

Estimates of Natural Ground-Water Discharge and Characterization of Water Quality in Dry Valley, Washoe County, West-Central Nevada, 2002-2003: Usgs Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5155



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BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 50 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. The Dry Valley Hydrographic Area is being considered as a potential source area for additional water supplies for the Reno-Sparks area, which is about 25 miles south of Dry Valley. Current estimates of annual ground-water recharge to Dry Valley have a considerable range. In undeveloped valleys, such as Dry Valley, long-term ground-water discharge can be assumed the same as long-term ground-water recharge. Because estimating ground-water discharge has more certainty than estimating ground-water recharge from precipitation, the U. S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with Washoe County, began a three-year study to re-evaluate the ground-water resources by estimating natural ground-water discharge and characterize ground-water quality in Dry Valley. In Dry Valley, natural ground-water discharge occurs as subsurface outflow and by ground-water evapotranspiration. The amount of subsurface outflow from the upper part of Dry Valley to Winnemucca and Honey Lake Valleys likely is small. Subsurface outflow from Dry Valley westward to Long Valley, California was estimated using Darcys Law. Analysis of two aquifer tests show the transmissivity of poorly sorted sediments near the western side of Dry Valley is 1, 200 to 1, 500 square feet per day. The width of unconsolidated sediments is about 4, 000 feet between exposures of tuffaceous deposits along the State line, and decreases to about 1, 500 feet (0. 5 mile) west of the State line. The hydraulic gradient east and west of the State line ranges from 0. 003 to 0. 005 foot per foot. Using these values, subsurface outflow to Long Valley is estimated to be 50 to 250 acre-feet per year. Areas of ground-water evapotranspiration were field mapped and partitioned into zones of plant cover using relations derived from Landsat imagery acquired July 8, 2002....

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