

Note that the flow axis is logarithmic.

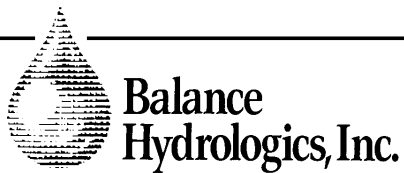
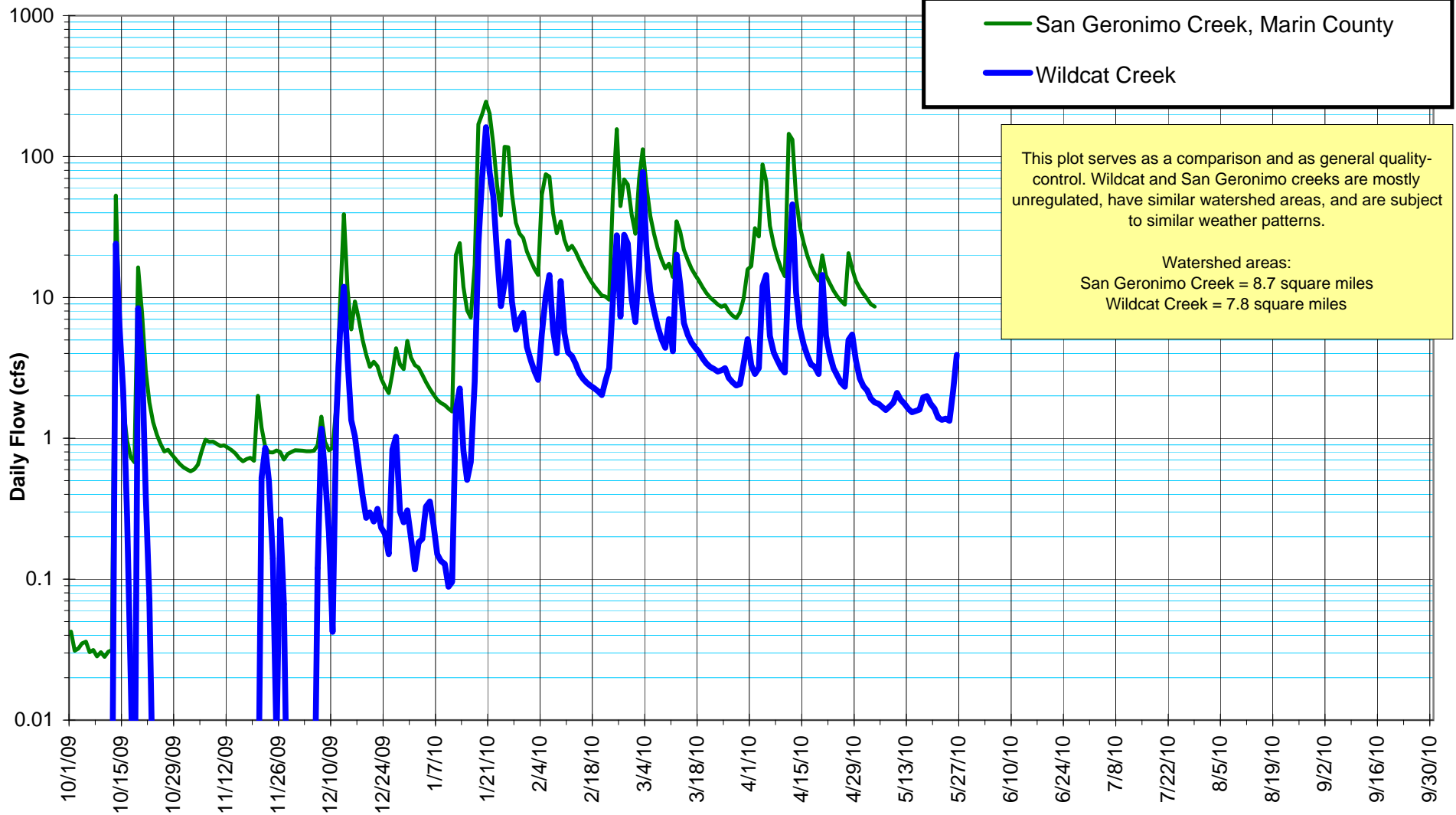


