

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

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**LAKE VALLEY**  
**HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN 10-183**

**CROP INVENTORY**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2015**

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## ABSTRACT

This inventory represents the status and usage of all permitted, certificated, and claims of vested right groundwater rights for irrigation purposes located within Lake Valley, Hydrographic Basin 10-183, for the year 2015. **Only those groundwater rights associated with irrigation purposes are represented in this report.** For a listing and summary of all other manners of use within the basin please refer to the [Nevada Division of Water Resources Hydrographic Basin Summary](#).

The data presented are valid for the time period of this report and may vary from previously published figures as water rights within the basin are subject to administrative action, such as certification, cancellation, forfeiture or withdrawal on a continuing basis.

For the year 2015, the permitted and certificated groundwater rights for irrigation purposes totaled **4,897 acres** with a total duty of 16,699 acre-feet within Lake Valley. An estimated **4,568 acres** were irrigated and 13,751 acre-feet were pumped during 2015.

## HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN SUMMARY

|   |   |
|---|---|
| HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN NUMBER                     | 183, REGION 10  |
| HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN NAME                       | LAKE VALLEY   |
| COUNTIES                                      | LINCOLN AND WHITE PINE  |
| MAJOR COMMUNITIES                             | CALIENTE AND PIOCHE   |
| DESIGNATED BASIN                              | DESIGNATED  |
| DENIALS BASED UPON WATER AVAILABILITY         | <a href="#">2474</a> , IRR DEN, 6/8/1971<br><a href="#">2535</a> , IRR DEN, 4/17/1980<br><a href="#">2716</a> , IRR DEN, 9/10/1981<br><a href="#">5922</a> , MUN AND DOM DEN,<br>1/9/2009 |
| ESTIMATED IRRIGATION PUMPAGE 2015 (ACRE-FEET) | 13,751 *  |
| STATE ENGINEER'S ORDERS                       |   |
| <a href="#">NO. 726-DESIGNATION</a>           | JUNE 11, 1979   |

COMMITTED GROUNDWATER RESOURCE FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES: 16,699 ACRE-FEET  
DATE: DECEMBER 2015

NOTE: Committed groundwater resource data are accurate for December 2015. Rights may be subject to change applications, certification, withdrawals, forfeiture and cancellations; each of these circumstances could impact the duty, diversion rate and acreage associated with a given right. Be advised this report acknowledges that other manner of uses may be present in the basin; however, only those groundwater rights associated with irrigation purposes are represented in this report.

\* Acreage represented in this report may have surface water rights appurtenant. This report acknowledges those acres with surface water rights but is not intended to quantify, nor present any definitive use of those surface water rights. The data represent only the pumping of groundwater and the acreage to which it is applied.

## PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this report is to inventory all of the groundwater resources allocated to irrigation and described by the Office of the State Engineer, Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR), and to estimate the amount of groundwater pumped for irrigation purposes within the Lake Valley Hydrographic Basin (10-183), for the year 2015.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

The Lake Valley Hydrographic Basin is located in eastern Nevada (Figure 1). Lake Valley occupies approximately 600 square miles in Lincoln and White Pine Counties. The adjacent hydrographic basins are Steptoe Valley (10-179) to the north, Cave Valley (10-180) and Dry Lake Valley (10-181) to the west, Patterson Valley (13-202) to the south, Spring Valley (13-201) to the southeast, Hamlin Valley (11-196) to the east and Spring Valley (10-184) to the northeast.

Lake Valley is bounded by the Schell Creek Range on the west, the Fairview Range to the southwest, the Wilson Creek Mountains to the southeast and the Fortification Range to the east. Lake Valley is approximately 15 miles wide by 40 miles long with basin elevations ranging from approximately 5,920 feet above mean sea level on the valley floor to approximately 10,990 feet at the peak of Mount Grafton. Irrigation is primarily located in the southern portion of the basin (Figure 2).

