



Estancia Basin Water Planning Committee Regular Meeting

Draft AGENDA

Date and Time

Thursday
June 13, 2024
9:30 AM

Location

Remote: Zoom Hybrid
**Edgewood SWCD
2506 NM-333
Moriarty, NM**

Chairman: Krista Bonfantine
Vice Chair: Dierdre Tarr
Secretary: Corbin Carsrud
Treasurer: Don Goen

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of:
• 4/11/2024

Membership Issues / Appointments: Current Filled Positions: 9/13 Quorum: 5
Vacant Positions:
Santa Fe Governmental Rep
Torrance County Ag Rep
East Torrance SWCD Rep

Financial Matters: Brief updates on finances

Approval of Financial Report/ Invoices: Don Goen – 2023 Financial Report

Correspondence:

Meetings Attended: Several members attended Regional Water Planning Meeting
Online Open House here:
<https://mainstreamnm.org/online-open-house>

Guests/Public Comments: Welcome and introductions – 10:30 am.

Contractor/Subcommittee Reports: Groundwater monitoring presentation – Erwin Melis, JSAI

Unfinished Business: Grant Funding/ Joint Funding/ Formalize

Discussion Only Items :

Announcements:

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 08, 2024 9:30 AM

Location: Torrance County Administrative Offices, 205 Ninth Street, Estancia NM
Plus Zoom hybrid

Adjourn

Estancia Basin – monitoring program results

Prepared for:

EBWPC

June 13, 2024

By Erwin A. Melis, PhD, PG

John Shomaker & Associates, Inc.

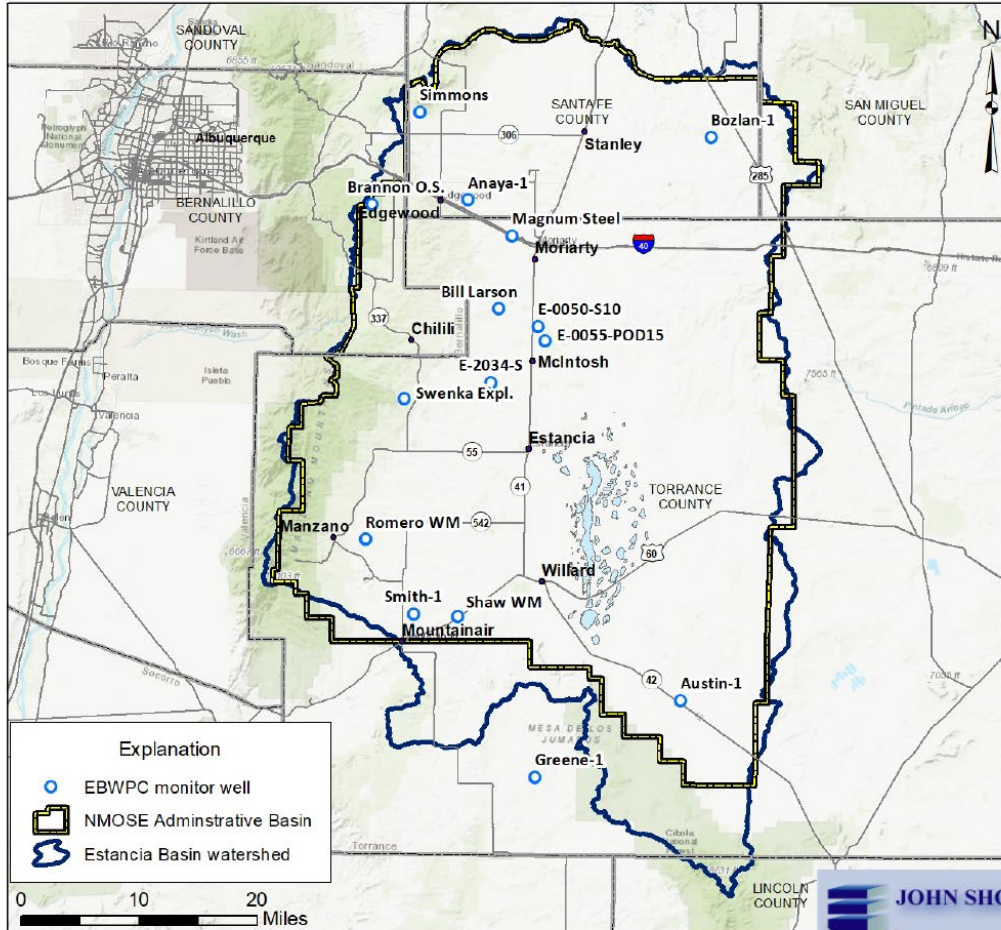


Purpose of Program

Measure water-levels around the Estancia Basin to provide groundwater trend information to the public

- Monitored from 2007 to 2010 by SNL; 2011 to 2021 by HydroResolutions.
- Contract passed to JSAI in 2021 through public bid.
- Monitored since 2021 by JSAI semi-annually, or annually depending on funding.
- Currently equipped with Bernalillo County provided transducers (n=11), checked annually (2023 and 2024).
- To be uploaded to the NM Tech's Healy Groundwater monitoring network, accessible to the public online.

