

# Groundwater Application Review Summary Form

Application # G- 18298 Re-Review

GW Reviewer James Hootsmans Date Review Completed: 8/1/2025

## Summary of GW Availability and Injury Review:

☐ Groundwater for the proposed use is either over appropriated, will not likely be available in the amounts requested without injury to prior water rights, OR will not likely be available within the capacity of the groundwater resource per Section B of the attached review form.

## Summary of Potential for Substantial Interference Review:

☒ There is the potential for substantial interference per Section C of the attached review form.

## Summary of Well Construction Assessment:

☐ The well does not appear to meet current well construction standards per Section D of the attached review form. Route through Well Construction and Compliance Section.

*This is only a summary. Documentation is attached and should be read thoroughly to understand the basis for determinations and for conditions that may be necessary for a permit (if one is issued).*

## WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

### MEMO

August 1, 2025

TO: Application G- 18298 Re-Review

FROM: GW: James Hootsmans  
(Reviewer's Name)

SUBJECT: Scenic Waterway Interference Evaluation

☐ YES The source of appropriation is hydraulically connected to a State Scenic  
☒ NO Waterway or its tributaries

☐ YES  
☒ NO Use the Scenic Waterway Condition (Condition 7J)

☐ Per ORS 390.835, the Groundwater Section is **able** to calculate ground water interference with surface water that contributes to a Scenic Waterway. The calculated interference is distributed below

☐ Per ORS 390.835, the Groundwater Section is **unable** to calculate ground water interference with surface water that contributes to a scenic waterway; **therefore, the Department is unable to find that there is a preponderance of evidence that the proposed use will measurably reduce the surface water flows necessary to maintain the free-flowing character of a scenic waterway**

### DISTRIBUTION OF INTERFERENCE

*Calculate the percentage of consumptive use by month and fill in the table below. If interference cannot be calculated, per criteria in 390.835, do not fill in the table but check the "unable" option above, thus informing Water Rights that the Department is unable to make a Preponderance of Evidence finding.*

Exercise of this permit is calculated to reduce monthly flows in [Enter] Scenic Waterway by the following amounts expressed as a proportion of the consumptive use by which surface water flow is reduced.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

# PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FOR GROUNDWATER APPLICATIONS

TO: Water Rights Section Date 8/1/2025  
 FROM: Groundwater Section J. Hootsmans  
 Reviewer's Name  
 SUBJECT: Application G- 18298 Re-Review Supersedes review of 7/21/2016  
 Date of Review(s)

## **PUBLIC INTEREST PRESUMPTION; GROUNDWATER**

**OAR 690-310-130 (1)** *The Department shall presume that a proposed groundwater use will ensure the preservation of the public welfare, safety and health as described in ORS 537.525. Department staff review groundwater applications under OAR 690-310-140 to determine whether the presumption is established. OAR 690-310-140 allows the proposed use be modified or conditioned to meet the presumption criteria. This review is based upon available information and agency policies in place at the time of evaluation.*

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION:** Applicant's Name: Well Springs Ranch County: Umatilla

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) 0.288 cfs from 1 well(s) in the Umatilla Basin Basin,  
 \_\_\_\_\_ subbasin

A2. Proposed use Irrigation and Domestic Seasonality: March 1 – October 31 and year-round

A3. Well and aquifer data (attach and number logs for existing wells; mark proposed wells as such under logid):

POA Well	Logid	Applicant's Well #	Proposed Aquifer*	Proposed Rate(cfs)	Location (T/R-S QQ-Q)	Location, metes and bounds, e.g. 2250' N, 1200' E fr NW cor S 36
1	UMAT 54259	1	CRB	0.288	1S/33E-7 NW-NE	
2						
3						
4						

\* Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock

POA Well	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)	Drawdown (ft)	Test Type
1	230	0-21	+1-21			100		A
2								
3								
4								

POA Well	Land Surface Elevation at Well (ft amsl)	Depth of First Water (ft bls)	SWL (ft bls)	SWL Date	Reference Level (ft bls)	Reference Level Date
1	1789	155	140	04/24/2001		
2						
3						
4						

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** This review is following the July 21, 2016 review in relation to the OWRD issued memo on the previous review's determination on "cannot be determined to be over appropriated". No new information was provided by the applicant since the original application. The proposed POA is for domestic use annually and irrigation use during the March to October irrigation season.

