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Report to

THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

on

# ST. MARY AND MILK RIVERS

by

#### E. L. HENDRICKS

representing United States

and

J. D. McLEOD

representing Canada

1971

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# Report to .THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

on

#### THE DIVISION OF THE WATERS OF

## THE ST. MARY AND MILK RIVERS

1971

E. L. Hendricks, representing United States

and

J. D. McLeod representing Canada

International Joint Commission,
Washington, D.C. and Ottawa, Ontario.

#### Gentlemen:

In compliance with the provisions of Clause VIII (c) of your Order of October 4, 1921, directing the division of the waters of St. Mary and Milk Rivers between the United States and Canada, we are transmitting herewith a report on the operations during the irrigation season ended October 31, 1971.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. Hendricks, Accredited Officer of the United States

J. D. McLeod, Accredited Officer of Her Majesty

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#### INTRODUCTION

Article VI of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 between Great Britain and the United States governs the apportionment of the waters of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers. To comply with this Treaty, representatives of the United States and Canada collected and compiled, co-operatively, hydrometric data at forty-six international gauging stations. Canada operated another twelve non-international gauging stations, the data of which are used in the natural flow computations.

This report summarizes the natural flow computations during 1971, enlarges on the apportionment of the natural flow and explains any unusual occurrences throughout the year as well as any modifications which have been made or are contemplated for increasing the accuracy of the natural flow computations. Summarized natural flow tables are included in the report proper, whereas the detailed computations are included in Appendix A. The daily discharge data for 1971 are included in Appendix B.

Mr. E. L. Hendricks, Chief Hydrologist, United States Geological Survey, as Accredited Officer of the United States was represented in the field by Mr. G. M. Pike, District Chief, Helena, Montana. Mr. J. D. McLeod, Senior Engineer, Inland Waters Branch, acting in the capacity of Accredited Officer of Her Majesty, was represented in the field by Mr. R. D. May, District Engineer, Calgary, Alberta and Mr. D. A. Davis, District Engineer, Regina, Saskatchewan. This report has been prepared jointly by representatives of the United States and Canada under the supervision of Mr. G. M. Pike, Mr. R. D. May and Mr. D. A. Davis.

The natural flow of the St. Mary River was above average in 1971, whereas that of the Milk River was below average. During the 1971 irrigation season the collective natural flow of the Eastern Tributaries of the Milk River was significantly below average, being approximately 62 percent of the long term average natural flow. Minor flow deficits occurred within apportionment periods but no significant problems in the apportionment of flows for 1971 were encountered.

The annual conference between the staff of the field officers was held in Calgary, Alberta January 25 - 26, 1972. Streamflow records collected jointly by the United States and Canada were reviewed and approved. Mutual problems and changes in computational procedures were discussed and a schedule of field operations for 1972 was adopted.

#### ST. MARY RIVER

During the irrigation season, Canada's share of the natural flow of the St. Mary River at the International Boundary is, as stipulated by the 1921 Order, to be three-quarters of the natural flow up to a total flow of 666 cfs, with anything above that quantity to be divided equally between Canada and the United States. During the non-irrigation season (November 1 to March 31) the entire natural flow is to be divided equally between the two countries.

To comply with the above order, field engineers of both countries made semi-monthly computations of the daily natural flow of St. Mary River during the 1971 irrigation season. Regular interim reports of these computations were sent to all agencies involved in the water use and distribution of the flow of the St. Mary River in order to keep them informed as to the amount of water available as well as to ensure that any appropriation by the United States in excess of her share could be adjusted by a subsequent delivery of an equivalent amount at the earliest opportunity.

Tentative computations and interim reports are not made during the non-irrigation season as the only usage by the United States during this period is storage in Lake Sherburne. The average annual flow into this reservoir is only about one-quarter of the total natural flow at the International Boundary.

Lake Sherburne, the only storage reservoir in the St. Mary River
Basin in the United States, is used to store excess flows for diversion to the
Milk River. This water is later utilized by the United States, after passing
through Canada, for irrigation in the lower Milk River valley. Storage in
Lake Sherburne was 9,640 acre-feet on October 31, 1970, and had increased to

24,200 acre-feet just prior to the irrigation season on March 31, 1971.

The storage reached a maximum of 66,400 acre-feet on July 22, and declined to 7,080 acre-feet by the end of the irrigation season on October 31.

Water was diverted from the St. Mary River to the North Milk River via the St. Mary Canal from May 10 to October 13. The total recorded flow past the gauging station on the St. Mary Canal at St. Mary Crossing was 165,000 acre-feet. Any seepage from the canal between the point of diversion and the crossing of the St. Mary River is assumed to return to the river and eventually become available to Canada.

The total natural flow of the St. Mary River at the International Boundary for the period November 1, 1970 to October 31, 1971 was 757,000 acrefeet, of which 690,000 acre-feet occurred during the irrigation season,

April 1 to October 31, 1971. For the irrigation season the Canadian and United States shares were 405,000 acre-feet and 285,000 acre-feet respectively. The United States used 150,000 acre-feet or 53 percent of her share. No problems in the apportionment of the natural flow between the two countries were encountered. The natural flow during the irrigation season was 117 percent of the average of the previous sixty-eight years of record.

Table 1, which follows, summarizes the apportionment of the waters of the St. Mary River.

