



**County of Monterey
Drought Resilience Plan (DRP)**

**Drought Advisory Group
Meeting 4**

March 13, 2026

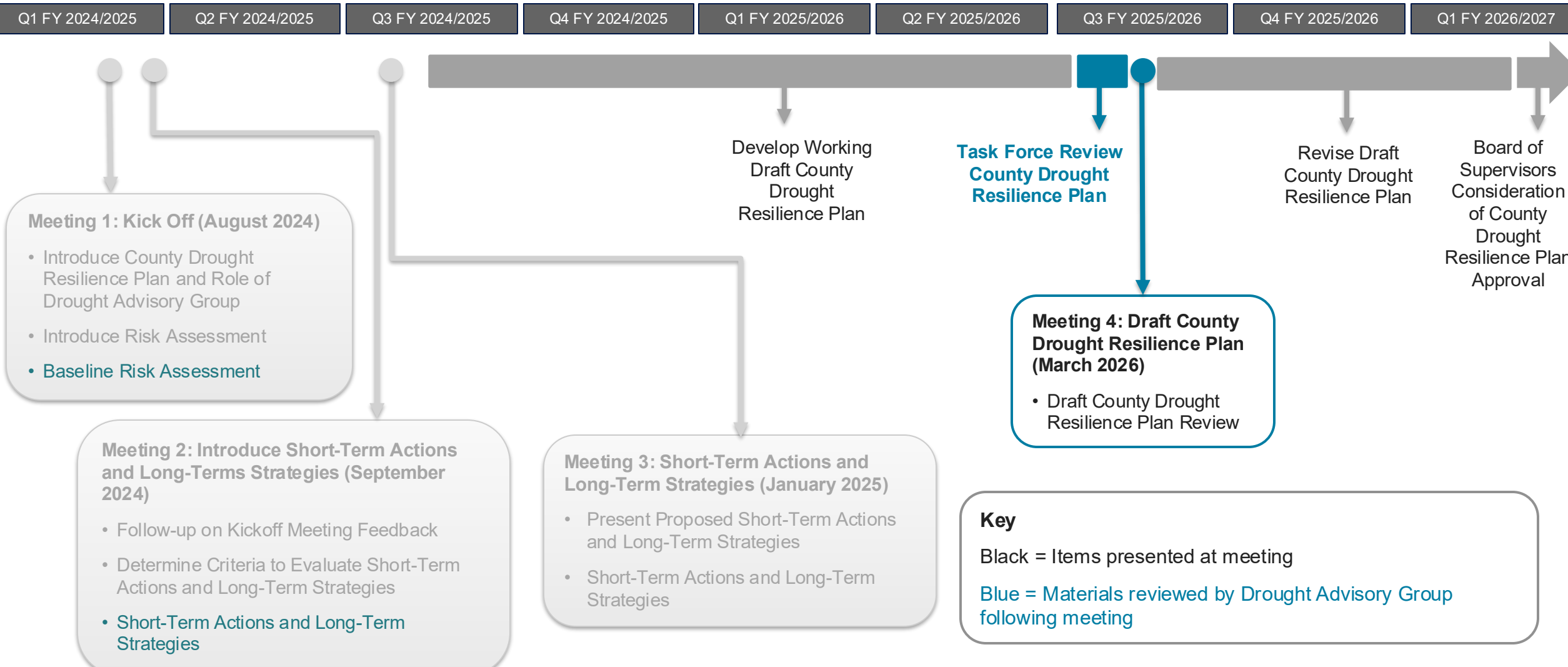
Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Recap of Drought Resilience Plan Process and Progress to Date
- Draft County Drought Resilience Plan Feedback Discussion
- Next Steps

Welcome and Introductions

Recap of Drought Resilience Plan Process and Progress to Date

Drought Advisory Group Meeting and Development of the County Drought Resilience Plan



Draft County Drought Resilience Plan Feedback Discussion

Drought Resilience Plan Outline

Chapter	Content/Purpose
Chapter 1: Introduction	Introduction to County and water profile
Chapter 2: County Drought Advisory Group for Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells	County Drought Advisory Group purpose and overview
Chapter 3: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment	Identify areas with state small water systems, local small water systems, and domestic wells that are more vulnerable to drought/water shortage
Chapter 4: Short-Term Response Actions	Identify actions taken during onset and throughout a drought/water shortage event
Chapter 5: Long-Term Mitigation Strategy and Actions	Identify long-term, preventative measures that help mitigate drought and water shortage conditions
Chapter 6: Implementation Considerations	Considerations to implement the short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategy and actions

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 1: Introduction provides an overview of the legislation relating to SB 552 and the development of this County Drought Resilience Plan. It includes background relating to County demographics, hydrology, and land use, as well as an overview of domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems within the County's jurisdiction.

Chapter 2: County Drought Advisory Group for Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells

Chapter 2: County Drought Advisory Group for Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells provides an overview of the County of Monterey Drought Advisory Group for Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells (Drought Advisory Group), including the development process, membership, roles, purpose, and meeting frequency.

Chapter 3: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment

Chapter 3: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment characterizes the vulnerability of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems within the County to drought and water shortage. This chapter also presents the approach and data used to assess vulnerability. It highlights areas within the County that have a higher risk of drought and water shortage where private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems are present.

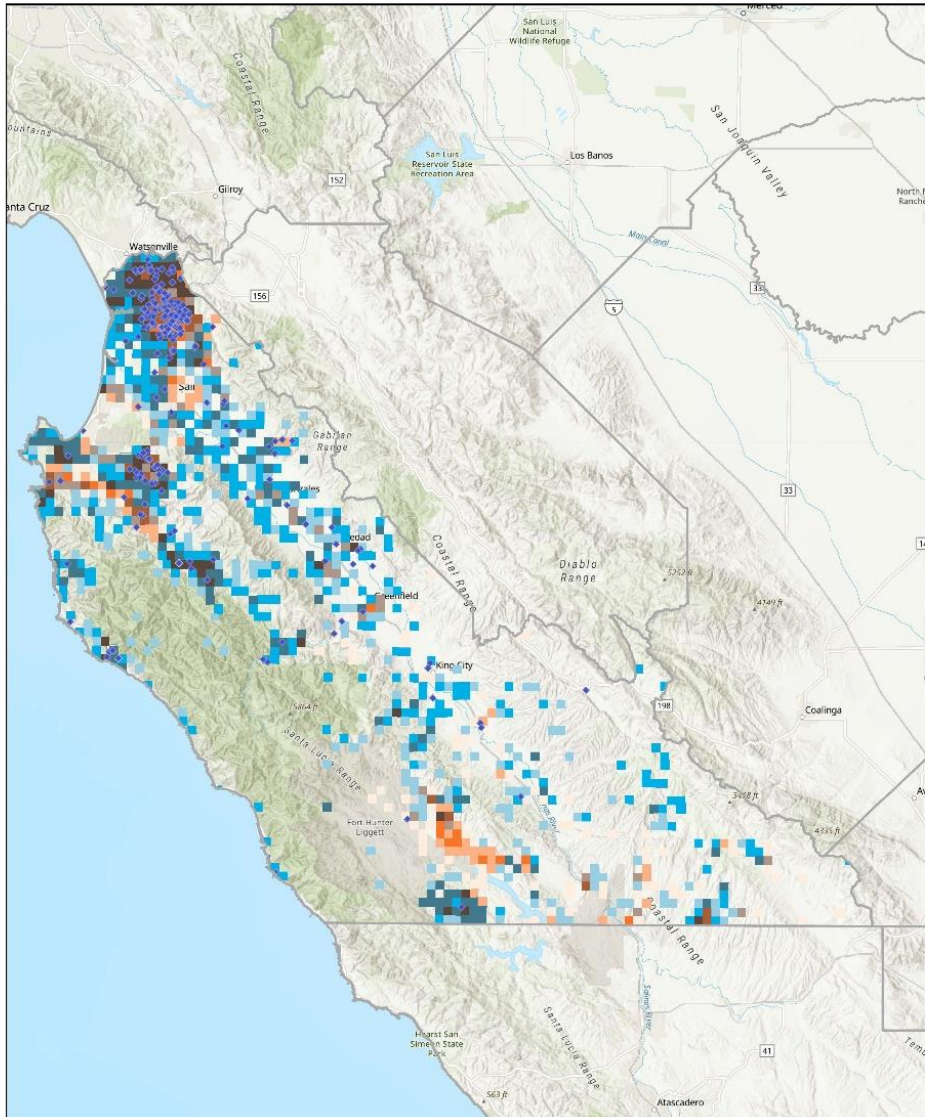
DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer Tool