EBWPC monitoring well locations

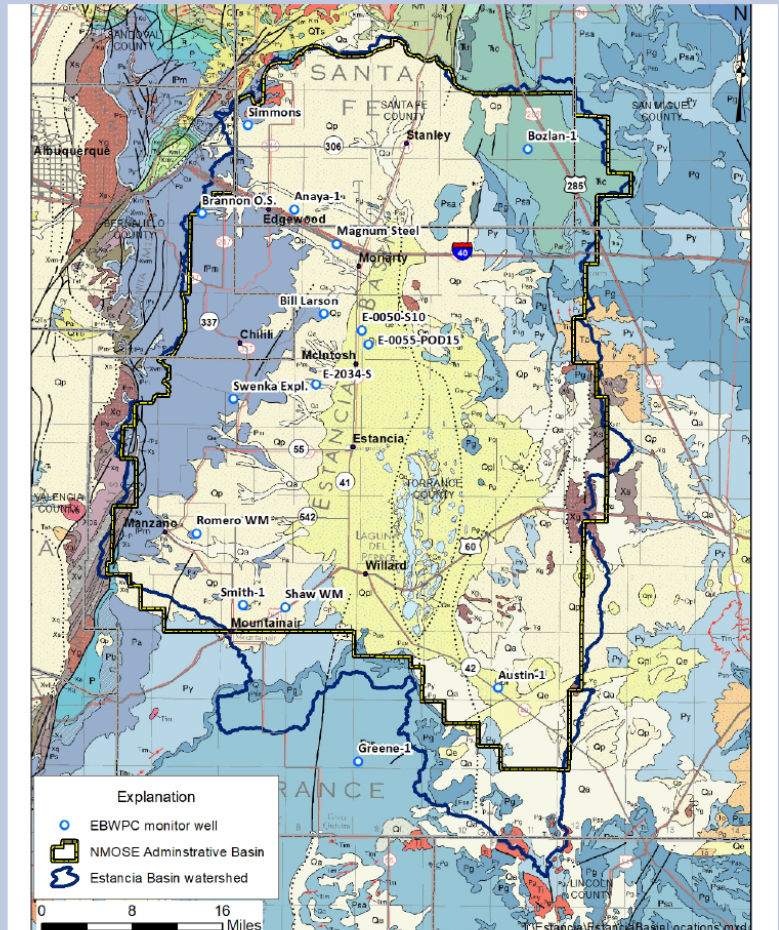


Estancia Basin

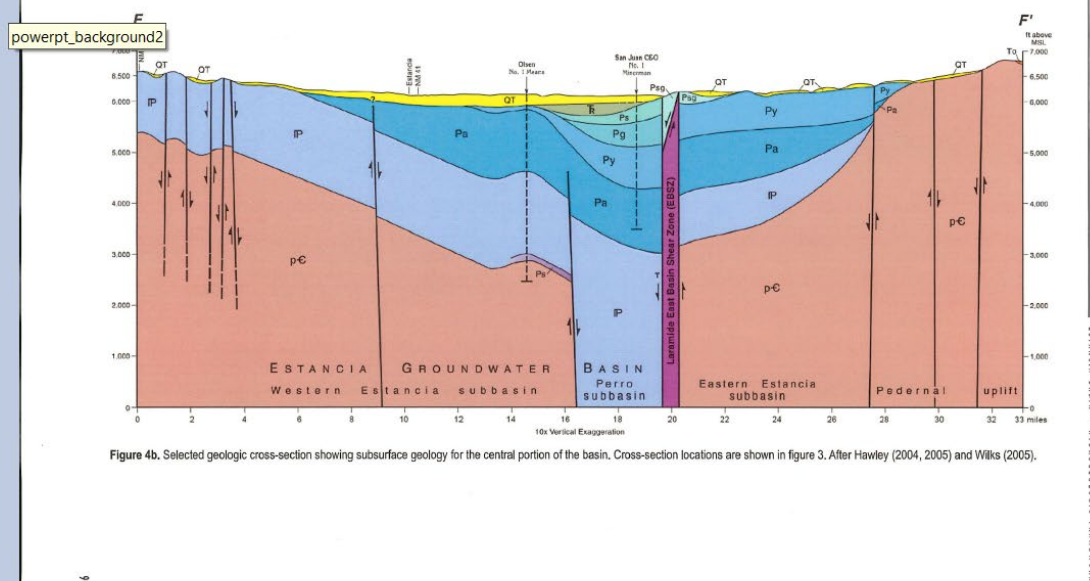
Geology

- Closed basin ~2,000 square miles.
- Alluvial thickness of up to 400 ft.
- Underlain by eastward-dipping Permian to Pennsylvanian sedimentary units (Manzano Mountains)
- Playas (salt lakes) extend from McIntosh to Willard.
- Previous studies show water-level declines of 1 to 2 ft per year; limited recharge in years of low snowmelt from the Manzanos.
- Water-level changes in three areas:
 - Stanley to Moriarty
 - McIntosh
 - Estancia to Willard (west of)

Modified from NMBGMR, 1997



Cross-section — across the Estancia Basin



Copied from NMBGMR, 2020

14 wells

- Old domestic/irrigation/stock wells all unequipped
- 4 likely alluvial wells
- 3 Madera (limestone) wells
- 1 Chinle Shale well
- 3 Yeso Formation wells
- 3 Abo Formation wells
- Some wells have dual completions (2 aquifers).
- All aquifers contributing to the basin are represented; except Stanley (NE basin) SAG aquifer wells









