MINUTES

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Board Members:

INDIAN CREEK-WESTRIDGE CSD	Sarah Petersen	BIG PINE CSD	BryAnna Vaughan
CITY OF BISHOP	Karen Kong	LONE PINE PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBE	Mel Joseph
COUNTY OF INYO	Scott Marcellin	OWENS VALLEY COMMITTEE	Mary Roper

June 25, 2025

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at approximately 2:06 pm at the Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Reservation Wellness Building, Lone Pine, CA.

1. Pledge of allegiance

Ted Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

Lauren Joseph, Tribal Elder of the Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe, provided an opening prayer.

2. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with one absence, BryAnna Vaughan, Big Pine CSD, and one alternate Board member present, Ted Williams with Indian Creek Westridge CSD.

3. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period.

Sally Manning wished to make a change to her comment in the 2-27-25 minutes stating the 5-acre pond affected by the pumping with DWP operations at the fish hatchery is not on DWP land but is on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land so it is subject to the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA) Board oversight.

Mel Joseph requested that items 6 and 9 be switched. Karen Kong suggested the presentation (item 9) go after item 6, the financial report. Mel Joseph stated the presentation should have been named "Water Banking in the Owens Valley".

4. Approval of minutes from the February 27, 2025, OVGA Board meeting

Motion to approve the February 27, 2025, minutes with the requested change to Sally Mannings comment, the fish hatchery is on BLM land, not DWP. Mel Joseph, seconded by Scott Marcellin. Motion passed with two abstentions.

John Vallejo stated for the record and the change to the minutes, federal lands (BLM) as mentioned earlier are not subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

5. Board Member Reports

Ted Williams stated Indian Creek Westridge CSD is considering the possibility of consolidating with Sierra Highlands CSD and Brookside MWC. He said the state is pushing for consolidation of water systems.

Mel Joseph stated the Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe (LPPST) was pleased to host the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting.

6. OVGA Financial Report

Laura Piper provided the OVGA financial report stating the cash balance is $246,331.62 with 3rd quarter interest of $72.30 and the following expenses: $5,019 in consultant costs, $7,844.90 in staff charges, and $2,437.50 for insurance.

7. Presentation by Mel Joseph on Owens Dry Lake (20 minutes)

Mel Joseph provided a brief overview of the presentation regarding concerns on water issues in the southern end of the valley and water banking. April Zrelak, LPPSR, provided a detailed presentation on groundwater banking, managed recharge, calculating water extraction, and possible water banking impacts on the aquifer near the LPPSR. The Board and staff discussed this matter in detail and at length.

BryAnna Vaughan joined the meeting at 2:57pm.

Sally Manning asked if LADWP does groundwater banking on their own land, would they be subject to Department of Water Resources (DWR) oversight. April Zrelak stated yes, and they will need a permit even on their own land. Sally Manning stated during the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) days, all the focus was on groundwater pumping, but the other part of the equation is what's coming in and how it's managed. She stated there is no coordination on the recharge. Kristen Stipinov asked if the California State Lands Commission must show a lease for everything that happens on the lakebed, she is curious about the power dynamics. April Zrelak provided background for her. John Vallejo stated to avoid any misconceptions regarding the applicability of the OVGA on the lake, this Board can do as it deems appropriate with management actions and LADWP can challenge it if they like. He stated many of the lake issues are California State Lands issues and California State Lands are exempted from OVGA oversight. He also stated as far as input from Inyo County on water banking, the LTWA has an express provision regarding groundwater banking

8. Amendments to the Conflict-of-Interest Code

Dr. Holly Alpert stated the California Fair Political Practices Commission has requested the OVGA Conflict of Interest Code be amended based on a new government code that was added January 1, 2025. It requires the Directors, alternate Directors, and Executive Manager file directly with the Fair Political Practices Commission and are not covered by the OVGA Conflict of Interest Code. Motion made by BryAnna Vaughan to approve the amended Conflict-of-Interest Code with a second by Mary Roper. Motion passed.

9. Approval of Water Year 2023 OVGA Annual Report and direction to submit to DWR

Tim Moore stated at the 2-27-25 OVGA Board meeting, he presented a draft 2023 OVGA annual report. He stated following the meeting, the public comment period was opened and then closed March 31, 2025, with one comment received. He provided a formal response to the comment which is in the updated version of the 2023 OVGA annual report and requested direction to upload the final 2023 OVGA annual report to DWR website. Scott Marcelin made a

motion to approve moving forward with the 2023 OVGA Annual Report with a second by BryAnna Vaughan. Motion passed.

10. DWR's determination of incomplete for the GSP and direction to staff

Dr. Holly Alpert stated that on April 14, 2025, a letter was received from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) providing notification that the OVGA's GSP was deemed incomplete based on their first review of the GSP. She stated the reason for this determination is because Mono County and the Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District pulled out of the OVGA after the GSP was submitted, so DWR stated the OVGA's GSP no longer covers the entire subbasin. She asked the Board for direction and provided a few possible scenarios. The Board directed staff to reach out to Mono County and Tri Valley Groundwater Management District to see if the OVGA and Mono/TVGMD could reach an agreement, and if that was not possible, to wait for the DWR window to open and apply for a basin boundary adjustment.

Kristen Stipinov stated she knows that Mono/TVGMD are their own GSAs and would eventually be subject to SGMA and wondered if the conversation with their agencies could be framed of how we could work together with the resources this agency has, as together we are more powerful. Sally Manning stated yesterday at a Technical Group meeting Adam Perez, LADWP, mentioned something they are doing at Long Valley Dam so they could drain Crowley Lake in case of an emergency. She stated that opens Long Valley that has been low ranked forever and the County is not thinking ahead. She stated a lot of land in Mono is owned by LADWP and ripe for exploitation.

11. Meeting schedule

The Board and staff agreed to have the next meeting in late 2025 when a draft of the 2024 annual report is available for review.

Mel Joseph stated in the presentation that was put together, they thought long and hard about the effects on the southern end of the County and the LPPSR and the comment made about the Board of Supervisors was that previous Board members commented on water banking and he doesn't feel that water banking has been brought forward to the current Supervisors so they understand the options. He stated there is direct conflict with this Board and today's presentation was about educating.

Staff was asked about the well registration. Tim Moore stated in total we have received 25-26% compliance. April Zrelak stated this body has enforcement power. The Chairperson stated that it could be discussed at a future meeting. April Zrelak asked if it is self-determined whether an individual is a de minimus user or not. She stated a de minimus user in the area was offering to sell their water. Mel Joseph stated de minimus users in Cartago were letting road staff use their water. The Chairperson asked if the Board would like to have an earlier meeting to discuss enforcement and the Board concurred. John Vallejo stated it would be prudent to have a closed session prior. Thomas Swab stated there should not be a closed session and the public should hear what needs to be said, he stated closed session is not the answer. John Vallejo stated a closed session would be about possible exposure to litigation.

Mel Joseph stated this will be LPPSR's last meeting on this Board. He stated they feel they can do a better job on the other side of the table.

12. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:55 pm.

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Lg	BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS	Ref Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL	621601-1000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2024-2025	JE	07/01/25	04050271	242,597.90	0.00	242,597.90
GL	621601-1000	INTRCBL	AutoID: JH25725B Job: 3927330	JE	07/15/25	03927330	760.44	0.00	243,358.34
GL	621601-1000	JE49834	AutoID: JA25717B Job: 3921747	JE	07/18/25	03921747	0.00	4,500.00	238,858.34
GL	621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW25829D Job:3957712	OH	09/02/25	03957712	0.00	1,397.50	237,460.84
GL	621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JH25N03Z Job: 3996336	JE	09/30/25	03996336	3,235.48	0.00	240,696.32
GL	621601-1000	JE50396	AutoID: JC25C22A Job: 3989539	JE	10/22/25	03989539	0.00	3,037.84	237,658.48
GL	621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26102B Job:4034966	OH	01/07/26	04034966	0.00	5,009.25	232,649.23
GL	621601-1000	JE50923	AutoID: JC26115A Job: 4042952	JE	01/15/26	04042952	0.00	1,885.91	230,763.32
GL	621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26128E Job:4052559	OH	01/30/26	04052559	0.00	8,152.25	222,611.07
GL	621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JH26212C Job: 4062506	JE	01/31/26	04062506	1,780.05	0.00	224,391.12
GL	621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26302A Job:4074466	OH	03/04/26	04074466	0.00	4,009.00	220,382.12
******Total *OBJT 1000			CLAIM ON CASH			DR	248,373.87	27,991.75	220,382.12
GL	621601-1160	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2024-2025	JE	07/01/25	04050271	760.44	0.00	760.44
GL	621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST RVRS	JE	07/15/25	03927330	0.00	760.44	0.00
******Total *OBJT 1160			INTEREST RECEIVABLE			DR	760.44	760.44	0.00
GL	621601-1200	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2024-2025	JE	07/01/25	04050271	2,437.50	0.00	2,437.50
GL	621601-1200	2526 PREPAID	MA25212:GOLDEN STATE RISK MANA	JE	08/06/25	03938346	0.00	2,437.50	0.00
******Total *OBJT 1200			PREPAID EXPENSES			DR	2,437.50	2,437.50	0.00
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW25829D Job:3956016	OH	08/29/25	03956016	0.00	1,397.50	1,397.50
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:SW25829D Job:3957712	OH	09/02/25	03957712	1,397.50	0.00	0.00
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26102B Job:4031487	OH	01/02/26	04031487	0.00	5,009.25	5,009.25
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26102B Job:4034966	OH	01/07/26	04034966	5,009.25	0.00	0.00
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26128E Job:4051450	OH	01/28/26	04051450	0.00	8,152.25	8,152.25
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26128E Job:4052559	OH	01/30/26	04052559	8,152.25	0.00	0.00
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26302A Job:4071762	OH	03/02/26	04071762	0.00	4,009.00	4,009.00
GL	621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:AP26302A Job:4074466	OH	03/04/26	04074466	4,009.00	0.00	0.00
******Total *OBJT 2000			ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			CR	18,568.00	18,568.00	0.00
GL	621601-3000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2024-2025	JE	07/01/25	04050271	0.00	245,795.84	245,795.84
******Total *OBJT 3000			FUND BALANCE AVAILABLE			CR	0.00	245,795.84	245,795.84
GL	621601-4301	INTEREST	1ST QTR 25/26 INTEREST	JE	09/30/25	03996336	0.00	3,235.48	3,235.48
GL	621601-4301	INTEREST	2ND QTR 25/26 INTEREST	JE	01/31/26	04062506	0.00	1,780.05	5,015.53
******Total *OBJT 4301			INTEREST FROM TREASURY			CR	0.00	5,015.53	5,015.53
GL	621601-5155	2526 PREPAID	MA25212:GOLDEN STATE RISK MANA	JE	08/06/25	03938346	2,437.50	0.00	2,437.50
******Total *OBJT 5155			PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE			DR	2,437.50	0.00	2,437.50
GL	621601-5265	279334R	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT# DB23.	OH	08/29/25	03956016	1,397.50	0.00	1,397.50
GL	621601-5265	282631	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT# DB23.	OH	01/02/26	04031487	5,009.25	0.00	6,406.75
GL	621601-5265	283353	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT# DB23.	OH	01/28/26	04051450	8,152.25	0.00	14,559.00
GL	621601-5265	285158	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT# DB23.	OH	03/02/26	04071762	4,009.00	0.00	18,568.00
******Total *OBJT 5265			PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL SERVICE			DR	18,568.00	0.00	18,568.00
GL	621601-5539	JE49834	25-26 OVGA STAF TIME	JE	07/18/25	03921747	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
GL	621601-5539	JE50396	JUL-SEP25 OVGA STAFF SVCS	JE	10/22/25	03989539	3,037.84	0.00	7,537.84
GL	621601-5539	JE50923	OCT-DEC25 OVGA STAFF SVCS	JE	01/15/26	04042952	1,885.91	0.00	9,423.75
******Total *OBJT 5539			OTHER AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS			DR	9,423.75	0.00	9,423.75

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Lg	BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS	Ref Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
******	Total *BUDG 621601		OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER	DR-CR			300,569.06	300,569.06	0.00
			** G R A N D T O T A L **	DR-CR			300,569.06	300,569.06	0.00

COUNTY OF INYO

Budget to Actuals with Encumbrances by Key/Obj

Ledger: GL

As Of 3/18/2026

Object	Description	Budget	Actual	Encumbrance	Balance	%
Key: 621601 - OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER						
Revenue						
4301	INTEREST FROM TREASURY	3,000.00	5,015.53	0.00	(2,015.53)	167.18
	Revenue Total:	3,000.00	5,015.53	0.00	(2,015.53)	167.18
Expenditure						
5129	INTERNAL COPY CHARGES (NON-IS)	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
5155	PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE	2,500.00	2,437.50	0.00	62.50	97.50
5263	ADVERTISING	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
5265	PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL SERVICE	38,000.00	24,309.25	12,690.75	1,000.00	97.36
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	9,423.75	0.00	26,486.25	26.24
5901	CONTINGENCIES	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
	Expenditure Total:	82,660.00	36,170.50	12,690.75	33,798.75	59.11
621601	**Key Total:**	(79,660.00)	(31,154.97)	(12,690.75)	(35,814.28)	

COUNTY OF INYO
UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCES
AS OF 06/30/2026

		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	OVGA-OWENS VALLEY	220,382				5,741			214,641	12,691	201,950
WDIR	**Totals**	220,382				5,741			214,641	12,691	201,950
	Grand Totals	**220,382**				**5,741**			**214,641**	**12,691**	**201,950**

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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

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Staff Report

Date: March 24, 2026

Subject: Agenda item #8: Presentation of draft 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 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, 2026, through June 30, 2027, is presented in Table 1. The expected amount of interest in OVGA accounts was based on the most recent quarter. No revenue from member contributions was 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 2026-27, each will have two votes, and Interested Parties will have one vote each.

The primary expenditures in the draft budget are staff and professional services (Table 1). Expenses for the Executive Manager are less than in previous years and include tasks required by the JPA and Bylaws, meeting preparation, and time to track 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. The hours necessary to complete those management actions were estimated from similar work performed during the GSP development or professional judgment. Hourly rates were based on Inyo County Water Department current salaries and benefits, and no overhead or profit were included.

It is anticipated that future meetings will 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.

Additional services from other providers included in the budget were the same as in previous years. General liability insurance is unchanged from last year's budget. Professional services include website and database maintenance and assistance with the annual report. The database is currently hosted on DBS&A servers and includes limited technical support. 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 2026-27 draft budget would be balanced by relying on approximately $55,250 from the existing fund balance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Board will receive a presentation of the 2026-2027 budget. OVGA staff recommends approval of the 2026-2027 budget as written.

Table 1: Draft FY 2026-27 OVGA budget

Revenues	
Interest from treasury	$12,000
Other Agencies (member contributions)	$0
Fund balance transfer	$55,250
Total Revenue	$67,250
Expenditures	
Fiscal Services	
Insurance	$2,500
Subtotal	$2,500
Staff Services	
Executive Manager – Water Dept.	$20,000
Staff services – Bishop	$2,000
Agency: Inyo, Legal	$4,500
Agency: Inyo, Fiscal Agent/Financial Svcs	$4,000
Subtotal	$30,500
Professional Services	
Website Maintenance	$1,000
Technical Services	$25,000
Database Hosting	$2,000
Subtotal	$28,000
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
(contingencies current balance - $14,334.22)	
Total	$67,250

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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Staff Report

Date: March 24, 2026

Subject: Agenda item # 9: 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. Reminder emails have been sent annually in February. A webpage is included on the OVGA website to house program reporting 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 18 of the 51 known entities (35%) that were included in the OVGA contact list have been received and reviewed by staff for completeness and accuracy. This corresponds to 52 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 historical production records were not retained.

Staff Recommendation and Request for Direction

This is an informational item. The Board will receive an update on the status of the well registration and reporting program.

OVGA Well Registration & Reporting Program Update

Ordinance 2022-01 (Inyo County only)

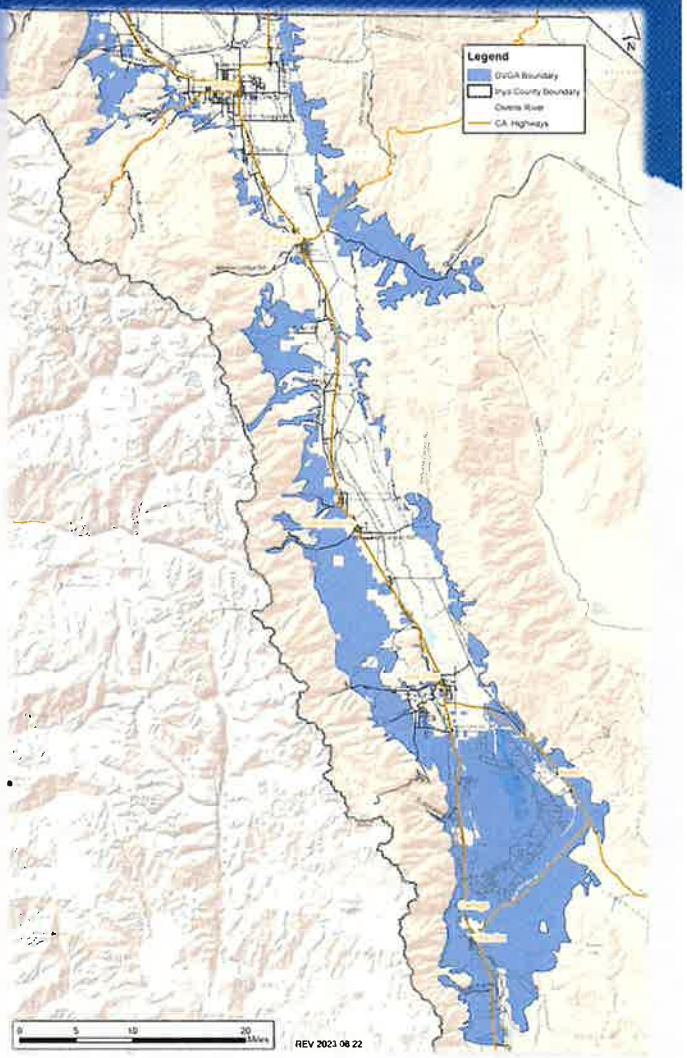
Webpage: https://ovga.us/well-registration/

Annual Pumping Reporting Deadline: April 1
(reminder email sent February 9)

Forms from 18 of 51 known entities (35%) included in the OVGA contact list have been received to-date (52 wells).

Calendar Year 2024 pumping reported by 11 entities.
2025 pumping reported to-date by 7 entities (Due April 1).

Many of the registered wells do not have a functioning Water Meter and/or historical pumping records were not retained.



OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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

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Staff Report

Date: March 24, 2026

Subject: Agenda item #10: Status of GSP

Background and Discussion

On April 14, 2025, OVGA staff received notification from the Department of Water Resources that the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Owens Valley Subbasin had been deemed incomplete because the OVGA no longer has jurisdiction over the Mono County portions of the Subbasin. The OVGA Board was notified immediately, and this topic was discussed at your June 25, 2025, regular meeting. At that meeting, your Board directed staff to send a letter to the Mono County and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (TVGMD) Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to explore the level of interest in developing an agreement to jointly manage the Subbasin. This letter was sent to both GSAs on July 8, 2025, and a copy of the letter is attached to this staff report.

OVGA staff received a response from Mono County GSA on July 18, 2025 (also attached to this staff report). The letter stated "...the existing direction from the Board indicates no interest in an agreement to jointly manage the basin". However, OVGA staff was invited to present this item to the Mono County GSA Board if it would be of interest to the OVGA Board.

Executive Manager Holly Alpert was invited to present the request of the OVGA Board at a Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District meeting on September 24, 2025, and the item was discussed again at a November 12, 2025, meeting. No action was taken by the TVGMD board at either meeting. As of the writing of this staff report, OVGA staff has not received a response from TVGMD. Staff will report back once a response is received.

As of now, the GSP status remains incomplete with DWR. OVGA staff will continue producing annual reports, updating the OVGA database, implementing the well registration program, and

reviewing well permits, but will not take action on the first five-year periodic evaluation until the status of the GSP has been settled.

Staff Recommendation and Request for Direction

Staff recommends waiting for a response from TVGMD before any further action is taken. Staff will take any additional direction your Board may have.

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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

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Staff Report

Date: March 24, 2026

Subject: Agenda item # 11: Water Year 2024 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 reports for water years (WY) 2022 and 2023 were submitted to DWR following addressing public comments that were included in Appendix B of the final reports. These reports are also posted to the OVGA website. The annual report for WY 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024) was due to DWR on April 1, 2025. The annual report for WY 2025 is due April 1, 2026, and will also be late, but the WY 2026 annual report is planned to be delivered closer in alignment with DWR's reporting timeline.

Daniel B. Stephens & Associates (DBS&A) was contracted to work with ICWD to prepare the annual report for WY 2024 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 2023 annual report was prepared. The draft

WY 2024 annual report has been posted to the OVGA website. Water-level and streamflow data for the GSP Representative Monitoring Points (RMPs) will also be uploaded to the SGMA Portal through September 2024 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 draft WY 2024 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. Staff recommends scheduling a future OVGA meeting to approve the final WY 2024 annual report and response to written comments before staff submits it to DWR.

Water Year 2024
OVGA Annual Report

Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins
GSP Annual Report
Water Year 2024

Submitted to

California Department of
Water Resources

Submitted by

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Prepared by

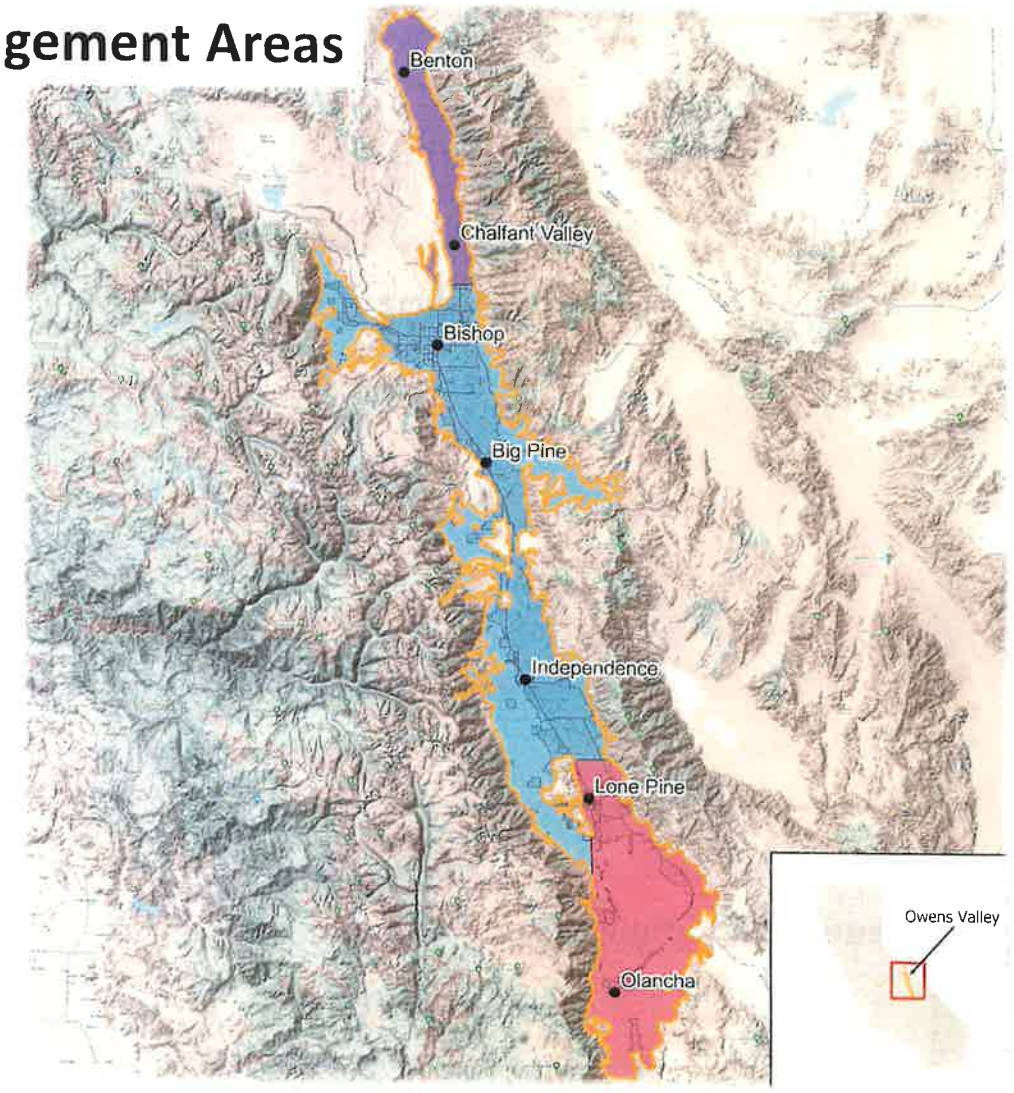
DBS&A
a Geo-Logic Company

143E Spring Hill Drive
Grass Valley, CA 95945
www.dbstephens.com
Project# DB23-1300.00

DRAFT
March 3, 2026

Water Year 2024
OVGA Annual Report

Management Areas

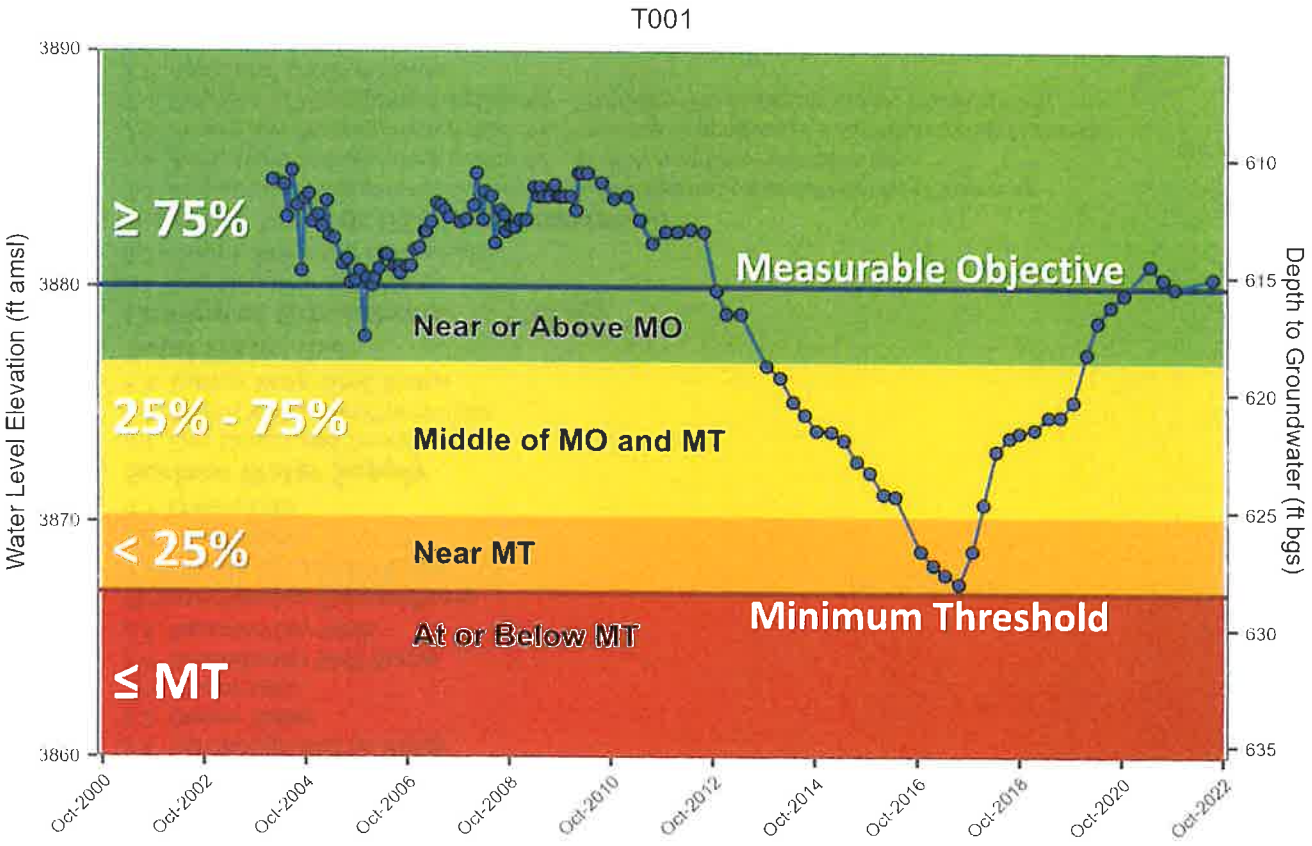


Water Year 2024 OVGA Annual Report

Table of Contents

Water Year 2024
OVGA Annual Report

Example SMC Status Categories



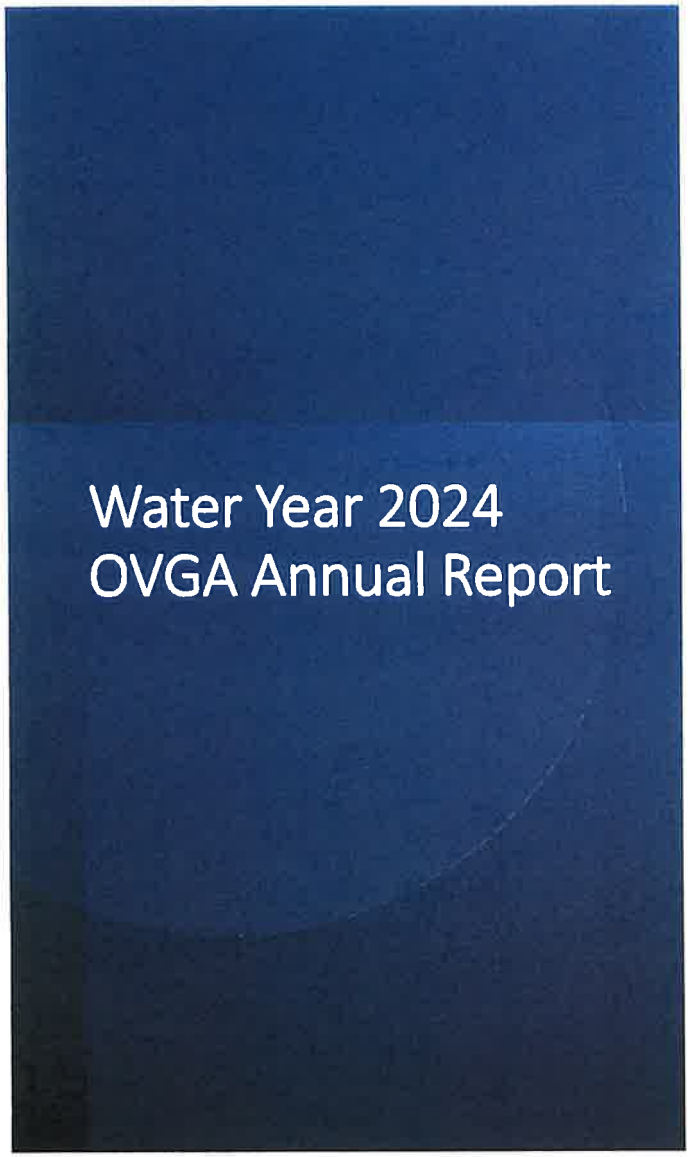
Water Year 2024
OVGA Annual Report

SMC Status (Fall 2024)

62 Well Representative Monitoring Sites (RMPs)
1 Surface Water RMP (Fish Slough NE Spring)

Category	SMC Status fall 2024*
Near or Above MO	45 of 46 (98%)
Between MO & MT	0 of 46
Near MT	0 of 46
At or Below MT	1 of 46 (2%) FS NE Spring

**Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) Status of 17 RMPs could not be determined (e.g., Well destroyed, no GSP MO/MT,* current SMCs in GSP based on incorrect elevation data, *collecting entity was unresponsive to data requests)*



Staff Recommendation & Request for Direction

Staff recommends opening a 30-day public comment period following today's Board meeting.

