

# 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

April 15, 2024

**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  
March 2024, FY 2024

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 2024 goal of plugging 1,800 wells. As of March 31, 2024, a total of 701 wells have been physically plugged, though not all of them have yet been invoiced and approved for payment.

KCW  
Attachments

*for Keith May*  
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  
March 2024

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

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| March                    | 0.77 % |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 7.77 % |
| Performance Measure Goal | 20.0 % |

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

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| March                    | 66    |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 667   |
| Performance Measure Goal | 2,000 |

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

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| March                    | 162,421   |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 1,527,133 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 4,000,000 |

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

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| March                    | 43.9 |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 36.7 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 50   |

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

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| March                    | 185   |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 1,189 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 2,000 |

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

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| March                    | 8,580 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 7,500 |

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

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| March                    | 531   |
| Fiscal Year-to-date      | 4,390 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 6,000 |

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

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| March                    | 47.6 % |
| Performance Measure Goal | 48.0 % |

Explanatory measure: Numbered shut-in/inactive wells.

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| March                    | 151,411 |
| Performance Measure Goal | 146,000 |

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

**Monthly State-Funded Plugging, Pollution Abatement and Salvage Activities**  
**Commissioners Report**  
**03/01/2024 to 03/31/2024**

**State-Funded Plugging Activities**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Number of wells approved for plugging this month | 185               |
| Estimated cost of approvals                      | \$ 3,706,350.00   |
| Number of wells approved for this fiscal year    | 1189              |
| Number of approved wells remaining to plug       | 3102              |
| Estimated cost to plug remaining approvals       | \$ 129,984,231.64 |
| Number of pluggings completed this month         | 66                |
| Total cost to plug wells completed this month    | \$ 3,730,283.43   |
| Number of pluggings completed this fiscal year   | 667               |
| Cost of pluggings completed this fiscal year     | \$ 23,407,947.77  |

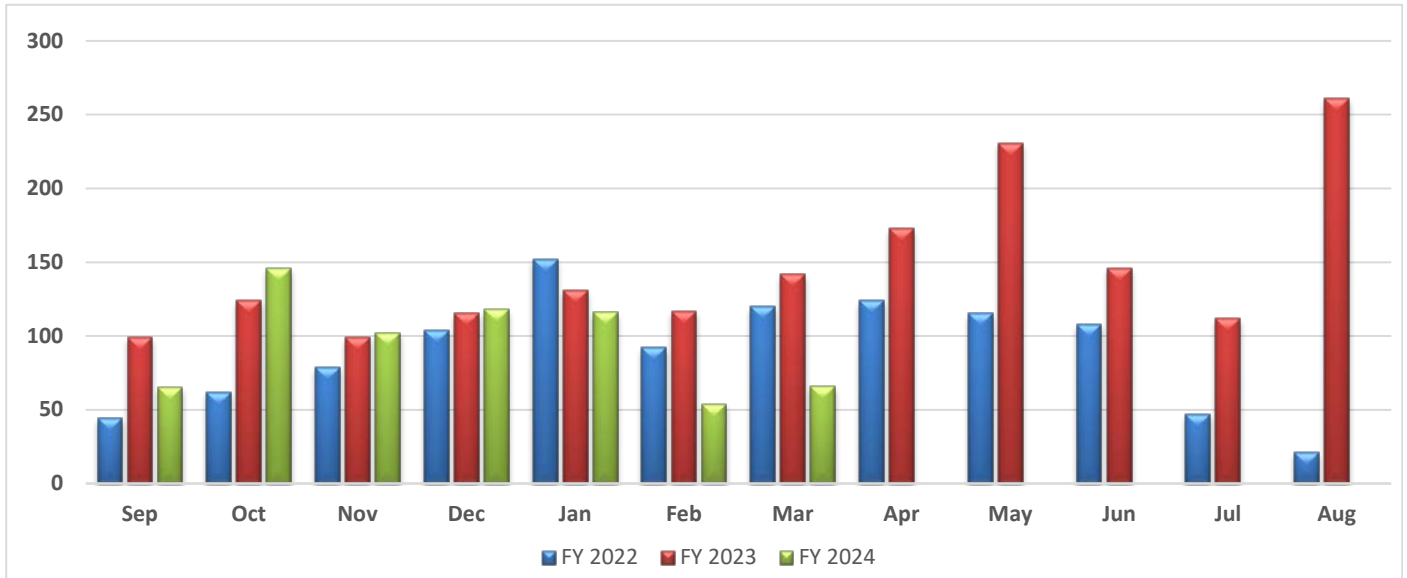
**Pollution Abatement Activities**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Number of pollution abatements approved this month           | 8               |
| Estimated cost of approvals                                  | \$ 208,000.00   |
| Number of pollution abatements approved for this fiscal year | 46              |
| Number of pollution abatements remaining                     | 75              |
| Estimated cost to pollution abatements remaining             | \$ 614,060.00   |
| Number of pollution abatements completed this month          | 10              |
| Total cost of pollution abatements completed this month      | \$ 175,949.17   |
| Number of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year    | 37              |
| Cost of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year      | \$ 1,721,081.08 |

