Evaporation from Deep Creek Lake

by Pete Versteegen

The question has come up as to how much evaporation there is from the lake surface.

There is no specific data for Deep Creek Lake, but there is data for the Savage River Reservoir

From: Table 1, p.34 of NOAA Technical Report NWS 34 Mean Monthly, Seasonal, and Annual Pan Evaporation for the United States

Washington, D.C. December 1982,

The mean monthly Class A Pan evaporation, in inches, is: Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct 5. 5.42 5.8 5.98 5.36 4.17 2.72

The coefficient of variation (standard deviation/mean) for these means are: Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct *** 9 6 10 13 18 11

This data represents average values from 11 to 37 years of record. The summarized data was extracted from measurements made during 1956-1970.

The sum of these numbers is 34.46 inches.

The seasonal (May-Oct) average is 29.46 inches .

Deep Creek Lake and Savage River Reservoir are very likely to be similar in their evaporation characteristics.

Assuming that they are similar, the actual lake evaporation is roughly 0.70 to 0.75 times the pan evaporation.

Thus, Deep Creek Lake can expect to loose about 0.75*34.46 = 25.8 inches of water via evaporation, or about 2.2 ft per year.

Casting these numbers in inches/day gives:

The mean daily evaporation form the lake, in inches/day, is: Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct 0.09 0.13 0.15 0.15 0.13 0.1 0.066

PLV: 12/24/2013