Physical Vulnerability Indicators with Weights

Indicator Name	Indicator Weight
Climate Change Projections	
Temperature Shift (RC1a)	1
Projected Saltwater Intrusion in Coastal Groundwater (RC1b)	1
Wildfire Risk (RC1c)	1
Infrastructure Susceptibility	
Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility in Basins (RC3a)	5
Domestic Well Density in Fractured Rock Areas (RC3c)	5
Record of Shortage	
Reported Household Outages on Domestic Well (RC5a)	5

Indicator Name	Indicator Weight
Current Environmental Conditions and Events	
Current Year's Precipitation (RC2a)	2
Consecutive Dry Years (RC2aa)	2
Wildfire Risk (RC2b)	3
Fractured Rock Area (RC2c)	3
Water Quality Aquifer Risk (RC2i)	3
Subsidence (RC2d)	2
Saltwater Intrusion (RC2e)	3
Overdrafted Basin (RC2f)	2
Chronic Declining Water Levels (RC2g)	3
Amount of Irrigated Agriculture (RC2j)	3

Intersection of Physical Vulnerability, Density of Domestic Wells, and Location of State Small Water Systems

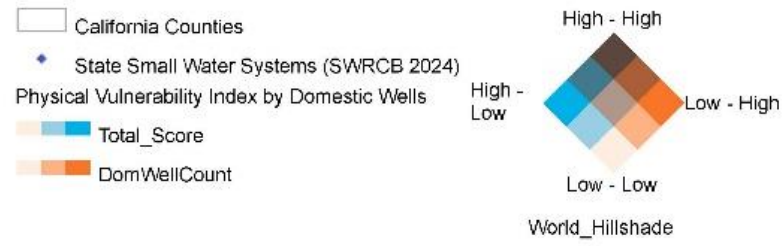


Combines physical vulnerability and domestic well locations

High physical vulnerability + high number of domestic wells

High physical vulnerability + low number of domestic wells

Low physical vulnerability + high number of domestic wells



DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer Tool

Social Vulnerability Score Methodology

- Applied methodology used by the Center for Disease Control for its social vulnerability index
- Indicators primarily sourced from 2020 Census data
- Indicators are normalized from 0 to 1 across the state and summed to get the Total Social Vulnerability Score

Socioeconomic Status

Poverty Level

Unemployment

Per Capita Income

Language and Education

Education Attainment

English Language Proficiency

Demographics

Elderly Population

Non-Adult Population

Minority Population

Disability

Single Parent Households

Housing and Transportation

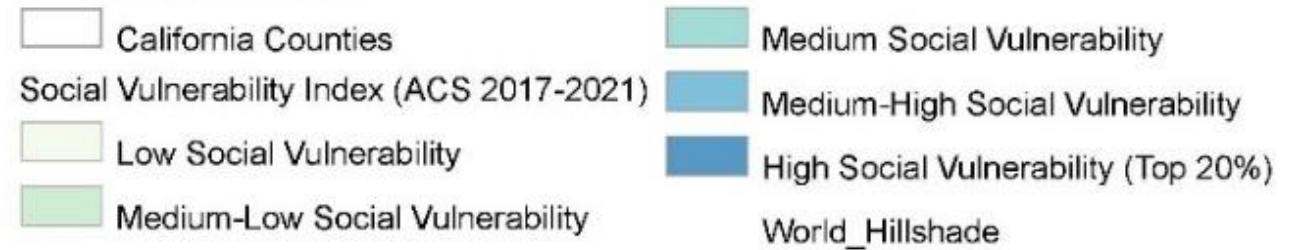
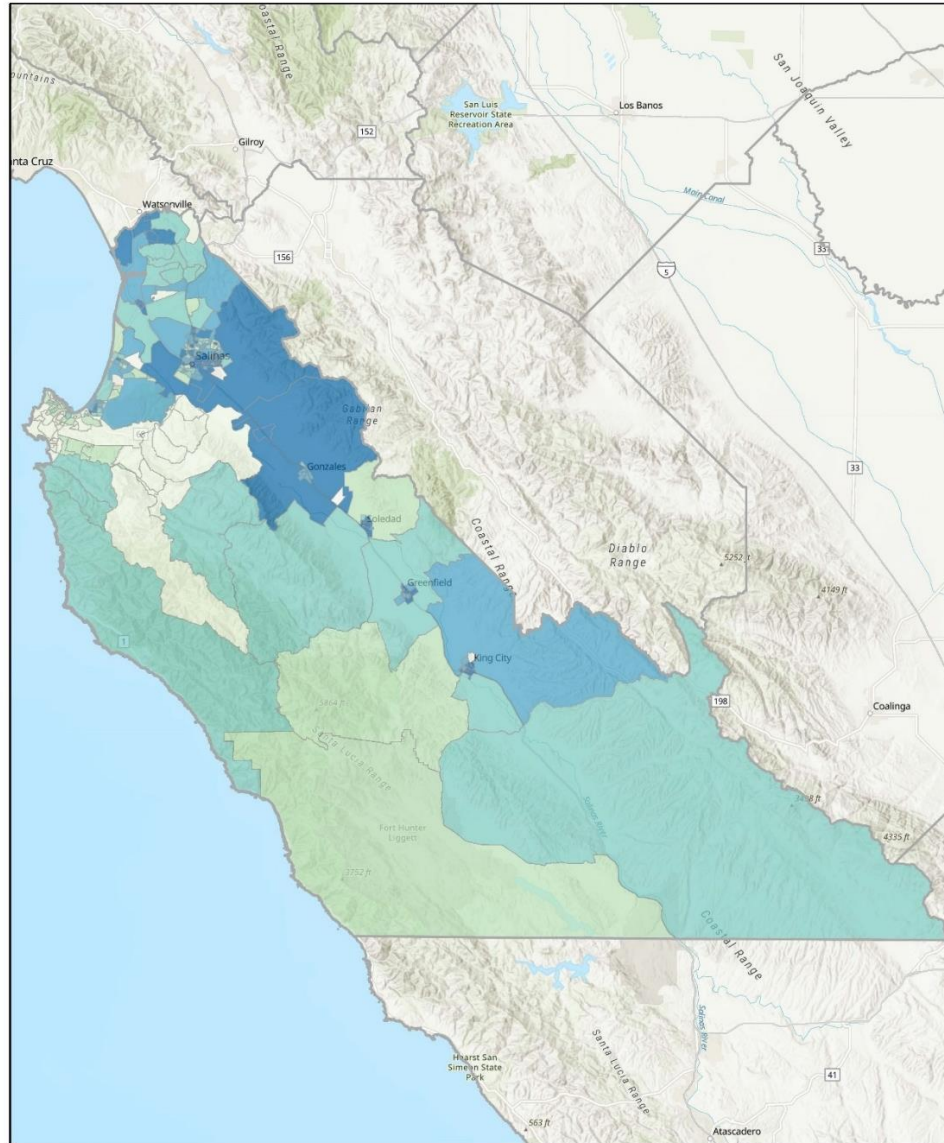
Multi-Unit-Housed Population

