Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Board of Directors Regular Meeting Agenda

February 27, 2025 2:00 p.m. Inyo County Water Department 135 S. Jackson St. Independence, CA 93526

All members of the public are encouraged to participate in the discussion of any items on the Agenda. Members of the public will be allowed to speak about each agenda item before the Board of Directors takes action on it. Any member of the public may also make comments during the scheduled "Public Comment" period on this agenda concerning any subject related to the Board of Directors or the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority.

Public Notice: In Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact Laura Piper at (760) 878-0001. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the OVGA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Should you because of a disability require alternative formatting of this agenda, please notify Laura Piper 72 hours prior to the meeting to enable the OVGA to make the agenda available in a reasonable alternative format. (Government Code Section 54954.2).

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority will conduct this meeting in person at the Inyo County Water Department located at 135 South Jackson St. in Independence, CA. The public may attend in person or via a Zoom webinar. This in-person meeting will be conducted in accordance with local and State Department of Public Health orders and guidance and requirement of the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CalOSHA).

The Zoom webinar is accessible to the public at: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88342542165?pwd=PvVPl5pK5QCh5cYubMswbvmYtuzjbl.1</u>

Remote participation for members of the public is provided for convenience only. In the event that the remote participation connection malfunctions for any reason, the OVGA reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access.

To join by phone, refer to the numbers and webinar ID at the bottom of the agenda. To provide public comment, at the appropriate agenda item during the meeting, press the raise your hand button in the Zoom window. Public comment also may be provided by emailing comments, limited to **250 words or less**, prior to the meeting or before the staff report for the item has ended. Efforts will be made to read your comment, but submittals longer than 250 words may not be read or may be summarized due to time limitations. All comments will be made a part of the record. Please submit a separate email for each item that you wish to comment upon to <u>lpiper@inyocounty.us</u>, and identify in the subject line of the email which agenda item the comment addresses.

OPEN SESSION (With the exception of timed items, all open-session items may be considered at any time and in any order during the meeting at the Board's discretion.)

- 1. Pledge of allegiance
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Public comment

- 4. Approval of minutes from the July 18, 2024, OVGA Board meeting
- 5. Election of OVGA Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2025-26
- 6. Board member reports
- 7. OVGA staff reports
 - a. Financial report
 - b. Form 700 reminder
- 8. Updating the Conflict of Interest code
- 9. Approval of Amendment #1 to the Executive Manager Staff Services Contract to update staff hourly rates
- 10. Presentation of draft 2025-26 OVGA budget and consideration of a final budget
- 11. Fish Slough Sub-Basin GSP
- 12. Ordinance 2022-01 Well Registration Program update
- 13. Water Year 2023 OVGA Annual Report
- 14. Meeting schedule
- 15. Adjourn

Join the February 27, 2025, OVGA webinar:

Or One tap mobile :

+16694449171,,86378470348#,,,,*297048# US

- +16699006833,,86378470348#,,,,*297048# US (San Jose)
- Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Webinar ID: 883 4254 2165 Passcode: 102812 International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kqIfbhlQI



Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Board Members:

BryAnna Vaughan
Mel Joseph
Mary Roper

July 18, 2024

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at approximately 2:15 pm at the Inyo County Water Department, Independence, CA.

1. Pledge of allegiance

Mary Roper led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with one member absent, BryAnna Vaughan.

3. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

4. Approval of minutes from the March 14, 2024 OVGA Board meeting

Motion to approve the March 14, 2024 minutes by Luis Elias, seconded by Mel Joseph. Motion passed.

5. Board Member Reports

Mel Joseph reported on the Tribal Youth Camp and gave updates on the recent Lone Pine Fire. Karen Kong stated she is up for re-election.

6. OVGA Staff Reports

a. Financial Report

Laura Piper provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$309,444.97 with revenue of \$1,788.56, total expenses of \$12,109.00 which included public liability insurance, website services, and consultant costs.

b. Inyo County Drought Response Plan

Dr. Alpert provided an update on the Inyo County Drought Response Plan. The County is leading the preparation of a Drought Response Plan in response to SB 552 (2021). SB552 requires counties to develop drought response plans that assess risk and propose short- and long-term strategies for mitigating drought. We are currently in the risk assessment phase of the planning project. A draft of the DRP should be complete by the beginning of the year. Staff will make the plan available to the Board, and the Board may wish to submit public comment.

7. Ordinance 2022-01 Well Registration Program update

Tim Moore provided a brief overview on the progress of the well registration program, stated 25% have complied with the request, and thirteen well registrations were received by the April 1, 2024 deadline. There was discussion among the Board and staff about reaching out again to those that have not submitted. Tim will provide a color-coded list to guide Board outreach.

8. Water Year 2022 OVGA Annual Report

a. Discuss response to public comments.

Holly provided an introduction to this item stating the draft report went to the Board in March, public comments closed on 4-26-24 and the responses to public comments were made and included in the report. Mel Joseph stated in Section 3.2 it should be added that 2023 was a high-water year. Tim Moore stated he would include that in the document. Mel also questions why some data was not included in the report, Tim Moore stated it was not provided to DBS&A in a usable format at that time. Karen Kong stated she wanted to discuss B-3, public accessibility and requested in the future, could a summary be written so that lay people could understand. Mary Roper stated on figure 4 & 5 of the maps is it possible to indicate Independence/Big Pine on the map to make it clearer for location purposes. Tim Moore provided an explanation of the difficulty in fitting all that data on the one sheet to be legible. Luis Elias made reference to Owens Lake Bed for reference also.

b. Action Item: Approve submittal of revised WY2022 Annual Report to DWR Motion made by Mel Joseph to approve the submittal of the revised WY2022 Annual Report to DWR with the discussed changes, second by Mary Roper. Motion Passed.

9. Water Year 2023 OVGA Annual Report

- May 3, 2024 letter from DWR concerning WY2023 Annual Report
 Dr. Alpert referred to a letter received from DWR regarding the 2023 Annual Report. She reminded them we are a voluntary GSP and are working to catch up and has not received a response.
- b. Tim Moore provided the status on the 2023 Annual Report, is currently working on getting data into the OVGA data management system with a possible draft in November 2024. Karen Kong asked if the Fish Slough data would be included. Tim Moore stated it would be left in to avoid confusion for the Dept of Water Resources and stated the data is sparse for that area. Dr. Alpert stated the Water Department is currently overseeing a contract for Mono County and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District for groundwater modeling. Edie Trimmer stated part of Fish Slough is south of the Inyo/Mono County line, will the OVGA have any responsibility for the part in Inyo County. Dr Alpert stated yes. Tri Valley would only be responsible for the Mono County portion. John Vallejo stated there are wells down gradient that in theory could affect the Fish Slough area, some are LADWP wells managed by the Long-Term Water Agreement which are excluded from our jurisdiction, but there are private wells. The Board and staff discussed this item in detail.

10. Meeting schedule

The Board and staff discussed a possible late fall/early 2025 meeting to review the 2023 annual report.

11. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:10 pm.

 COUNTY OF INYO
 Short
 [T R A N S A C T I O N
 L I S T I N G]
 07/01/2024 - 02/10/2025
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 TUE, FEB 18, 2025,
 2:24 PM --req: MSILVAS--leg: GL ---loc: AUD-----job:3823039 J8373---prog: GL440 <1.61>--report id: GLFLTR02

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT FUND: 6272

							a 11 h	5771F1
Lg BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description		Ref Date		Debit	Credit	NET
							0.00	309,283.57
GL 621601-1000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2023-2024		07/01/24		309,283.57 1,939.66	0.00	311,223.23
GL 621601-1000	INTROBL	AutoID: JH24722C Job: 3694762 AutoID: JM24716B Job: 3690904				1,939.00	9,384.73	301,838.50
GL 621601-1000	JE47379	AutoID: JM24716B Job: 3690904 AutoID: JM24724B Job: 3697675				0.00	4,500.00	297,338.50
GL 621601-1000	JE47433			08/14/24		0.00	1,344.00	295,994.50
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH TTLOH	AutoID:0B24813L Job:3711764 AutoID:SW24919C Job:3735577		09/20/24		0.00	3,705.00	292,289.50
GL 621601-1000		AutoID: JH24C23C Job: 3755369				2,416.05	0.00	294,705.55
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST TTLOH	AutoID: SW24N19I Job: 3772719		11/21/24		0.00	4,980.00	289,725.55
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: 0W25205B Job: 3816139				1,618.60	0.00	291,344.15
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: 0w25205B 00D: 3810139 AutoID:MS24D30F Job:3793714		01/02/25		0.00	12,081.00	279,263.15
GL 621601-1000 GL 621601-1000	JE48569	AutoID: JS25114C Job: 3802842				0.00	11,014.43	268,248.72
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: SW25114F Job: 3802642		01/15/25		0.00	2,688.00	265,560.72
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:MS25121C Job:3806927		01/22/25		0.00	4,000.00	261,560.72
*****Total *OBJT 1000	TITON	CLAIM ON CASH	011	01/22/25	DR	315,257.88	53,697.16	261,560.72
******TOLAI *UBJI 1000		CLAIM ON CASH			DR	515,257.00	33,037,120	202,0001.2
GL 621601-1160	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2023-2024	JE	07/01/24	03789750	1,939.66	0.00	1,939.66
GL 621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th OTR INTEREST RVRS	JE	07/15/24	03694762	0.00	1,939.66	0.00
*****Total *OBJT 1160	1	INTEREST RECEIVABLE			DR	1,939.66	1,939.66	0.00
10041 0201 1200								
GL 621601-1200	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2023-2024	JE	07/01/24	03789750	2,451.00	0.00	2,451.00
GL 621601-1200	2425 PREPAID	MA13910:GOLDEN STATE RISK MANA	JE	07/08/24	03683176	0.00	2,451.00	0.00
******Total *OBJT 1200		PREPAID EXPENSES			DR	2,451.00	2,451.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:0B24813L Job:3711112		08/13/24		0.00	1,344.00	1,344.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:0B24813L Job:3711764		08/14/24		1,344.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW24919C Job:3735276		09/19/24		0.00	3,705.00	3,705.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW24919C Job:3735577		09/20/24		3,705.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW24N19I Job:3771404		11/19/24		0.00	4,980.00	4,980.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW24N19I Job:3772719		11/21/24		4,980.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:MS24D30F Job:3793259		12/30/24		0.00	12,081.00	12,081.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:MS24D30F Job:3793714		01/02/25		12,081.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW25114F Job:3803289		01/14/25		0.00	2,688.00	2,688.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW25114F Job:3803678		01/15/25		2,688.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:MS25121C Job:3805741		01/21/25		0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:MS25121C Job:3806927	OH	01/22/25		4,000.00	0.00	0.00
******Total *OBJT 2000		ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			CR	28,798.00	28,798.00	0.00
AT 601 601 2000		1. Balance Forward 2023-2024	TE	07/01/24	03700750	0.00	313,674.23	313,674.23
GL 621601-3000	YEAREND			07/01/24	CR	0.00	313,674.23	313,674.23
*****Total *OBJT 3000		FUND BALANCE AVAILAB	나뜨		CR	0.00	515,074.25	515,074.25
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	1ST OTR 24/25 INTEREST	गर	09/30/24	03755369	0.00	2,416.05	2,416.05
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	2ND OTR 24/25 INTEREST		12/31/24		0.00	1,618.60	4,034.65
*****Total *OBJT 4301	INTEREDI	INTEREST FROM TREASU		12/51/21	CR	0.00	4,034.65	4,034.65
					<u>ert</u>		-,	
GL 621601-5155	2425 PREPAID	MA13910:GOLDEN STATE RISK MANA	JE	07/08/24	03683176	2,451.00	0.00	2,451.00
*****Total *OBJT 5155		PUBLIC LIABILITY INS			DR	2,451.00	0.00	2,451.00
GL 621601-5265	270863	DANIEL B STEPHE P# DB23.1300.0				1,344.00	0.00	1,344.00
GL 621601-5265	271656	DANIEL B STEPHE P# DB23.1300.0	OH	09/19/24	03735276	3,705.00	0.00	5,049.00
GL 621601-5265	272215R	DANIEL B STEPHE P# DB23.1300.0				528.00	0.00	5,577.00
GL 621601-5265	272897R	DANIEL B STEPHE P# DB23.1300.0	OH	11/19/24	03771404	4,452.00	0.00	10,029.00

 COUNTY OF INYO
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 TUE, FEB 18, 2025, 2:24 PM --req: MSILVAS---leg: GL ----loc: AUD-----job:3823039 J8373----prog: GL440 <1.61>--report id: GLFLTR02

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT FUND: 6272

Lg BUDG	JET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction	n Description	SS Ref Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
== ====									============
GL 6216	501-5265	274010	DANIEL B ST	TEPHE P# DB23.1300.	0 OH 12/30/24	03793259	12,081.00	0.00	22,110.00
GL 6216	501-5265	274233	DANIEL B ST	TEPHE P# DB23.1300.	0 OH 01/14/25	03803289	2,688.00	0.00	24,798.00
GL 6216	501-5265	274335	DANIEL B ST	TEPHE P# DBMS.00	OH 01/21/25	03805741	4,000.00	0.00	28,798.00
****T	Cotal *OBJT 5265		1	PROFESSIONAL & SPEC	CIAL SERVICE	DR	28,798.00	0.00	28,798.00
GL 6216	501-5539	JE47379	JAN-JUN24 (OVGA STAFF SVCS	JE 07/16/24	03690904	9,384.73	0.00	9,384.73
		JE47433	FY24/25 OV	GA STAFF SVCS	JE 07/24/24	03697675	4,500.00	0.00	13,884.73
GL 6216	501-5539	JE48569	JUL-DEC24 (OVGA STAFF SVCS	JE 01/14/25	03802842	11,014.43	0.00	24,899.16
****T	Total *OBJT 5539		C	OTHER AGENCY CONTRI	BUTIONS	DR	24,899.16	0.00	24,899.16
****T	Cotal *BUDG 621601	L	(OVGA-OWENS VALLEY G	ROUNDWATER	DR-CR	404,594.70	404,594.70	0.00
			•	** GRAND TO	T A L **	DR-CR	404,594.70	404,594.70	0.00

COUNTY OF INYO

UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCES sorted by FUND NAME

AS OF 02/10/2025

		Claim on Cash 1000	Accounts Receivable 1100,1105,1160	Loans Receivable 1140	Prepaid Expenses 1200	Accounts Payable 2000	Loans Payable 2140	Deferred Revenue 2200	Computed Fund Balance	Encumbrances	Fund Balance Undesignated
WDIR -	WATER										
6272 O	VGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATE	R 261,561				4,944			256,617	329	256,288
WDIR	Totals	261,561				4,944			256,617	329	256,288
S 	Grand Totals	261,561				4,944			256,617	329	256,288

1

COUNTY OF INYO Budget to Actuals with Encumbrances by Key/Obj

Ledger: GL

As Of 2/10/2025

Object	Description	Budget	Actual	Encumbrance	Balance	%
Key: 621601 - OV	GA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER					
Revenue						
4301	INTEREST FROM TREASURY	3,000.00	4,034.65	0.00	(1,034.65)	134.48
R	evenue Total:	3,000.00	4,034.65	0.00	(1,034.65)	134.48
Expenditure						
5129	INTERNAL COPY CHARGES (NON-IS)	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
5155	PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE	0.00	2,451.00	0.00	(2,451.00)	0.00
5263	ADVERTISING	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
5265	PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL SERVICE	35,071.00	33,742.00	329.25	999.75	97.14
5291	OFFICE, SPACE & SITE RENTAL	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00
5311	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
5539	OTHER AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS	35,910.00	24,899.16	0.00	11,010.84	69.33
5901	CONTINGENCIES	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
E	xpenditure Total:	77,231.00	61,092.16	329.25	15,809.59	79.52
6	521601 Key Total: –	(74,231.00)	(57,057.51)	(329.25)	(16,844.24)	



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

DATE: February 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #8: Updating the Conflict of Interest Code

Government Code section 87306.5 requires that the conflict of interest code (COIC) reviewing body to review its COIC each even numbered year, and if no change in the code is required, to submit a written statement to that effect. Changes are typically required when positions are added or deleted. No such changes occurred in the OVGA since it adopted the COIC, and thus, staff submitted the written statement to that effect last fall.

This item is to give your Board the opportunity to review and confirm that action since we did not have that opportunity last year, or to otherwise direct changes to the COIC. The COIC is attached.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-03

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY ANNOUNCING THE INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE AND ESTABLISHING A COMMENT PERIOD THEREFOR

WHEREAS, in accordance with state law, the Board of Directors determined that an initial Conflict of Interest Code should be adopted at this time; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with state law the Authority prepared the attached Conflict of Interest Code and Notice of Intent; and

WHEREAS, state law requires the Authority to provide a 45-day comment period before adopting said Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority that the Conflict of Interest Code attached hereto as an exhibit and incorporated herein by this reference is hereby preliminarily adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mandatory 45-day comment period begins on May 11, 2018, and ends June 25, 2018.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of May, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES 11 NOES -0-ABSTAIN -0-ABSENT -0-ATTEST

Chair

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE OF THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

SECTION 1: Conflict of Interest Code - Adopted.

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The Political Reform Act, Government Code Sections 81000 *et seq.*, requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate Conflict of Interest Codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation, 2 Cal. Code of Reg. Section 18730, which contains the terms of a standard Conflict of Interest Code. It can be incorporated by reference and may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission after public notice and hearings to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act. Therefore, the terms of 2 Cal. Code of Regs., Section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference and, along with the attached Appendix A in which officials and employees are designated and Appendix B in which disclosure categories are set forth, constitute the Conflict of Interest Code of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority, which is considered the "agency" within the purview of this Code.

SECTION 2: Statements of Economic Interest; Filing Officer.

Designated employees shall file Statements of Economic Interests with the Inyo County Clerk-Recorder, who shall be and perform the duties of Filing Officer for the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority.

APPENDIX "A"

LIST OF DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES

<u>IOB TITLE</u>	DISCLOSURE CATEGORY
Executive Manager	1
Legal Counsel*	1
Staff Advisors**	1
Consultants***	1

Se 19 - 10

* Legal Counsel means the Inyo County Counsel and/or such other legal counsel as the Authority may choose to utilize.

** "Staff Advisor" means any employee of Inyo County or other governmental agency, who acts as staff to the Authority and who makes or participates in the making of Authority decisions.

*** "Consultant" means any individual or entity meeting the definition of consultant promulgated in regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission. The Authority's Executive Manager may determine in writing that a particular consultant, although a "designated employee," is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to fully comply with the disclosure requirements described in this Appendix. Such written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and, based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The Executive Manager's determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this Conflict of Interest Code.

NOTE: Members of the Authority's Board of Directors, including Alternate Directors, are not designated within this Code because individuals occupying such positions must file disclosure statements pursuant to Government Code Section 87200.

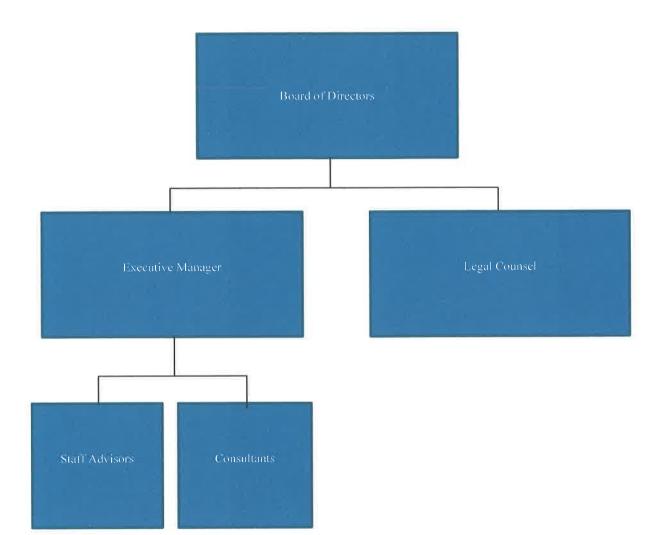
APPENDIX "B"

8 8 9 W

LIST OF DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

<u>Disclosure category</u> 1	<u>Full Disclosure</u> : Designated employees in this category are treated as mandated/statutory filers and thus must report all reportable interests in real property within the Authority's jurisdiction, as well as reportable investments, business positions and sources of income, including gifts, loans and travel payments.
2	<u>Full Disclosure Excluding Real Property Interests</u> : Designated employees in this category must report all reportable investments, business positions and sources of income, including gifts, loans and travel payments.
3	<u>Interests in Real Property</u> : Designated employees in this category must report all reportable interests in real property within the Authority's jurisdiction.
4	<u>General Contracting For Entire Authority</u> : Designated employees in this category must report all reportable investments, business positions and income, including gifts, loans and travel payments, from sources that provide leased facilities, goods, equipment, vehicles, machinery or services, including training or consulting fees, of the type utilized by the Authority.

4



2024 Multi-County Agency Biennial Notice

Name of Agency:	
Mailing Address:	
Contact Person:	Phone No
Email:	Alternate Email:
Counties within Jurisdiction, or for Chart (if more space is needed, include an attachment)	ter Schools, Counties in which the School is Chartered:
No. of Employees*	No. of Form 700 Filers*
Accurate disclosure is essential to m	onitor whother officials have conflicts of interest and to l

Accurate disclosure is essential to monitor whether officials have conflicts of interest and to help ensure public trust in government. The biennial review examines current programs to ensure that the agency's code includes disclosure by those agency officials who make or participate in making governmental decisions.

Please identify which statement accurately describes your agency's status.

