

# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

CHRISTI CRADDICK, *CHAIRMAN*  
WAYNE CHRISTIAN, *COMMISSIONER*  
JIM WRIGHT, *COMMISSIONER*

**INTERNAL**  
OIL AND GAS DIVISION  
CLAY WOODUL  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS

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## MEMORANDUM

August 9, 2023

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Chairman Christi Craddick  
Commissioner Wayne Christian  
Commissioner Jim Wright

**FROM:** Clay Woodul  
Assistant Director, Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations

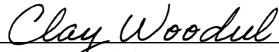
**SUBJECT:** Field Operations Section  
Monthly Report of State Managed Well Plugging Activities  
July 2023, FY 2023

Attached is the monthly report titled "State Managed Well Plugging Activities" for the Field Operations Section of the Oil and Gas Division. This report contains the following:

1. Monthly and cumulative performance measure summaries of the state managed well plugging activities of this Section.
2. Summary graphs of wells plugged, cost of wells plugged, number of salvage operations, and salvage proceeds.

The information contained in this report includes only those wells that have been physically plugged, invoiced by the plugging contractor, and approved for payment by Field Operations. Plugging operations are tracked daily to monitor the progress in meeting the FY 2023 goal of plugging 1,800 wells. As of July 31, 2023, a total of 1624 wells have been physically plugged, though not all of them have yet been invoiced and approved for payment.

KCW  
Attachments

  
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Clay Woodul  
Assistant Director, Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations

cc: (via email)  
Wei Wang, Executive Director  
Danny Sorrells, Director, Oil & Gas Division  
Megan Neal, Director, Office of General Counsel-Enforcement  
Paul Delaney, Internal Auditor  
R.J. DeSilva, Director Communications  
Jarred Shaffer, Office of the Governor  
District Directors

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations Section  
Monthly State Managed Plugging Activities  
July 2023

Outcome Measure: Percentage of Known Orphaned Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds (State Managed Plugging/Orphaned Wells).

July	1.41 %
Fiscal Year-to-date	18.8 %
Performance Measure Goal	15.5 %

Output Measure: Number of Orphaned Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds.

July	112
Fiscal Year-to-date	1,489
Performance Measure Goal	1,000

Output Measure: Total Aggregate Plugging Depth of Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds.

July	200,990
Fiscal Year-to-date	3,313,004
Performance Measure Goal	2,000,000

Efficiency Measure: Average Number of Days to complete a State Managed Well Plugging. From Contract Award Date

July	58.4
Fiscal Year-to-date	33.4
Performance Measure Goal	50

Explanatory Measure: Number of Orphaned Wells Approved for Plugging with the Use of State Funds.

July	117
Fiscal Year-to-date	1,782
Performance Measure Goal	1,000

Explanatory Measure: Number of Known Orphaned Wells in Non-compliance with the Commission's Plugging Rule.

July	7,925
Performance Measure Goal	6,500

Explanatory Measure: Number of Wells Plugged, by Operators, Without the Use of State Funds.

July	551
Fiscal Year-to-date	6,070
Performance Measure Goal	6,500

Explanatory measure: Percentage of Active Well Operators Who Have More Than 25% of Their Wells Inactive.

July	46.9 %
Performance Measure Goal	47.5 %

Explanatory measure: Numbered shut-in/inactive wells.

July	143,776
Performance Measure Goal	140,000

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**

**Monthly State-Funded Plugging, Pollution Abatement and Salvage Activities**  
**Commissioners Report**  
**07/01/2023 to 07/31/2023**

**State-Funded Plugging Activities**

Number of wells approved for plugging this month	117
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 3,301,419.00
Number of wells approved for this fiscal year	1782
Number of approved wells remaining to plug	2645
Estimated cost to plug remaining approvals	\$ 109,541,524.14
Number of pluggings completed this month	112
Total cost to plug wells completed this month	\$ 6,237,522.64
Number of pluggings completed this fiscal year	1489
Cost of pluggings completed this fiscal year	\$ 46,751,204.17

