

Peer Review Summary Document

(1/23/2017)

Peer Review Plan

<https://www.usgs.gov/atom/73826> [18 KB PDF].

Title and Authorship of Information Product Disseminated

Brackish Groundwater Resources Assessment of the United States, By Jennifer S. Stanton, David W. Anning, Craig J. Brown, Richard B. Moore, Virginia L. McGuire, Sharon L. Qi, Alta C. Harris, Kevin F. Dennehy, Peter B. McMahon, James R. Degnan, and John Karl Böhlke.

Peer Reviewers Expertise and Credentials

Peer Reviewer #1 holds a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering and a Professional Engineering license in the State of Colorado. The reviewer has substantial experience in surface and groundwater resource management, advanced water treatment techniques, and use of nontraditional water supplies for inclusion in the Federal water management portfolio for the Western United States.

Peer Reviewer #2 holds an M.S. in hydrology and has extensive experience in geochemical and statistical analysis of groundwater quality in the Southwest and across the Nation.

Peer Reviewer #3 holds a Ph.D. in geological sciences and has substantial experience in geochemistry and hydrogeology.

Charge Submitted to Peer Reviewers

The reviewers were asked to make an objective evaluation of the study methods, results, and conclusions described in the report.

Summary of Peer Reviewers Comments

Reviewers #1 and #2 found no substantial technical issues, but provided comments to enhance the clarity of the report. Reviewer #3 expressed concern that language regarding the spatial and statistical presentation of brackish groundwater volumes was confusing and potentially misleading.

Summary of USGS Response to Peer Reviewers Comments

The authors accepted virtually all suggestions from the reviewers and made revisions to the manuscript accordingly, as appropriate. In response to Reviewer #3's concern, the authors changed the terminology throughout the report to convey the study results in a more understandable manner.

The Dissemination

The published information product will be released in a USGS Professional Paper publication series and will be available at <https://pubs.usgs.gov/>.