

**FNGINFFRING & MANAGEMENT, INC.** 

Dr. Bob Harrington Inyo County Water Department 135 South Jackson Street Independence, CA 93526 September 28, 2012

**RE:** Summary of Hydrologic Monitoring Activities September 2012

Rose Valley, Inyo County, California Hay Ranch Project Conditional Use Permit #2007-03

Dear Dr. Harrington:

This letter summarizes hydrologic monitoring activities conducted in September 2012 by TEAM Engineering & Management, Inc. (TEAM), related to the Hay Ranch Water Extraction Project and CUP #2007-03.

#### **Background**

As outlined in the Hay Ranch Water Extraction Final EIR's Hydrologic Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (HMMP), Phase 1: Monitoring System Setup and Supplemental Data Collection occurred prior to December 25, 2009 at monitoring points throughout Rose Valley. With the initiation of pumping by Coso Operating Company (Coso) on December 25, 2009, the Hay Ranch Water Extraction Project entered into the Phase 2: Startup Monitoring and Reporting period. Phase 3: Model Recalibration and Redefinition of Pumping Rates and Durations occurred from September 2010 to April 2011, with recalibration of the groundwater model by Daniel B. Stephens & Associates (DBS&A) and with redefinition of pumping rates and durations by Inyo County Water Department (ICWD). With the April 1, 2011 issuance of the ICWD's "Addendum to the HMMP for CUP#2007-003/Coso Operating Company, LLC" (2011 ICWD Addendum) the project has entered Phase 4: Ongoing Monitoring, Mitigation and Reporting.

#### **Monitoring and Reporting**

During the September 2012 monthly hydrologic data collection event at 30 monitoring locations in the Rose Valley area, static depth-to-water (DTW) measurements, one visual observation of the Little Lake Ranch (LLR) Siphon Well Outflow and four sets of flow rates were collected by TEAM, as summarized in the attached table (Table 1). Data for this monthly field event was collected on September 19 and 20. Pressure transducer data were downloaded from 24 units, including one "BaroTroll" measuring barometric pressure. On September 4, a DTW measurement at LADWP 816 Well was taken by LADWP personnel.

At the Hay Ranch Property, Coso has pumped groundwater from two productions wells: Hay Ranch North and Hay Ranch South. For the first year of project pumping, December 25, 2009 to December 31, 2010, a total of approximately 2992 acre feet (AF) of groundwater were extracted from these two wells (821 AF from the Hay Ranch North Well, and 2171 AF from the Hay Ranch South Well).

For the second year of project pumping, January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2012, a total of approximately 3895 AF of groundwater were extracted from the Hay Ranch property (1289 AF from the Hay Ranch North Well, and 2606 AF from the Hay Ranch South Well).

For the third year of project pumping, from January 1, 2012 to September 20, 2012, a total of approximately 2164 AF of groundwater have been extracted from the Hay Ranch property (1058 AF from the Hay Ranch North Well, and 1106 AF from the Hay Ranch South Well).

Figure 1 presents the combined amount of groundwater pumped from the Hay Ranch North and South wells, in acre feet, from December 25, 2009 through September 20, 2012 compared to a hypothetical pumping amount. The total amount of groundwater extracted from the Hay Ranch property from December 25, 2009 to August 15, 2012 (Hay Ranch CUP project total) is approximately 9051 AF. The hypothetical pumping amount assumes a pumping rate of approximately 3000 acre-feet per year (AFY) for December 25, 2009 through December 31, 2010 and assumes a pumping rate of approximately 4839 AFY from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2012. These hypothetical pumping rates represent the maximum allowable pumping amounts for the 2010, 2011 and 2012 periods.

## **Trigger Levels and Maximum Acceptable Drawdowns**

In Table 2 of the 2011 ICWD Addendum, drawdown at cessation of pumping trigger levels (Trigger Levels) have been set for specific monitoring wells based on an annual pumping rate of 4839 AFY.

Based on the manual depth DTW data collected by TEAM on September 20, 2012, the Trigger Level for the Little Lake Ranch (LLR) North Well (RV180) has been exceeded. The baseline groundwater elevation (GWE) for LLR North, set by Inyo County Water Department in January 2010, is 3158.88 feet. The GWE at LLR North as measured at 10:14 on September 20 was 3158.68 feet. The Trigger Level for LLR North is 0.00 feet. The LLR North GWE has decreased by 0.20 feet compared to its baseline, exceeding its Trigger Level by 0.20 feet (Table 2). The September 20 LLR North GWE was 1.10 feet above its Maximum Acceptable Drawdown level. ICWD was notified of this exceedance in a timely manner.