The Draft and Final version of the Annual Report following response to comments will be published on the OVGA website. https://ovga.us/annual-reports/. The Final version will also be uploaded to DWR's SGMA Portal.

Future Annual Reports

Staff is gathering/compiling data into the OVGA DMS needed for the WY 2025 Annual Report.

Questions?

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Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins GSP Annual Report Water Year 2024

Submitted to

California Department of Water Resources

Submitted by

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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Project# DB23.1300.00

DRAFT

March 3, 2026

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.

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Table of Contents

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List of Tables

List of Figures

List of Appendices

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AF	acre-feet
AFY	acre-feet per year
amsl	above mean sea level
Basins	Owens Valley and Fish Slough Subbasins
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CASGEM	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CIMIS	California Irrigation Management Information System
cfs	cubic feet per second
DMS	Database Management System
DWR	[CA] Department of Water Resources
eWRIMS	Electronic Water Rights Information Management System
ET	Evapotranspiration
ft	feet
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LTWA	Inyo - Los Angeles Long Term Water Agreement
MO	Measurable Objective
MT	Minimum Threshold
OLGDP	Owens Lake Groundwater Development Project
OVGA	Owens Valley Groundwater Authority
RMP	Representative Monitoring Point
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TVGMD	Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District
WLE	water level elevation
WY	water year

Executive Summary

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA) has prepared this annual report for water year 2024 (October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024) 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 builds on previous WY GSP annual reports available for download on the OVGA website (https://ovga.us/).

Total water use in the Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins (the Basins) during WY 2024 was estimated to be 293,434 acre-feet (AF). Reported groundwater extractions for the Basins totaled 66,563 AF. Total surface water use in the Basins was estimated to be 226,871 AF. Total change in groundwater in storage for both subbasins over WY 2024 was estimated to be -130,418 AF. The estimated change in storage over WY 2024 was -36 AF for the Fish Slough subbasin and +7,165 AF for Tri-Valley. LADWP reported a change in groundwater in storage of -137,547 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 have 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 (https://owens.gladata.com/). These easily accessible data and this annual report serve to keep 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. Since the OVGA no longer has jurisdiction in the Mono County portion of the Basins, DWR deemed the GSP "Incomplete" in a letter dated April 14, 2025 (DWR Assessments). This determination does not prohibit the OVGA from continuing to implement the GSP in Inyo County.

While the OVGA is not required to submit GSP annual reports to DWR since it covers low-priority and very low-priority basins, this GSP annual report was voluntarily prepared to document groundwater conditions in the Basins for water year (WY) 2024. 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, 2023, to September 30, 2024 (i.e., WY 2024), 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 as acknowledged previously, 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 Lake[1] 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 Owens Valley Groundwater Basin GSP, the OVGA Database Management System, or the numerous documents and reports prepared by or in cooperation with the Inyo County Water Department. As acknowledged by the Department of Water Resources, it is important to note that there are still many data gaps and missing

[1]The 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 (shown in Figure 1) are provided below. Contour maps of each principal aquifer within each management area are also provided (Figures 2 - 13). 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 Sierra 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 the representative monitoring points (RMPs) in the Basins 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 cannot be collected without significant modification to the wellhead. It is planned to be removed from the RMP list during the first GSP five-year periodic evaluation.

2.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Observed spring groundwater elevations for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area ranged 4,162.63 to 5,312.76 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 4,444.21 ft amsl (Figure 2). Fall groundwater elevations (Figure 3) ranged 4,163.84 to 5,305.97 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 4,411.83 ft amsl. Observed groundwater elevation changes from fall 2023 to fall 2024 ranged from -0.39 to +5.69 ft, with an average change of +0.69 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 that 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 a hydrologic connection between Tri-Valley and Fish Slough. A joint project with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Geological Survey (USGS) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to drill two multi-completion monitoring facilities in the southerly Hammil Valley and one in northerly Fish Slough subbasin (see Section 7.3) was completed in fall 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 3,691.62 to 4,386.66 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,922.12 ft amsl. Spring water levels in the deep aquifer ranged from 3,678.90 to 4,977.20 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,938.57 ft amsl (Figure 5). In the fall, shallow aquifer groundwater elevations ranged from 3,691.62 to 4,382.03 ft amsl (Figure 6) with an average elevation of 3,915.79, and from 3,647.90 to 4,978.56 ft amsl with an average elevation of 3,915.79 ft amsl in the deep aquifer (Figure 7). Average change in groundwater elevation in the shallow and deep aquifers from fall 2023 to fall 2024 was -0.95 ft and -0.62 ft, respectively.

While groundwater flow patterns between the shallow and deep aquifers are generally similar to each other, 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 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 aquifers 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 aquifers 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 3,577.78 to 3,645.05 ft above mean sea level (amsl), with an average elevation of 3,617.55 ft amsl. Aquifer 3 spring groundwater elevations (Figure 9) ranged from 3,591.04 to 3,655.24 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,627.39 ft amsl. Groundwater elevations in the spring for Aquifer 5 (Figure 10) ranged from 3,613.32 to 3,655.28 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,628.20 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 3,577.52 to 3,644.30 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,616.23 ft amsl. Aquifer 3 spring groundwater elevations (Figure 12) ranged from 3,590.34 to 3,654.40 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,626.68 ft amsl. Groundwater elevations

in the spring for Aquifer 5 (Figure 13) ranged from 3,612.91 to 3,654.76 ft amsl, with an average elevation of 3,628.06 ft amsl. The average change in groundwater elevations over WY 2024 for Aquifers 1, 3, and 5 was +0.22 ft, +0.12 ft, and +0.33 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 (green): Water levels equal to or greater than 75% of the sustainability range
- Between MO and MT (yellow): Water levels within 25% to 75% of the sustainability range
- Near MT (orange): Water levels less than 25% of the sustainability range but above the MT
- At or Below MT (red): 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 color-coded summary of all water level elevation RMPs and their status in fall 2024. 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 45 wells that had sufficient data 100% were above or near their respective MO.

2.5 Reported Dry Wells

A well that went dry in June 2018 was reported to the DWR Dry Well Reporting System in December 2023 (WY 2024) but has been resolved. This dry well was noted in the OVGA WY 2023 annual report. All reported dry wells in the Basins are listed 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 minimis* users, who are encouraged to voluntarily register their wells) to report their groundwater use annually (see Section 7.1). The currently unreported volumes in the Owens Valley and Owens Lake management areas are likely small relative to the reported volumes. Summed groundwater extractions for the Basins in WY 2024 totaled 66,563 AF (Table 3).

3.1 Fish Slough and Tri-Valley

Groundwater extractions in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area were estimated using OpenET 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 2024 are shown in Table 3. Total groundwater use was estimated to be 12,290 AF, with irrigated agriculture accounting for 99.7% of total quantified extractions. Not included in Table 3 are extractions from *de minimis* users served by domestic wells who are generally exempt from SGMA reporting requirements.

The spatial distribution of estimated groundwater pumping aggregated within each public land survey (PLSS) section (1 mi^2) 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 identify 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 LADWP[2] 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 2024 about 14% 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 49,153 AF (Table 3). Agricultural irrigation accounted for approximately 18% of total extractions. Managed wetlands and native vegetation were about 9% of total extractions, while domestic and municipal uses made up about 30%. The remaining 22% 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 management area groundwater extractions is shown in Figure 16. The majority of groundwater is pumped by LADWP on lands that are not subject to SGMA.

[2]LADWP owned lands in Owens Valley are considered adjudicated under SGMA and are required to submit annual reports: LADWP WY 2024 Report.

3.3 Owens Lake

A reported total of 5,120 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 principally 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 and Butterworth Ranch) 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 in WY 2024 was estimated to be 226,871 AF (Table 4).

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 California Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System (CALWATRS)[3]. Approximately 17,260 AF of surface water was used in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area (Table 4), with approximately 3,752 AF (22%) used for agriculture and about 13,508 AF (78%) used for undifferentiated purposes (e.g., domestic, power generation, in-stream dedications, agriculture).

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.

[3]CalWATRS replaced the Electronic Water Right Management System (eWRIMS) in October 2025.

For WY 2024 about 209,611 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 2024 was below the minimum threshold of 0.1 cfs (Table 5).

5. Total Water Use

Total water use in the Basins grouped by management area, water use sector, and measurement method is shown in Table 6. Total water volume used in the Basin during WY 2024 was estimated to be 293,434 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 2024 was estimated to be -130,418 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 to DWR by LADWP, is estimated to be +365,193 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 2023 to fall 2024 was -0.12 ft in the Fish Slough subbasin and 0.99 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 2024 was -36 AF for the Fish Slough subbasin and +7,165 AF for Tri-Valley. Total combined change in groundwater in storage for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management area was +7,129 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 due to limited data availability and spatial coverage. Mono County is currently developing a numerical groundwater flow model for the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley portions of the Owens Valley groundwater basin 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 basins (CA Water Code Section 10720.8)[4], 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 reported value is calculated according to a relatively complex set of equations outlined in Section IV Subsection C of the Green Book, the technical appendix to the Inyo/Los Angeles Long Term Water Agreement.

LADWP reported a change in groundwater in storage of -137,547 AF for WY 2024. 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. The cumulative change in groundwater storage since 2015 is +367,625 AF.

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, along with pertinent history, related to each project or management action that occurred during WY 2024. The OVGA has focused its attention on Projects #1 and #2

[4]SGMA legislation was enacted January 1, 2015

since the GSP was submitted to DWR, while the 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 Ordinance No. 2022-01 which requires owners and users of groundwater extraction facilities located within the revised OVGA boundary[5] to register their wells with the OVGA and report groundwater extractions by April 1 each year. This Well Registration Program is voluntary, but encouraged, for *de minimis* 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. Approximately one-third of known entities subject to the ordinance have registered their wells and report their annual extraction.

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. OVGA staff work with the County to review applications for well permitting 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. 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 completed a project to install two multi-completion groundwater monitoring facilities (i.e., wells) in southern Hammil Valley and a third facility on

[5]After 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 TVGMD and Mono County were approved to be the GSAs for Mono County portions of the Owens Valley and Fish Slough groundwater subbasins on August 2, 2022.

LADWP owned land in Fish Slough (Fish Slough and Tri-Valley management Area). The monitoring well construction was completed fall 2024, and the monitoring facilities were equipped with pressure transducers and dataloggers by DWR. These data are intended to be included in DWR's continuous groundwater level measurement stations network, but telemetry connectivity continues to be challenging, necessitating manual downloads. DWR is also planning to equip up to five private wells with pressure transducers and dataloggers in Tri-Valley. These projects are 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 13th, 2022 TVGMD board meeting minutes. Mono County has contracted with Inyo County Water Department for project scope refinement and management services. Model development activities commenced, following contracting completion in November 2024, with the Mono County-selected consultant through a competitive bid process.

7.5 Additional OVGA Activities

The OVGA continues to update and refine its Database Management System. Water-level and streamflow data for the GSP representative monitoring points (RMPs) will be uploaded to the SGMA Portal through September 2024 to align with the WY 2024 reporting period of this annual report.

7.6 GSP Amendments

No amendments to the GSP were necessary for the WY 2024 reporting period of this annual report.

8. References

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Tables

Table 1. Groundwater representative monitoring points status.

Representative Monitoring Point	Management Area	Water Level Elevation (ft amsl)	Date	MT (ft amsl)	MO (ft amsl)	SMC Status Fall 2024
BT-MW1	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	5,304.22	2024-10-28	5,301	5,303	Near or Above MO
CH-MW2	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,209.54	2024-10-28	4,204	4,207	Near or Above MO
FS-2	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,215.48	2024-10-02	4,214	4,215	Near or Above MO
FS-3D[a]	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,180.66	2024-09-17	4,179		Undetermined
Hammil 2[a]	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,425.09	2024-10-02	4,401		Undetermined
T397	Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	4,200.57	2024-09-17	4,199	4,199	Near or Above MO
ICWCSD 4[b]	Owens Valley			4,249	4,254	Undetermined
T001	Owens Valley	3,883.68	2024-11-08	3,867	3,880	Near or Above MO
T362	Owens Valley	4,096.10	2024-10-22	4,047	4,072	Near or Above MO
T364	Owens Valley	3,901.91	2024-11-01	3,898	3,903	Near or Above MO
T384	Owens Valley	4,173.12	2024-10-17	4,165	4,168	Near or Above MO
T389	Owens Valley	4,228.89	2024-10-01	4,216	4,224	Near or Above MO
T391	Owens Valley	4,304.77	2024-10-07	4,296	4,303	Near or Above MO
T480	Owens Valley	3,995.69	2024-10-15	3,994	3,995	Near or Above MO
T513	Owens Valley	4,119.06	2024-10-15	4,113	4,117	Near or Above MO
T574	Owens Valley	4,077.63	2024-09-17	4,067	4,071	Near or Above MO
T750	Owens Valley	4,362.32	2024-09-23	4,357	4,360	Near or Above MO
T751	Owens Valley	4,382.03	2024-09-23	4,373	4,379	Near or Above MO
T808	Owens Valley	3,844.40	2024-09-16	3,834	3,846	Near or Above MO
T809	Owens Valley	3,830.99	2024-10-03	3,823	3,829	Near or Above MO
T869	Owens Valley	3,989.10	2024-10-10	3,983	3,985	Near or Above MO
T871	Owens Valley	3,861.62	2024-10-16	3,850	3,852	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 2024
T872	Owens Valley	3,953.28	2024-10-09	3,946	3,955	Near or Above MO
T873	Owens Valley	4,978.56	2024-10-09	4,954	4,963	Near or Above MO
V016GB	Owens Valley	3,885.40	2024-10-15	3,880	3,882	Near or Above MO
V151	Owens Valley	3,843.70	2024-10-25	3,827	3,834	Near or Above MO
V299	Owens Valley	3,935.70	2024-10-17	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[c]	Owens Lake			3,562	3,563	Undetermined
DVF North MW	Owens Lake	3,647.07	2024-10-01	3,643	3,645	Near or Above MO
DVF South Lower	Owens Lake	3,644.31	2024-10-01	3,640	3,643	Near or Above MO
DVF South Middle	Owens Lake	3,644.36	2024-10-01	3,639	3,643	Near or Above MO
DVF South Upper	Owens Lake	3,642.31	2024-10-01	3,636	3,641	Near or Above MO
Fault Test T3	Owens Lake	3,623.60	2024-10-01	3,620	3,623	Near or Above MO
Fault Test T5	Owens Lake	3,623.88	2024-10-01	3,617	3,623	Near or Above MO
I10(7)_4	Owens Lake	3,570.06	2024-09-26	3,568	3,570	Near or Above MO
KCSD Well 1	Owens Lake	3,614.12	2024-10-01	3,612	3,613	Near or Above MO
Keeler-Swansea Lower[d]	Owens Lake	3,616.99	2024-10-01	3,618	3,618	Undetermined
O6(5)_4[c]	Owens Lake			3,567	3,569	Undetermined
OL92-2	Owens Lake	3,607.63	2024-10-01	3,605	3,607	Near or Above MO
River Production Lower[e]	Owens Lake	3,633.32	2024-10-01			Undetermined
River Site Lower	Owens Lake	3,634.90	2024-10-01	3,594	3,633	Near or Above MO
SFIP MW[f]	Owens Lake	3,615.94	2024-10-01	3,511	3,613	Near or Above MO
T348	Owens Lake	3,634.15	2024-10-01	3,630	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 2024
T588	Owens Lake	3,699.60	2024-09-24	3,685	3,693	Near or Above MO
T858	Owens Lake	3,674.50	2024-10-10	3,666	3,670	Near or Above MO
T860	Owens Lake	3,717.06	2024-09-24	3,708	3,711	Near or Above MO
T899	Owens Lake	3,622.01	2024-10-01	3,617	3,618	Near or Above MO
T901	Owens Lake	3,611.02	2024-10-01	3,607	3,610	Near or Above MO
T902[d]	Owens Lake	3,630.58	2024-10-01	3,631	3,632	Undetermined
T904	Owens Lake	3,629.94	2024-10-01	3,626	3,629	Near or Above MO
T908	Owens Lake	3,630.42	2024-10-01	3,625	3,627	Near or Above MO
T910	Owens Lake	3,611.49	2024-10-01	3,607	3,608	Near or Above MO
T916[d]	Owens Lake	3,654.76	2024-09-24	3,704	3,704	Undetermined
T917[d]	Owens Lake	3,654.40	2024-09-24	3,704	3,705	Undetermined
T920[b]	Owens Lake			3,600	3,601	Undetermined
T922[e]	Owens Lake	3,583.80	2024-10-01			Undetermined
T924	Owens Lake	3,597.84	2024-10-25	3,590	3,592	Near or Above MO
T925[c]	Owens Lake	3,618.27	2024-10-01			Undetermined
T929[e]	Owens Lake	3,623.82	2024-10-01			Undetermined

[a]Newly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objective (MO) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.
[b]Fall 2024 data unavailable.
[c]Reported destroyed by LADWP. To be removed during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.
[d]Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.
[e]Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.
[f]MT reported in GSP contains a typographical error and is not shown. MT will be corrected during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

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Table 2. Reported dry wells.

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

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

Table 3. Groundwater extractions.

Management Area	Sector	Method	GW Extraction Volume (AF)	Accuracy	Range (AF)
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	OpenET	12,255	± 20 %	9,804 - 14,706
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	35	± 5 %	33 - 37
Subtotal			12,290		9,837 - 14,743
Owens Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	9,091	± 5 %	8,636 - 9,546
Owens Valley	Domestic	Totalizer	124	± 5 %	118 - 130
Owens Valley	Managed Recharge	Totalizer	9,919	± 5 %	9,423 - 10,415
Owens Valley	Managed Wetlands	Totalizer	2,582	± 5 %	2,453 - 2,711
Owens Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	14,474	± 5 %	13,750 - 15,198
Owens Valley	Native Vegetation	Totalizer	2,019	± 5 %	1,918 - 2,120
Owens Valley	Other	Totalizer	10,063	± 5 %	9,560 - 10,566
Owens Valley	Tribes	Totalizer	881	± 5 %	837 - 925
Subtotal			49,153		46,695 - 51,611
Owens Lake	Agricultural	Totalizer	705	± 5 %	670 - 740
Owens Lake	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	4,415	± 5 %	4,194 - 4,636
Subtotal			5,120		4,864 - 5,376
Total			66,563		61,396 - 71,730

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	Estimated	5	± 33 %	3 - 7
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Totalizer	1,751	± 5 %	1,663 - 1,839
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Weir	1,996	± 5 %	1,896 - 2,096
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Mixed	Estimated	6,027	± 33 %	4,038 - 8,016
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Mixed	Totalizer	3,883	± 5 %	3,689 - 4,077
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Mixed	Unknown	1,147	± 33 %	768 - 1,526
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Local Supplies	Mixed	Weir	2,451	± 5 %	2,328 - 2,574
Subtotal				**17,260**		**14,385 - 20,135**
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Agricultural	Weirs and Flumes	55,631	± 5 %	52,849 - 58,413
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Domestic	Weirs and Flumes	760	± 5 %	722 - 798
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Managed Recharge	Weirs and Flumes	60,698	± 5 %	57,663 - 63,733
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Managed Wetlands	Weirs and Flumes	15,797	± 5 %	15,007 - 16,587
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Native Vegetation	Weirs and Flumes	12,357	± 5 %	11,739 - 12,975
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Other	Weirs and Flumes	58,980	± 5 %	56,031 - 61,929
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Local Supplies	Tribes	Weirs and Flumes	5,388	± 5 %	5,119 - 5,657
Subtotal				**209,611**		**199,130 - 220,092**
Total				**226,871**		**213,515 - 240,227**

Notes:

1. The mixed sector in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area may include non-consumptive uses like power generation and fish habitat enhancement.
2. 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	0.03	September 2024	0.1	0.5	At or Below MT

[1]LADWP 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.

Table 6. Total water use.

Management Area	Sector	Method	Accuracy	Total Annual Volume (AF)	Range (AF)
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Estimated	± 33 %	5	3 - 7
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	OpenET	± 20 %	12,255	9,804 - 14,706
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	± 5 %	1,751	1,663 - 1,839
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Agricultural	Weir	± 5 %	1,996	1,896 - 2,096
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Mixed	Estimated	± 33 %	6,027	4,038 - 8,016
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Mixed	Totalizer	± 5 %	3,883	3,689 - 4,077
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Mixed	Unknown	± 33 %	1,147	768 - 1,526
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Mixed	Weir	± 5 %	2,451	2,328 - 2,574
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	± 5 %	35	33 - 37
Subtotal				29,550	24,222 - 34,878
Owens Valley	Agricultural	Totalizer	± 5 %	9,091	8,636 - 9,546
Owens Valley	Domestic	Totalizer	± 5 %	124	118 - 130
Owens Valley	Managed Recharge	Totalizer	± 5 %	9,919	9,423 - 10,415
Owens Valley	Managed Wetlands	Totalizer	± 5 %	2,582	2,453 - 2,711
Owens Valley	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	± 5 %	14,474	13,750 - 15,198
Owens Valley	Native Vegetation	Totalizer	± 5 %	2,019	1,918 - 2,120
Owens Valley	Other	Totalizer	± 5 %	10,063	9,560 - 10,566
Owens Valley	Tribes	Totalizer	± 5 %	881	837 - 925
Subtotal				49,153	46,695 - 51,611
Owens Lake	Agricultural	Totalizer	± 5 %	705	670 - 740
Owens Lake	Municipal and Industrial	Totalizer	± 5 %	4,415	4,194 - 4,636
Subtotal				5,120	4,864 - 5,376
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Agricultural	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	55,631	52,849 - 58,413
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Domestic	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	760	722 - 798
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Managed Recharge	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	60,698	57,663 - 63,733
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Managed Wetlands	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	15,797	15,007 - 16,587
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Native Vegetation	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	12,357	11,739 - 12,975
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Other	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	58,980	56,031 - 61,929
Owens Valley and Owens Lake	Tribes	Weirs and Flumes	± 5 %	5,388	5,119 - 5,657
Subtotal				209,611	199,130 - 220,092
Total				**293,434**	**274,911 - 311,957**

Notes:
1. The mixed sector in the Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area may include non-consumptive uses like power generation and fish habitat enhancement.
2. Municipal and Industrial and Tribes water use sectors are not included in LADWP SGMA reporting.
3. LADWP only reports total combined surface water use for Owens Valley and Owens Lake Management Areas.