**Salvage Activities**

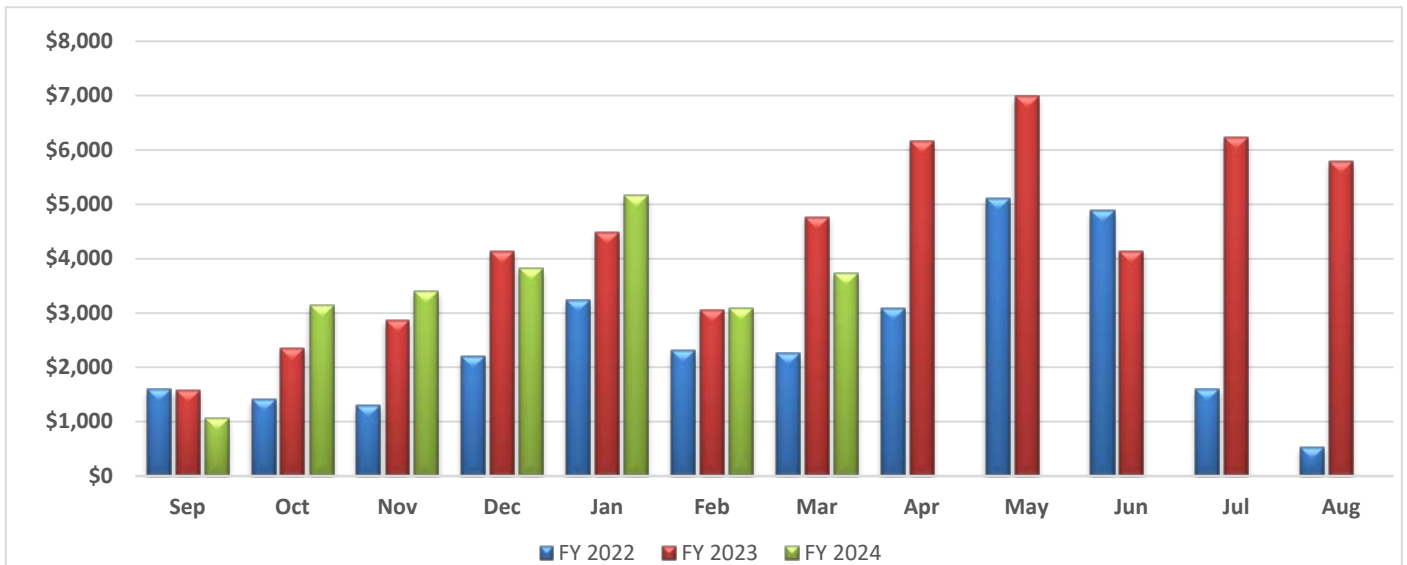
|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Number of salvage activities completed this month       | 43              |
| Total proceeds received this month                      | \$ 150,795.07   |
| Number of salvage activities completed this fiscal year | 232             |
| Total proceeds received this year                       | \$ 1,020,650.20 |