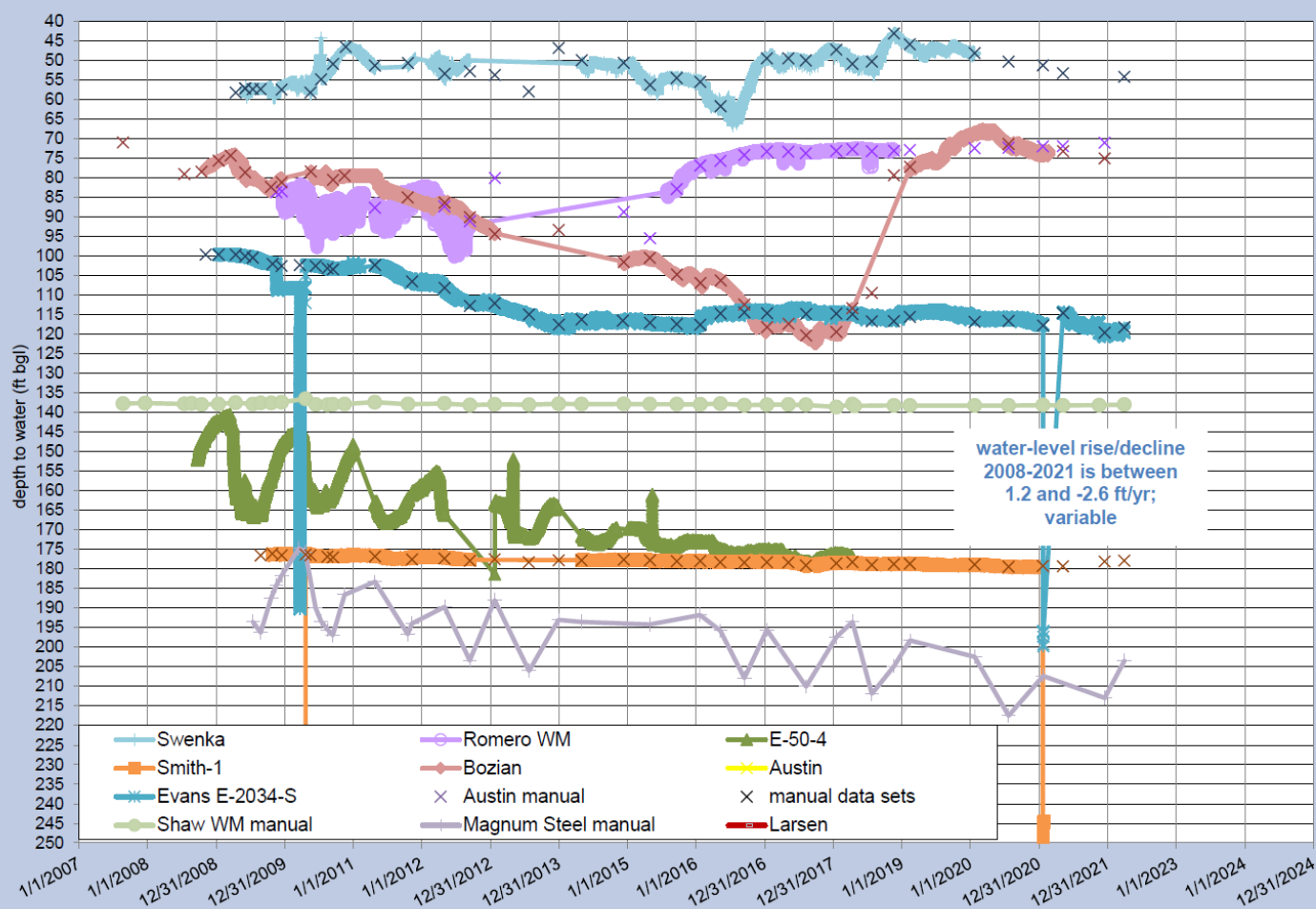


Figure 4. Hydrographs for EBWPC-currently monitored shallow wells (HydroResolutions transducer data), New Mexico.

