



Homestake Mining Company of California

Thomas Wohlford
Closure Manager

27 January 2018

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Washington, DC 20555-0001

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New Mexico Office of the State
Engineer 5550 San Antonio Drive,
N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109

RE: Homestake - Grants - San Andres Well 943M Drilling and Installation

Dear Sirs:

Homestake Mining Company (HMC) has completed the installation of San Andres aquifer monitoring well 943M. The well was installed near San Andres-Glorieta (SAG) water supply well 943 and the attached report describes the drilling and completion of monitor well 943M, as well as the testing and initial sampling of the newly installed well. Well 943M is currently included as an observation well in the testing of water supply well 943, and additional water quality and water level data will be included in the reporting of the well 943 testing.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Grants office at 505.287.4456, extension 34, or call me directly on my cell phone at 505.290.2187.

NM5501

Respectfully,



Thomas Wohlford

Closure Manager
Homestake Mining Company of California
Office: 505.287.4456 x34 | Cell: 505.290.2187

Copy To:

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HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

Grants Reclamation Project



San Andres Well 943M Completion Report

January 2018

George L. Hoffman, P.E.

Adam Arguello

Thomas G. Michel, Ph.D.

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ft	feet or foot
gal	gallon
gpm	gallon(s) per minute
GRP	Grants Reclamation Project
KPA	Kinetic Phosphorescence Analyzer
lbs	pounds
HMC	Homestake Mining Company
mg/l	milligram per liter

1. INTRODUCTION

The following report describes the installation of San Andres monitoring well 943M at the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC) Grants Reclamation Project (GRP). Well 943M is a San Andres–Glorieta (SAG) aquifer well installed for the purpose of monitoring SAG aquifer water levels and quality and as an observation well for a planned test using nearby SAG well 943 as the pumping well. The Office of the State Engineer POD number for well 943M is B-28-POD-1384.

Well 943M is located approximately 200 feet west-northwest of well 943 and the lithology for well 943 was used in planning of the installation of well 943M. Well 943 is completed in the San Andres limestone and the underlying Glorieta sandstone to a depth of 978 feet. A general increasing trend in the uranium concentration in well 943 indicates a likely connection with impacted overlying aquifer(s) within the Chinle Shale, and this prompted the installation of well 943M.

The drilling of well 943M started on 12/16/17 with a surface casing and the artesian casing was installed on 12/22/17. The drilling and setting of the well screen within the San Andres occurred on 12/27/17 and the well was developed by airlifting on 12/28/17. A pump was installed in the well early in January of 2018, and the well was pumped to obtain a sample for testing by Kinetic Phosphorescence Analyzer (KPA) on 1/8/18. The well was pumped for approximately two hours on 1/12/18 to obtain a sample for laboratory analysis of site standard constituents plus U-234, U-235, U-238, PO₄, F and other major constituents.

2. WELL 943M DRILLING

Well 943M was installed as an artesian SAG well beginning on 12/16/17. The total depth of the well is 800 feet with 70 feet of well screen installed to extend 60 feet into the San Andres limestone. The drill time log for well 943M is presented in Figure 2-1 and the corresponding lithologic log is presented in Figure 2-2. The well completion schematic is presented in Figure 2-3. Geophysical logging was performed during the drilling and the neutron and gamma logs are presented in Figure 2-4 with the resistivity and gamma logs presented in Figure 2-5.

2.1 Drilling

Figure 2-1 presents the drill time log for well 943M with drilling to install the surface casing beginning on 12/16/17. The surface casing consisted of 80 feet of 12.75 inch outside diameter (OD) steel casing cemented to the surface in a 15 inch diameter hole (see Figure 2-3). The drilling for the artesian began early in the morning on 12/18/17 (see Figure 2-1) and was advanced to a depth of 740 feet on 12/20/17. Geophysical logging was performed on 12/20/17 in the open hole below the bottom of the surface casing, and again after the artesian casing was installed, and the results are discussed in Section 2.3. Following the initial geophysical logging, the hole was reamed to a diameter of 10.625 inches from the base of the surface casing to a depth of 740 feet. A loss of circulation on 12/18/17 at a depth of approximately 180 feet required use of additional mud and lost circulation material to regain circulation. After the installation and cementing of the artesian casing (6.625 inch OD), the drilling was extended to a depth of 800 feet with a 5.5 inch diameter hole. A 70 feet long section of four (4) inch diameter wire-wrapped stainless steel well screen was then placed to extend 60 feet beyond the base of the artesian casing, which is at a depth of 740 feet. This resulted in the well screen extending approximately 10 feet above the base of the artesian casing. A geophysical log was then performed to a depth of approximately 730 feet.

2.2 Well Casing

Figure 2-3 presents the completion diagram for well 943M. Three casing sections consisting of the surface casing (12.75 inch OD steel), artesian casing (6.625 inch OD steel) and well screen (4 inch diameter stainless steel) were installed in the well. The surface casing extended 80 feet below land surface and penetrated the alluvium and an estimated 30 to 36 feet into the Chinle Shale. The surface casing was grouted with neat cement with a density of 15.4 lbs/gallon.

The artesian well casing was placed from the surface to a depth of 740 feet and grouted with neat cement (15.3 lbs/gallon) by the Halliburton method on 12/22/17. The well was pressure tested to 350 psi on 12/26/17 (see Figure 2-2). After the pressure testing, drilling for installation of the well screen resumed.