#### Table 1

#### SUMMARY OF DIVISION OF ST. MARY RIVER AND DIVERSION TO MILK RIVER

#### 1971

#### (quantities in acre-feet)

| Month                     | St.Mary            | St.Mary River at Int'l. Boundary |                |                 |              | Storage<br>Lake | Total<br>Available | St. Mary<br>Canal at |                     |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Month                     | Recorded<br>Runoff | Natural<br>Flow                  | U. S.<br>Share | Canada<br>Share | by<br>Canada | Sherburne       | for<br>Diversion   | St. Mary<br>Crossing | Eastern<br>Crossing |
| Apr.                      | 24,726             | 34,309                           | 10,784         | 23,524          | 1,202        | 9,582           | 1,202              | 0                    | 32,030              |
| May                       | 152,670            | 178,733                          | 79,116         | 99,617          | 53,053       | 12,466          | 66,650             | 13,597               | 38,130              |
| June                      | 191,467            | 218,980                          | 99,56,8        | 119,413         | 72,055       | 12,595          | 86,973             | 14,918               | 24,270              |
| July                      | 87,685             | 139,876                          | 59,685         | 80,191          | 7,494        | 8,803           | 50,882             | 43,389               | 44,870              |
| Aug.                      | 38,278             | 64,763                           | 22,300         | 42,463          | - 4,185      | -16,602r        | 38,902             | 43,088               | 40,790              |
| Sept.                     | 24,516             | 26,607                           | 6,726          | 19,881          | 4,635        | -39,507r        | 46,233             | 41,598               | 41,480              |
| Oct.                      | 20,073             | 26,557                           | 6,674          | 19,883          | 190          | - 1,963r        | 8,637              | 8,448                | 18,370              |
| Total<br>Trrig.<br>Season | 539,415            | 689,825                          | 284,853        | 404,972         | 134,444      | -14,626r        | 299,479            | 165,038              | 239,940             |
| For Yr. Nov. to Oct.      | 592,275            | 757,208                          | 318,544        | 438,664         |              |                 |                    |                      |                     |

r: Negative sign indicates a release from Lake Sherburne.

\*: Represents natural flow of Milk River and diversion from St. Mary River Basin.

Lake Sherburne quantities are corrected for evaporation.

Storage in Lake Sherburne on:

October 31, 1970 = 9,640

March 31, 1971 =24,200 October 31, 1971 = 7,080

| District Destal at     | Natural  | Canada's | Received by | Receive        | d by Canada    |
|------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| Division Period at     | Flow     | Share    | Canada      | Above (+)      | Below (-)      |
| International Boundary | cfs days | cfs days | cfs days    | Share cfs days | Share cfs days |
| Apr. 1 - Apr. 15       | 4,320    | 3,239    | 3,444       | 205            |                |
| Apr. 16 - Apr. 30      | 12,977   | 8,621    | 9,022       | 401            |                |
| May 1 - May 15         | 41,445   | 23,223   | 31,040      | 7,817          |                |
| May 16 - May 31        | 48,665   | 27,000   | 45,930      | 18,930         |                |
| June 1 - June 15       | 60,848   | 32,925   | 61,990      | 29,065         |                |
| June 16 - June 30      | 49,553   | 27,278   | 34,540      | 7,262          |                |
| July 1 - July 15       | 37,032   | 21,018   | 22,470      | 1,452          |                |
| July 16 - July 31      | 33,488   | 19,411   | 21,737      | 2,326          |                |
| Aug. 1 - Aug. 15       | 21,199   | 13,102   | 11,245      |                | 1,857          |
| Aug. 16 - Aug. 31      | 11,452   | 8,306    | 8,053       |                | 253            |
| Sept. 1 - Sept.15      | 8,112    | 6,046    | 6,729       | 683            |                |
| Sept.16 - Sept.30      | 5,302    | 3,977    | 5,631       | 1,654          |                |
| Oct. 1 - Oct. 15       | 6,445    | 4,816    | 4,858       | 42             |                |
| Oct. 16 - Oct. 31      | 6,944    | 5,208    | 5,262       | 54             |                |

In order to provide advance information on the probable runoff in the St. Mary River Basin, the fiftieth annual international snow survey was conducted on April 28 and 29, 1971. The tabulated results of the forecasts and actual discharge or natural flow at three locations are given in Table 2.

TABLE 2
RESULTS OF THE 1971 ST. MARY RIVER BASIN SNOW SURVEY

| Location  | Period<br>of | Forecast o                   | of 1971 Runoff | Measur                       | ed Runoff     |
|---|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 200002011   | Correlation  | Acre-Feet                    | % of Average   | Acre-Feet                    | % of Average  |
| Swiftcurrent<br>Creek<br>at<br>Many Glacier           | 1923-70      | 84,400<br>(May to<br>July)   | (1923-70) 122  | 84,200<br>(May to<br>July)   | (1923-70) 122 |
| Natural Flow Swiftcurrent Creek at Sherburne          | 1922-70      | 144,000<br>(May to<br>Sept.) | (1922-70) 124  | 145,400<br>(May to<br>Sept.) | (1922-70) 126 |
| Natural Flow St. Mary River at International Boundary | 1922-70      | 652,000<br>(May to<br>Sept.) | (1922-70) 128  | 629,000<br>(May to<br>Sept.) | (1922-70) 123 |

#### MILK RIVER

The 1921 Order on the division of flow of the Milk River is the converse of that of the St. Mary River. That is, the United States is entitled to three-quarters of the flow up to a total discharge of 666 cfs, with any amount above this total to be divided equally between the two countries. During the non-irrigation season (November 1 to March 31) the entire flow is to be divided equally.

No actual apportionment of the Milk River at Eastern Crossing is made as, except for a few small unmeasured diversions above the eastern crossing of the International Boundary, the entire natural flow of the Milk River was delivered to the United States.

The computed natural flow of the Milk River at its eastern crossing of the International Boundary during the period March 1 to October 31, 1971, was 104,000 acre-feet. This is 88 percent of the average natural flow of the previous fifty-nine years of record. The United States and Canadian shares were 74,000 acre-feet and 30,000 acre-feet respectively. The natural flow computations of the Milk River at its eastern crossing are given in Table 12 in Appendix A.