A5. ☐ **Provisions of the** Umatilla Basin rules relative to the development, classification and/or management of groundwater hydraulically connected to surface water ☐ **are, or** ☒ **are not**, activated by this application. (Not all basin rules contain such provisions.)  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

A6. ☐ **Well(s) #** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, tap(s) an aquifer limited by an administrative restriction.  
 Name of administrative area: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-310-130, 400-010, 410-0070**

B1. **Based upon available data**, I have determined that groundwater\* for the proposed use:

- a. ☐ is over appropriated, ☒ is not over appropriated, or ☐ cannot be determined to be over appropriated during any period of the proposed use. \* This finding is limited to the groundwater portion of the over-appropriation determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;
- b. ☐ will not or ☐ will likely be available in the amounts requested without injury to prior water rights. \* This finding is limited to the groundwater portion of the injury determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;
- c. ☐ will not or ☐ will likely to be available within the capacity of the groundwater resource; or
- d. ☒ will, if properly conditioned, avoid injury to existing groundwater rights or to the groundwater resource:
  - i. ☐ The permit should contain condition #(s) 7RLN; Large water-use reporting;
  - ii. ☐ The permit should be conditioned as indicated in item 2 below.
  - iii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in item 3 below;

- B2.
- a. ☐ **Condition** to allow groundwater production from no deeper than \_\_\_\_\_ ft. below land surface;
  - b. ☐ **Condition** to allow groundwater production from no shallower than \_\_\_\_\_ ft. below land surface;
  - c. ☐ **Condition** to allow groundwater production only from the \_\_\_\_\_ groundwater reservoir between approximately \_\_\_\_\_ ft. and \_\_\_\_\_ ft. below land surface;
  - d. ☐ **Well reconstruction** is necessary to accomplish one or more of the above conditions. The problems that are likely to occur with this use and without reconstructing are cited below. Without reconstruction, I recommend withholding issuance of the permit until evidence of well reconstruction is filed with the Department and approved by the Groundwater Section.

**Describe injury** –as related to water availability– that is likely to occur without well reconstruction (interference w/ senior water rights, not within the capacity of the resource, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

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- B3. **Groundwater availability remarks:** The applicant's well is located in an area that contains basalt flows of the Columbia River Basalt Group (CRBG) from land surface to depths of several thousand feet. Within the CRBG, most water occurs in confined aquifers that occupy thin rubble zones (interflow zones) at the contacts between lava flows. The interiors of the basalt flows generally have low porosity and permeability and act as confining beds. This geometry generally produces a stack of thin aquifers (interflow zones) separated by thick confining beds (flow interiors). The low permeability of the basalt flow interiors limits the natural vertical connection between overlying aquifers.

Surficial geologic mapping (Madin and Geitgy, 2007) and geochemical analysis of rock chip samples collected during drilling of the applicant's well indicates that it penetrates multiple flows of the Winter Water Member of the Grande Ronde Basalt Formation.

The proposed rate is 0.288 cubic feet per second (cfs) which is approximately 129 gallons per minute (gpm). Well statistics of 12 wells in T1S 33 E sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 indicate that the median well yield is 100 gpm and the maximum is approximately 500 gpm (see Well Statistics below). Therefore the proposed use is within the capacity of the resource.

Water level data is sporadic in the region. Where there is data, water levels have remained fairly constant. At the time of this review, groundwater for the proposed use is determined to be not over appropriated (See Water Level Measurements below).

**C. GROUNDWATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-09-040****C1. 690-09-040 (1):** Evaluation of aquifer confinement:

Well	Aquifer or Proposed Aquifer	Confined	Unconfined
<b>1</b>	<b>CRB</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Basis for aquifer confinement evaluation:** The Columbia River basalt aquifers are confined by the dense flow zones that restrict vertical movement of groundwater. Nearby CRBG well logs report static water levels above the water-bearing zone, indicating a confined aquifer or series of aquifers.

**C2. 690-09-040 (2) (3):** Evaluation of distance to, and hydraulic connection with, surface water sources. All wells located a horizontal distance less than ¼ mile from a surface water source that produce water from an unconfined aquifer shall be assumed to be hydraulically connected to the surface water source. Include in this table any streams located beyond one mile that are evaluated for PSI.