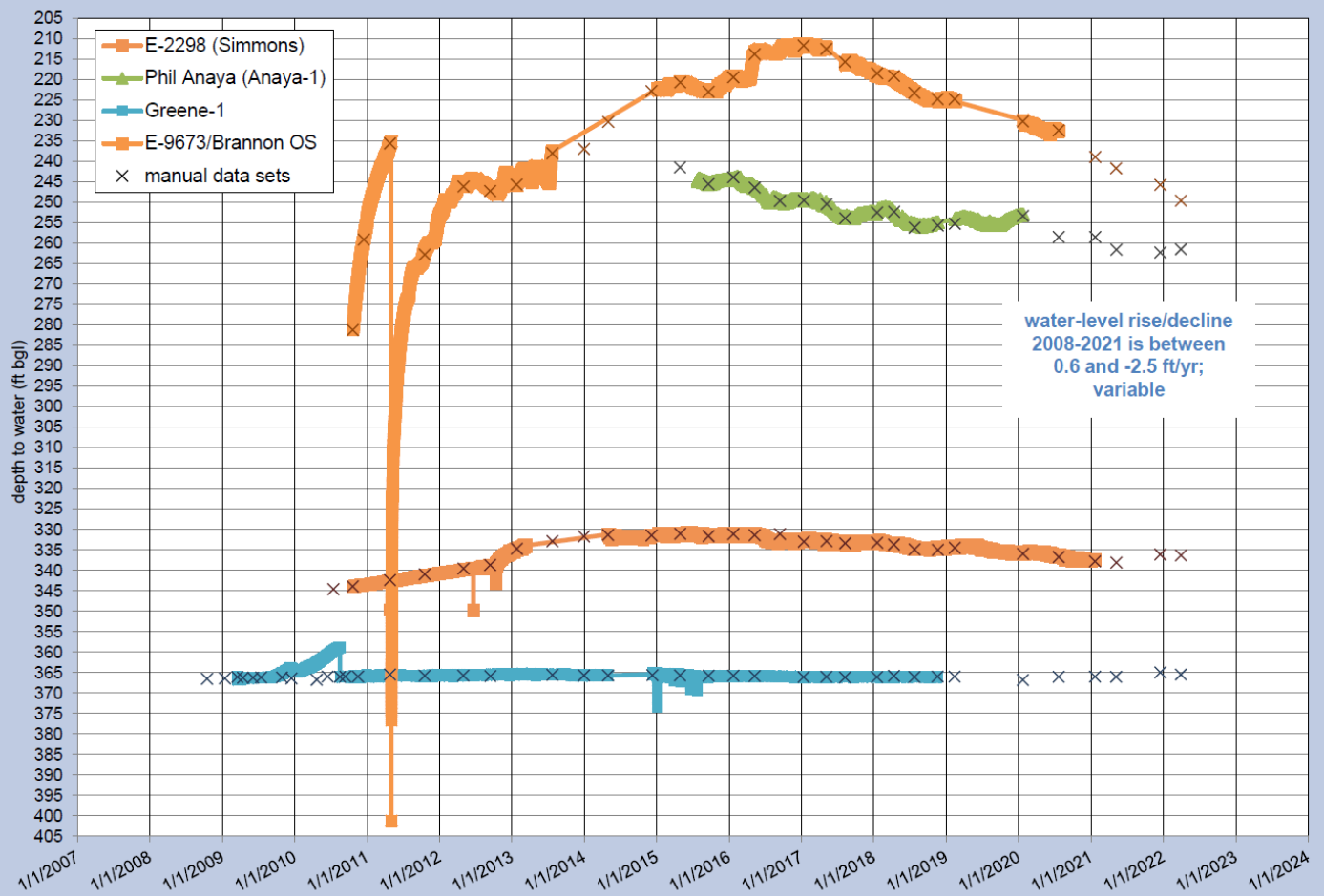
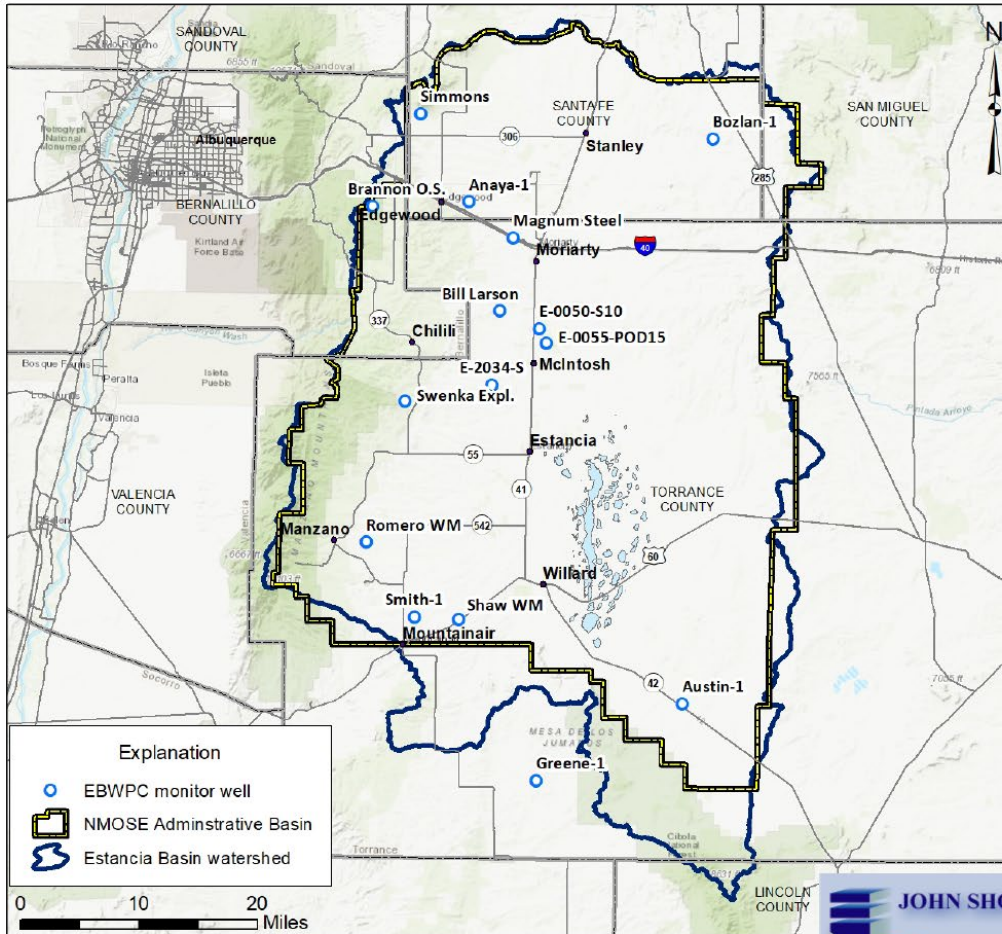


Figure 5. Hydrographs for EBWPC-currently monitored deep wells (HydroResolutions transducer data), New Mexico.