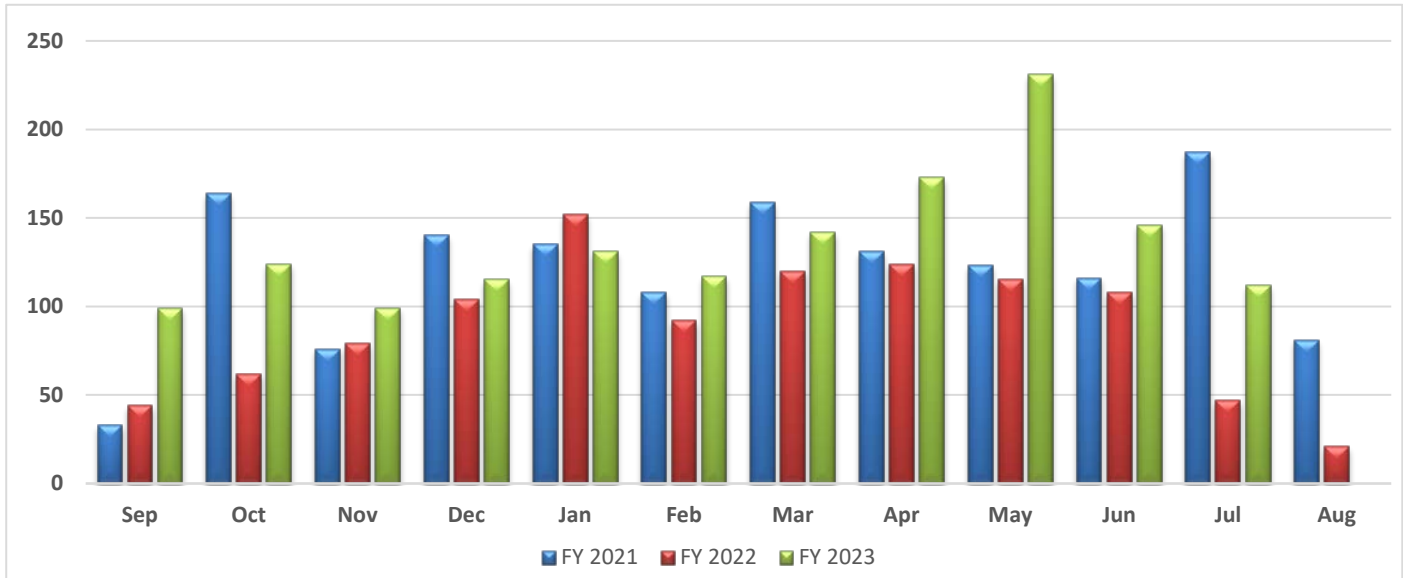
**Pollution Abatement Activities**

Number of pollution abatements approved this month	4
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 160,000.00
Number of pollution abatements approved for this fiscal year	53
Number of pollution abatements remaining	61
Estimated cost to pollution abatements remaining	\$ 545,860.00
Number of pollution abatements completed this month	7
Total cost of pollution abatements completed this month	\$ 8,570.80
Number of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	35
Cost of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	\$ 1,864,240.79

**Salvage Activities**

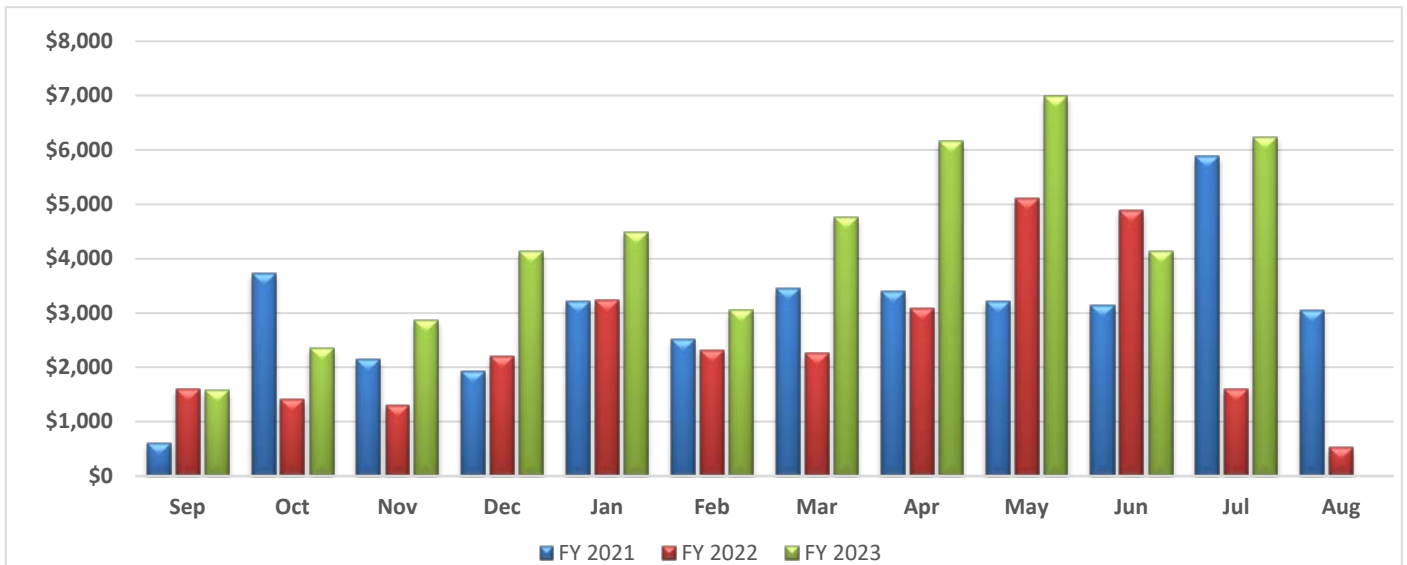
Number of salvage activities completed this month	45
Total proceeds received this month	\$ 218,099.50
Number of salvage activities completed this fiscal year	346
Total proceeds received this year	\$ 2,504,143.58

