

ELY SHOSHONE INDIAN RESERVATION

LOCATION

The Ely Shoshone Indian Reservation (Reservation) is located near the town of Ely in White Pine County, in east central Nevada. The Reservation is comprised of three separate parcels covering approximately 111 acres in the Steptoe Valley hydrographic basin (Exhibit 4502).

ESTABLISHMENT OF RESERVATION

The Ely Reservation was established by an Act of Congress in 1930 (46 Stat. 820) (Exhibit 4503). Subsequent Acts added lands in 1931 (46 Stat. 1122) (Exhibit 4504) and 1977 (91 Stat. 1406) (Exhibit 4505). All of these lands are held in trust by the United States on behalf of the Ely Shoshone Indian Tribe. The Tribe is pursuing additional lands located southwest and southeast of the existing tribal lands.

ENVIRONMENT

The Reservation is primarily developed as residential, industrial, or commercial areas. If the Tribe succeeds in obtaining additional trust lands, other land uses may be developed.

WATER RESOURCES

The Reservation receives its municipal and domestic water from the town of Ely. If the Tribe succeeds in obtaining additional trust lands, other land uses may be pursued that require the Tribe to develop their own water resources.

Water Rights

The Tribe's water rights have not been adjudicated by an appropriate court. At present, the Tribe has not developed its own water resources on its current land base. If the Tribe obtains additional trust lands, developed water resources and water rights may be needed to develop the lands.

DUCKWATER INDIAN RESERVATION

LOCATION

The Duckwater Indian Reservation (Reservation) is located in Nye County, Nevada in east central Nevada. The Reservation lies in Duckwater Valley which is a part of the Railroad Valley hydrographic basin (Exhibit 4506).

ESTABLISHMENT OF RESERVATION

The Reservation was established under the Proclamation of November 13, 1940 (Exhibit 4507). The United States purchased approximately 3,240 acres to be held in trust for the Shoshone Indians of Duckwater Valley. Subsequent purchases of ranch lands have increased the Reservation's current size to approximately 3,855 acres.

ENVIRONMENT

The Reservation is located in Duckwater Valley a north-trending alluvial basin bounded on the west by the Pancake Range and on the east by the White Pine Mountains. The Reservation is situated near the valley bottom and consists of irrigated and range lands along Duckwater Creek. The Tribe also utilizes rangeland located on Bureau of Land Management land in the Pancake Range Use Area which borders the Reservation to the west.

WATER RESOURCES

Surface Water

The primary surface water on the Reservation is Duckwater Creek which originates from a large thermal spring located on the Reservation and flows through the Reservation. The waters from Duckwater Creek are used for irrigation purposes on the Reservation.

Groundwater

The Reservation is underlain by unconsolidated and consolidated alluvial material which yields groundwater to most wells on the Reservation. Carbonate rocks occur at depth and are likely the source for the thermal springs, Big Warm Spring and Little Warm Spring. The Big Warm Spring and Little Warm Spring discharges approximately 11,000 acre-feet per year and is the primary source of Duckwater Creek with other smaller springs contributing to the flow (Prudic and others, 1993) (Exhibit 4508). The Reservation is considered to be within the Railroad Valley flow system of the regional carbonate-rock aquifer system, as described by Prudic and others (1993) (Exhibit 4508).

Water Rights

Through the purchases of ranches for the creation of the Duckwater Indian Reservation, the Tribe has acquired both decreed and state-permitted water rights. The Tribe has approximately 7,000 acre-feet per year of decreed water rights from Duckwater Creek. In addition, the Tribe also has several state based water rights for springs located in the Pancake Range Use Area for the livestock purposes as listed below.

Water Source	Application No.	Certificate No.	Diversion Rate (CFS)	Annual Duty (MGA)
Young Florio Spring	6769	1220	0.025	5.898
Nevada Governor Spring	7577	1236	0.02	4.72
Pogue Wells	7578	1237	0.02	4.72
Rye Grass Spring	7579	1238	0.02	4.72
Little Nevada Spring	7580	1239	0.02	4.72
Butte Station Spring	9420	1992	0.0045	1.062
Moody Spring	9421	1993	0.011	2.595
Mahogany Spring	9422	1994	0.0016	0.365
Portuguese Spring	9423	1995	0.0067	1.58
McClure Spring	9424	1996	0.011	2.595
Sand Spring	9425	1997	0.0156	3.68
Big Louis Spring	9426	1998	0.009	2.099
Cook Tank Spring	9427	1999	0.004	1.58

Note:

CFS – Cubic Feet per Second

MGA – Million Gallons Annually

GOSHUTE INDIAN RESERVATION

LOCATION

The Goshute Indian reservation (Reservation) is located in White Pine County, Nevada in east central Nevada and in Juab and Tooele counties in west central Utah. The Reservation lies in the southern one-third of Deep Creek Valley, a portion of Tippett Valley to the west and Pleasant Valley (Snake Valley) to the south (Exhibit 4509).