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Wells Plugged March 2024



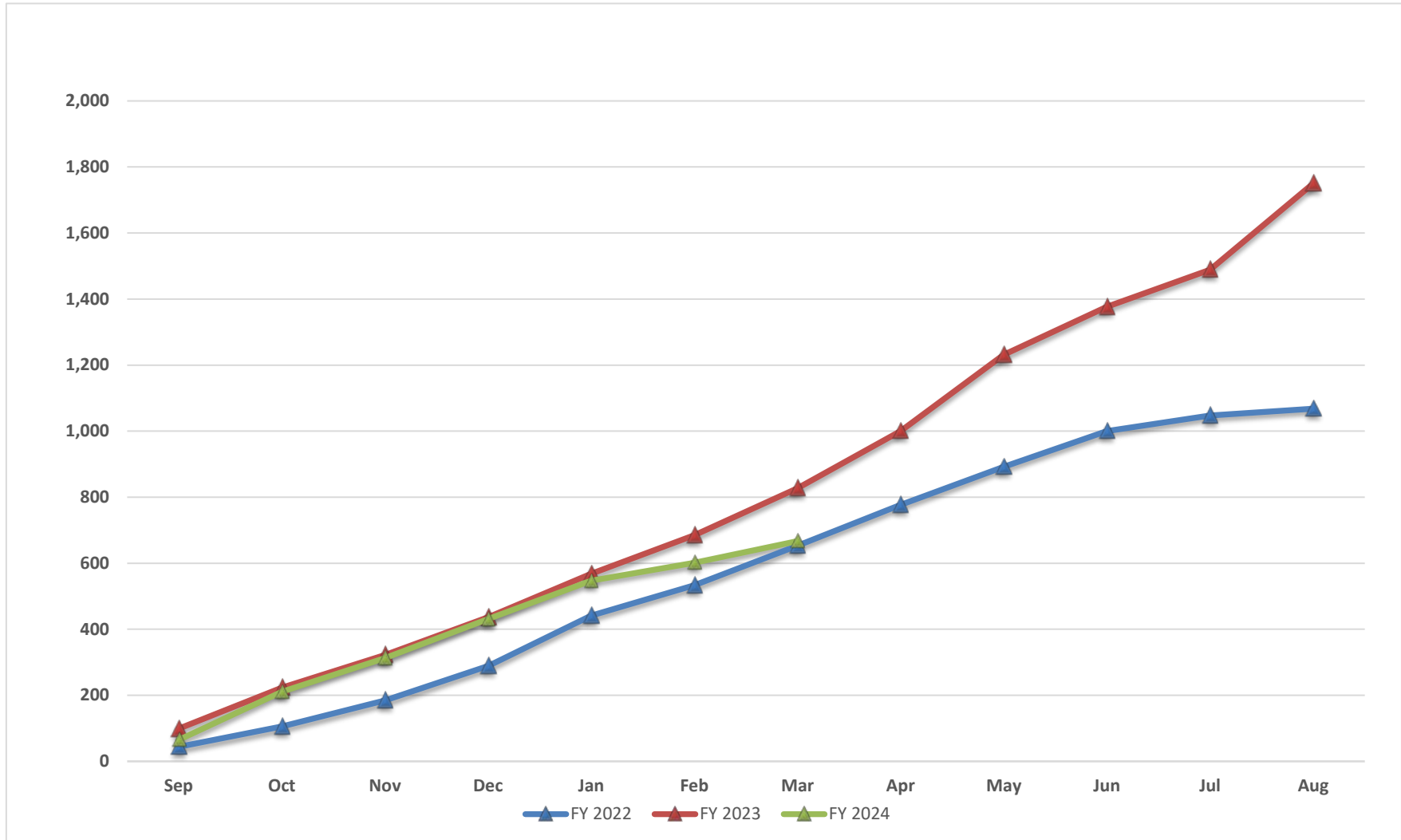
|         | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Tot   |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| FY 2022 | 44  | 62  | 79  | 104 | 152 | 92  | 120 | 124 | 115 | 108 | 47  | 21  | 1,068 |
| FY 2023 | 99  | 124 | 99  | 115 | 131 | 117 | 142 | 173 | 231 | 146 | 112 | 261 | 1,750 |
| FY 2024 | 65  | 146 | 102 | 118 | 116 | 54  | 66  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 667   |

