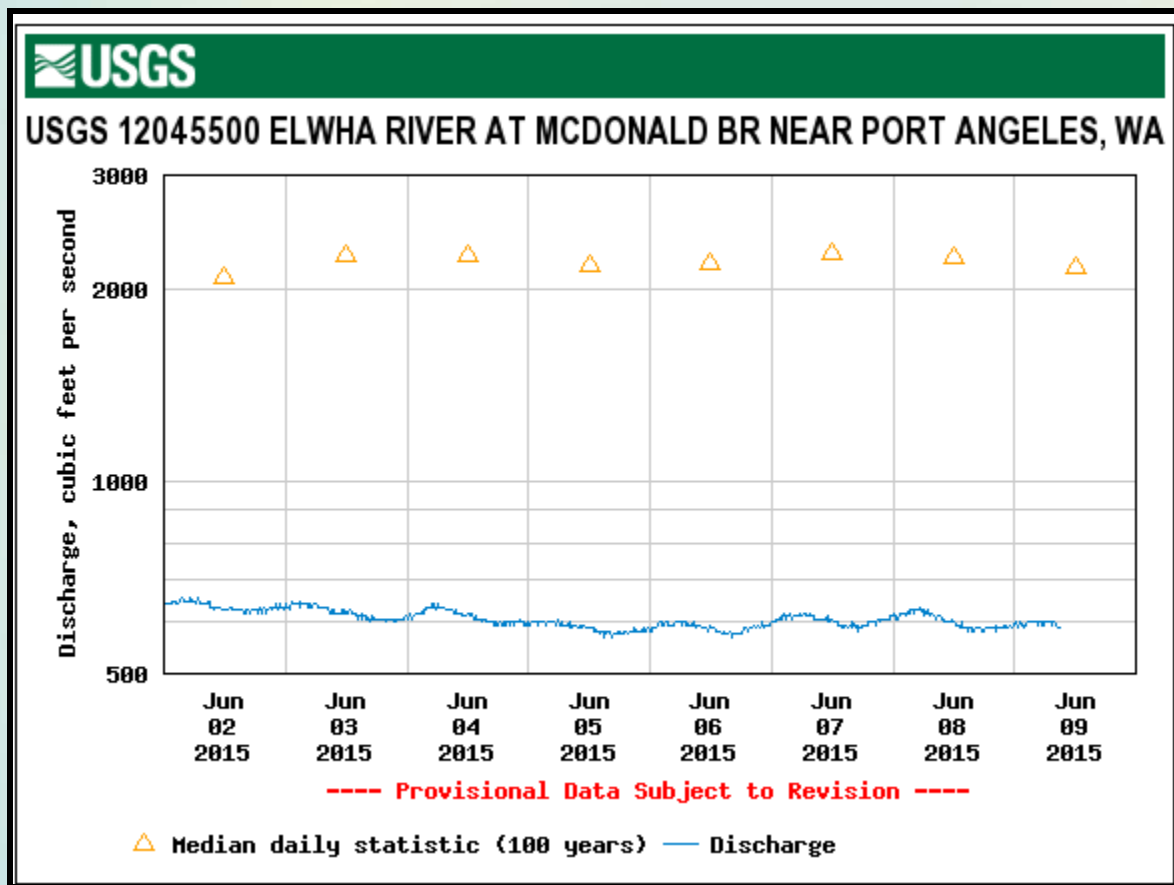
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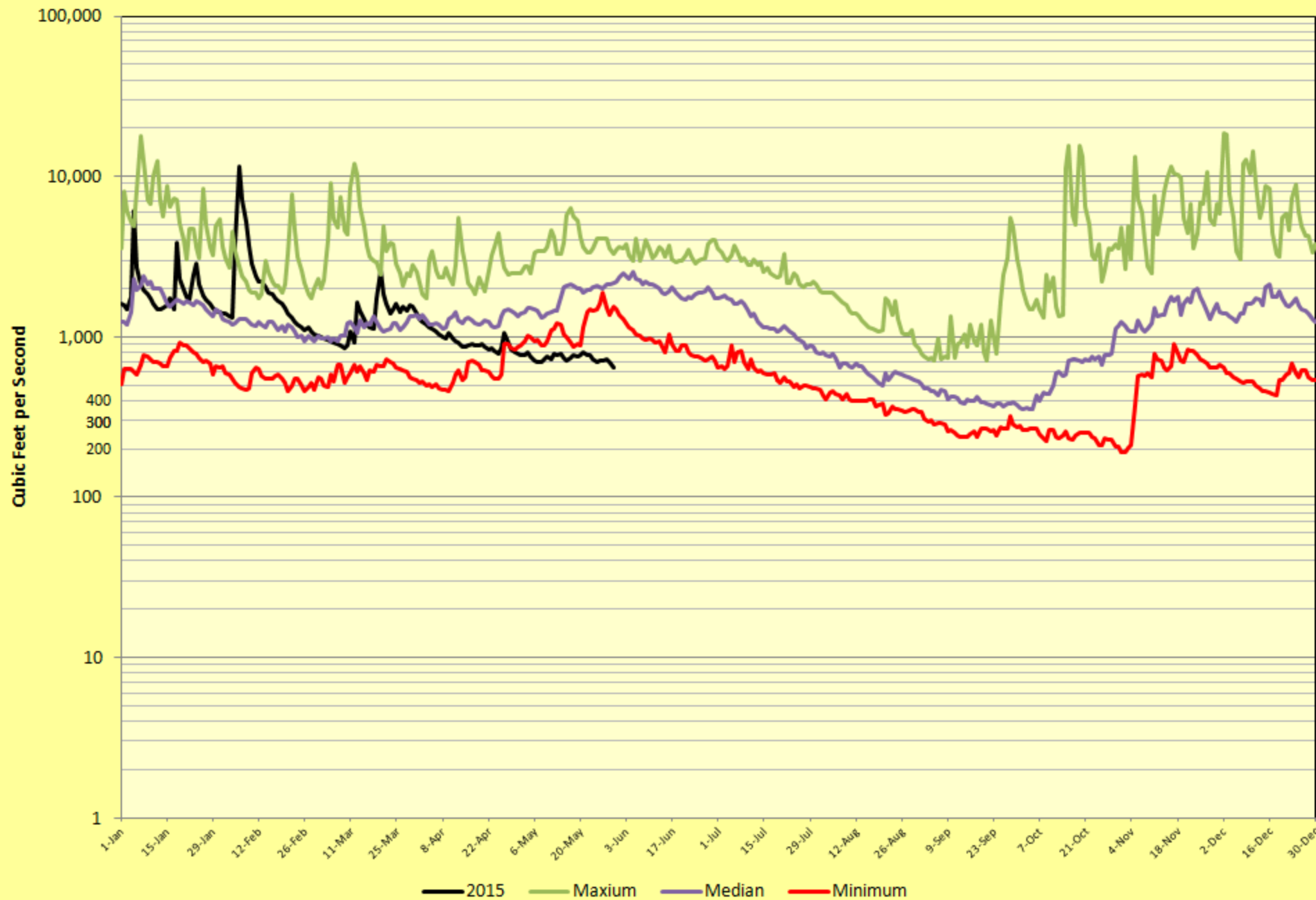
Daily discharge, cubic feet per second -- statistics for May 20
based on 100 years of record [more](#)

Most Recent Instantaneous Value May 20	Min (1899)	25th percen- tile	Median	Mean	75th percen- tile	Max (1956)
731	880	1530	1990	2090	2480	5650

Elwha River – early June



Historic Elwha River Flows vs 2015 in log 10 scale



In Western WA, for the most part – this is a fish passage drought



Siebert Ck 27 May 2015
Clallam County,
Washington
Salmon migration
blocked

Siebert Ck 28 May 2015
Trenching to connect channel



Siebert Ck 28 May 2015
Channel Reconnected
Coho smolts moved out, adult
steelhead moved into creek



Many thanks to fisheries staff of
Jamestown s'Klallam Tribe

Snow-water Equivalent – 2014 vs 2015 – same date