- □ This agency has reviewed its conflict of interest code. The current code designates all positions which make or participate in making governmental decisions. The designated positions are assigned accurate disclosure categories that relate to the job duties of the respective positions. The code incorporates FPPC regulation 18730 so that all relevant Government Code Sections are referenced.
- □ This agency has reviewed its conflict of interest code and has determined that an amendment is necessary. An amendment may include the following:
 - New positions which involve the making or participating in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material impact on a financial interest
 - Current designated positions need renaming or deletion
 - Statutorily required provisions of the code need to be addressed
 - Disclosure categories need revision

Verification (to be completed if no amendment is required)

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This multi-county agency's code accurately designates all positions that make or participate in the making of governmental decisions. The disclosure assigned to those positions accurately requires that all investments, business positions, interests in real property, and sources of income that may foreseeably be affected materially by the decisions made by those holding designated positions are reported. The code includes all other provisions required by Government Code Section 87302.

Signature of Chief Executive Officer

Date

All multi-county agencies must complete and return this notice, including those agencies whose codes are currently under review. Please return this notice no later than **October 1, 2024** to the FPPC at <u>biennialnotice@fppc.ca.gov</u> or 1102 Q Street, Suite 3050, Sacramento, CA 95811.



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

DATE: February 27, 2025

SUBJECT:Agenda Item #9: Approval of Amendment #1 to the Executive Manager Staff
Services Contract to update staff hourly rates

The Executive Manager Staff Services Contract covers staff from the Inyo County Water Department who perform OVGA duties. Billing rates for each staff member are included in the contract. Due to recent changes to salary and benefit structures within Inyo County, the billing rates for ICWD staff have changed. These new rates have been incorporated as Amendment #1 to the contract.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Amendment #1 to the Staff Services Contract.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND THE COUNTY OF INYO FOR THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (hereinafter referred to as "OVGA") has the need for the Executive Manager services of the County of Inyo, a political subdivision of the State of California (hereinafter referred to as a "Contractor"), and in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, terms, and conditions hereinafter contained, the parties hereby agree as follows:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. SCOPE OF WORK.

The Contractor shall furnish to the OVGA, upon its request, those services and work set forth in Attachment **A**, attached hereto and by reference incorporated herein. Requests by the OVGA to the Contractor to perform under this Agreement will be made by the OVGA Board and shall be directed to Holly Alpert on behalf of the Contractor (or such other individual as the Contractor may designate from time to time). The parties agree that Holly Alpert (or such other individual as may be designated by the Contractor) shall be the titular Executive Manager for any purposes where it is necessary to an individual person to act as the Executive Manager in order to perform the services and work set forth in Attachment A. Requests to the Contractor for work or services to be performed under this Agreement will be based upon the OVGA's need for such services. The OVGA makes no guarantee or warranty, of any nature, that any minimum level or amount of services or work will be requested of the Contractor by the OVGA under this Agreement. OVGA by this Agreement incurs no obligation or requirement to request from Contractor the performance of any services or work at all, even if the OVGA should have some need for such services or work during the term of this Agreement.

Services and work provided by the Contractor at the OVGA's request under this Agreement will be performed in a manner consistent with the requirements and standards established by applicable federal, state, and OVGA laws, ordinances, regulations, and resolutions. Such laws, ordinances, regulations, and resolutions include, but are not limited to, those which are referred to in this Agreement.

2. TERM.

Effective as of March 14, 2024, Contractor shall provide services to the OVGA through the Inyo County Water Department when and if requested by the OVGA. This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect until terminated by any party, with or without cause, by supplying 30 days' written notice of termination to the other party.

3. CONSIDERATION.

A. <u>Compensation</u>. Services and work set forth in Attachment A shall be billed on an hourly basis according to the rates established in Attachment B up to the annual limit specified in Section 3.D., which is based on the parties' good-faith estimate of the County's average monthly costs of providing such services over a typical 12-month period. On or before July 1, 2024 and every July 1st thereafter, the Contractor and the OVGA may review and discuss whether an adjustment to said compensation may be appropriate. Any agreed upon adjustments shall be memorialized in writing and incorporated into this Agreement by this reference. Invoices for services shall be sent to OVGA in care of its Auditor-Controller on a quarterly basis, or at such other intervals as may be mutually agreeable to the parties. Invoices shall contain descriptions of work performed and time spent.

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 1

B. <u>Travel and per diem.</u> – OVGA shall reimburse Contractor for the travel expenses and per diem which Contractor incurs in providing services and work requested by the OVGA under this Agreement. Contractor shall request approval by the OVGA prior to incurring any travel or per diem expenses. Requests by Contractor for approval to incur travel and per diem expenses shall be submitted to the OVGA Executive Manager. Travel and per diem expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the rates set forth in the Schedule of Travel and Per Diem Payment (Attachment C). OVGA reserves the right to deny reimbursement to Contractor for travel or per diem expenses which are either in excess of the amounts that may be paid under the rates set forth in Attachment B, or which are incurred by the Contractor without the prior approval of the OVGA.

C. <u>No additional consideration</u>. Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, Contractor shall not be entitled to, nor receive, from OVGA, any additional consideration, compensation, salary, wages, or other type of remuneration for services rendered under this Agreement. Specifically, Contractor shall not be entitled, by virtue of this Agreement, to consideration in the form of overtime, health insurance benefits,

retirement benefits, disability retirement benefits, sick leave, vacation time, paid holidays, or other paid leaves of absence of any type or kind whatsoever.

D. <u>Limit upon amount payable under Agreement.</u> The total sum of all payments made by the OVGA to Contractor for services and work performed under this Agreement, including travel and per diem expenses, if any, shall not exceed <u>\$25,410 – Twenty five thousand four hundred ten</u> (hereinafter referred to as "contract limit"). OVGA expressly reserves the right todeny any payment or reimbursement requested by Contractor for services or work performed, including travel or per diem, which is in excess of the contract limit.

E. <u>Billing and payment</u>. Contractor shall submit to the OVGA, quarterly, an itemized statement of all hours spent by Contractor in performing services and work described in attachment A, which were done at the OVGA's request. This statement will be submitted to the OVGA not later than 30 days following the end of the quarter. The statement to be submitted will cover the period from the first (1st) day of the preceding quarter through and including the last day of the preceding month. This statement will identify the date on which the hours were worked and describe the nature of the work which was performed on each day. Contractor's statement to the OVGA will also include an itemization of any travel or per diem expenses, which have been approved in advance by the OVGA, and incurred by the Contractor during that period. The itemized statement for travel expenses and per diem will include receipts for lodging, meals, and other incidental expenses in accordance with the OVGA's accounting procedures and rules. The OVGA shall make a good-faith effort to issue payment to Contractor within 30 days but reserves the right to vary the payment schedule in order to manage finances. The Con tractor shall be notified of the expected payment date in writing should the payment schedule be altered.

F. Federal and State taxes.

(1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2) below, OVGA will not withhold any federal or state income taxes or social security from any payments made by OVGA to Contractor under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

(2) OVGA will withhold California State income taxes from payments made under this Agreement to non-California resident independent contractors when it is anticipated that total annual payments to Contractor under this Agreement will exceed one thousand four hundred ninety nine dollars (\$1,499.00).

(3) Except as set forth above, OVGA has no obligation to withhold any taxes or payments from sums paid by OVGA to Contractor under this Agreement. Payment of all taxes and other assessments on such sums is the sole responsibility of Contractor. OVGA has no responsibility or liability for payment of Contractor's taxes or assessments.

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 2

(4) The total amounts paid by OVGA to Contractor, and taxes withheld from payments to non-California residents, if any, will be reported annually to the Internal Revenue Service and the California State Franchise Tax Board. To facilitate this reporting, Contractor shall complete and submit to the OVGA an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-9 upon executing this Agreement.

4. WORK SCHEDULE.

Contractor's obligation is to perform, in a timely manner, those services and work identified in Attachment A which are requested by the OVGA

5. REQUIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND PERMITS.

A. Any licenses, certificates, or permits required by the federal, state, county, or municipal governments for contractor to provide the services and work described in attachment **A** must be procured by Contractor and be valid at the time Contractor enters into this Agreement or as otherwise may be required. Further, during the term of this Agreement, Contractor must maintain such licenses, certificates, and permits in full force and effect. Licenses, certificates, and permits may include, but are not limited to, driver's licenses, professional licenses or certificates, and business licenses. Such licenses, certificates, and permits

will be procured and maintained in force by Contractor at no expense to the OVGA. Contractor will provide OVGA, upon execution of this Agreement, with evidence of current and valid licenses, certificates and permits which are required to perform the services identified in Attachment **A**. Where there is a dispute between Contractor and OVGA as to what licenses, certificates, and permits are required to perform the services identified in Attachment **A**, OVGA reserves the right to make such determinations for purposes of this Agreement.

B. Contractor warrants that it is not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in covered transactions by any federal department or agency. Contractor also warrants that it is not suspended or debarred from receiving federal funds as listed in the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement Programs issued by the General Services Administration available at: <u>http://www.sam.gov</u>.

6. OFFICE SPACE, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, ETC.

Contractor shall provide such office space, supplies, equipment, vehicles, reference materials, and telephone service as is necessary for Contractor to provide the services identified in Attachment A to this Agreement. OVGA is not obligated to reimburse or pay Contractor, for any expense or cost incurred by Contractor in procuring or maintaining such items. Responsibility for the costs and expenses incurred by Contractor in providing and maintaining such items is the sole responsibility and obligation of Contractor.

7. OVGA PROPERTY.

A. <u>Personal Property of OVGA</u>. Any personal property such as, but not limited to, protective or safety devices, badges, identification cards, keys, etc. provided to Contractor by OVGA pursuant to this Agreement are, and at the termination of this Agreement remain, the sole and exclusive property of OVGA. Contractor will use reasonable care to protect, safeguard and maintain such items while they are in Contractor's possession. Contractor will be financially responsible for any loss or damage to such items, partial or total, which is the result of Contractor's negligence.

B. <u>Products of Contractor's Work and Services</u>. Any and all compositions, publications, plans, designs, specifications, blueprints, maps, formulas, processes, photographs, slides, video tapes, computer programs, computer disks, computer tapes, memory chips, soundtracks, audio recordings, films, audio-visual presentations, exhibits, reports, studies, works of art, inventions, patents, trademarks, copyrights, or intellectual properties of any kind which are created, produced, assembled, compiled by, or are the result, product, or manifestation of, Contractor's services or work under this Agreement are, and at the termination of this Agreement remain, the sole and exclusive property of the OVGA. At the termination of the

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Agreement, Contractor will convey possession and title to all such properties to OVGA.

8. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

Contractor shall provide Statutory California Worker's Compensation coverage and Employer's Liability coverage for not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence for all employees engaged in services or operations under this Agreement. The OVGA, its agents, officers and employees shall be named as additional insured or a waiver of subrogation shall be provided.

9. INSURANCE.

For the duration of this Agreement Contractor shall procure and maintain insurance of the scope and amount specified in Attachment **D** and with the provisions specified in that attachment.

10. STATUS OF CONTRACTOR.

All acts of Contractor, its agents, officers, and employees, relating to the performance of this Agreement, shall be performed as independent contractors, and not as agents, officers, or employees of OVGA. Contractor, by virtue of this Agreement, has no authority to bind or incur any obligation on behalf of

OVGA. Except as expressly provided in Attachment **A**, Contractor has no authority or responsibility to exercise any rights or power vested in the OVGA. No agent, officer, or employee of the Contractor is to be considered an employee of OVGA. It is understood by both Contractor and OVGA that this Agreement shall not under any circumstances be construed or considered to create an employer-employee relationship or a joint venture. As an independent contractor:

A. Contractor shall determine the method, details, and means of performing the work and services to be provided by Contractor under this Agreement.

B. Contractor shall be responsible to OVGA only for the requirements and results specified in this Agreement, and except as expressly provided in this Agreement, shall not be subjected to OVGA's control with respect to the physical action or activities of Contractor in fulfillment of this Agreement.

C. Contractor, its agents, officers, and employees are, and at all times during the term of this Agreement shall, represent and conduct themselves as independent contractors, and not as employees of OVGA.

11. DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION.

Contractor shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify OVGA and its officers, officials, employees and volunteers from and against any and all liability, loss, damage, expense, costs (including without limitation costs and fees of litigation) of every nature arising out of or in connection with Contractor's performance of work hereunder or its failure to comply with any of its obligations contained in the Agreement, to the extent permitted by law, and except such loss or damages which was caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of the OVGA. These obligations shall not extend to the OVGA's adoption of, or the OVGA's implementation of, the GSP.

12. RECORDS AND AUDIT.

A. <u>Records</u>. Contractor shall prepare and maintain all records required by the various provisions of this Agreement, federal, state, and municipal law, ordinances, regulations, and directions. Contractor shall maintain these records for a minimum of four (4) years from the termination or completion of this Agreement. Contractor may fulfill its obligation to maintain records as required by this paragraph by substitute photographs, microphotographs, or other authentic reproduction of such records.

B. <u>Inspections and Audits</u>. Any authorized representative of OVGA shall have access to any books, documents, papers, records, including, but not limited to, financial records of Contractor, which OVGA determines to be pertinent to this Agreement, for the purposes of making audit, evaluation, examination, excerpts, and transcripts during the period such records are to be maintained by Contractor.

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 4

Further, OVGA has the right, at all reasonable times, to audit, inspect, or otherwise evaluate the work performed or being performed under this Agreement.

13. NONDISCRIMINATION.

During the performance of this Agreement, Contractor, its agents, officers, and employees shall not unlawfully discriminate in violation of any federal, state, or local law, against any employee, or applicant for employment, or person receiving services under this Agreement, because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, age, or sex. Contractor and its agents, officers, and employees shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code section 12900, et seq.), and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder in the California Code of Regulations. Contractor shall also abide by the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) and all amendments thereto, and all administrative rules and regulations issued pursuant to said act.

14. CANCELLATION.

This Agreement may be canceled by OVGA without cause, and at will, for any reason by giving to Contractor thirty (30) days written notice of such intent to cancel. In the event of any such cancellation, OVGA will pay to Contractor all amounts owing to Contractor for work satisfactorily performed up to the date of cancellation. Contractor may cancel this Agreement without cause, and at will, for any reason whatsoever by giving thirty (30) days written notice of such intent to cancel to OVGA.

15. ASSIGNMENT.

This is an agreement for the services of Contractor. OVGA has relied upon the skills, knowledge, experience, and training of Contractor as an inducement to enter into this Agreement. Contractor shall not assign or subcontract this Agreement, or any part of it, without the express written consent of the OVGA. Further, Contractor shall not assign any monies due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written consent of OVGA.

16. DEFAULT.

If the Contractor abandons the work or fails to proceed with the work and services requested by OVGA in a timely manner or fails in any way as required to conduct the work and services as required by OVGA, OVGA may declare the Contractor in default and terminate this Agreement upon five (5) days written notice to Contractor. Upon such termination by default, OVGA will pay to Contractor all amounts owing to Contractor for services and work satisfactorily performed to the date of termination.

17. WAIVER OF DEFAULT.

Waiver of any default by either party to this Agreement shall not be deemed to be waiver of any subsequent default. Waiver or breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Agreement unless this Agreement is modified as provided in paragraph twenty-three (23) below.

18. CONFIDENTIALITY.

Contractor further agrees to comply with the various provisions of the federal, state, and county laws, regulations, and ordinances providing that information and records kept, maintained, or accessible by Contractor in the course of providing services and work under this Agreement, shall be privileged, restricted, or confidential. Contractor agrees to keep confidential all such information and records. Disclosure of such confidential, privileged, or protected information shall be made by Contractor only with the express written consent of the OVGA. If a disclosure is required by law, Contractor shall first give OVGA reasonable notice of the intended disclosure sufficient to allow the OVGA to take any action that may be available to prevent the disclosure. Any disclosure of confidential information that Contractor is not required by law to disclose, that Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

(Independent Contractor) Page 5

Contractor discloses without the OVGA's written consent, is solely and exclusively the legal responsibility of Contractor in all respects.

Notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, names of persons receiving public social services are confidential and are to be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations Section 205.50, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, and Sections 10850 and 14100.2 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto. For the purpose of this Agreement, all information, records, and data elements pertaining to beneficiaries shall be protected by the provider from unauthorized disclosure.

19. CONFLICTS.

Contractor agrees that it has no interest, and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the work and services under this Agreement.

20. POST AGREEMENT COVENANT.

Contractor agrees not to use any confidential, protected, or privileged information which is gained from the OVGA in the course of providing services and work under this Agreement, for any personal benefit, gain, or enhancement. Further, Contractor agrees for a period of two years after the termination of this Agreement, not to seek or accept any employment with any entity, association, corporation, or person who, during the term of this Agreement, has had an adverse or conflicting interest with the OVGA, or who has been an adverse party in litigation with the OVGA, and concerning such, Contractor by virtue of this Agreement has gained access to the OVGA's confidential, privileged, protected, or proprietary information.

21. SEVERABILITY.

If any portion of this Agreement or application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, or if it is found in contravention of any federal, state, or county statute, ordinance, or regulation, the remaining provisions of this Agreement, or the application thereof, shall not be invalidated thereby, and shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that the provisions of this Agreement are severable.

22. FUNDING LIMITATION.

The ability of OVGA to enter this Agreement is based upon available funding from various sources. In the event that such funding fails, is reduced, or is modified, from one or more sources, OVGA has the option to cancel, reduce, or modify this Agreement, or any of its terms within ten (10) days of its notifying Contractor of the cancellation, reduction, or modification of available funding. Any reduction or modification of this Agreement made pursuant to this provision must comply with the requirements of paragraph twenty-three (23) (Amendment).

23. AMENDMENT.

This Agreement may be modified, amended, changed, added to, or subtracted from, by the mutual consent of the parties hereto, if such amendment or change is in written form and executed with the same formalities as this Agreement, and attached to the original Agreement to maintain continuity.

24. NOTICE.

Any notice, communication, amendments, additions, or deletions to this Agreement, including change of address of either party during the terms of this Agreement, which Contractor or OVGA shall be required, or may desire, to make, shall be in writing and may be personally served, or sent by prepaid first Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

(Independent Contractor) Page 6

class mail to, the respective parties as follows:

OVGA:

INYO COUNTY WATER DEPARTM	ENT
ATTN: OVGA Executive Manager	Name
P.O. Box 337	Street
Independence, CA 93526	City and State

Contractor:

COUNTY OF INYO	Name
P. O. BOX 337	Street
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526	City and State

25. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties, and no representations, inducements, promises, or agreements otherwise between the parties not embodied herein or incorporated herein by reference, shall be of any force or effect. Further, no term or provision hereof may be changed, waived, discharged, or terminated, unless the same be in writing executed by the parties hereto.

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 7

26. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two (2) or more counterparts (including by electronic transmission), each of which shall constitute an original, and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, THE PARTIES HERETO HAVE SET THEIR HANDS AND SEALS THIS ______

B Dated

CONTRACTOR

allo Mipe

Holly Alpert

Type or Print Name

Dated: 4/29/24

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

John-Carl Vallejo

OVGA Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:

Amy Shepherd

OVGA Auditor

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 8

ATTACHMENT A

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND THE COUNTY OF INYO FOR THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES

SCOPE OF WORK:

Executive Manager Powers and Duties. Subject to any rules and regulations provided by the Board, the powers and duties of the Executive Manager & staff are:

- On or before April 1 of each year, to cause to be prepared and submitted to the Board of Directors a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
- To prepare and present the GSA's annual report.
- To attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and act as secretary to the Board. To cause to be kept minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and to cause a copy of the minutes to be forwarded to each member of the Board of Directors, prior to the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors
- To monitor and regulate provided well information.
- To purchase or lease items, fixed assets, or services within the levels authorized by the Bylaws and Executive Manager purchasing authority.
- To perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may require in carrying out the policies and directives of the Board of Directors.

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 9

ATTACHMENT B

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND THE COUTY OF INYO FOR THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES

SCHEDULE OF FEES:

EXECUTIVE MANAGER & STAFF COUNTY RATE SHEET

Rates for specific staff assigned work will vary by position, pay scale step, and benefit package. The OVGA shall be billed the hourly rate for the specific staff engaged, which shall fall within the rate range listed below. The rates include base salary and benefits.

Position	Rate per Hour
Executive Manager, Inyo County Water Director	\$90.96
Senior Scientist	\$76.51
Administrative Analyst	\$75.66

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 10

ATTACHMENT C

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND THE COUNTY OF INYO FOR THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES

SEE ATTACHED INSURANCE PROVISIONS

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (Independent Contractor) Page 11

AMENDMENT NUMBER __ONE___

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND <u>THE COUNTY OF INYO</u> FOR THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (hereinafter referred to as "OVGA") and <u>The County of Inyo</u> (hereinafter referred to as "Contractor"), have entered into an Agreement for the Provision of Independent Contractor Services dated <u>May 21, 2024</u>, on County of Inyo Modified Contract No.<u>118</u>, for the term from <u>May 21, 2024</u> through <u>until terminated</u>.

WHEREAS, OVGA and Contractor do desire and consent to amend such Agreement as set forth below;

WHEREAS, such Agreement provides that it may be modified, amended, changed, added to, or subtracted from, by the mutual consent of the parties thereto, if such amendment or change is in written form, and executed with the same formalities as such Agreement, and attached to the original Agreement to maintain continuity.

OVGA and Contractor hereby amend such Agreement as follows:

Schedule B hourly rates to be updated as follows:

Executive Manager & Staff County Rate Sheet

Rates for specific staff assigned work will vary by position, pay scale step, and benefit package. The OVGA shall be billed the hourly rate for the specific staff engaged, which shall fall within the rate range listed below. The rates include base salary and benefits.

Position	Rate per Hour
Executive Manager, Inyo County Water Director	\$105.49
Senior Scientist	\$ 82.25
Administrative Analyst	\$ 75.66

The effective date of this Amendment to the Agreement is 2/27/25 .

All the other terms and conditions of the Agreement are unchanged and remain the same.

AMENDMENT NUMBER _ONE__

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY AND <u>THE COUNTY OF INYO</u> FOR <u>THE PROVISION OF EXECUTIVE MANAGER SERVICES</u>

IN WITNESS THEREOF, THE PARTIES HERETO HAVE SET THEIR HANDS AND SEALS THIS ______ DAY OF _<u>February</u>_____, ___2025_____.