## GROUNDWATER LEVELS

Depths to groundwater in Lake Valley are measured by NDWR on a semi-annual basis. Sites at which water level measurements are made and links to their data include:

|                                     |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">183 N05 E66 03AAAA1</a> | <a href="#">183 N05 E66 03DD</a>    | <a href="#">183 N05 E66 04DA 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N05 E66 10DD 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N05 E66 14BDAC1</a> | <a href="#">183 N06 E65 01BCA 1</a> |
| <a href="#">183 N06 E65 13CBBB1</a> | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 10BD 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 19 1</a>    |
| <a href="#">183 N06 E66 22DC 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 27AC 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 27CAA 1</a> |
| <a href="#">183 N06 E66 27DDDD1</a> | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 30AB 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 33BA 01</a> |
| <a href="#">183 N06 E66 33BABA1</a> | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 34DA 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N06 E66 35C 1</a>   |
| <a href="#">183 N06 E67 18CA 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N07 E65 11CCBA1</a> | <a href="#">183 N07 E65 14DD 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N07 E65 17DAA 1</a> | <a href="#">183 N07 E66 06CB 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N07 E66 16DC 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N07 E66 33DBCA1</a> | <a href="#">183 N07 E66 36CACD1</a> | <a href="#">183 N08 E65 02AC 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N08 E65 02D 1</a>   | <a href="#">183 N08 E65 10CCCD1</a> | <a href="#">183 N08 E65 12DB 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N08 E65 26DB 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N08 E66 10BCAC1</a> | <a href="#">183 N08 E66 27BDDB2</a> |
| <a href="#">183 N09 E65 01CDA1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N09 E65 13CC 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N09 E65 26AA 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N09 E66 23BC 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N09 E66 27DC 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N09 E66 31DA 01</a> |
| <a href="#">183 N10 E66 09AB 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N10 E66 31AB 1</a>  | <a href="#">183 N10 E66 31BB 1</a>  |
| <a href="#">183 N10 E66 34BB 1</a>  |                                     |                                     |

Groundwater level data have also been collected by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and can be accessed through their website (<http://nevada.usgs.gov>).

## **METHODS TO ESTIMATE IRRIGATED ACREAGE**

This report estimates the number of acres irrigated by the groundwater pumped under permits, certificates, and claims of vested right issued by the State Engineer. Table 1 and Figure 3 present the current and historic irrigated acreage and pumpage; Appendix A presents estimates detailed by certificate, permit, or vested claim number. The following methods were used to arrive at the estimated acreage:

- Field inspection of the place of use was conducted to estimate the number of acres under cultivation.
- In cases where field inspection of the place of use was not practical, aerial and/or satellite imagery were analyzed to determine acreages.

## **METHODS TO ESTIMATE PUMPAGE**

This report estimates the amount of groundwater pumped under the permits and certificates issued by the Nevada State Engineer as well as claims of vested right in the Lake Valley Hydrographic Basin. The following methods were used to arrive at the estimated use:

- Where totalizing meters were in place, meter readings were taken and compared with previous data (if available).
- Where meters were not in place and the use was irrigation, pumpage was estimated by multiplying the number of hours the well was operated during the past year (determined from an hour meter reading or asking the water user) by the certificated diversion rate.
- Where lands were irrigated by both surface water and groundwater, the surface water supply for the irrigation season was considered in estimating groundwater pumpage.
- Beginning in 2013, meter readings were used to determine pumpage. Prior to 2013, pumpage was estimated to be equal to the full duty of the water right.

## TABLES

Table 1. Lake Valley historical irrigated acreage and pumpage data.

| Year              | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Acres Irrigated   | 4,868  | 4,709  | 4,747  | 4,607  | 4,559  | 4,568  |
| Acre-Feet Pumped* | 19,712 | 18,836 | 19,000 | 14,050 | 14,584 | 13,751 |