The four (4) inch diameter wire-wrapped stainless steel well screen was placed from a depth of 730 feet to 800 and extended approximately 60 feet beyond the base of the artesian casing. The well

screen extended into the boring in the San Andres limestone with an indicated top of the limestone occurring at a depth of approximately 710 feet (see Figure 2-2).

2.3 Logging and Lithology

The lithology of well 943M was described from cuttings during the drilling and was also evaluated using geophysical logs. The recorded lithologic log is presented in Figure 2-2 and the neutron, gamma, and caliper logs are presented in Figure 2-4. The gamma, caliper and a suite of resistivity logs are presented in Figure 2-5.

2.3.1 Lithologic Log

The lithologic log presented in Figure 2-2 indicates the base of the alluvium occurs at a depth of approximately 50 feet and is underlain by the Chinle shale. The geophysical logs discussed in the following subsections provide a slightly more refined interpretation of the base of alluvium at a depth of approximately 44 feet.

The occurrence of sandstone or other coarser material in the lithologic log corresponding to the Middle Chinle aquifer is within the interval from 210 to 270 feet below land surface. However, the geophysical logs described below and the loss of circulation at a depth of approximately 180 feet indicates more permeable material is present above a depth of 210 feet. Therefore, the geophysical logs offer a more refined interpretation of the location of the Middle Chinle aquifer. Like the Middle Chinle aquifer, the lithologic log notes the presence of coarser material corresponding to the expected interval for the Lower Chinle aquifer but the noted intervals only allow a crude identification of the aquifer interval.

The first indication of limestone in the lithologic log occurs in the interval from 690 to 710 feet below land surface. Below a depth of 710 feet, the lithologic log indicates the San Andres limestone is present to the bottom of the boring at 800 feet below land surface. Although there were no cuttings returned below a depth of 780 feet, there is little doubt that the drilling was still within the San Andres Limestone. Based upon the lithologic log, the top of the San Andres limestone is interpreted as being at a depth of approximately 710 feet, with a transition from Chinle Shale occurring from 690 to 710 feet below land surface.

2.3.2 Geophysical Logging

Figure 2-5 presents the neutron, gamma ray and caliper logging for well 943M. The geophysical logging conducted for the open hole and for the well with artesian casing and well screen installed is combined in Figure 2-5. The logging run in the open hole encountered an obstruction at a depth of approximately 455 feet and only the upper 455 feet was logged. The combination of two logging runs results in two caliper logs with one in the open hole and a log run within the artesian casing. The open hole caliper log indicates a transition from the surface casing diameter to the smaller drilling diameter at a depth 68 to 74 feet. However, the surface casing extends to a depth of

approximately 80 feet so the transition in diameter likely indicates that cuttings accumulated inside the surface casing for several feet above the base of the surface casing prior to the logging.

The gamma ray log within the open hole (below the surface casing) and within the artesian casing gives a reasonable indication of the base of the alluvium with a noticeable increase at a depth of approximately 44 feet. The three neutron logs in Figure 2-4 are useful in interpreting the interval of the Middle Chinle aquifer with a significant increase in neutron counts typically indicating more permeable material. There are three significant intervals between a depth of approximately 156 feet and 256 feet with a total thickness of 40 to 45 feet that are considered the Middle Chinle aquifer (see Figure 2-4). The resistivity logs presented in Figure 2-5 also show three significant intervals between a depth of approximately 156 feet and 256 feet that correspond with the more permeable intervals indicated in the neutron logs.

The neutron logs also indicate two intervals at approximately 380 to 395 feet below land surface and 446 to 480 feet below land surface that represent the Lower Chinle aquifer. The upper interval of the Lower Chinle aquifer is also reflected in the resistivity logs in Figure 2-5. From a depth of 480 feet to approximately 690 feet the gamma ray and neutron logs indicate Chinle Shale, and this is consistent with the lithologic log.

The gamma ray and neutron logs in Figure 2-5 do not show an abrupt change indicating the presence of the San Andres limestone. There is a minor reduction in gamma counts at a depth of 694 feet and a gradual increase in neutron counts below a depth of approximately 675 feet. However, the lithologic log is considered a more reliable indicator of the top of the San Andres limestone.