The international gauging station on the South Fork Milk River near Babb, Montana was again operated in 1971 to study the utilization of water in the Milk River Basin within the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

During 1971 a substantial flow was recorded in the Milk River at the western crossing of the International Boundary for the entire season. Consequently, there were no complaints by Canadian ranchers this year.

#### EASTERN TRIBUTARIES OF MILK RIVER

The waters of the eastern tributaries of the Milk River were divided in accordance with the Order of the International Joint Commission dated October 4, 1921, which stipulates under Rule III that "The natural flow of the eastern (otherwise known as the Saskatchewan or northern) tributaries of the Milk River at the points where they cross the International Boundary shall be divided equally between the two countries." This rule might well be interpreted as requiring that the division of water be made on a daily basis. It was recognized that a daily division was impracticable so compilation of the natural flows at the International Boundary are done by ten-day periods.

Prior to 1940, Canadian usage on the eastern tributaries consisted of a few private irrigators and the Canadian share of the natural flow was not fully utilized. The construction of three major reservoirs by the government of Canada on the Frenchman River during the late 1930's made a formal division of flow necessary in 1940. The acquisition and enlargement by the government of several private irrigation projects on Battle Creek during the 1950's made formal division of flow necessary in 1957. Construction of a major government reservoir and irrigation project on Lodge Creek in 1960 made a formal division of flow necessary in 1961. The remaining tributaries, Woodpile, East Fork Battle, Lyons, Whitewater, Rock and McEachern Creeks, are monitored but do not have sufficient usage in Canada to warrant a formal division of flow.

During the runoff season, March 1 to October 31, field engineers of both countries make ten-day computations of the natural flows of Lodge Creek, Battle Creek and Frenchman River to determine each country's share, so that any appropriation by Canada in excess of her share can be adjusted at the

earliest opportunity by a subsequent delivery to the United States of an equivalent amount. Regular interim reports on the progress of the division of the natural flows of Lodge Creek, Battle Creek and Frenchman River at the International Boundary were made to interested agencies throughout the runoff season. No division of flow is made during the winter period as there is usually very little flow and it is impracticable to obtain streamflow records during this period.

Although the total runoff of the eastern tributaries of the Milk River was well below average during 1971, no major problems were encountered in the division of the natural flow of these tributaries.

The total quantity of water delivered to the United States by the eastern tributaries of the Milk River during the period March 1 to October 31, 1971, was 68,500 acre-feet or 50 percent of 138,000 acre-feet, the average of the previous forty-four years. The quantities delivered to the United States by the various tributaries are listed in Table 3.

TABLE 3

#### MEASURED RUNOFF OF EASTERN TRIBUTARIES OF MILK RIVER AT INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY

#### FOR PERIOD MARCH TO OCTOBER 1971

(quantities in acre-feet)

| Month | Lodge<br>Creek | Battle<br>Creek | Wood-<br>pile<br>Coulee | East<br>Fork<br>Battle<br>Creek | Lyons<br>Creek | White-<br>water<br>Creek | Frenchman<br>River | Rock<br>Creek<br>below<br>Horse<br>Creek | McEachern<br>Creek |
|-------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| Mar.  | 12             | 568             | 0 .                     | 0                               | 0              | 8                        | 475                | . 39                                     | 0                  |
| Apr.  | 8,040          | 5,110           | 81                      | 31                              | . 3            | 241                      | 15,300             | 7,920                                    | 3,630              |
| Мау   | 1,730          | 3,320           | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 34                       | 11,500             | 457                                      | 87                 |
| June  | 622            | 1,650           | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 15                       | 1,950              | 850                                      | 5                  |
| July  | 0              | . 791           | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 4                        | 1,260              | 43                                       | 0                  |
| Aug.  | 23             | 680             | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 0                        | 883                | 1  | 0                  |
| Sept. | 174            | 0               | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 2                        | 337                | 1  | 0                  |
| Oct.  | 0              | 390             | 0                       | 0                               | 0              | 12                       | 208                | 47                                       | 0                  |
| Total | 10,601         | 12,509          | 81                      | 31                              | 3              | 316                      | 31,913             | 9,358                                    | 3,722              |

Estimated flows of a number of small diversions from the eastern tributaries of Milk River in Saskatchewan and Alberta were provided by the Water Resources Commission of the Province of Saskatchewan and the Water Resources Division of the Province of Alberta, and are based on reports from the individual licensed irrigators.

To include the minor diversion usages in the interim reports, a total usage for the year was estimated on the basis of the snow survey results. Thus, there is some discrepancy between the final and interim division computations. The reported minor diversions as supplied by the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta are contained in Appendix B.

The nineteenth annual Cypress Hills snow survey in the basins of Lodge Creek, Battle Creek and Frenchman River was conducted by the Inland Waters Branch, Canada, during the period February 23 to March 2, 1971.

Because of the great disparity between forecast and measured runoff in previous years, it was decided to discontinue the runoff forecast for the eastern tributaries of the Milk River. Table 4 now shows the summary of water equivalent of the snow, measured runoff and August to October precipitation for the past nineteen years of record. Although the 1971 water equivalent of the snowpack was well above normal, due to low precipitation during the periods August to October 1970 and March to May 1971, and the low rate of snowmelt during April 1971, the measured runoff was well below normal.

A change in the method of computing the natural flow of Battle Creek was made this year. A channel loss of 3 cfs per day has been applied to all diversions and releases from Cypress Lake, 2 cfs per day to the Richardson-McKinnon diversions and 1 cfs per day to the Nashlyn diversion. These channel losses were first found during the Battle Creek investigation made in 1923 and have since been verified by the three supplementary gauging stations operated on Battle Creek since 1964. It is proposed that Gaff Ditch be removed from the list of minor diversion estimates and be included as a major diversion in the Battle Creek natural flow computations in 1972.