# FIGURES

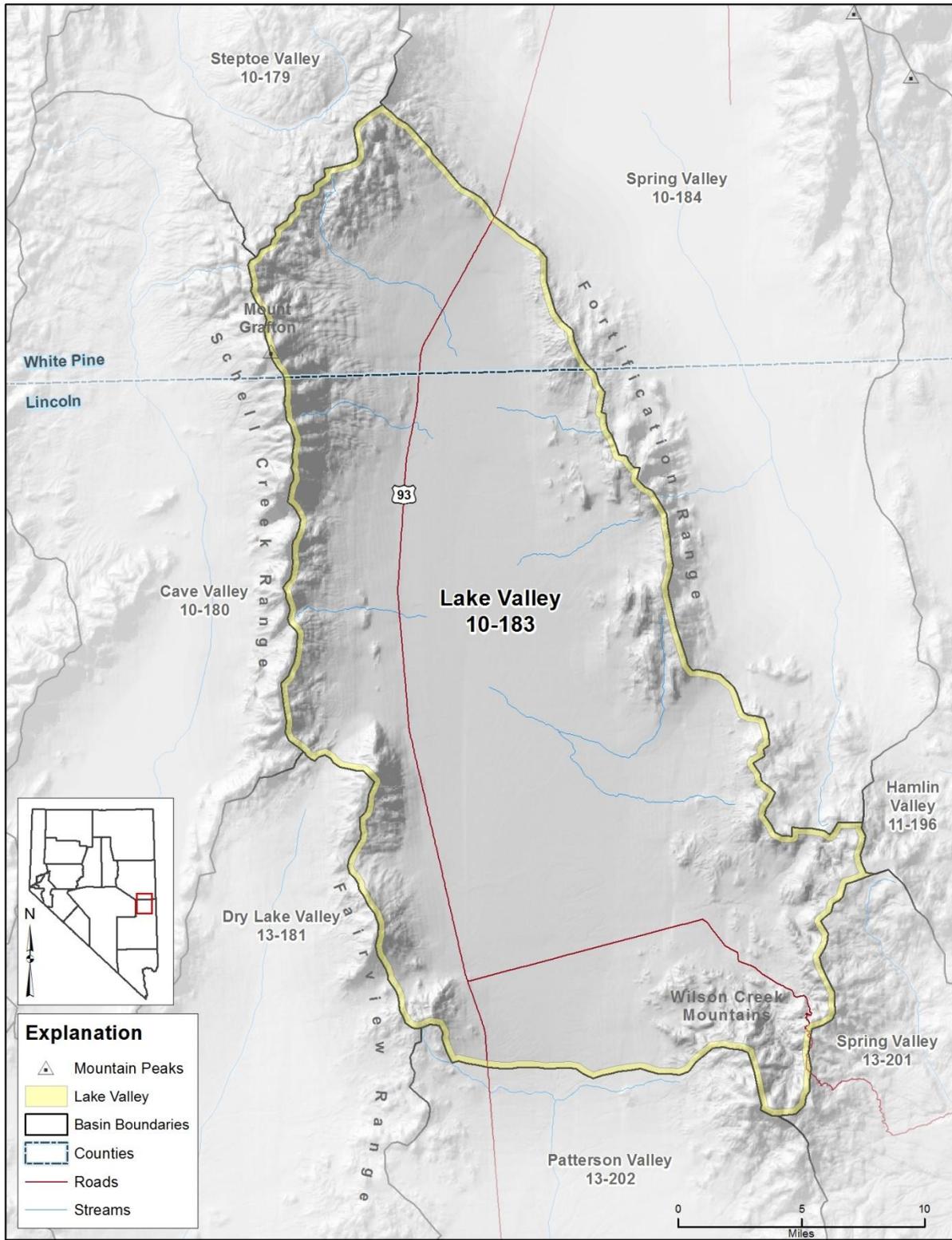


Figure 1. Physiographic map of Lake Valley (Hydrographic Basin 10-183).