Figure 1. Daily flow hydrograph: Wildcat Creek at Vale Road, water year 2010. The peak flow for the water year was approximately 884 cfs, at 10:45 on January 20, 2010. Baseflow increased over the course of the year to be more persistent, compared to the three previous dry years. Spring baseflow was augmented by late-season rain.

preliminary and subject to revision

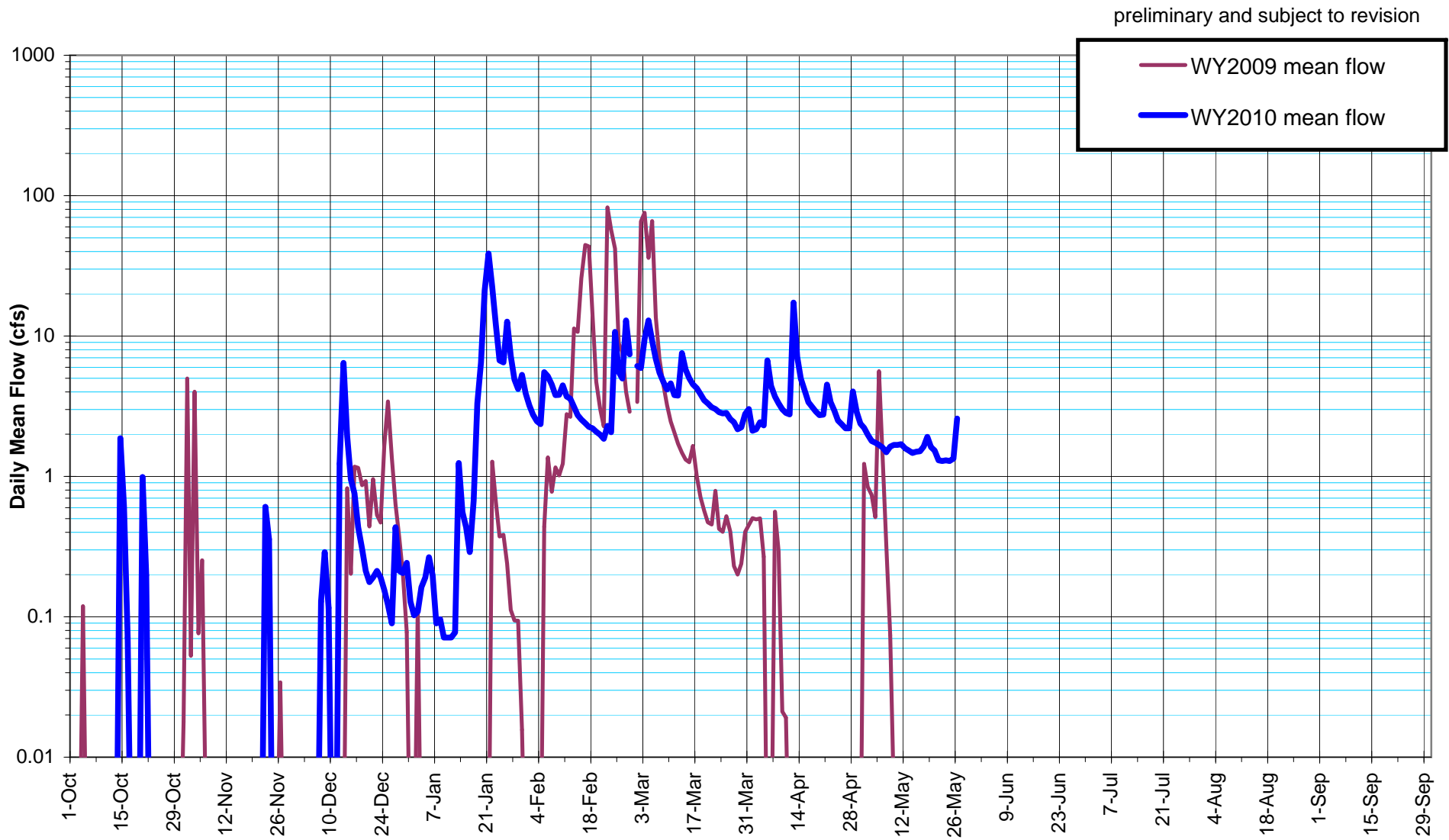


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Figure 2. Daily flow hydrograph: Wildcat Creek compared to San Geronimo Creek, water year 2010. Wildcat Creek dried up between the fall storms, while some other creeks maintained baseflow between those storms.