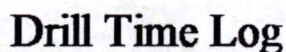


Figure 2-1. Well 943M Drill Time Log

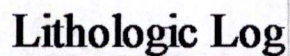


Figure 2-2. Well 943M Lithologic Log

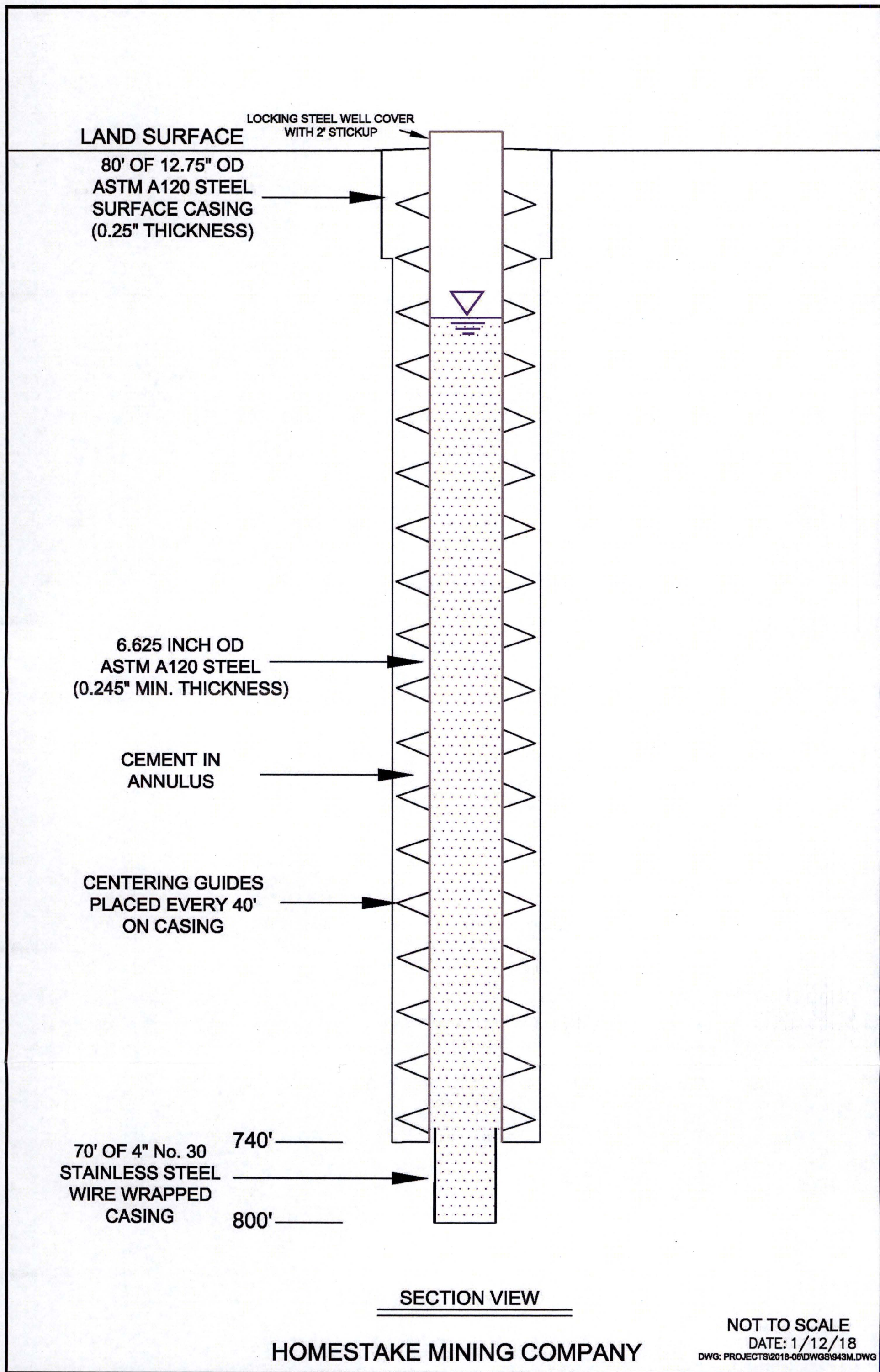



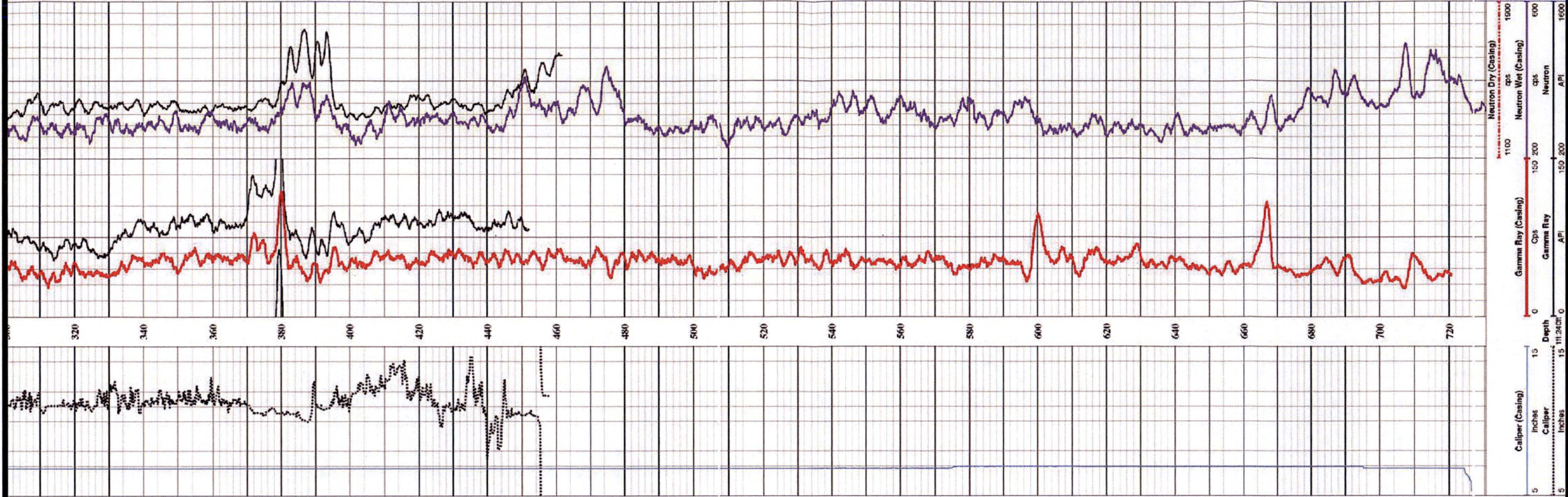
Figure 2-3. Well 943M Completion Schematic



