

**BENDER WASH
FCD GAGE ID# 6963**

STATION DESCRIPTION

LOCATION - The gage is located approximately eight miles east of Gila Bend along I-8. Latitude 32° 54' 25" North; Longitude 112° 33' 05" West. Located in NE1/4 S15 T6S R3W, in the Bosque 7.5-minute quadrangle.

ESTABLISHMENT - The gage was installed on May 12, 2004

DRAINAGE AREA – Approximately 68.8 mi²

GAGE - The gage is a pressure transducer type instrument. The PT diaphragm is at gage height 3.05 feet, levels of May 12, 2004. The PT is on the right bank of the wash.

There are two crest gages located at the site on the right bank of the wash. The lower crest gage is operated by the USGS. It has a pin elevation of 4.05 feet gage height. The District operates the upper crest gage. It has a pin elevation of 6.60 feet gage height, levels of May 12, 2004.

There are no staff gages at this site.

ZERO GAGE HEIGHT – Zero gage height is defined as a point 3.05 feet below the level of the transducer. Datum is based upon USGS datum.

HISTORY – Gaging established by the USGS on September 7, 1963 at a location about 0.65 miles downstream. Gage moved to present site on August 26, 1966. Gage discontinued from October 1, 1979 to October 31, 1990. Reactivated on October 31, 1990. District established an ALERT gage at the location on May 12, 2004.

REFERENCE MARKS

RM-BENDER is an FCD brass cap located inside the fence on the top of the right bank, generally in line with the crest-stage gages. Elevation 13.44 feet gage height, levels of May 12, 2004.

RP-1 is the top of the PT mounting bracket (sign rail) to which the PT housing is attached. Elevation 3.90 feet gage height, levels of May 12, 2004.

CHANNEL AND CONTROL - The sand-bed channel at the gage is straight and constricted by a steep bedrock outcrop on left bank and the freeway on the right bank. The control is a rock outcrop crossing the channel diagonally from the left bank downstream to the

right bank. The control is located in a man-made constriction and should be stable except for low flows when siftings result due to movement of sediment and channel work by man.

RATING - The current rating is USGS rating #3, dated May 22, 1992

DISCHARGE MEASUREMENTS - Direct measurements could be made by wading in the area near the gage. Higher flows can be measured by indirect methods. The gage itself is located in a suitable indirect reach.

POINT OF ZERO FLOW - The low point in the gage cross section of the channel was found at 2.82 feet gage height, levels of May 12, 2004.

FLOODS – None recorded by FCDMC gage. The USGS recorded a peak flood of 10.78 feet gage height and 8,250 cfs on September 7, 2002.

REGULATION - None known

DIVERSIONS - None known

ACCURACY - Poor (USGS)

JUSTIFICATION - Monitor flows in the wash for early notification to the town of Gila Bend.

UPDATED - July 13, 2011
 D E Gardner