

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
Bureau of Indian Affairs

WATER RIGHTS STUDIES

RAMONA
INDIAN RESERVATION

Within Watershed of
Santa Margarita River, California

SACRAMENTO AREA OFFICE
Leonard M. Hill, Area Director
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Water Rights Studies

Ramona Indian Reservation

Reservation History

This reservation was first established February 10, 1893. An unnumbered trust patent was issued to the Ramona Band of Mission Indians for about 560 acres of land. Following is an excerpt from the "Smiley Commission Report". 1/

"Ramona

"We recommend that the following lands be set aside as a reservation to be called Ramona, viz: The South-west quarter (1/4) of the South-east quarter (1/4) and the South-east quarter (1/4) of the South-west quarter (1/4) of Section thirty (30); the West one-half (1/2) of the North-east quarter (1/4) and the South-east quarter (1/4) of the North-east quarter (1/4), and the North-east quarter (1/4) of the South-east quarter (1/4) of Section Thirty-one (31); the North half (1/2) of South-west quarter (1/4) and the South-east quarter (1/4) of the South-west quarter (1/4) and the South half (1/2) of South-east quarter (1/4), Section thirty-two (32); and the South-west quarter (1/4) of the South-west quarter (1/4), Section thirty-three (33); all in Township six (6) South Range Three (3) East, S. B. M.; also the North-west quarter (1/4) of the North-west quarter (1/4) of Section four (4), and the North-east quarter (1/4) of the North-east quarter (1/4) of Section five (5); all in Township seven (7) South, Range three (3) East, S. B. M.

"There are three families comfortably situated on these lands which are valuable as grazing lands; they have a good water supply."

Population

There is no known resident population on this reservation.

The members of the Ramona Band and their heirs have not been determined.

1/ Report to the Secretary of the Interior, File No. 34993-198 Rec. May 25, 1908. The Smiley Commission was authorized by the Congress under the provisions of the Act of Jan. 12, 1891 (26 Stat. 712) to recommend the setting aside of lands or reservations for the various bands of Mission Indians. The report and recommendations of the Commission were approved December 29, 1891.

Therefore, it is not known at this time who may be entitled to interests in these lands.

Land Classification

There are 321 acres of the Ramona Indian Reservation which lie within the Santa Margarita Watershed. This area is shown on the map entitled "Land Classification" and includes the following:

Class I Soils	0 Acres
Class II Soils	81 "
Class III Soils	19 "
Class IV Soils	4 "
Class VI, VII, VIII Soils	<u>217</u> "
Total	321 Acres

Present Use of Irrigation Water

No works have been constructed and no irrigation has been practiced on this reservation.

Water Supply

The present water supply is the annual rainfall which approximates 23 inches per annum. Of this amount, the relatively sparse native vegetation and evaporation use about 16 inches and the remainder is both surface and underground runoff. There are two good springs on this reservation which are used for stock watering purposes.

Water Requirements

The agricultural area of the Ramona Indian Reservation in the Santa Margarita Watershed, which is 104 acres and includes the Class

II, III, and IV lands, is most adaptable to the cropping pattern designed for the Coahuilla Reservation. This pattern requires 1.74 acre feet per acre for consumptive use in addition to the natural rainfall. With an efficiency of 67%, the average diversion requirement of irrigation water will be 2.61 acre feet per acre. For the 104 acres, the maximum total water requirement for irrigation will be 271 acre feet per annum. The non-agricultural water requirements are estimated to be 1% of the agricultural requirements. Therefore, the total water requirements will be 274 acre feet per annum. Based upon irrigated pasture, the maximum diversion requirement per acre will be 4.0 acre feet per annum. Reference is made to the enclosed table entitled "Lands Susceptible to Irrigation and Computed Irrigation Water Requirements for Indian Lands within Santa Margarita Watershed".

Further development of the reservation lands in the Santa Margarita Watershed will require the importing of water to supplement the normal rainfall and the springs in order to assure a dependable water supply for irrigation and other purposes.

Annotations

The United States Navy aerial photographs of Ramona Reservation were used in this study on which are shown the classifications of the reservation lands within and outside of the Santa Margarita Watershed.

The soil surveys and land classifications were made by a team headed by Everett Randall, Soil Scientist, Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Surveys and classifications were checked by Lt. Col. A. C. Bowen, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, California.

The water requirements were computed by Wayne D. Criddle, Consultant, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The location maps and engineering surveys were provided by Milton A. Logsdon, Irrigation Engineer, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The narration and overall supervision of this study were by Lyle F. Warnock, General Engineer, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Lands Susceptible to Irrigation
and
Computed Irrigation Water Requirements
for Indian Lands within
Santa Margarita Watershed

TABLE NO. 3

Location	Gross Areas Mapped	Net Agricultural Areas	Average Unit sumptive Use	Average Unit Con- version Reqmts	Average Unit Di- version Reqmts	Normal Project Diversion Re- quirements	Probable Max. Unit Diversion Reqmts
	1/ Acres	Acres	2/ Ac.ft./Ac	3/ Ac.ft./ac	4/ Acres	Ac.ft./Ac	5/ Ac.ft./Ac
Coahuilla Reservation	17292	12400	1.74	2.61	(324) 32688	4.2	
Ramona Reservation	321	104	1.74	2.61	(3) 274	4.2	
Pechanga Reservation					(84) 4306	4.2	
Area "A"	3552	1463	1.94	2.89	(10) 506	4.2	
Area "B"	235	177	1.88	2.80	(1) 85	4.2	
Public Domain Allotment	40	21	2.71	4.0	(422)	4.2	
Totals	21440	14165	--	--	37859	4.2	

1/ From Soils Survey Field Sheets
2/ Based upon diversified cropping pattern
3/ Area efficiency - 67%
4/ Total includes non-agricultural uses of 1% except for Pechanga Reservation where 2% was included
5/ Suggested uniform maximum unit diversion rate.

