

Tres Pinos Valley Groundwater Basin

- Groundwater Basin Number: 3-25
- County: San Benito
- Surface Area: 3,390 acres (5 square miles)

Basin Boundaries and Hydrology

Tres Pinos Valley Groundwater Basin occupies the small alluvial valley of Tres Pinos Creek upstream of the community of Tres Pinos. The elevation ranges from about 600 to 800 feet. The basin is comprised of Quaternary alluvium and Quaternary nonmarine terrace deposits. The basin is bounded on the north and east by Eocene marine rocks and on the south and southwest by Plio-Pleistocene nonmarine rocks (Jennings and Strand 1958). The south and southwest borders of the basin are shared with the Gilroy-Hollister Valley Basin, San Juan Bautista Area Subbasin (3-3.04). Geologically the basin boundaries are clear, however, no information regarding groundwater occurrence or movement within the basin was found, therefore the basin boundary confidence is considered medium. Average precipitation is 15 inches.

Hydrogeologic Information

Water Bearing Formations

No specific published information on the water bearing deposits was found. A review of San Joaquin District well completion report files found 33 well reports in the basin. Depth of these wells ranged from 25 to 630 feet and encountered alluvial materials as well as consolidated rock formations. The alluvial material is generally less than 100 feet thick. Well yields ranged from one gpm to 1,225 gpm.

Groundwater Level Trends

No data was found regarding water level trends. Well completion report files for wells drilled between 1950 and 1998 reported groundwater levels ranging from eight to 215 feet.

Groundwater Storage

No published information on groundwater storage was found.

Groundwater Budget (Type C)

There is no information to provide an estimate of this basin's budget.

Groundwater Quality

No groundwater quality information was found in the published literature or in DWR files.

Water Quality in Public Supply Wells

Constituent Group ¹	Number of wells sampled ²	Number of wells with a concentration above an MCL ³
Inorganics – Primary	3	0
Radiological	2	0

Nitrates	2	0
Pesticides	1	0
VOCs and SVOCs	1	0
Inorganics – Secondary	3	1

¹ A description of each member in the constituent groups and a generalized discussion of the relevance of these groups are included in *California's Groundwater – Bulletin 118* by DWR (2003).

² Represents distinct number of wells sampled as required under DHS Title 22 program from 1994 through 2000.

³ Each well reported with a concentration above an MCL was confirmed with a second detection above an MCL. This information is intended as an indicator of the types of activities that cause contamination in a given basin. It represents the water quality at the sample location. It does not indicate the water quality delivered to the consumer. More detailed drinking water quality information can be obtained from the local water purveyor and its annual Consumer Confidence Report.

Well Production characteristics

Well yields (gal/min)	
Municipal/Irrigation	Range: 10 – 1,225
Total depths (ft)	
Domestic	Range: 25-420
Municipal/Irrigation	Range: 50-630

Active Monitoring Data

Agency	Parameter	Number of wells /measurement frequency
Department of Health Services and cooperators	Groundwater levels	NKD
	Miscellaneous water quality	NKD
	Title 22 water quality	3 (may be outside of basin boundaries)

Basin Management

Groundwater management:	None identified
Water agencies	
Public	Tres Pinos Co. Water District (most of basin is outside of the district)
Private	None

References Cited

California Department of Water Resources (DWR), San Joaquin District. Well completion report files.

Jennings, Charles W. and Rudolph G. Strand (compilers). 1958. Santa Cruz Sheet of *Geologic Map of California*. California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG). Scale 1:250,000.

Errata

Changes made to the basin description will be noted here.