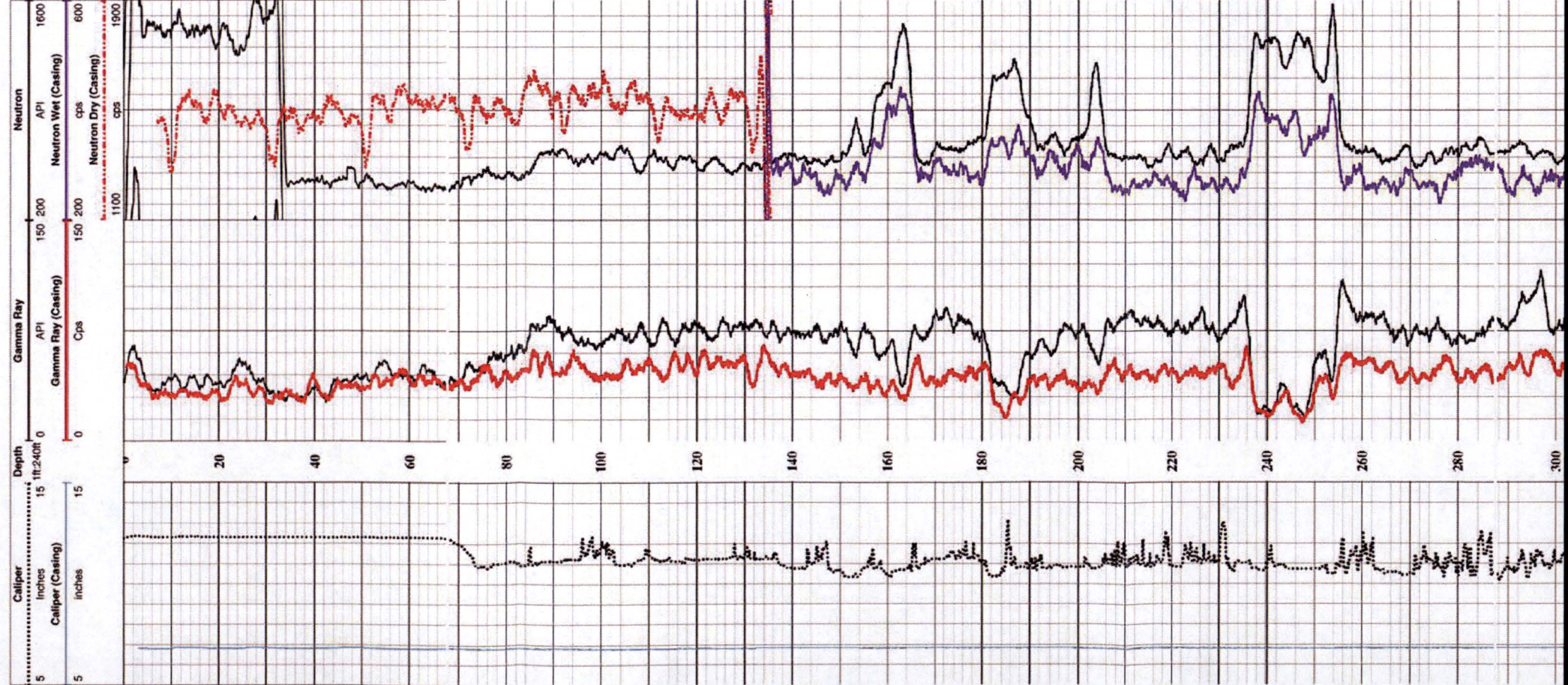
Nothing: Easting:		COMPANY Homestake Mining Company WELL ID 943 M FIELD Grants COUNTY Cibola STATE New Mexico			
		TYPE OF LOG: Gamma Ray, Caliper, Neutron OTHER SERVICES			
		LOCATION SEC TWP RGE API No.			
PERMANENT DATUM		Ground Level		ELEVATION	
LOG MEAS. FROM		Ground Level		ABOVE PERM. DATUM	
DRILLING MEAS. FROM		Ground Level		G.L.	
DATE		12-20&29-2017		TYPE FLUID IN HOLE	
RUN No.		Two		SALINITY	
TYPE LOG		QL-GR-3Arm, Neu		DENSITY	
DEPTH-DRILLER		800 ft.		LEVEL	
DEPTH-LOGGER		730 ft.		MAX. REG. TEMP	
BTM LOGGED INTERVAL		730 ft.		DIGITIZE INTERVAL	
TOP LOGGED INTERVAL		Surface		0.1 ft.	
OPERATING RIG TIME		12:00			
RECORDED BY		T. Stotz / J. White			
WITNESSED BY		A. Arguello			

Borehole Record				Casing Record			
NO.	BIT	FROM	TO	SIZE	WGT.	FROM	TO
1	15.5 in.	Surf	82 ft.	12.25 in.	Steel	Surf.	740 ft.
2	10.625 in.	82 ft.	740 ft.	6.625 in.	Steel	-2.2 ft.	730 ft.
3	5.0 in.	740 ft.	800 ft.	4.00 in.	Steel	730 ft.	800 ft.