OVGA

CONTRACTOR

Ву:_____

Type or Print Name

Type or Print Name

By: _____

Dated:_____

Dated_____

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

OVGA Counsel

APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:

OVGA Auditor



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

Date: February 27, 2025

Subject: Agenda Item #10: Presentation of draft 2025-2026 OVGA Budget

Background

On October 23, 2017, the Board of Directors adopted an initial three-year Development Budget which outlined the expected expenditures to prepare the GSP and guide members' decisions regarding funding contributions. The Development Budget and the associated funding obligations were terminated when the GSP was adopted by the OVGA (Member Funding Agreements, Item 3). The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) requires the Executive Manager to present a draft annual budget to the OVGA Board of Directors and each of the Members by April 1 (Article III, Section 3.1.7). This staff report presents the 2025-2026 draft annual budget. A final budget must be adopted by a majority of the votes of the OVGA Directors on or before May 1 (Article I, Section 5.8), and it is recommended the Board consider adopting the final budget at this meeting.

Discussion

The draft budget for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, is presented in Table 1. The expected amount of interest on OVGA accounts was based on the most recent quarter. No revenues from member contributions were included in the draft budget. It is not a requirement to provide funding to remain a Member of the OVGA. If the Executive Manager is notified that an agency is willing to provide funds, the budget will be revised and the vote shares recalculated in accordance with Article IV, Section 2 of the JPA. If no Members provide a contribution in fiscal year 2025-26, each will have two votes, and Interested Parties will have one vote each.

The primary expenditures in the draft budget are Staff Services and Professional Services (Table 1). Within Staff Services, the Executive Manager line item is capped by the staff services contract with Inyo County and will not exceed \$25,410. These expenses include tasks required by the JPA and Bylaws, such as meeting preparation, tracking developments in SGMA implementation, annual data acquisition at representative monitoring sites,

reporting to DWR, well permit review, well registration data collection and entry, and administrative tasks. Hourly rates are based on Inyo County Water Department current salaries and benefits; no overhead or profit were included.

It is anticipated that future meetings may be coordinated with the City of Bishop, and the budget includes funds for staff assistance that may be necessary.

Legal services and Fiscal Agent services are performed by Inyo County under separate contracts. Estimates for legal services were based on the monthly flat rate in the current Inyo County Counsel contract but only for months with meetings or when tasks to complete management actions are required. The Fiscal Agent cost is unchanged.

Professional services include website and database maintenance and technical services. The database is currently hosted on DBS&A servers, and the service includes technical support. The Technical Services line item includes assistance with the annual report. In addition, this line item was increased for 2025-26 to account for (1) responding to comments from DWR on its GSP review and/or (2) beginning to pull together data and information for the five-year periodic evaluation, which will be due January 2027.

General liability insurance is unchanged from last year's budget. Miscellaneous expenses are based on previous budgets or actual expenditures from recent years.

The OVGA Bylaws (Article VII, Section 1) require that the projected expenses not exceed projected revenues. The 2025-26 draft budget would be balanced by relying on approximately \$79,660 from the existing fund balance.

The current OVGA fund balance is \$261,560.72 (as of 2/19/25). Staff estimates this amount will be sufficient for about another three years of annual expenses, at which time the OVGA board will need to increase revenues, decrease expenses, or both.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Board will receive a presentation of the 2025-2026 budget. OVGA staff recommends approval of the 2025-2026 budget as written.

Table 1: Draft FY 2025-26 OVGA budget

Revenues	
Interest from treasury	\$3,000
Other Agencies (member contributions)	\$0
Fund balance transfer	\$79,660
Total Revenue	\$82,660
Expenditures	
Fiscal Services	
Insurance	\$2,500
Subtotal	\$2,500
Staff Services	
Executive Manager – Water Dept.	\$25,410
Staff services – Bishop	\$2,000
Agency: Inyo, Legal	\$4,500
Agency: Inyo, Fiscal Agent/Financial Svcs	\$4,000
Subtotal	\$35,910
Professional Services	
Website Maintenance	\$1,000
Technical Services	\$35,000
Database Hosting	\$2,000
Subtotal	\$38,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Internal Copy Charges	\$50
Advertising/mailer	\$300
Office Space & Site Rental	\$400
General Operating	\$500
Zoom Account	\$0
Subtotal	\$1,250
Contingencies	\$5,000
Total	\$82,660



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

Date: February 27, 2025

Subject: Agenda item #11: Fish Slough Sub-Basin GSP

The Owens Valley Groundwater Basin is delineated into two sub-basins by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR): Owens Valley (DWR basin ID 6-012.01) and Fish Slough (DWR basin ID 6-012.02). When the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) was submitted to the state in January 2022, it was only submitted for the Owens Valley sub-basin and not the Fish Slough sub-basin. This oversight was brought to the attention of staff by DWR in November 2024, at which time the staff notified the OVGA board.

The policy of the OVGA board when submitting the GSP in 2022 was to submit a GSP for the entire Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. Rectifying this oversight by submitting the GSP for the Fish Slough sub-basin would be in accordance with fulfilling the intent of that policy. The OVGA GSP document as originally prepared and submitted covers Fish Slough, so a new GSP would not need to be written. Submitting the GSP for the Fish Slough sub-basin would open up a 75-day public comment period and would commence annual monitoring and reporting requirements for the affected GSAs, which are Mono County and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District. Although the southernmost portion of Fish Slough is located within Inyo County, monitoring and management would take place in the Mono County portion. Both Mono County and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District have been informed of the situation.

Submitting the GSP for Fish Slough will affect DWR's timing of the determination of the adequacy of the OVGA GSP that was submitted in January 2022. DWR will wait to issue a determination on the OVGA GSP until they make individual determinations for the GSP for both sub-basins.

It is the intention of staff to submit the GSP for the Fish Slough sub-basin following the February 27, 2025, OVGA meeting, unless different direction is provided by the board.



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

Date: February 27, 2025

Subject: Agenda item #12: Ordinance 2022-01 Well Registration Program update

Background

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA)-adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) includes Program and Management Action #1 to compile a more accurate understanding of the amounts and locations of groundwater extraction within the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. Subsequently, the OVGA adopted Ordinance 2022-01:

An Ordinance of the OVGA establishing the regulations and procedures for the registration of owners and users of groundwater extraction facilities within the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin.

The purpose of this registration and reporting program is to ensure that data describing the groundwater uses and conditions in the Owens Valley Basin are as complete and accurate as possible. Under Ordinance 2022-01, owners and users of wells are required to register their groundwater extraction facilities in Inyo County that are located within the boundary of the OVGA (lands in Mono County are not included) and thereafter annually report extractions. The initial registration deadline was set for April 1, 2023, and later extended to April 1, 2024. A groundwater extraction facility means any device or method used for the extraction of groundwater from the Basin such as a well, including wells with pumps and those flowing under artesian pressure.

The Ordinance *does not* regulate or restrict pumping or uses. Registration and reporting is *voluntary* for extractors that meet the definition of a de minimis extractor which means a person who extracts, for domestic purposes only, two acre-feet or less per year (CWC §10721(e)). Most single home residences with private wells are considered de minimis.

Discussion

Staff prepared a well registration and reporting form, OVGA boundary map, and cover letter describing the program, reporting process, and contact information. These were posted by U.S. mail and electronically transmitted via email to well owners and users on September 1, 2023. A

reminder email was sent on February 2, 2024. A webpage was added to OVGA website to house these program materials along with links to Ordinance 2022-01, an example of a filled-out form, and a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document.

As of the writing of this staff report, forms from 14 of the 51 known entities (27%) that were included in the OVGA contact list have been received and reviewed by staff for completeness and accuracy. This corresponds to 39 wells (most entities that have reported so far have more than one well) within OVGA's current boundary. The majority of these wells are not equipped with a dedicated functioning water meter or production records were not retained.

Staff Recommendation and Request for Direction

The Board will receive an update on the status of the well registration and reporting program. Staff recommends that the Board direct staff to email the current entity reporting status list to Board Members.



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Members: Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo— Indian Creek-Westridge CSD Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe – Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337 135 Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 Phone: (760) 878-0001 Fax: (760) 878-2552 www.inyowater.org

Staff Report

Date: February 27, 2025

Subject: Agenda item #13: Water Year 2023 OVGA annual report

Background

Article 1, section 5.9 of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority's (OVGA) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) requires an annual report be prepared.

By April 1 of each year, the Authority shall prepare an annual report of its operation, in a form determined by the Board of Directors.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (CWC §10728) requires certain groundwater data (e.g., water levels, pumping amount, groundwater change in storage, and groundwater and surface water use) be reported annually following submission of the Authority's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Because the Basin is ranked low priority, **compliance with these reporting requirements is voluntary**.

Discussion

The OVGA submitted its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to the California department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2022. The annual report for water year (WY) 2022 was submitted to DWR in July 2024, following addressing public comments that were included in Appendix B of the final report. The final report was also posted to the OVGA website. The annual report for WY 2023 (October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023) was due to DWR on April 1, 2024. The annual report for WY 2024 is due April 1, 2025, and will also be late, but the WY 2025 annual report is planned to be delivered on time.

Daniel B. Stephens & Associates (DBS&A) was contracted to work with ICWD to prepare the annual report for WY 2023 for the Owens Valley Basin. It includes analysis of data with respect to the GSP Sustainability Management Criteria (SMC), by management area, that have been collected since the WY 2022 annual report was prepared. Water-level and streamflow data for the GSP Representative Monitoring Points (RMPs) have also been uploaded to the SGMA Portal through September 2023 to align with the WY reporting period of this annual report.

Staff Recommendation and Request for Direction

The Board will receive an overview presentation of the annual report. Staff will receive comments from the Board and public at the meeting and recommends opening a 30-day public comment period in which written comments will be received following the posting of the draft WY 2023 annual report to the OVGA website. Staff recommends scheduling a future OVGA meeting to approve the final WY 2023 annual report and response to written comments before staff submits it to DWR.

Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report Water Year 2023

Submitted to



California Department of Water Resources

Submitted by



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Prepared by



3916 State Street, Garden Suite Santa Barbara, CA 93105 www.dbstephens.com Project# DB23.1300.00

DRAFT February 13, 2025



Certification

This report was prepared in accordance with generally accepted professional hydrogeologic principles and practices. This report makes no other warranties, either expressed or implied, as to the professional advice or data included in it. This report has not been prepared for use by parties or projects other than those named or described herein. It may not contain sufficient information for other parties or purposes.

Douglas (Gus) Tolley, PhD, PG Project Hydrogeologist Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc, gtolley@geo-logic.com 143E Spring Hill Dr. Grass Valley, CA 95945 Tim Moore, PG, CHG Senior Scientist - Hydrogeologist Inyo County Water Department tmoore@inyocounty.us 135 S Jackson St. Independence, CA 93526

Date signed:





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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AFYacre-feet per yearamslabove mean sea levelBasinsOwens Valley and Fish Slough SubbasinsBLMBureau of Land ManagementCASGEMCalifornia Statewide Groundwater Elevation MonitoringCCRCalifornia Code of RegulationsCDFWCalifornia Department of Fish and WildlifeCIMISCalifornia Irrigation Management Information Systemcfscubic feet per secondDWR[CA] Department of Water ResourceseWRIMSElectronic Water Rights Information Management SystemETEvapotranspirationftfeetGSAGroundwater Sustainability AgencyGSPGroundwater Sustainability PlanLADWPLos Angeles Department of Water and PowerLTWAInyo - Los Angeles Long Term Water AgreementMOMeasurable ObjectiveMTMinimum ThresholdOLGDPOwens Lake Groundwater AuthorityRMPRepresentative Monitoring PointSGMASustainable Groundwater Management ActSMCBState Water Resources Control BoardTVGMDTri-Valley Groundwater Management DistrictWLEwater level elevationWYwater year	AF	acre-feet
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WLE water level elevation	SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
	TVGMD	Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District
WY water year	WLE	water level elevation
	WY	water year



Executive Summary

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority has prepared this annual report for water year 2023 (October 1 through September 30) for the Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins. It includes analysis of data, by management area, that have been collected since the GSP was submitted to DWR in January 2022 and the WY 2022 annual report submitted in July 2024.

Total water use in the Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins (the Basins) during WY 2023 was estimated to be 560,697 acre-feet (AF). Reported groundwater extractions for the Basins totaled 72,760 AF. Total surface water use in the Basins was estimated to be 487,937 AF. Total change in groundwater in storage for both subbasins over WY 2023 was estimated to be +303,550 AF. The estimated change in storage over WY 2023 was +144 AF for the Fish Slough subbasin and +7,552 AF for Tri-Valley. LADWP reported a change in groundwater in storage of +295,854 AF for their lands within Owens Valley. Since nearly all groundwater pumping and monitoring in the Inyo County portion of the Owens Valley subbasin occurs on LADWP lands, this is the best estimate available for the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas.

The OVGA is working towards its sustainability goals through management actions outlined in the GSP. A well registration and groundwater extraction program has been developed and implemented. OVGA staff has also been working with Inyo County Department of Environmental Health in reviewing well permits since fall 2022. The OVGA continues to gather data from its monitoring network that are imported periodically into its public-facing data management system. These easily accessible data and this annual report serve to keep the interested parties informed throughout GSP implementation.





1. Introduction

The Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins (the Basins) are designated "Low" and "Very Low" priority status, respectively, by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and therefore are not required to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Groundwater management in the context of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is performed voluntarily by the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA) for portions of the Basins within Inyo County, and by a combination of the Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (TVGMD) and Mono County for portions of the Basins within Mono County. The OVGA submitted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Basins on January 26, 2022. After the GSP was submitted, the TVGMD and Mono County withdrew from the OVGA and petitioned DWR to become the GSAs for the portions of the Basins within Mono County. While the OVGA is not required to submit GSP annual reports to DWR since it is a low-priority basin, this GSP annual report was voluntarily prepared to document groundwater conditions in the Basins for water year (WY) 2023.

This annual report provides a summary of hydrologic conditions and water use in the Basins (Figure 1) using observed data from monitoring networks and/or estimates using best available methods. It includes a summary of water use and changes in groundwater storage during the period from October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023 (i.e., WY 2023), and provides context for conditions relative to the sustainable management criteria (SMC) developed for the Basins. Conditions are reported for each of the three management areas defined in the GSP: Tri-Valley & Fish Slough, Owens Valley, and Owens Lake (Figure 1). Analysis of Mono County portions of the basin (Tri-Valley & Fish Slough management area) and lands owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) managed under the Long Term Water Agreement (LTWA) are included for completeness, but the OVGA has no management authority over these areas. This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements for GSP annual reports as identified in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA, 23 CCR 356.2).

Owens Valley is the ninth largest groundwater subbasin in California in terms of total area and spans approximately 125 miles from north to south, the longest distance of any California subbasin. Ground surface elevations in the Basins range from a low of 3,529 ft above mean sea



level (amsl) at Owens Lake¹ to a high of 11,219 ft amsl near Mt. Perkins, a span of 7,690 ft. This results in practical challenges displaying information on figures such as water level contours or labels. Symbology and font sizes would need to be impractically small or figures could only present data for a portion of a given management area. To reduce the number of figures and potential confusion from a lack of geographic context, the most detailed information that could be displayed without making a figure illegible is presented.

Approximately 35% of the land area and the majority of water rights in the Basins are owned by LADWP. Because of the importance of surface water and groundwater supplied from Owens Valley to Los Angeles, LADWP has developed extensive facilities and monitoring for land management, water storage and export, groundwater production, groundwater recharge, surface water and groundwater monitoring, and dust control. Land and water use in the Tri-Valley portion of the Owens Valley Subbasin is primarily conducted by private landowners and is less well studied and monitored. Land management in undeveloped areas is primarily conducted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The main agencies or programs conducting groundwater monitoring and management in the Basins include: the City of Los Angeles (subject to the LTWA), TVGMD, the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASEGM), the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program (GAMA), local water providers (privately-owned public water systems, mutual water companies, community service districts, and the City of Bishop), and the Owens Lake Groundwater Development Program (OLGDP). These agencies or programs monitor groundwater levels, water quality, and/or extraction in areas throughout the Basins. In addition, LADWP is required to continue water deliveries for irrigation, enhancement and mitigation projects, and dust control, and conducts recharge operations in the Basin. Monitoring associated with these activities is routinely reported by LADWP.

For additional clarification or more detailed information on the basin plan area, monitoring network, or conditions, please refer to the <u>Owens Valley Groundwater Basin GSP</u>, the <u>OVGA</u> <u>Database Management System</u>, or the numerous documents and reports prepared by or in cooperation with the <u>Inyo County Water Department</u>. As acknowledged by the Department of Water Resources, it is important to note that there are still many data gaps and missing

¹The term "Owens Lake" is used in this report for consistency with the OVGA GSP but the term is intended to be synonymous with "Owens lakebed".



information as the OVGA continues to gather information for better analysis and informed decision making.

2. Groundwater Elevations

Groundwater elevations and changes from the beginning to the end of the water year for each management area (Figure 1) are provided below. Contour maps of each principal aquifer within each management area are also provided. These maps depict the seasonal high (spring) and low (fall) water level elevations for each principal aquifer within the respective management area. Note that due to infiltration of snowmelt runoff from the Eastern Sierras and LADWP operations (e.g., ditch conveyance, surface water spreading, lease agreements, etc.) during the summer months, the typical spring high and fall low trend is often reversed for the portion of Owens Valley Management Area between Big Pine and Independence. In this area, observed seasonal highs in average and wet years can occur during the summer and early fall. Spring and fall water level elevations are defined as observations within a 180-day period centered on April 1 or October 1. If a well has multiple observations within this period, then the value collected nearest to April 1 or October 1 is used. Hydrographs for representative monitoring points (RMPs) in the Basin are shown in Appendix A. The Rio Tinto well is not included despite it being listed as a potential RMP in the GSP as there are no historical data and a field inspection revealed water level measurements could not be collected without significant modifications to the well. It will be removed from the RMP list in the first GSP periodic evaluation; these evaluations are due to DWR at least every five years.

2.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Observed spring groundwater elevations for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area ranged from 3,624.13 to 5,312.40 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 4,419.06 ft amsl (Figure 2). Fall groundwater elevations (Figure 3) ranged from 3,626.06 to 5,305.35 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 4,384.67 ft amsl. Observed groundwater elevation changes from fall 2022 to fall 2023 ranged from +0.00 to +5.40 ft, with an average change of +0.90 ft.

Groundwater flow in both subbasins is generally from north to south. Recharge along the margins of the basin and drawdown near high-capacity irrigation wells likely influence flows locally during certain times of the year in Tri-Valley. Groundwater levels near Chalfant Valley indicate some flow from the Tri-Valley is directed westward towards the Fish Slough subbasin. This is consistent with results from a geochemical study performed by Zdon and others (2019) that showed Northeast



Spring in Fish Slough is partially sourced by water from Tri-Valley. Additionally, declines in flow from Northeast Spring began around the same time as groundwater level declines in Tri-Valley. This indicates a strong hydrologic connection between Tri-Valley and Fish Slough, likely via enhanced permeability through the Bishop Tuff along the Fish Slough fault zone. Increasing the number of groundwater monitoring wells in the Hammil and Chalfant Valley areas would increase understanding of the hydraulic system and may provide further evidence of connection between Tri-Valley and Fish Slough. A joint project with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), BLM, United States Geological Survey (USGS), and DWR is in progress to drill two multi-completion monitoring facilities in southern Hammil Valley and one in northern Fish Slough subbasin in 2024 (see Section 7.3).

2.2 Owens Valley

The Owens Valley management area contains two principal aquifers: a shallow unconfined aquifer approximately 100 ft in thickness and a deep semi-confined to confined aquifer that extends to approximately 1,000 ft below ground surface. The shallow and deep aquifers are separated by confining units that are laterally discontinuous and primarily composed of volcanic flows and clays deposited in ancient lakes. Most groundwater pumping in the Owens Valley subbasin occurs within the Owens Valley management area, and therefore monitoring wells in this area experience the greatest magnitude of observed water level fluctuations.

Observed spring groundwater elevations for the Owens Valley management area shallow aquifer (Figure 4) ranged from 3,689.75 to 4,381.39 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,919.31 ft amsl. Spring water levels in the deep aquifer ranged from 3,654.31 to 4,973.25 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,925.79 ft amsl (Figure 5). In the fall, shallow aquifer groundwater elevations ranged from 3,691.62 to 4,388.49 ft amsl (Figure 6) with an average elevation of 3,916.75, and from 3,654.29 to 4,975.97 ft amsl with an average elevation of 3,916.75 ft amsl in the deep aquifer (Figure 7). Average change in groundwater elevation in the shallow and deep aquifers from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023 was +5.07 ft and +9.40 ft, respectively.

While groundwater flow patterns between the shallow and deep aquifers are generally similar, flow direction varies widely across the Owens Valley management area. Groundwater flow near Bishop is generally to the east and changes direction to the south towards the eastern margin of the basin near Laws, and some groundwater flow enters from the north from Tri-Valley. South of Bishop, the majority of recharge enters the basin from the west along Sierra creeks and their associated coarse-grained alluvial fans. Groundwater elevations and flow reflect this, with west to



east flow towards the center of the basin. Along the comparatively flat valley floor in the vicinity of the Owens River, groundwater flow is from the north to the south. Localized variations from these prevailing patterns exist, notably near LADWP wellfields and/or areas with significant surface water recharge (either natural or managed). Interpolating groundwater elevation contours in the Owens Valley management area is especially challenging due to the complex basin geometry and most monitoring wells being located on the valley floor. In addition, many of the monitoring wells are located in a linear orientation parallel to the valley axis.