Mobile Home-Housed Population

Crowded Conditions

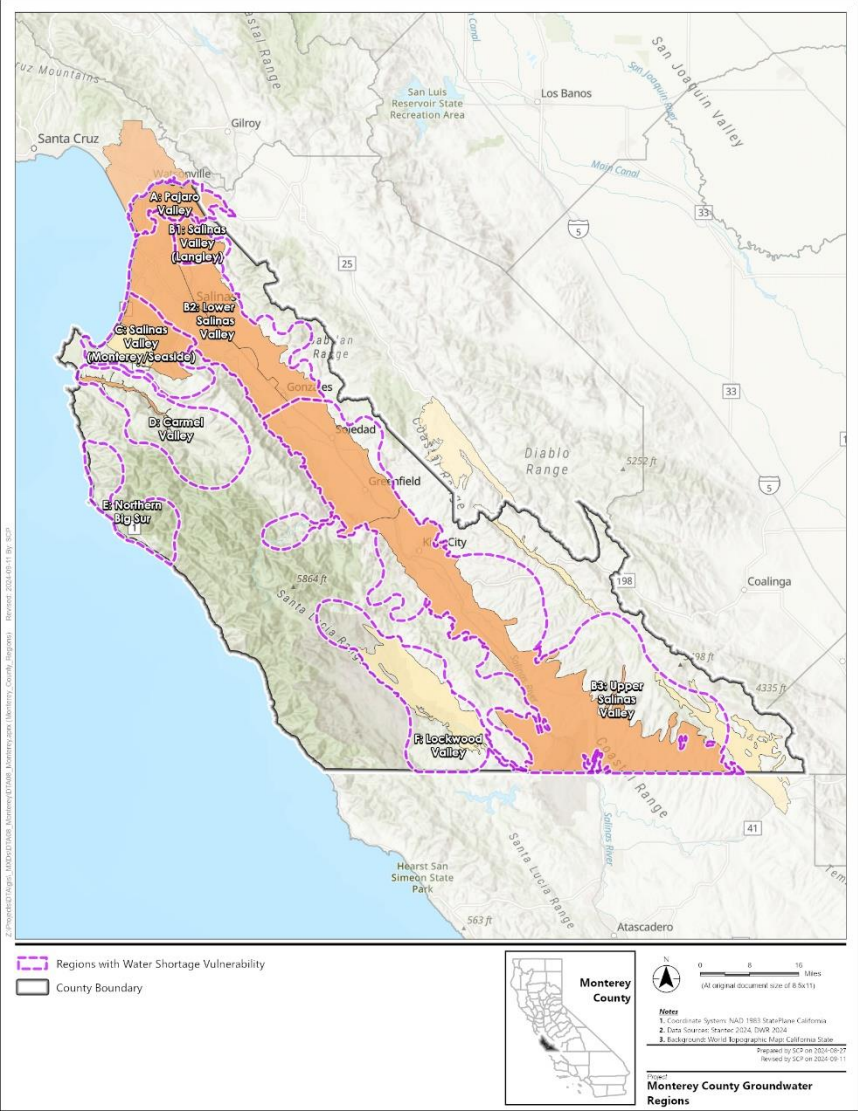
No Vehicle Access

Social Vulnerability Index by Census Block Group



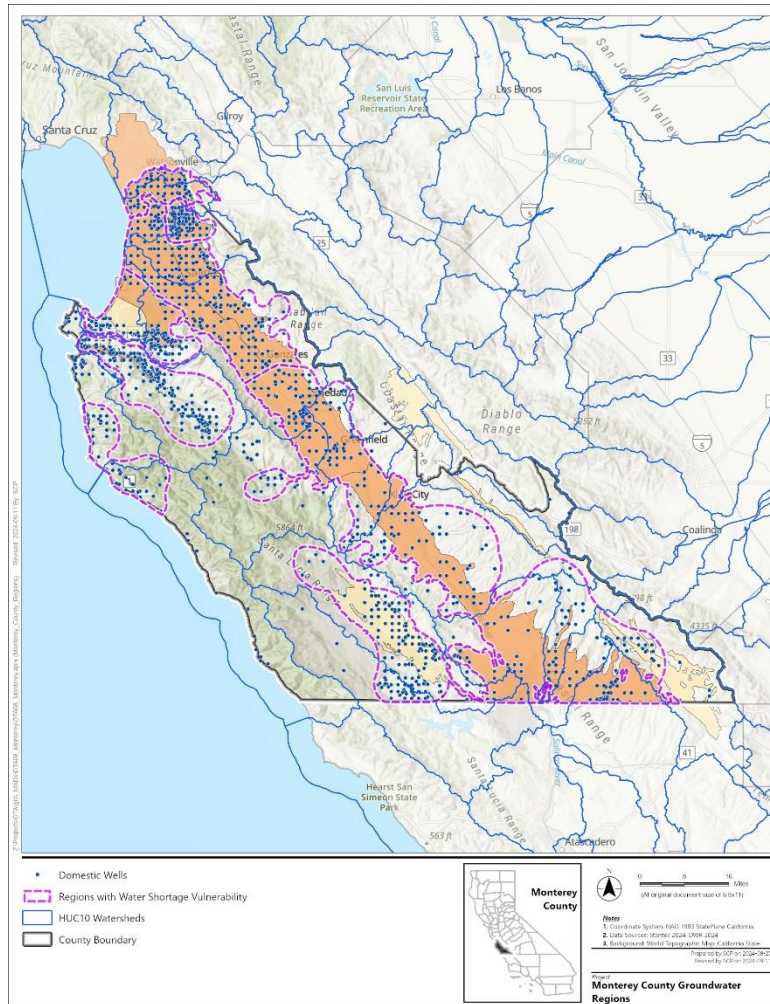
Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability

