

Butte Valley Groundwater Basin

- Groundwater Basin Number: 6-81
- County: Inyo
- Surface Area: 8,810 acres (13.8 square miles)

Basin Boundaries and Hydrology

This groundwater basin underlies Butte Valley in the Panimint Range of southern Inyo County. The basin is bounded by impermeable rocks of the Panamint Range, with Needle Peak on the south and Striped Butte on the east (Jennings and others 1962). Average annual precipitation ranges from 6 to 8 inches.

Hydrogeologic Information

Water Bearing Formations

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

Restrictive Structures

The southwest-trending Butte Valley fault zone crosses the central portion of the basin; however, it is unknown whether or not this fault is a barrier to groundwater movement.

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)

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
	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

Jennings, C. W., J. L. Burnett, 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). 1964. *Ground Water Occurrence and
Quality Lahontan Region*. Bulletin No.106-1. 439 p.

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

Errata

Changes made to the basin description will be noted here.