2.3 Owens Lake

The Owens Lake management area contains five principal aguifers named from shallowest to deepest as Aquifers 1-5 (MWH, 2011). Aquifers 1-4 generally transition from coarse sands and gravels along the margins of the management area into fine silts and clays near Owens Lake, resulting in laterally discontinuous aquifers. Aquifer 5 is more laterally continuous and is composed of silty sand with interbedded sands and occasional clays, interpreted to have formed from a flood plain or braided stream system that existed prior to the formation of Owens Lake. The Owens Lake aquifer system extends more than 1,500 ft below ground surface (bgs). Due to the closed nature of the Owens Valley in terms of both surface water and groundwater (i.e., no natural outflows except for evapotranspiration) and limited pumping in the Owens Lake management area, water levels are generally stable and most monitoring wells show less than 10 ft of natural long-term variations in water levels. Groundwater conditions for Aquifers 2 and 4 are not included in this report because meaningful water level contour maps could not be created due to a lack of sufficient data. However, conditions for both the overlying and underlying aguifers are reported. Since groundwater extractions are relatively small in the Owens Lake management area, conditions in Aquifers 1, 3, and 5 are believed to be representative of those in Aquifers 2 and 4.

Observed spring groundwater elevations in Aquifer 1 (Figure 8) ranged from 3,577.61 to 3,643.30 ft above mean sea level (amsl), with an average elevation of 3,614.29 ft amsl. Aquifer 3 spring groundwater elevations (Figure 9) ranged from 3,585.37 to 3,653.78 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,625.76 ft amsl. Groundwater elevations in the spring for Aquifer 5 (Figure 10) ranged from 3,612.84 to 3,653.80 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,627.19 ft amsl. Fall conditions in the Owens Lake management area are generally similar to those observed in the spring. Aquifer 1 water levels in the fall (Figure 11) ranged from 3,577.67 to 3,643.56 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,615.45 ft amsl. Aquifer 3 spring groundwater elevations (Figure 12) ranged from 3,590.67 to 3,653.58 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,626.74 ft amsl. Groundwater elevations



in the spring for Aquifer 5 (Figure 13) ranged from 3,613.46 to 3,653.87 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,627.77 ft amsl. The average change in groundwater elevations over WY 2023 for Aquifers 1, 3, and 5 was +1.61 ft, +1.84 ft, and +1.13 ft, respectively.

2.4 Groundwater SMC Status

The reporting metric "SMC Status" was developed to better compare groundwater elevations observed at RMPs in the context of their unique SMC. This metric describes groundwater elevations relative to the "sustainability range" of the well and allows for normalized reporting of groundwater elevations at RMPs. The sustainability range is defined as the elevation range between the measurable objective (MO), or interim milestone (IM) for Fish Slough and Tri-Valley monitoring points, and the minimum threshold (MT) established for each RMP. SMC Status was classified into the following categories:

- Near or Above MO: Water levels equal to or greater than 75% of the sustainability range
- Between MO and MT: Water levels within 25% to 75% of the sustainability range
- Near MT: Water levels less than 25% of the sustainability range but above the MT
- At or Below MT: Water levels at or below the MT

Figure 14 shows an example of this metric applied to the hydrograph of well T001. Table 1 provides a summary of all of the water level elevation RMPs and their status in Fall 2023. The SMC status of some RMPs could not be determined for a variety of reasons (monitoring point was destroyed, collecting entity was unresponsive to data requests, etc.), but of the 47 wells that had sufficient data, 41 (87%) were above or near the MO and 4 (9%) had water level elevations in the middle of the sustainability range. A total of 2 (4%) wells were near, at, or below their established minimum threshold.

2.5 Reported Dry Wells

No wells were reported to the DWR Dry Well Reporting System during WY2023. One well that went dry in June 2018 was reported in December 2023 (WY 2024), but has been resolved. Reported dry wells are shown in Table 2.

3. Groundwater Extractions

The subsections below discuss estimated or measured groundwater extractions for each management area. High-capacity extraction wells are not metered in Tri-Valley but are in the



Owens Lake and Owens Valley management areas. While the majority of metered pumping comes from LADWP wells that are reported to the OVGA, additional pumping occurs from public or private entities (e.g., City of Bishop, public water systems, Crystal Geyser Roxane). The OVGA has initiated a well registration program that requires all groundwater pumpers in the portions of the Basins over which the OVGA has authority (excluding de minimus users, who are encouraged to voluntarily register their wells) to report their groundwater use (see Section 8). The deadline for submitting well registration and reporting forms is April 1, 2024, and therefore this report does not quantify all known groundwater extractions in the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas. The currently unreported volumes in the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas are likely small relative to the reported volumes. Reported groundwater extractions for the Basins in WY 2023 totaled 72,760 AF (Table 3).

3.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Groundwater extractions in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area were estimated using <u>OpenET</u> since pumping is not metered. OpenET is an online platform for mapping evapotranspiration (ET) at the scale of individual fields. Several different ET estimation methodologies are available, and the Satellite Irrigation Management Support (SIMS) model was used. It must be noted that underestimation of ET for small agricultural operations in very arid areas is currently a known limitation of OpenET due to the limited number of cropland in-situ flux stations located in these types of environments. Further complicating matters, surface water is applied to some fields in Tri-Valley. This means that groundwater extraction estimates in this report are likely overestimated, but the degree to which is currently unknown. All groundwater pumping occurs in the Tri-Valley portion of the management area with the exception of one known active domestic well located near the boundary between the Owens Valley and Fish Slough subbasins.

Estimated groundwater extractions in Tri-Valley for WY 2023 are shown in Table 3. Total groundwater use was estimated to be 13,103 AF, with irrigated agriculture accounting for 100% of total quantified extractions. Not included in Table 3 are extractions from Chalfant Valley West Mutual Water Company (CVWMWC), which services a population of approximately 45 people (15 connections). Pumping data from CVWMWV were unavailable at the time this report was prepared. It was assumed the remainder of the Tri-Valley population consists of de minimis users served by domestic wells and therefore exempt from SGMA regulations.



The spatial distribution of estimated groundwater pumping aggregated within each public land survey (PLSS) section (1 mi²) in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area is shown in Figure 15. Pumping was assumed to occur within the same section an irrigated agricultural field was located. If a field overlay more than one section, then pumping was assigned to the section with the largest overlap. Most groundwater pumping in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area appears to be located near the center of Tri-Valley in Hammil Valley.

3.2 Owens Valley

Extraction volumes for each water use sector were provided to the OVGA by LADWP since contributions to each sector from specific wells are not tracked. In other words, LADWP quantifies how much groundwater is applied to each water use sector as part of their operations, but generally does not track which wells the water is sourced from. In some instances, wells are dedicated to a specific purpose so their contributions to a specific water use sector can be tracked. For example, wells W357 and W384 are used as the municipal Independence town water system supply so groundwater extractions from them were assigned to the municipal water use sector. Although the volumes reported for each water use sector in Table 3 for the Owens Valley management area could not be independently verified, total groundwater extraction volume reported by LADWP² was consistent with the total calculated using pumping data provided to the OVGA. The volume of groundwater used for each sector was calculated by multiplying the total water use for the sector by the ratio of total groundwater extractions to total water use reported by LADWP. For WY 2023 about 9% of total water use reported by LADWP was sourced from groundwater.

Total groundwater extractions in the Owens Valley management area, including those on LADWP lands that are exempt from being covered under a SGMA GSP (see Footnote 2), summed 57,981 AF (Table 3). Agricultural irrigation accounted for approximately 10% of total extractions. Managed wetlands and native vegetation were about 6% of total extractions, while domestic and municipal uses made up about 20%. The remaining 39% of groundwater extractions were for Tribal uses or unspecified LADWP operations. Due to the commingling of pumped groundwater with surface water in ditches and canals that reach the Los Angeles Aqueduct, the amount of groundwater that was exported was not quantified. The spatial distribution of Owens Valley

²LADWP owned lands in Owens Valley are considered adjudicated under SGMA and are required to submit annual reports: <u>LADWP WY 2023 Report</u>.



management area groundwater extractions in shown in Figure 16. The majority of groundwater is pumped by LADWP on lands that are not subject to SGMA.

3.3 Owens Lake

A reported total of 1,676 AF of groundwater was extracted from the Owens Lake management area (Table 3). This is a relatively small volume of water compared to the other two management areas. Pumping occurs along the margins of the playa (Figure 17) where water quality is generally better. The OVGA Well Registration and Reporting Program (see Section 7.1) has been successful in filling data gaps (e.g., Crystal Geyser Roxane) related to groundwater extractions in the Owens Lake Management Area.

4. Surface Water Supply

The subsections below describe surface water used in the Basins. Total surface water use in the Basins was estimated to be 487,937 AF.

4.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Surface water use in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area was estimated using data reported to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Electronic Water Rights Information Management System (<u>eWRIMS</u>). Approximately 11,106 AF of surface water was used in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area (Table 4), with approximately 9,042 AF (81%) used for agriculture and about 2,064 AF (19%) used for various other purposes (e.g., domestic, power generation, in-stream dedications).

4.2 Owens Valley and Owens Lake

Nearly all surface water rights in the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas are owned by the City of Los Angeles. Smaller holders of water rights exist but the sum of private water rights as a portion of the runoff into the management areas is negligible compared to LADWP water rights. LADWP does not currently differentiate between surface water used in different areas of the basin in their reporting to DWR, but instead provides total water use for each sector. This precluded reporting surface water volumes used within each management area so instead they are presented jointly here.

The volume of surface water used for each sector was calculated by multiplying the total water use for the sector by the ratio of total surface water use to total water use reported by LADWP.



For WY 2023, about 476,831 AF was sourced from surface water in the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas (Table 4).

4.3 Surface Water SMC Status

SW3208 measures discharge from the Fish Slough Northeast Spring and is the only surface-water RMP in the Basins. The SMC Status (see Section 2.4 for explanation) for SW3208 in fall 2023 was at the minimum threshold of 0.1 cfs (Table 5).

5. Total Water Use

Total water use in the Basin grouped by management area, water use sector, and measurement method is shown in Table 6. Total water volume used in the Basin during WY 2023 was estimated to be 560,697 AF.

6. Change of Groundwater in Storage

The subsections below discuss the estimated change of groundwater in storage for the Basins. Total groundwater in storage change for both subbasins over WY 2023 was estimated to be +303,550 AF (Figure 18). Cumulative change in groundwater in storage for both subbasins relative to Fall 2014, the time when change in storage values began to be reported by LADWP, is estimated to be +495,611 AF (see Section 6.2 below).

6.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Change in groundwater in storage for both the Fish Slough subbasin and the Tri-Valley portion of Owens Valley subbasin was estimated using the equation:

$$\Delta S = \Delta b_{avg} * A * \phi \qquad (6.1)$$

where ΔS = change in storage (AF)

 Δb_{avg} = mean change in observed water levels (feet)

A = subbasin area (acres)

 ϕ = mean effective aquifer porosity (-)

Mean change in water levels from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023 was 0.49 ft in the Fish Slough subbasin and 1.05 ft in Tri-Valley. The Fish Slough subbasin covers 2,944 acres, and the Tri-Valley portion of the Owens Valley subbasin covers 72,100 acres. Assuming a 10% effective aquifer porosity for



both areas, estimated change in storage over WY 2023 was +144 AF for the Fish Slough subbasin and +7,552 AF for Tri-Valley. Total combined change in groundwater in storage for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area was +7,696 AF. Although this is the best method currently available for estimating change in groundwater in storage, these values have a very high degree of uncertainty associated with them due to limited data availability and spatial coverage. TVGMD is currently developing a numerical groundwater flow model for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley portions of the Owens Valley groundwater basin in Mono County which will be available in the future for estimating change in storage (see Section 7.4).

6.2 Owens Valley and Owens Lake

As part of their SGMA reporting requirements for adjudicated areas (<u>CA Water Code Section</u> 10720.8)³, LADWP reports water use and estimated change in storage values for each water year to DWR (see Footnote 2). Figure 18 shows both estimated annual and cumulative change in storage for the Basins. The first water year LADWP began SGMA reporting was 2015. The LADWP reported value is calculated according to a relatively complex set of equations outlined in Section IV Subsection C of the <u>Green Book</u>, the technical appendix to the Inyo/Los Angeles Long Term Water Agreement.

LADWP reported a change in groundwater in storage of +295,854 AF for WY 2023. Since nearly all groundwater pumping and monitoring in the Inyo County portion of the Owens Valley subbasin occurs on LADWP lands, this is the best estimate available for the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas. It is assumed that most of this change in storage occurred in the Owens Valley management area since water levels in the Owens Lake management area are generally stable due to relatively limited extractions.

7. **Progress Towards GSP Implementation**

The Owens Valley Groundwater Basin GSP identified four Projects or Management Actions that the OVGA Board of Directors would implement or consider implementing to facilitate the maintenance of sustainable conditions in the basin (see Section 4 of the GSP). Below is a description of activities related to each project that occurred during WY 2023. The OVGA has focused its attention on Projects #1 and #2 since the GSP was submitted to DWR, while the

³ The California SGMA legislation was enacted January 1, 2015.



TVGMD and Mono County have made progress on Projects #3 and #4. Updates on projects in the groundwater basin the OVGA is involved with but not leading are also included.

7.1 Project and Management Action #1 - Well Registration and Reporting Ordinance

In August 2022, the OVGA passed <u>Ordinance No. 2022-01</u> which requires owners and users of groundwater extraction facilities located within the revised OVGA boundary⁴ to register their wells with the OVGA and report groundwater extractions annually. This <u>Well Registration Program</u> is voluntary, but encouraged, for de minimus users which is defined as "a person who extracts, for domestic purposes, two acre-feet or less (of groundwater) per year." The initial registration deadline was set for April 1, 2023, and later extended to April 1, 2024, to provide stakeholders with additional time to submit.

7.2 Project and Management Action #2 - Well Permit Review Ordinance

The Inyo County Department of Environmental Health is the permitting entity that issues well permits within the Inyo County portion of the Basins. Staff to the OVGA is working with the County to review applications for well permits within the Basins.

7.3 Project and Management Action #3 - Increase Groundwater Level Monitoring Network

The TVGMD is currently exploring options for expanding the groundwater monitoring network in Tri-Valley, including partnering with DWR in establishing continuous monitoring sites in existing Hammil Valley wells, but no final decisions have been made. Inyo County Water Department installed pressure transducers and dataloggers in three monitoring wells located in the Fish Slough subbasin on May 11, 2023, in cooperation with the BLM Bishop Field Office.

The CDFW, BLM, USGS and DWR propose to install two multi-completion groundwater monitoring facilities (i.e., well) in southern Hammil Valley in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management Area. A third multi-completion groundwater monitoring facility is planned to be

⁴After the GSP was submitted to DWR on January 26, 2022, the TVGMD and Mono County withdrew from the OVGA and petitioned DWR to become the GSAs for the portions of the Basins within Mono County. The <u>TVGMD</u> and <u>Mono County</u> were approved to be the GSAs for Mono County portions of the Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins on August 2, 2022.





installed on LADWP owned land in the Fish Slough subbasin. The monitoring well construction is scheduled to begin in 2024. The proposed project includes provision to equip the monitoring facilities with pressure transducers and dataloggers. The proposed project is a continued effort to assess groundwater conditions and movement in the Tri-Valley and Fish Slough management area.

7.4 Project and Management Action #4 - Tri-Valley Groundwater Model Development

In June 2022 a project proposal for developing a groundwater model of the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley portions of the Owens Valley groundwater basin was approved by the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) to be put forward for funding by DWR. A description of the proposed scope of work can be found in the July 13, 2022 TVGMD board meeting <u>minutes</u>. Mono County has contracted with Inyo County Water Department for project management services including development of a request for proposal (RFP) to award the project contract to a qualified modeling consultant. The model development activities are anticipated to begin when a consultant is awarded the contract in 2024.

7.5 Additional OVGA Activities

The OVGA continues to update and refine its <u>Database Management System</u>. Water-level and streamflow data for the GSP Representative Monitoring Point Sites (RMPs) have also been uploaded to the <u>SGMA Portal</u> through September 2023 to align with the WY 2023 reporting period of this annual report.

7.6 **GSP** Amendments

No amendments to the GSP were necessary for the WY reporting period of this annual report.

8. References

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Table 1. Groundwater pepresentative monitoring points status.

Representative Monitoring Point	Management Area	Water Level Elevation (ft amsl)	Date	MT (ft amsl)	MO (ft amsl)	SMC Status Fall 2023
BT-MW1	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	5,303.55	2023-11-13	5,301	5,303	Near or Above MO
CH-MW2	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,208.95	2023-11-13	4,204	4,207	Near or Above MO
FS-2	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,215.63	2023-09-27	4,214	4,215	Near or Above MO
FS-3D ^a	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,180.98	2023-10-01	4,179		Undetermined
Hammil 2ª	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,419.40	2023-10-24	4,401		Undetermined
T397	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,200.65	2023-10-01	4,199	4,199	Near or Above MO
ICWCSD 4 ^b	Owens Valley			4,249	4,254	Undetermined
T001	Owens Valley	3,879.71	2023-07-30	3,867	3,880	Near or Above MO
T362 ^b	Owens Valley			4,047	4,072	Undetermined
T364	Owens Valley	3,900.09	2023-10-31	3,898	3,903	Middle of MO and MT
T384	Owens Valley	4,176.65	2023-10-23	4,165	4,168	Near or Above MO
T389	Owens Valley	4,231.99	2023-10-02	4,216	4,224	Near or Above MO
T391	Owens Valley	4,305.38	2023-10-10	4,296	4,303	Near or Above MO
T480	Owens Valley	3,996.83	2023-10-23	3,994	3,995	Near or Above MO
T513	Owens Valley	4,120.42	2023-10-24	4,113	4,117	Near or Above MO
T574	Owens Valley	4,083.02	2023-09-21	4,067	4,071	Near or Above MO
T750	Owens Valley	4,362.80	2023-09-27	4,357	4,360	Near or Above MO
T751	Owens Valley	4,388.49	2023-09-27	4,373	4,379	Near or Above MO
T808	Owens Valley	3,848.48	2023-09-25	3,834	3,846	Near or Above MO
T809	Owens Valley	3,831.76	2023-10-01	3,823	3,829	Near or Above MO



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Representative Monitoring Point	Management Area	Water Level Elevation (ft amsl)	Date	MT (ft amsl)	MO (ft amsl)	SMC Status Fall 2023
T869	Owens Valley	3,987.95	2023-10-17	3,983	3,985	Near or Above MO
T871	Owens Valley	3,858.51	2023-10-31	3,850	3,852	Near or Above MO
T872	Owens Valley	3,950.72	2023-10-08	3,946	3,955	Middle of MO and MT
T873	Owens Valley	4,975.97	2023-10-08	4,954	4,963	Near or Above MO
V016GB	Owens Valley	3,885.04	2023-10-16	3,880	3,882	Near or Above MO
V151	Owens Valley	3,844.96	2023-10-25	3,827	3,834	Near or Above MO
V299	Owens Valley	3,937.82	2023-10-26	3,909	3,914	Near or Above MO
WCCSD 2 ^b	Owens Valley			6,020	6,023	Undetermined
WCCSD 4 ^b	Owens Valley			6,263	6,274	Undetermined
DELTA W(3)_10°	Owens Lake			3,562	3,563	Undetermined
DVF North MW	Owens Lake	3,646.61	2023-10-01	3,643	3,645	Near or Above MO
DVF South Lower	Owens Lake	3,643.85	2023-10-01	3,640	3,643	Near or Above MO
DVF South Middle	Owens Lake	3,643.93	2023-10-01	3,639	3,643	Near or Above MO
DVF South Upper	Owens Lake	3,641.76	2023-10-01	3,636	3,641	Near or Above MO
Fault Test T3	Owens Lake	3,622.18	2023-10-01	3,620	3,623	Middle of MO and MT
Fault Test T5	Owens Lake	3,623.66	2023-10-13	3,617	3,623	Near or Above MO
110(7)_4	Owens Lake	3,571.07	2023-12-06	3,568	3,570	Near or Above MO
KCSD Well 1	Owens Lake	3,612.30	2023-10-01	3,612	3,613	Middle of MO and MT
Keeler-Swansea Lower	Owens Lake	3,617.04	2023-10-01	3,618	3,618	At or Below MT
O6(5)_4 ^c	Owens Lake			3,567	3,569	Undetermined
OL92-2	Owens Lake	3,608.22	2023-10-01	3,605	3,607	Near or Above MO
River Production Lower ^d	Owens Lake	3,633.58	2023-10-01			Undetermined
River Site Lower	Owens Lake	3,634.25	2023-10-01	3,594	3,633	Near or Above MO



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Representative Monitoring Point	Management Area	Water Level Elevation (ft amsl)	Date	MT (ft amsl)	MO (ft amsl)	SMC Status Fall 2023
SFIP MW ^e	Owens Lake	3,616.35	2023-10-01		3,613	Near or Above MO
T348	Owens Lake	3,633.72	2023-10-01	3,630	3,633	Near or Above MO
T588	Owens Lake	3,699.45	2023-09-13	3,685	3,693	Near or Above MO
T858	Owens Lake	3,677.41	2023-10-31	3,666	3,670	Near or Above MO
T860	Owens Lake	3,716.49	2023-09-12	3,708	3,711	Near or Above MO
T899	Owens Lake	3,622.15	2023-10-01	3,617	3,618	Near or Above MO
T901	Owens Lake	3,611.02	2023-10-01	3,607	3,610	Near or Above MO
T902	Owens Lake	3,630.48	2023-10-01	3,631	3,632	At or Below MT
T904	Owens Lake	3,630.02	2023-10-01	3,626	3,629	Near or Above MO
T908	Owens Lake	3,629.81	2023-10-01	3,625	3,627	Near or Above MO
T910	Owens Lake	3,611.78	2023-10-01	3,607	3,608	Near or Above MO
T916 ^f	Owens Lake	3,653.87	2023-09-13	3,704	3,704	Undetermined
T917 ^f	Owens Lake	3,653.58	2023-09-13	3,704	3,705	Undetermined
T920	Owens Lake	3,602.52	2023-07-31	3,600	3,601	Near or Above MO
T922 ^d	Owens Lake	3,585.03	2023-10-01			Undetermined
T924	Owens Lake	3,596.13	2023-09-26	3,590	3,592	Near or Above MO
T925 ^d	Owens Lake	3,618.48	2023-10-01			Undetermined
T929 ^d	Owens Lake	3,624.00	2023-10-01			Undetermined

^aNewly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objetive (MO) will be established in 5-year GSP update.