ESTABLISHMENT OF RESERVATION

The Treaty of 1863 (13 Stat. 681-684) (Exhibit 4510) between the United States and the Goshute Shoshone Indians defined the natural boundaries of their lands in Nevada and Utah. The Reservation was created by Executive Order No. 1539 (Exhibit 4511) in 1912 and Executive Order No. 1903 (Exhibit 4512) in 1914. Subsequent additions to the Reservation were by purchases of local ranches and public domain land. The current reservation lands total over 112,000 acres and are held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Goshute Shoshone Indians.

ENVIRONMENT

The Reservation is located along the southwestern slopes of the Deep Creek Mountains and the alluvial basins to the west including Deep Creek Valley and Tippett Valley. The Deep Creek Mountains are a north-to-northeast trending mountain range. The mountains have a complex structural history, and mainly are comprised of Precambrian metamorphic through Paleozoic sedimentary rocks, including carbonates, with igneous intrusives.

The Deep Creek Mountains are also known for an abundant and varied assortment of plant and animal species. Of special interest are the rare Bonneville cutthroat trout and ancient bristlecone pine trees found in the region. The mountains also support several plant and animal species that are found nowhere else.

WATER RESOURCES

Surface Water

The primary surface water on the Reservation is the Deep Creek system which originates in the Deep Creek Mountains along the eastern boundary of the Reservation. The Deep Creek system is comprised of two main streams, Spring Creek and the east fork of Deep Creek, which eventually join downstream near Ibapah to form the mainstem Deep Creek. In the upper reaches of the east fork of Deep Creek, the perennial tributaries of Fifteenmile, Steve's and Sam's Creeks contribute much of the flow to Deep Creek. These perennial streams obtain most of their water directly or indirectly from precipitation mainly at high altitudes and when combined with intermittent flow in other

mountain streams provides the principal source of surface water for irrigation and groundwater recharge to the Deep Creek Valley (Hood, et al, 1969) (Exhibit 4513). The flow of Deep Creek near Ibapah is also augmented by numerous springs in the valley. The source and flow of these springs is uncertain due to a general lack of data. Spring Creek drains much of the western portion of the Goshute Reservation, but the primary source is a spring near the community of Goshute.

Groundwater

Within Deep Creek Valley, most of the groundwater occurs in the basin fill aquifer and is under confined conditions. Precipitation falling on the Deep Creek Mountains along the eastern edge of the valley provides much of the recharge to the alluvial system. The Tribe's municipal system receives its water from wells which are believed to be completed in the basin fill aquifer. In the past several artesian wells have been drilled on the Reservation for stock and irrigation purposes, although several of these are currently not in operation.

Carbonate rocks underlie the basin fill deposits in Deep Creek Valley, although the extent and distribution is unknown. An oil test well, north of the Reservation encountered water in carbonate rocks at 800 feet below land surface (Hood, et al, 1969) (Exhibit 4513). The Reservation is within a regional carbonate-rock aquifer flow system (Bonneville) where the primary direction of flow is towards the Great Salt Lake (Prudic and others, 1993) (Exhibit 4508).

On the Reservation several springs discharge from consolidated bedrock and contribute to the flows of the streams of the Deep Creek system. Spring Creek is supplied by a spring issuing from carbonate-rocks southwest of the community of Goshute. Some springs yield water that is warmer than the average annual air temperature, indicating the source of the water may be from a deeper source than recharge from the nearby mountains (Hood, et al, 1969) (Exhibit 4513).

Water Rights

The Tribe has 1905 decreed surface water rights along the Deep Creek system in Utah. The Tribe has also acquired existing senior state water rights in Nevada from the purchase of ranches. Two such water rights are Application for Permit Nos. 2316 and 9248 (Exhibit 4514). Both applications are for Spring Creek, which is fed by a spring. These water rights are still in the name of the previous ranch owner and have not been transferred into the name of the United States/Tribe. The BIA is researching other possible state-permitted water rights that may have been acquired in previous ranch purchases during the creation or enlargement of the Reservation.