#### HISTORICAL SUMMARY

#### MARCH 1st WATER EQUIVALENT OF CYPRESS HILLS SNOW SURVEY IN INCHES.

#### SPRING RUNOFF OF EASTERN TRIBUTARIES OF MILK RIVER IN ACRE FEET.

|          |         |          | 01101     | NG KONOFF OF |              |            |              |           |             | Y            |
|----------|---------|----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
|          | Λug.    | Elkwater | Wildhorse | Lodge Creck  | Battle Creek | Cypress Pk | Pine Cree Pk | Val Marie | Pinto Butte | Frenchman R  |
| /ear     | - Oct.  | Course   | Course    | March-April  | March-April  | Course     | Course       | Course    | Course      | March-May    |
|          | Precip. | A        | В         |              | Natural Flow | С          | E            | D         | F           | Natural Flow |
|          |         |          | . * .     |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
| 1952     | 3.06    |          |           |              |              |            | · .          |           |             |              |
| 1953     | 0.55    | 2.2      | 0.9       | 5,240        | 5,540        | 4.1        |              | 1.0       | 1           | 45,570       |
| 1954     | 10.69   | 1.7      | 0.1       | 7,800        | 13,920       | 3.0        |              | 0.1       |             | 61,680       |
| 1955     | 0.20    | 3.1      | 1.6       | 51,740       | 41,740       | 4.7        |              | 1.9       |             | 132,900      |
|          |         |          |           | ,            |              |            |              |           |             |              |
| 1956     | 2.11    | 2.9      | 2.9       | 10,920       | 13,330       | 5,1        |              | 2.5       |             | 37,770       |
| 1957     | 3.21    | 2.2      | 1.8       | 22,990       | 17,850       | 3.4        |              | 0.9       |             | 35,160       |
| 1958     | 1.20    | 1.3      | 1.3       | 38,900       | 25,040       | 1.8        |              | 0.5       |             | 61,720       |
| 1959     | 3.05    | 2.7      | 2.2       | 16,660       | 12,500       | 6.9        |              | 1.8       |             | 45,460       |
| <br>1960 | 2.34    | 2.0      | 1.6       | 24,270       | 20,580       | 4.8        |              | 1.0       |             | 73,510       |
| 1300     | 2.54    | 2.0      | 1.0       | 24,270       | 20,500       | 7.0        |              | 1.0       |             | 75,510       |
| 1961     | 1.12    | 0.8      | 0.5       | 1,560        | 4,120        | 4.4        |              | 1.5       |             | 17,340       |
| 1962     | 1.41    | 0.8      | 0.4       |              | 5,030        | 2.2        |              | 1.4       |             | 31,340       |
|          |         | 1.9      |           | 5,430        | 4,900        | 3.4        |              | 0         |             | 32,820       |
| 1963     | 0.73    |          | 0.8       | 4,060        |              |            |              | 0.1       |             | 15,850       |
| 1964     | 1.21    | 1.9      | 1.2       | 4,860        | 3,340        | 4.4        | , ,          |           | 1 ,         |              |
| 1965     | 1.95    | 1.7      | 2.8       | 43,490       | 26,950       | 1.9        | 4.1          | 3.0       | 1.3         | 86,570       |
| 1000     | 0.00    |          |           | 22 2/0       | 06 000       | , ,        | 2.0          | 1.0       | 1 , ,       |              |
| 1966     | 2.20    | 1.8      | 2.3       | 33,240       | 26,320       | 4.2        | 3.0          | 1.9       | 1.2         | 63,540       |
| 1967     | 1.15    | 2.8      | 2.6       | 32,200       | 24,460       | 5.3        | 4.6          | 2.4       | _           | 94,510       |
| 1968     | 4.87    | 1.6      | 0         | 3,050        | 8,700        | 3.8        | 1.9          | 0         | 0           | 33,900       |
| 1969     | 0.90    | 2.2      | 3.0       | 29,020       | 25,850       | 5.3        | 1.5          | 2.9       |             | 67,970       |
| 1970     | 0.73    | 2.9      | 1.3       | 16,350       | 12,990       | 6.6        | 3.1          | 1.5       | 1.1         | 92,880       |
| 1        | 1       |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
| 1971     |         | 2.4      | 3.8       | 18,020       | 12,140       | 7.3        | 4.5          | 3.3       | 3.3         | 40,410       |
|          |         |          |           |              | ļ            | Ì          |              |           |             |              |
| į        |         |          |           |              |              |            |              | :         |             |              |
|          | *.      |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
|          |         |          |           |              | 1            |            |              |           |             | •            |
|          |         |          |           | 1            | ļ            | }          |              |           |             |              |
| ·        |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
|          |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
|          |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
|          |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
| Mean     | 2.25    | 2.0      | 1.6       | 19,460       | 16,070       | 4.3        | 3.2          | 1.5       | 1.7         | 56,360       |
|          |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |
|          |         |          |           |              |              |            |              |           |             |              |

Total No. /

#### LODGE CREEK

The computed natural runoff of Lodge Creek at the International Boundary for the period March 1 to October 31, 1971 was 21,320 acre-feet or 61 percent of the average natural runoff of the previous twenty-one years of record. Each country was entitled to 10,660 acre-feet, which is fifty percent of the natural runoff. A total runoff of 10,600 acre-feet was recorded at the International Boundary which is 99.4 percent of the United States share.

Deficit deliveries were recorded in ten of the twenty-four division periods during the season. The major portion of the series of deficits which occurred during April and May were refunded by June 20, but a small portion remained until September 10. The small deficits in deliveries, amounting to 91 acre-feet, which occurred between September 21 and October 20, are of a technical nature due to anomalies in the computation of evaporation and storage of Middle Creek Reservoir.