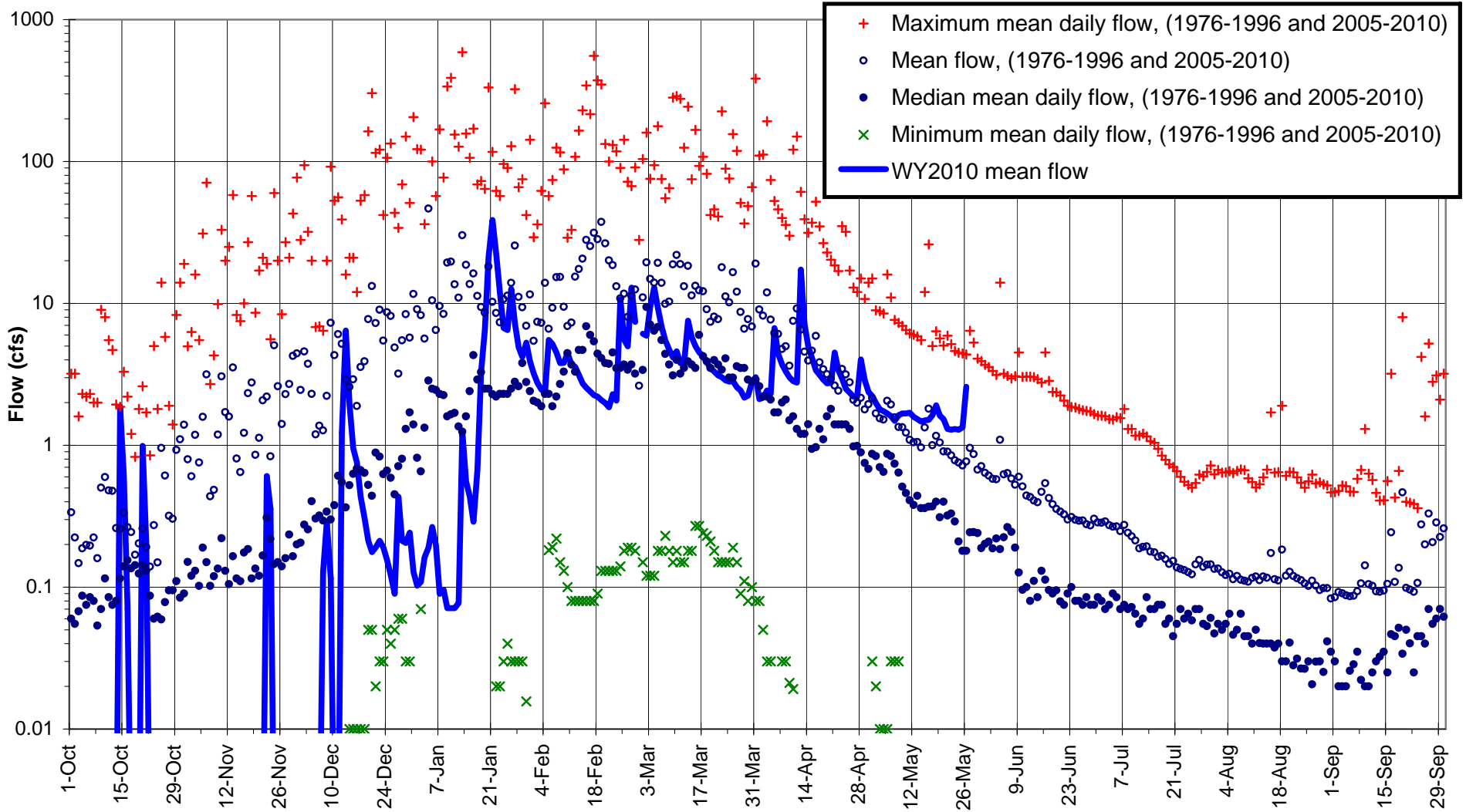
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Figure 3. Mean daily flow hydrograph water year 2010 compared to 2009: Wildcat Creek at Vale Road. Fall and early-winter baseflow levels were similarly low for both water years. Late-winter and spring baseflow is higher for water year 2010.

