

Table 5. Composition of native plant communities, ground-water-level and precipitation data, and range in evapotranspiration estimates at vegetation study sites in the Owens Valley, California

[nc, not collected; —, not available; USGS, U.S. Geological Survey. Vegetation data from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (R.H. Rawson, written commun., 1984, 1987); evapotranspiration estimates from Duell, 1990. Estimated annual evapotranspiration from the saturated ground-water system equals average annual evapotranspiration for 1984–85 minus annual precipitation for 1984]

Site designation (figure 2 and table 1)	Well number (table 1)	Native high-ground-water plant community (table 3)	Most common plant types					Annual evapotranspiration for 1984–85 (inches)			Estimated annual evapotranspiration from the saturated ground-water system for 1984–85 (inches)
			Common name	Percentage of total vegetation	Total vegetative cover (percent)	Range of ground-water levels for 1984 (feet below land surface)	Annual precipitation for 1984 (inches)	Maximum	Average	Minimum	
A	USGS 1	Alkaline meadow.	Alkali sacaton...	43	42	10.5–15.5	nc	33.6	32.3	30.9	—
			Russian thistle ..	22							
C	USGS 2	Alkaline meadow.	Saltgrass	34	35	10.2–11.4	5.9	21.8	18.5	14.8	12.6
			Rubber rabbitbrush.	25							
E	USGS 3	Alkaline scrub.	Rubber rabbitbrush.	24	26	10.2–10.9	nc	23.6	23.6	23.5	—
			Alkali sacaton...	23							
			Mormon tea	8							
F	USGS 5	Alkaline scrub.	Saltgrass	34	24	8.0–9.0	6.3	18.9	15.2	11.9	8.9
			Greasewood	27							
G	USGS 6	Alkaline meadow.	Saltgrass	30	33	7.1–8.9	nc	25.8	24.3	22.8	—
			Alkali sacaton...	13							
			Rubber rabbitbrush.	9							
J	USGS 7	Alkaline meadow.	Nevada saltbush.	29	50	4.7–7.2	nc	33.0	32.0	31.0	—
			Alkali sacaton...	21							
			Rubber rabbitbrush.	16							
L	USGS 10 ..	Alkaline meadow.	Saltgrass	20	72	.1–3.9	3.1	44.8	40.5	33.1	37.4
			Alkali sacaton...	17							
			Baltic rush	15							