

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Flood damage in the Willamette Valley was widespread and amounted to about \$8.7 million. Two lives were lost as a direct result of the flood. Losses undoubtedly would have been much higher had it not been for the flood-control reservoirs and protective bank works. The Eugene-Springfield area on the Willamette River main stem, Cottage Grove on the Coast Fork, and agricultural lands along the Middle Fork Willamette and North Santiam Rivers were protected from significant inundation by reservoirs, and in all other areas below reservoirs greater damages were prevented. Reduction of stages on the main stem was especially effective in reducing residential, industrial, and commercial property damage since such properties are generally at altitudes affected only by high floods.

Of the total damage, 62 percent was agricultural; 17 percent was to flood control and navigation facilities; 14 percent was residential, commercial, and industrial; and 7 percent was damage to railroads, utilities, highways, schools, and other property.

Table 7 summarizes flood damage by main-stem river reaches or tributary basins under five categories. The data were originally compiled by the Corps of Engineers, Portland District, under 14 categories but they have been combined to conform to the classifications described in table 2. Damage to navigation facilities, which was not a factor in the Great Basin discussion, is included under the public-facilities category.

TABLE 7.—*Flood damage in Willamette Valley, Oregon, December 1955 and January 1956*

[Compiled by Corps of Engineers, Portland District]

Stream basin	Flood damage in dollars					
	Agricul- tural	Res- idential	Com- mercial	Industrial and Utilities	Public facilities	Total
Middle Fork Willamette River.....		24, 210	27, 310	25, 240	75, 200	151, 960
Coast Fork Willamette River.....	30, 000				78, 500	108, 500
McKenzie River.....	306, 850	8, 850	11, 660	31, 250	244, 800	603, 410
Willamette River mainstem, Albany and above.....	806, 320	660	11, 020	19, 630	311, 910	1, 149, 540
Long Tom River and Amazon Creek.....	174, 140	70, 000	25, 000	15, 000	236, 290	520, 430
Marys River and West Muddy Creek.....	49, 470					49, 470
East Muddy Creek.....	49, 050				500	49, 550
Calapooya River.....	144, 420	3, 600		59, 950	23, 600	231, 570
Willamette River mainstem below Albany.....	1, 083, 000	23, 220	20, 230	491, 400	484, 430	2, 102, 280
South Santiam River.....	313, 400	4, 500	7, 500	2, 000	164, 000	491, 400
Santiam River.....	254, 350				69, 700	324, 050
Luckiamute River.....	159, 530			1, 600	29, 480	190, 610
Rickreall Creek.....	13, 250	29, 440	4, 220	26, 920	10, 130	83, 960
Yamhill River.....	326, 160	19, 330	2, 710	100, 600	107, 690	556, 490
Molalla River.....	66, 080	2, 900		500	42, 470	111, 950
Pudding River.....	517, 910		900		2, 300	521, 110
Tualatin River.....	1, 004, 250	93, 780	13, 900	18, 810	62, 330	1, 233, 070
Clackamas River.....	3, 060	140			28, 150	31, 350
Johnson Creek.....	5, 100	50, 200	22, 380	9, 840	19, 650	107, 170
Total.....	5, 396, 340	330, 830	146, 830	802, 740	1, 991, 130	8, 667, 870