EBWPC monitoring well locations



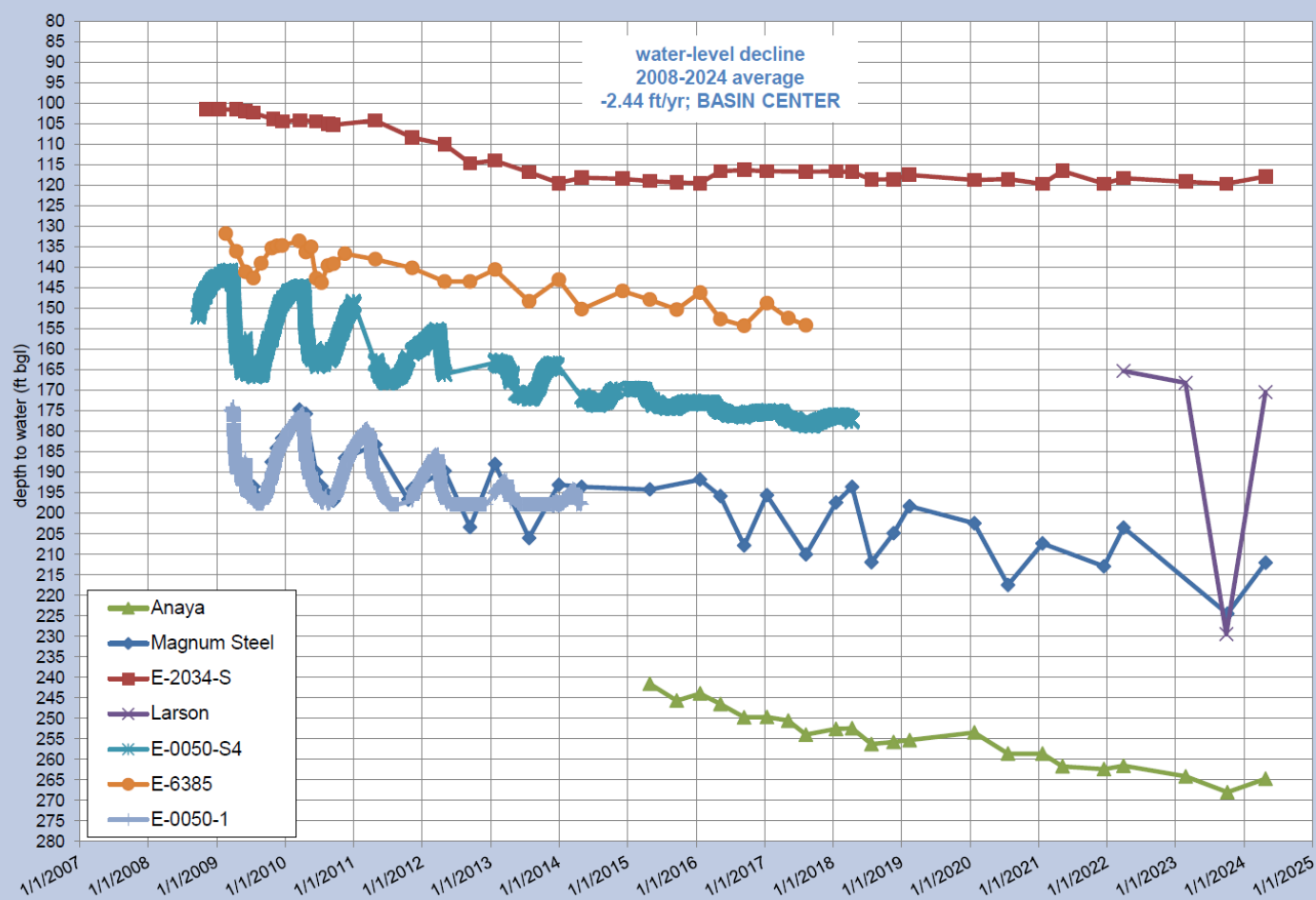


Figure 2. Hydrographs for EBWPC-monitored alluvial or alluvium-connected wells, Santa Fe and Torrance Counties, New Mexico.

Data explanation

- Some data series peculiarities, but overall quality is good.
- Many show fairly flat water-levels; some show seasonal variation and some consistent declines (e.g. Magnum Steel).
- Variable water-levels; rebounding water-levels with good snowpack; poor recharge water-level drops (McCoy et al., 2008). Likely young groundwater in mountainous areas.
- Overall dataset 2007 to 2024; water-level decline of 0.68 ft per year; in basin center 2.44 ft/year, some areas 4 ft/year.
- Significant decline between Estancia and Edgewood; north, west, and south of Moriarty. Data gap in Stanley area. South of Willard (USGS data)

