

11 Inches of Rain Recorded In Week At Diablo Station

Extraordinary rainfall—a total of approximately 11 inches—was recorded by the weather station at Diablo for the week ending October 27. Heaviest rainfall was recorded on October 24, with 6.49 inches of precipitation, and October 25, with 2.21 inches.

Rocky Creek bridge and the Van Horn bridge on the highway to Rockport were temporarily out of service, and flood waters covered the road to a depth of two feet at Bacon Creek. The Sutter Creek bridge of the Skagit railway was closed to traffic.

Residents of Marblemount, Newhalem, Diablo and Ross Dam were marooned for three days, while every available City Light man worked to get traffic lines open. Repairs were made and travel resumed over both highway and railroad by Sunday, October 28.

The water in back of Ross Dam was raised 18.5 feet, to the maximum height possible with the present construction. This impounded 25,660 acre feet of water and took the peak off the flood which descended on the Skagit valley from the drainage area below the dam.

Enough flood water was stopped by Ross Dam to cover 25,000 acres of land more than a foot deep, had it not been held back, said City Light officials. Completion of the second step of the dam, now under construction, will create an even more effective flood control, company officials pointed out.