REMARKS:



Well 943M Neutron and Gamma Log



Well 943M Neutron and Gamma Log

JET WEST GEOPHYSICAL SERVICES, LLC.

COMPANY Homestake Mining Company
WELL ID 943 M
FIELD Grants
COUNTY Cibola STATE New Mexico

TYPE OF LOG: Electrics, Gamma Ray, Caliper
OTHER SERVICES
Neutron
Cased Hole Neutron
Cased Hole Gamma Ray

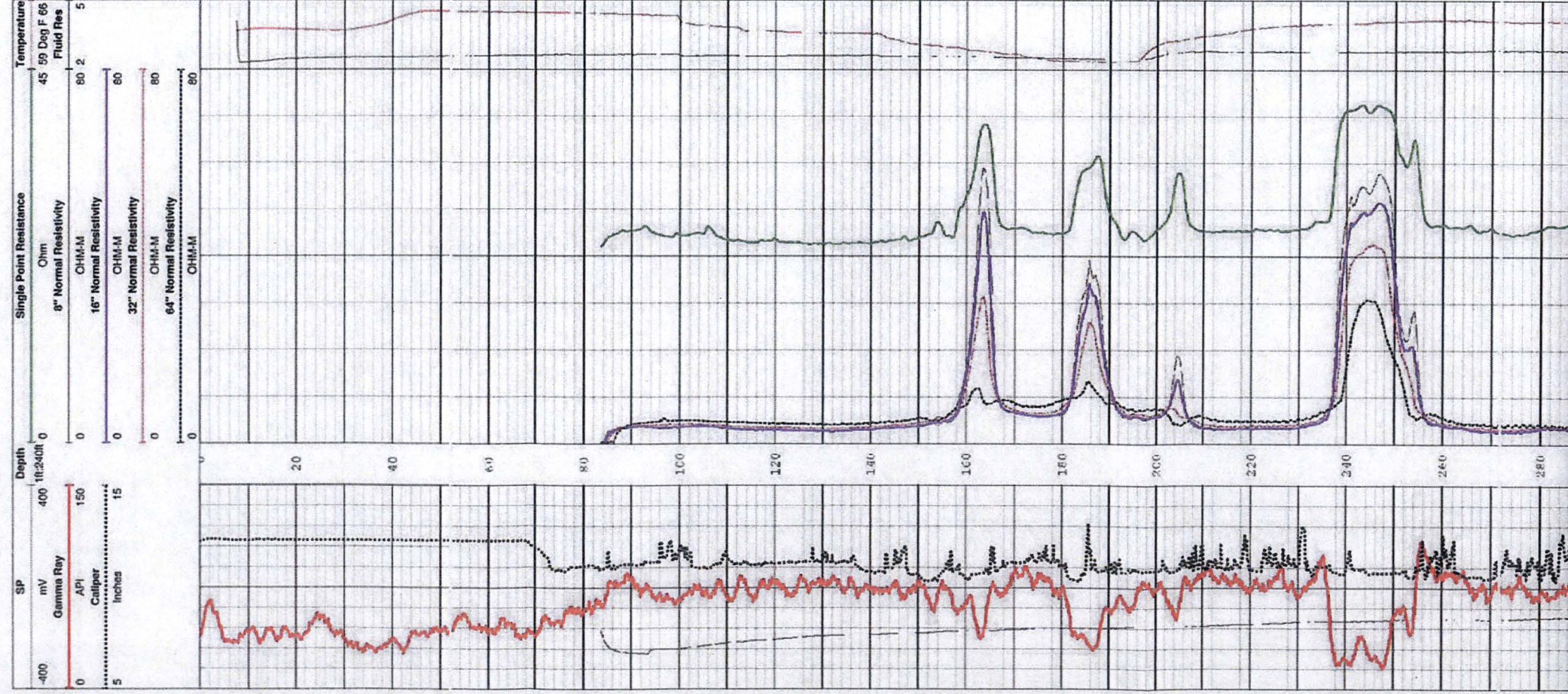
LOCATION
SEC TWP RGE API No.

PERMANENT DATUM Ground Level ELEVATION K.B.
LOG MEAS. FROM Ground Level ABOVE PERM. DATUM T.O.C.
DRILLING MEAS. FROM Ground Level G.L.

DATE 12-20-2017 TYPE FLUID IN HOLE water
RUN No. Two SALINITY
TYPE LOG QL-GR-3Arm, Neu DENSITY
DEPTH-DRILLER 740 ft. LEVEL Surface / 20 feet
DEPTH-LOGGER 460 ft. MAX. REG. TEMP
BTM LOGGED INTERVAL 459 ft. DIGITIZE INTERVAL 0.1 & 0.5 ft.
TOP LOGGED INTERVAL Surface
OPERATING RIG TIME
RECORDED BY T. Stutz / J. White
WITNESSED BY Stewart Brothers

RUN BOREHOLE RECORD				CASING RECORD			
NO.	BIT	FROM	TO	SIZE	WGT.	FROM	TO
1	15.5 in.	Surf	82 ft.	12.25 in.	Steel	Surf.	740 ft.
2	10.625 in.	82 ft.	740 ft.				