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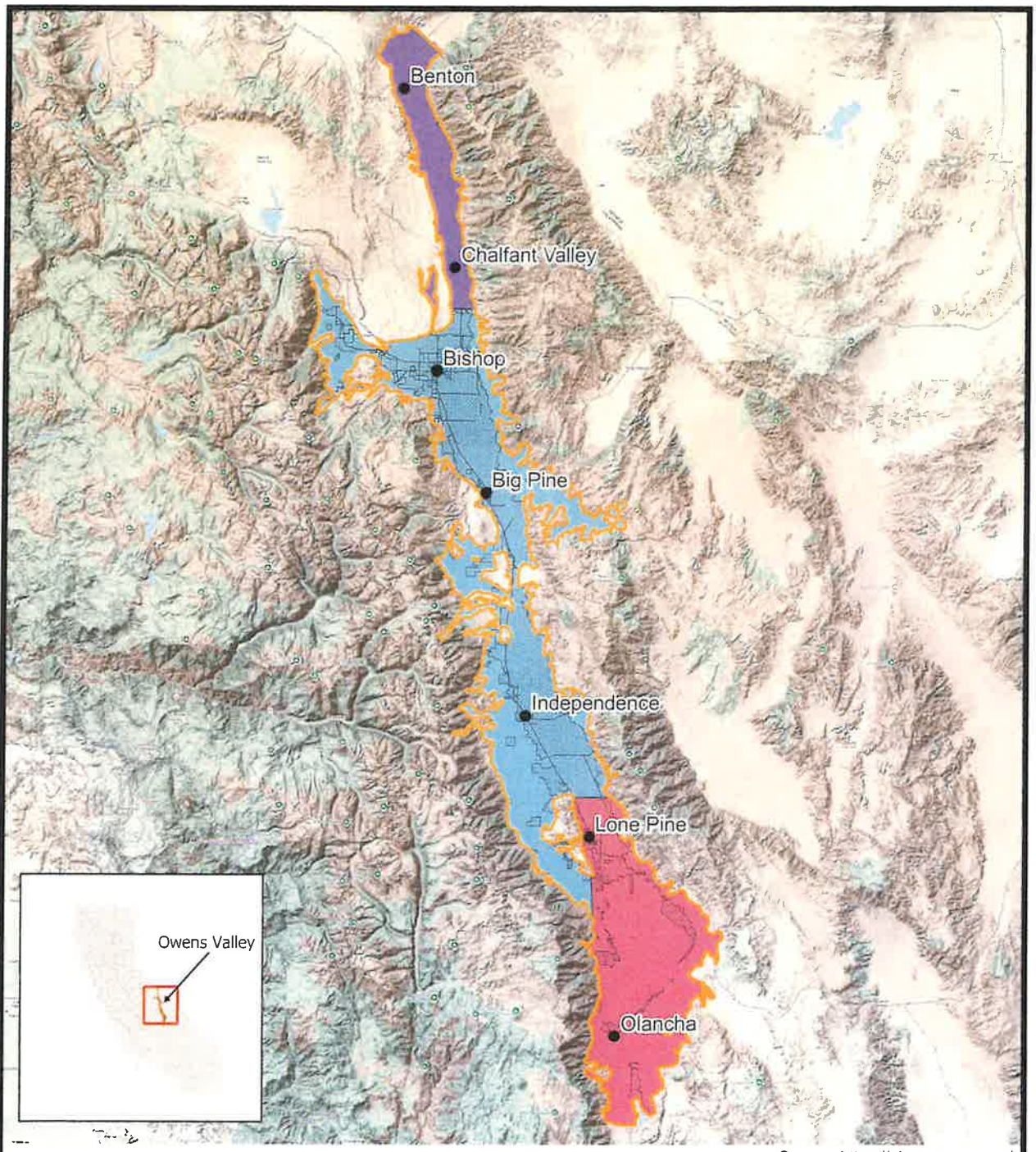
Figures



Source: https://gis.water.ca.gov/

Explanation

Management Areas

- Fish Slough and Tri-Valley
- Owens Valley
- Owens Lake

- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary
- City or Town

0 5 10 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Location Map and Groundwater Basin Boundary

02/25/2026

Figure 1

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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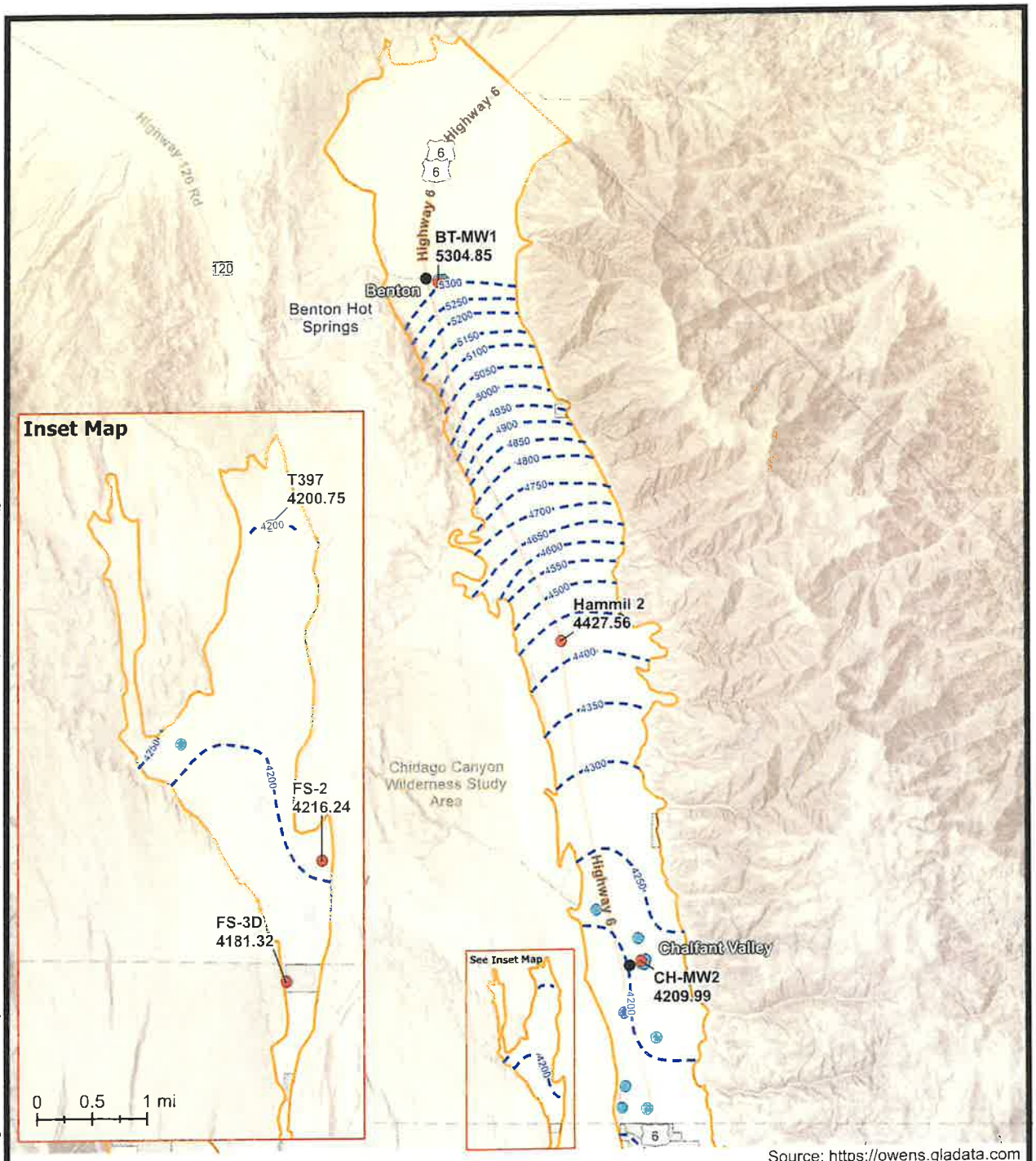

Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

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OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Spring Groundwater Elevations

Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

02/25/2026

Figure 2

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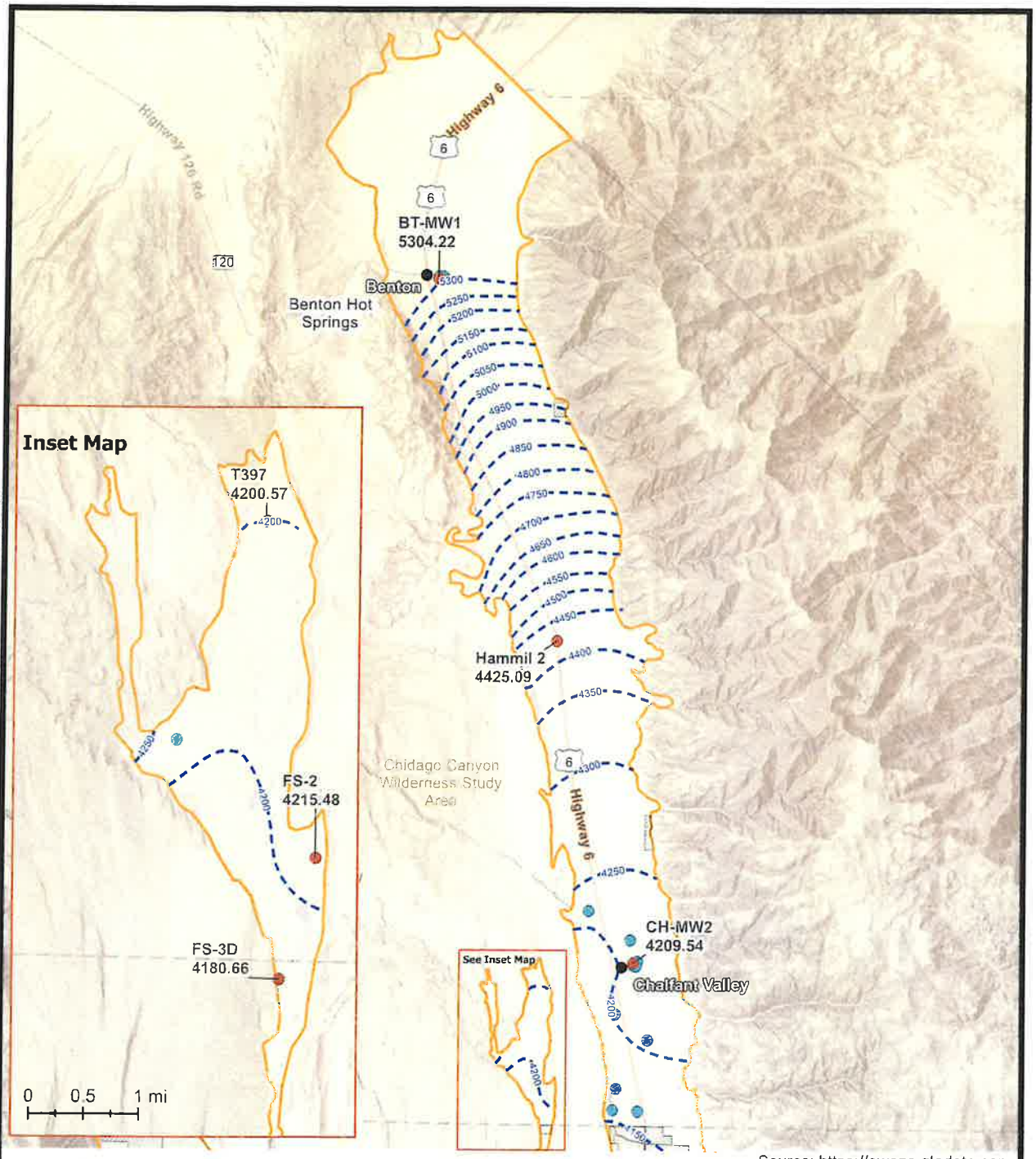

Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

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OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Fall Groundwater Elevations

Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

02/25/2026

Figure 3

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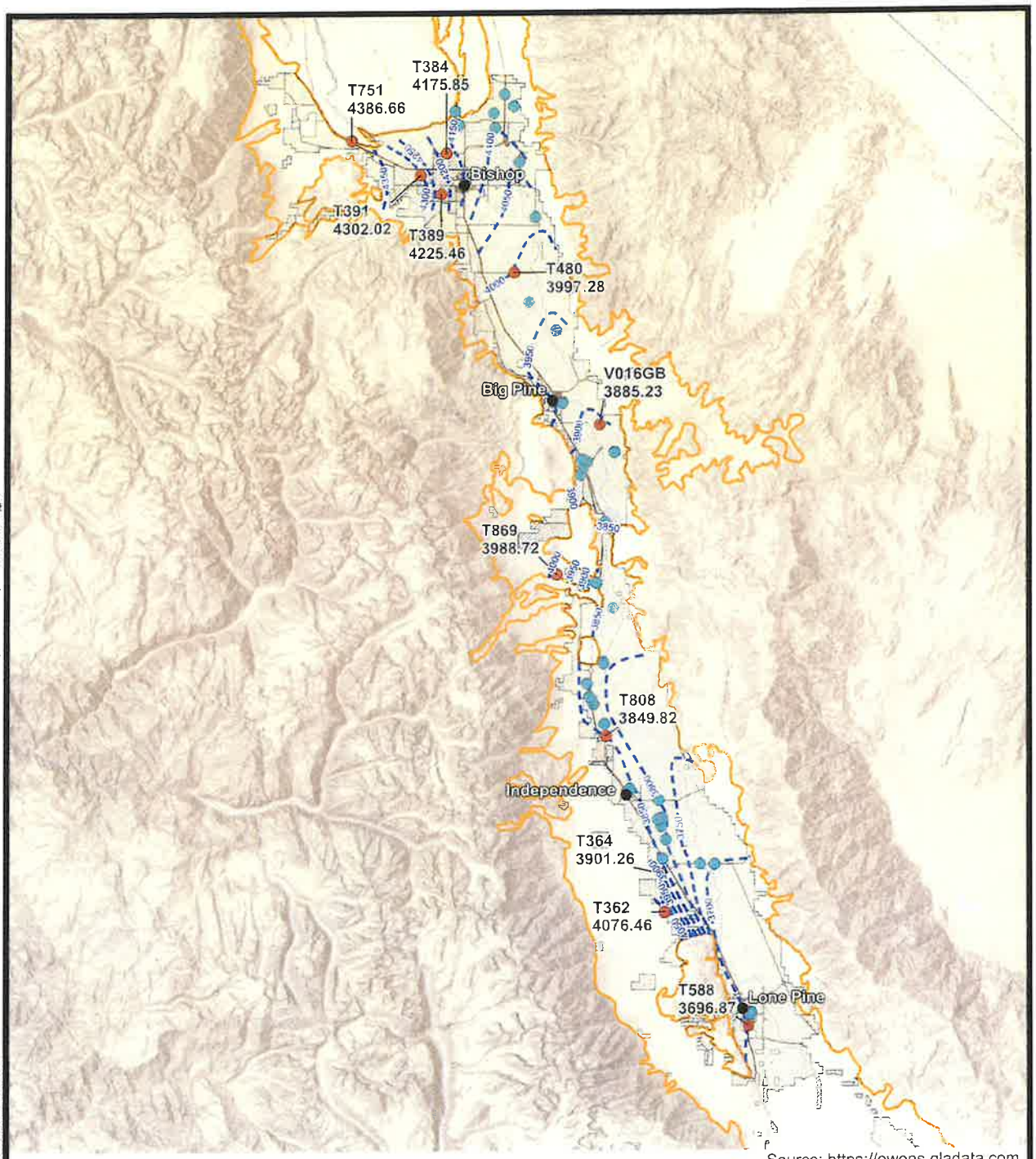


Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 5 10 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

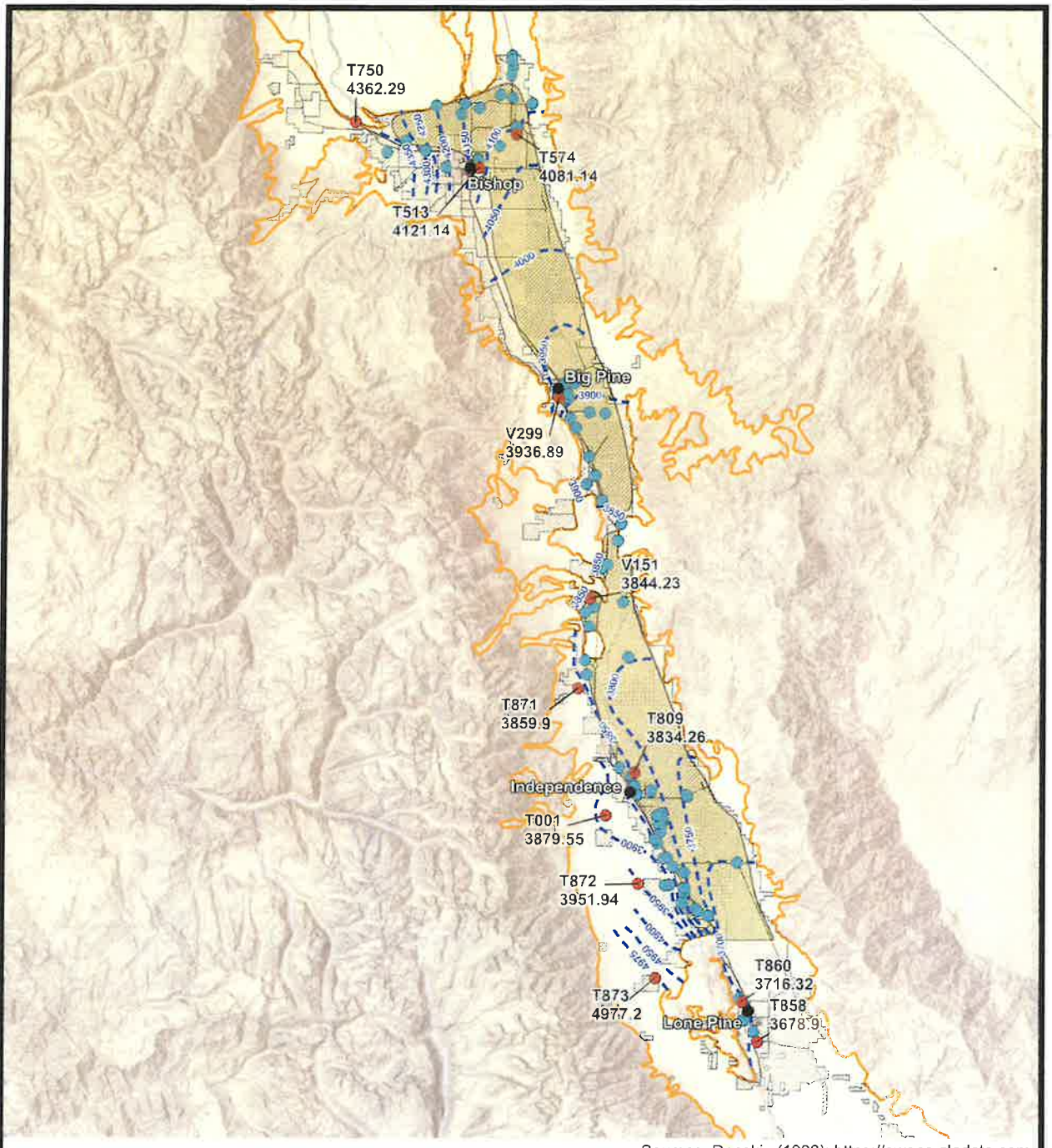
02/26/2026

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Spring Groundwater Elevations - Shallow Aquifer
Owens Valley Management Area

Figure 4

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Sources: Danskin (1998); https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Level Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Approximate Area of Confinement
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 5 10 mi

N

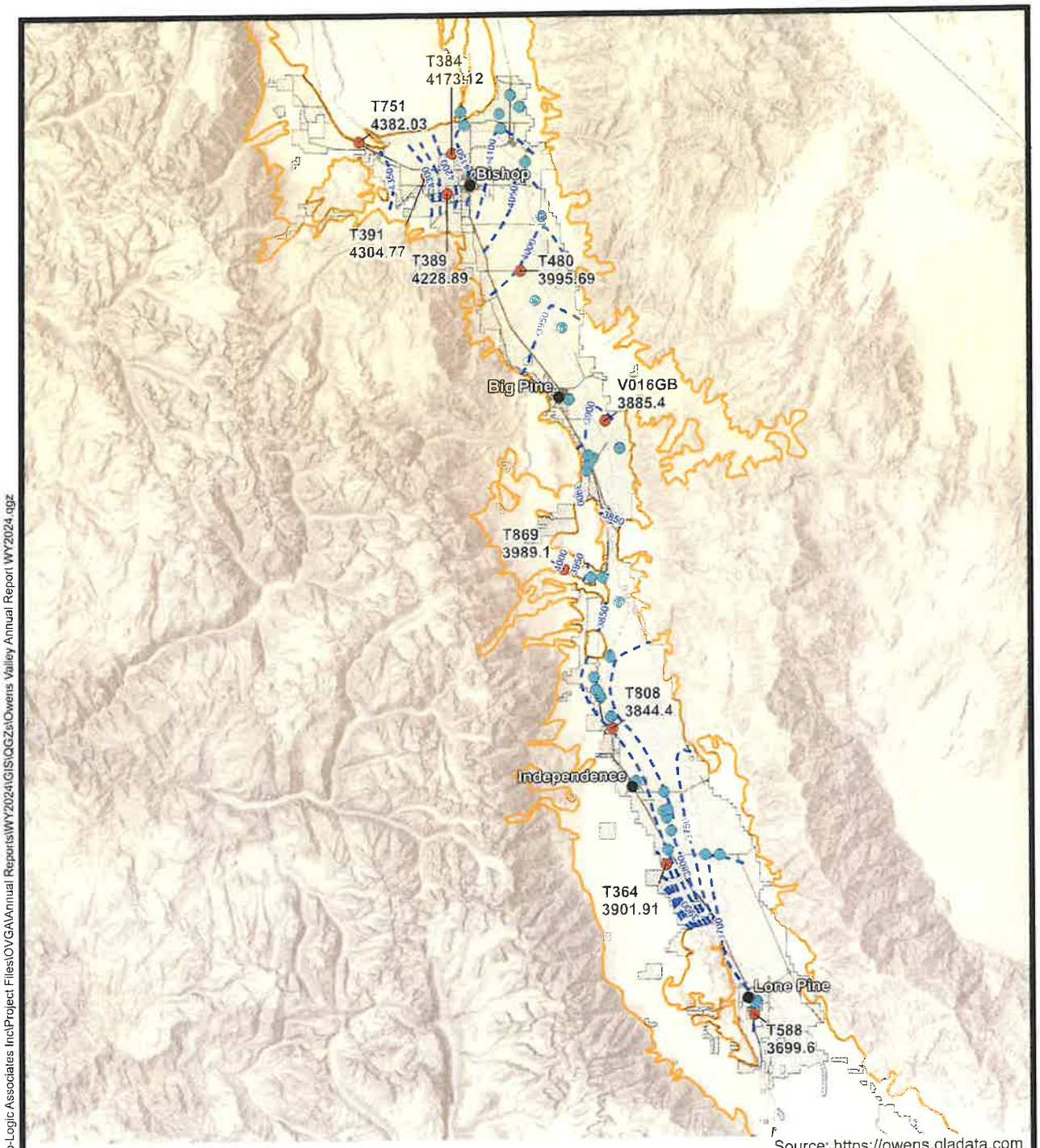
OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Spring Groundwater Elevations - Deep Aquifer
Owens Valley Management Area

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

Figure 5

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 5 10 mi

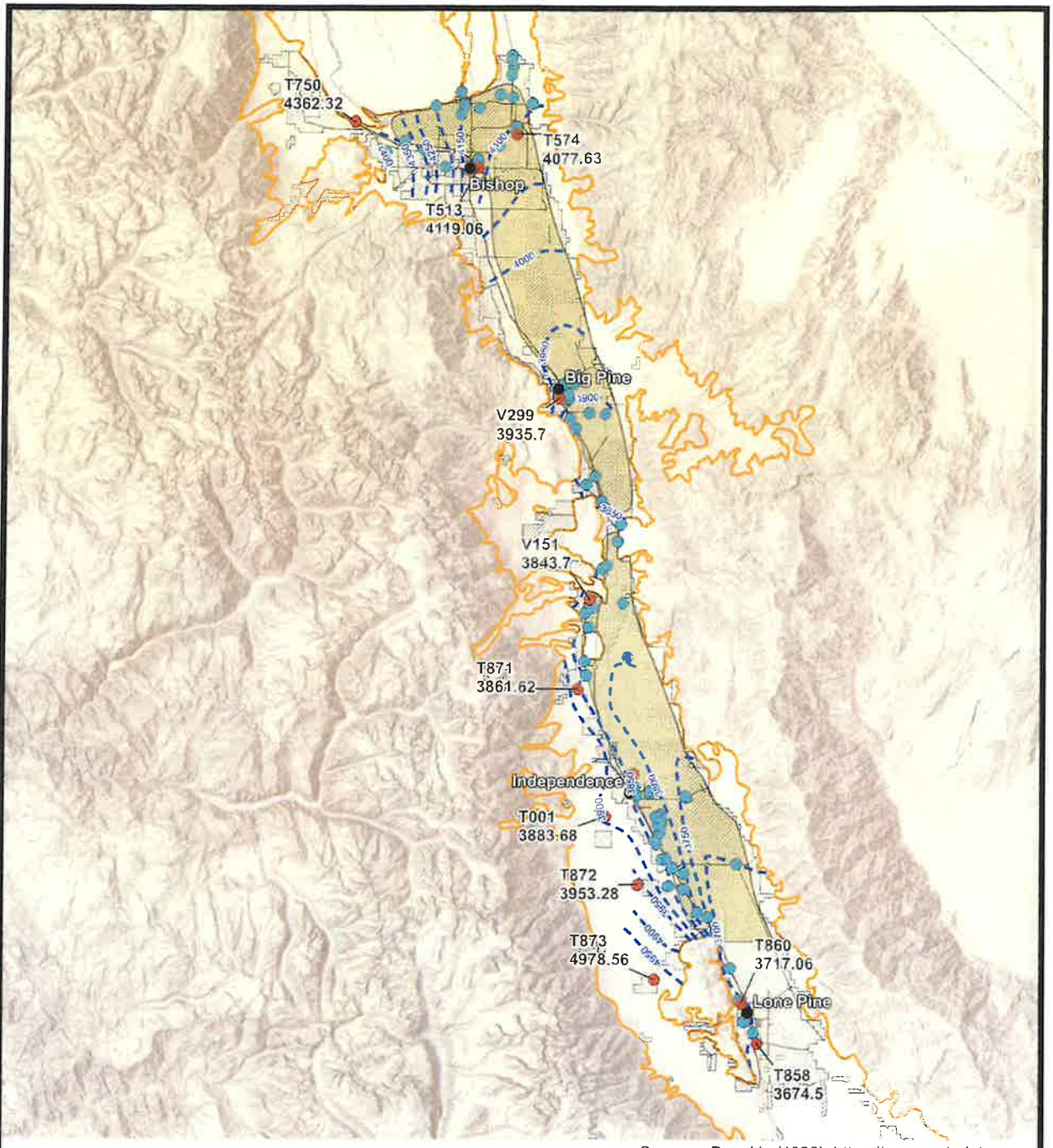
N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Fall Groundwater Elevations - Shallow Aquifer
Owens Valley Management Area

02/26/2026

Figure 6

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Level Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Approximate Area of Confinement
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Sources: Danskin (1998); https://owens.gladata.com

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 5 10 mi

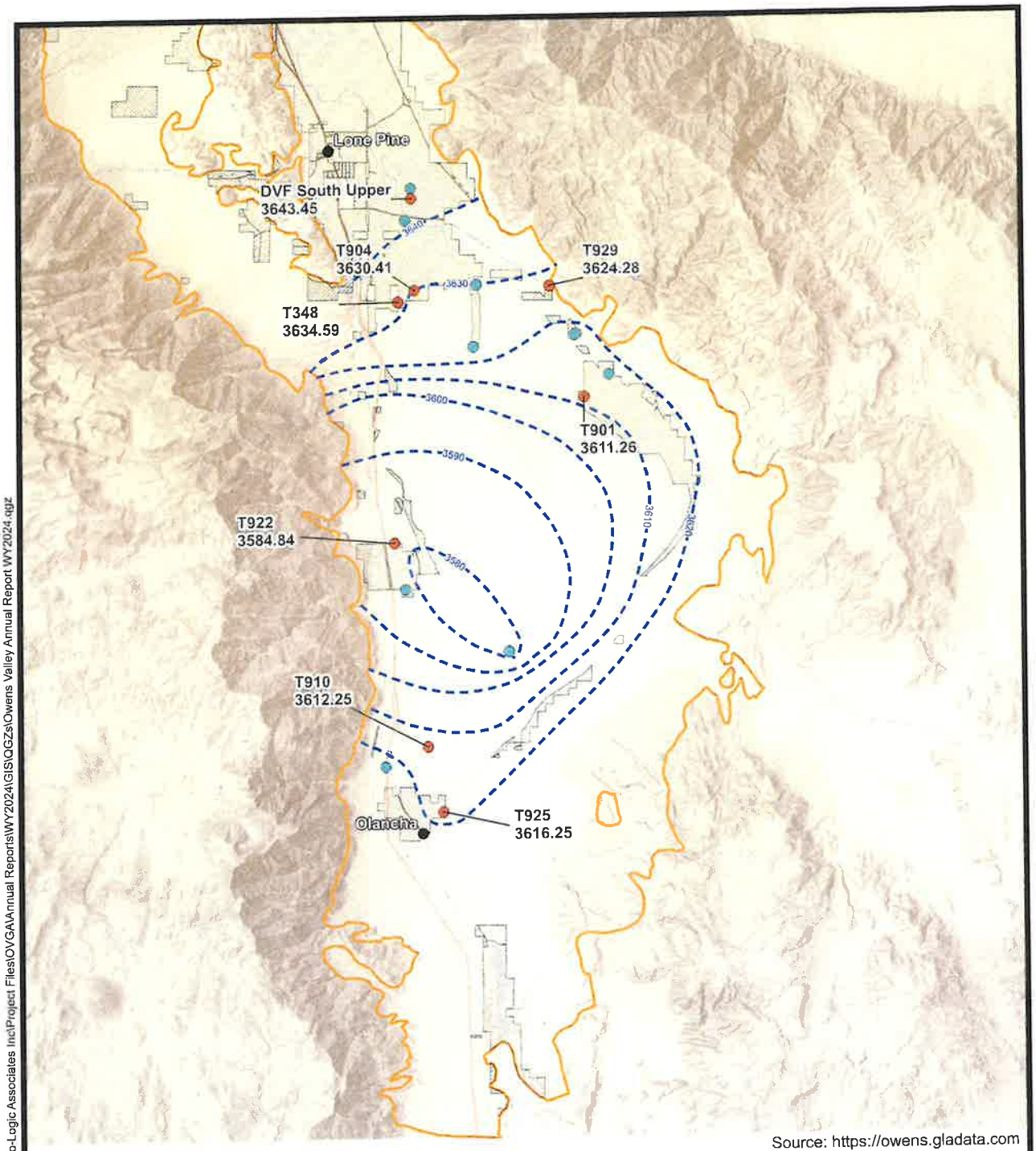
N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Fall Groundwater Elevations - Deep Aquifer
Owens Valley Management Area

02/26/2026

Figure 7

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

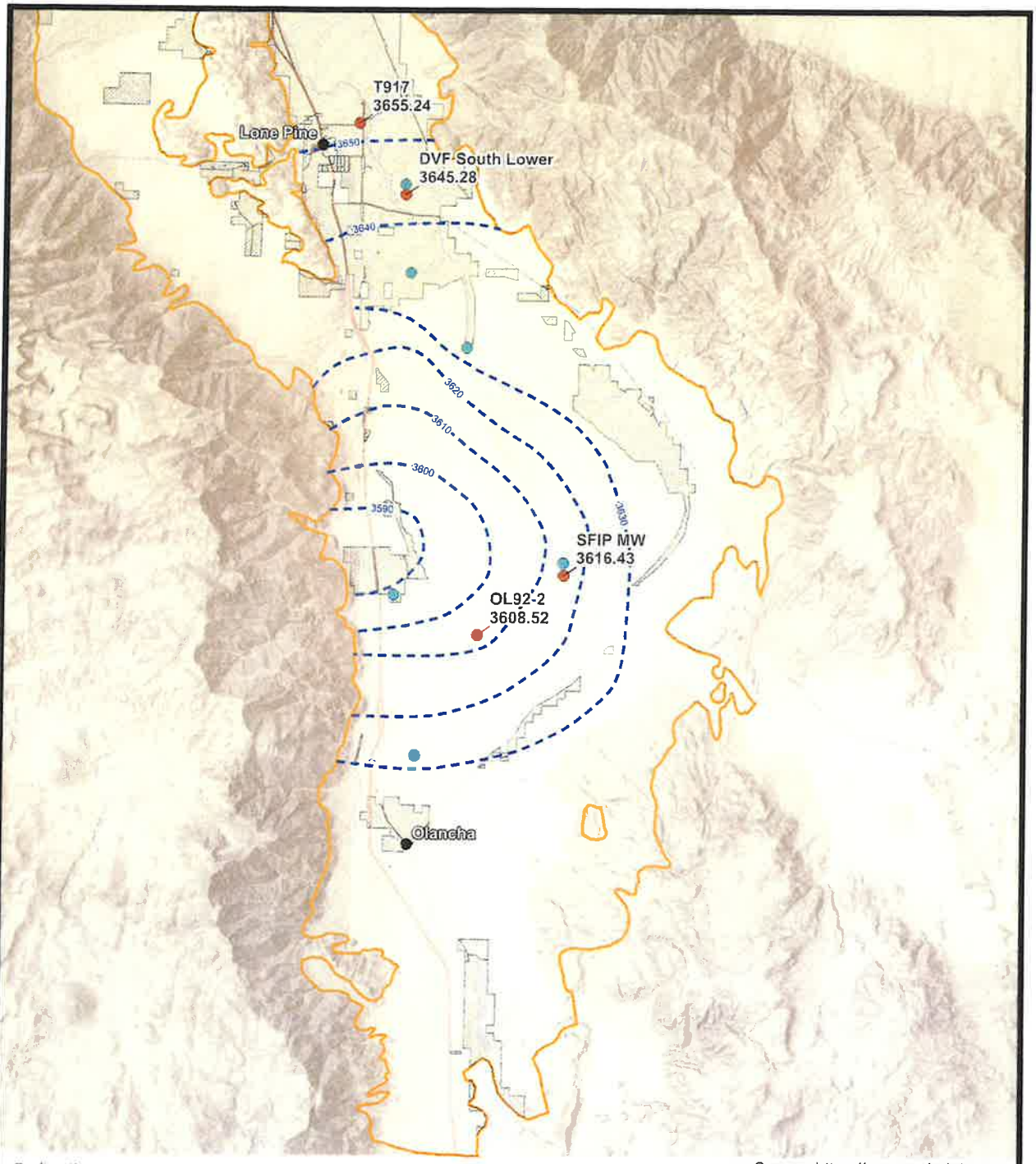
OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Spring Groundwater Elevations - Aquifer 1
Owens Lake Management Area