Well	SW #	Surface Water Name	GW Elev ft msl	SW Elev ft msl	Distance (ft)	Hydraulically Connected?			Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?	
						YES	NO	ASSUMED	YES	NO
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>McKay Creek</b>	<b>1655</b>	<b>1600-1540</b>	<b>3050</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Basis for aquifer hydraulic connection evaluation:** Hydraulic connection between CRBG aquifers and local streams typically occurs where the streams have eroded through water-bearing interflow zones in the basalts. Locally, the basalts dip approximately 3-5 degrees to the west; water-bearing zones in the applicant's well are coincident in elevation with the local reach of McKay Creek. It is likely that these water-bearing zones are truncated by McKay Creek and are hydraulically connected to the creek. The water level elevation in the applicant's well is higher than the elevation of McKay Creek, this also indicates groundwater flow is toward the creek.

**Water Availability Basin the well(s) are located within:** 70682: MCKAY CR > UMATILLA R – AB SPRING HOL

**C3a. 690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts for each well that has been determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water (SW) source. Limit evaluation to instream rights and minimum stream flows that are pertinent to that SW source, not lower SW sources to which the stream under evaluation is tributary. Compare the requested rate against the 1% of 80% *natural* flow for the pertinent Water Availability Basin (WAB). If Q is not distributed by well, use full rate for each well. Any checked ☒ box indicates the well is assumed to have the potential to cause PSI.

Well	SW #	Well < ¼ mile?	Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>IS70682A</b>	<b>4.20</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>1.90</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>&lt;25%</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

	SW #		Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
			<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

[illegible]

**Basis for impact evaluation:**

Version: 10/24/2023

- C5. ☐ **If properly conditioned**, the surface water source(s) can be adequately protected from interference, and/or groundwater use under this permit can be regulated if it is found to substantially interfere with surface water:
- i. ☐ The permit should contain condition #(s) \_\_\_\_\_;
  - ii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in "Remarks" below;

C6. **SW / GW Remarks and Conditions:** \_\_\_\_\_

**References Used:** Application Files: G18298, 2016 GW Review

Madin, I. P. and R. P. Geitgey, 2007. Preliminary Geologic Map of the Umatilla Basin, Morrow and Umatilla Counties, Oregon. Open-File Report O-07-17. State of Oregon – Dept. of Geology And Mineral Industries.

"Columbia River Basalt Stratigraphy in the Pacific Northwest". USGS – Oregon Water Science Center website. [http://or.water.usgs.gov/projs\\_dir/crbg/](http://or.water.usgs.gov/projs_dir/crbg/). Accessed July 2016.

**D. WELL CONSTRUCTION, OAR 690-200**

D1. Well #: \_\_\_\_\_ Logid: \_\_\_\_\_

D2. **THE WELL does not appear to meet current well construction standards based upon:**

- a. ☐ review of the well log;
- b. ☐ field inspection by \_\_\_\_\_;
- c. ☐ report of CWRE \_\_\_\_\_;
- d. ☐ other: (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

D3. **THE WELL construction deficiency or other comment is described as follows:** \_\_\_\_\_

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D4. ☐ **Route to the Well Construction and Compliance Section for a review of existing well construction.**