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Figure 4. Water year 2010 compared to the range of mean daily flow over previous years:

Wildcat Creek at Vale Road. Baseflow in the fall of 2009 was well below average, but baseflow increased to become similar to median values after January 20, 2010. Continued rains have augmented spring baseflow levels.

preliminary and subject to revision

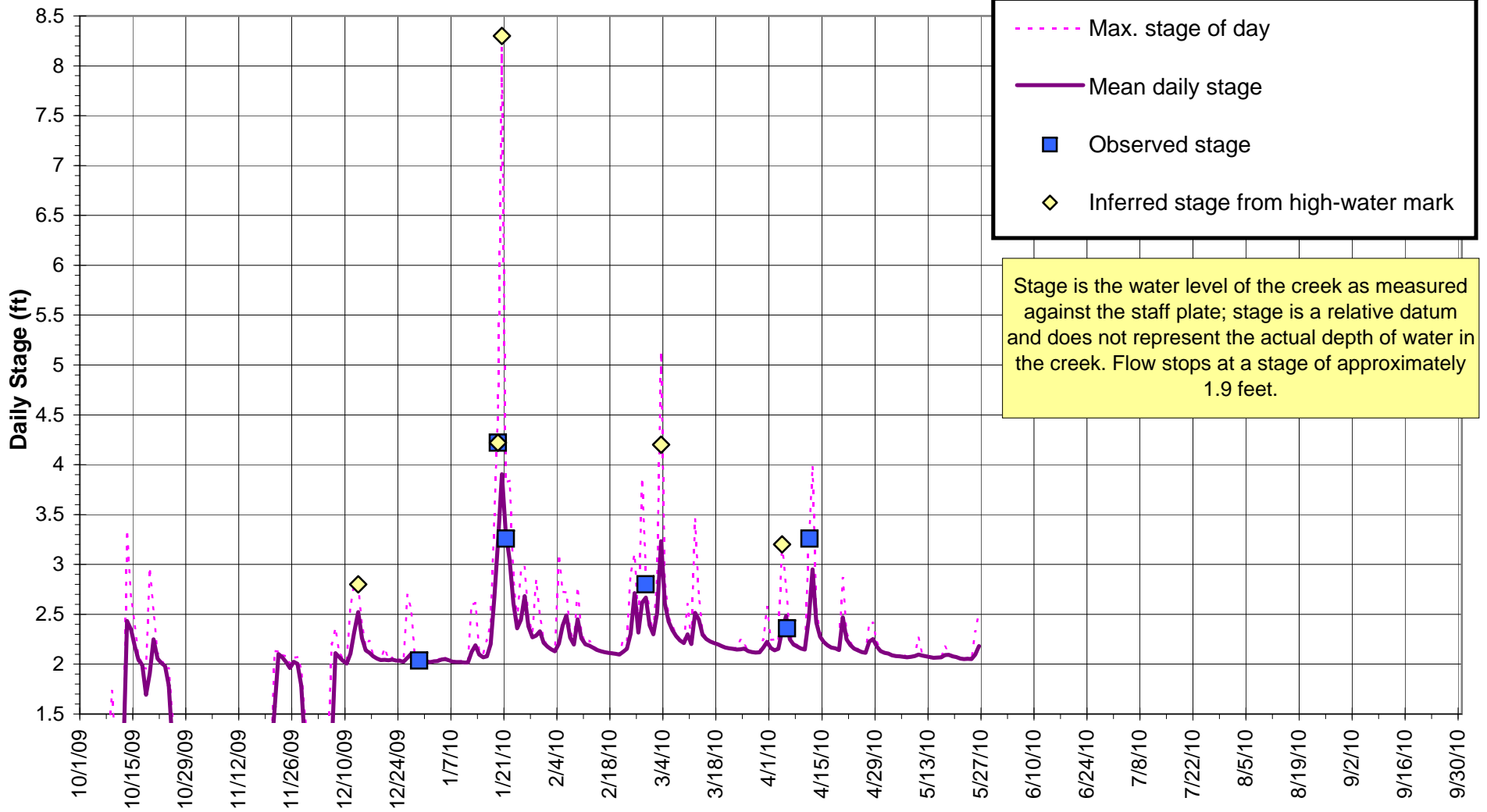


Figure 5. Daily stage hydrograph: Wildcat Creek at Vale Road, water year 2010. The peak stage of the largest storm (January 20, 2010) was significantly higher than the other storms of the year.