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

Figure 8

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

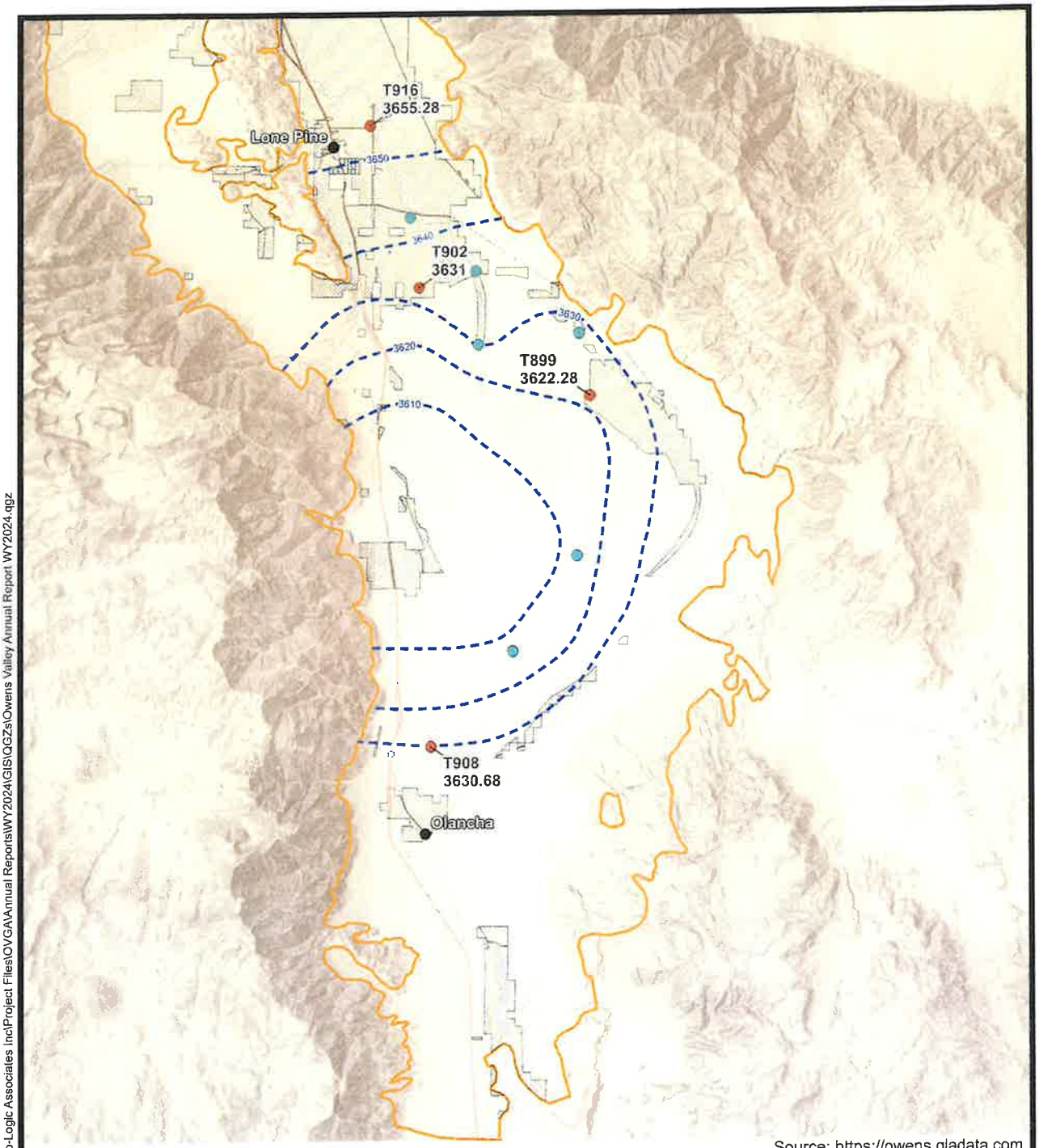
02/26/2026

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Spring Groundwater Elevations - Aquifer 3
Owens Lake Management Area

Figure 9

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Groundwater Elevation Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Spring Groundwater Elevations - Aquifer 5

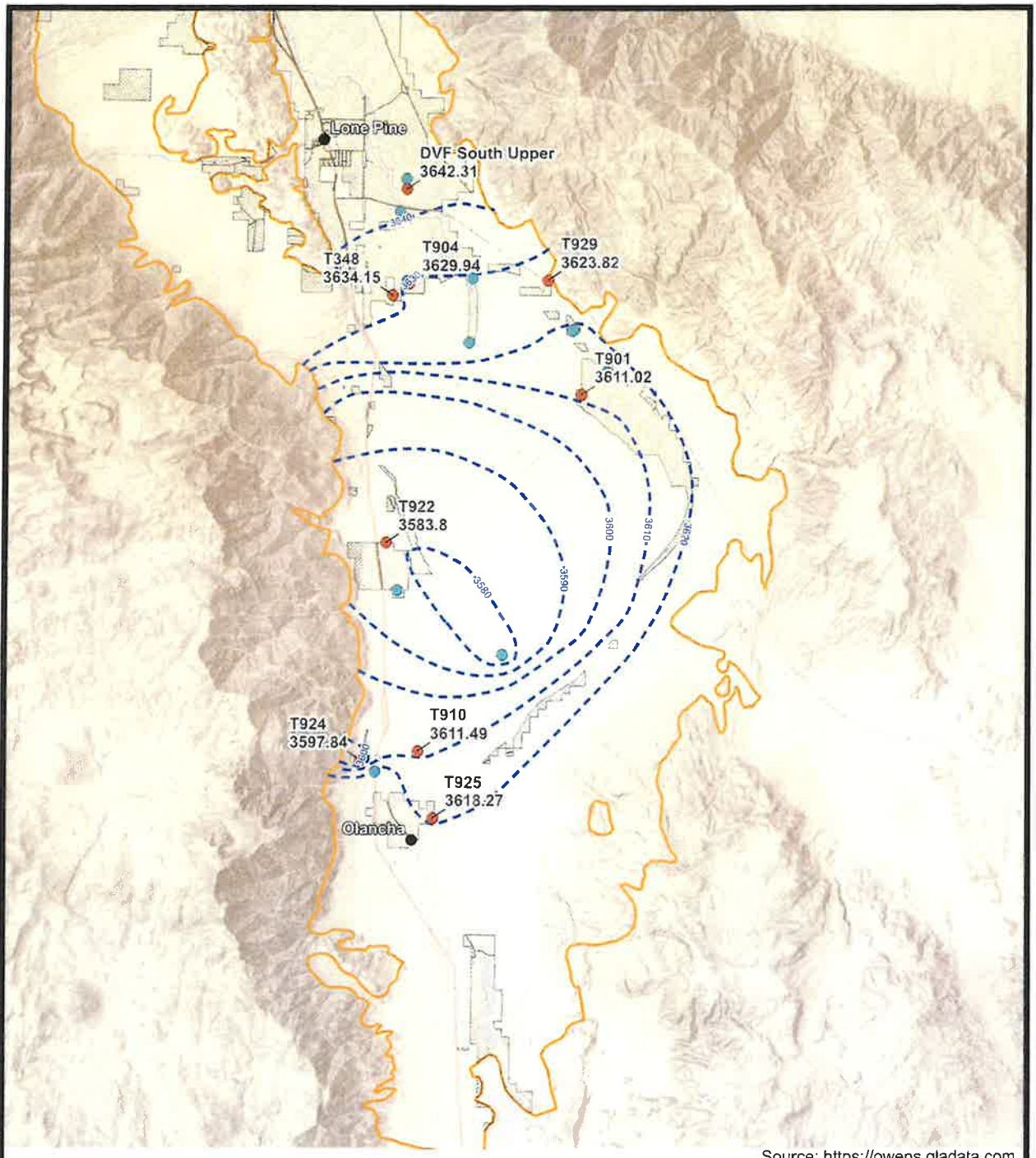
Owens Lake Management Area

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

Figure 10

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Level Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

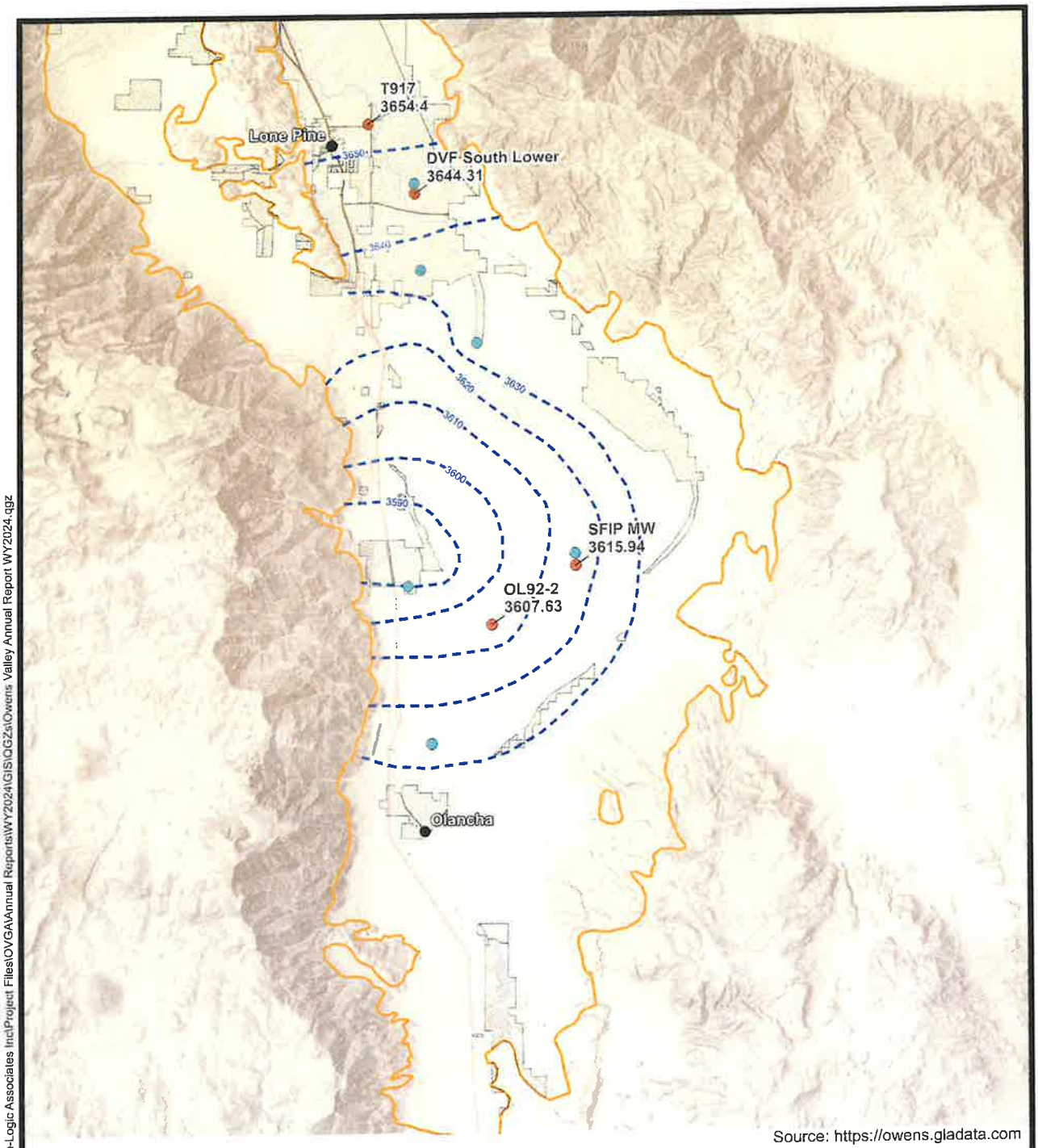
Fall Groundwater Elevations

Owens Lake Management Area - Aquifer 1

02/26/2026

Figure 11

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Level Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

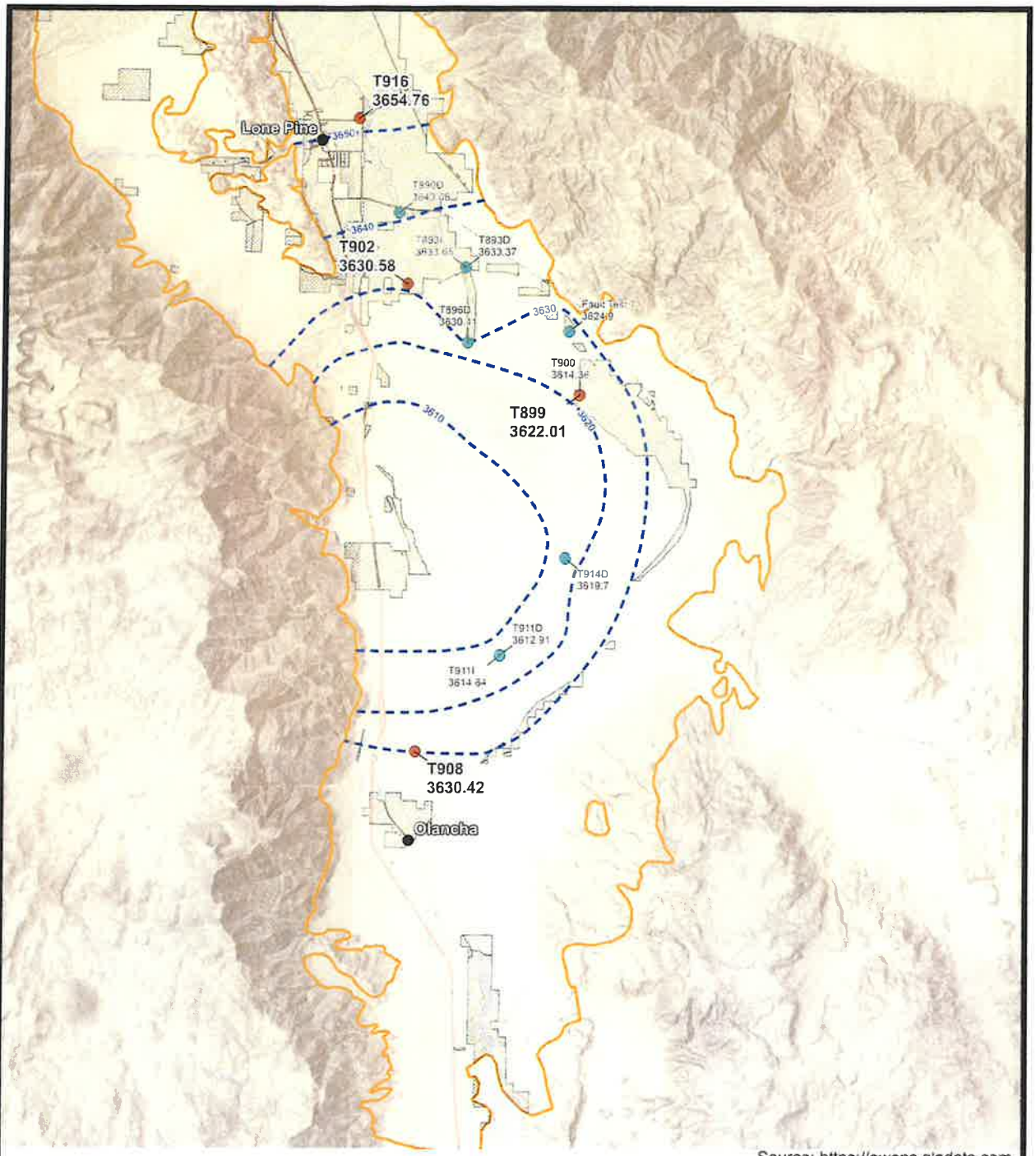
OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Fall Groundwater Elevations
Owens Lake Management Area - Aquifer 3

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

Figure 12

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Source: https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

- RMP Name
  Groundwater Elevation (ft amsl)
- Groundwater Monitoring Well
- City or Town
- Water Level Contour (ft amsl)
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

Notes:
1. RMP = Representative Monitoring Point.
2. Only RMPs labeled.

0 2 4 mi

N

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024
Fall Groundwater Elevations
Owens Lake Management Area - Aquifer 5

02/26/2026

Figure 13

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz

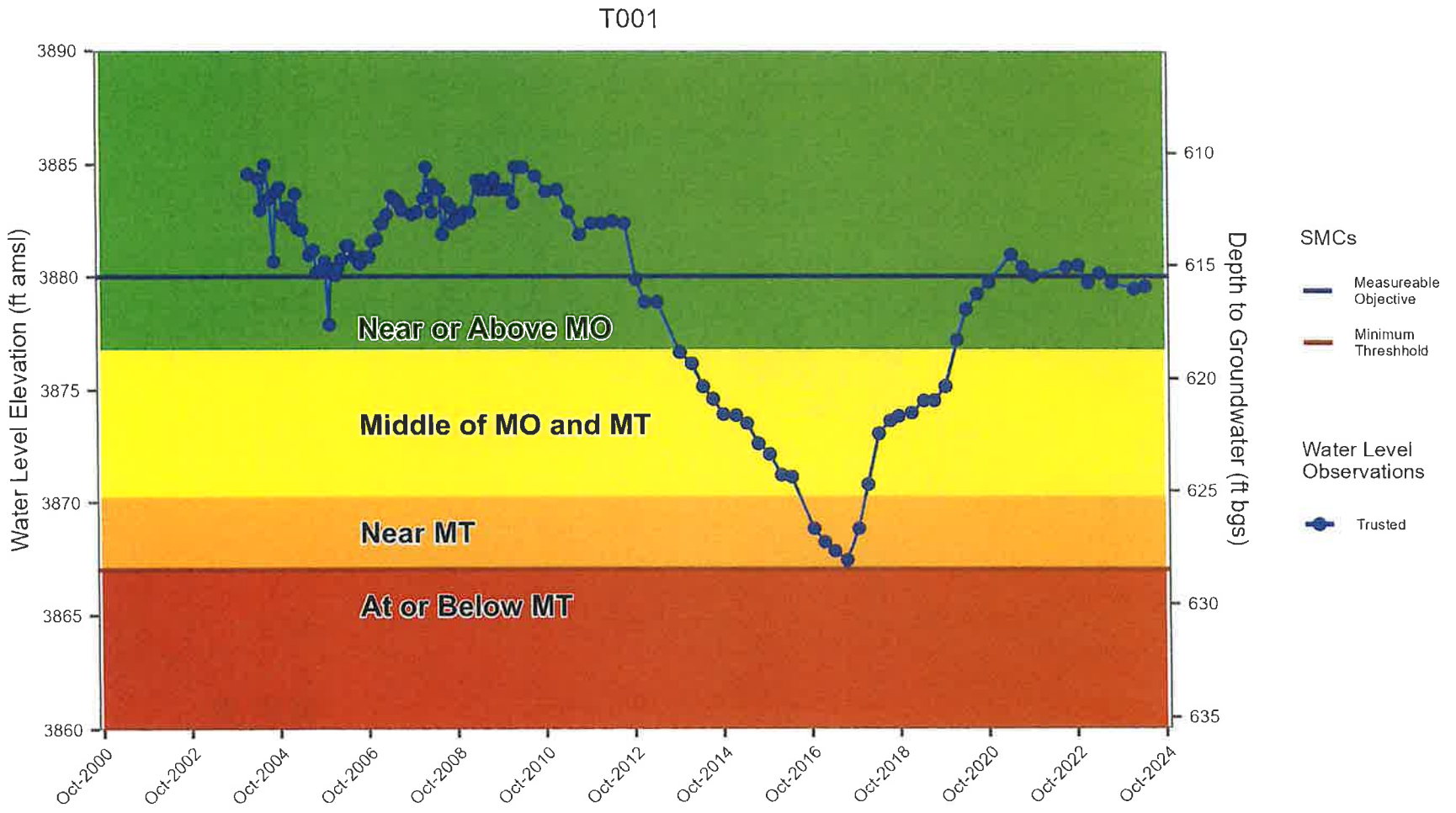


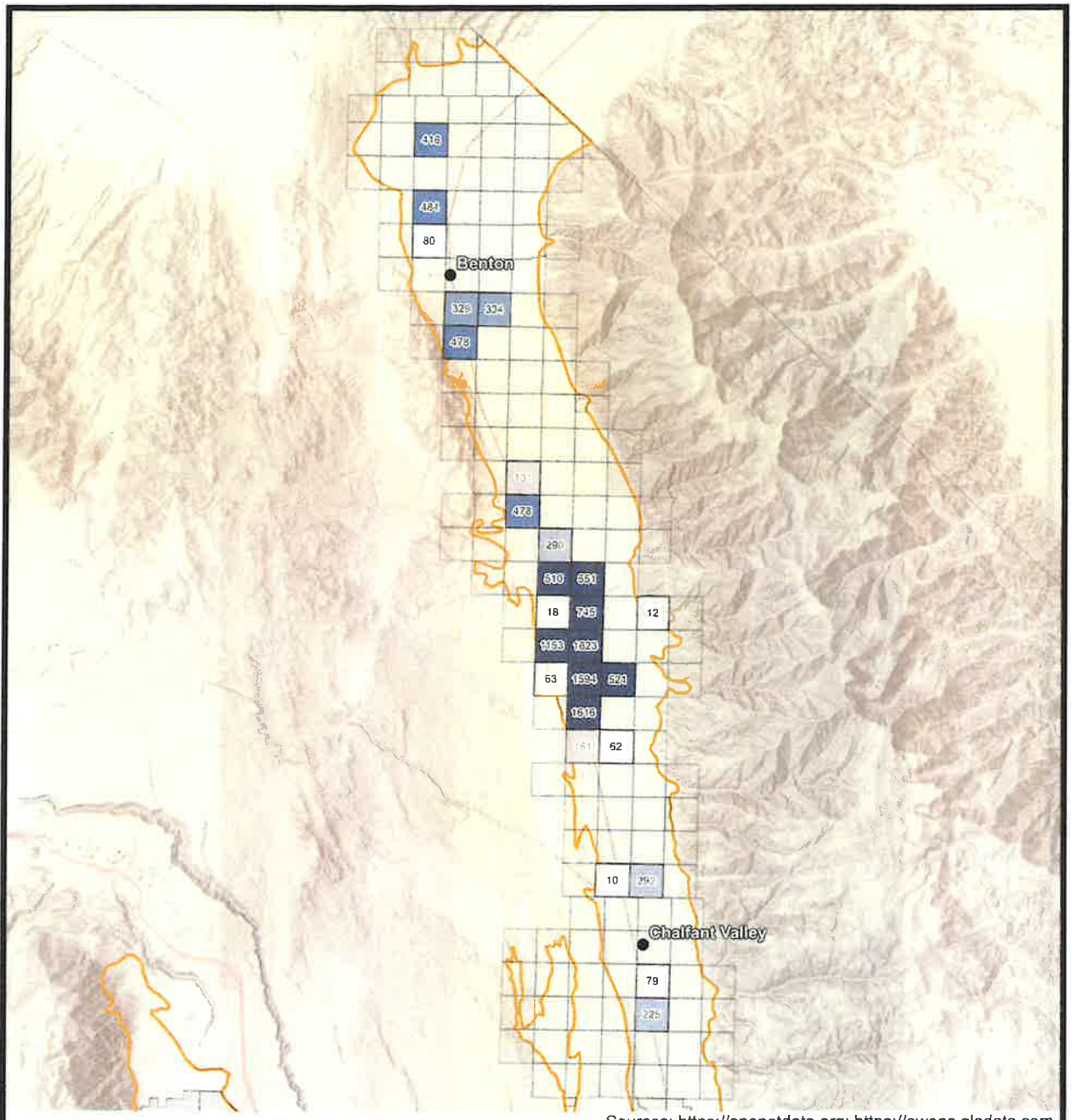
Figure 14

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Example SMC Status Categories



Sources: https://openetdata.org; https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

Extraction Volume (AF)

- 0.0 - 0.0
- 0 - 100
- 100 - 200
- 200 - 300
- 300 - 400
- 400 - 500
- >500
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

0 2 4 mi

N

Notes:

1. No extraction data available except from Chalfant Valley West MWC. Agricultural volumes and locations estimated from Open ET.
2. Reported groundwater extractions likely overestimated due to unknown application volume of surface water on some fields.
3. Estimated extraction volumes aggregated by public land survey system (PLSS) section.
4. Labels indicate estimated extraction volume in acre-ft (AF).

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

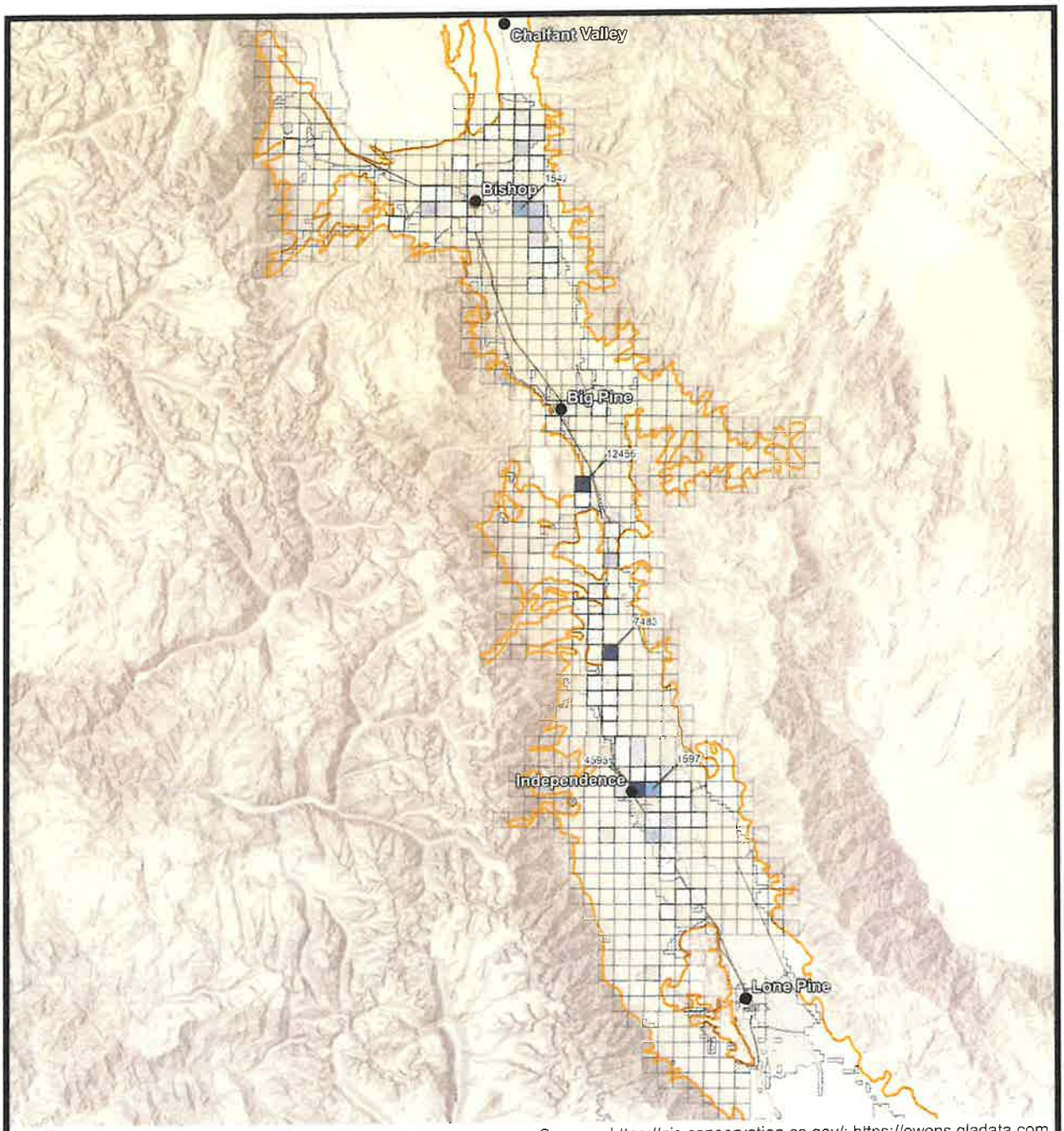
Estimated Groundwater Extractions

Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

02/26/2026

Figure 15

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Sources: https://gis.conservation.ca.gov/; https://owens.gladata.com

Explanation

Extraction Volume (AF)

- No Extractions
- < 500
- 500 - 1,000
- 1,000 - 1,500
- 1,500 - 2,000
- 2,000 - 2,500
- > 2,500
- SGMA Exempt Lands
- Groundwater Basin Boundary

0 5 10 mi

N

Notes:

1. LADWP extracts the majority of groundwater in the Owens Valley under the Long-Term Water Agreement. Well-specific contributions to each water-use sector reported in Table 1 are not measured by LADWP.
2. Estimated extraction volumes aggregated by public land survey system (PLSS) section.
3. Labels indicate estimated extraction volume in acre-ft (AF). Only labels for sections with more than 1,500 AF of extraction shown for readibility.