Regions updated in consideration of Drought Advisory Group Feedback

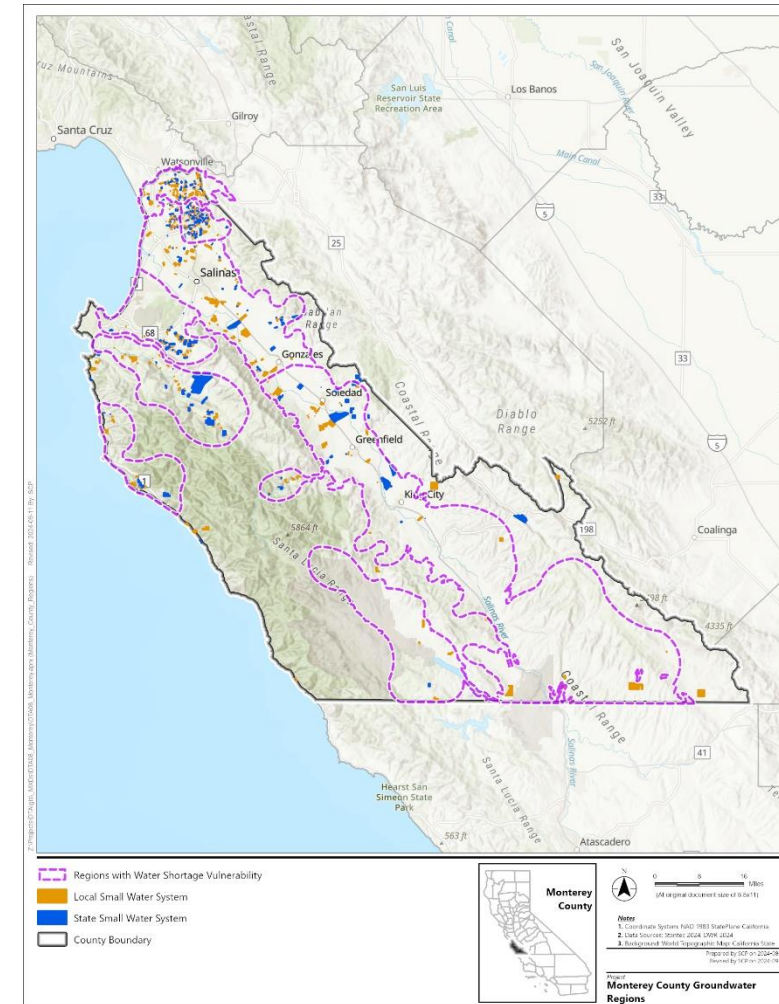


Updated Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability

Vulnerability – Domestic Wells and Small Systems

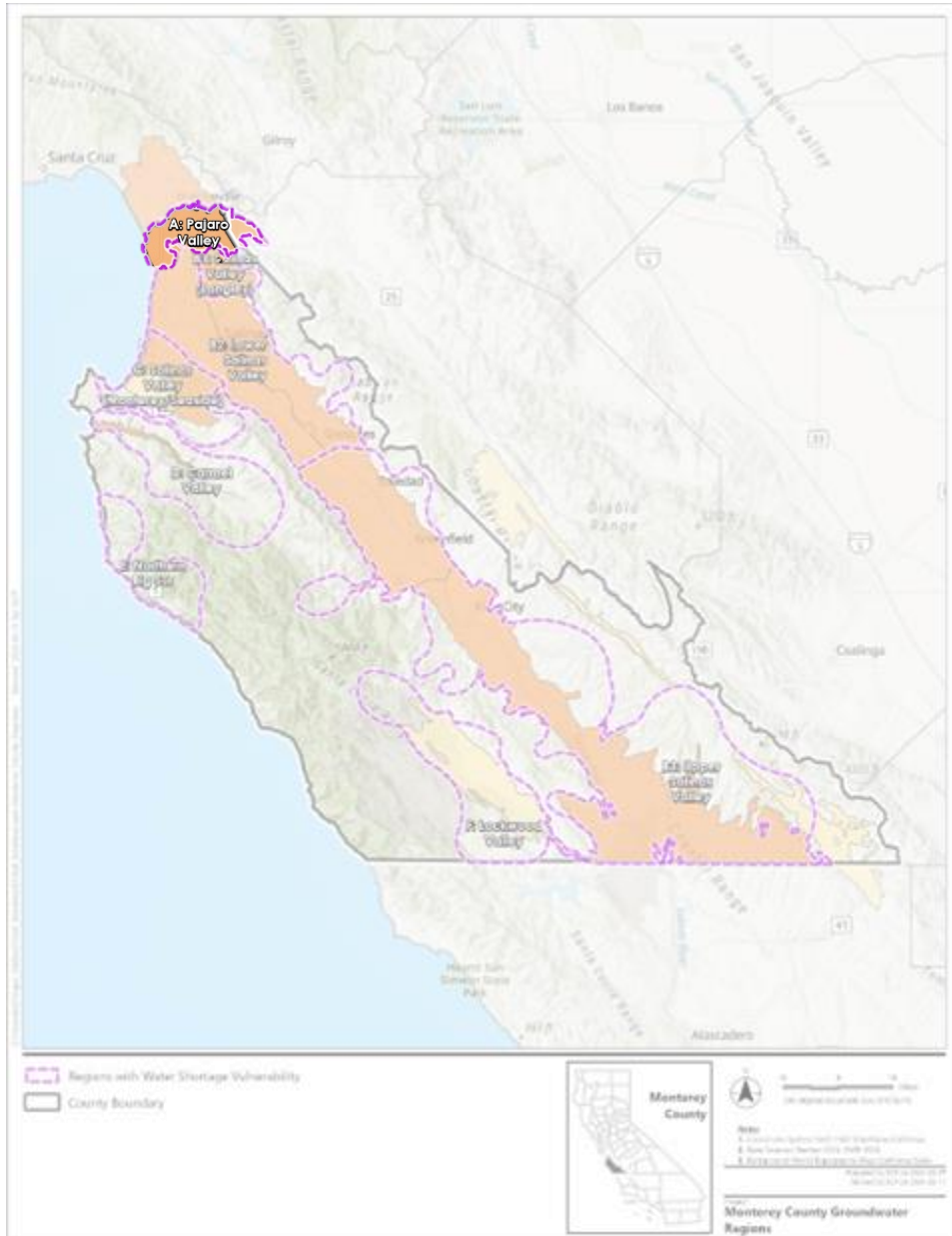


Domestic Wells



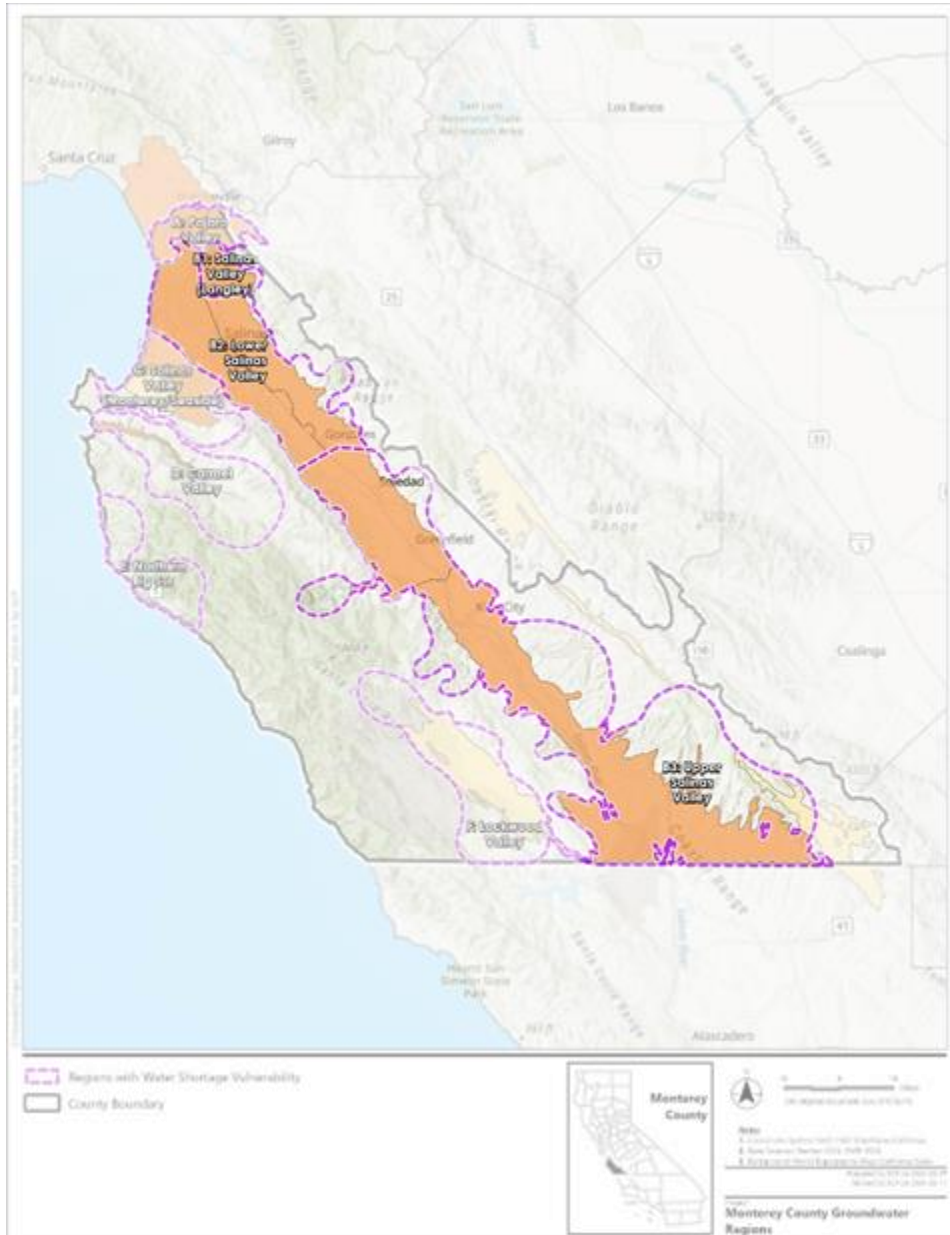
State and Local Small Water Systems

Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability



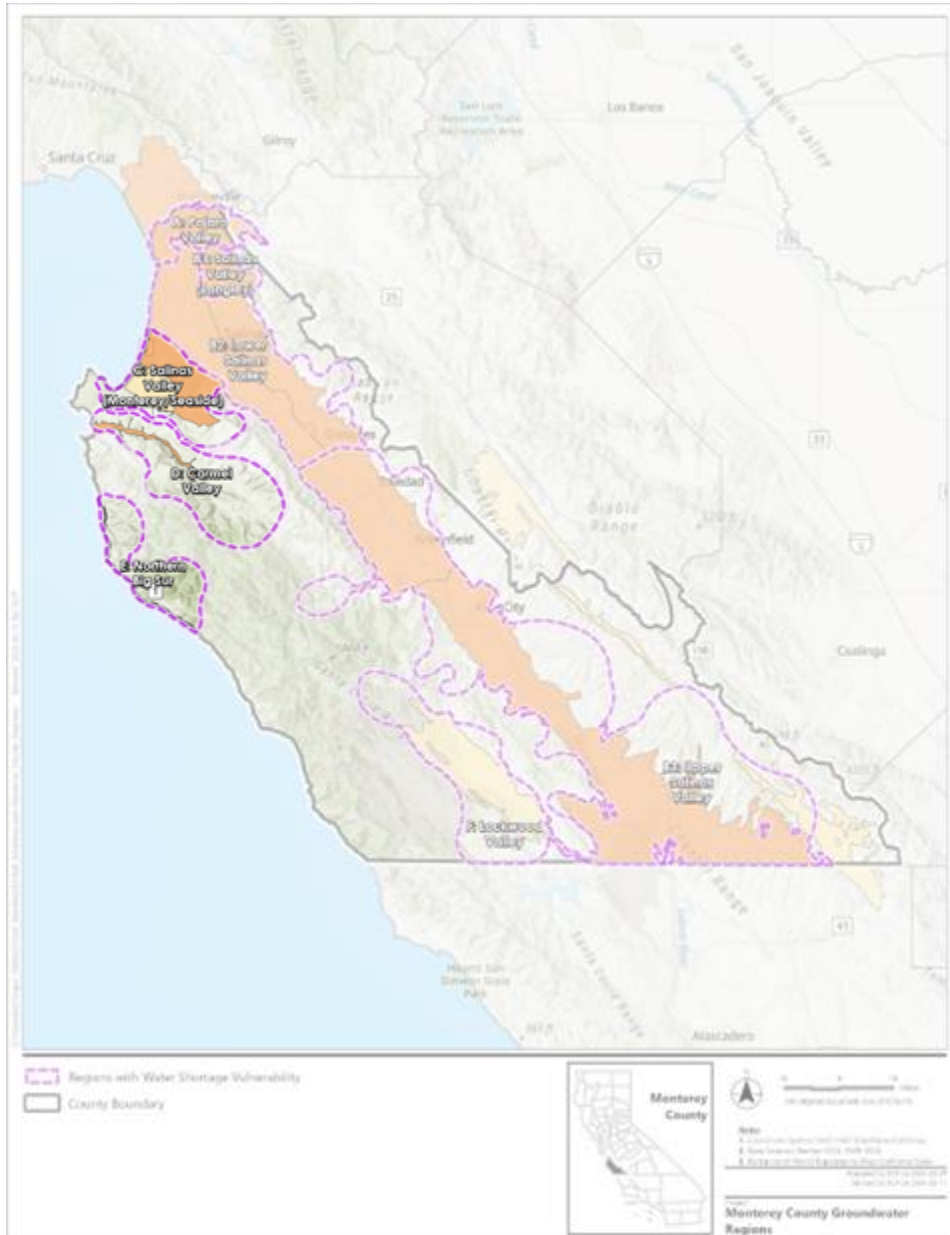
Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells, Local Small Water Systems, and Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Drivers	Social Vulnerability
Pajaro Valley (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildfire hazard • Seawater intrusion • Critically Overdrafted Basin • Water quality • Amount of irrigated agriculture • Dry well susceptibility 	Medium to High

Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability



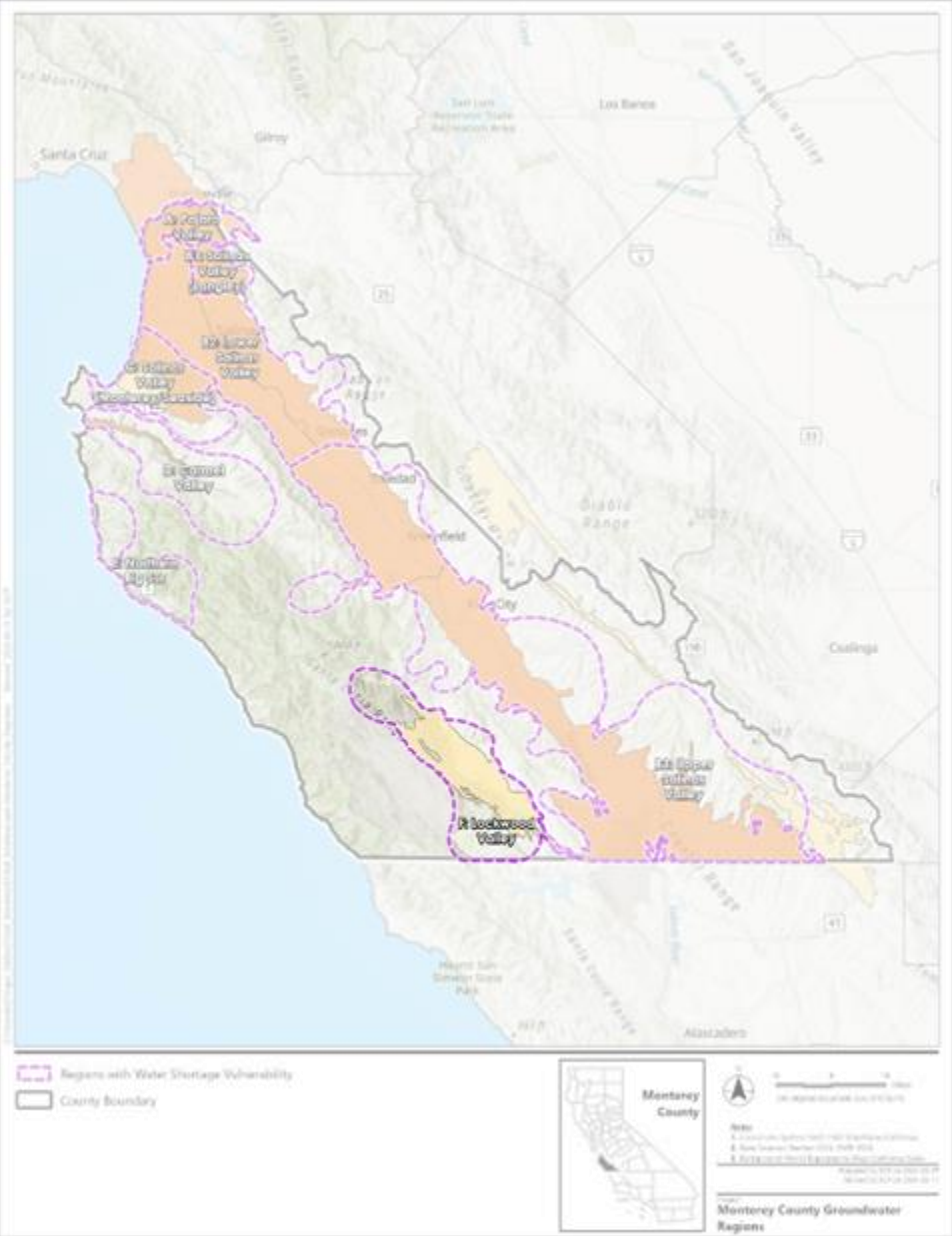
Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells, Local Small Water Systems, and Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Drivers	Social Vulnerability
Salinas Valley (Langley) (B1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildfire hazard • Water quality • Amount of irrigated agriculture 	Medium-Low to Medium High
Lower Salinas Valley (B2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seawater intrusion • Critically overdrafted basin • Water quality • Amount of irrigated agriculture 	Medium to High
Upper Salinas Valley (B3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple dry years within the past five years • Wildfire hazard • Fractured rock area • Water quality • Amount of irrigated agriculture 	Medium to High

Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability



Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells, Local Small Water Systems, and Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Drivers	Social Vulnerability
Salinas Valley (Monterey/Seaside) (C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple dry years within the past five years Wildfire hazard Seawater intrusion Chronic Declining Water Levels Water quality 	Low to High
Carmel Valley (D)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple dry years within the past five years Wildfire hazard Fractured rock area Seawater intrusion Water quality Amount of irrigated agriculture 	Low to Medium
Northern Big Sur (E)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildfire hazard Fractured rock area Seawater intrusion Water quality 	Medium

Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability



Regions with Water Shortage Vulnerability and Domestic Wells, Local Small Water Systems, and Small Water Systems	Physical Vulnerability Drivers	Social Vulnerability
Lockwood Valley (F)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildfire hazard • Water quality • Amount of irrigated agriculture 	Medium Low to Medium

Risk Assessment Gaps

- Important for capturing where physical and social vulnerabilities may exist that are not captured effectively using the methodology applied.
- Data gaps will be used to improve future risk assessments.
- Identifying data gaps allows communities to develop long-term continuous monitoring and improvement plans.

Identified Risk Assessment Gaps

- The current **GSP monitoring network** meets objectives for initial tracking and evaluation of sustainable groundwater management criteria across the basins. Nonetheless, there are **data and knowledge gaps** that could improve local monitoring and management.
- Potential **data gaps exist in the identified state small water systems and domestic wells** (State Water Board and DWR data, respectively).
- As part of an existing GSP, there is a current desktop assessment of **groundwater quality issues** in the Forebay Aquifer Subbasin region. This could be a resource for updating the County Drought Resilience Plan.
- The **fractured rock area map may have data gaps**, including a lack of representation in the fractured rock areas in the Granite Ridge area in the Salinas Valley (Langley) region.
- There is opportunity for the risk assessment to provide **more detailed maps of groundwater conditions**, especially as it relates to overdraft and specific water quality constituents (e.g., nitrates and salinity).
- An **aging infrastructure analysis** could capture infrastructure needs for water systems throughout the County. The study could include evaluating aging infrastructure risk, elevating awareness of the infrastructure condition, and identifying resources, funding, and partnership opportunities for aging wells and infrastructure.
- **Studies on flood impacts on drinking water wells.**
- **Other additional data gaps to include in the plan for future consideration?**

Chapter 4: Short-Term Response Actions

Chapter 4: Short-Term Response Actions details the proposed short-term response actions to be used as emergency and interim drought solutions. The associated Appendix A and Appendix B outline the Drought and Water Shortage Response Process and the Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Distribution Process, respectively.