The division of the Lodge Creek natural flow is summarized in Table 5. The detailed computation of the natural flow is given in Table 16 of Appendix A.

TABLE 5
SUMMARY OF LODGE CREEK DIVISION

1971

| :   |                             |                               |                            |          |                               |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Division Period<br>at<br>International Boundary | Natural<br>Flow<br>cfs days | U. S. A.<br>Share<br>cfs days | Received<br>by<br>U. S. A. |          | U. S. A. Below Share cfs days |
|   |                             |                               | cfs days                   | cfs days | crs days                      |
| Mar. 1 - Mar. 10                                | 0                           | 0                             | 0                          | -        |                               |
| Mar.: 11 - Mar. 20                              | . 0                         | 0                             | 0                          |          |                               |
| Mar. 21 - Mar. 31                               | 8                           | 4                             | 6 ·                        | 2        |                               |
| Apr. 1 - Apr. 10                                | 817                         | 408                           | 342                        |          | 66                            |
| Apr. 11 - Apr. 20                               | 4,541                       | 2,270                         | 1,831                      |          | 439                           |
| Apr. 21 - Apr. 30                               | 3,720                       | 1,860                         | 1,882                      | 22       |                               |
| May 1 - May 10                                  | 880                         | 440                           | 247                        |          | 193                           |
| May 11 - May 20                                 | 209                         | 104                           | 541                        | 437      |                               |
| May 21 - May 31                                 | 122                         | 61                            | 82                         | 21       |                               |
| June 1 - June 10                                | . 114                       | 57                            | 25                         |          | 32                            |
| June 11 - June 20                               | 196                         | 98                            | 286                        | 188      |                               |
| June 21 - June 30                               | . 0                         | 0                             | 2                          | 2        |                               |
| July 1 - July 10                                | 3                           | 2                             | 0                          |          | 2                             |
| July 11 - July 20                               | 15                          | 8                             | 0                          |          | 8                             |
| July 21 - July 31                               | 31                          | 16                            | 0                          |          | 16                            |
| Aug. 1 - Aug. 10                                | 0                           | 0                             | 0                          |          |                               |
| Aug. 11 - Aug. 20                               | 0                           | 0                             | 0                          |          |                               |
| Aug. 21 - Aug. 31                               | . 0                         | 0                             | 12                         | 12       |                               |
| Sept. 1 - Sept. 10                              | . 0                         | 0                             | 88                         | 88       |                               |
| Sept. 11 - Sept. 20                             | 0                           | 0                             | 0                          |          |                               |
| Sept. 21 - Sept. 30                             | 64                          | 32                            | 0                          |          | 32                            |
| Oct. 1 - Oct. 10                                | 19                          | 10                            | 0                          |          | 10                            |
| Oct. 11 - Oct. 20                               | 9                           | 4                             | 0                          |          | 4                             |
| Oct. 21 - Oct. 31                               | 0                           | 0                             | 0                          |          |                               |
|   |                             |                               |                            |          |                               |
| . •   |                             |                               |                            |          |                               |
|   |                             |                               |                            |          |                               |
|   |                             |                               |                            |          |                               |
|   | l                           |                               | <u> </u>                   | <u></u>  | L                             |

#### BATTLE CREEK

The computed natural runoff of Battle Creek at the International Boundary for the period March 1 to October 31, 1971 was 19,280 acre-feet or 67 percent of the average natural runoff of the previous thirty-one years of record. Each country was entitled to 9,640 acre-feet, which is fifty percent of the natural runoff. A total runoff of 12,500 acre-feet was recorded at the International Boundary which is 130 percent of the United States share.

Deficit deliveries were recorded in two division periods during the season. All deficits were refunded with excess deliveries in following division periods.

The division of the Battle Creek natural flow is summarized in . Table 6. The detailed computation of the natural flow is given in Table 18 of Appendix A.

TABLE 6
SUMMARY OF BATTLE CREEK DIVISION

| J |   | 9 | Ĭ | 7 |   | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| _ | - | _ | - | _ | ÷ | _ |

| at                     | Natural          | U. S. A.          | Received          | Received by  | U. S. A.                |
|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------|
| International Boundary | Flow<br>cfs days | Share<br>cfs days | U. S. A. cfs days | Above Share<br>cfs days  | Below Share<br>cfs days |
| Mar. 1 - Mar. 14       | 117              | 58                | 106               | 48   |                         |
| Mar. 15 - Mar. 25      | 121              | 60                | 110               | 50   |                         |
| Mar. 26 - Apr. 4       | 128              | 64                | 116               | 52   |                         |
| Apr. 5 - Apr. 14       | 1,218            | 609               | 910               | 301  |                         |
| Apr. 15 - Apr. 24      | 2,416            | 1,208             | 753               | The state of the s | 455                     |
| Apr. 25 - May 4        | 2,122            | 1,061             | 1,188             | 127  |                         |
| May 5 - May 14         | 784              | 392               | 675               | 283  |                         |
| May 15 - May 25        | 573              | 286               | 459               | 173  | -                       |
| May 26 - June 4        | 144              | 72                | 380               | 308  |                         |
| June 5 - June 14       | 871              | 436               | 234               | No. of the second  | 202                     |
| June 15 - June 24      | 404              | 202               | 260               | 58   |                         |
| June 25 - July 4       | 252              | 126               | 261               | 135  |                         |
| July 5 - July 14       | 215              | 108               | 226               | 118  |                         |
| July 15 - July 25      | 88               | 44                | 71                | 27   |                         |
| July 26 - Aug. 4       | 0                | 0                 | 84                | 84   |                         |
| Aug. 5 - Aug. 14       | 18               | 9                 | 246               | 237  |                         |
| Aug. 15 - Aug. 25      | 31               | 16                | 28                | 12   |                         |
| Aug. 26 - Sept. 4      | 0                | 0                 | 0                 |  |                         |
| Sept. 5 - Sept.14      | 0                | 0                 | 0                 |  |                         |
| Sept.15 - Sept.24      | 0                | 0                 | 0                 |  |                         |
| Sept.25 - Oct. 4       | 0                | 0                 | 0                 |  |                         |
| Oct. 5 - Oct. 14       | 10               | 5                 | 9                 | 4  |                         |
| Oct. 15 - Oct. 25      | 139              | 70                | 126               | 56   |                         |
|                        | 68               | 34                | 62                | 28   |                         |