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

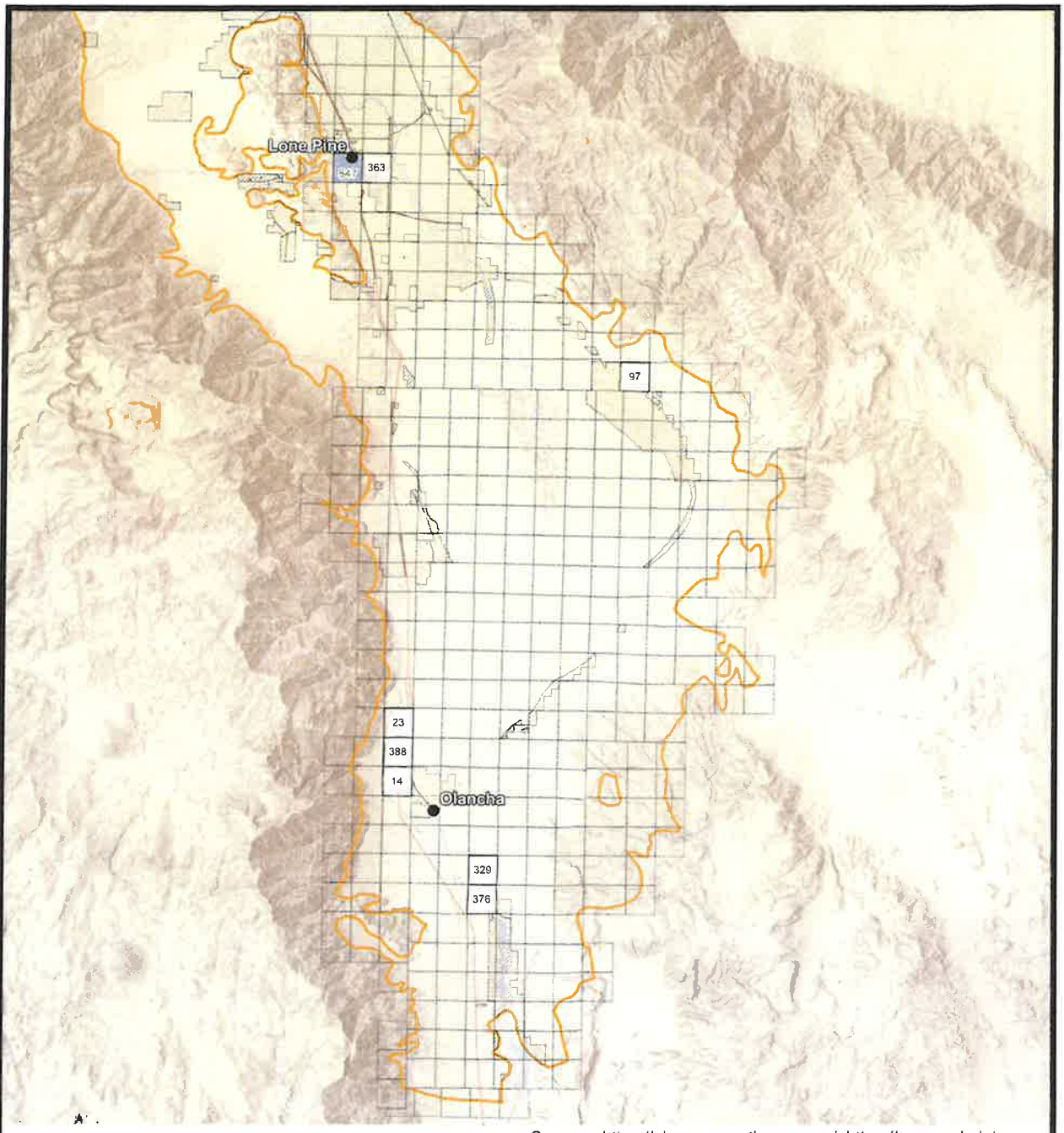
Measured Groundwater Extractions
Owens Valley Management Area

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

02/26/2026

Figure 16

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Explanation

Extraction Volume (AF)

- No Extractions
- 0 - 500
- 500 - 1,000
- 1,000 - 1,500

SGMA Exempt Lands

Groundwater Basin Boundary

N

0 2 4 mi

Sources: https://gis.conservation.ca.gov/; https://owens.gladata.com

Notes:

1. LADWP extracts the majority of groundwater in the Owens Lake management area under the Long-Term Water Agreement. Well-specific contributions to each water-use sector reported in Table 1 are not measured by LADWP.
2. Estimated extraction volumes aggregated by public land survey system (PLSS) section.

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

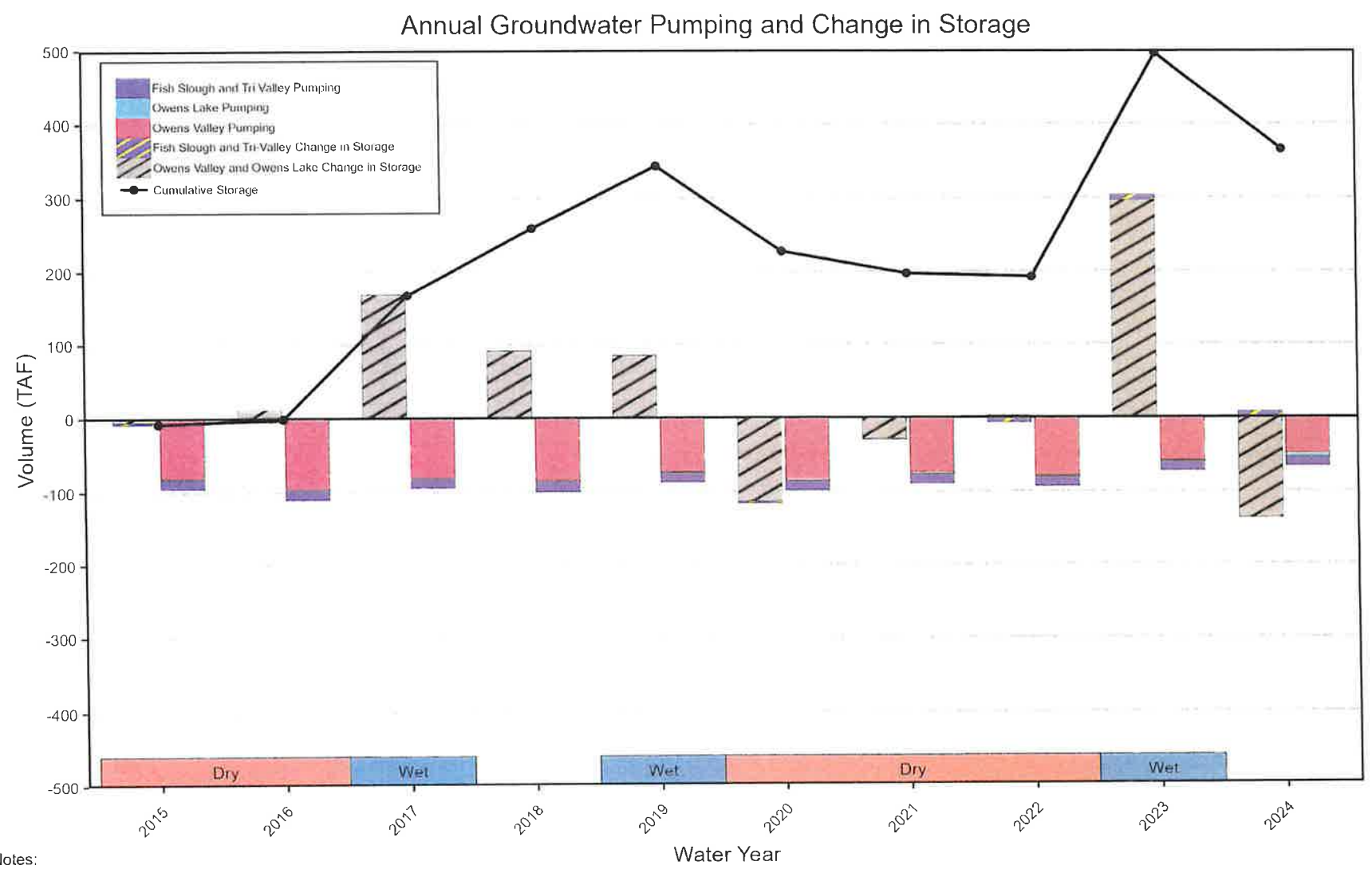
Measured Groundwater Extractions
Owens Lake Management Area

02/26/2026

Figure 17

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz

DB23.1300.00 C:\Users\500\OneDrive - Geo-Logic Associates Inc\Project Files\OVGA\Annual Reports\WY2024\GIS\QGZs\Owens Valley Annual Report WY2024.qgz



Notes:
1. TAF = thousand acre-ft.
2. Negative values indicate groundwater pumping and decrease in aquifer storage volume and groundwater levels.
3. Positive values indicate increase in aquifer storage volume and groundwater levels.
4. Cumulative change in storage values presented are relative to conditions at the start of WY 2015.

OWENS VALLEY GSP ANNUAL REPORT WY 2024

Groundwater Pumping and Change in Storage
WY 2015-2024

Figure 18

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

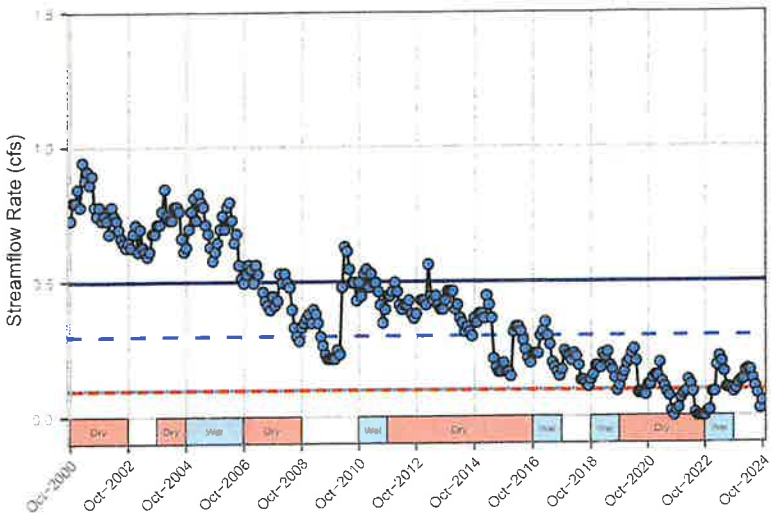
02/26/2026

Appendix A

Representative Monitoring Point Hydrographs

Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

SW3208



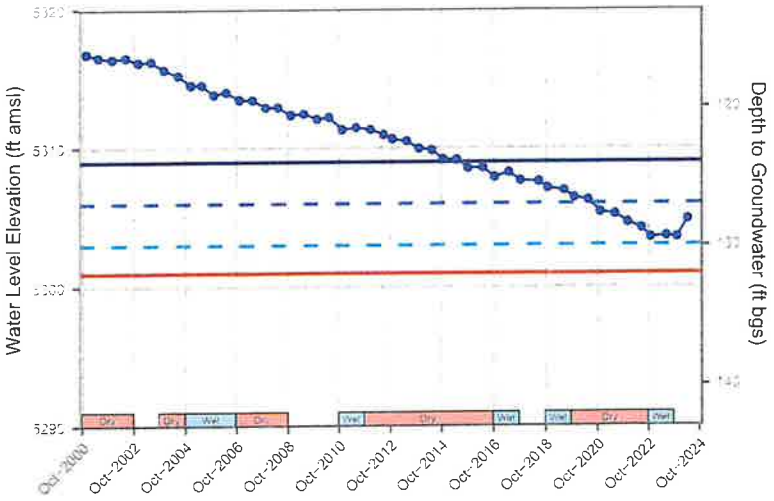
SMCs

- Interim Milestone (2022-2031)
- Interim Milestone (2032-2036)
- Long-term (20-year) Measureable Objective
- Minimum Threshold

Streamflow Observations

- Trusted

BT-MW1



SMCs

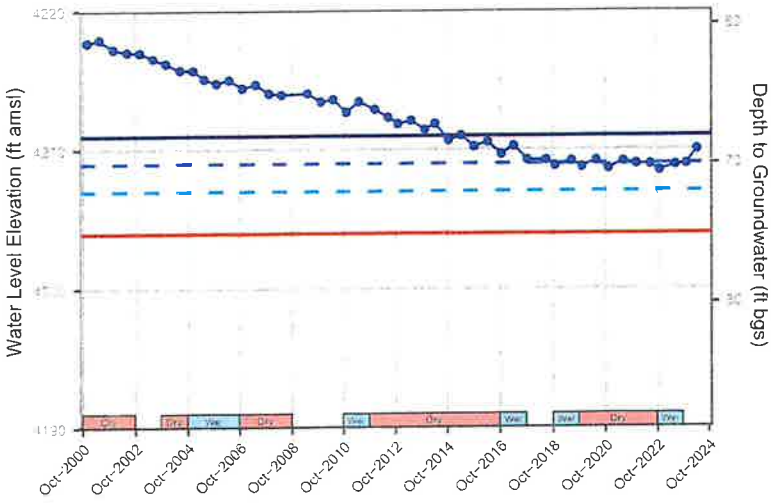
- Interim Milestone (2022-2031)
- Interim Milestone (2032-2036)
- Long-term (20-year) Measureable Objective
- Minimum Threshhold

Water Level Observations

- Trusted

Notes: 5-Year IM: 5303; 10-Year IM: 5303; 15-Year IM: 5306; 20 Year MO: 5309

CH-MW2



SMCs

- Interim Milestone (2022-2031)
- Interim Milestone (2032-2036)
- Long-term (20-year) Measureable Objective
- Minimum Threshhold

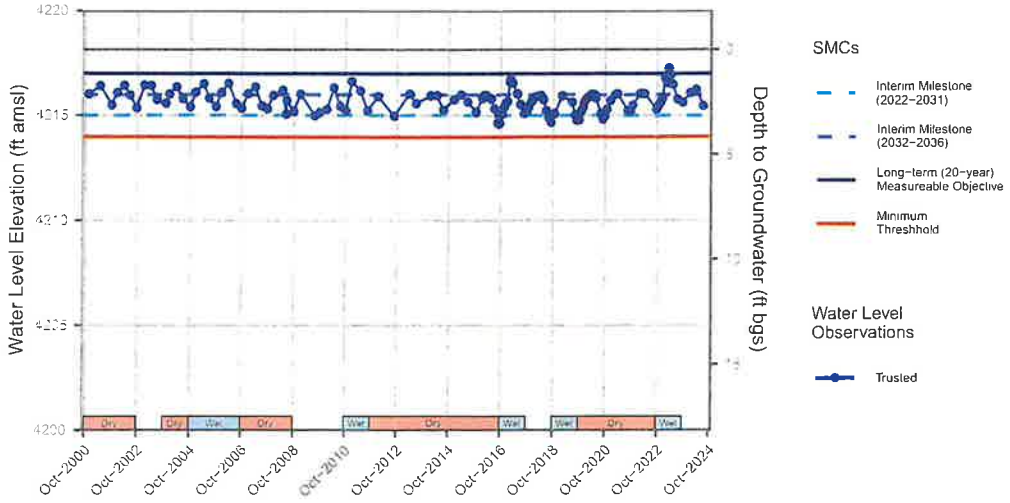
Water Level Observations

- Trusted

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

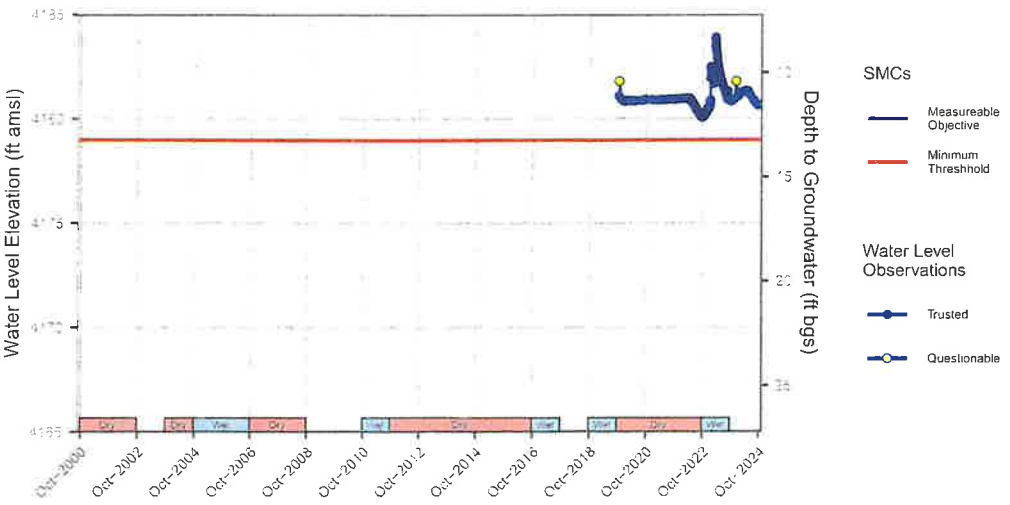
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area

FS-2



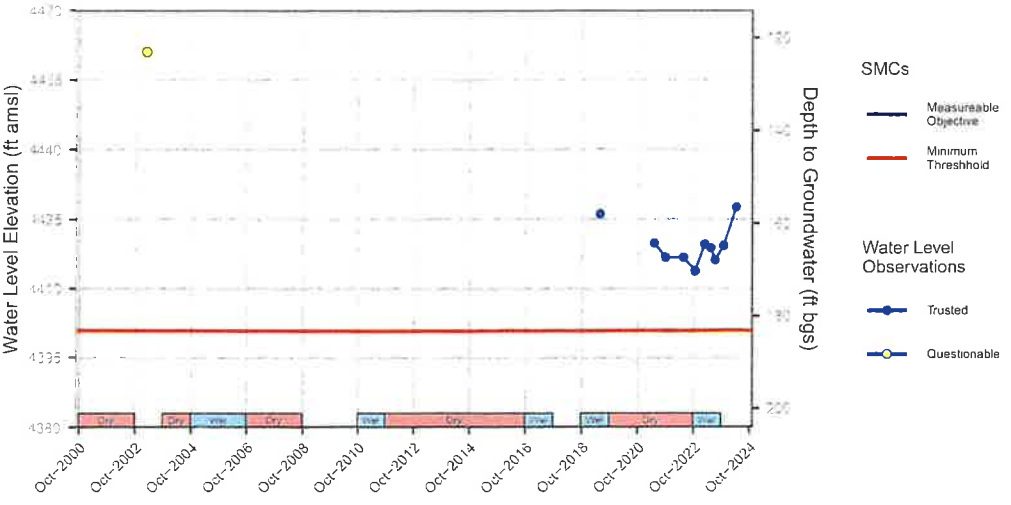
Notes: 5-Year IM: 4215; 10-Year IM: 4215; 15-Year IM: 4216; 20 Year MO: 4217

FS-3D



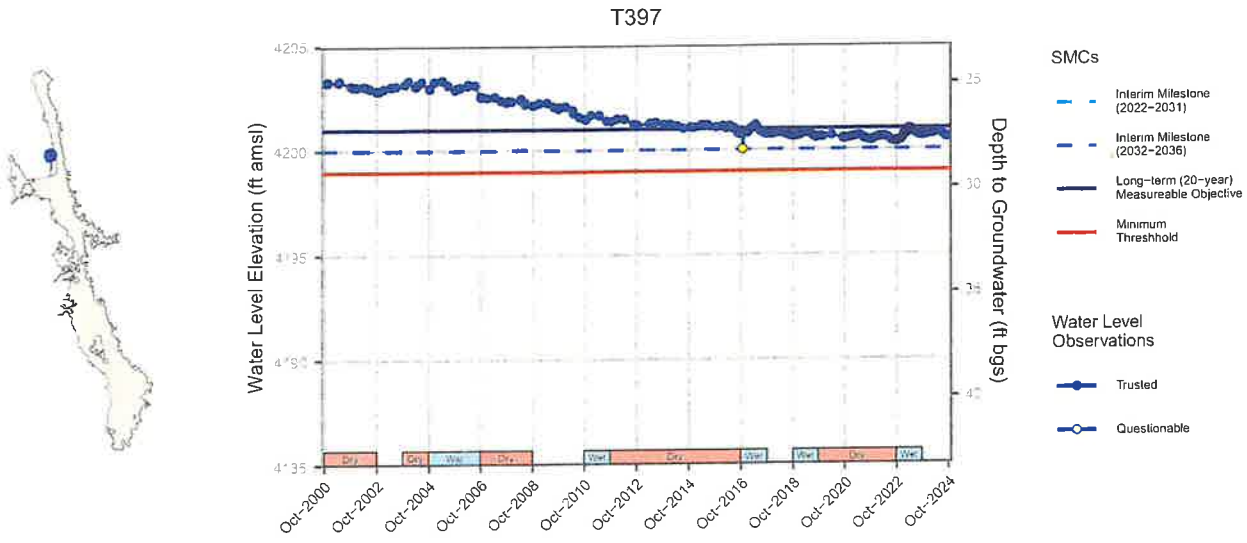
Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objective (MO) will be established in next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

Hammil 2



Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Measurable Objective (MO) will be established in next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

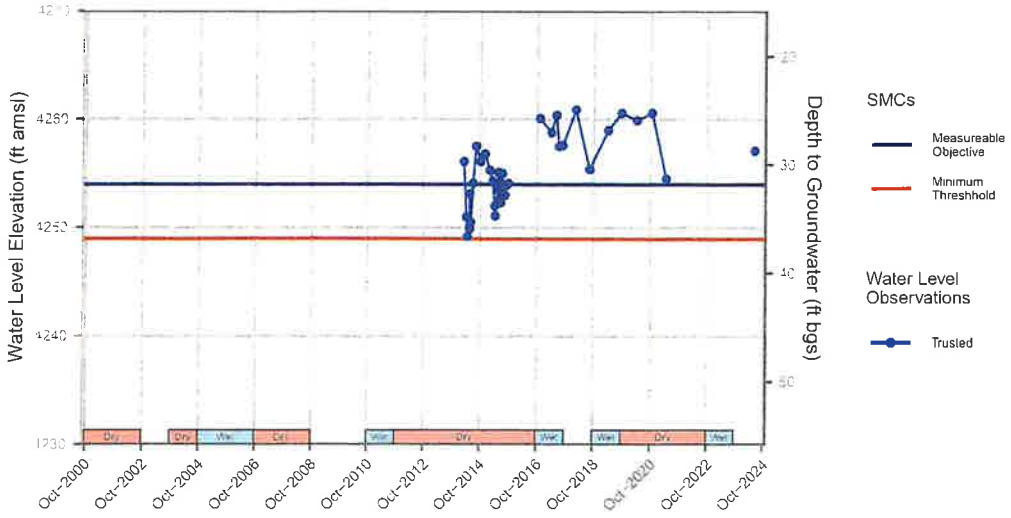
Fish Slough and Tri-Valley Management Area



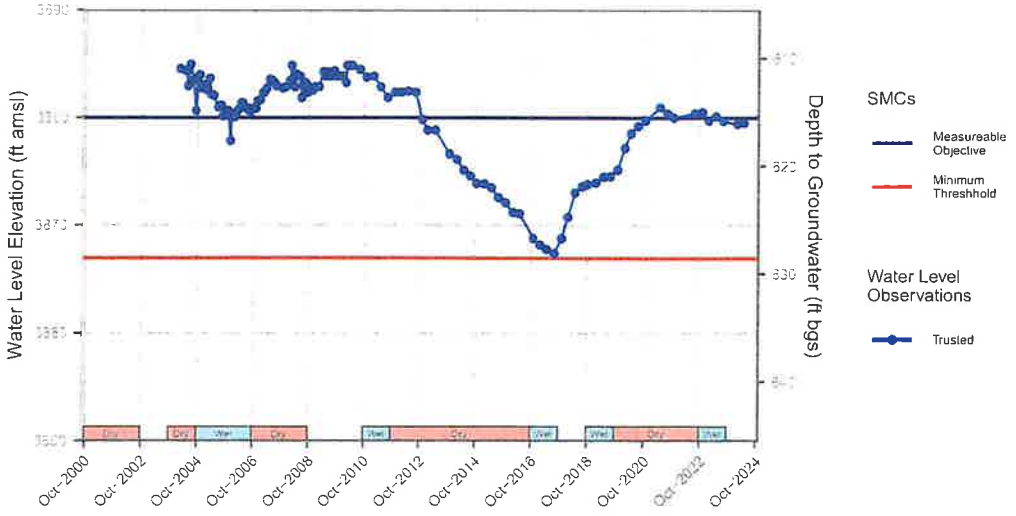
Notes: 5-Year IM: 4199; 10-Year IM: 4199; 15-Year IM: 4200; 20 Year MO: 4201

