



County of Monterey

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUREAU

Drought Advisory Group for Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells

Cheryl Sandoval, REHS

**Drinking Water Protection Services
Supervising EHS**



Senate Bill 552 Requirements

- A County shall
 - **establish a standing county drought and water shortage task force or alternative process to facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for *state small water systems* and *domestic wells* within the county's jurisdiction.**
 - **develop a County Drought Resilience Plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim and long-term solutions for 1-14 connection systems.**

Primer of Senate Bill 552:
Drought Planning for Small Water
Suppliers and Rural Communities

Prepared by



And



May 2022

[Primer-of-SB-552-052522_final.pdf \(ca.gov\)](#)

Purpose: To facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county's jurisdiction



Implementation Plan for Drought Resiliency

- The Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) established a Drought Advisory Group to facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems (five to fourteen service connections), local small water systems (two to four service connections), and domestic wells (single connections) within the County.
- A county- specific risk assessment will be prepared
- EHB will prepare a Drought Resilience Plan
 - Stantec, a consultant provided by State DWR is assisting in the development of the draft of the Plan.
 - Drought Advisory Group will be providing feedback throughout development of plan
 - County staff intends to provide opportunities for public engagement throughout the development of plan
 - The Drought Resilience Plan will ultimately be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and adoption



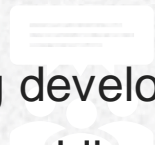
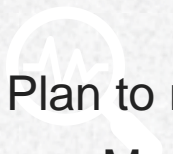
Drought Advisory Group Membership

- County of Monterey, Environmental Health Bureau, Director or designee
- County of Monterey, Housing and Community Development Department, Director or designee
- County of Monterey, Department of Emergency Management, Director or designee
- State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, SAFER Program Unit # 3, designee
- Monterey County Water Resources Agency, General Manager or designee
- Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Director or designee
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, General Manager or designee
- Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Service District, General Manager or designee
- Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Director or designee
- California Water Service, Salinas Valley Region, District Manager or designee
- Community Water Center, Executive Director or designee
- Monterey County Farm Bureau, General Manager or designee
- State small water system, member (to be appointed by Environmental Health Bureau Director)
- Local small water system, member (to be appointed by Environmental Health Bureau Director)
- Consulting Hydrogeologist, to be appointed by Environmental Health Bureau Director
- Water System Consultant, to be appointed by Environmental Health Bureau Director
- Arroyo Seco GSA General Manager or designee Arroyo Seco Citizen Association
- Southern Monterey County Rural Coalition Lockwood, Director or designee



Drought Advisory Group Responsibilities

- Review and provide input on
 - current water supply conditions, data, and challenges.
 - potential water shortage risks and needs for short-term mitigation and long-term prevention.
- Help identify short-term mitigation options and long-term prevention measures to address identified risks and needs.
- Provide input and recommendations on development of Drought Resilience Plan
- EHB will coordinate advisory group meetings
- Plan to meet 4-5 times during development of plan
 - Meetings will be open to public and a webpage has been developed on EHB's website
 - www.mtyhd.org/DAG
 - swsdroughtadvisorygroup@countyofmonterey.gov
- May continue to meet yearly after plan is adopted





Next Steps: Develop Drought Resilience Plan