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Wells Plugged July 2023



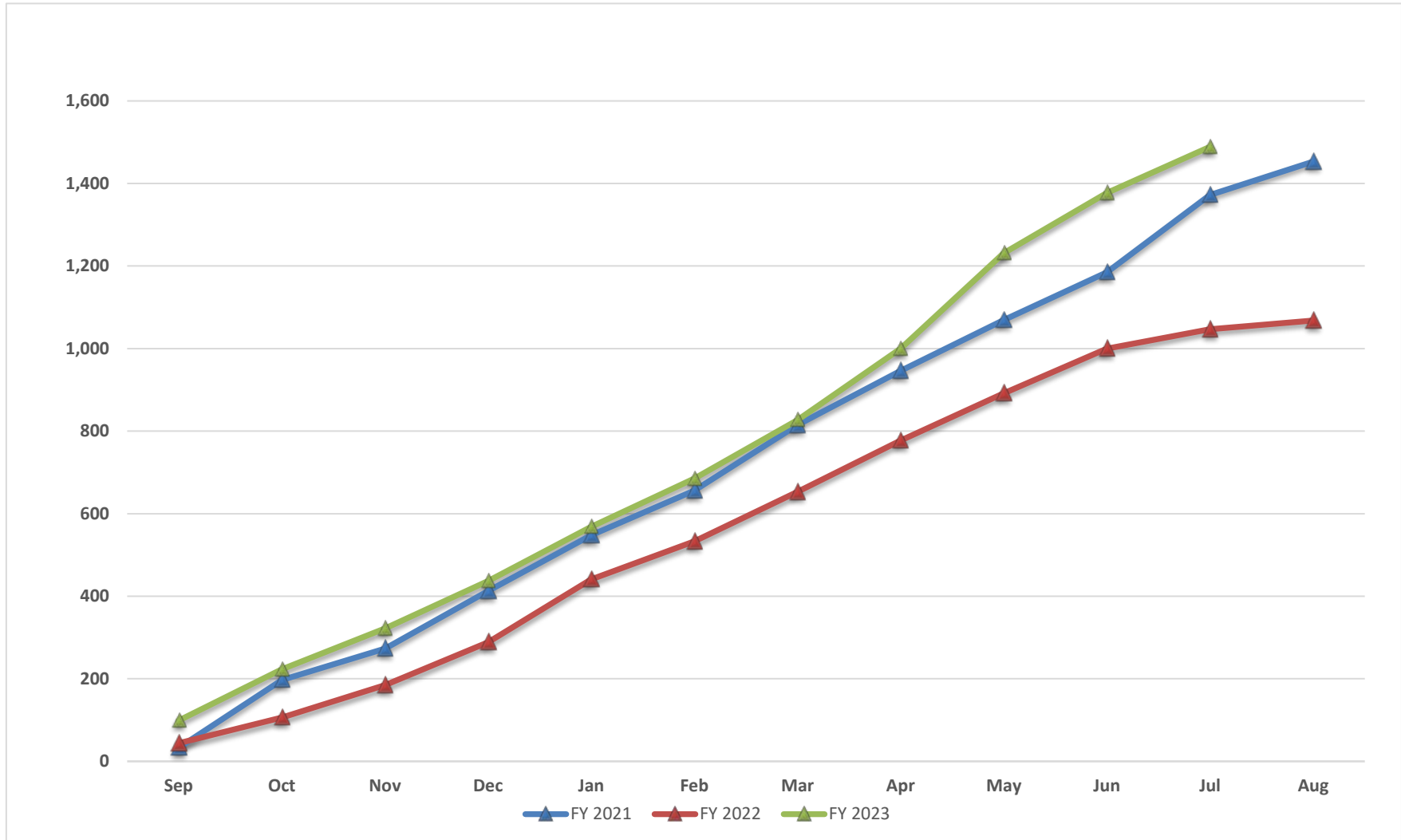
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2021	33	164	76	140	135	108	159	131	123	116	187	81	1,453
FY 2022	44	62	79	104	152	92	120	124	115	108	47	21	1,068
FY 2023	99	124	99	115	131	117	142	173	231	146	112		1,489

