Table 10. Ground-water budget for the aquifer system of the Owens Valley, California [1]

[Values in acre-feet per year. Positive numbers indicate recharge to the aquifer system; negative numbers ( ) indicate discharge from the aquifer system]

Component	Average values		Likely range of average values for water years 1970–84	
	Water years 1963–69	Water years 1970–84	Minimum	Maximum
Precipitation...	2,000	2,000	0	5,000
Evapotranspiration...	(112,000)	(72,000)	(50,000)	(90,000)
Tributary streams..	106,000	103,000	90,000	115,000
Mountain-front recharge between tributary streams	26,000	26,000	15,000	35,000
Runoff from bedrock outcrops within the valley fill	1,000	1,000	0	2,000
Owens River and Los Angeles Aqueduct system:				
Channel seepage...	(16,000)	(3,000)	0	(20,000)
Spillgates...	6,000	6,000	3,000	10,000
Lower Owens River...	(5,000)	(3,000)	(1,000)	(8,000)
Reservoirs and small lakes	1,000	1,000	(5,000)	5,000
Canals, ditches, and ponds	32,000	31,000	15,000	60,000
Irrigation and watering of livestock..................................	18,000	10,000	5,000	20,000
Pumped and flowing wells.....................................	(20,000)	(98,000)	(90,000)	(110,000)
Springs and seeps	(26,000)	(6,000)	(4,000)	(10,000)
Underflow:				
Into the aquifer system......................................	4,000	4,000	3,000	10,000
Out of the aquifer system	(10,000)	(10,000)	(5,000)	(20,000)
Total recharge..	196,000	184,000	170,000	210,000
Total discharge..	(189,000)	(192,000)	(175,000)	(225,000)
Change in ground-water storage[2].............................	7,000	(8,000)	(5,000)	(15,000)

[1] Values of water-budget components for individual years may vary considerably from the average values presented in this table. Uncertainties in the measurement and estimation of each water-budget component for water years 1970–84 are reflected in the likely range of average values. The likely ranges for total recharge, total discharge, and change in ground-water storage are estimated separately for the overall aquifer system and are somewhat less than what would be computed by summing the individual ranges for respective water-budget components.

[2] Positive change in storage indicates water going into ground-water storage; negative ( ) change in storage indicates water coming out of ground-water storage.