

Cactus Flat Groundwater Basin

- Groundwater Basin Number: 6-70
- County: Inyo
- Surface Area: 7,030 acres (11.0 square miles)

Basin Boundaries and Hydrology

The Cactus Flat Groundwater Basin underlies a north-trending upland valley in the Coso Range of southwestern Inyo County. Elevation of the valley floor ranges from about 4,400 to 5,000 feet above sea level. The basin is bounded by nonwater-bearing rocks of the Coso Range on all sides. Elevation of the surrounding mountains ranges from about 6,000 to 7,495 feet at Silver Mountain northeast of the valley (USGS 1982a, 1982b).

Average annual precipitation ranges from about 8 to 10 inches. Runoff from the surrounding mountains drains to the northwest margin of the basin, prior to flowing west out of the valley to Haiwee Reservoir (Jennings 1958; USGS 1982a).

Hydrogeologic Information

Water Bearing Formations

Quaternary alluvium forms the water-bearing material within the basin, including unconsolidated younger alluvial deposits and underlying unconsolidated to semi-consolidated older alluvial deposits (DWR 1964).

Recharge and Discharge Areas

Recharge of the basin is chiefly from the percolation of runoff through alluvial deposits at the base of the surrounding mountains and from the infiltration of precipitation that falls to the valley floor. Groundwater moves toward the northwest margin of the basin and discharges as underflow to three west-trending washes (USGS 1982a, 1982b).

Groundwater Level Trends

There are no historical records of wells or groundwater levels in the basin.

Groundwater Storage

Groundwater Storage Capacity. Unknown.

Groundwater in Storage. Unknown.

Groundwater Budget (C)

Groundwater budget information is not available.

Groundwater Quality

Characterization. There are no historical records of chemical analyses of groundwater from springs or wells in the basin.

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*. Olaf P. Jenkins Edition. California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology. Scale 1: 250,000.
- U.S. Geological Survey. 1982a. *Haiwee Reservoirs, California. 7.5' Quadrangle*. Provisional Edition. Scale 1: 24,000.
- U.S. Geological Survey. 1982b. *Upper Centennial Flats, California. 7.5' Quadrangle*. Provisional Edition. Scale 1: 24,000.

Errata

Changes made to the basin description will be noted here.