

CONSERVATION TIPS

Water is a precious resource. Understanding your watershed can be an inspiration to conserve water.

A few simple tips can save a single household thousands of gallons of water each year.

FIVE EASY WAYS TO SAVE WATER

1. Water plants and lawns in the morning, when evaporation loss is at a minimum.
2. Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and patios, rather than hosing them down.
3. Repair faucet leaks. A slow drip can waste as much as 15 gallons of water a day.
4. Run your dishwasher and clothes washer only when full. Half loads waste water and energy.
5. If you are a resident of Santa Clara County, call (800) 548-1882 for a FREE consultation on water use from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Trained water surveyors will visit your home, review your water use with you, and help you use water more efficiently.

Photo by spunfunkster.

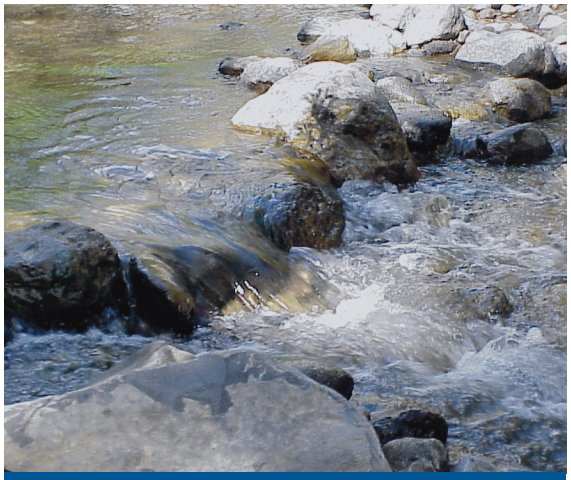


Photo by Rosemary Lombard.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT www.SanFrancisquito.org
CALL 650-961-1035
EMAIL Info@SanFrancisquito.org

San Francisquito Watershed Council

The San Francisquito Watershed Council is a nonprofit stewardship organization dedicated to fostering the health and diversity of the San Francisquito watershed.

www.SanFrancisquito.org
650-961-1035

The San Francisquito Watershed Council receives 501(c)3 fiscal sponsorship from Acterra.

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SFWC ♻ 2006

WATER

FACTS FOR THE SAN FRANCISQUITO WATERSHED

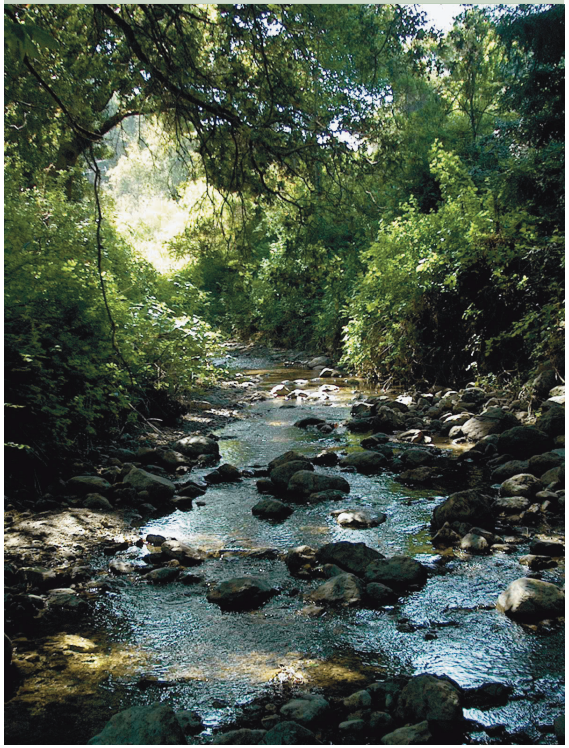


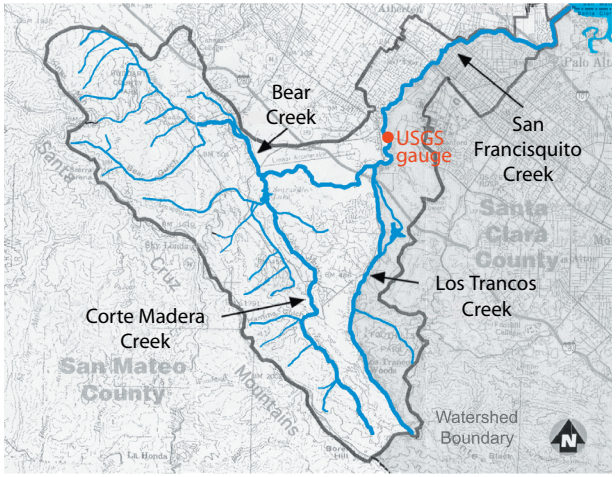
Photo by Katie Pilat.

