

Wild Horse Mesa Area Groundwater Basin

- Groundwater Basin Number: 6-73
- County: Inyo
- Surface Area: 3,320 acres (5.2 square miles)

Basin Boundaries and Hydrology

This groundwater basin underlies Wild Horse Mesa in the Coso and Argus Ranges of southern Inyo County. The basin is bounded by nonwater-bearing rocks of the Argus Range on the southeast and of the Coso Range on all other sides (Jennings 1958; Jennings and others 1962). Surface water drainage is southwestward through Renegade Canyon to Coso Valley. Average annual precipitation ranges from 8 to 10 inches.

Hydrogeologic Information

Water Bearing Formations

Quaternary alluvium forms the water-bearing materials within the basin and includes unconsolidated younger alluvial deposits and underlying unconsolidated to semi-consolidated older alluvial deposits (DWR 1964). Such alluvium likely consists of unconsolidated, fine- to coarse-grained sand, pebbles, and boulders with variable amounts of silt and clay.

Restrictive Structures

Unknown.

Recharge Areas

Recharge to the basin is most likely from percolation of precipitation and runoff from the surrounding mountains.

Groundwater Level Trends

Unknown.

Groundwater Storage

Groundwater Storage Capacity. Unknown.

Groundwater in Storage. Unknown.

Groundwater Budget (Type C)

Unknown.

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
	Groundwater levels	
	Miscellaneous water quality	
Department of Health Services and cooperators	Title 22 water quality	

Basin Management

Groundwater management:	
Water agencies	
Public	
Private	

References Cited

- California Department of Water Resources (DWR). 1964. *Ground Water Occurrence and Quality Lahontan Region*. Bulletin No.106-1. 439 p.
- Jennings, C. W. 1958. *Geologic Map of California, Death Valley Sheet*. Single Map Sheet, scale 1:250,000.
- Jennings, C. W., J. L. Burnett, and B. W. Troxel. 1962. *Geologic Map of California: Trona Sheet*. Olaf P. Jenkins Edition. California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology. Scale 1: 250,000.
- Additional References
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR). 1975. *California's Ground Water*. Bulletin 118. 135 p.
- Hunt, C.B. , T.W. Robinson, W.A. Bowles, and A.L. Washburn. 1966. *Hydrologic Basin Death Valley California*. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 494 – B. 137 p.
- Mendenhall, W.C., 1909. *Some Desert Watering Places in Southeastern California and Southwestern Nevada*. U. S. Geological Survey, Water-Supply Paper 224. 98 p.
- Miller, G. A., 1977. *Appraisal of the Water Resources of Death Valley, California-Nevada*. U. S. Geological Survey, Open-File Report 77-728. 68 p.

Errata

Changes made to the basin description will be noted here.