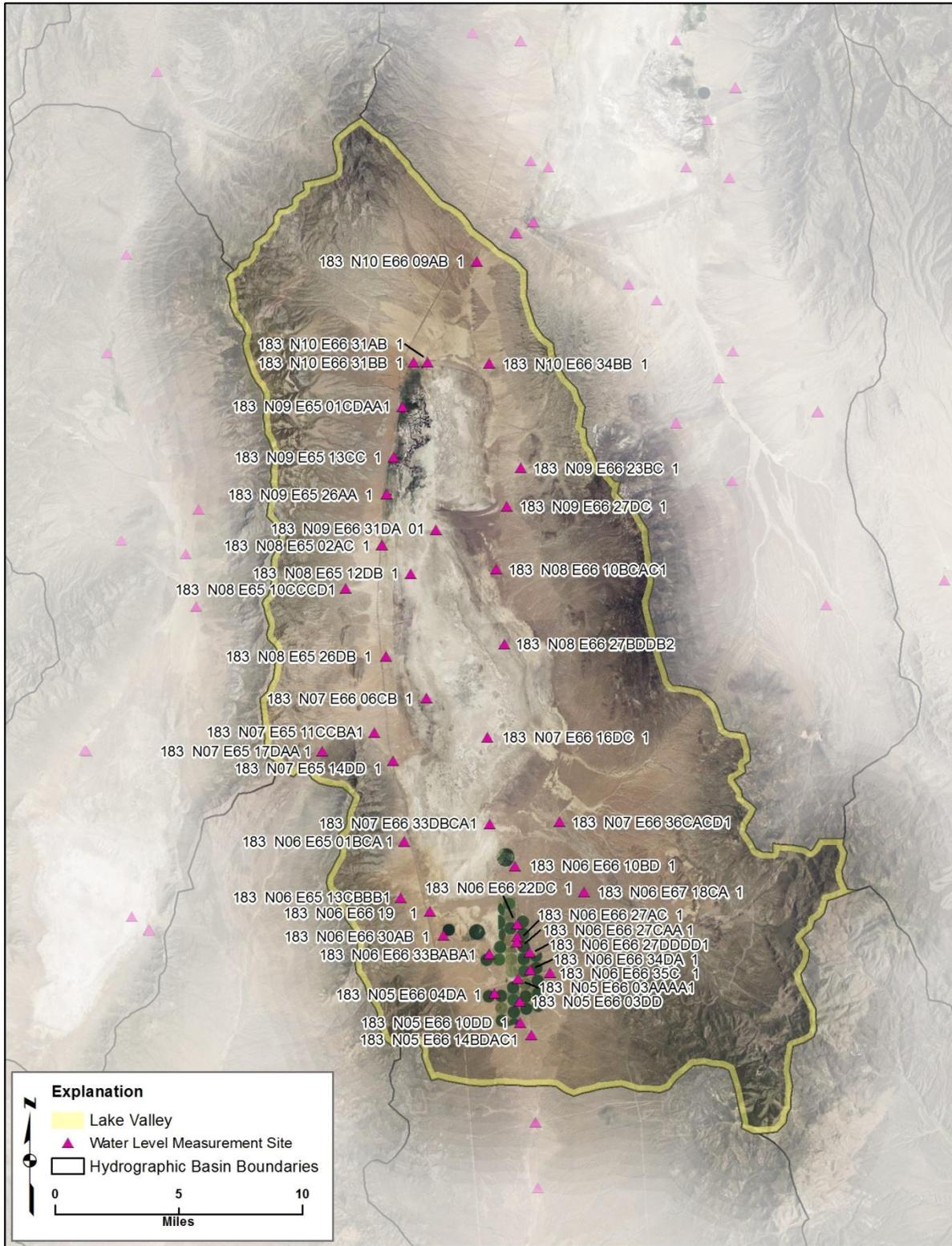


Figure 2. Map showing Lake Valley irrigated acreage and water level monitoring sites.