REMARKS:



HYDRO-ENGINEERING LLC.
4486 EAST MAGNOLIA
CASPER, WY 82404

DATE 1-2018
FILE C:\PROJECTS\2018-08\SAN-ANDRES\DWGS\943M-Log-Display.DWG

Figure 2-5. Well 943M Resistivity and Gamma Log

Well 943M Completion

January 2018

3. WELL TESTING

After installation of a pump for sampling of the well in early January of 2018, a brief test of the well was conducted to collect a sample for KPA analysis of uranium concentration, and this was followed by two hour pump test to evaluate well and aquifer properties and to collect a sample for laboratory analysis. The preliminary test of the well was conducted on 1/8/18 and the well was pumped for approximately 20 minutes to collect a sample for KPA analysis. The resulting uranium concentration from the KPA analysis was below the effective minimum reporting level for the instrument. The typical minimum reporting level for uranium concentration with the KPA instrument is estimated at 0.005 mg/l, but this level is subject to change with chemical interference or other properties of the sample. However, the preliminary KPA sample confirmed that uranium concentration in well 943M is below levels of concern for discharge during the pump test.

3.1 Well Testing

An aquifer properties and well sampling test was conducted by pumping well 943M for approximately two hours on 1/12/18. The data from the field sampling report sheet (see Figure 3-1) are summarized in Table 3-1. Field water quality parameters of temperature, conductivity, pH and ORP were recorded during the test at 20 minute intervals. Field water quality measurements were relatively stable for the last 40 to 60 minutes of the test (see Table 3-1). A sample was collected for laboratory analysis of HMC's site standard constituents plus U-234, U-235, U-238, PO₄, F, and other major constituents. The sample is in process and the results will be reported when they are available.

Table 3-1. Well 943M Testing and Sampling

Well 943M Sampling - 1/12/2018		Water Quality Measurements			
Pump Start:	7:00	Time	Temperature (deg. C)	Conductivity (uS)	pH (S. U.)
Pump Stop:	9:00				ORP (mV)
Pump Rate:	25 gpm	7:01	11.5	1788	7.64
		7:04			115
Lab Sample		7:20	12	1741	7.38
Collected:	9:00	7:40	15.4	1723	7.13
		8:00	14.4	1897	7.00
		8:20	14.1	1901	7.12
		8:40	14.9	1911	7.14
		9:00	14.5	1924	7.13

3.2 Aquifer Properties

As part of the ongoing well 943 testing program, a logger/transducer was installed in wells 943M, 943 and other wells on 1/5/2018. The water level data from the transducer in wells 943M and 943

were downloaded and used to evaluate water level changes during the test on 1/12/18. Figure 3-2 presents the water level changes occurring in wells 943M and 943 prior to, during, and after the pump test during the morning of 1/12/18. There is a small discrepancy of one to two minutes in the start and stop times for pumping when comparing the transducer data with the times recorded by the technician during the sampling. The internal clock for the logger/transducer is set by the clock in the computer used to program the loggers during installation, while the technician likely records times based on a watch so the discrepancy is not significant and is easily explainable.

Figure 3-2 illustrates the water level changes in wells 943M and 943 recorded by the transducer at one minute intervals during the morning of 1/12/18. The water level in both wells was relatively stable for the hour preceding the test. The first significant drawdown occurred in well 943M at 7:02 so the pump start likely occurred around 7:01 according to the logger/transducer clock. The changes in water level were somewhat erratic through the first thirty minutes of the test, but generally exhibited an average drawdown of 0.1 to 0.2 feet. After the first hour of pumping, the water-level change stabilized at an average drawdown of 0.162 feet. Using this drawdown and the reported discharge rate of 25 gpm, the calculated specific capacity of the well is approximately 154 gpm/foot.

The transducer data indicates an abrupt rise in the water level in well 943M at 9:58 and this is consistent with a pump shut-off that results in the water in the pump column draining back into the well. This change is followed by a quick oscillation and the start of recovery in the well. The water-level recovers to the pre-test level within approximately 30 minutes of the stop of pumping, and continues to increase indicating that a rising trend in the San Andres aquifer was occurring and had likely started during the test. The occurrence of changes in the San Andres water levels is expected because numerous users operate production wells completed in the San Andres aquifer, and there are frequent changes in the transducer data associated with these aquifer stresses.

The water level in well 943 also responded to the pumping of well 943M with an effective drawdown of approximately 0.03 feet occurring during the pumping. The recovery in well 943 also began shortly after pumping stopped, and like well 943M, the water level recovery indicated that a rising water-level trend was occurring in the San Andres aquifer.

The recovery occurring in well 943M allows an estimation of aquifer transmissivity using the Theis recovery analysis. Because well 943M was constructed as a monitoring well, the installed pump is sized to allow efficient sampling and is too small to effectively stress an aquifer as transmissive as the San Andres limestone. Hence, the magnitude of the drawdown in well 943M is very small, and the aquifer test analysis methods can only provide a rough estimate of transmissivity. Figure 3-3 presents a semilog analysis of well 943M recovery data using the Theis method. The data selected for the linear fit are those occurring shortly after the pump was shut off through the point when the recovery exhibits the influence of the water-level change trends from well operation by other San Andres aquifer users. The estimated transmissivity from this analysis is 85,000 gal/day/foot which

is a reasonable value for the San Andres aquifer. As previously mentioned, the magnitude of the drawdown is small and the resolution of the transmissivity estimate is limited by the relatively small stress rate.

HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY

EDF - 21 - ANALYTICAL SHEET

Well Name 943M	Collection Date <u>1/12/18</u> MM/DD/YY	Collected By: Jason Dominguez	Water Level Code: 0013	Pumping Rate (gpm) Code: 0058 <u>Measured</u> <u>File</u> 256gpm																					
Well I.D.	Time: <u>09:00</u> HR:MIN	Title: Rad/Teck Utility Operator	PH 7.13	Bail Volume (gal) Code: 0017 <u>Measured</u> <u>File</u>																					
Pumping or Bailing Duration (min) Code: 0059 Start: <u>07:00</u> Stop: <u>09:00</u>		Q (totalizer reading) Code: 0054 NO Meter	Conductivity Time: <u>07:01</u> Time: <u>07:20</u> Time: <u>07:40</u>	Code: 0012 Temp: <u>11.50</u> Temp: <u>12.00</u> Temp: <u>15.40</u>	Code: 0051 Cond: <u>1788us</u> Cond: <u>1746us</u> Cond: <u>1723us</u>																				
Previous Water Level: _____		Total Depth (FILE): _____ Total Depth (MEASURED): _____	Analysis Requested: B.F																						
Comments: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Time</th> <th>Temp</th> <th>Cond.</th> <th>PH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>08:00</td> <td>14.40</td> <td>1897us</td> <td>7.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08:20</td> <td>14.10</td> <td>1901us</td> <td>7.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08:40</td> <td>14.90</td> <td>1921us</td> <td>7.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9:00</td> <td>14.50</td> <td>1924us</td> <td>7.13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 7:04 ORP - 115 7:20 ORP - 133 7:40 ORP - 130 8:00 ORP - 94 8:20 ORP - 70 8:40 ORP - 62 9:00 ORP - 64						Time	Temp	Cond.	PH	08:00	14.40	1897us	7.00	08:20	14.10	1901us	7.12	08:40	14.90	1921us	7.14	9:00	14.50	1924us	7.13
Time	Temp	Cond.	PH																						
08:00	14.40	1897us	7.00																						
08:20	14.10	1901us	7.12																						
08:40	14.90	1921us	7.14																						
9:00	14.50	1924us	7.13																						
Name: _____		Pump Size: _____																							
Address: _____		Casing Diameter: 8																							
Telephone Number: _____		Usage: _____																							

