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HYDROLOGIC ATLAS OF THE BLACK HILLS, PENNINGTON
COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
HERMOSA NW QUADRANGLE
Aquifer Vulnerability Maps

Aquifer Vulnerability:

Basically, vulnerability "...is the tendency or likelihood that pollutants may reach the water supply" (Hargrave, 2005) and includes human influences in the introduction of pollutants into aquifers. See the lower left corner of the aquifer vulnerability maps for information regarding the rating system used here.

Inyan Kara Group:

The Inyan Kara aquifer recharge area extends along the western part of the quadrangle. All of the land in the recharge area is privately owned and almost all remains in ranching use. There are, as yet, very few home sites (therefore, few on-site waste water treatment units) or roads. Numerous dwellings along Spring Creek are connected to a community waste water treatment facility.

A single two-lane highway along the north side of Spring Creek valley constitutes the greatest potential vulnerability due to possible wrecked automobiles or trucks leaking fuel or other liquids into the alluvial material overlying the aquifer here.