^bFall 2023 data unavailable.

^cReported destroyed by LADWP. To be removed during GSP 5-year update. ^dNewly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established in 5-year GSP update.

^eMT reported in GSP contains a typographical error and is not shown. MT will be corrected during next 5-year update.

^fCurrent SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next 5-year update.



Table 2. Reported dry wells.

Report Date	Approximate Issue Start Date	Management Area	Local Area Name	Was Issue Resolved?	Water Issues	Well Depth (ft)
12/13/2023	06/01/2018	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Hammil Valley	Yes, drilled replacement well	Well is dry (no longer producing water)	64
05/09/2022	05/09/2022	Owens Valley	Round Valley	No, on drilling wait list	Well is pumping sand, muddy water.	~60

Source: https://data.cnra.ca.gov/dataset/dry-well-reporting-system-data



Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report WY 2023

Table 3. Groundwater extractions.

Management Area	Sector	Method	GW Extraction Volume (AF)	Accuracy	Range (AF)
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	OpenET	13,103	± 20 %	10,482 - 15,724
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	0	±5%	0 - 0
Subtotal			13,103		10,482 - 15,724
Owens Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	5,995	±5%	5,695 - 6,295
Owens Valley	Domestic	Totalizer	73	±5%	69 - 77
Owens Valley	Managed Recharge	Totalizer	14,104	±5%	13,399 - 14,809
Owens Valley	Managed Wetlands	Totalizer	2,459	±5%	2,336 - 2,582
Owens Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	11,570	±5%	10,992 - 12,148
Owens Valley	Native Vegetation	Totalizer	1,047	±5%	995 - 1,099
Owens Valley	Other	Totalizer	22,110	±5%	21,004 - 23,216
Owens Valley	Tribes	Totalizer	623	±5%	592 - 654
Subtotal			57,981		55,082 - 60,880
Owens Lake	Agricultural	Totalizer	0	±5%	0 - 0
Owens Lake	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	1,676	±5%	1,592 - 1,760
Subtotal			1,676		1,592 - 1,760
Total			72,760		67,156 - 78,364

Notes:

1. Municipal and Industrial and Tribes water use sectors are not included in LADWP SGMA reporting.



Table 4. Surface water use.

Management Area	Surface Water Source	Sector	Method	Annual Volume Used (AF)	Accuracy	Range (AF)
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Totalizer	4,053	±5%	3,850 - 4,256
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Unknown	1,362	± 33 %	913 - 1,811
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Weir	3,627	±5%	3,446 - 3,808
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Other	Unknown	1,347	± 33 %	902 - 1,792
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Other	Weir	717	±5%	681 - 753
Subtotal				11,106		9,792 - 12,420
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Weirs and Flumes	61,200	±5%	58,140 - 64,260
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Domestic	Weirs and Flumes	747	±5%	710 - 784
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Managed Recharge	Weirs and Flumes	143,985	±5%	136,786 - 151,184
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Managed Wetlands	Weirs and Flumes	25,104	±5%	23,849 - 26,359
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Native Vegetation	Weirs and Flumes	10,691	±5%	10,156 - 11,226
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Other	Weirs and Flumes	228,742	±5%	217,305 - 240,179
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Tribes	Weirs and Flumes	6,362	±5%	6,044 - 6,680
Subtotal				476,831		452,990 - 500,672
Total				487,937		462,782 - 513,092

Notes:

1. LADWP only reports total combined surface water use for Owens Valley and Owens Lake Management Areas.



Table 5. Surface water representative monitoring point status.

Representative Monitoring Point	Management Area	Average Daily Flow Rate (cfs) ¹	Month	MT (cfs)	MO (cfs)	SMC Status
SW3208	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	0.1	September 2023	0.1	0.5	At or Below MT

¹LADWP reports total flow volume in AF for the month, which is multiplied by a factor of 0.01656 to convert to average daily flow rate in cfs.





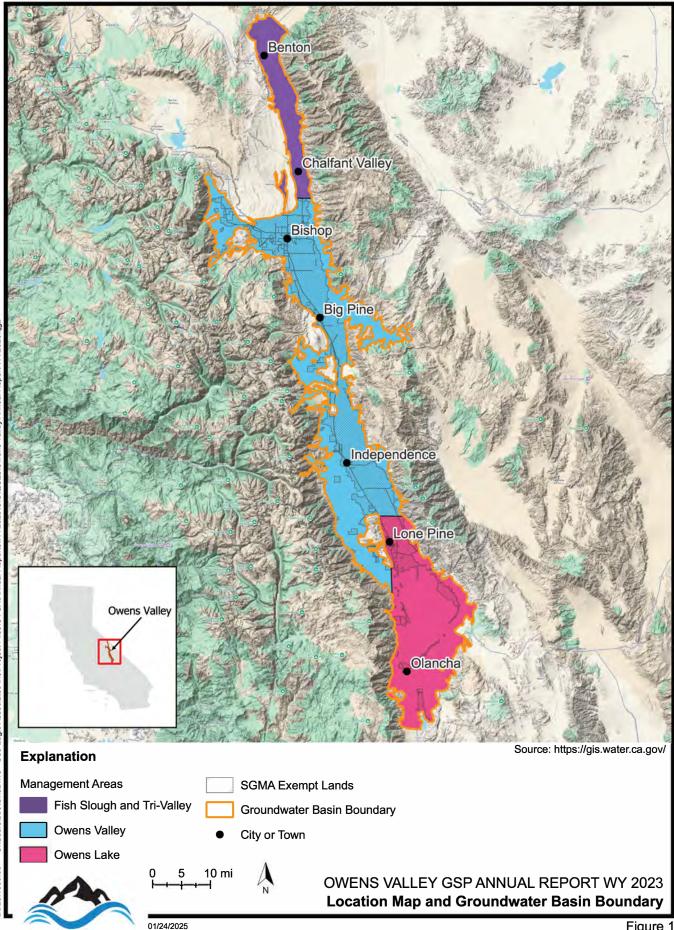
Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report WY 2023

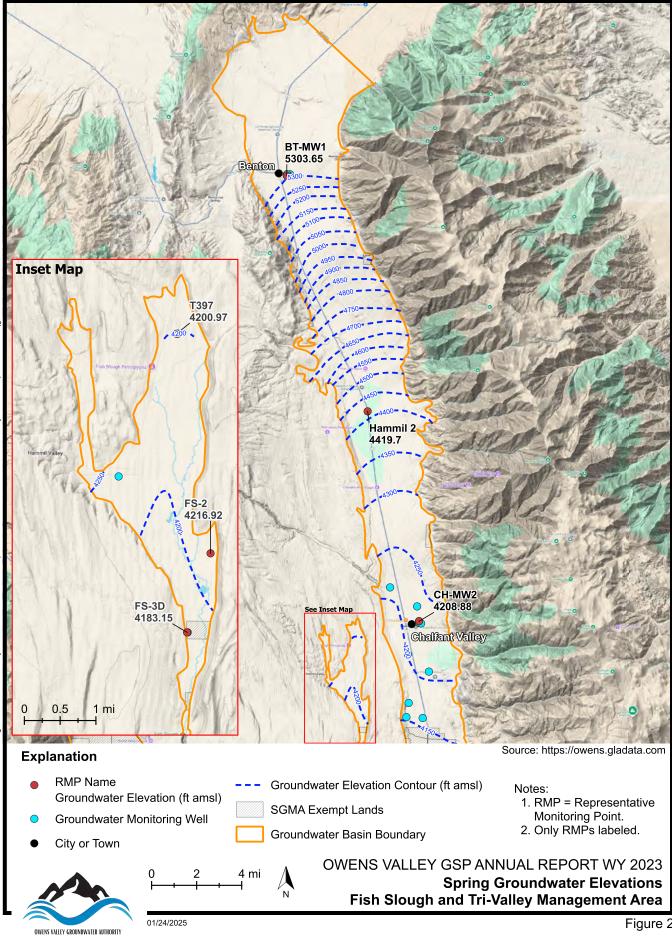
Table 6. Total Water Use.

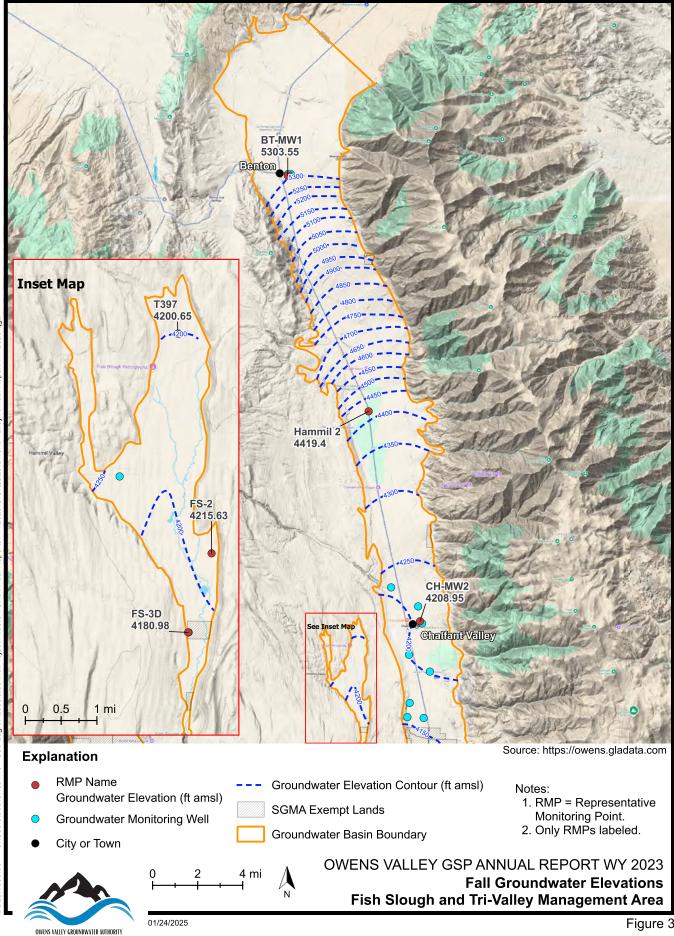
Management Area	Sector	Method	Accuracy	Total Annual Volume (AF)	Range (AF)	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	OpenET	± 20 %	13,103	10,482 - 15,724	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	±5%	4,053	3,850 - 4,256	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Unknown	± 33 %	1,362	913 - 1,811	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Weir	±5%	3,627	3,446 - 3,808	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	±5%	0	0 - 0	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Other	Unknown	± 33 %	1,347	902 - 1,792	
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Other	Weir	±5%	717	681 - 753	
Subtotal				24,209	20,274 - 28,144	
Owens Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	±5%	5,995	5,695 - 6,295	
Owens Valley	Domestic	Totalizer	±5%	73	69 - 77	
Owens Valley	Managed Recharge	Totalizer	±5%	14,104	13,399 - 14,809	
Owens Valley	Managed Wetlands	Totalizer	±5%	2,459	2,336 - 2,582	
Owens Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	±5%	11,570	10,992 - 12,148	
Owens Valley	Native Vegetation	Totalizer	±5%	1,047	995 - 1,099	
Owens Valley	Other	Totalizer	±5%	22,110	21,004 - 23,216	
Owens Valley	Tribes	Totalizer	±5%	623	592 - 654	
Subtotal				57,981	55,082 - 60,880	
Owens Lake	Agricultural	Totalizer	±5%	0	0 - 0	
Owens Lake	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	±5%	1,676	1,592 - 1,760	
Subtotal				1,676	1,592 - 1,760	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Agricultural	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	61,200	58,140 - 64,260	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Domestic	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	747	710 - 784	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Managed Recharge	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	143,985	136,786 - 151,184	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Managed Wetlands	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	25,104	23,849 - 26,359	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Native Vegetation	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	10,691	10,156 - 11,226	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Other	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	228,742	217,305 - 240,179	
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Tribes	Weirs and Flumes	±5%	6,362	6,044 - 6,680	
Subtotal				476,831	452,990 - 500,672	
Total				560,697	529,938 - 591,456	

Notes:

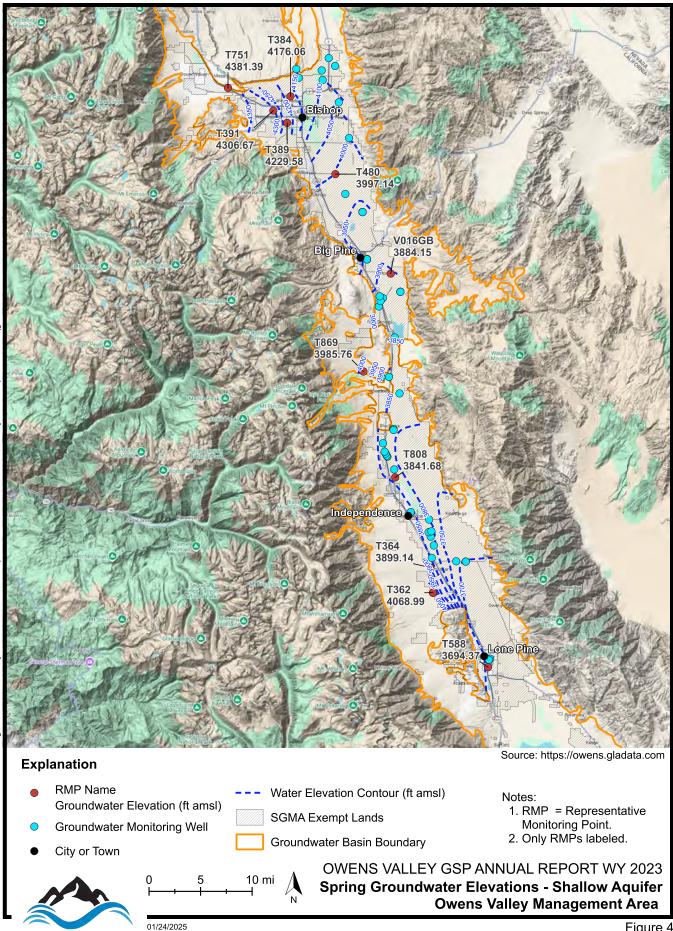
Municipal and Industrial and Tribes water use sectors are not included in LADWP SGMA reporting.
 LADWP only reports total combined surface water use for Owens Valley and Owens Lake Management Areas.

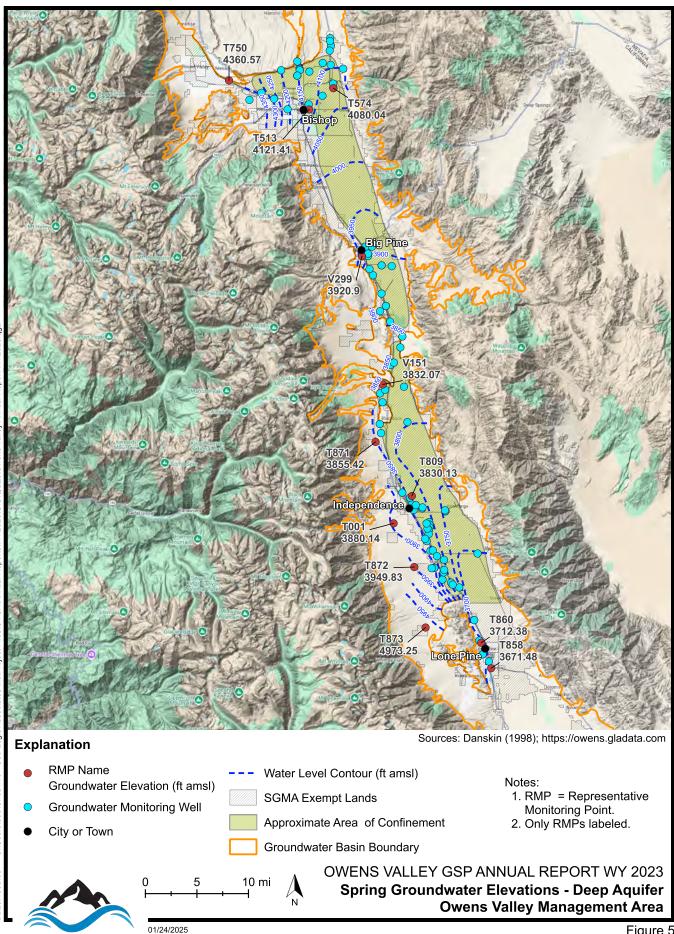


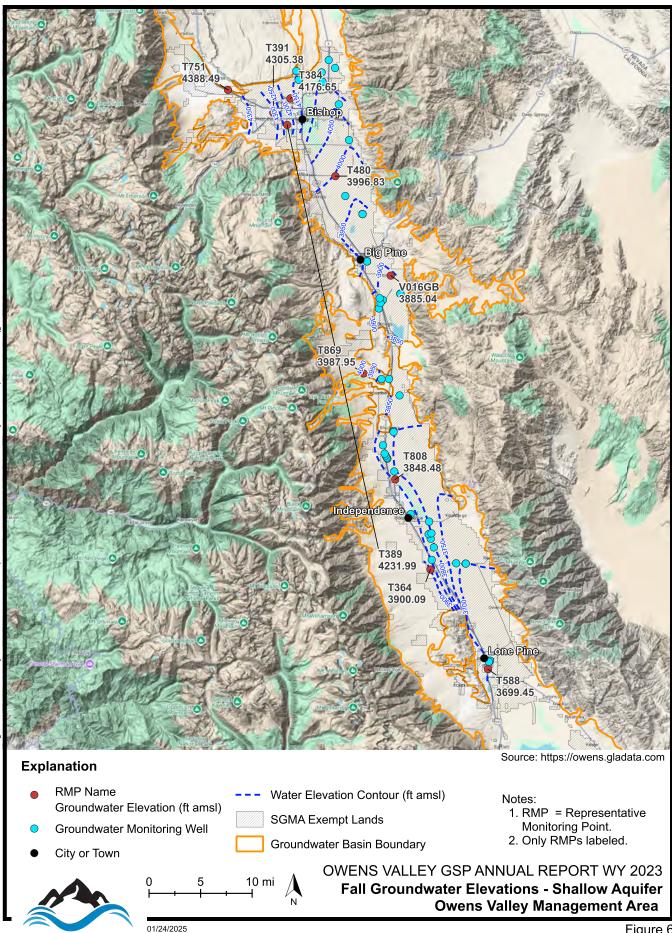


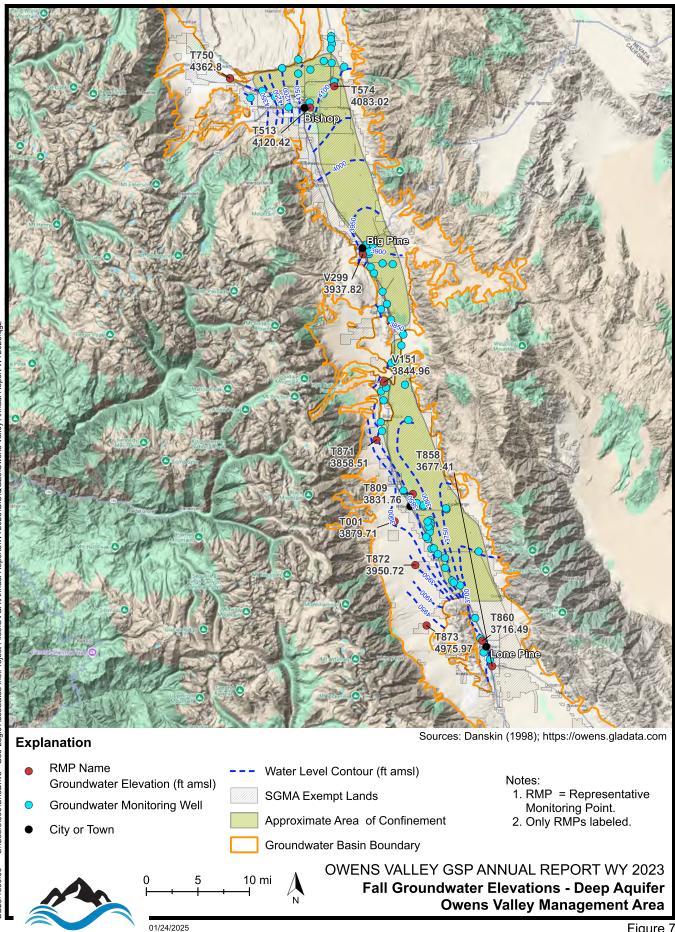


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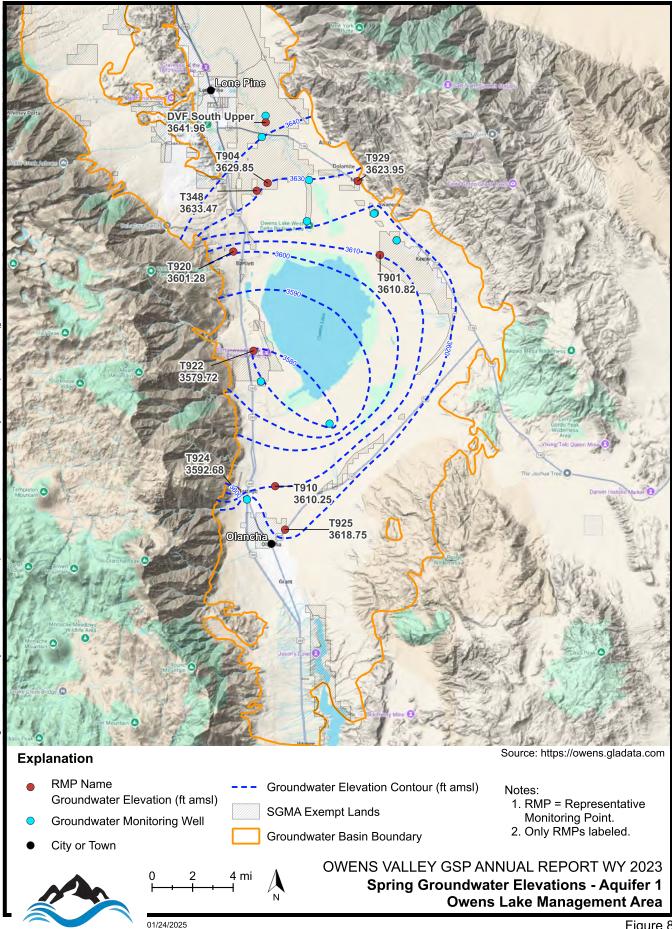