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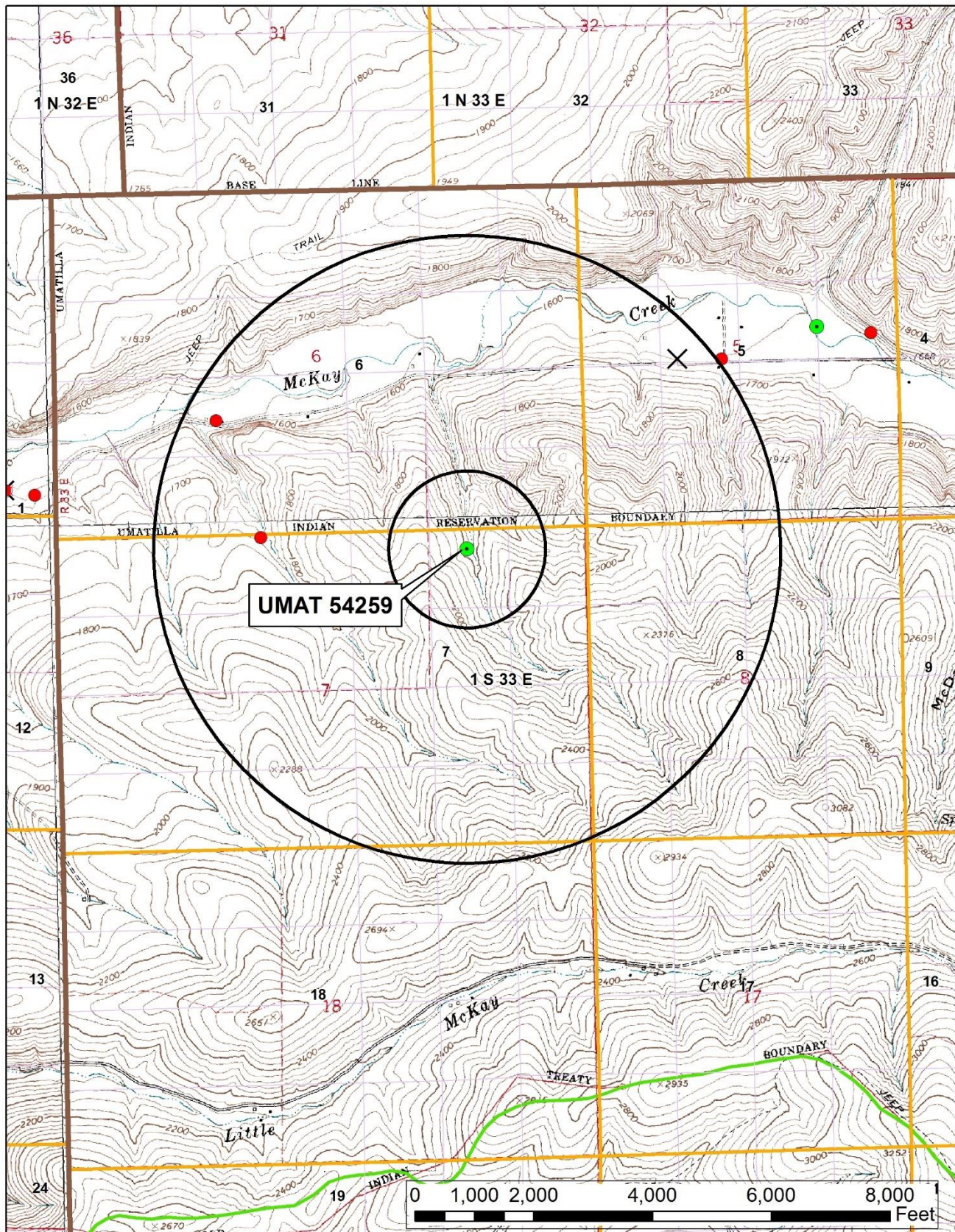
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## Well Location Map