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Cost of Wells Plugged July 2023



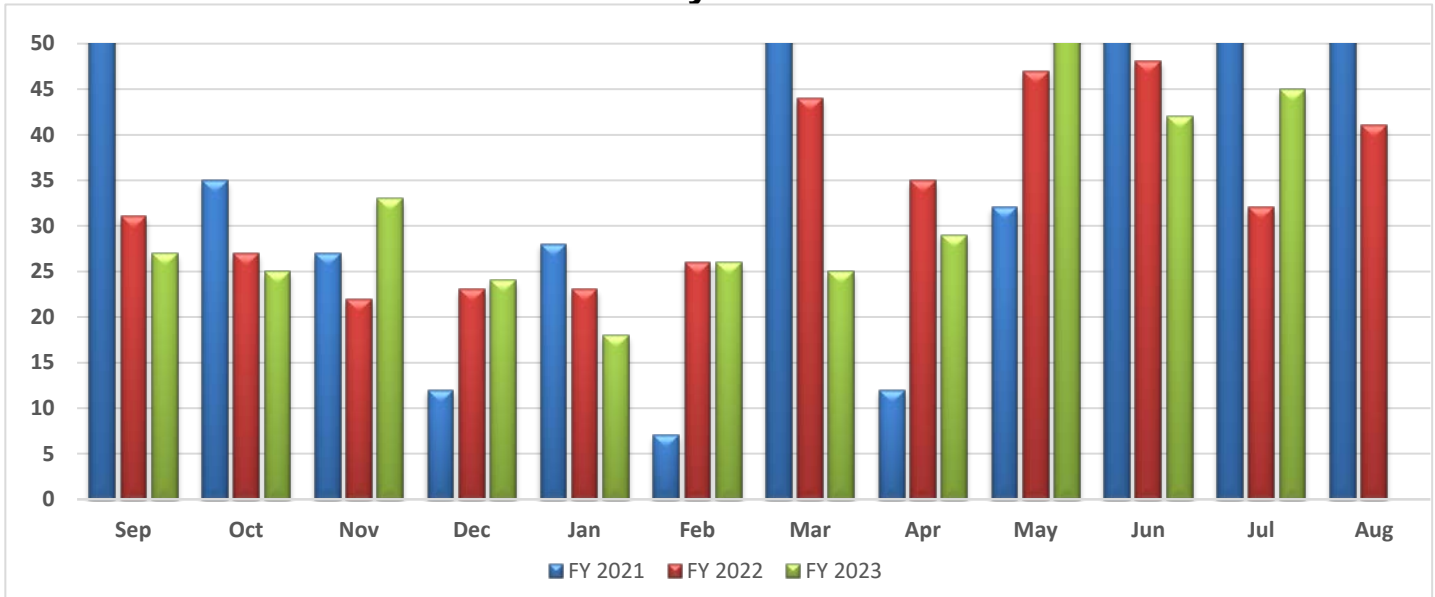
\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2021	\$611	\$3,723	\$2,143	\$1,935	\$3,222	\$2,526	\$3,449	\$3,393	\$3,227	\$3,137	\$5,880	\$3,041	\$36,288
FY 2022	\$1,592	\$1,418	\$1,293	\$2,212	\$3,245	\$2,320	\$2,253	\$3,097	\$5,109	\$4,886	\$1,593	\$523	\$29,541
FY 2023	\$1,578	\$2,360	\$2,858	\$4,132	\$4,478	\$3,051	\$4,766	\$6,164	\$6,985	\$4,142	\$6,238		\$46,751

