

Current Developments on the Cuyama Ground-Water Basin Study June 9, 2009

Approved for distribution at the Cuyama Valley Planning and Advisory Committee Meeting
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- **Spring measurements** and continuous data were successfully collected and are being quality assurance checked and will soon be available via the website (see next bullet). Notable measurements included the Dairy/Zannon well at 565.89' to water and a new site along Foothill Road where it was 534.50' to water. The general trend is downward except for a few Sierra Madre foothills wells. The next measurements are scheduled for the end of August.
- **Website** – I have seen the draft version and made comments, we are adding a couple of things like a user friendly map of current observation sites and it should be ready to go public after internal USGS review in early July.
- **Stream gauges to measure recharge** – the Cuyama River near Ozena gauge should be going in within the next month or as soon as the encroachment permit can be gained from Caltrans. The equipment has been procured and is ready. The gauge will be mounted on the downstream side of the hwy 33 bridge. We are still working on the Santa Barbara Canyon gauge funding, I think we may have a solution and can get it in sometime this summer or in early Fall.
- **Drilling the next dedicated observation wells** – two more dedicated “cluster site” observation wells are scheduled to be drilled as part of the project. We are trying to figure a way to do them both at the same time in order to save mobilization costs. If things go as planned they will both go in this fall. The next priority is near the junction of Foothill and Bell Roads, and the final one will go in near the Cuyama River and Foothill Road. These will be designed similar to the Kirschenmann Road well with an underground vault flush with land surface.
- **GAMA water quality data that was collected last summer** – soon to be released including the carbon 14 age dating information. Funding was temporarily pulled due to the State’s funding shortfall but was resumed and a draft report is circulating internally at the USGS. Expect it to be released sometime this summer.
- **Regular Water Quality Measurements** – the regular on-going water quality measurements the County funds (and USGS conducts) will be made in July at the Kidd’s, Zannon Foothill, Elementary School and Ms. Lamberts place in Quatal Canyon.
- **Project Planning** – the county has \$401,000 budgeted for next year pending approval during the budget hearings. We will need to go to the Board of Supervisors in October to renew our agreement with the USGS.
- Overall the project is going very well. If you have any questions I can be reached at dgibbs@cosbpw.net or 805-739-8781.

D. Gibbs