



Site Description

Whisky Flat

(updated 2010)

Geologic setting:

Geothermal features:

In 1974, a BLM well was measured at 43.3°C (Trexler et al., 1981 and Garside et al., 1994) in the southern end of Whisky Flat (38.28012 N, 118.57076 W; NAD83). The reservoir temperature is estimated to be 53.2°C (Na-K-Ca-Mg) and 57.4°C (chalcedony). By 2008, UNR samplers found the well dry with a rusted borehole and disintegrating trough. Nearby wells at Whisky Flat Ranch are located behind a padlocked gate, though a 13.1°C well was accessible along the ranch's southern boundary.

UNR staff sampled Whisky Spring (16.8°C) in the northern end of the valley, which flows 100m downslope into 4 ponds. The spring has no visible outgassing and no salt crusts nearby. Geothermometer values are moderate, at 77.7°C (Na-Ca-K-Mg) and 75.1°C (chalcedony). Location coordinates are 118.54008 W, 38.37147 N (NAD83).

Amax Exploration Co. drilled 9 temperature-gradient drill holes, in 9 different sections, in and near Whisky Flat (GeothermEx, 2004). Only one hole is deeper than 49 m, and it has the highest bottom-hole temperature, 41.7°C (SMU; Richards and Blackwell, 2002). Location: 38.31°N, 118.56°W.

Leasing information:

Garside et al., 1994 OF94-2