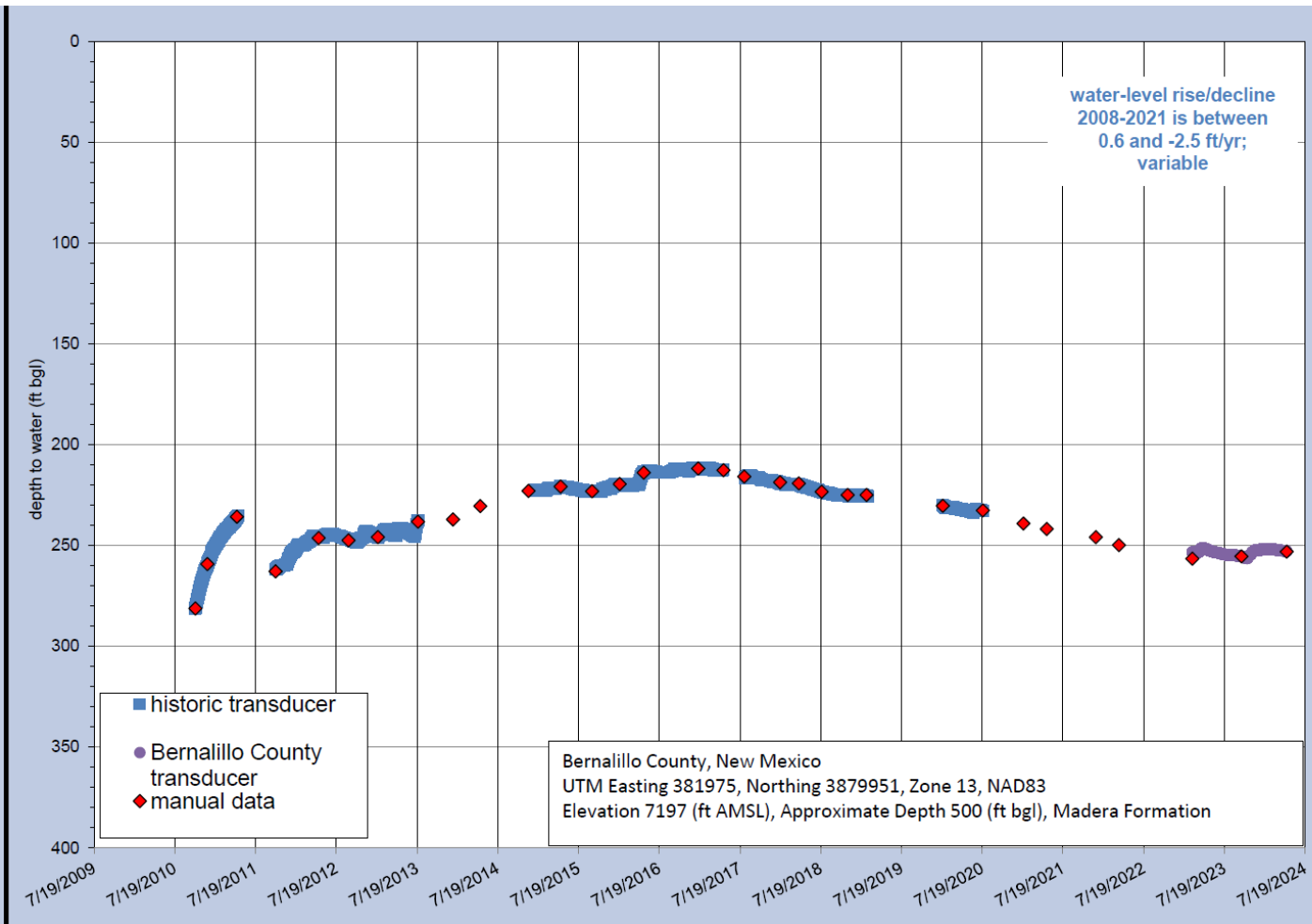


Figure 5. Hydrograph for EBWPC-currently monitored deep well Brannon OS, Bernalillo County, New Mexico.

Data overview

	2022 summary	2024 summary	hydrogeology	location
average decline	-0.49 ft/year decline	-0.68 ft/year decline		
unconfined sand & gravel aquifer	9 WL declines	8 WL declines	central basin-unconfined aquifer (Qal) and possibly connected Pm	Estancia to Edgewood (seasonal and downward trends)
mountain recharge	7 WL variable	7 WL variable	bedrock (Tr, SAG, and Pa) wells; variable WL; need recharge	at basin edge in bedrock (NE basin, East Mountain and Manzano Mountains north)
not connected	4 flat WL's	4 flat WL's	aquiclude (Yeso Fm.), possibly fractures only	no nearby pumping; southern basin: Mountainair area

Summary

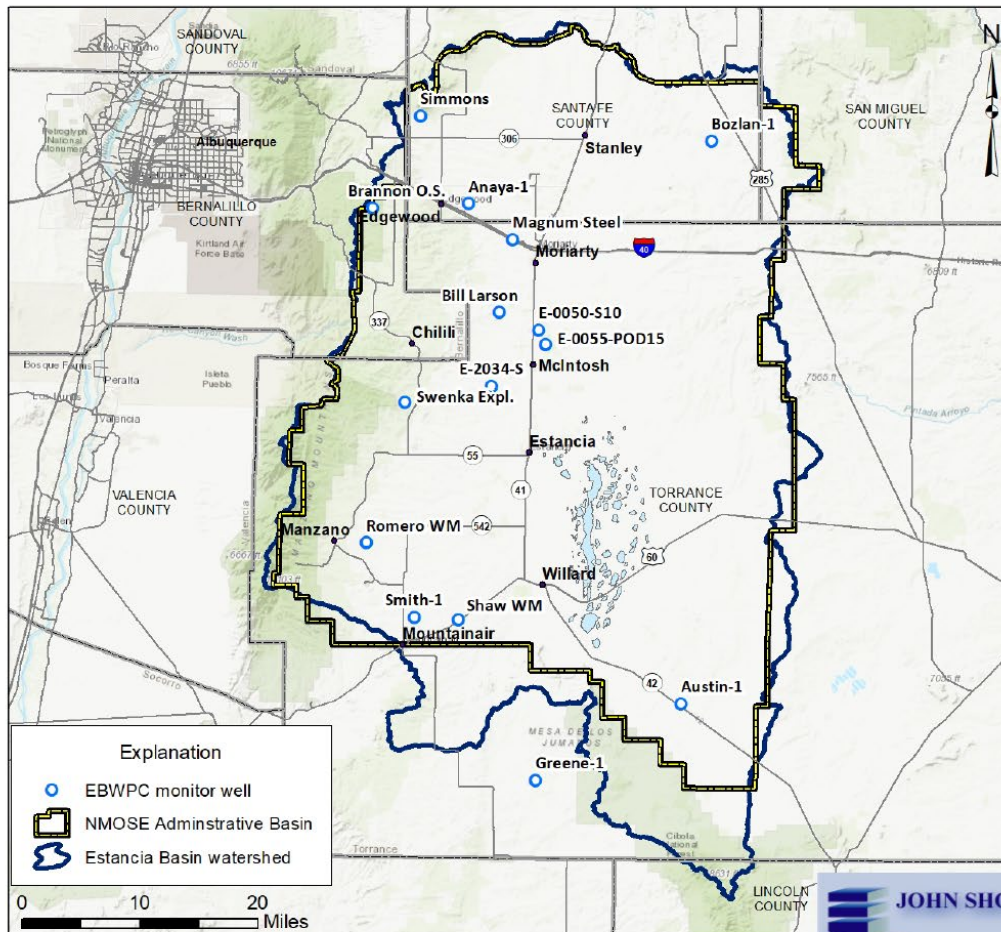
- JSAI took over the monitoring of wells from previous EBWPC contractor (2011-2021).
- JSAI performed 5 monitoring rounds (2021 to 2024).
- Produced a 2022 water-level monitoring summary.
- Installed 11 Bernalillo County-owned transducers in 2023; 2 were removed; 2 have since malfunctioned.
- Established data homogeneity: ready for transfer to the NM Tech's Healy groundwater monitoring network (up load this summer).
- Advertising/public awareness:



Recommendations

- Continued monitoring, annually or semiannually.
- Add real-time data links to select wells. Will need solar power for operation.
- Add to the monitoring network, especially in the Stanley – Moriarty area, and in the Estancia – Willard area. On a two-day monitoring round could add 2-4 more wells readily without too much additional funding.
- Additional public outreach such as this presentation.
- Continue to engage with local well owners. Thank you to all participating well owners!