# State Managed Well Plugging Program Cumulative Wells Plugged July 2023



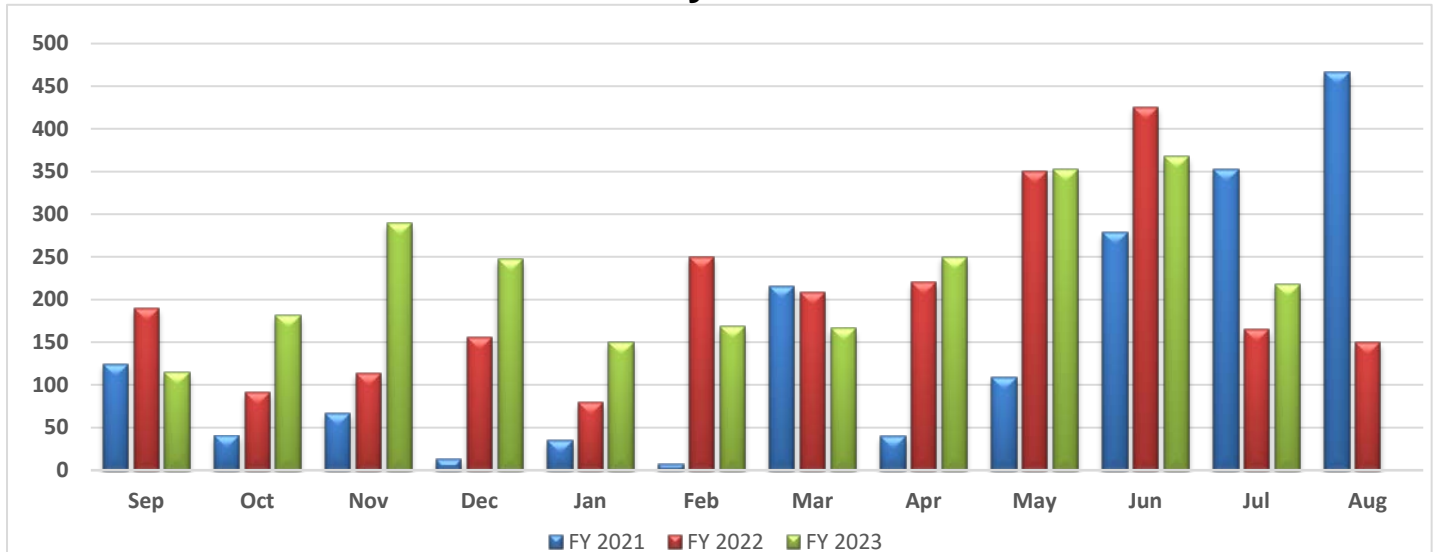
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>FY 2021</b>	33	197	273	413	548	656	815	946	1,069	1,185	1,372	1,453
<b>FY 2022</b>	44	106	185	289	441	533	653	777	892	1,000	1,047	1,068
<b>FY 2023</b>	99	223	322	437	568	685	827	1,000	1,231	1,377	1,489	