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Cost of Wells Plugged March 2024



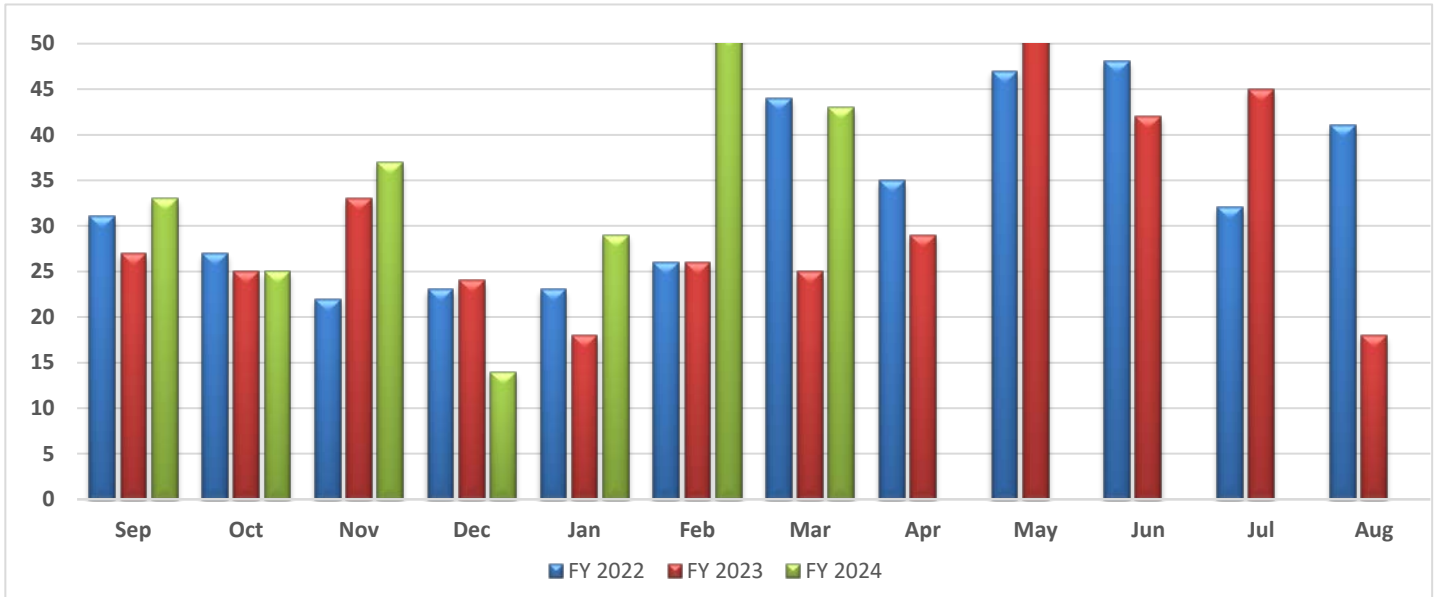
| \$M     | Sep     | Oct     | Nov     | Dec     | Jan     | Feb     | Mar     | Apr     | May     | Jun     | Jul     | Aug     | Tot      |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| FY 2022 | \$1,592 | \$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 | \$5,790 | \$52,541 |
| FY 2024 | \$1,065 | \$3,140 | \$3,400 | \$3,822 | \$5,161 | \$3,090 | \$3,730 | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     | \$0     | \$23,408 |