Owens Valley Management Area

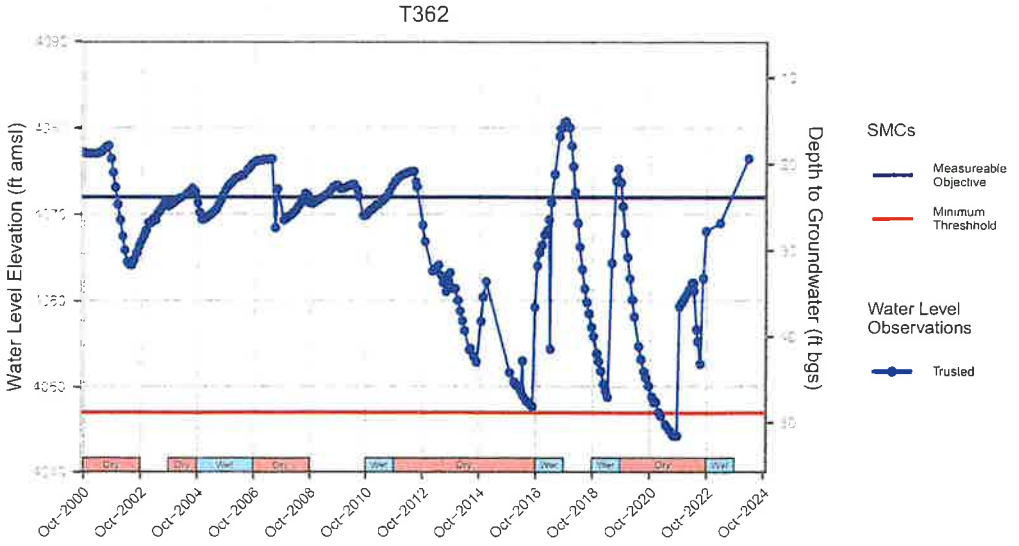
ICWCSD 4



T001

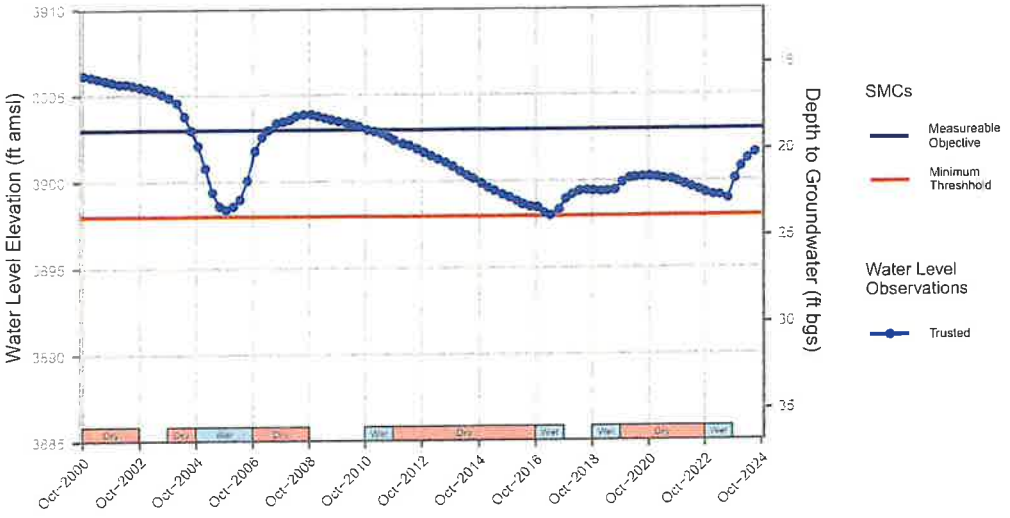


T362

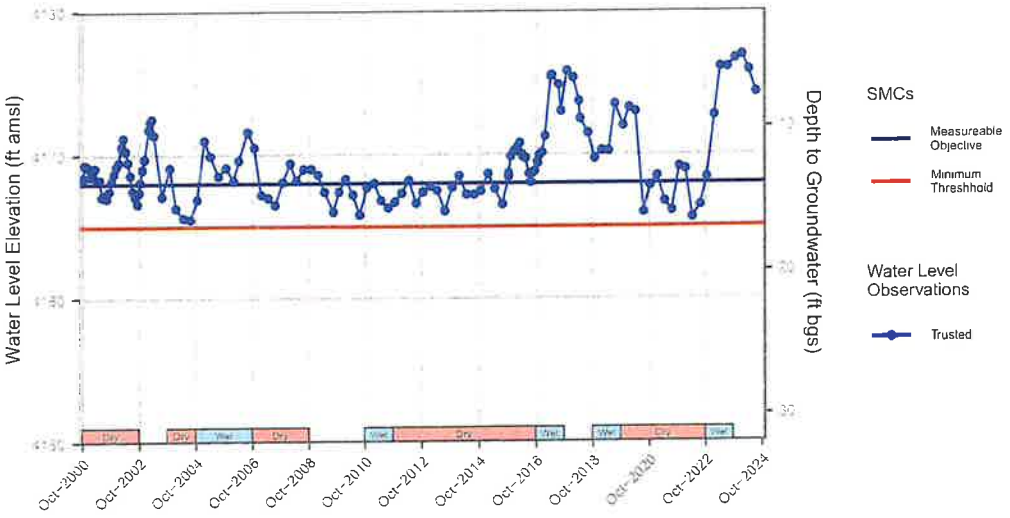


Owens Valley Management Area

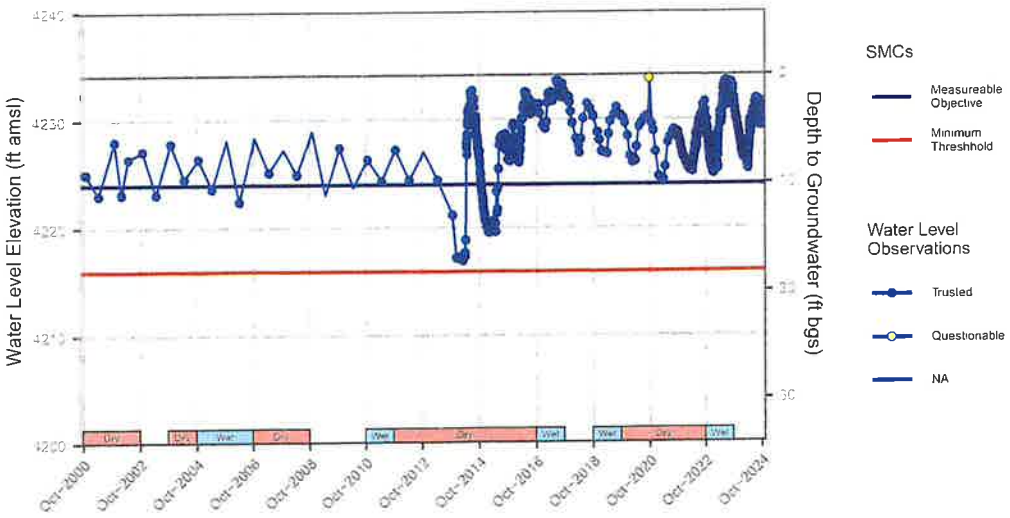
T364



T384

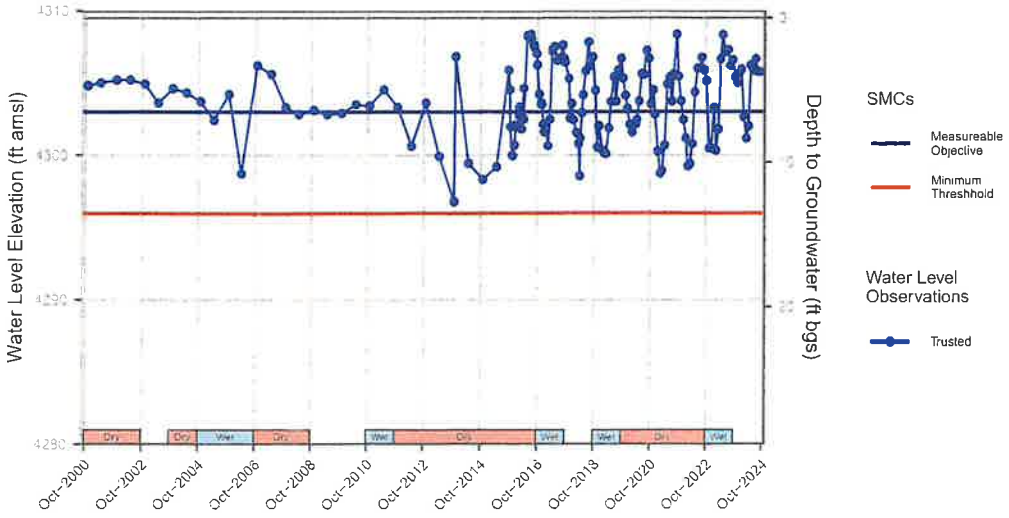


T389

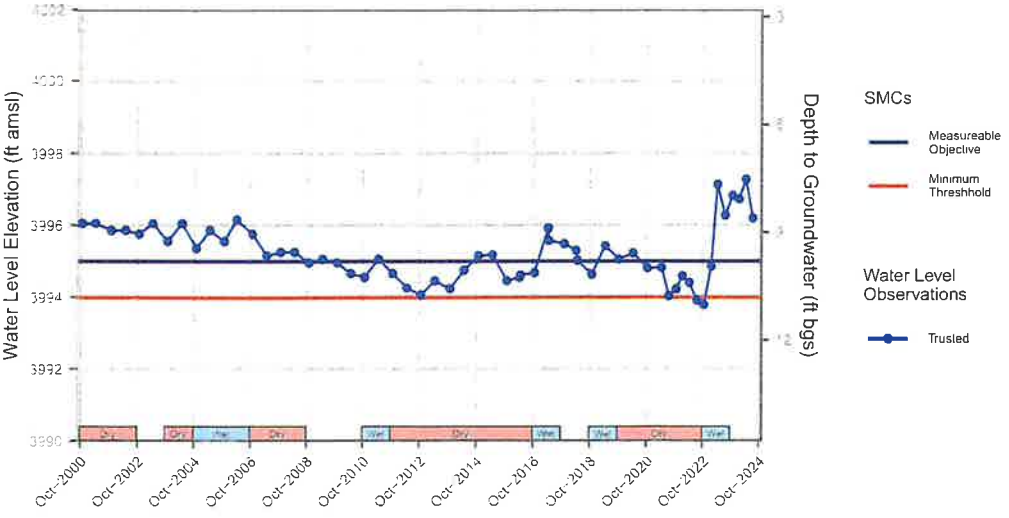


Owens Valley Management Area

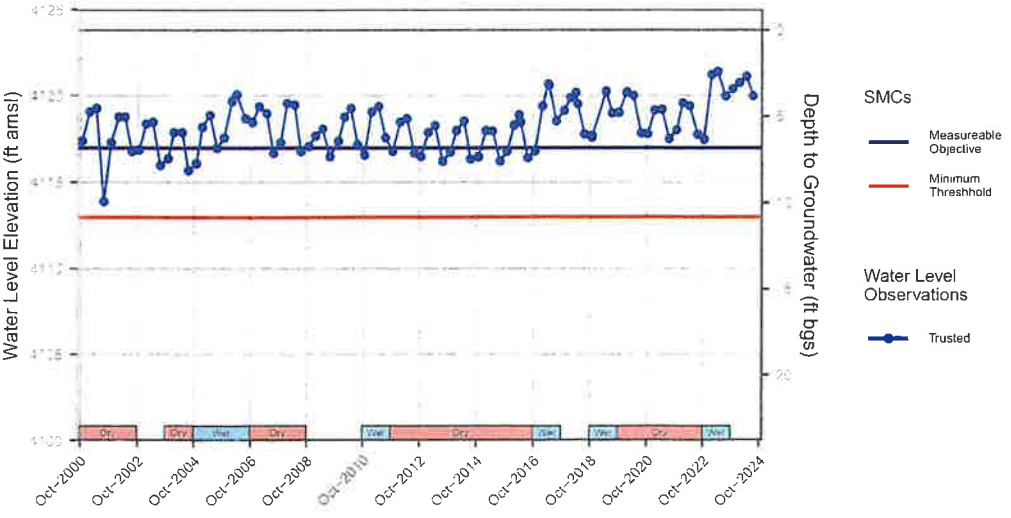
T391



T480

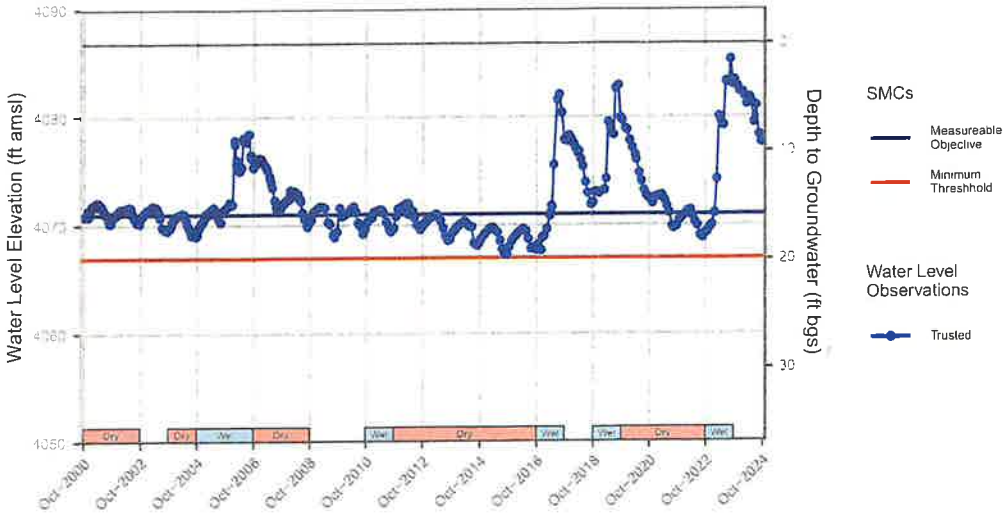


T513

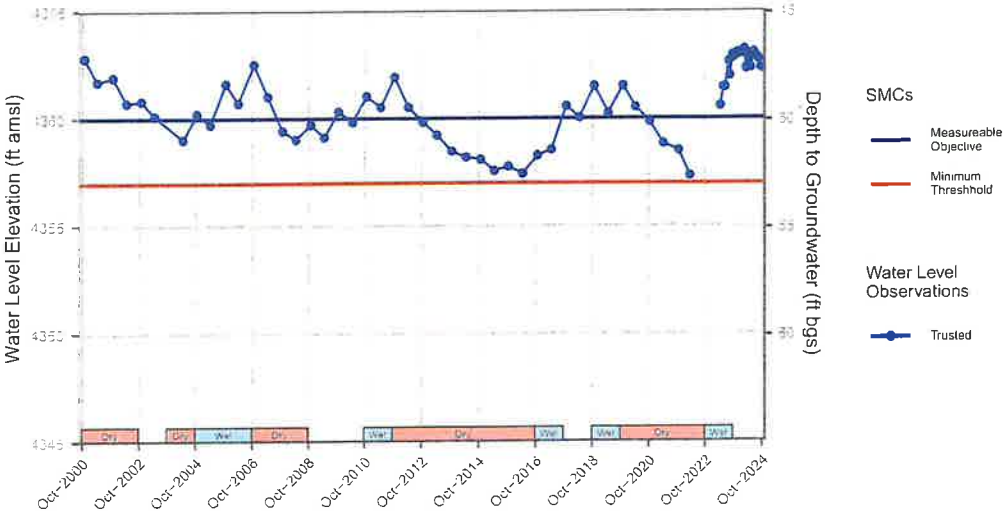


Owens Valley Management Area

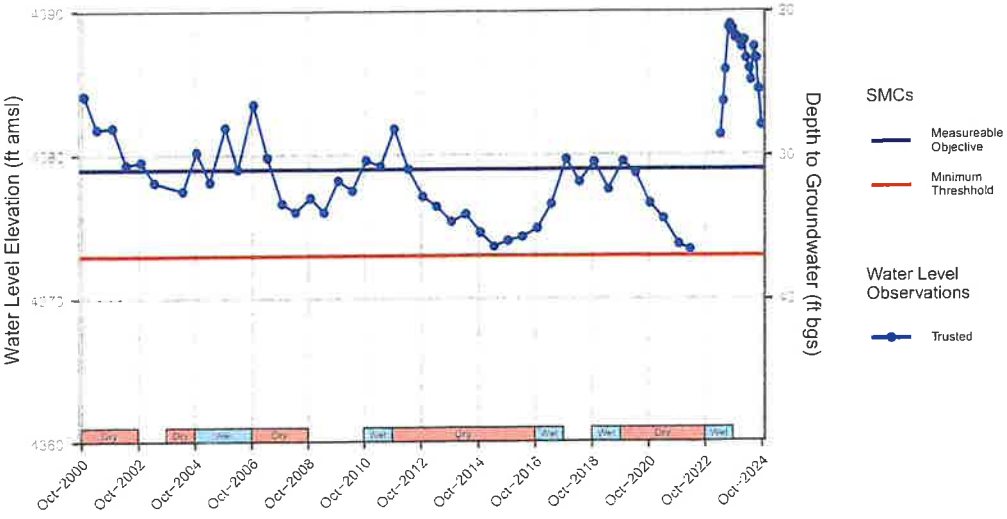
T574



T750

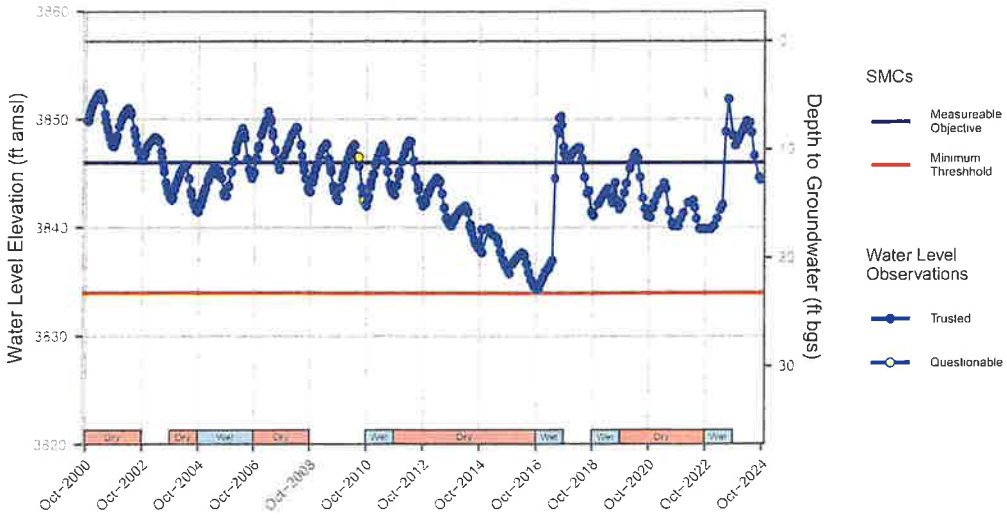


T751

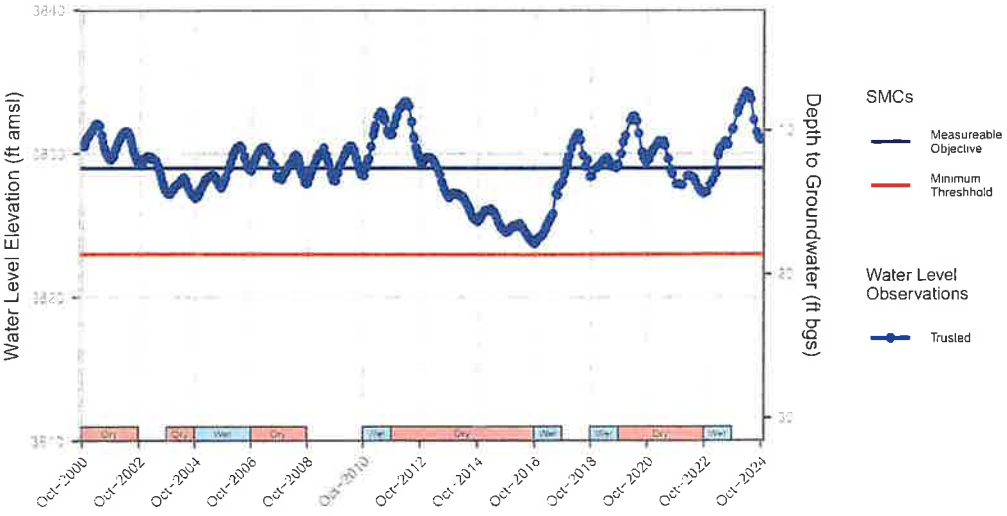


Owens Valley Management Area

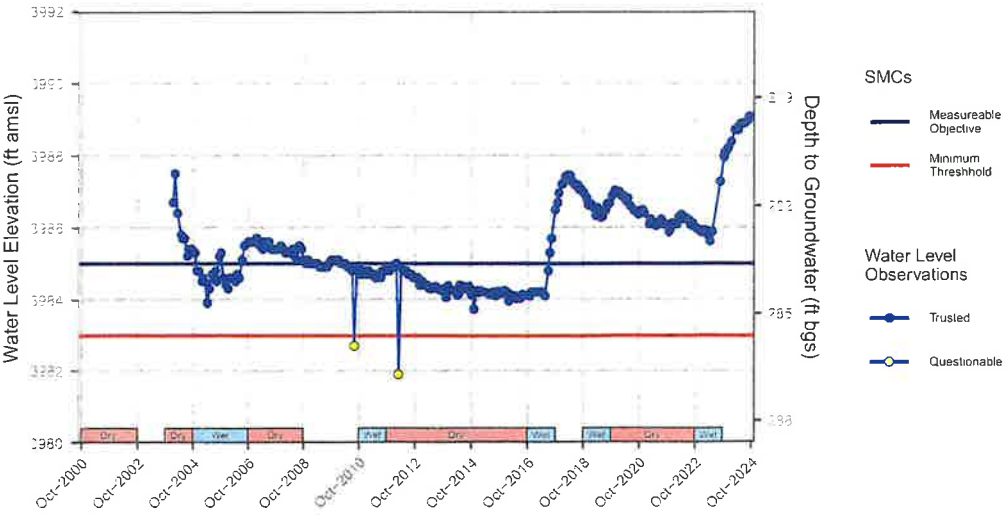
T808



T809

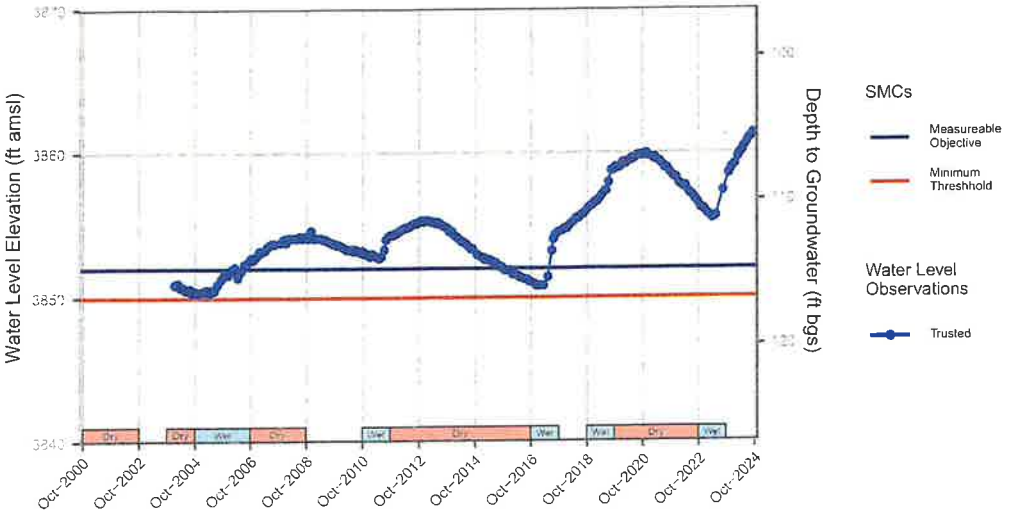


T869



Owens Valley Management Area

T871



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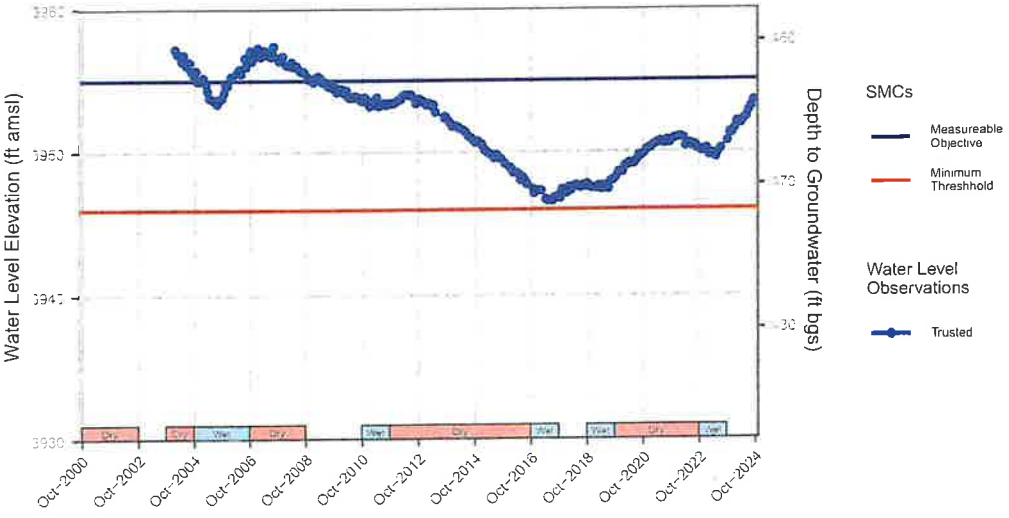

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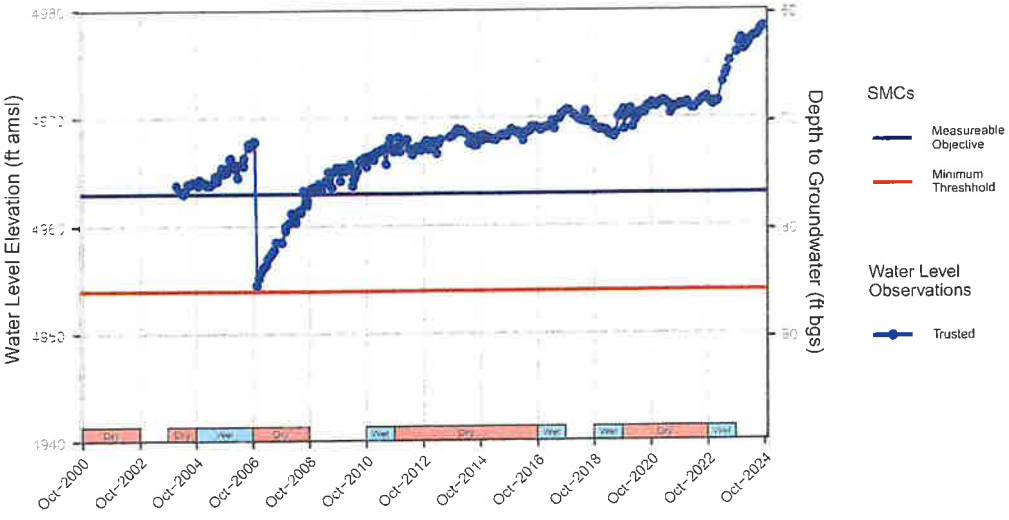
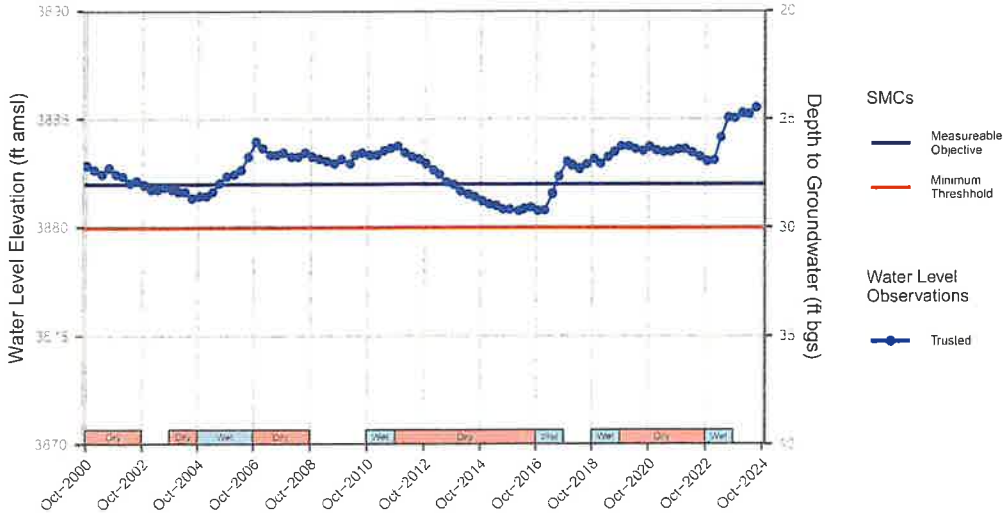


Owens Valley Management Area

V016GB



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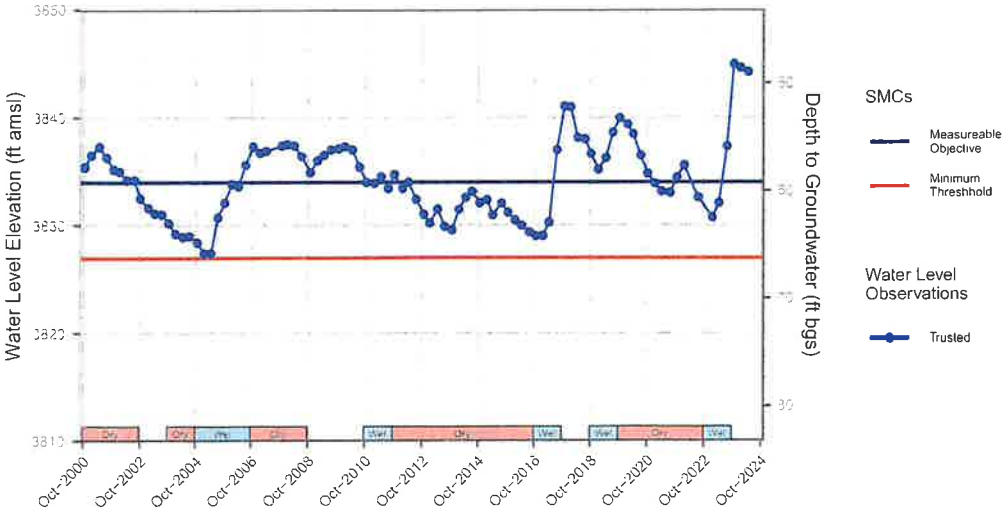