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Operations July 2023



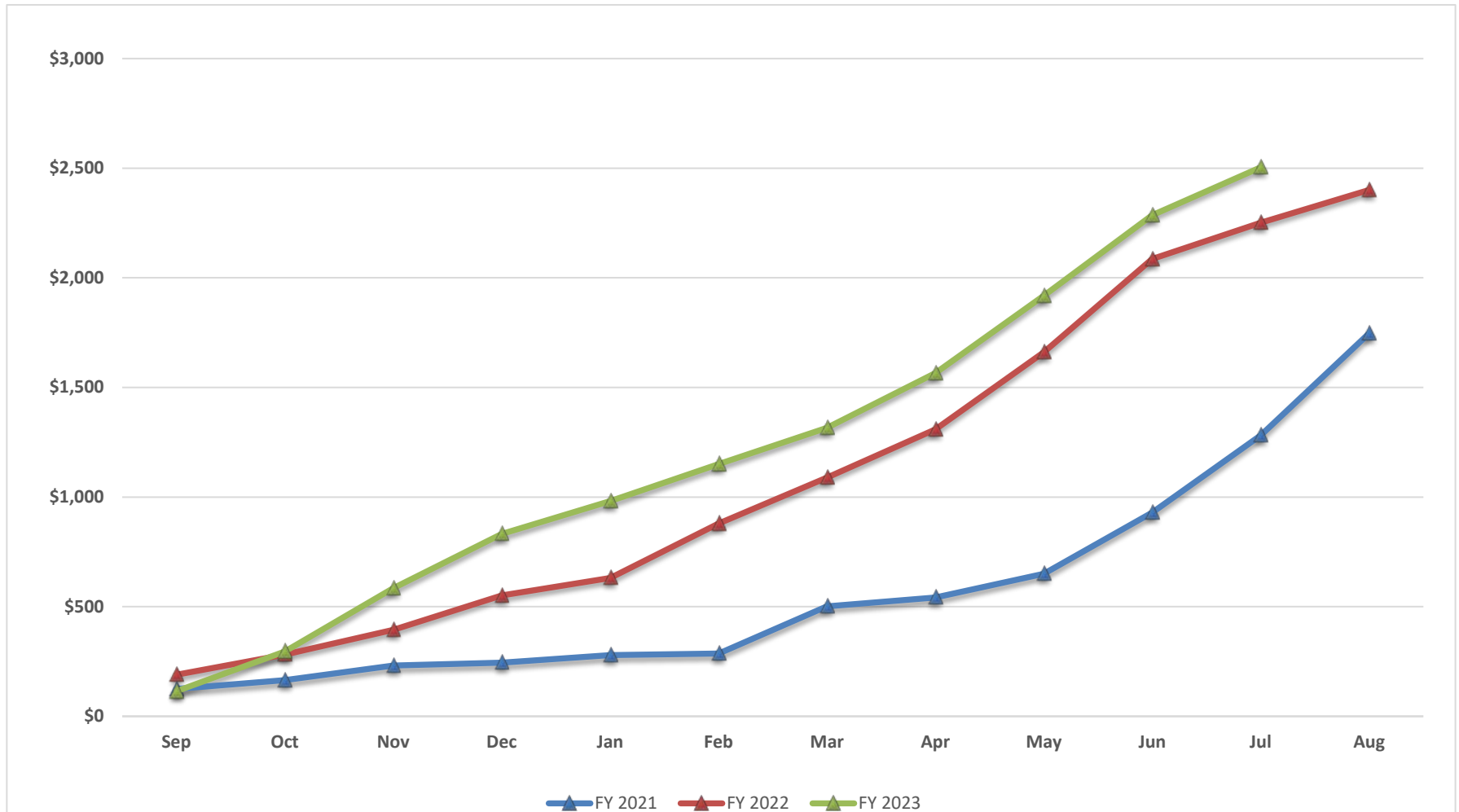
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
<b>FY 2021</b>	75	35	27	12	28	7	69	12	32	76	88	89	550
<b>FY 2022</b>	31	27	22	23	23	26	44	35	47	48	32	41	399
<b>FY 2023</b>	27	25	33	24	18	26	25	29	52	42	45		346

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Proceeds July 2023



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
<b>FY 2021</b>	\$125	\$40	\$67	\$13	\$35	\$7	\$216	\$40	\$109	\$279	\$353	\$466	\$1,748
<b>FY 2022</b>	\$190	\$91	\$114	\$156	\$79	\$250	\$209	\$220	\$351	\$426	\$165	\$150	\$2,401
<b>FY 2023</b>	\$114	\$182	\$289	\$247	\$150	\$169	\$166	\$250	\$353	\$367	\$218		\$2,504

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Cumulative Salvage Proceeds July 2023



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
FY 2021	\$125	\$165	\$232	\$244	\$279	\$286	\$502	\$542	\$650	\$929	\$1,282	\$1,747
FY 2022	\$190	\$281	\$395	\$551	\$631	\$880	\$1,089	\$1,309	\$1,660	\$2,086	\$2,251	\$2,401
FY 2023	\$114	\$296	\$585	\$832	\$982	\$1,150	\$1,316	\$1,566	\$1,919	\$2,286	\$2,504	