# State Managed Well Plugging Program Cumulative Wells Plugged March 2024



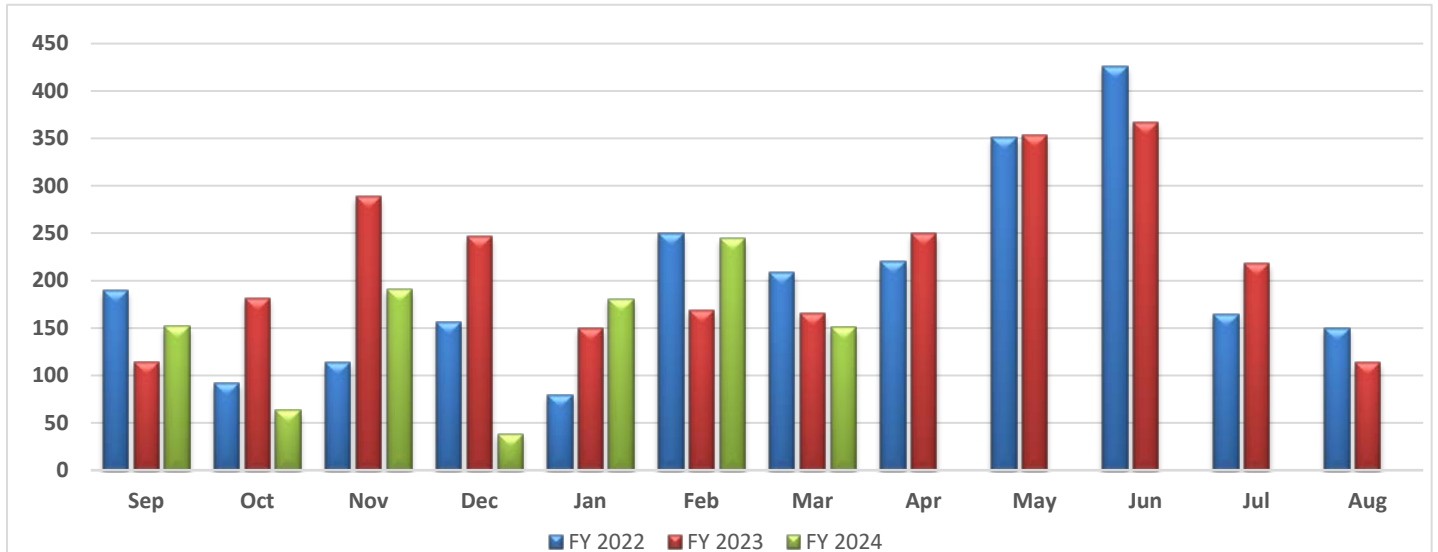
|                | Sep       | Oct        | Nov        | Dec        | Jan        | Feb        | Mar        | Apr          | May          | Jun          | Jul          | Aug          |
|----------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>FY 2022</b> | <b>44</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>185</b> | <b>289</b> | <b>441</b> | <b>533</b> | <b>653</b> | <b>777</b>   | <b>892</b>   | <b>1,000</b> | <b>1,047</b> | <b>1,068</b> |
| <b>FY 2023</b> | <b>99</b> | <b>223</b> | <b>322</b> | <b>437</b> | <b>568</b> | <b>685</b> | <b>827</b> | <b>1,000</b> | <b>1,231</b> | <b>1,377</b> | <b>1,489</b> | <b>1,750</b> |
| <b>FY 2024</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>211</b> | <b>313</b> | <b>431</b> | <b>547</b> | <b>601</b> | <b>667</b> |              |              |              |              |              |