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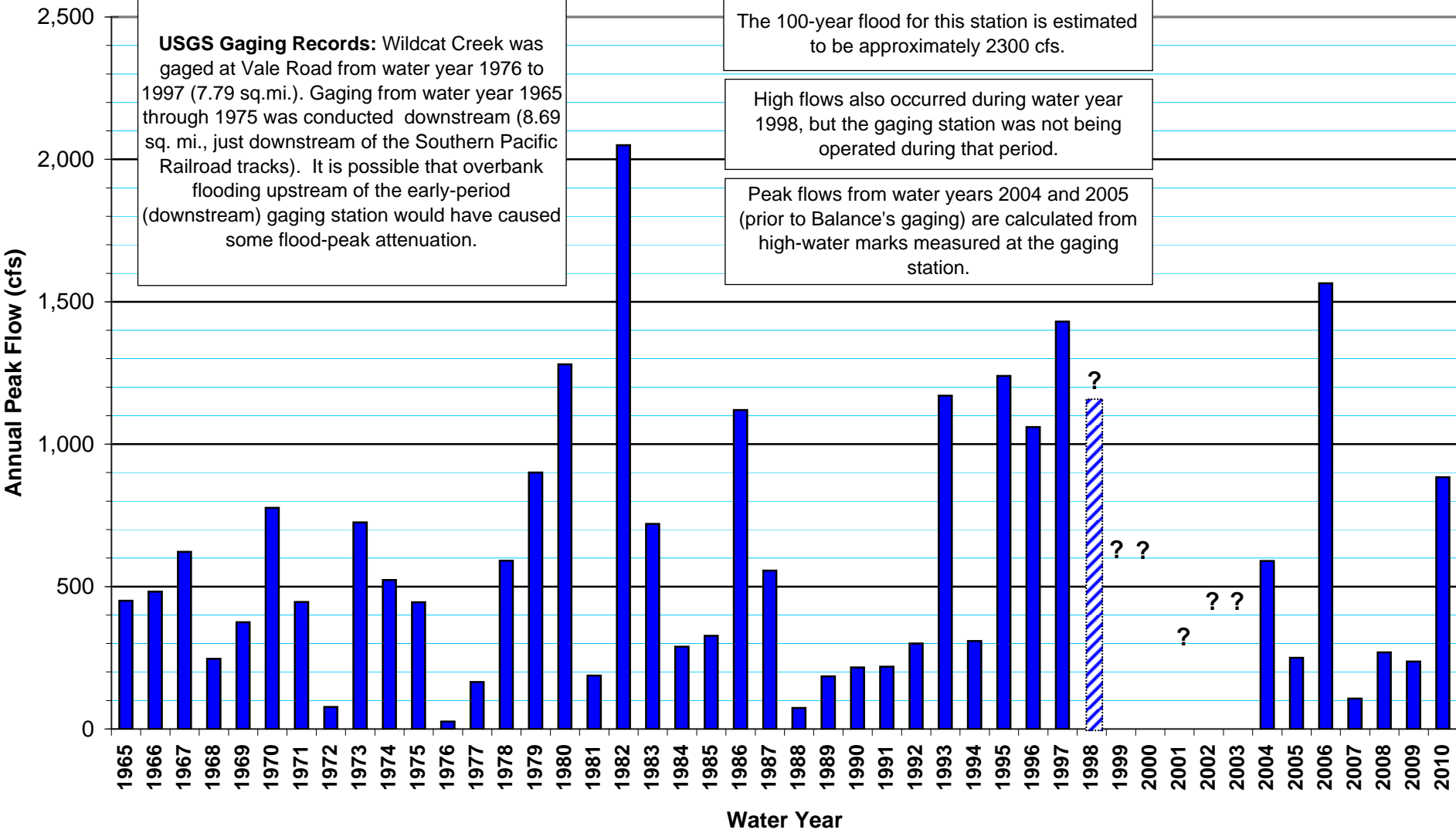
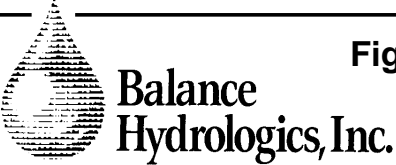


Figure 6. Annual peak flows: Wildcat Creek Contra Costa County, California. Flooding inundated streets and homes in the cities of Richmond and San Pablo during the peak flows of water years 1982, 1997, 1998, and 2006. As far as we know, no flooding occurred during water year 2010.