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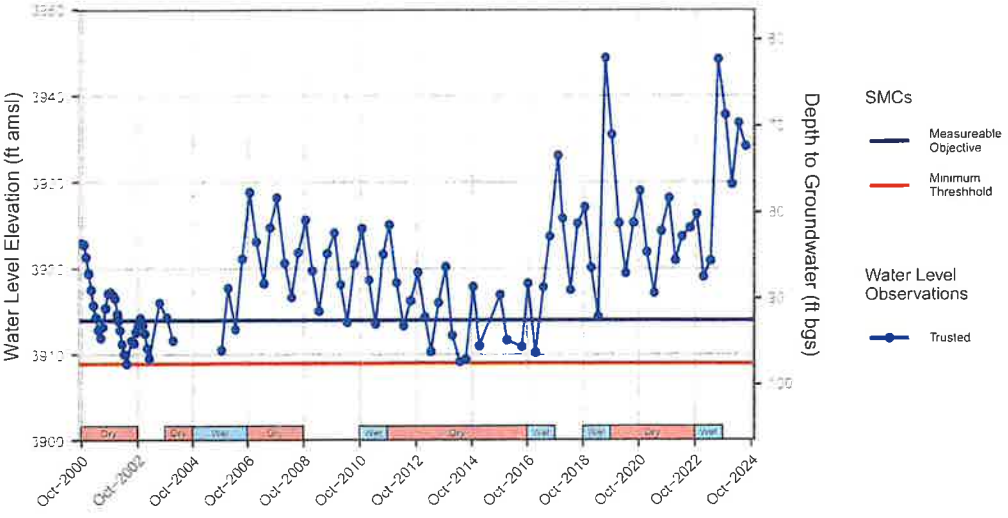
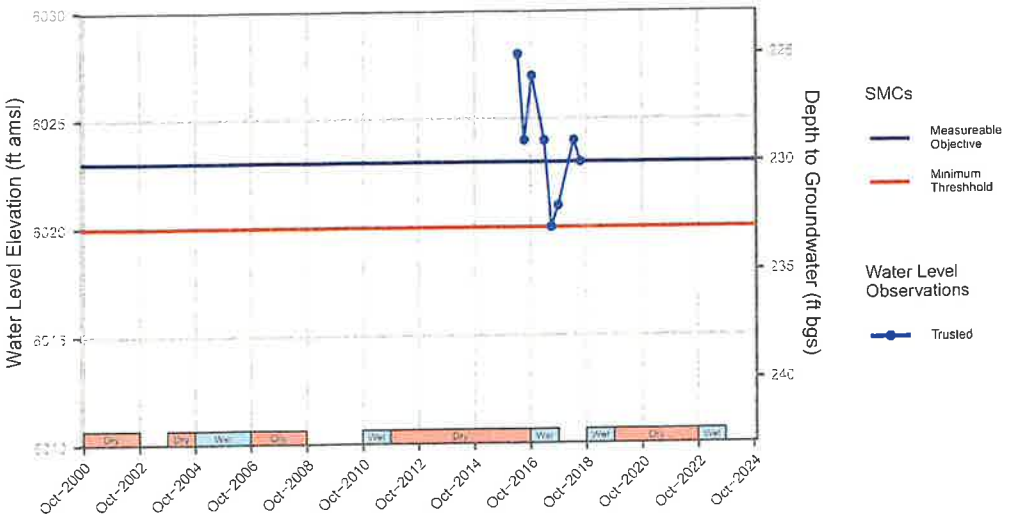
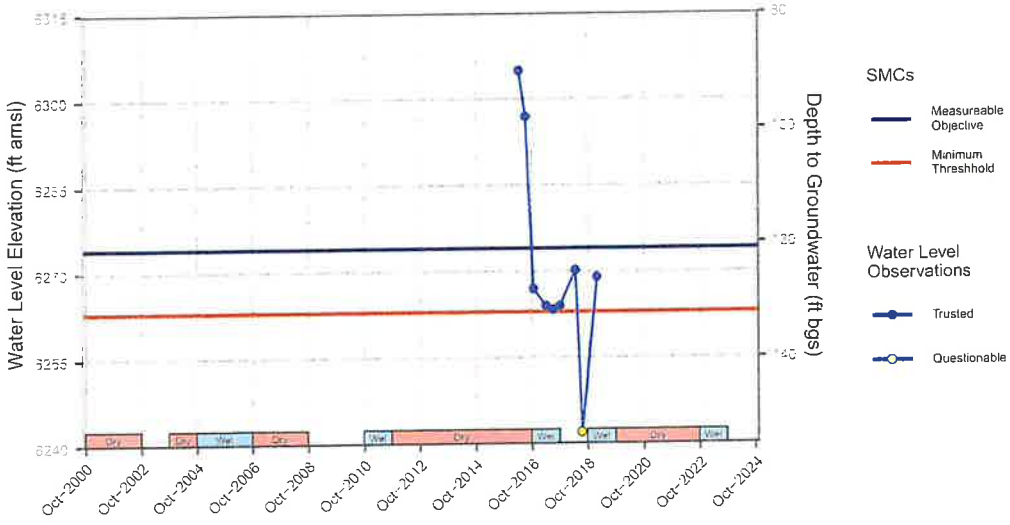


Owens Valley Management Area

WCCSD 2

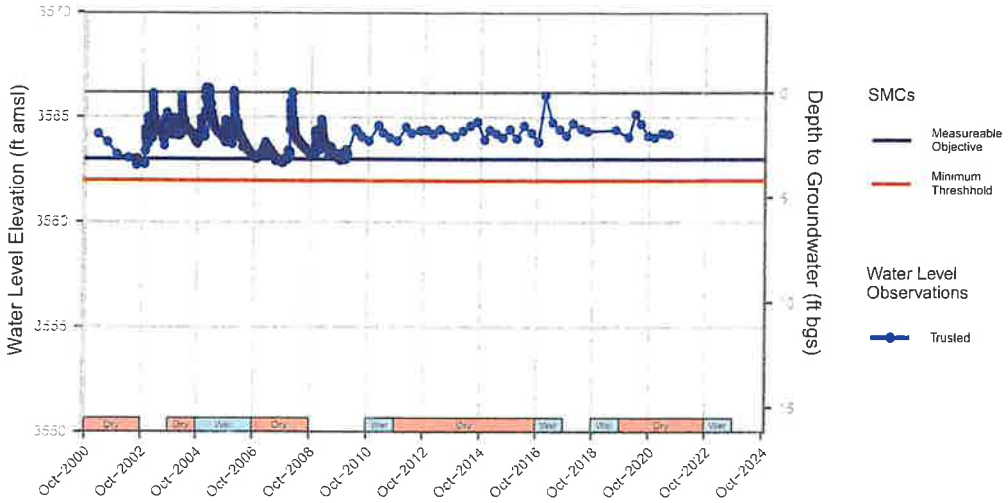


WCCSD 4



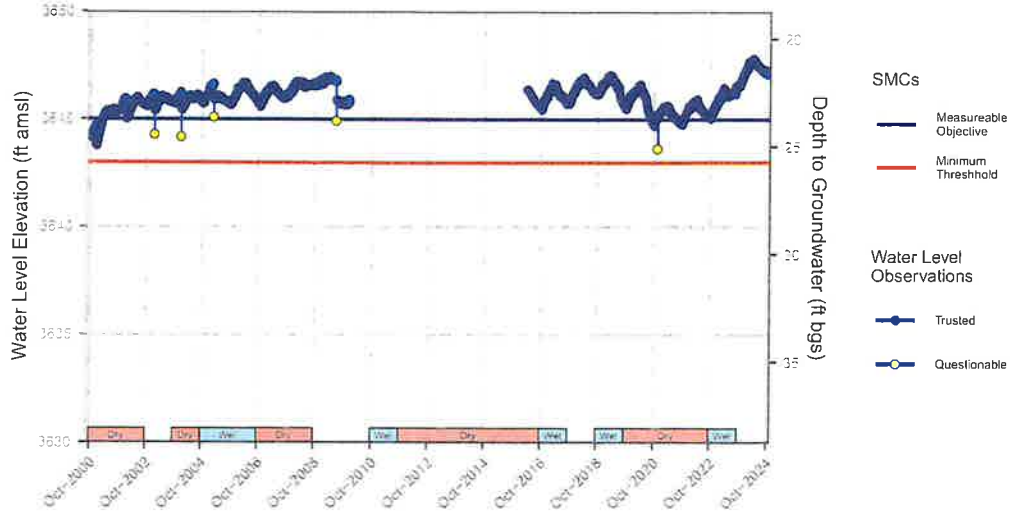
Owens Lake Management Area

DELTA W(3)_10

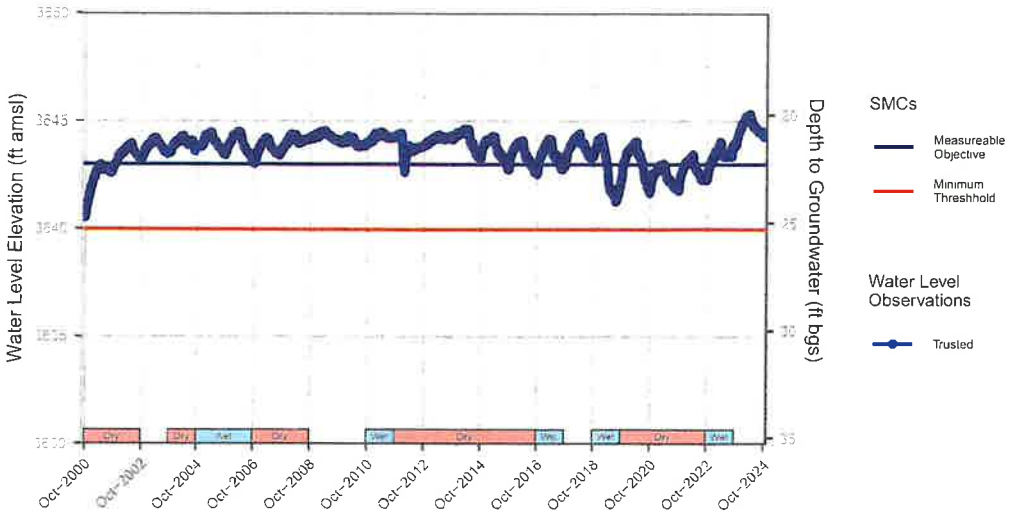


Notes: Reported destroyed by LADWP. To be removed during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

DVF North MW

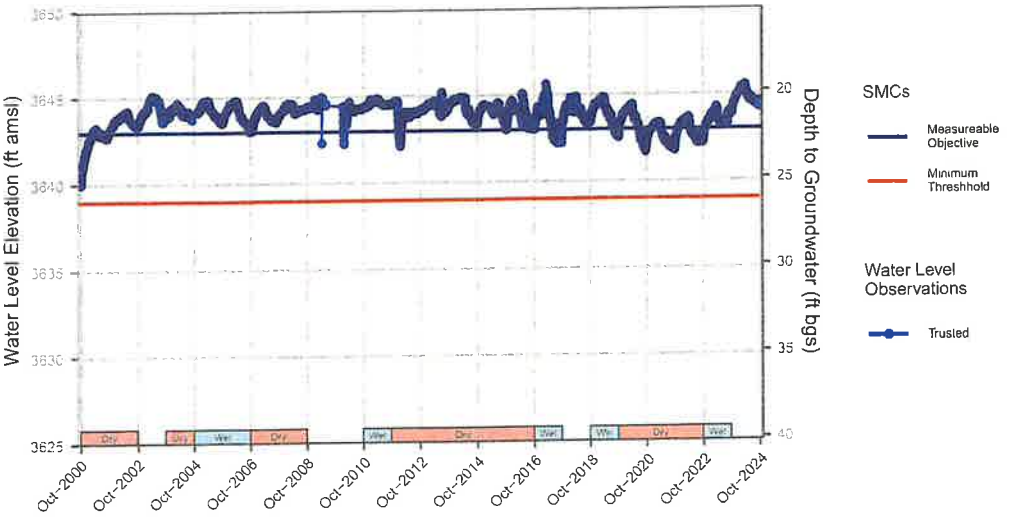


DVF South Lower

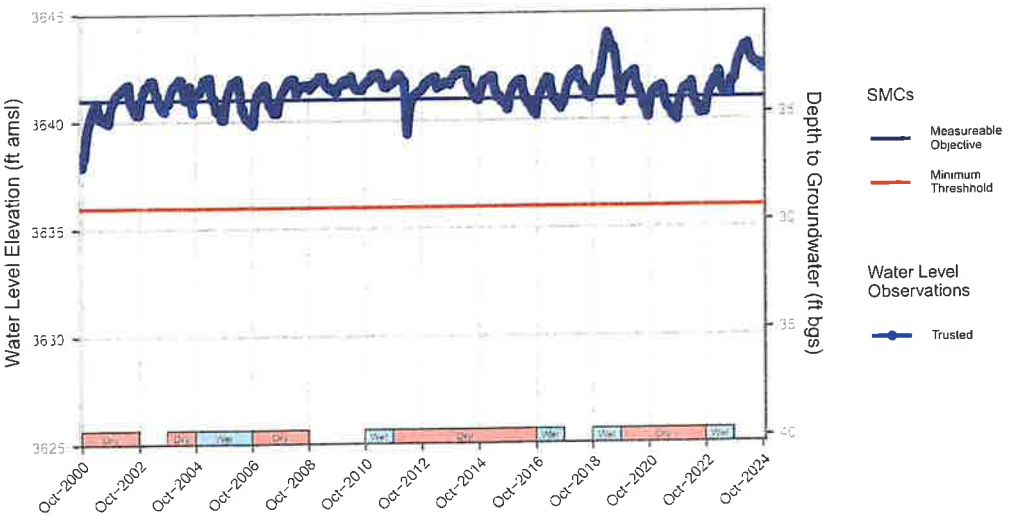


Owens Lake Management Area

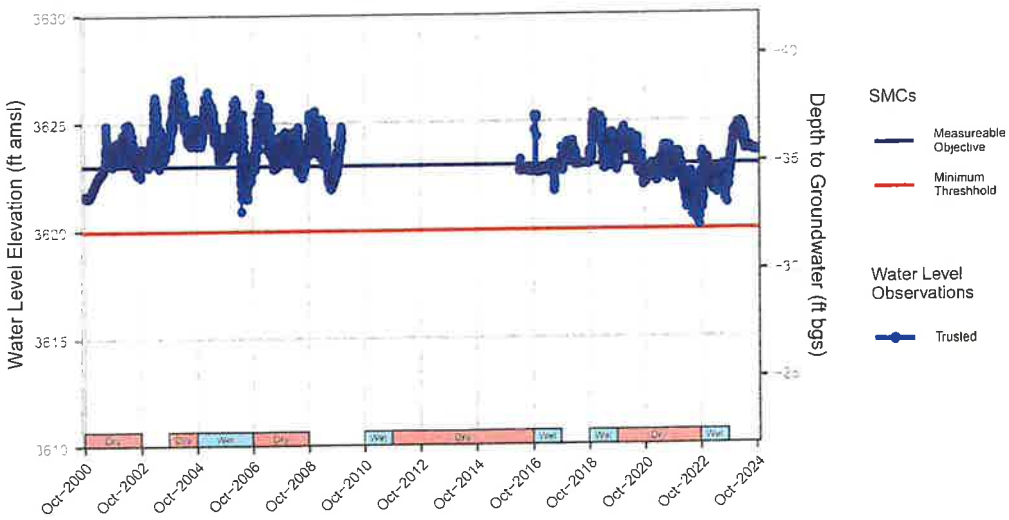
DVF South Middle



DVF South Upper

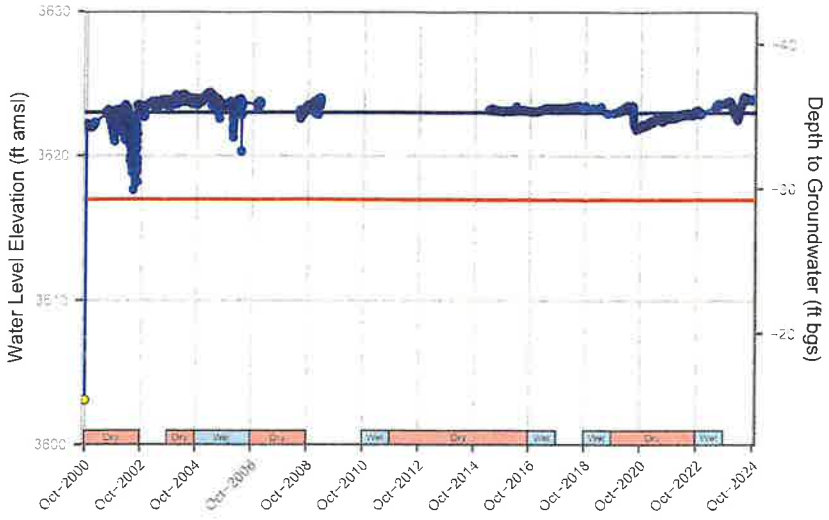


Fault Test T3



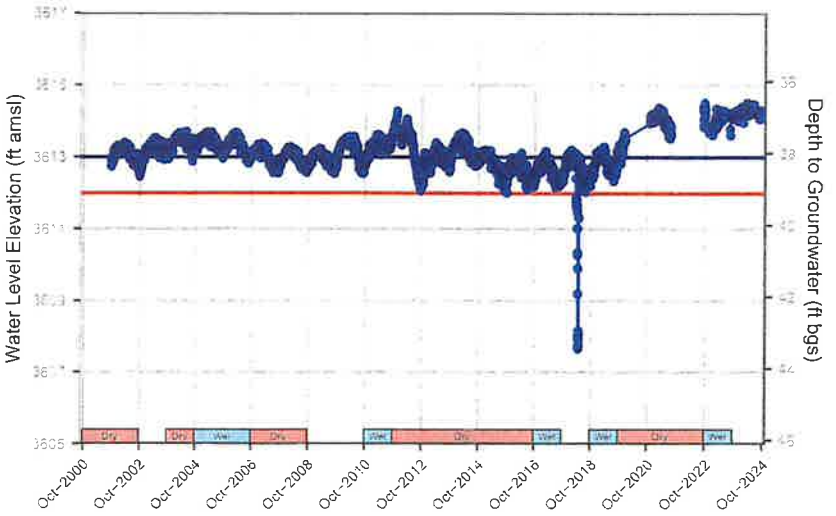
Owens Lake Management Area

Fault Test T5



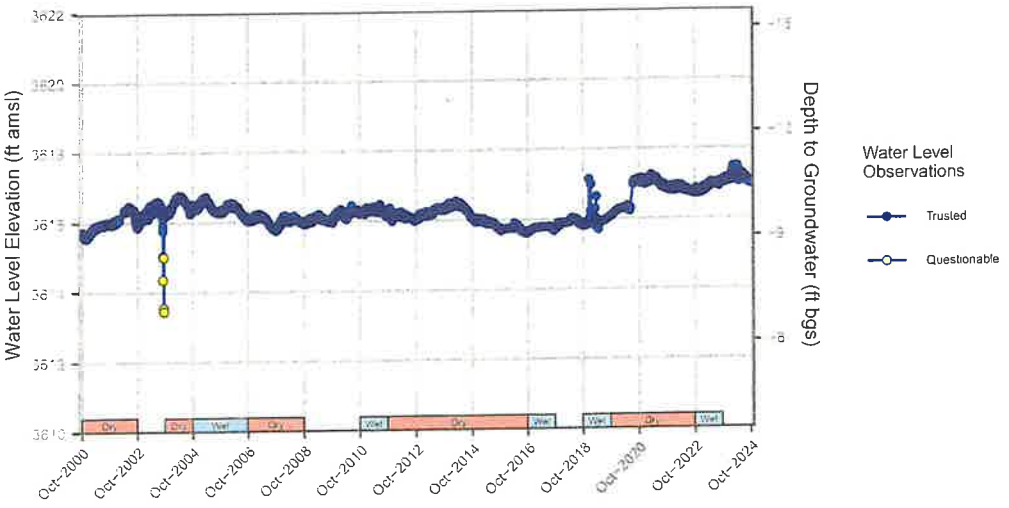
I10(7)_4

KCSD Well 1



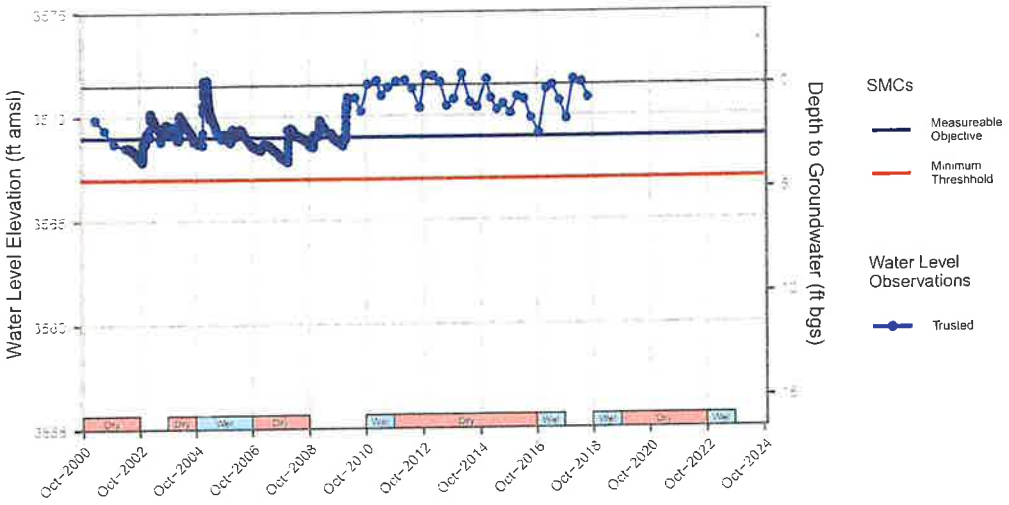
Owens Lake Management Area

Keeler–Swansea Lower



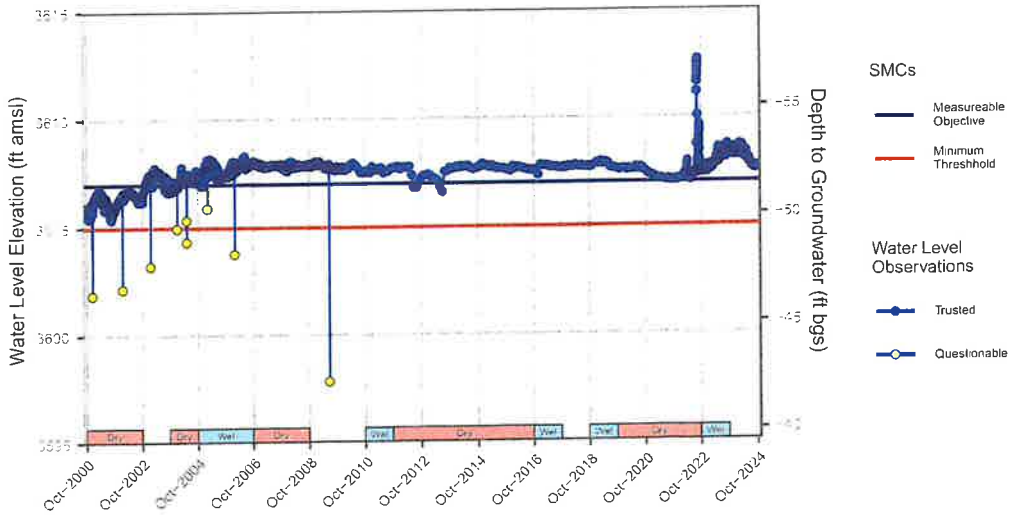
Notes: Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next GSP 5–year periodic evaluation.

O6(5)_4

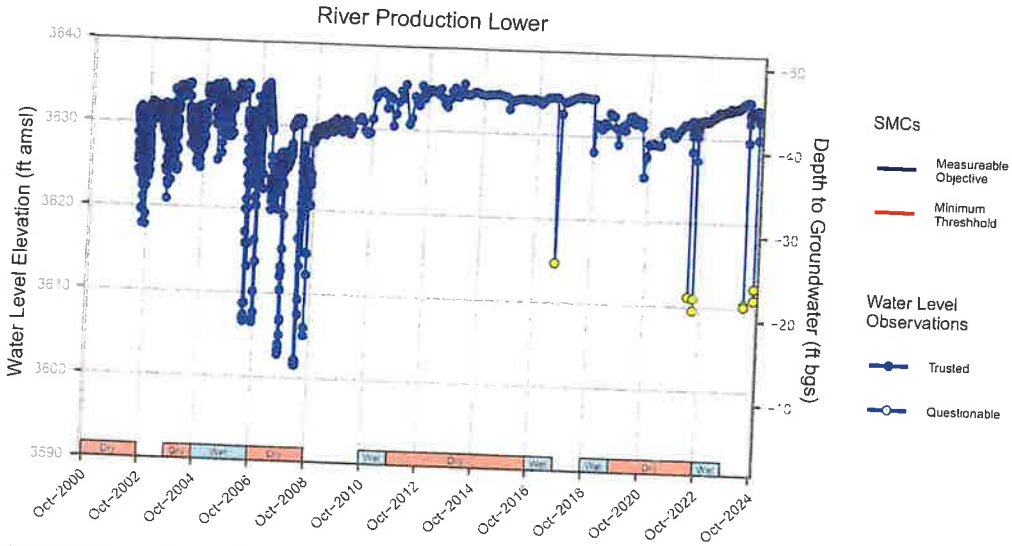


Notes: Reported destroyed by LADWP. To be removed during next GSP 5–year periodic evaluation.

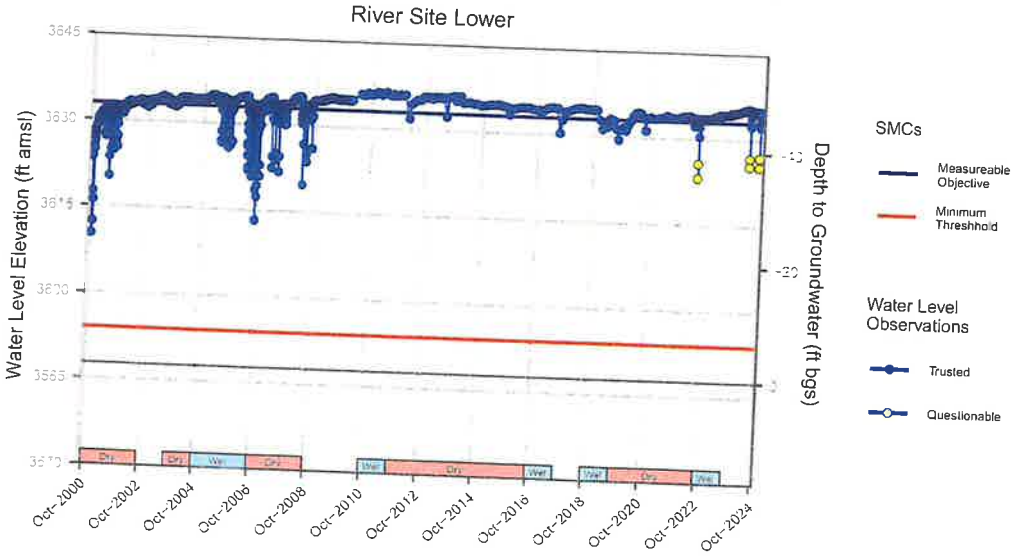
OL92–2

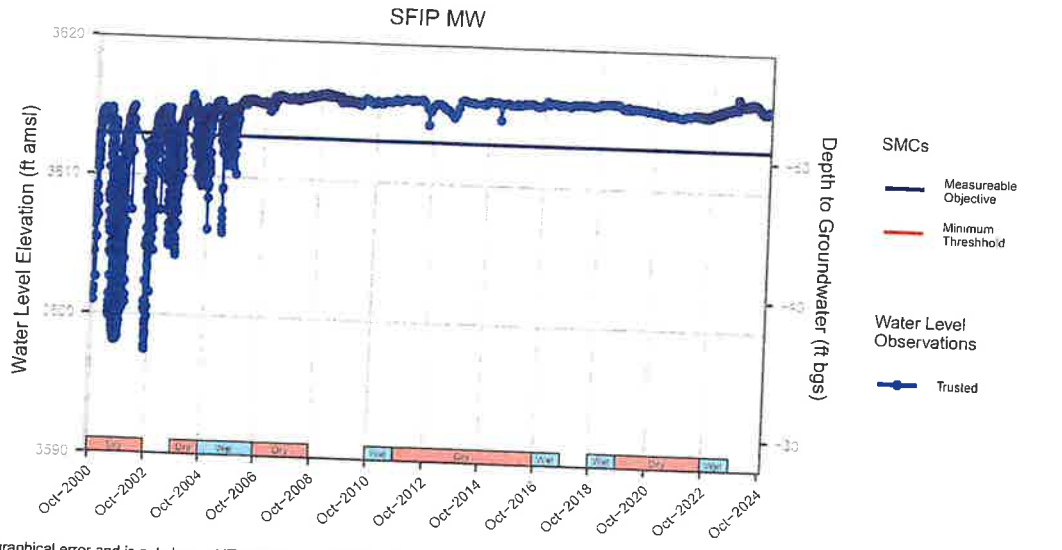


Owens Lake Management Area



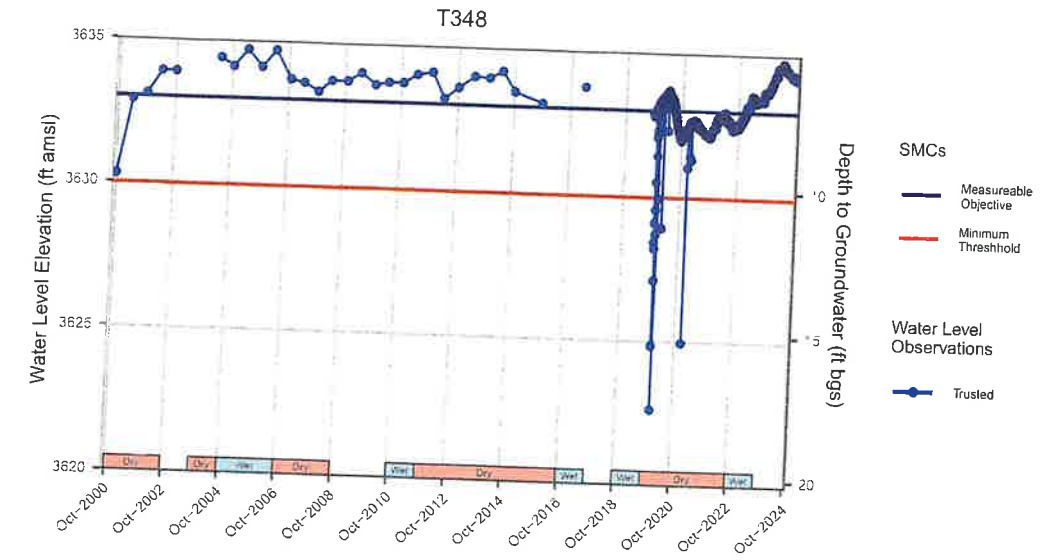
Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

