

# Piezometer Monitoring Protocol

Last Revised 10/3/02

Record on the data sheet your name, the date, the weather, and the times you measure the first and last piezometer. Under comments, note anything of interest, including wildlife sightings, recent weather conditions, and factors affecting your measurements.

## **AT EACH PIEZOMETER**

Remove the cap. The name of the piezometer (“C4” for example) is located on the inside. There is a black mark on the side where the measurement is to be read.

Extend a measuring tape into the piezometer until it reaches the water surface at the bottom. If there is no water, write “dry” in the place provided for the measurement.

Pull the tape out slightly until the end is out of the water again (you can shake it to see if the water moves) and position the tape so that it extends vertically as straight as possible down from the black mark. Press the tape against the inside edge of the piezometer on the black mark and move it to the nearest  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch mark. While holding it there, shake the tape to see if it moves the water. If not, extend the tape another  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, and shake the tape again. Continue this process until you see the water move, then write the measurement in decimal inches (rounded to the nearest 0.25 inch) on the data sheet.

In some cases roots or other floating objects may complicate the procedure above. If the tape hits an object protruding from the water, even though it isn't reaching the water surface it will cause the water to move. If possible, try to shake the tape where it is touching only the water. Sometimes this is difficult, and in these cases you can write what your best guess is and put “approx.” next to it.

In some cases the tape will move the water when it hits the side of the piezometer, but will not reach the water otherwise. This is probably due to water adhering higher on the sides, and you should extend the tape another  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch so that it reaches the water away from the side.

**IMPORTANT:** When you put the plastic cap back on the piezometer, do not close it tightly! Place the cap GENTLY on top and cock it at an angle. This way it will be easy to remove next time.

## **LEE VINING CREEK ONLY**

There are four green metal stakes in the creek channels, CMAIN, CA-4, BMAIN, and BA-4 (see map and data sheet). These are in line with the B and C lines of piezometers. Measure the distance from the top of the stake to the water level along the length of the stake. Measure to the surface of the eddy on the downstream side of the stake. Write “dry” if the water doesn't reach the stake. Round your measurement to the nearest  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and write it in decimal form.