Figure 3-1. Well 943M Field Sampling Form

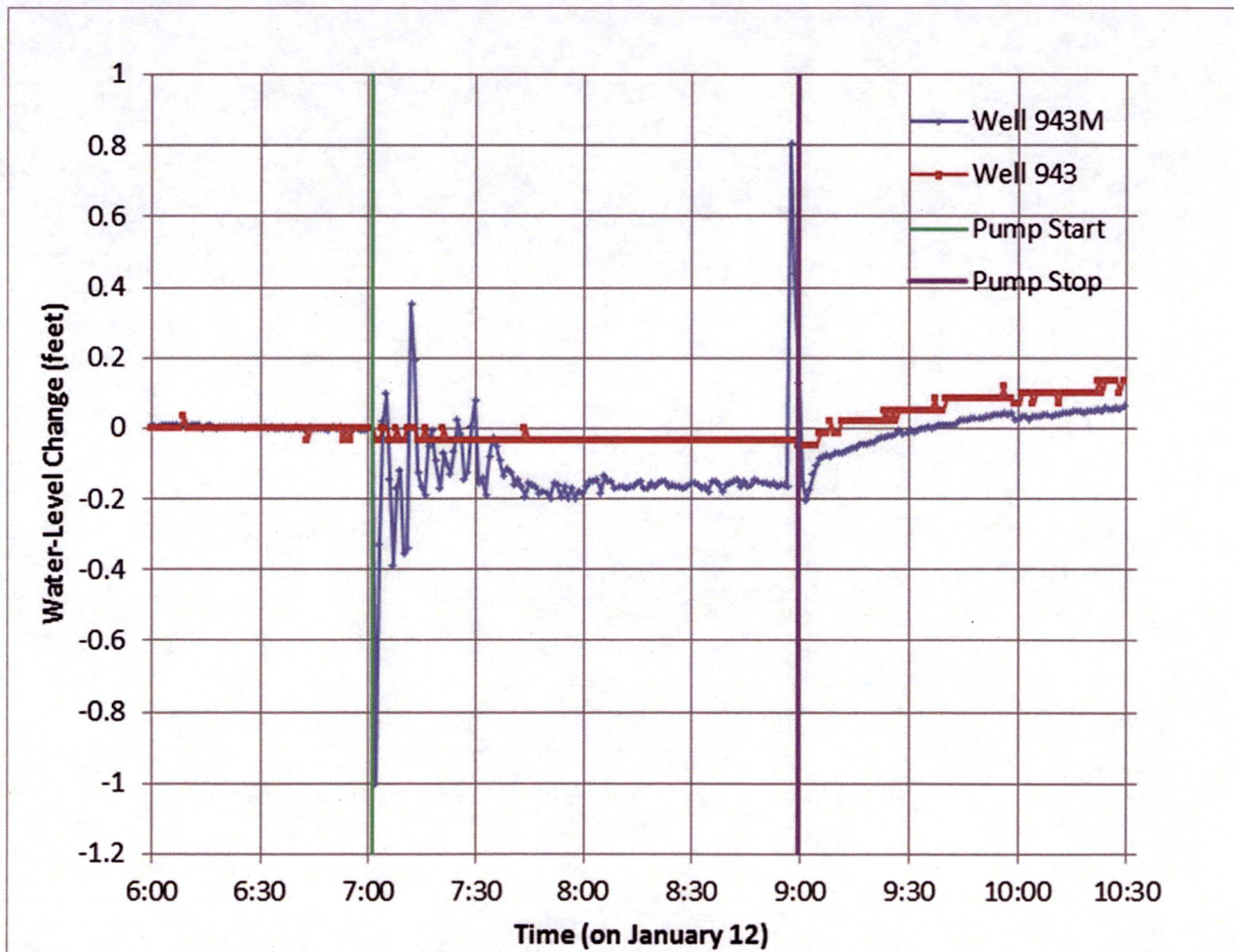
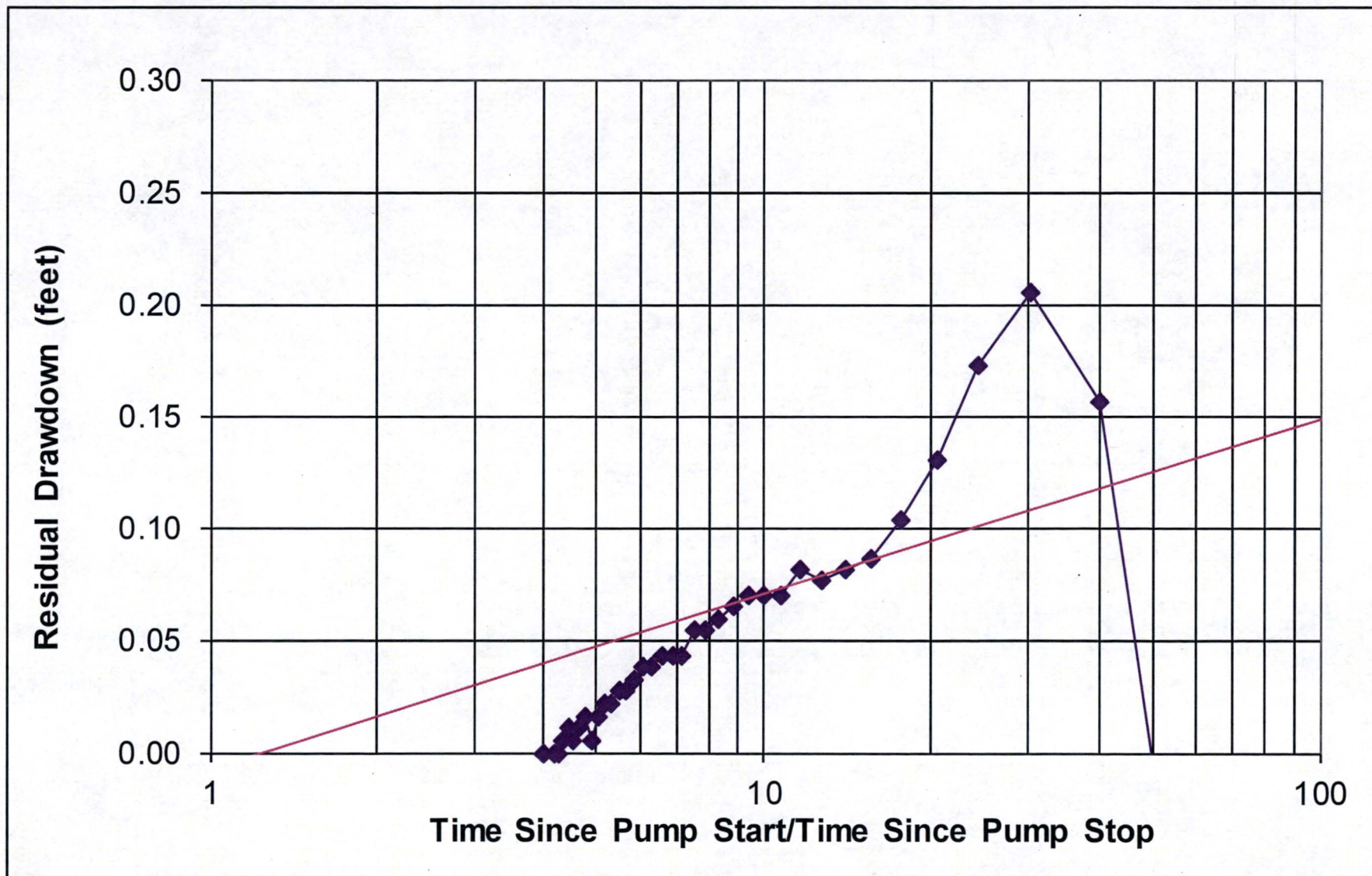


Figure 3-2. Well 943M Pump Test Water-Level Changes



Recovery Fit

Discharge (gpm)	25
Delta s (ft/log cycle time)	0.08
Transmissivity (gal/day/ft)	84958

Figure 3-3. Well 943M Recovery Analysis