

Mono Basin Statistics

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DEPTH OF MONO LAKE

Maximum = 160 feet. Average = 58 feet.

AGE OF MONO LAKE

At least 760,000 years old; among the oldest lakes in North America.

VOLUME OF MONO LAKE

4.3 million acre-feet at 6,417 feet above sea level (in 1941 before diversions)
3.0 million acre-feet at 6,392 feet above sea level (future stabilization level)
2.6 million acre-feet at 6,384 feet above sea level (2001 level)
2.1 million acre-feet at 6,372 feet above sea level (1982, lowest recorded level)

LAKE LEVEL

The lake level before the diversions of Mono's tributary streams was 6,417 feet above sea level. The current lake level is 6383.9 feet above sea level (1,946 meters), its volume is approximately 2.6 million acre feet, and its surface area is approximately 45,500 acres. It is expected to take about 15-20 years to reach 6,392 feet above sea level, the Water

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No

diversions are allowed if the lake drops below 6,388. Diversion of 10,000 acre-feet is allowed when the lake is between 6,388 and 6,391. All water (estimated to be on average 30,800 acre-feet) in excess of required stream flows (89,000 acre-feet) is allowed to be diverted when Mono Lake is above 6,391. If the lake hasn't reached 6,392 by the year 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board will re-examine the situation.

USEFUL CONVERSION FACTORS FOR WATER

English

1 million gallons = 3.0689 acre-feet
1 acre-foot covers 1 acre of land 1 foot deep
1 acre-foot = 325,850 gallons* = 43,560 cubic feet
1 cubic foot = 7.4804 gallons
1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 448.82 gallons per minute (gpm)
1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 646,310 gallons per day (gpd)*
1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 1.9835 acre-feet per day
1 cubic foot per second (cfs) = 723.97 acre-feet per year

Metric to English

1 liter = 0.26417 gallons
1 cubic meter = 35.315 cubic feet
1 cubic dekameter = 0.8107 acre-feet
1 cubic hm = 810.7 acre-feet
1 milligram per liter (mg/L) = 1 part per million (ppm)
*Only rely on the accuracy of these numbers to 5 significant figures.

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