Based on data collected by TEAM during the September 2012 monitoring event, no other Trigger Levels or Maximum Acceptable Drawdowns have been exceeded at Hay Ranch Project monitoring wells which have baselines and trigger levels established.

### **Operational Notes**

The pressure transducers installed in the Davis Ranch North (RV110) and Cinder Road (RV150) wells experienced drift and were recalibrated in the field. If these transducers fail to hold this recalibration, they will be replaced during the October/November field event.

#### **Data Transmittal**

TEAM posted updates to the "Coso" database on the ICWD web server. New Hay Ranch Project hydrographs in PDF form were uploaded to the ICWD website (www.inyowater.org).

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact TEAM at your convenience.

Sincerely,

TEAM Engineering & Management, Inc.

Keith Rainville Staff Geologist

## TABLE 1

# Field Observations of Rose Valley Hydrologic Monitoring Points September 19-20, 2012

Project Name:	Hay Ranch Project HMMP	Date: September 19-20, 2012		
Location:	Rose Valley, Inyo County			
Observer(s):	K. Rainville	Page: 1 of 1		

Well ID	Monitoring Point	Date	Time	DTW	Flow	GWE	Method	Transducer	Notes
				(ft)	(cfs)	(ft amsl)		Log Interval	
RV-10	Dews	09/19/12	14:20	232.20		3754.72	TEAM manual read	NA	
RV-20	LADWP 816	09/04/12	13:20	79.34		3435.72	LADWP manual read	NA	Data provided by LADWP
RV-30	Cal Pumice	09/19/12	10:12	257.70		3248.19	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-40	Dunmovin	09/20/12	9:00	304.31		3243.56	TEAM manual read	NA	
RV-50	Hay Ranch North	09/20/12	13:16	NM	Yes	NM	TEAM manual read	NA	1,032,239,965 gallons (3168 AF) pumped since 12/25/09
RV-60	Hay Ranch 1A	09/20/12	13:40	200.32		3231.85	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-61	Hay Ranch 1B	09/20/12	13:43	226.83		3205.02	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-62	Hay Ranch 1C	09/20/12	13:48	221.75		3209.75	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-70	Hay Ranch South	09/20/12	13:15	NM	No	NM	TEAM manual read	NA	1,916,848,829 gallons (5883 AF) pumped since 12/25/09
RV-80	Hay Ranch 2A	09/20/12	14:05	201.15		3231.85	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-81	Hay Ranch 2B	09/20/12	14:00	221.16		3211.47	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-82	Hay Ranch 2C	09/20/12	13:55	211.80		3220.30	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-90	Coso Jct Ranch	09/19/12	10:27	173.39		3229.74	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-100	Coso Jct Store #1	09/19/12	10:40	146.37		3225.75	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-110	Davis Ranch North Well	09/19/12	11:00	6.47		3886.53	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-111	Davis Ranch South Well	09/19/12	11:20	11.31		3886.75	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-112	Davis Ranch South Flow	09/19/12	11:27	NA	0.01	NA	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-120	Red Hill Well (BLM)	09/19/12	13:52	139.87		3200.96	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-130	G-36	09/19/12	13:35	180.57		3199.45	TEAM manual read	NA	
RV-140	Lego	09/19/12	13:28	222.52		3200.33	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-150	Cinder Road	09/19/12	12:12	191.05		3186.91	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-160	18-28 GTH	09/19/12	13:10	173.87		3188.71	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-170	Fossil Falls Campground	09/19/12	12:35	141.25		3175.52	TEAM manual read	NA	
RV-180	LLR North Well	09/20/12	10:14	40.42		3158.68	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-210	LLR Dock Well	09/20/12	9:57	6.86		3147.28	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-220	LLR Stilling Well (lake surface)	09/20/12	10:03	4.32		3146.72	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-230	LLR Little Lake Outflow	09/20/12	12:05	NA	0.00	NA	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-240	LLR Coso Springs Flow	09/20/12	11:55	NA	0.32	NA	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-245	LLR North Culvert Flow	09/20/12	12:20	NA	0.61	NA	TEAM manual read	Hourly	
RV-250	LLR Siphon Discharge	09/20/12	12:17	NA	Yes	NA	TEAM visual read	NA	Siphon Well flowing into Pond 2
RV-260	LLR Hotel Well	09/20/12	9:45	1.11		3137.67	TEAM manual read	Hourly	