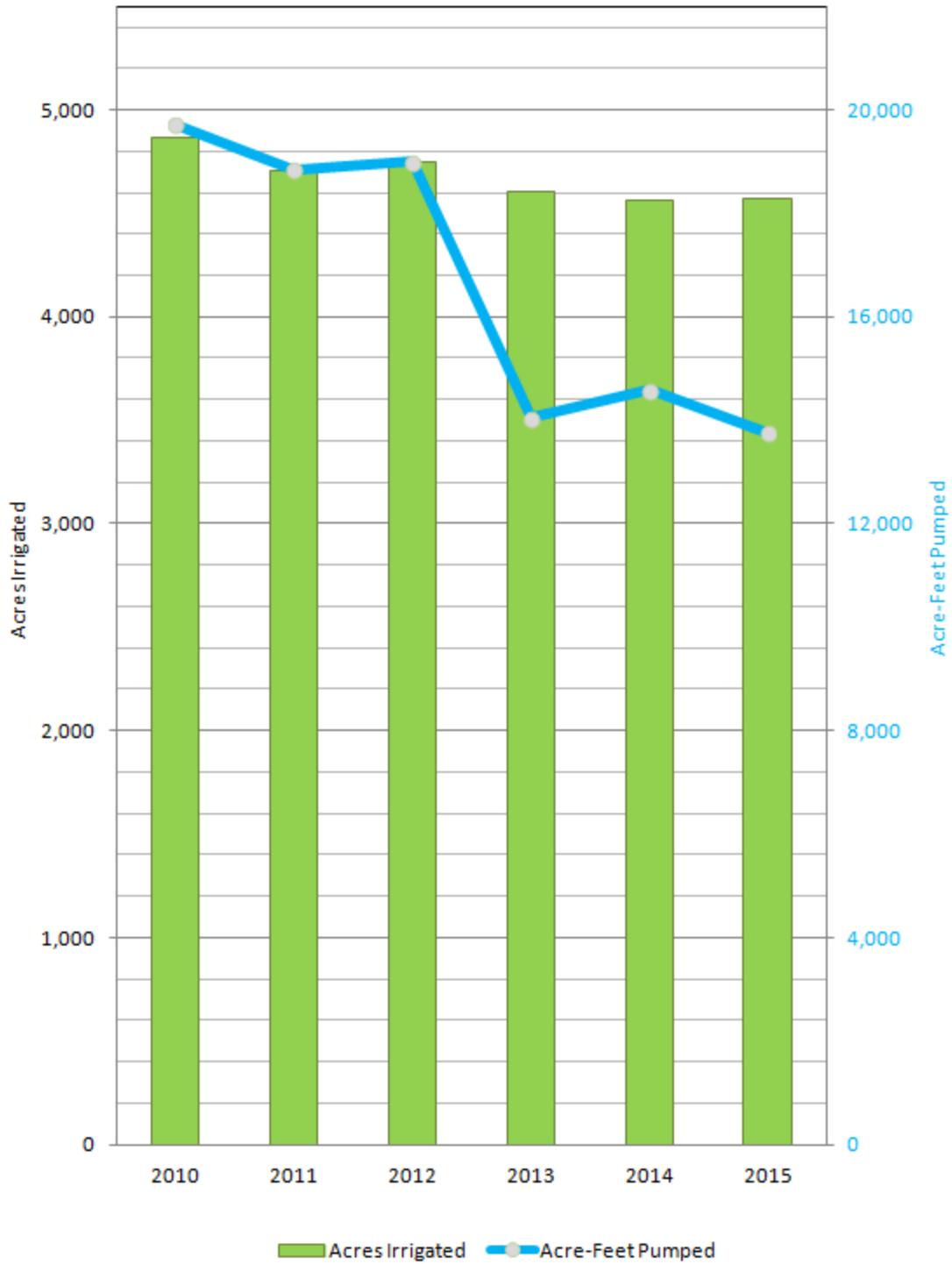


Figure 3. Graph showing Lake Valley historical irrigated acreage and pumpage.

**APPENDIX A. 2015 LAKE VALLEY CROP INVENTORY.**

## EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| App No                                  | The file number of the Application to Appropriate/Change Water or the Claim of Vested Right.   |
| Status                                  | Indicates the status of an application: Permit (PER), Certificated (CER), or a Claim of Vested Right (VST).  |
| QQ                                      | The quarter-quarter of the Section in which the point of diversion is located.   |
| Q                                       | The quarter of the Section in which the point of diversion is located.   |
| Sec                                     | The Section in which the point of diversion is located.  |
| Twn                                     | The Township in which the point of diversion is located.   |
| Rng                                     | The Range in which the point of diversion is located.  |
| Sup                                     | Indicates whether the groundwater right is part of a group of groundwater rights used to irrigate all or a portion of the same acreage (supplemental). A “Y” in this column signifies the groundwater right is supplemental to other groundwater rights.                         |
| Supplemental Application Number         | The application number(s) of the water right(s) that are supplemental to one another.  |
| Permitted Acres                         | The number of acres defined by the permit or certificate that is eligible to be irrigated.   |
| Supplementally Adjusted Permitted Acres | The supplementally adjusted, total number of acres that is eligible to be irrigated under a supplemental group of water rights.  |
| Permitted Duty Acre-Feet                | The amount of water that may be pumped in a given year, or season, as defined by the permit, certificate, or claim of vested right. If there is a supplemental group, the total combined duty is listed as a supplementally adjusted duty.                                       |
| Supplementally Adjusted Duty Acre-Feet  | The supplementally adjusted, total combined duty that may be pumped in a given year, or season, for a supplemental group of water rights, expressed in acre-feet. The supplementally adjusted, total combined duty is listed at the end of a supplemental group in <b>bold</b> . |
| Owner of Record                         | The owner of the water right as recorded in the records of the State Engineer. A water right may have more than one owner of record. Only the first, alphabetically, is listed in this table.  |
| Crop Type                               | Indicates whether or not a crop was in production during the water year. If a crop was in production, the common name description of the plants under cultivation if given (e.g. alfalfa).   |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| NIWR (ft)                 | Net Irrigation Water Requirement, defined to be equal to the annual crop evapotranspiration less the effective precipitation entering the root zone that is available for evaporation or transpiration. |
| Irrigation Method         | The method by which the water is applied to the crop and ground (e.g. pivot).   |
| Irrigation Efficiency     | The estimated efficiency of the desired irrigation method used.   |
| Irrigated Acreage         | The estimate of the number of acres irrigated associated with a particular water right.   |
| Acreage Estimation Method | The method by which the number of acres irrigated was determined. F – Field inspection. I – Aerial or satellite imagery.  |
| Acre-Feet Pumped          | The estimate of the amount of water pumped under a particular water right, expressed in acre-feet. One acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons.  |
| Pumpage Estimation        | The method used to estimate the amount of water pumped. M – Totalizing meter readings. N – NIWR Method.   |
| Remarks                   | Additional information. Numbers in this column correspond to footnotes at the end of the table.   |