#### FRENCHMAN RIVER

The computed natural runoff of the Frenchman River at the International Boundary for the period March 1 to October 31, 1971 was 46,320 acre-feet or 60 percent of the average natural runoff of the previous thirty-one years of record. Each country was entitled to 23,160 acrefeet, which is fifty percent of the natural runoff.

A total runoff of 31,910 acre-feet, which is 138 percent of the United States share, was recorded at the International Boundary.

Deficit deliveries were recorded in four division periods during the season. The deficits recorded during April and July were refunded with excess deliveries in the next division periods. A total of 127 acrefeet in deficits were recorded in the last two division periods of the season.

The division of the Frenchman River natural flow is summarized in Table 7. The detailed computation of the natural flow is given in Table 20 of Appendix A.

TABLE 7

SUMMARY OF FRENCHMAN RIVER DIVISION

1971

|                                       | on Period<br>at<br>l Boundary | Natural<br>Flow<br>cfs days | U. S. A.<br>Share<br>cfs days | Received<br>by<br>U.S.A.<br>cfs days | Received by Above Share cfs days | U. S. A. Below Share cfs days |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                               |                             |                               |                                      |                                  |                               |
| Mar. 1 -                              | Mar. 10                       | 14                          | . 7                           | 61                                   | 54                               |                               |
| Mar. 11 -                             |                               | 77                          | 38                            | 74                                   | 36                               |                               |
| Mar. 21 -                             |                               | 168                         | 84                            | 104                                  | 20                               |                               |
| Apr. 1 -                              |                               | 2,266                       | 1,133                         | 1,719                                | 586                              | •                             |
| Apr. 11 -                             |                               | 4,929                       | 2,464                         | 2,838                                | 374                              |                               |
| Apr. 21 -                             | •                             | 6,799                       | 3,400                         | 3,164                                |                                  | 236                           |
| May 1 -                               | •                             | 3,530                       | 1,765                         | 3,210                                | 1,445                            |                               |
| May 11 -                              | -                             | 1,603                       | 802                           | 1,437                                | 635                              |                               |
| May 21 -                              |                               | 985                         | 492                           | 1,142                                | 650                              |                               |
| June 1 -                              |                               | 852                         | 426                           | 479                                  | 53                               | ·                             |
| June 11 -                             |                               | 462                         | 231                           | 289                                  | .58                              |                               |
| June 21 -                             |                               | 425                         | 212                           | 218                                  | 6                                |                               |
| July 1 -                              |                               | 230                         | 115                           | 110                                  |                                  | 5                             |
| July 11 -                             |                               | 106                         | 53                            | 160                                  | 107                              |                               |
| July 21 -                             |                               | 276                         | 138                           | 364                                  | 226                              |                               |
| Aug. 1 -                              |                               | 227                         | 114                           | 244                                  | 130                              | . · · · · · .                 |
| Aug. 11 -                             |                               | 108                         | 54                            | 158                                  | 104                              |                               |
| Aug. 21 -                             |                               | 0                           | 0                             | 43                                   | 43                               |                               |
| Sept. 1 -                             |                               | 0                           | 0                             | 62                                   | 62                               |                               |
| Sept. 11 -                            |                               | О                           | 0                             | 44                                   | 44                               |                               |
| Sept. 21 -                            |                               | 25                          | 12                            | 64                                   | 52                               |                               |
| Oct. 1 -                              | Oct. 10                       | 0 4                         | 0                             | 33                                   | 33                               |                               |
| 1 T                                   | Oct. 20                       | 115                         | 58                            | 13                                   |                                  | 45                            |
|                                       | Oct. 31                       | 156                         | 78                            | 59                                   |                                  | 19                            |
|                                       |                               |                             |                               |                                      |                                  |                               |
|                                       |                               |                             |                               |                                      |                                  | :                             |
|                                       |                               |                             |                               |                                      |                                  |                               |
|                                       |                               |                             |                               |                                      |                                  |                               |

#### APPENDICES

Appendices A and B are submitted with this report under separate cover. Appendix A contains the natural flow computations for the St. Mary River, Milk River, Lodge Creek, Battle Creek and Frenchman River. It also contains historical summaries of the mean monthly natural flows, United States shares and Canadian shares of the St. Mary River and Milk River; and annual summaries of natural and recorded runoff of Lodge Creek, Battle Creek and Frenchman River.

Appendix B contains the daily discharge data for thirty-nine international gauging stations operated jointly by the United States and Canada, and three stations used in the natural flow computations which are operated by Canada. Also included are the month-end contents of seven international reservoir stations operated jointly by the United States and Canada, and nine reservoir stations used in the natural flow computations which are operated by Canada. The details of the minor diversions in Canada are also contained in Appendix B.