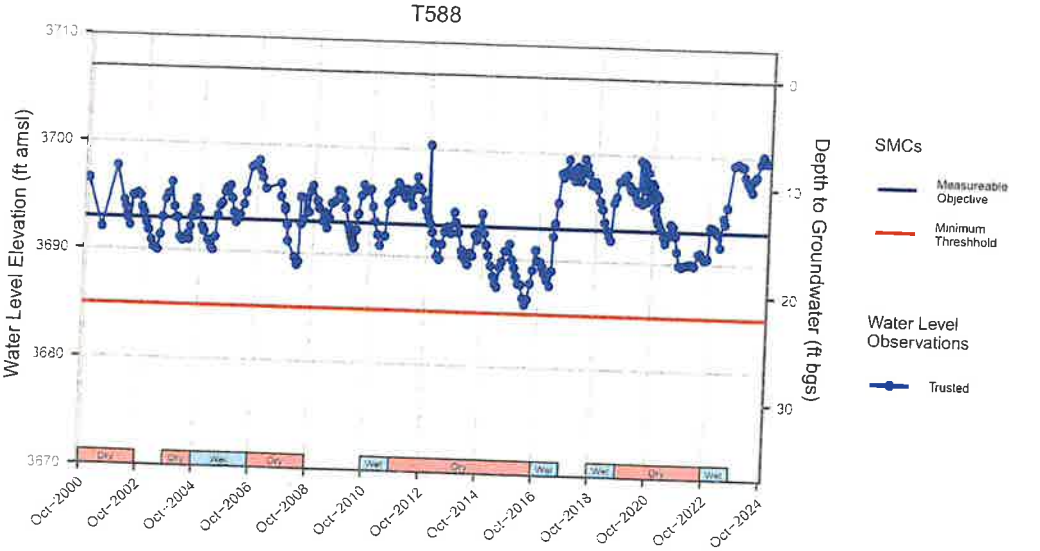


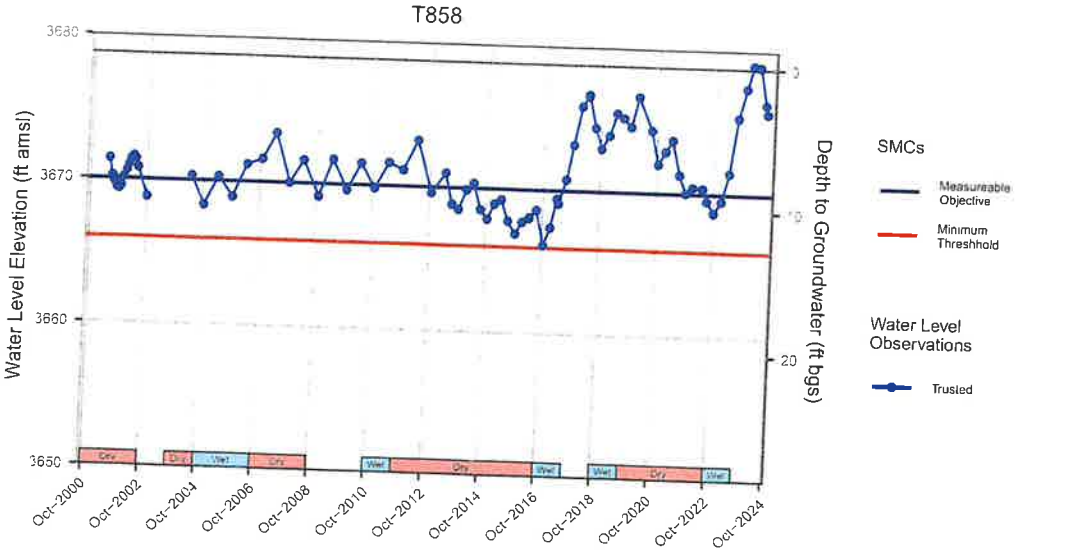


Notes: MT reported in GSP contains a typographical error and is not shown. MT will be corrected during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

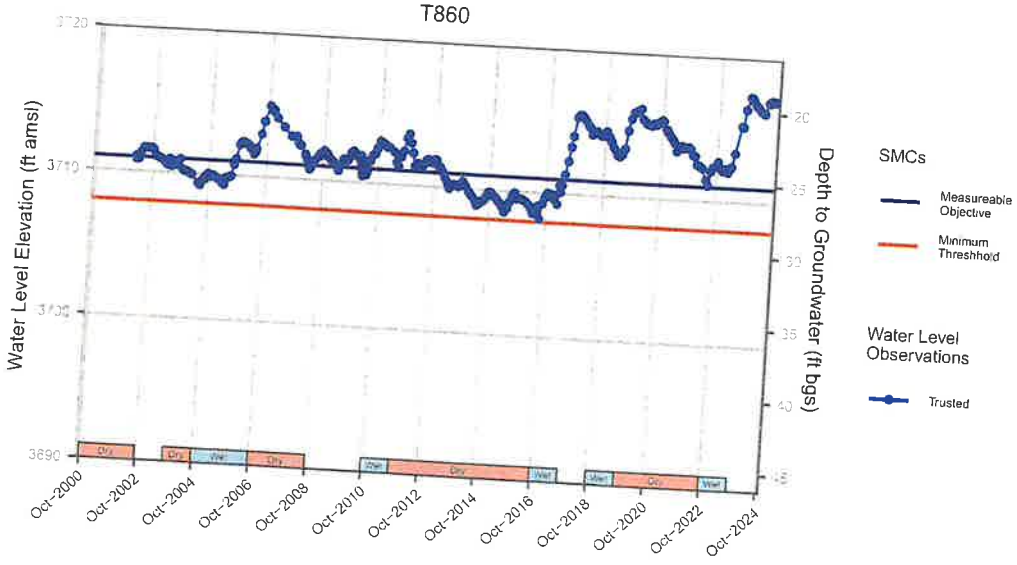
Owens Lake Management Area

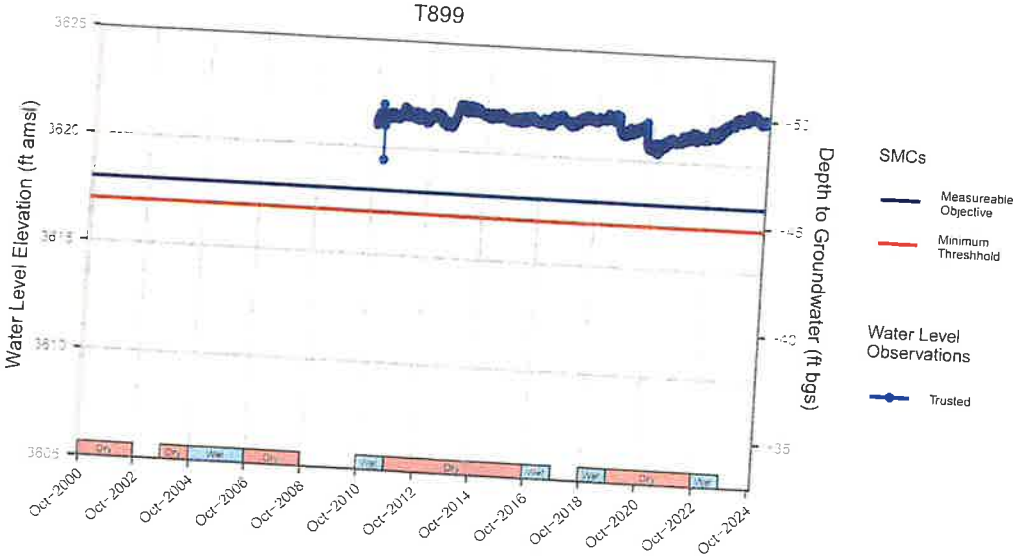


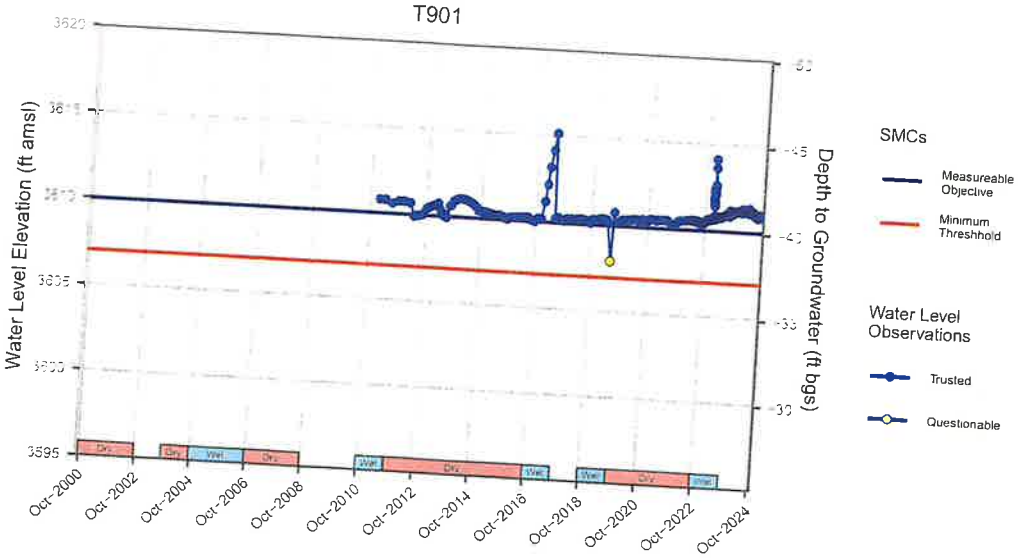




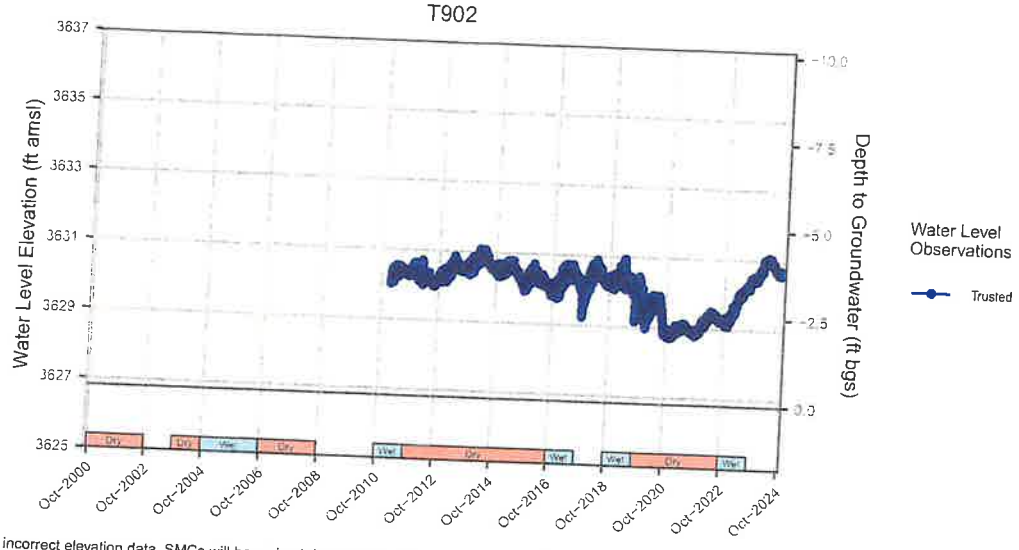
Owens Lake Management Area



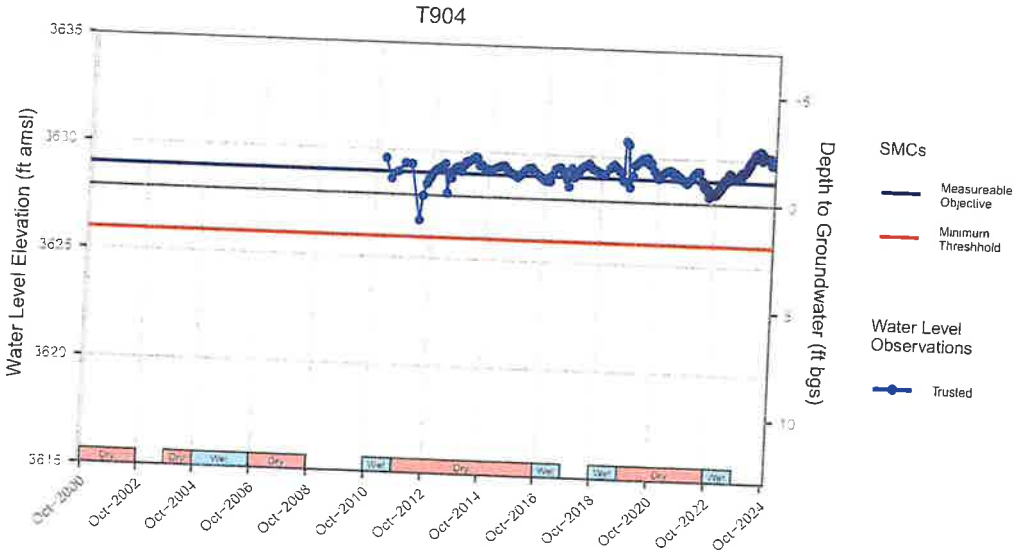


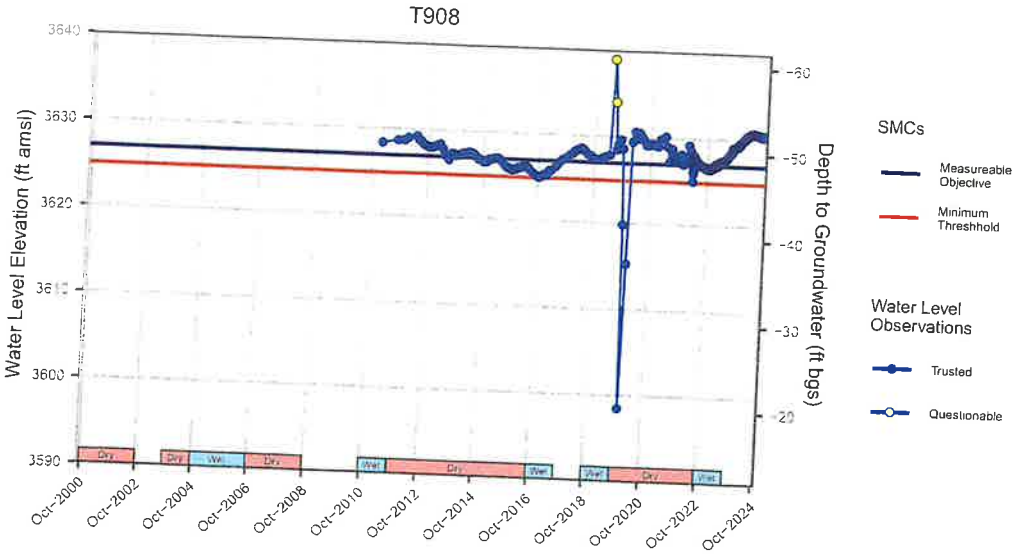


Owens Lake Management Area

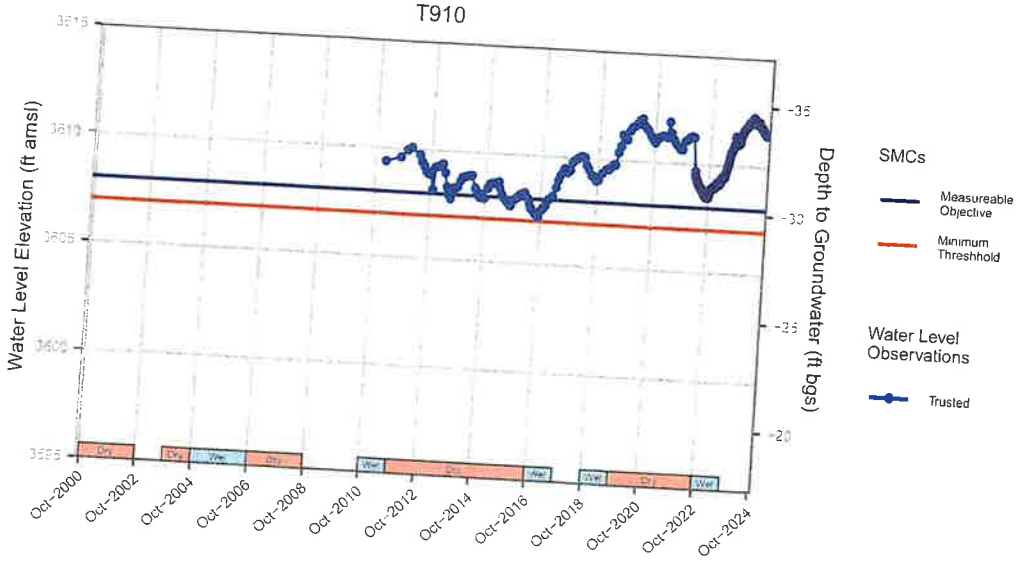


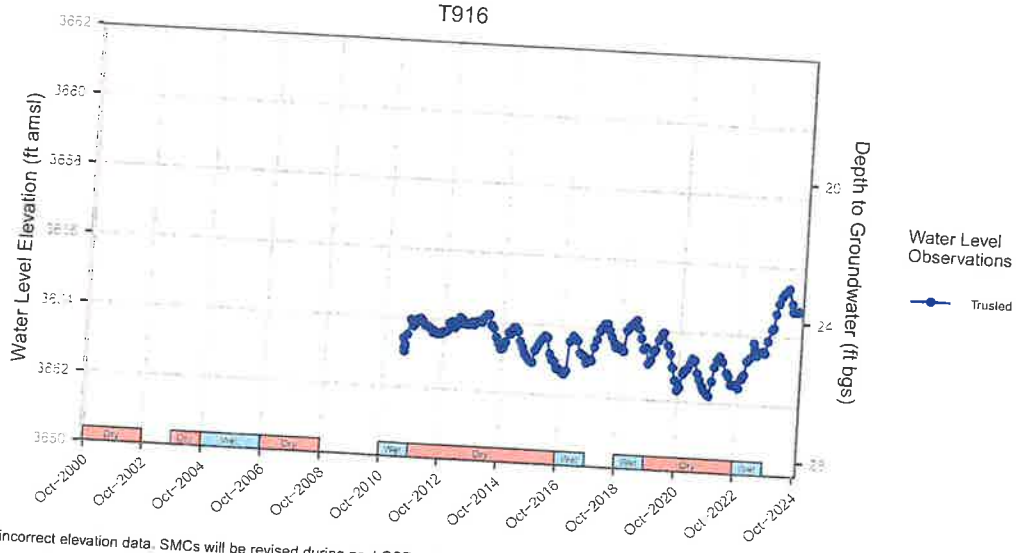
Notes: Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.



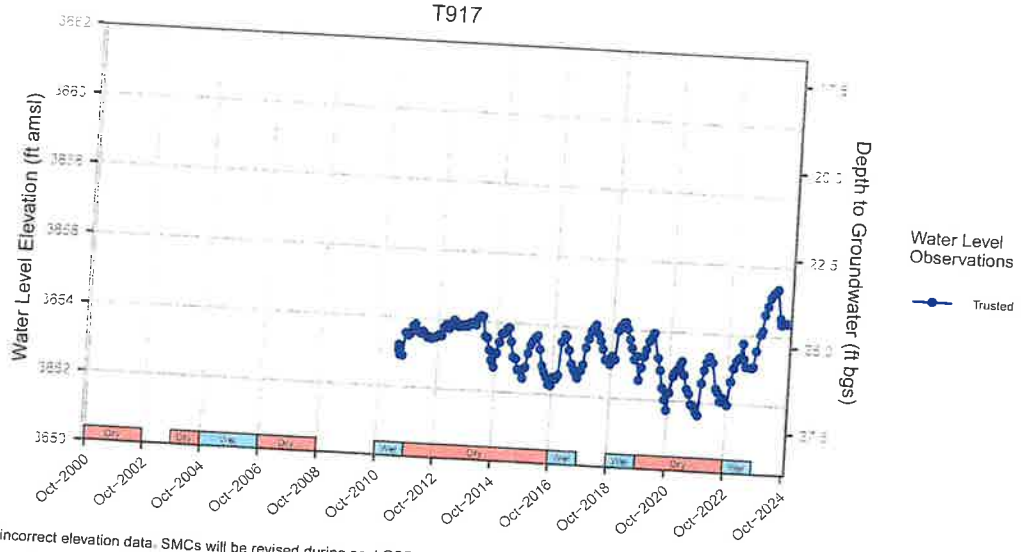


Owens Lake Management Area



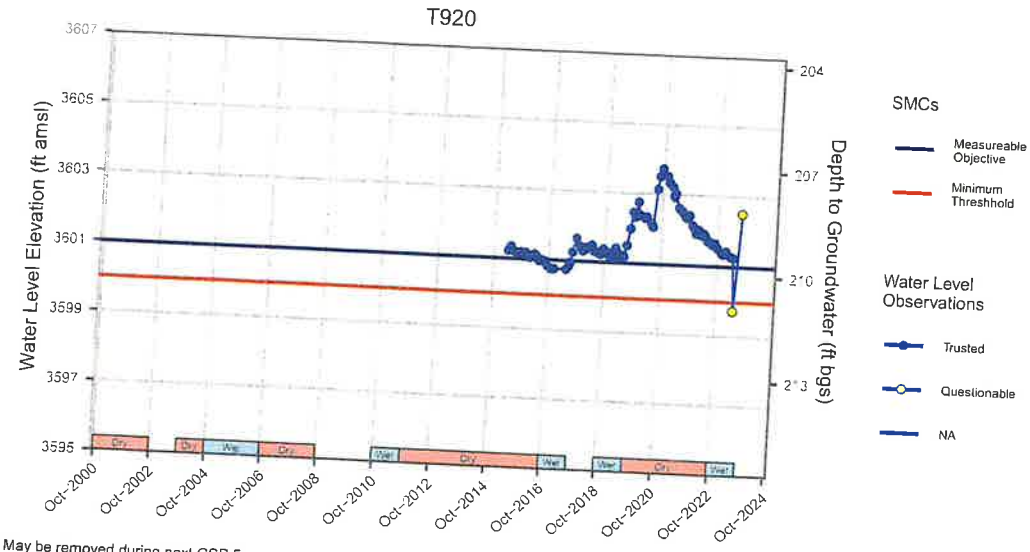


Notes: Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

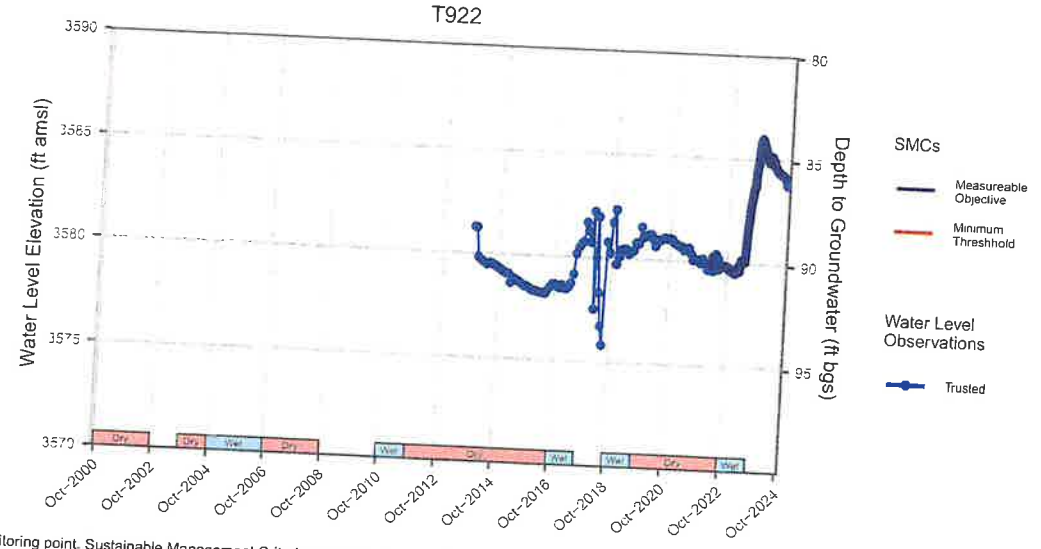


Notes: Current SMCs in GSP are based on incorrect elevation data. SMCs will be revised during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

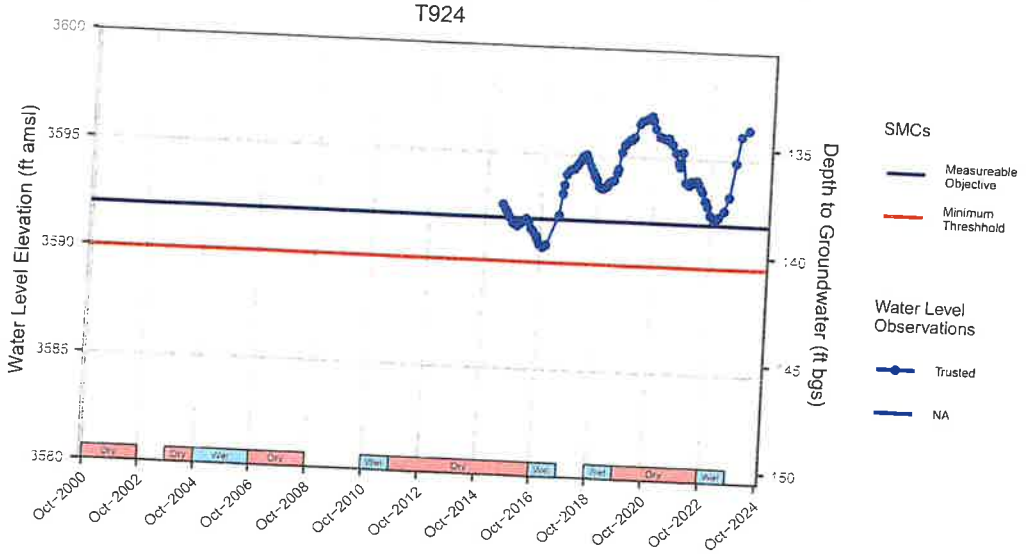
Owens Lake Management Area



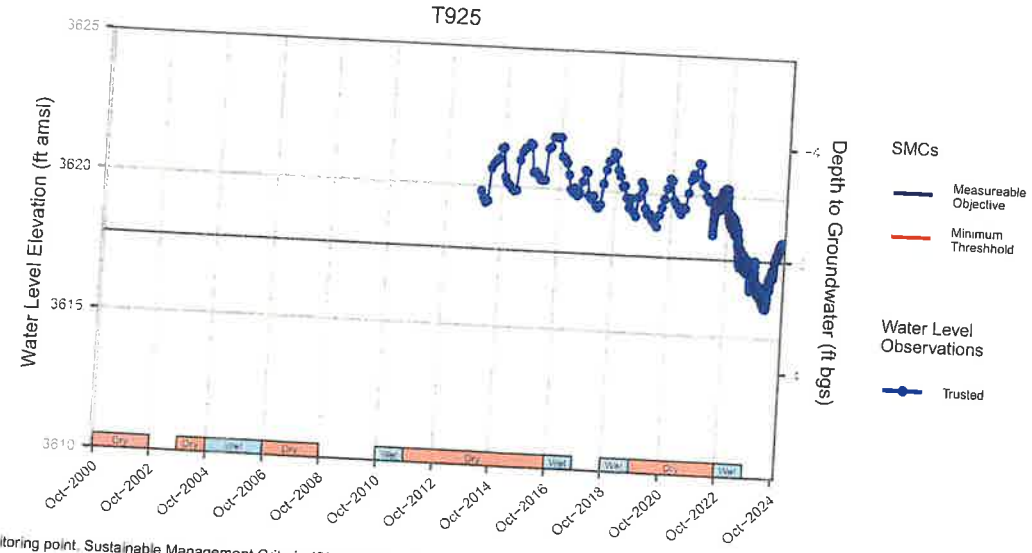
Notes: Reported damaged by LADWP. May be removed during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.



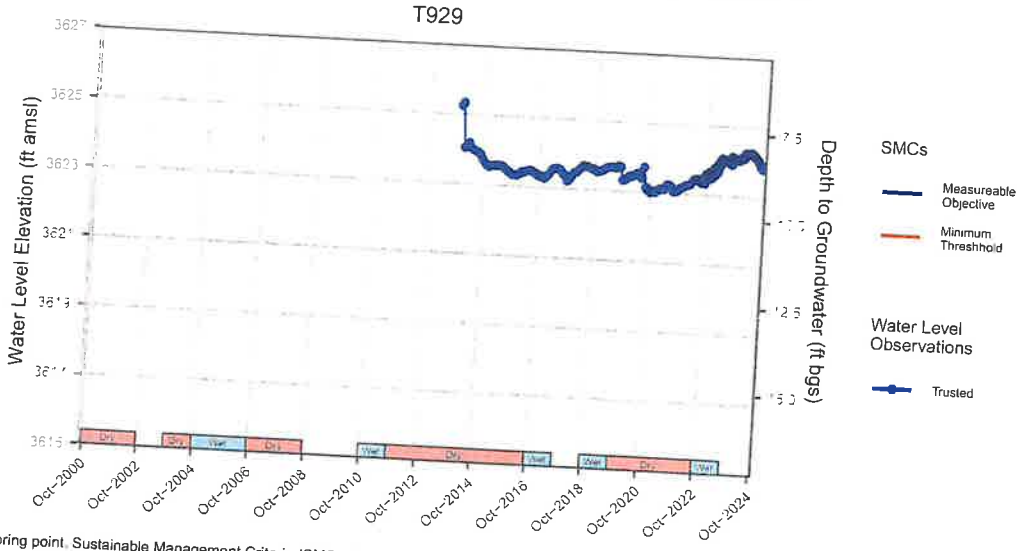
Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.



Owens Lake Management Area



Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.



Notes: Newly established representative monitoring point. Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) will be established during next GSP 5-year periodic evaluation.

Appendix B

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Response to Public Comments