EBWPC monitoring well locations



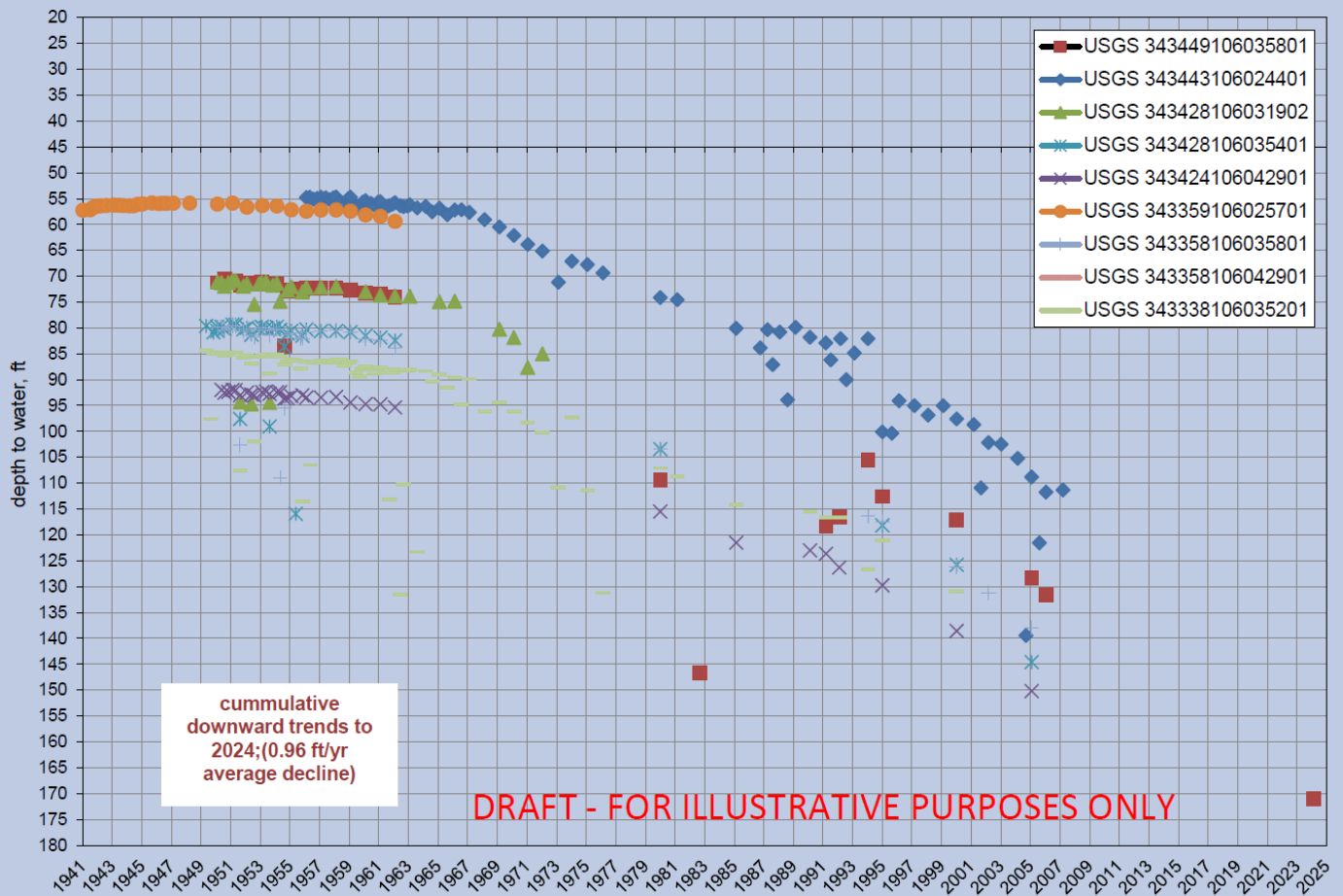


Figure 4. Hydrographs for USGS-monitored wells (<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/>) southwest of Willard and the Town of Mountainair Well field, southern Torrance County, New Mexico.

Minutes of April 11, 2024, for approval



ESTANCIA BASIN WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE

Regular Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft) April 11, 2024

Members and Staff

Member	Position	Term Expiration	Present	Absent
Chair -- Krista Bonfantine	Municipal/Developer	December 2025	X (Remote)	
Vice Chair -- Dierdre Tarr	Claunch-Pinto SWCD	December 2025	X (Remote)	
Secretary -- Corbin Carsrud	Bernalillo Co. -- Government	March 2025	X (Remote)	
Treasurer Don Goen	Torrance Co. -- Government	July 2025	X (Remote)	
Rhonda King	Torrance Co. -- Municipal	July 2025		X
VACANT	Torrance Co. -- Agriculture	May 2023		
William (Bill) Larson	Torrance Co. -- Agriculture	July 2025	X (Remote)	
Cole Daeschel	Santa Fe Co. -- Agriculture	March 2025		X
VACANT	Santa Fe Co. -- Government	Unfilled		
Dierdre Tarr	Claunch-Pinto SWCD	December 2025		
Bill King	Edgewood SWCD	December 2023	X (Remote)	
VACANT	East Torrance SWCD	March 2022		
Manny Encinias	At Large -- term lapsed	December 2022	X (Remote)	

Others / Guests: Mark Moll, San Pedro Creek Homeowners Association
Erwin Melis, John Shomaker and Associates
Zach Withers, Polk's Folly Farm

Call to Order: Held at: Hybrid ZOOM meeting per Notice
Torrance County Administrative Offices, 205 Ninth Street, Estancia NM 87106

Called to Order at: 4/11/2024 9:35 AM **By:** Krista Bonfantine (Chair)

At call to order, there were 9 of 13 positions filled. Quorum stands at 6, due to lapsed/unfilled terms. Convened as a committee with quorum.