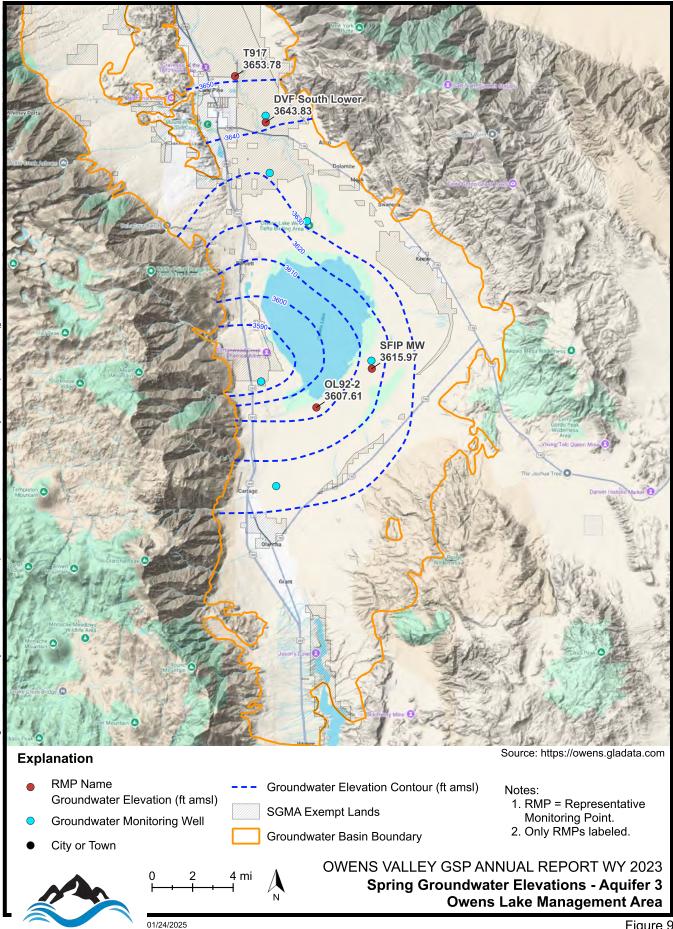


OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY



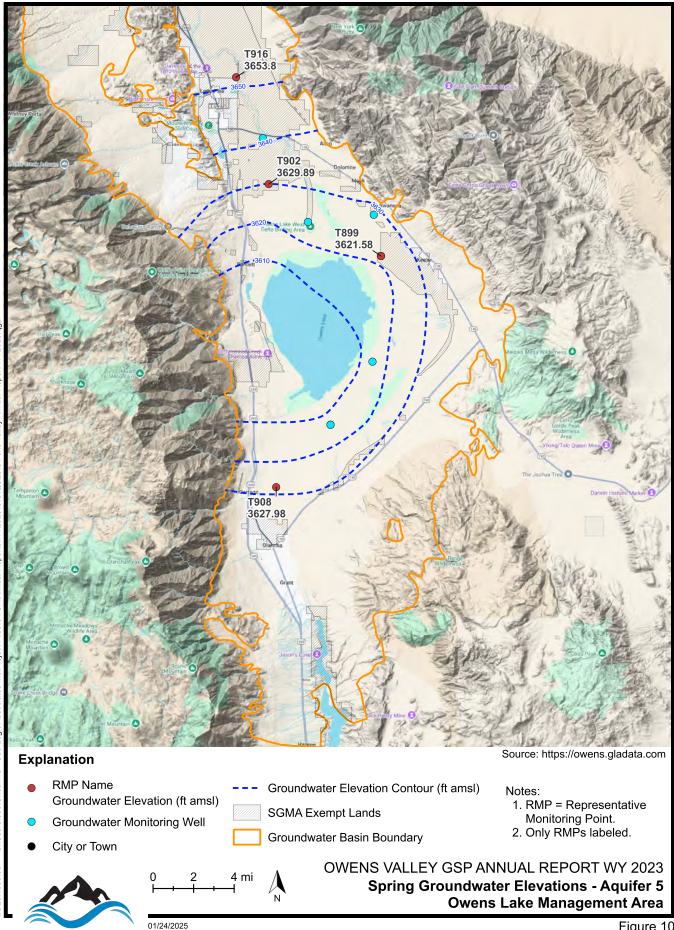
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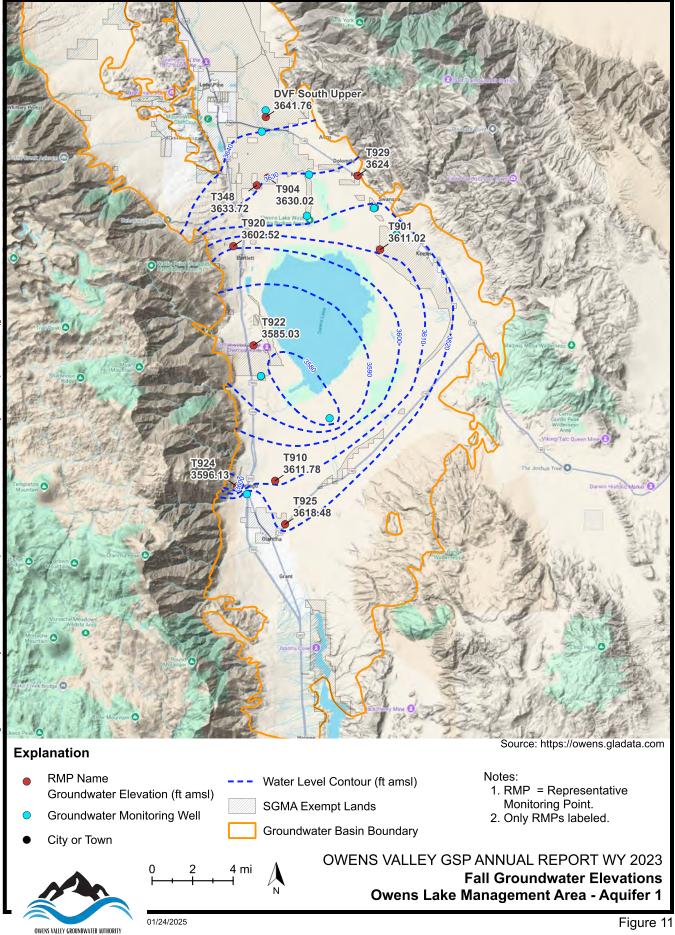


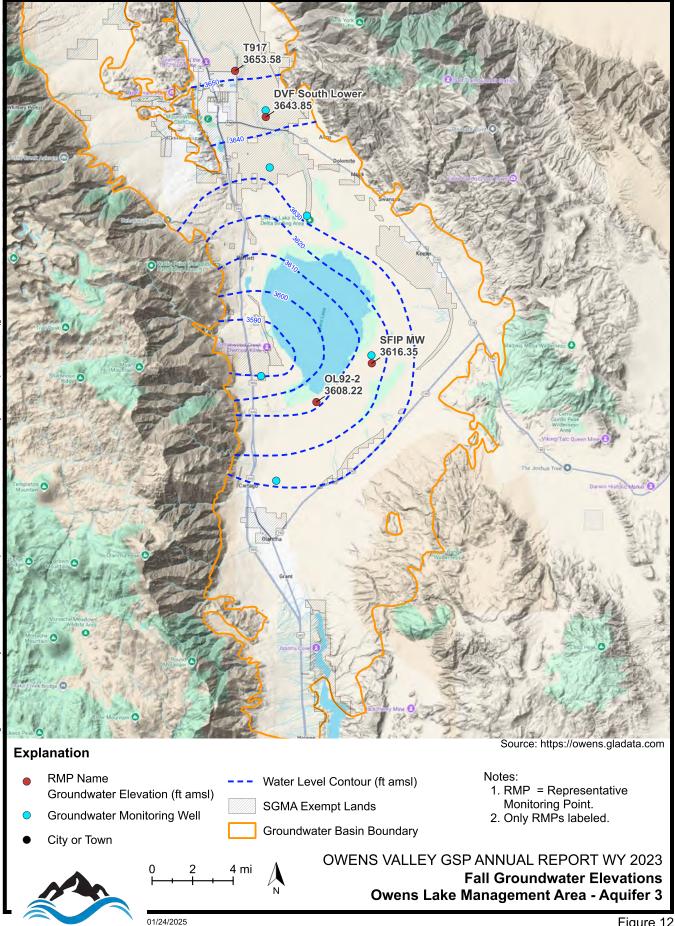
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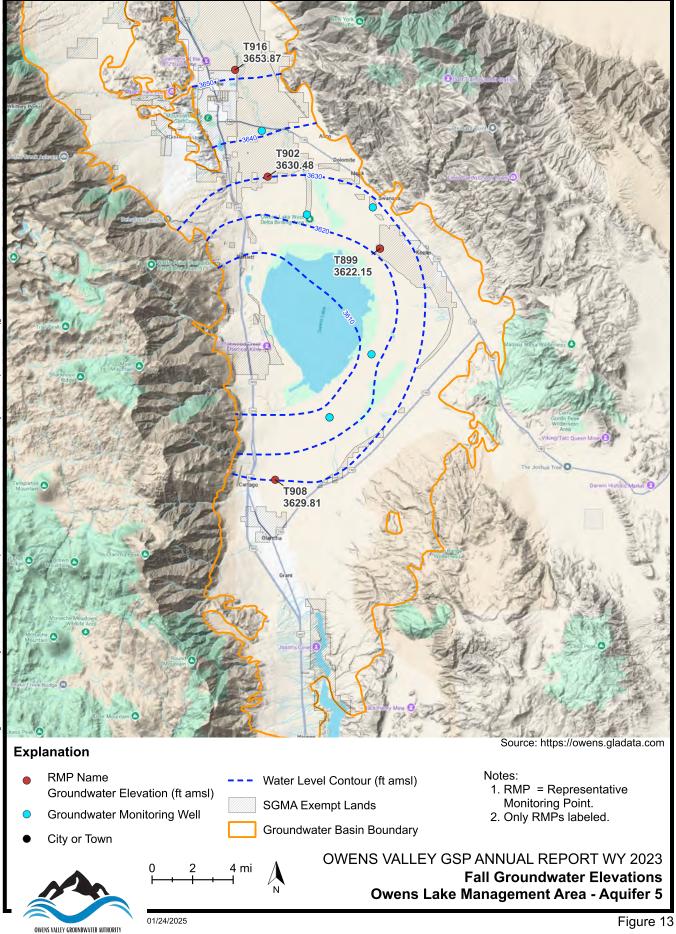


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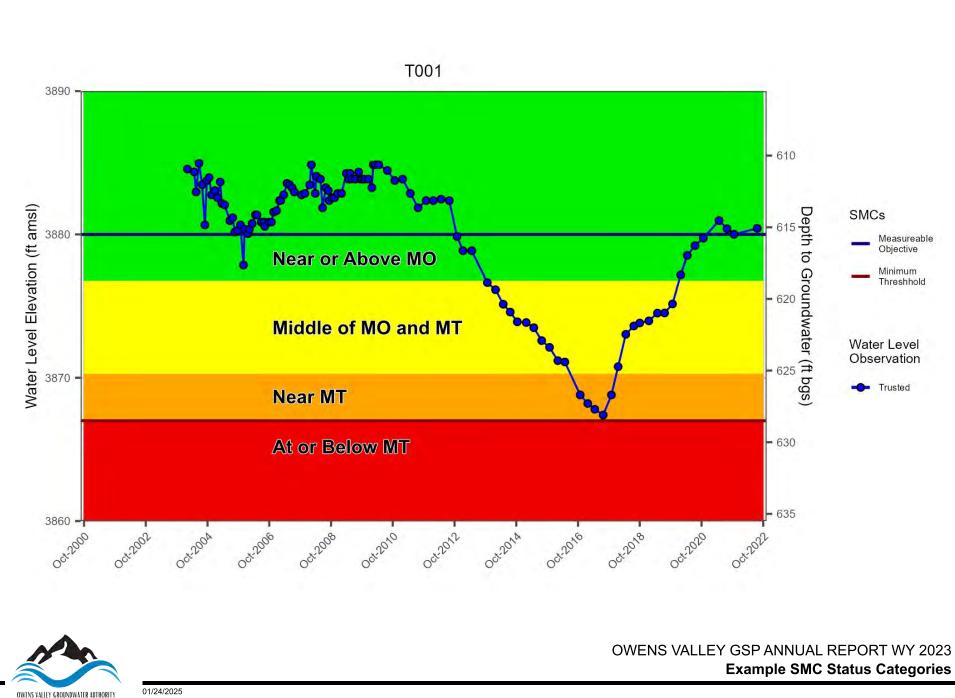


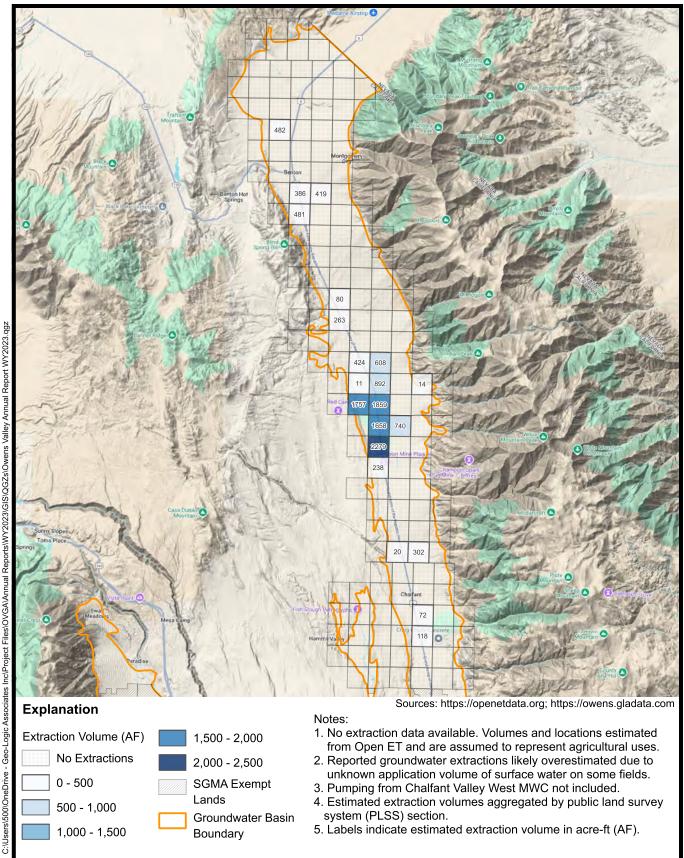


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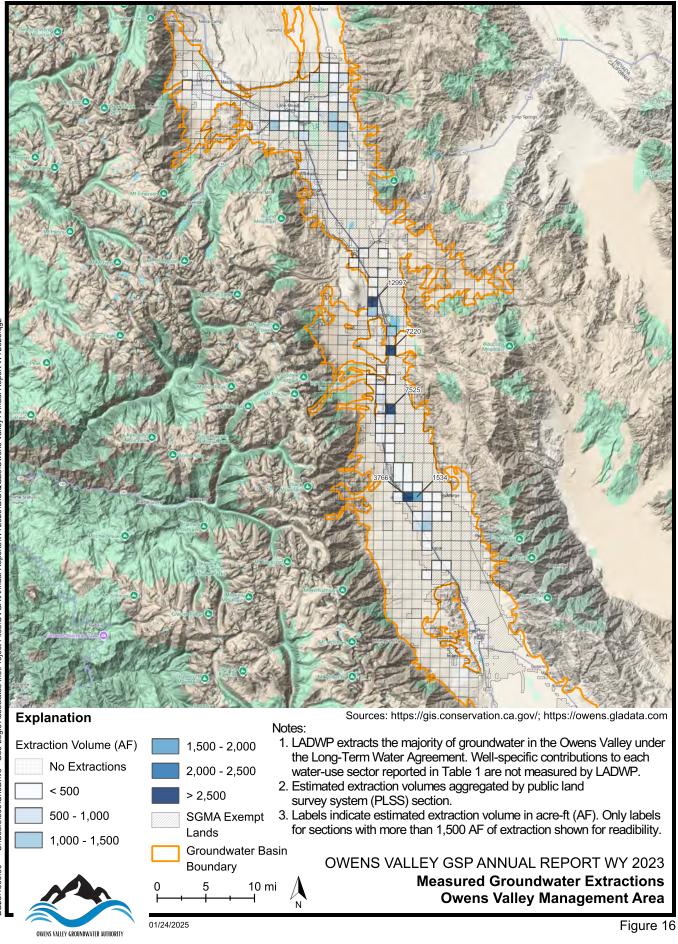
OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2023 Estimated Groundwater Extractions Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

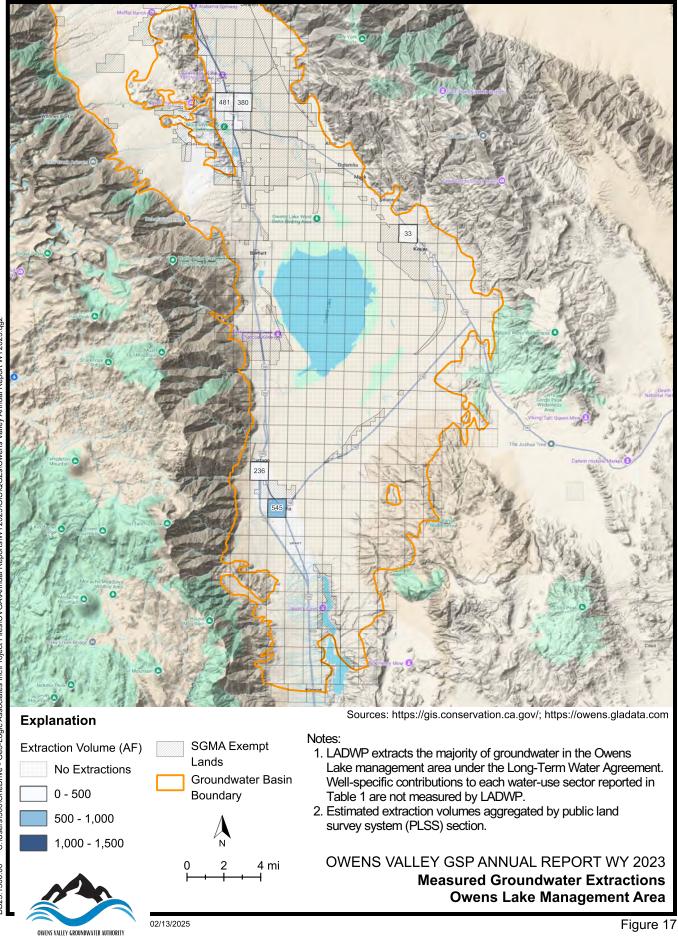
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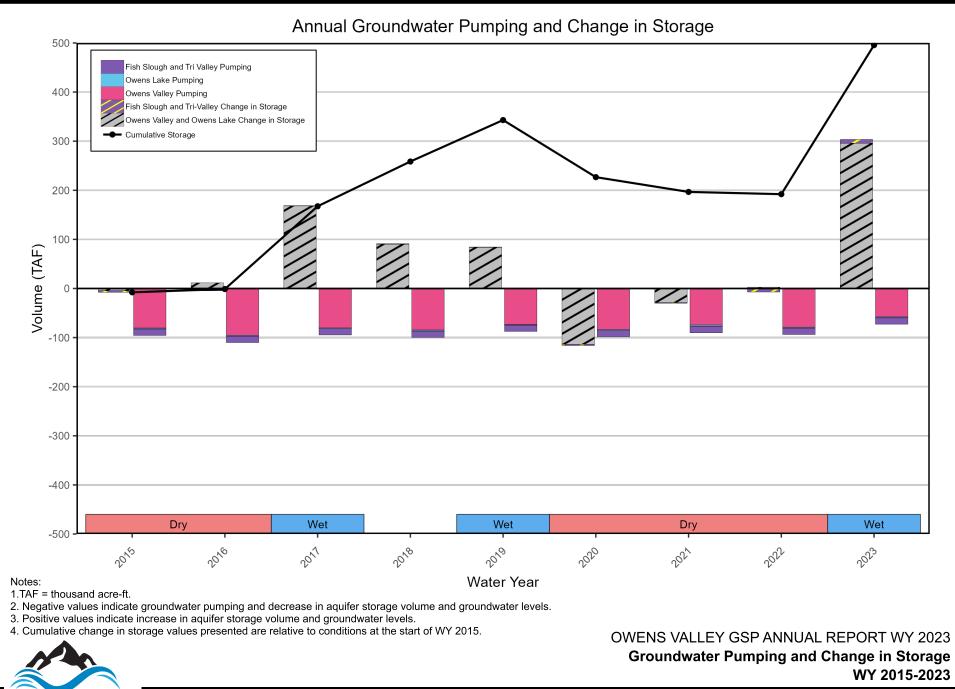
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OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Figure