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Operations March 2024



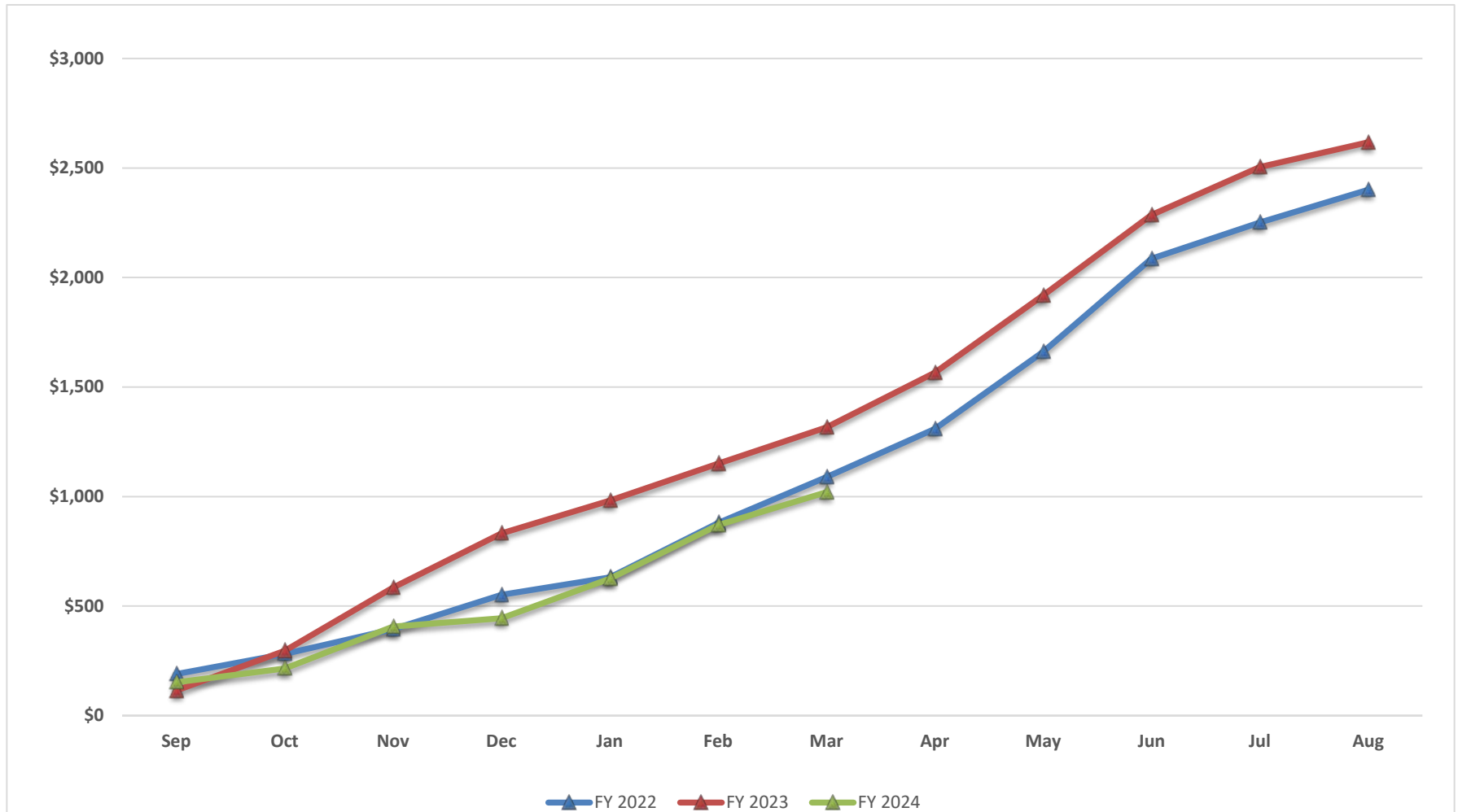
|                | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Tot |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>FY 2022</b> | 31  | 27  | 22  | 23  | 23  | 26  | 44  | 35  | 47  | 48  | 32  | 41  | 399 |
| <b>FY 2023</b> | 27  | 25  | 33  | 24  | 18  | 26  | 25  | 29  | 52  | 42  | 45  | 18  | 364 |
| <b>FY 2024</b> | 33  | 25  | 37  | 14  | 29  | 51  | 43  |     |     |     |     |     | 232 |

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Proceeds March 2024



| \$M            | Sep   | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | Jul   | Aug   | Tot     |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| <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 | \$114 | \$2,617 |
| <b>FY 2024</b> | \$152 | \$63  | \$191 | \$39  | \$181 | \$245 | \$151 |       |       |       |       |       | \$1,021 |

## State Managed Well Plugging Program Cumulative Salvage Proceeds March 2024



| \$M     | Sep   | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Jan   | Feb     | Mar     | Apr     | May     | Jun     | Jul     | Aug     |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 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 | \$2,618 |
| FY 2024 | \$152 | \$215 | \$406 | \$444 | \$625 | \$870   | \$1,020 |         |         |         |         |         |