Roll Call was held to ensure members present and could be heard remote.

Approval of Agenda

Review of Agenda for Thursday, April 11, 2024

Motion: Approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion Made: Corbin Carsrud **Motion Seconded:** Don Goen

Notations / Amendments: Dee Tarr -- add Open Meetings Act language to Agenda.

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote: Unanimous

*Seated officers now include Vice Chair -- Dee Tarr, Treasurer -- Don Goen, Secretary -- Corbin Carsrud

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Approval of Minutes: ¶

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Review of Minutes of Regular meeting of February 08, 2024 ¶

Motion: To approve Minutes of February 08, 2024 Meeting ¶

Motion Made: Don Goen Motion Seconded: Dee Tarr ¶

Notations / Amendments: Adjust spelling for name of Cody Stropki ¶

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote: Unanimous ¶

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Member Issues and Appointments: ¶

Don → Manny Encinas At Large term expired, will transition to Torrance County Agriculture Rep, needs to submit letter of interest to SWCD committee and voted on. Tabled for next meeting. ¶

→ At Large members must submit letter of interest to this committee and voted on. ¶

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Financial Matters: → Santa Fe MOU Amendment 15 signed ¶

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Claunche Pinto Soil and Water willing to fund the next monitoring round and telemetry equipment using remaining grant funding prior to expiration. ¶

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PR info in works ¶

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Financial Report: → Corbin & Don correspond on telemetry quote ¶

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Don dug deeper on resolution. Talked with Tracy Sedillo, and finance director. July 1, 2023 PO for \$750. ¶

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Correspondence: → Krista & Don -- meeting with Edgewood Staff in March. Met with Nina McCracken, Ken Brennan. They are supportive of the Committee. They weren't sure where the accounting went. They assured they would be contributing going forward. ¶

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Public Comments: → Zach Withers (guest) joined to learn more about the committee and described concern about development plans at/on Campbell Ranch. ¶

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Mark Moll (guest) Cambell Ranch/Aquifer Science -- latest from Edgewood town meeting -- Cambell Ranch has been dealing with Edgewood to change ordinances. Proposed zoning ordinances with public hearing on changes -- May 14th. Email sent from Manny to Planning & Zoning. John D'Antonio is running for state rep. ¶

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Contractor/Subcommittee Reports: → Groundwater monitoring. Still working with NMT on sending data over. They had a couple additional requests to fine tune the data. Adding new well. ¶

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Motion: Motion to approve monitoring round in April ¶

Motion Made: Corbin Carsrud Motion Seconded: Don Goen ¶

Notations / Amendments: None ¶

Motion Vote: N/A ¶

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Meetings Attended: → Corbin Carsrud -- Land & Water summit. ¶

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Unfinished Business: ¶

Motion: Adopt Open Meetings Act Resolution ¶

Motion Made: Dee Tarr Motion Seconded: Bill King ¶

Notations / Amendments: Need to add to the packet for this meeting's agenda. ¶

Motion Vote: unanimous ¶

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New Business: → → Open Meetings Resolution for 2023¶

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Motion: For Approval/Adoption¶

Motion Made: Diedre Tarr **Motion Seconded:** Brenda Smythe¶

Notations / Amendments: None¶

Motion Vote: Roll Call Vote: Unanimous¶

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Announcements: → EB - Regional Water Planning Meeting¶
→ April 22, 2024 3-7pm @ ESWCD¶

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Discussion Only Items → Discussion of Objection/Protest to the Approval of Application No. E-166 & E-508 -T to Temporarily Change the Place of Use of Groundwater within the Estancia Underground Basin.¶
Bill King - leasing water - how best to handle. Bill would like to give his side; a simple business deal blown out of proportion. Bill has been leasing water for dust abatement. Water for dust abatement. 312 ac ft comm or 625 ac ft.¶
Krista - water leaving wells to trucks, 101 - 102 mgal - 20,000 truckloads of water.¶
Bill King has 2/30 wells out of production¶
Bill Larson - cutting water use in half and increase employment. Committee should support water for industrial use. Water is physically leaving the basin is an export, committee should discuss where this falls. Water leaves the basin in other ways, i.e. agriculture, etc.¶
Dee - discuss with state engineer some guidelines on how to address these issues.¶
Corbin - emphasizes room for transparency, committee should support water conservation and be business friendly.¶
Don - Can disagree with it, but still support due to having met the requirements. Enforcement of water use is up to NMOSE¶
Bill Larson - Covered by statute, guidelines, emphasize cutback of Water Rights. Committee does not have authority to regulate. Committee is a regional water planning entity.¶

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Next Regular Scheduled Meeting Date: → Thursday, June 13, 2024 9:30 AM¶
Location: → Edgewood SWCD, 2506 NM-333, Moriarty, NM 87035¶
In Person Plus Zoom (hybrid)¶

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Adjourn: → → With no further business, ¶
Meeting Adjourned: 4/11/2024 10:37 AM¶
Motion: For Approval/Adoption¶
Motion Made: Bill Larson **Motion Seconded:** Bill King¶
Notations / Amendments: None¶
Motion Vote: Unanimous¶

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Respectfully submitted,¶
Corbin Carsrud - EBWPC Secretary¶

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Reviewed and approved by: → →

→ → Torrance County → → Santa Fe County → → Bernalillo County¶
"Coordinated water resource planning for the Estancia Underground Water Basin"¶

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