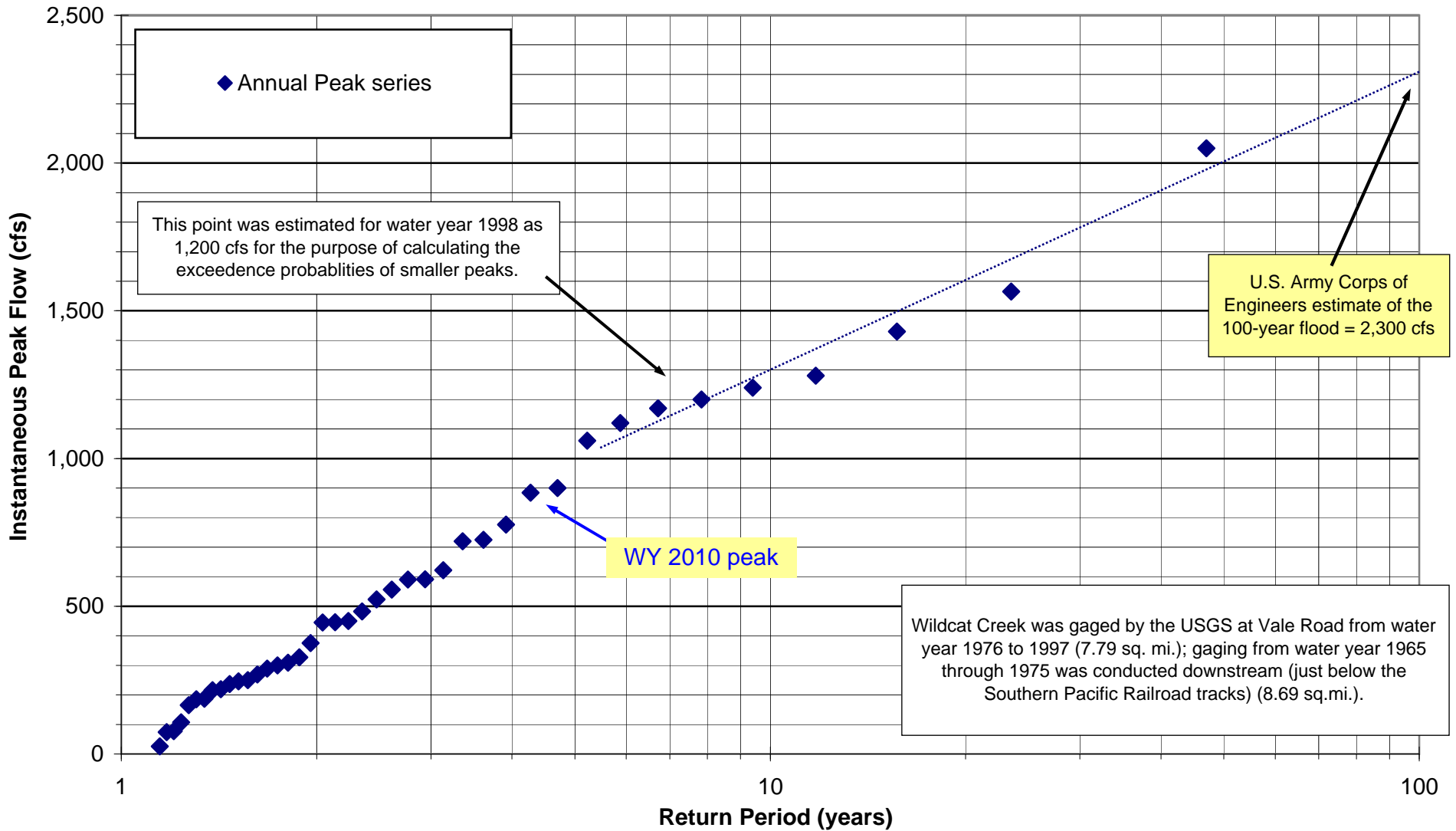


Figure 7. Return periods of peak flows: Wildcat Creek, Contra Costa County, California.

The peak flows that have occurred over the period of gaging are ranked and then plotted based on their calculated return period (a measure of how frequently a flood of that size will recur). Based on these rankings of peak flows, the water year 2010 peak flow was between a 4- and 5-year peak flow.



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