## G-18298, Wells Springs Ranch

1:24,000 scale





Water Availability Tables

MCKAY CR > UMATILLA R - AB SPRING HOL  
UMATILLA BASIN

Watershed ID #: 70682 (Map)  
Date: 8/1/2025

Water Availability as of 8/1/2025

Exceedance Level: 80%  
Time: 2:06 PM

Water Availability Calculation

Water Rights

Consumptive Uses and Storages

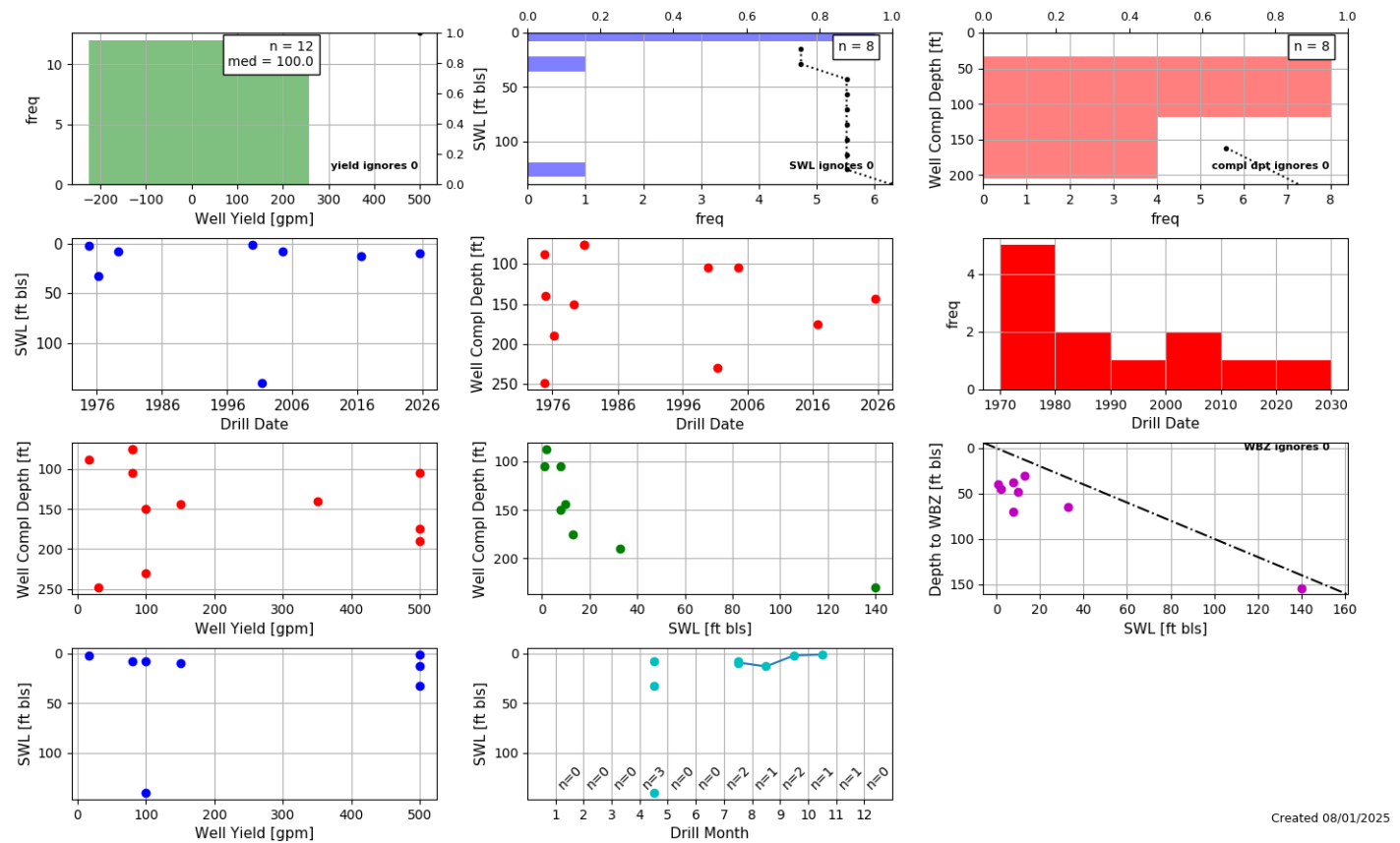
Instream Flow Requirements

Reservations

Watershed Characteristics

Water Availability Calculation						
Monthly Streamflow in Cubic Feet per Second Annual Volume at 50% Exceedance in Acre-Feet						
Month	Natural Stream Flow	Consumptive Uses and Storages	Expected Stream Flow	Reserved Stream Flow	Instream Flow Requirement	Net Water Available
JAN	38.90	0.00	38.90	0.00	65.00	-26.10
FEB	76.10	0.00	76.10	0.00	80.00	-3.90
MAR	102.00	0.45	102.00	0.00	130.00	-28.40
APR	118.00	2.13	116.00	0.00	130.00	-14.10
MAY	34.10	3.17	30.90	0.00	87.10	-56.20
JUN	8.60	4.08	4.52	0.00	18.40	-13.90
JUL	7.20	5.64	1.56	0.00	8.10	-6.54
AUG	5.20	4.58	0.62	0.00	5.40	-4.78
SEP	2.80	2.79	0.01	0.00	4.20	-4.19
OCT	1.90	1.20	0.70	0.00	4.90	-4.20
NOV	6.40	0.00	6.40	0.00	17.20	-10.80
DEC	24.50	0.00	24.50	0.00	54.00	-29.50
ANN	53,000.00	1,460.00	51,600.00	0.00	36,400.00	16,600.00

Well Statistics



Created 08/01/2025

## Water-Level Measurements in Nearby Wells