#### GAUGING STATIONS OPERATED JOINTLY

ВΥ

### CANADA AND UNITED STATES .

#### IN THE

#### ST. MARY AND MILK RIVER DRAINAGE BASINS

- 1971 -

|          | 1371   |                     |
|----------|--|---------------------|
| Map Inde | x Stream and Location  | Remarks             |
|          |  |                     |
|          | St. Mary River Basin   |                     |
| 05AE027  | St. Mary River at International Boundary                             | Int. a              |
| 05AE036  | Lake Sherburne at Sherburne, Montana                                 | Int. R <sup>a</sup> |
| 05AE033  | Swiftcurrent Creek at Sherburne, Montana                             | Int. a              |
| 05AE029  | St. Mary Canal at St. Mary Crossing near Babb, Montana               | Int. a              |
|          | Milk River Basin   |                     |
| 11AA025  | Milk River at Western Crossing of International Boundary             | Int. a              |
| 11AA005  | Milk River at Milk River   | Int. a              |
| 11AA031  | Milk River at Eastern Crossing of International Boundary             | Int. a              |
| 11AA033  | South Fork Milk River near Babb, Montana                             | Int. a              |
| 11AA032  | North Fork Milk River above St. Mary Canal near<br>Browning, Montana | Int. a              |
| 11AA001  | North Milk River near International Boundary                         | Int. a              |
|          | Lodge Creek Tributary Basin  |                     |
| 11AB089  | Altawan Reservoir near Govenlock                                     | Int. R <sup>a</sup> |
| 11AB083  | Lodge Creek below McRae Creek at International Boundary              | Int. a              |
| 11AB086  | Walburger Coulee below Diversions                                    | Int. a              |
| 11AB060  | Spangler Ditch near Govenlock  | Int. a              |
| 11AB009  | Middle Creek near Alberta Boundary                                   | Int. a              |
| 11AB080  | Middle Creek Reservoir   | Int. R <sup>a</sup> |
| 11AB087  | Middle Creek near Battle Creek                                       | Int. a              |

Map Index Stream and Location Remarks Battle Creek Tributary Basin а 11AB027 Battle Creek at International Boundary Int. а 11AB078 Cypress Lake West Inflow Canal Int. 11AB085 Cypress Lake West Inflow Canal Drain Int. а 11AB077 Cypress Lake West Outflow Canal Int. а 11AB084 Vidora Ditch near Consul Int. 11AB058 Richardson Ditch near Consul Int. 11AB044 McKinnon Ditch near Consul Int. а 11AB018 Nashlyn Canal near Consul Int. а 11AB105 Woodpile Coulee near International Boundary Int. 11AB107 East Fork Battle Creek near International Boundary Int. 11AB075 Lyons Creek at International Boundary Int. Whitewater Creek Tributary Basin 11AD001 Whitewater Creek near International Boundary Int. Frenchman River Tributary Basin Int. R<sup>a</sup> 11AC055 Eastend Reservoir 11AC001 Frenchman River below Eastend Reservoir Int. 11AC057 Frenchman River below Eastend Irrigation Project Int. Int. R<sup>a</sup> 11AC063 Val Marie West Reservoir Int. Ra 11ACO56 Val Marie Reservoir 11AC051 Frenchman River below Val Marie Int. 11ACO41 Frenchman River at International Boundary Int. 11AC060 Cypress Lake East Outflow Canal Int. Int. R<sup>a</sup> 11AC037 Cypress Lake 11AC064 Belanger Creek Diversion to Cypress Lake Int.

Int.

Int.

11AC052 Eastend Canal

Val Marie West Pumping Canal

11AC066

| Map Inde                      | x Stream and Location  | Remarks               |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
|                               |  |                       |
| 11AC065<br>11AC054<br>11AC025 | Val Marie West Gravity Canal Val Marie Main Canal Denniel Creek near Val Marie | Int. a Int. a Int. a  |
| •                             | Rock Creek Tributary Basin   |                       |
|                               |  |                       |
| 11AE009                       | Rock Creek below Horse Creek near International Boundary                       | Int. a                |
| 11AE007                       | McEachern Creek at International Boundary                                      | Int. a                |
|                               | St. Mary River Basin   |                       |
| 5-0175                        | St. Mary River near Babb, Montana  | U.S.A. c              |
| 05AE025                       | St. Mary Reservoir near Spring Coulee  | Canada R <sup>C</sup> |
| 05AE006                       | St. Mary River near Lethbridge   | Canada c              |
| 5-0139                        | Grinnell Creek at Grinnell Glacier near Many Glacier,<br>Montana               | U.S.A. c              |
| 5-0140                        | Grinnell Creek near Many Glacier, Montana                                      | U.S.A. c              |
| 05AE032                       | Swiftcurrent Creek at Many Glacier, Montana                                    | U.S.A. c              |
| 05AE005                       | Rolph Creek near Kimball   | Canada c              |
| 05AE002                       | Lee Creek at Cardston  | Canada c              |
| 05AE026                       | Canadian St. Mary Canal near Spring Coulee                                     | Canada c              |
| 05AE021                       | Magrath Irrigation District Canal near Spring Coulee                           | Canada <sup>c</sup>   |
|                               | Milk River Basin - Southern Tributaries  |                       |
| 11AA029                       | Miners Coulee near International Boundary                                      | Canada c              |
| 11AA028                       | Bear Creek near International Boundary   | Canada c              |

| Map Index | Stream and Location | Remarks |
|-----------|---------------------|---------|
| •         |                     |         |

## Lodge Creek Tributary Basin

| 11AB082 | Lodge Creek at Alberta Boundary    | Canada | С                |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| 11AB091 | Michele Reservoir near Elkwater    | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB092 | Greasewood Reservoir near Elkwater | Canada | $R^a$            |
| 11AB104 | Massy Reservoir near Elkwater      | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB094 | Bare Creek Reservoir near Elkwater | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB097 | Cressday Reservoir near Cressday   | Canada | Râ               |
| 11AB098 | Jaydot Reservoir near Jaydot       | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB099 | Mitchell Reservoir near Elkwater   | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB108 | Middle Creek near Govenlock        | Canada | С                |
| 11AB109 | Buchanan Ditch near Govenlock      | Canada | С                |
| 11AB110 | Stokke Ditch near Govenlock        | Canada | С                |
| 11AB008 | Middle Creek above Lodge Creek     | Canada | С                |
| 11AB103 | Squaw Coulee near Willow Creek     | Canada | а                |

