

Marble Canyon Area Groundwater Basin

- Groundwater Basin Number: 6-64
- County: Inyo
- Surface Area: 10,400 acres (16.3 square miles)

Basin Boundaries and Hydrology

This groundwater basin underlies parts of Cottonwood and Marble Canyons in the Cottonwood Mountains west of Death Valley in central Inyo County. The basin is bounded by impermeable rocks of the Cottonwood Mountains (Jennings 1958). Surface water is drained eastward into Death valley through Cottonwood and Marble Canyons. Average annual precipitation ranges up to 6 inches.

Hydrogeologic Information

Water Bearing Formations

Groundwater can likely be found in alluvium of Quaternary age. Alluvium typically consists of unconsolidated, fine- to coarse-grained sand, pebbles, and boulders with variable amounts of silt and clay.

Restrictive Structures

Unknown.

Recharge Areas

The principal source of recharge to the basin is likely percolation of runoff from surrounding mountains, with minor contribution from percolation of precipitation to the valley floor.

Groundwater Level Trends

No wells are known to exist in this basin.

Groundwater Storage

Groundwater Storage Capacity. Unknown.

Groundwater in Storage. Unknown.

Groundwater Budget (Type C)

No information is available.

Groundwater Quality

Characterization. Unknown.

Impairments. Unknown.

Well Production characteristics

Well yields (gal/min)	
Municipal/Irrigation	
Total depths (ft)	
Domestic	
Municipal/Irrigation	

Active Monitoring Data

Agency	Parameter	Number of wells /measurement frequency
Department of Health Services and cooperators	Groundwater levels	
	Miscellaneous water quality	
	Title 22 water quality	

Basin Management

Groundwater management:
Water agencies
Public
Private

References Cited

Jennings, C. W. 1958. *Geologic Map of California, Death Valley Sheet*. Single Map Sheet, scale 1:250,000.

Additional References

Bedinger, M.S., Sargent, K.A., and Langer, W.H. 1989. *Studies of Geology and Hydrology in the Basin and Range Province, Southwestern United States, for Isolation of High-Level Radioactive Waste- Characterization of the Death Valley Region, Nevada and California*. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1370-F, 49 p.

California Department of Water Resources (DWR). 1964. *Ground Water Occurrence and Quality, Lahontan Region*, Bulletin 106-1.

_____. 1975. *California's Ground Water, Bulletin 118*. 135 p.

Errata

Changes made to the basin description will be noted here.