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Short-Term Response Actions

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
STRA-01	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Packaged or Bottled Water	The County will develop a process, as funding becomes available, to acquire and distribute packaged or bottled water in the event of a water shortage emergency. This will include identifying and establishing a network of emergency potable water supply stations/suppliers.	Monterey County Health Department
STRA-02	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Temporary Water Storage Tanks for Filling Stations	The County will work to establish a program, as funding becomes available, to provide temporary, mobile water storage tanks for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems that have an emergency due to lack of water quantity.	Monterey County Health Department
STRA-03	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Temporary Interties	The County will help identify and facilitate possible temporary interties for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems with local, State, and public water systems that may have available capacity in the event of an emergency water shortage.	Monterey County Health Department

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Short-Term Response Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
STRA-04	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Water Shortage Web Portal	The County will maintain a water shortage web portal to assist and raise awareness of groundwater conditions and distribute informational resources for owners/ operators and beneficiaries of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems. This website is also anticipated to include a list of licensed water haulers and bulk water delivery for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems during short-term emergencies.	Monterey County Health Department
STRA-05	Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Supplies	Water Conservation Measures Coordination and Outreach	The County will coordinate with non-governmental organizations and GSAs to support water conservation measures among private domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system users in the event of a water shortage.	Monterey County Health Department
STRA-06	Permit Streamlining and Coordination	Expedited New or Replacement Well Approval During Water Shortage	In the event of a water shortage emergency, the County will prioritize review of the well construction permitting process for replacement wells that serve domestic wells, local small water system, and state small water system users.	Monterey County Health Department

Chapter 5: Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions

Chapter 5: Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions details the proposed long-term mitigation strategies and actions for improving the water supply resilience of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems. The associated Appendix C, Consolidation Opportunities, identifies potential consolidation opportunities for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems based on proximity to community water system service area boundaries.

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-01	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Permitting Web Portal	The County will continue to maintain a web portal containing County information, permit applications, and forms to ensure straightforward navigation of the webpage and to remove accessibility barriers. Links to the State webpage will also be added to the County Environmental Health web portal.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-02	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Network of Vendors and County Contacts	The County will continue to maintain a list of licensed well drillers and certified laboratories. The County will create a list of entities to assist well operators evaluate well condition, rehabilitation, and replacement needs.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-03	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Water Treatment Outreach	The County will continue to provide general information regarding potential water treatment systems for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems.	Monterey County Health Department

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-04	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Water Conservation Program	The County will continue to maintain a webpage on conservation practices to reduce water use and provide low and minimal cost enhancement strategies that increase supply reliability for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems. Conservation practices include an education program on water conservation tips, low flow fixture units, drip irrigation, and landscaping.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-05	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Programs	Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Sampling Program	The County will continue to implement a water quality sampling program that provides local small water system and state small water system users water quality information and data of their supply consistent with the California State Drinking Water Act.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-06	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Mapping	The County will continue to maintain existing maps and add new maps, as appropriate, identifying Maximum Contaminant Level exceedances of primary contaminants of concern in the County.	Monterey County Health Department

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-07	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Programs	Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Outreach	The County will increase awareness about water quality among owners and operators for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems through communication of County-maintained data.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-08	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Programs	Water Shortage Prevention: Monitoring	The County will coordinate with the applicable agencies, including GSAs, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, to communicate regional groundwater level information prepared by these agencies to owners/operators of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems, when available.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-09	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Water Shortage Prevention: County Drought Resilience Plan Outreach	For groundwater basins subject to SGMA or adjudication, the County will continue to collaborate with overlying regulators by focusing on beneficial water conservation actions and addressing factors that may help alleviate water shortages within the regulated region.	Monterey County Health Department

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-10	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Well Rehabilitation: Funding Assistance	The County will provide assistance, as resources allow, to private domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system well owners and operators to identify and apply for Federal, State, local, and other funding sources that assist in replacement or remediation of existing wells and aging infrastructure. Additional resources would be required to implement this action, and a grant administrator would be needed to apply for grants on behalf of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-11	Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	Drinking Water Supply: Bulk Water Tank Installation Program	The County will need additional resources to establish a program to assist private domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system operators to size and install temporary water storage tanks for bulk hauling at existing wells. Potential funding is required, and a grant administrator would be needed to apply for grants on behalf of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems.	Monterey County Health Department

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-12	System Consolidation	Consolidation of Private Domestic Wells, Local Small Water Systems, and Small Water Systems	As resources allow, the County will expand staff capacity to identify and assist private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems with managerial and/or physical consolidation projects among small water systems and/or public water systems. Assistance would include helping to identify funding sources, and additional resources would be required to implement.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-13	Data Gaps	Supply Interruption Notification for Public Safety Power Shutoffs	As resources allow, the County will coordinate and collaborate with power utilities to establish a system to notify groundwater users of preemptive power interruptions that impact operation of groundwater wells.	County of Monterey Department of Emergency Management

County of Monterey Drought Resilience Plan Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions (cont.)

Identification	Category	Title	Description	Lead County Department
LTMSA-14	Data Gaps	Dry Well Reporting	The County will coordinate with DWR and other entities to track dry wells for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems wells and improve the accuracy of dry well reporting. An additional field in the County database has been added to identify replacement wells for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems and the reason for well replacement.	Monterey County Health Department
LTMSA-15	Data Gaps	Water Level Readings	<p>The County will require additional resources to create a database to collect water level readings from private domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system wells. The County will help identify regional, State, or Federal resources to facilitate private domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system users being able to take periodic static water level readings.</p> <p>Potential funding sources are required, and a grant administrator may be required to apply for grants on behalf of private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems.</p>	Monterey County Health Department

Chapter 6: Implementation Considerations

Chapter 6: Implementation Considerations presents a roadmap for implementing short-term response actions and long-term mitigation strategies and actions consistent with the mission and authority of involved agencies. This includes identifying agencies and entities responsible for implementation, the status of implementation, funding, authorization for implementation, and the anticipated schedule. This section also summarizes the level of multi-agency collaboration identified by agencies to support implementation.

Drought Resilience Plan Implementation Matrix

Action and/or Strategy Identification and Title	Lead County Department	Supporting Agency	Status ¹	Additional Resource Requirements ²		
				Staff Time	County Budget	Outside Funds
STRA-01: Packaged or Bottled Water	Monterey County Health Department	County of Monterey Department of Emergency Management	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
STRA-02: Temporary Water Storage Tanks for Filling Stations	Monterey County Health Department	County of Monterey Department of Emergency Management	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
STRA-03: Temporary Interties	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
STRA-04: Water Shortage Web Portal	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, water management districts	In process	Yes	Yes	No
STRA-05: Water Conservation Measures Coordination and Outreach	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, non-governmental/non-profit organizations	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
STRA-06: Expedited New or Replacement Well Approval During Water Shortage	Monterey County Health Department	Well permitting partners, including County Housing and Community Development Department	Available	Yes	Yes	No

Drought Resilience Plan Implementation Matrix (cont.)

Action and/or Strategy Identification and Title	Lead County Department	Supporting Agency	Status ¹	Additional Resource Requirements ²		
				Staff Time	County Budget	Outside Funds
LTMSA-01: Permitting Web Portal	Monterey County Health Department	Water Management Agencies within the County	Available	Yes	Yes	No
LTMSA-02: Network of Vendors and County Contacts	Monterey County Health Department		In process	Yes	Yes	No
LTMSA-03: Water Treatment Outreach	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-04: Water Conservation Program	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, non-governmental/non-profit organizations	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-05: Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Sampling Program	Monterey County Health Department	Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-06: Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Mapping	Monterey County Health Department	State Water Resource Control Board	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-07: Water Shortage Prevention: Water Quality Outreach	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-08: Water Shortage Prevention: Monitoring	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, water management districts, water resources associations	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes

Drought Resilience Plan Implementation Matrix (cont.)