WATERSHED FACTS

The San Francisquito watershed contains 24 named creeks. The main stem is San Francisquito; the three main tributaries are Los Trancos, Corte Madera, and Bear. The four subwatersheds drain unique areas that together make up the San Francisquito watershed.

Creek name	Length (miles)	Drainage area (sq. miles)
San Francisquito	14	13.2
Los Trancos	7	7.8
Corte Madera	7	14.8
Bear	3	11.7
San Francisquito watershed total	**73 ***	**47.5**

* Sum for all 24 named creeks



AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL

Woodside and Portola Valley area: 30"
measured at Woodside Fire Station rain gauge

Menlo Park, Palo Alto, and East Palo Alto area: 15"
measured at Palo Alto Fire Station 3 rain gauge

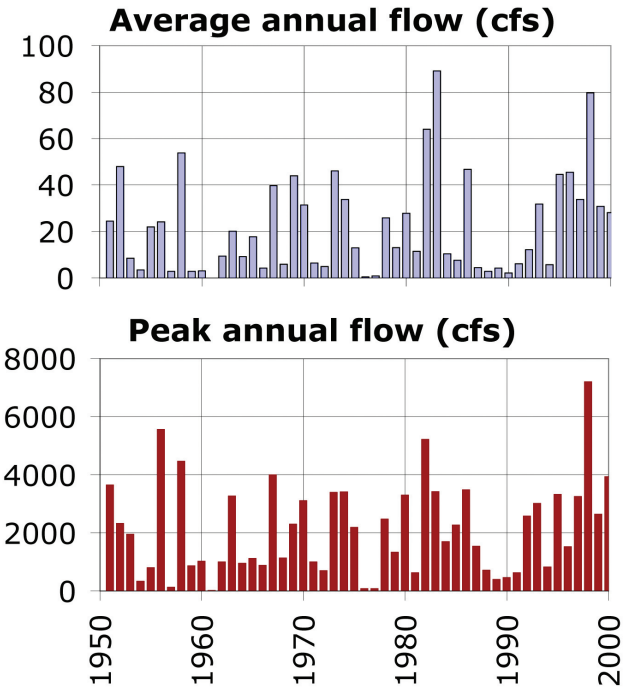
Source: Western Regional Climate Center

WATER FLOWS FOR SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK

The average annual flow is approximately 21 cfs, meaning that roughly 5 billion gallons of water pass through the San Francisquito Creek each year.

Both average and peak annual flows vary dramatically from year to year.

All flows were measured at the U.S. Geological Survey gauge — location shown on map at left. Peak and average annual flows are reported according to the water year calendar (October 1 - September 30).

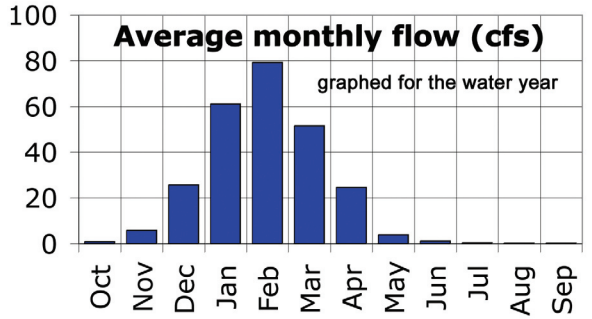


TOP FIVE HISTORIC PEAK FLOWS *

1 February 3, 1998 • **7200** cfs
2 December 22, 1955 • **5560** cfs
3 January 4, 1982 • **5220** cfs
4 December 31, 2005 • **4840** cfs
5 April 2, 1958 • **4460** cfs

* For the period of record (1931-40, 1951-present).

Flows vary through the year. The highest flows occur in mid-winter, and flow falls nearly to zero in summer.



Definitions & Abbreviations

Flow: the rate of water flow (volume/unit time) passing a given cross section of a stream, usually measured in cubic feet per second (cfs).

Average monthly flow: Average of all flow measurements collected during a given month.

Average annual flow: Average of all flow measurements collected during a given water year.

Peak annual flow: Highest flow reading taken in a given water year; annual maximum, instantaneous flow measurement.

Water year: October 1 to September 30.

1 cubic foot: approximately 7.5 gallons



USGS weir / gauging station. *For more information about flows in the San Francisquito watershed, visit the U.S. Geological Survey at http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/ca/nwis.*

Photo by Jim Johnson.