NM - not measured; NA - not applicable; IO - Inoperative

DTW - Depth to water in feet (ft) below top of casing or other reference point; a negative DTW indicates that the groundwater elevation is above the surveyed reference point

Flow - In cubic feet per second (cfs)

GWE- Groundwater elevation in feet above mean sea level (ft amsl)



**TABLE 2**Hay Ranch Project Groundwater Baselines and Trigger Levels
September 2012

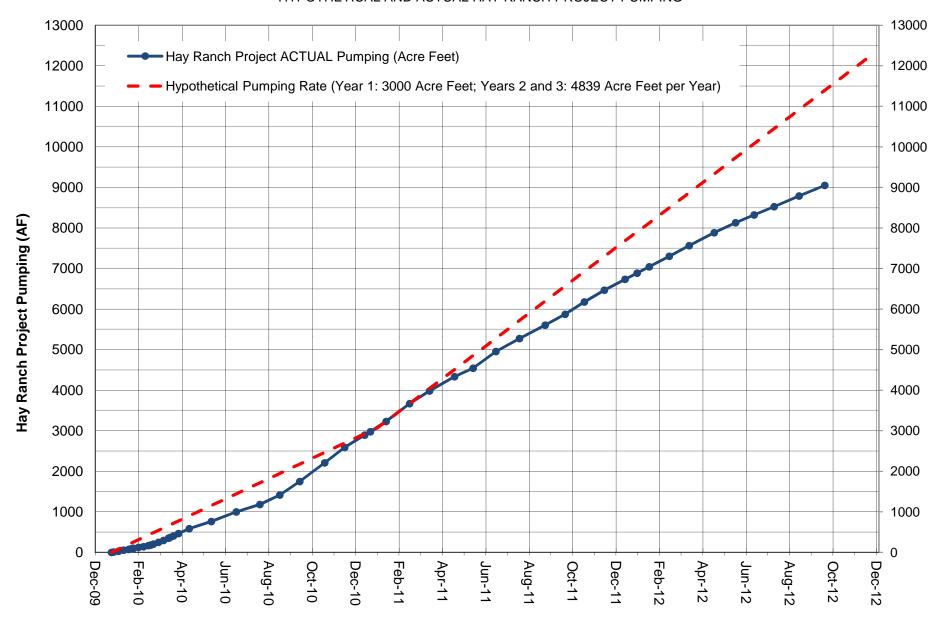
Well ID	Monitoring Point	Baseline GWE <sup>1</sup>	Recent Date	Recent GWE	Recent GWE	Recent GWE	Trigger Level	Recent GWE
		(feet amsl)	of Measurement	(feet amsl)	Compared to Baseline (feet)	Above Max DD <sup>2</sup> (feet)	At Cessation of Pumping (feet)	Compared to Trigger Level (feet)
RV-40	Dunmovin	3252.73	09/20/12	3243.56	-9.17	14.13	23.2	14.03
RV-80	HR 2A	3240.92	09/20/12	3231.85	-9.07	18.53	27.6	18.53
RV-90	Coso Jct Ranch	3230.65	09/19/12	3229.74	-0.91	10.79	11.3	10.39
RV-100	Coso Jct Store #1	3227.59	09/19/12	3225.75	-1.84	8.26	9.5	7.66
RV-120	Red Hill Well	3200.66	09/19/12	3200.96	0.30	4.20	1.8	2.10
RV-130	G-36	3198.35	09/19/12	3199.45	1.10	4.50	1.0	2.10
RV-140	Lego	3199.21	09/19/12	3200.33	1.12	3.42	0.0	1.12
RV-150	Cinder Road	3186.92	09/19/12	3186.91	-0.01	2.29	0.2	0.19
RV-160	18-28 GTH	3187.67	09/19/12	3188.71	1.04	3.14	0.0	1.04
RV-180	LLR North Well	3158.88	09/20/12	3158.68	-0.20	1.10	0.0	-0.20

<sup>1)</sup> GWE: Groundwater elevation measured in feet above mean sea level. Baseline GWEs set January 2010 and March 2011 and approved by Inyo County Water Department

<sup>2)</sup> Max DD: Maximum Acceptable Drawdown from Table 2 of "Addendum to HMMP for CUP#2007-003/Coso Operating Company, LLC"

<sup>3)</sup> Trigger Level at Cessation of Pumping from Table 2 of "Addendum to HMMP for CUP#2007-003/Coso Operating Company, LLC"

FIGURE 1 HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL HAY RANCH PROJECT PUMPING



TEAM