Action and/or Strategy Identification and Title	Lead County Department	Supporting Agency	Status ¹	Additional Resource Requirements ²		
				Staff Time	County Budget	Outside Funds
LTMSA-09: Water Shortage Prevention: County Drought Resilience Plan Outreach	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, water management districts, water resources associations	In process	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-10: Well Rehabilitation: Funding Assistance	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-11: Drinking Water Supply: Bulk Water Tank Installation Program	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-12: Consolidation of Domestic Well and Small Water System Communities	Monterey County Health Department	Non-governmental/non-profit organizations	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-13: Supply Interruption Notification for Public Safety Power Shutoffs	Monterey County Health Department	County of Monterey Department of Emergency Management, Power Utilities	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-14: Dry Well Reporting	Monterey County Health Department	California Department of Water Resources, well permitting partners, groundwater sustainability agencies	Available	Yes	Yes	Yes
LTMSA-15: Water Level Readings	Monterey County Health Department	Groundwater sustainability agencies, water resources agencies	Proposed	Yes	Yes	Yes

Funding Opportunities and Assistance Programs

 **Table 6-4. Funding Opportunities and Assistance Programs for Drought Resilience Plan Implementation**

Agency	Program	Description
County of Monterey	General Fund	The County General Fund is primarily supported by discretionary revenues, such as sales and property taxes. Allocation of these funds is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, allowing flexibility to support a range of County priorities and services. The County provides a broad range of mandated and non-mandated government services.
California State Library	California Grants Portal (https://www.grants.ca.gov/)	Searchable webpage with information on State funding opportunities (input and updated by State administering agencies and departments). Grants Portal hosts State funding opportunities offered on a competitive or first-come basis (other types of grants are not listed).
State Water Board	County-wide and Regional Funding Programs (SAFER) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/safe_r/funding_solicitation.html)	Grant funding to implement regional programs that address drought-related and/or contamination issues for private domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems serving DACs and low-income households.
State Water Board	Domestic Water Wells and State Smalls Program (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/drinking_water_well.html)	Assistance to disadvantaged individuals or households served by a private domestic well, local small water system, or state small water system with a water quality issue.
State Water Board	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/fundingincentives.html)	State Revolving Fund webpage specific to funding and incentives for consolidation and regionalization projects.
State Water Board	Financial Assistance Funding – Grants and Loans Website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/)	Information on grant and loan programs (State Water Board and other agencies).
California Department of Water Resources	Technical Assistance (https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Technical-Assistance)	Technical guidance and assistance resources to local and regional organizations through four regional offices.
California Department of Water Resources	Grants and Loans (https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans)	Information on grant and loan programs that support integrated watershed management activities addressing environmental stewardship, water supply reliability, flood risk, groundwater sustainability, drought, and more.

Funding Opportunities and Assistance Programs (cont.)

Agency	Program	Description
California Financing Coordinating Committee	California Financing Coordinating Committee Funding Information (https://www.cfcc.ca.gov/)	Information on grants, loans, and bond financing for infrastructure projects from four State agencies (State Water Board, DWR, California Department of Housing and Community Development, and California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank) and two federal agencies (Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development). Also includes information on and links to California Rural Water Association and Rural Community Assistance Corporation. Tabs for funding fairs, infrastructure funding programs, and additional funding programs.
California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation	Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (https://lci.ca.gov/climate/icarp/)	Information on planning and implementation of grant programs, technical assistance, and other resources to support planning for and adapting to climate change.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Rural Utilities Service Water and Environmental Programs—Water and Environmental Grant and Loan funding (https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs)	Technical assistance, training, and financing to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems in rural communities (populations of 10,000 or less).
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants)	Funding to prepare for or recover from an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program (https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program)	Funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas. For qualified applicants not otherwise able to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms.

Key:
 DAC = disadvantaged community
 DWR = California Department of Water Resources
 SAFER = Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience
 State Water Board = State Water Resources Control Board

Additional Feedback

Any additional feedback to take into consideration for development of the County Drought Resilience Plan?

Future Drought Advisory Group Activities

Drought Advisory Group Activities Aligned to Water Shortage Stages

Water Shortage Stage	Description	County Activities	Description
Readiness	No major drought or potential for water shortage	Annual County Drought Resilience Plan implementation check-in	County EHB will review the status of the DRP Implementation Plan , determine if any modifications are required, and assign responsibilities for making DRP modifications.
		Semi-Annual Water Supply Assessment	County EHB, in partnership with others, will evaluate the water supply system health in the Spring to support a water shortage stage recommendation for the Drought Advisory Group. This water system health will be reevaluated in the Fall.
		Annual Drought Advisory Group meeting	Annual Drought Advisory Group meetings will occur after the water supply health is evaluated in the Fall.
		Annual website update	Website will be updated periodically to reflect current conditions.
		Proactive long-term mitigation strategy communications and outreach	County EHB will coordinate communications and outreach as defined in the DRP. County Environmental Health Bureau will perform outreach to domestic wells, local small water systems, and state small water systems.

Drought Advisory Group Activities Aligned to Water Shortage Stages (cont.)

Water Shortage Stage	Description	County Activities	Description
Warning	Drought or other hazard occurring that could cause a water shortage	As-Needed Drought Advisory Group Meetings	County EHB will schedule additional Drought Advisory Group meetings.
		Implement communication to domestic well, local small water system, and state small water system communities on what to do if they experience a water shortage	County EHB will implement the DRP communications and outreach plan.
		Outreach on voluntary water conservation strategies	County EHB, in partnership with others, will coordinate outreach on voluntary water conservation strategies. Website will be updated to include conservation strategies.
		Outreach on available resources for proactive water shortage mitigation	County EHB, in partnership with others, will coordinate outreach on available resources for proactive water shortage mitigation. Website will be updated to include proactive water shortage mitigation strategies.
		As-needed coordination with relevant organizations - GSAs, power companies, NGOs , other county departments	County EHB will initiate coordination, but other organizations may be required to lead or participate, depending on conditions.

Drought Advisory Group Activities Aligned to Water Shortage Stages (cont.)

Water Shortage Stage	Description	County Activities	Description
Emergency	Water shortage is occurring or is imminent	Regular Drought Advisory Group meetings	County EHB will schedule additional Drought Advisory Group meetings.
		Activate emergency and interim drinking water distribution process for area(s) experiencing shortage	County EHB will activate the checklist, but other organizations are expected to implement specific activities.
		Standing coordination with relevant organization	County EHB will organize regular coordination meetings and will delegate to and/or coordinate with other organizations as required.

Closing and Next Steps

- Drought Resilience Plan
 - April 15, 2026 – DAG Feedback Deadline
 - Please provide via feedback to swsdroughtadvisorygroup@countyofmonterey.gov using provided Draft DRP Feedback Log (sent February 13, 2026)
 - August 25, 2026 – Tentative Date for Board of Supervisors to Consider Approval
- Questions or Concerns:
swsdroughtadvisorygroup@countyofmonterey.gov