18

02/18/2025



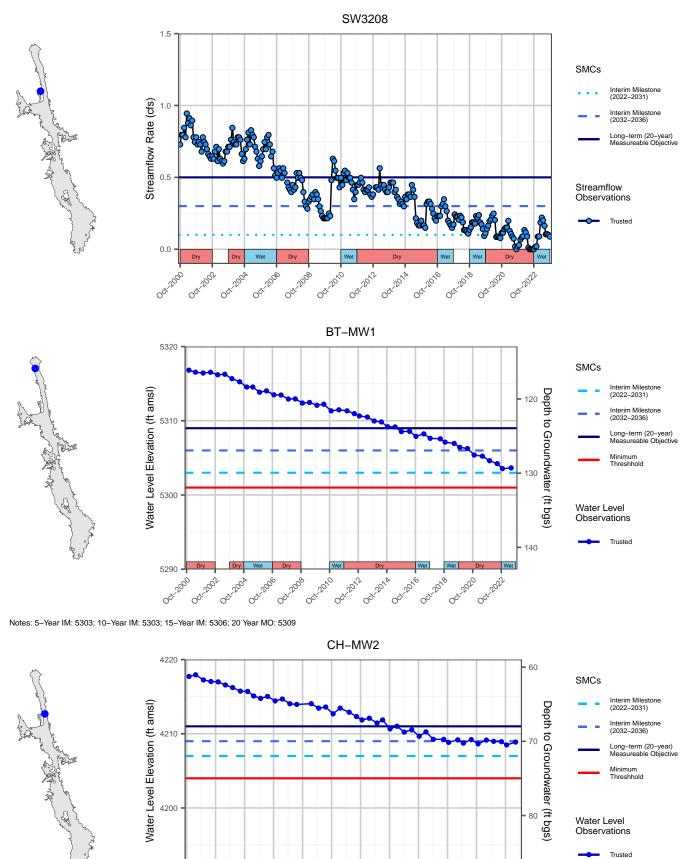
Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report WY 2023

Appendix A

Representative Monitoring Point Hydrographs



Fish Slough and Tri–Valley Management Area



00t-2018

4 0^{ct-2016}

00t-2010

+ 000-2008

001-2006

Oct-2012

4 00t-2014 00t-2020

4 0°t-2022

Notes: 5-Year IM: 4207; 10-Year IM: 4207; 15-Year IM: 4209; 20 Year MO: 4211

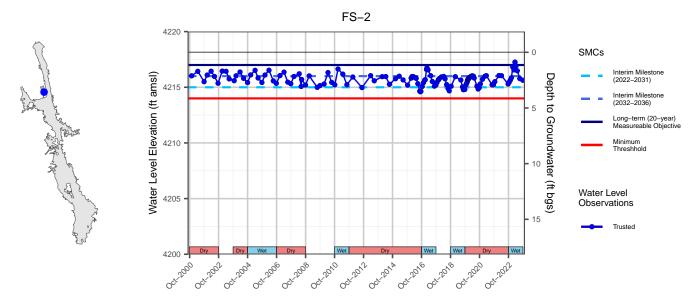
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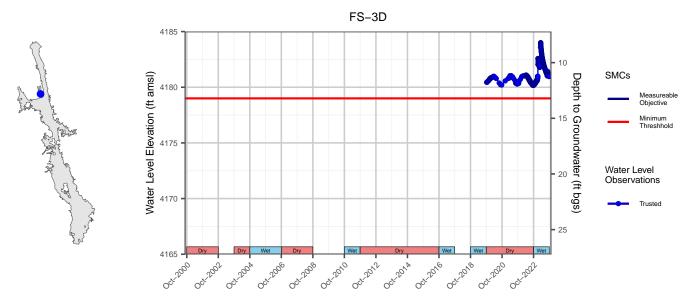
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001-200A

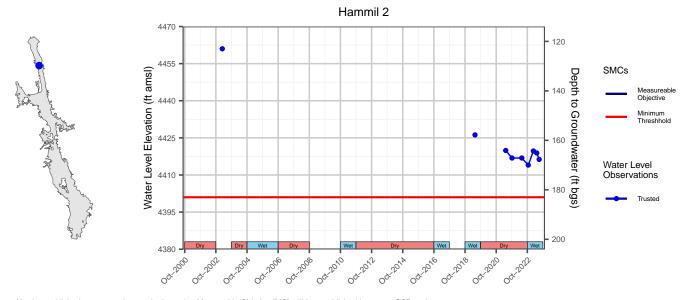
Fish Slough and Tri–Valley Management Area



Notes: 5-Year IM: 4215; 10-Year IM: 4215; 15-Year IM: 4216; 20 Year MO: 4217



Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objetive (MO) will be established in 5-year GSP update.

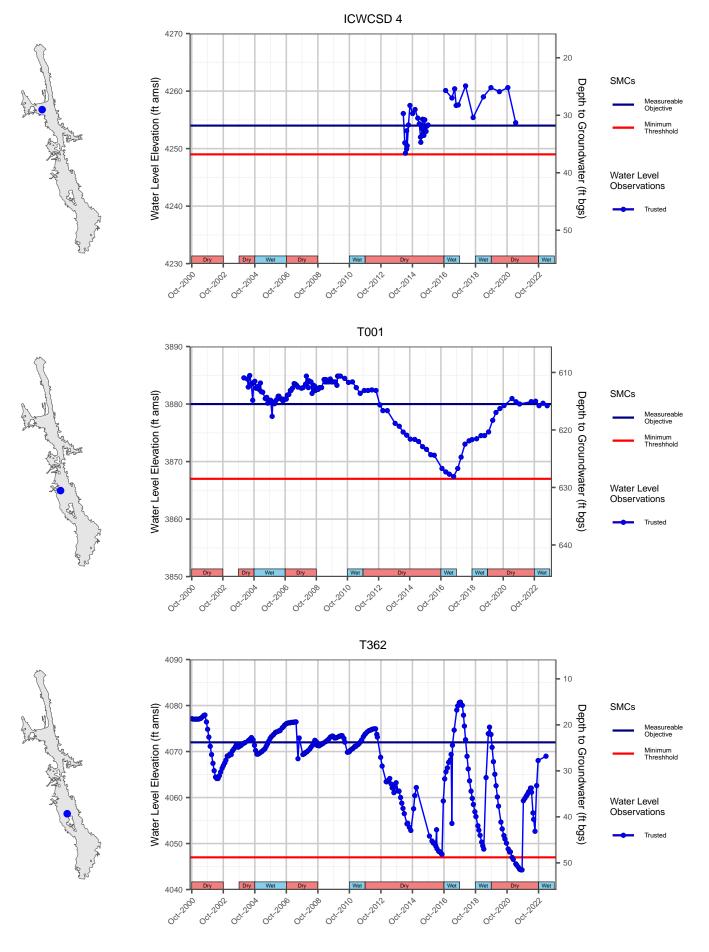


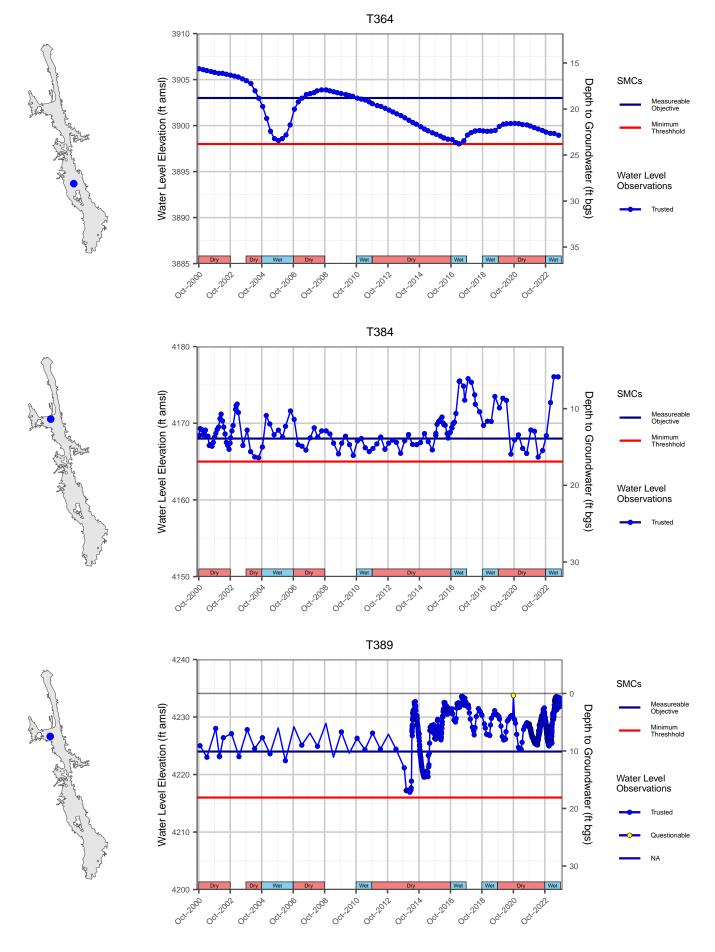
Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objetive (MO) will be established in 5-year GSP update.

Fish Slough and Tri–Valley Management Area

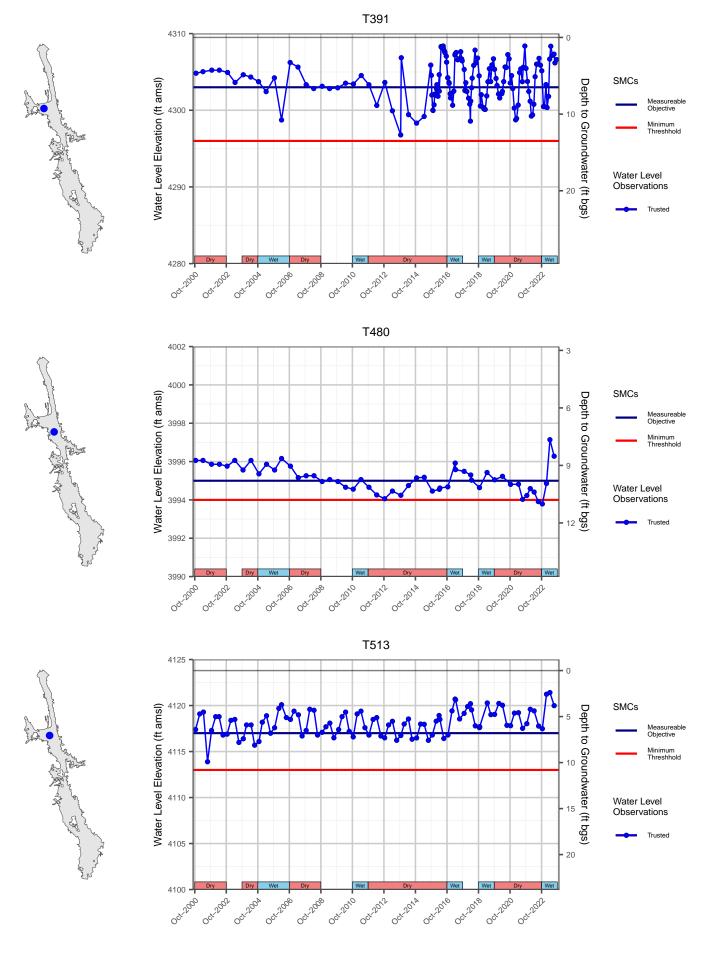


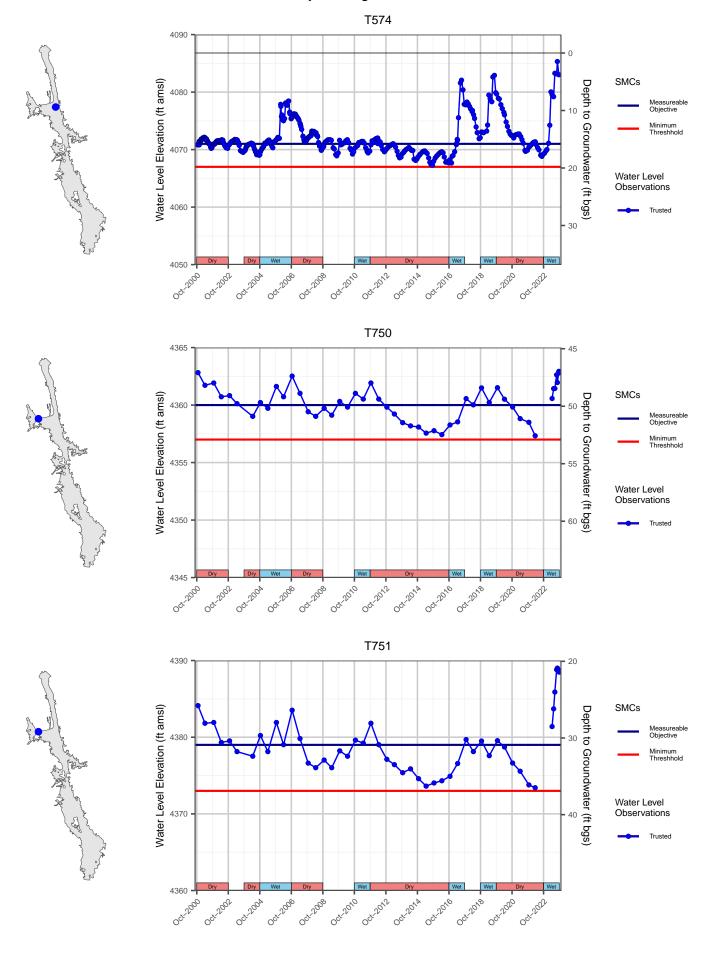
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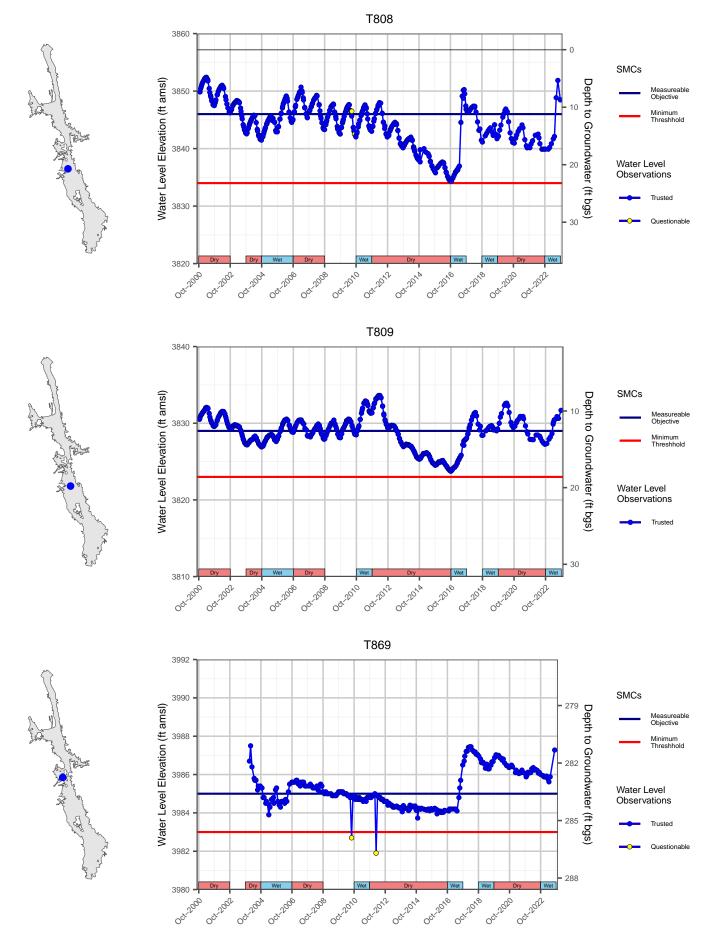