# Battle Creek Tributary Basin

| 11AB081 | Battle Creek at Ranger Station                     | Canada | С                |
|---------|--|--------|------------------|
| 11AB100 | Battle Creek above Cypress Lake West Outflow Canal | Canada | С                |
| 11AB096 | Battle Creek near Consul                           | Canada | С                |
| 11AB101 | Battle Creek below Nashlyn Project                 | Canada | С                |
| 11AB095 | Adams Lake   | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB090 | Reesor Reservoir                                   | Canada | $R^{\mathbf{a}}$ |
| 11AB102 | Gaff Ditch near Merryflat                          | Canada | С                |

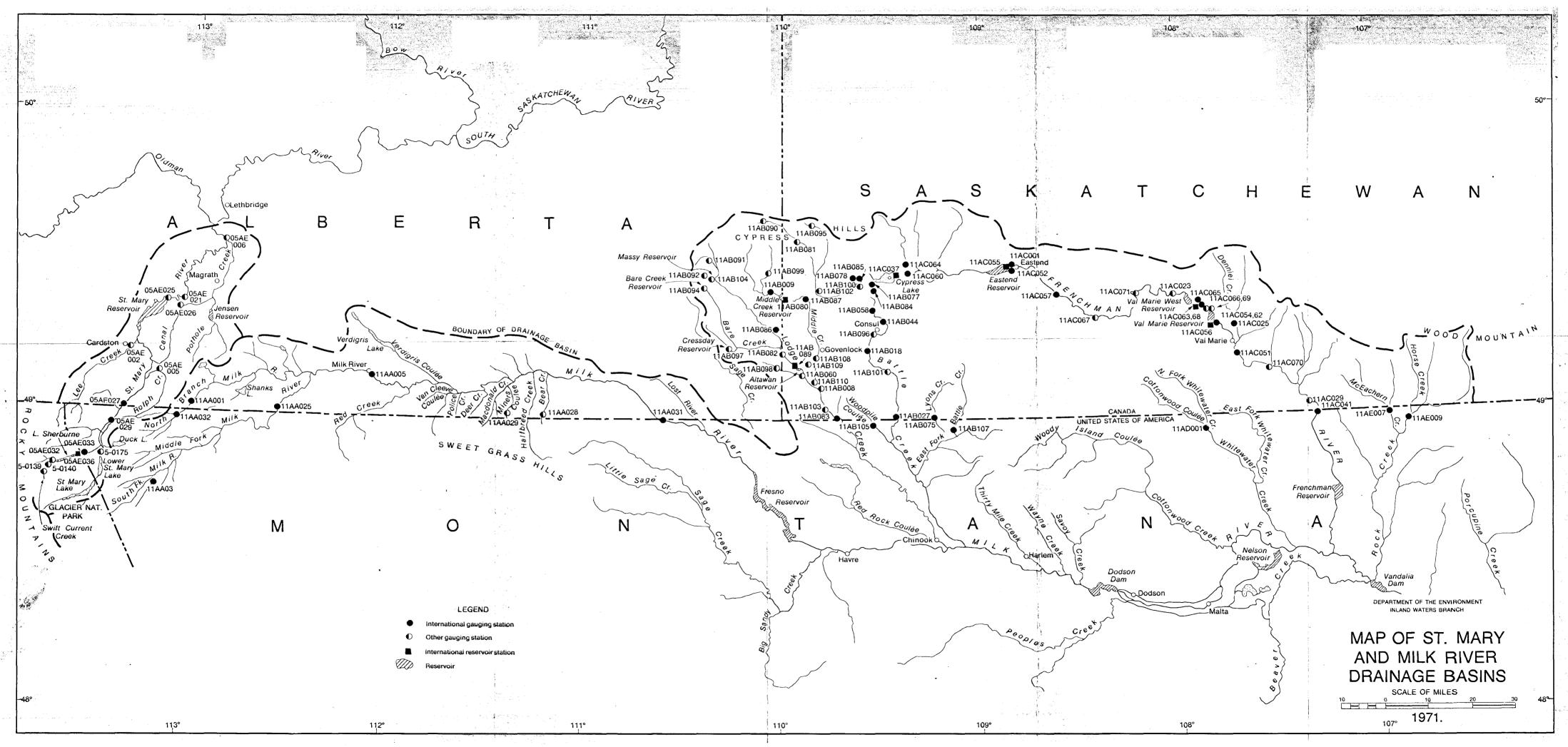
| - | Map Index                             | Stream and Location | Remarks     |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| - | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                     | <del></del> |

## Frenchman River Tributary Basin

| 11AC062 | Frenchman River below Val Marie Reservoir | Canada | С |
|---------|---|--------|---|
| 11AC068 | Val Marie Electric Pump No. 1             | Canada | а |
| 11AC069 | Val Marie Electric Pump No. 2             | Canada | а |

## Symbol Code

| Int.   | - | International Gauging Station  |
|--------|---|--|
| Int. R | _ | International Station on Reservoir   |
| U.S.A. | - | Operation by United States Geological Survey   |
| Canada | _ | Operation by Inland Waters Branch, Canada  |
| a      | - | Monthly and daily discharge data and stream measurements or month-end contents contained in Appendix B |
| С      | - | Data not included in this report or appendices   |



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Report to the International Joint Commission on the division and use of the waters of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers...

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