

Well-Numbering System

Wells are located according to the system of common subdivision of sectionized land used throughout the State by the U.S. Geological Survey. The number of each well consists of four segments separated by periods and locates the well's position to the nearest 10-acre tract of land. The segments denote, respectively, the township south of the New Mexico base line, the range east of the New Mexico principal meridian, the section, and the particular 10-acre tract within the section.

The fourth segment of the number consists of three digits denoting, respectively, the quarter section or approximate 160-acre tract, the quadrant (approximately 40 acres in size) of the quarter section, and the quadrant (approximately 10 acres in size) of the 40-acre tract in which the well is located. The system of numbering quarter sections and quadrants, which is done in reading order, as well as the usual numbering of sections within a township is shown below. For example, well 22S.4E.1.431 is located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, section 1, Township 22 South, Range 4 East. If more than one well has the same location number, the letter "a" is assigned to the second well, the letter "b" to the third well, and so on.