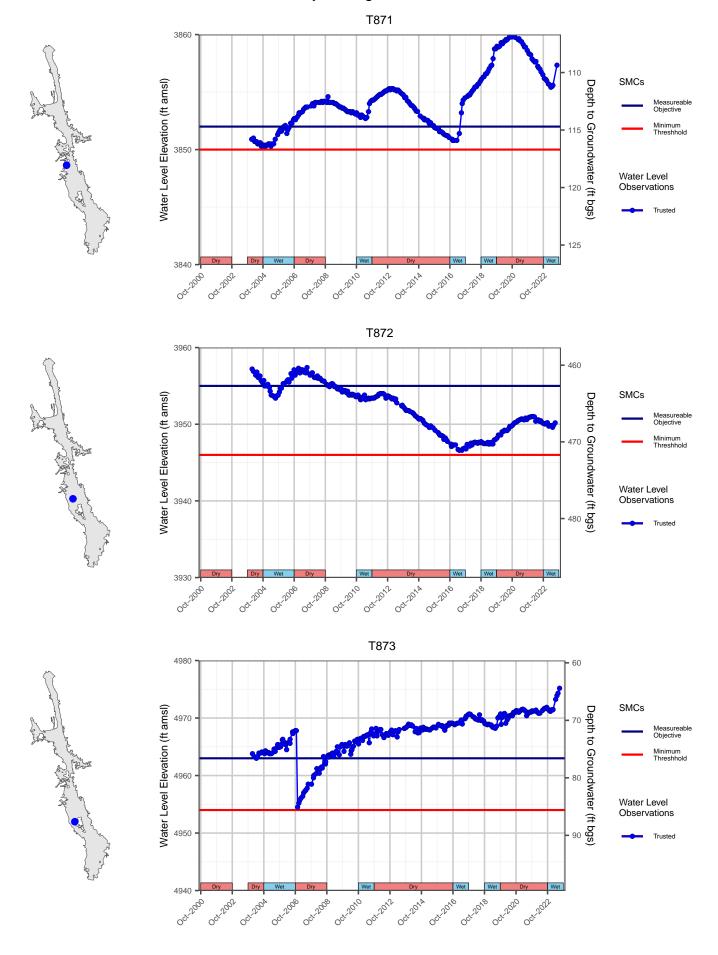


Owens Valley Management Area

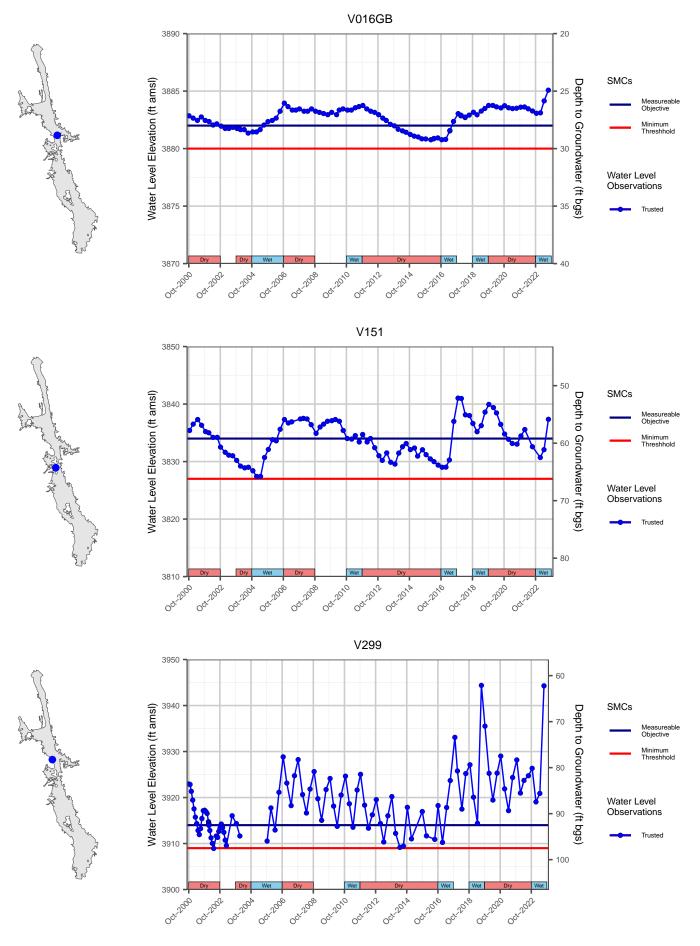


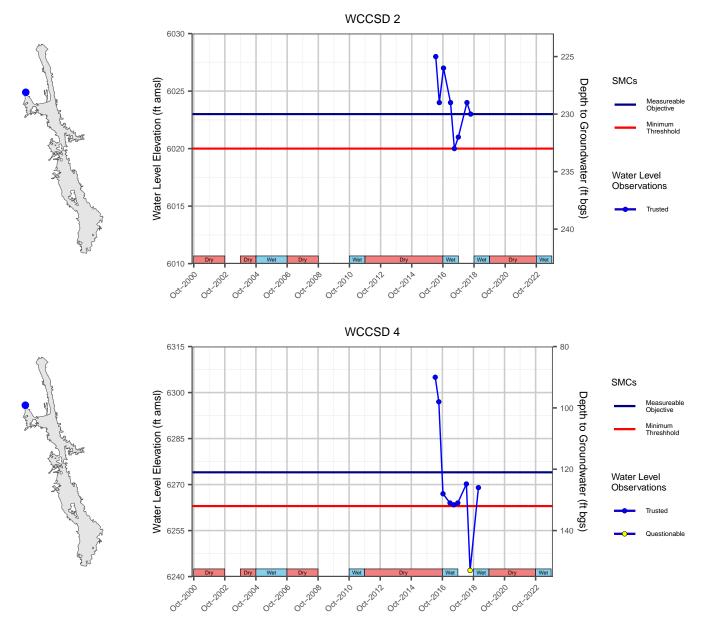


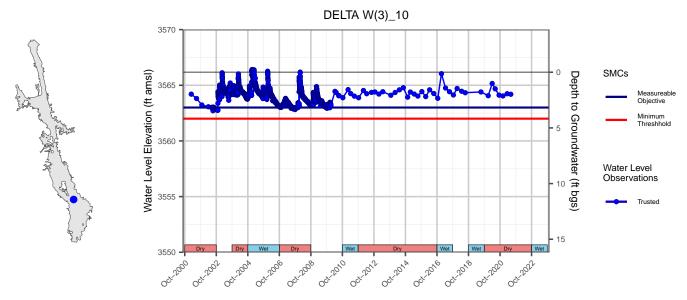




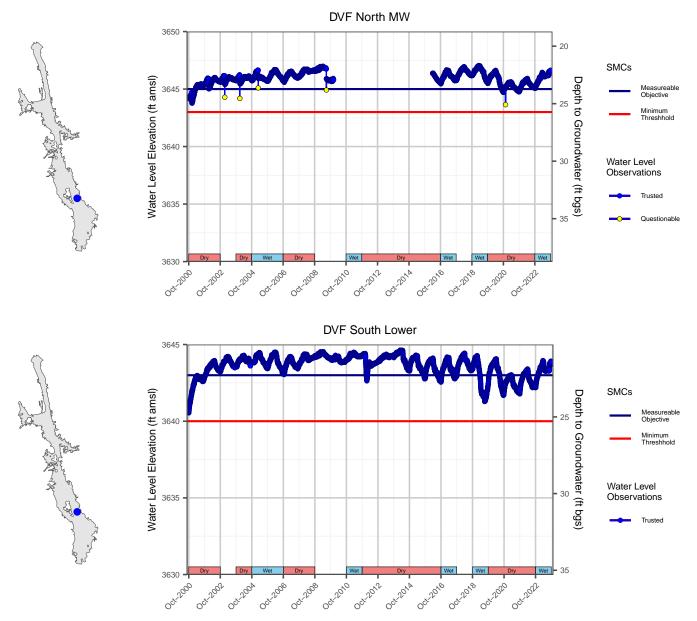
Owens Valley Management Area

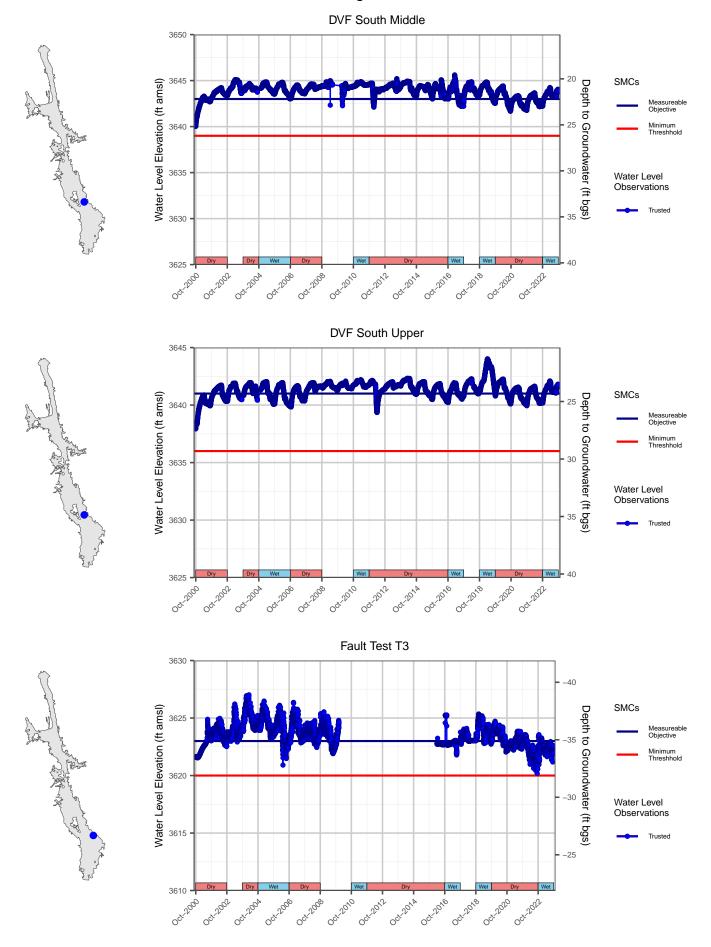


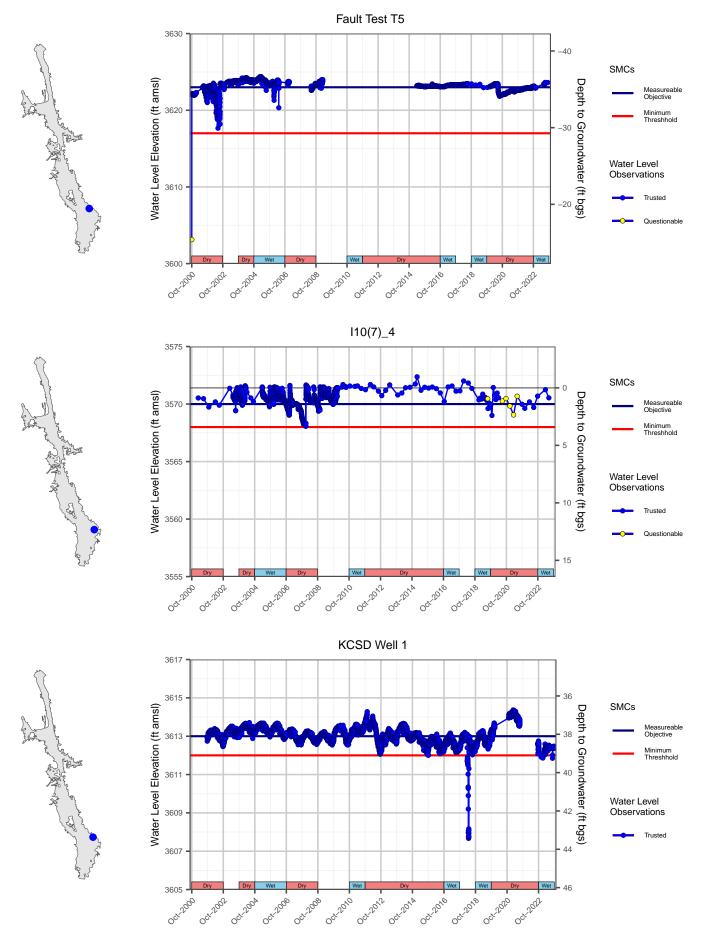


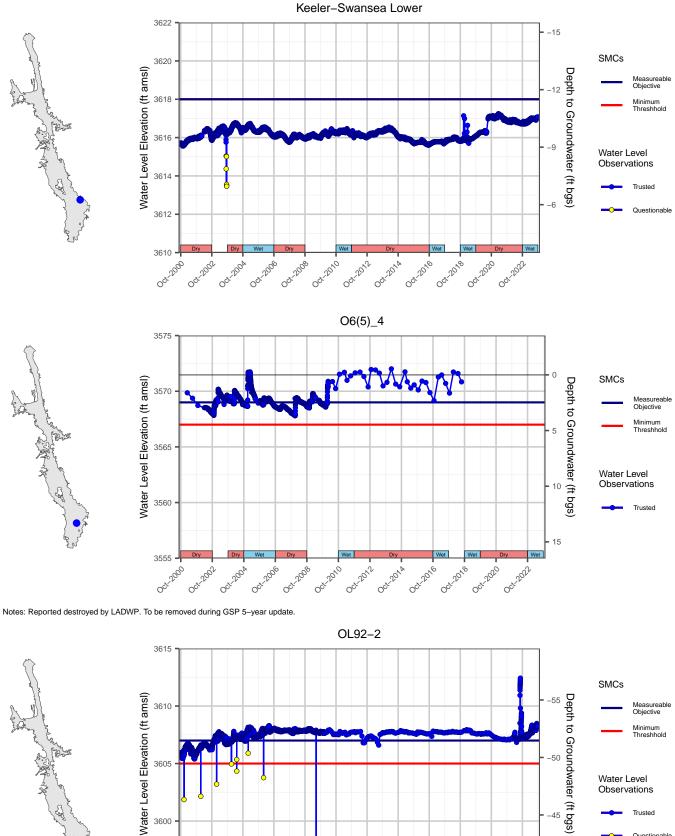


Notes: Reported destroyed by LADWP. To be removed during GSP 5-year update.









Net

OCT-2012

OCT-201A

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1 0°^{ct-2018}

0°1-2020

oct-2010

+ 0^{ct-2008}

3595

oct-200

4 0ct-2002

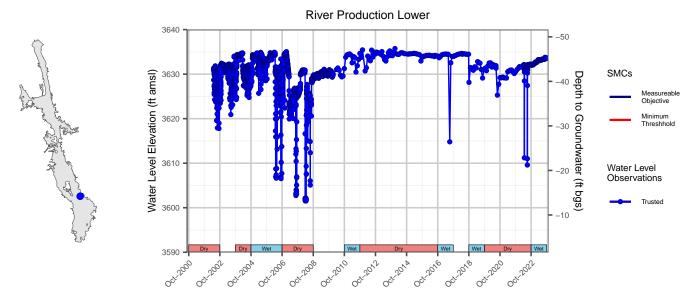
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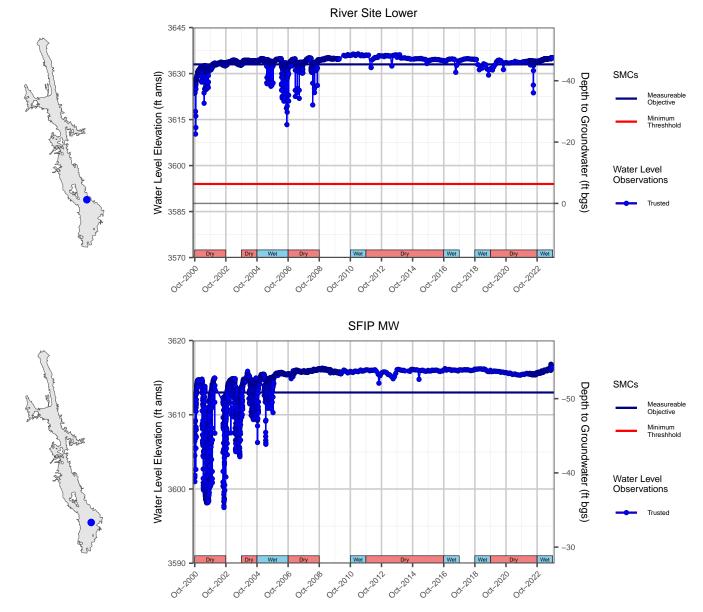
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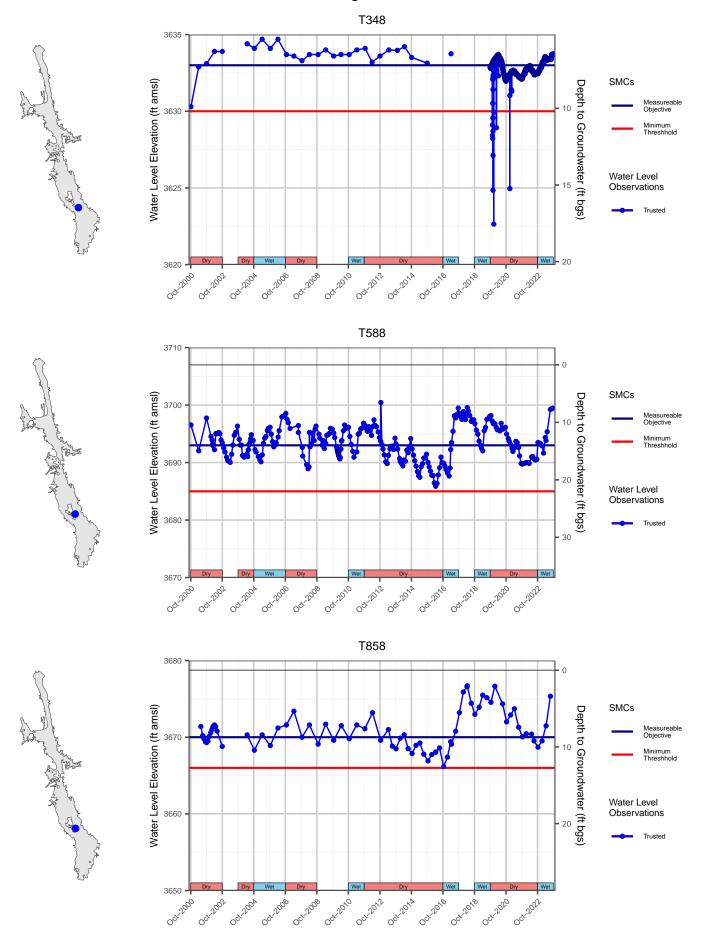
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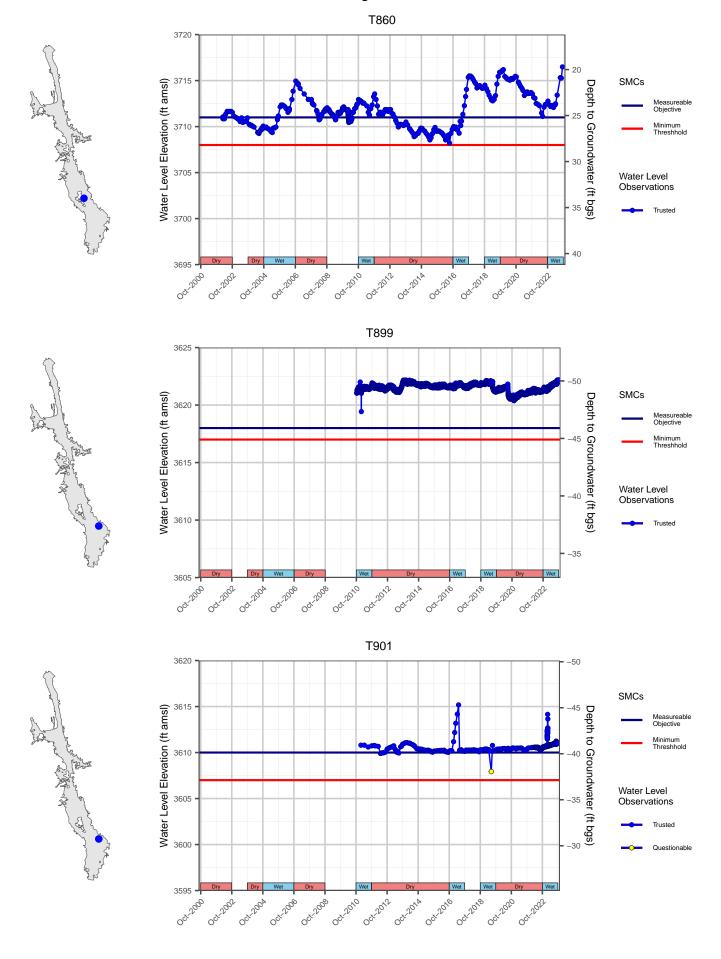


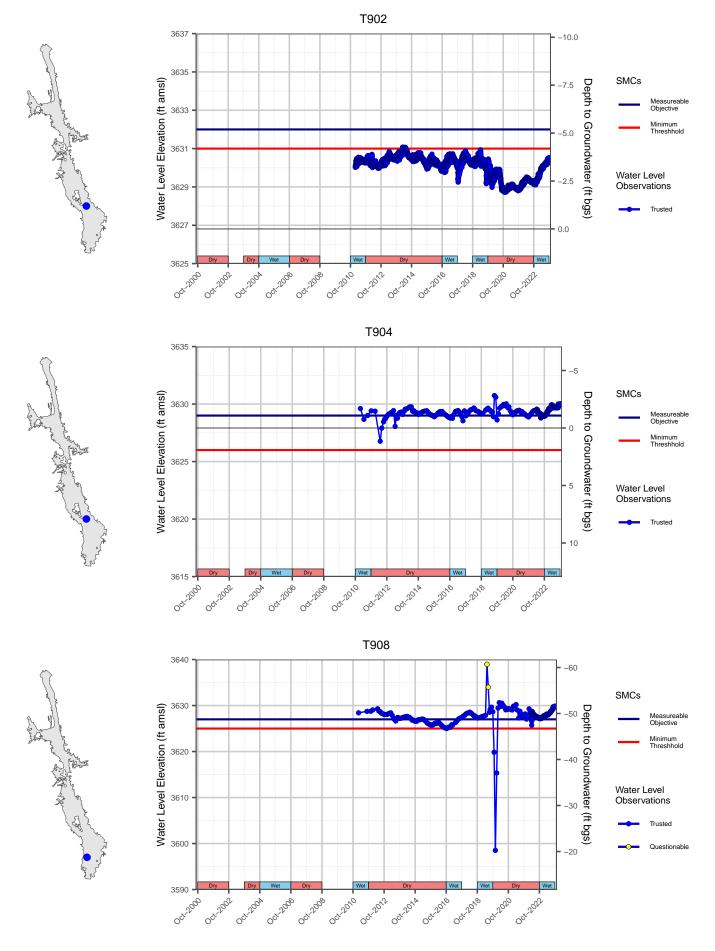
Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established in 5-year GSP update.



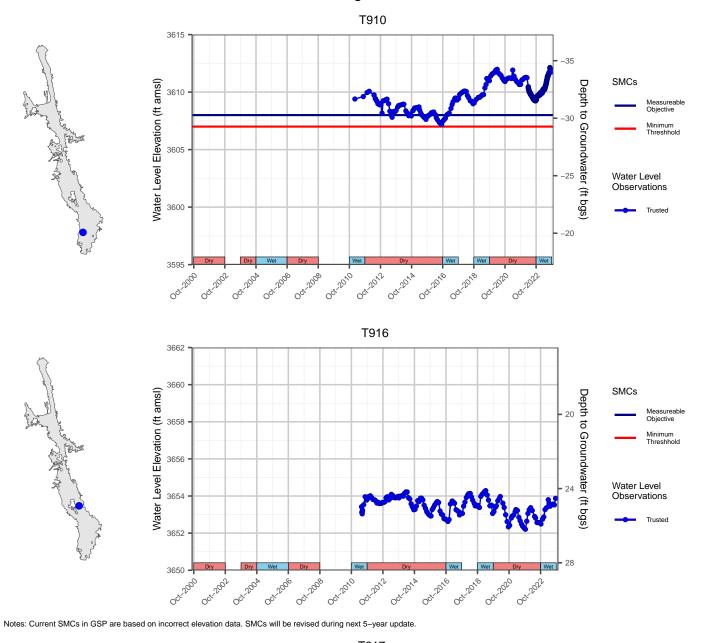
Notes: MT reported in GSP contains a typographical error and is not shown. MT will be corrected during next 5-year update.

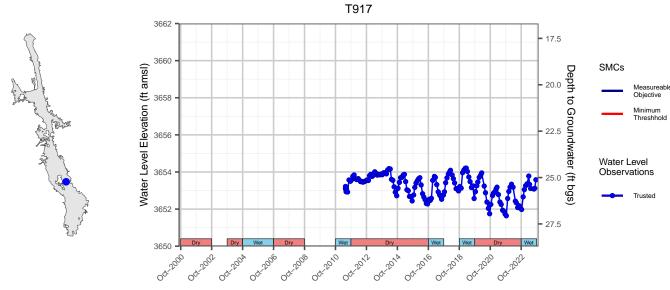




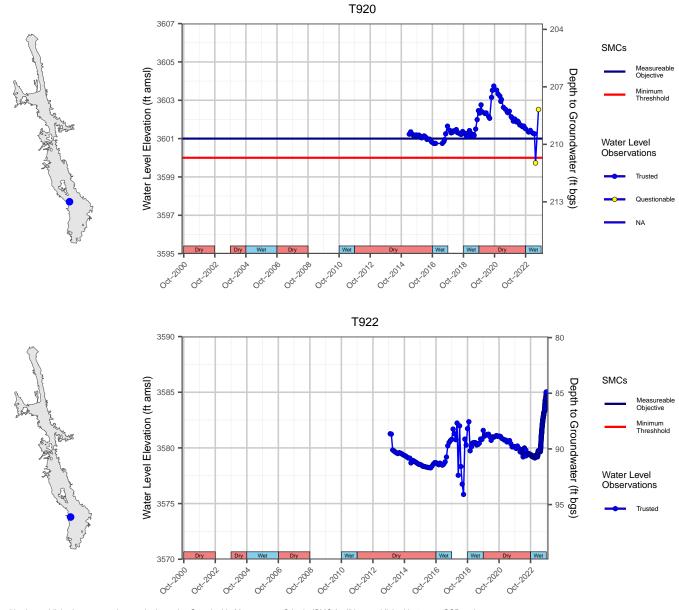


Owens Lake Management Area

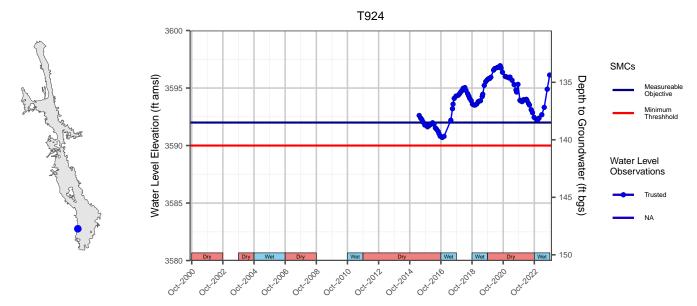


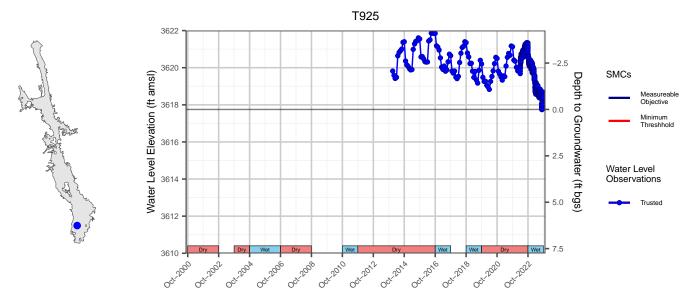


Notes: Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next 5-year update.

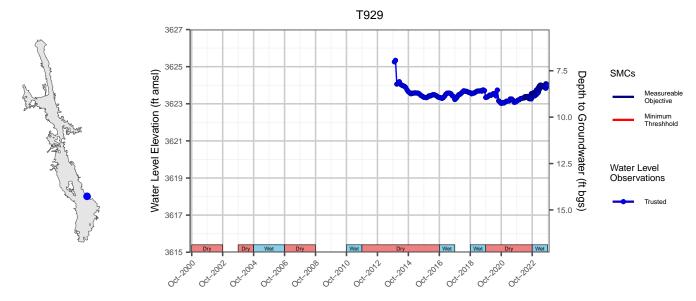


Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established in 5-year GSP update.





Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established in 5-year GSP update.



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Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report WY 2023

Appendix B

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Response to Public Comments

