

Arizona Department of Water Resources

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NEWS RELEASE



Janet Napolitano,
Governor

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Director

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Public Information Office
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ADWR water level measurements underway in Tonto Creek Basin

Through the month of April, Arizona Department of Water Resources hydrologists will be in the field taking water level measurements from wells in the Tonto Creek Basin.

This 955-square-mile basin includes Star Valley, part of Payson, Kohls Ranch, Rye, Gisela, Jakes Corner, and Punkin Center (map included.)

The basin is located in the Tonto National Forest, so a minimal amount of land – only 2.4 percent – is in private ownership, said Rick Herther, a supervisor in ADWR's Basic Data Unit.

The last water level basin-wide sweep was conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey back in the mid-to late-1970s. The data are used to develop water level maps and to support scientific, planning, and management studies of the basin's aquifer systems.

As of 2003, there were 1,916 registered wells with a pumping capacity of less than 35 gallons per minute and 93 wells with a pumping capacity of more than 35 gallons per minute.

Online information on the Tonto Creek Basin is available in the Arizona Water Atlas. The Tonto Creek Basin information is at:

http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Find_by_Program/Rural_Programs/content/water_atlas/volume5.htm

Individuals seeking further information about the well sweep may contact:

Rick Herther of ADWR's Basic Data Unit at 602 771-1511, and
Teri Davis, manager of the Water Resources Investigation Section at 602 771-1516

