



Tools for Dry Well Susceptibility and Reporting

California continues to experience climate-driven severe drought conditions, leading to less available precipitation and snowmelt, and extreme heat. In times of drought, California relies heavily on groundwater to meet our water supply needs. However, increased groundwater pumping in previous drought periods has resulted in shallow wells going dry and increased rates of land subsidence in some areas.

How-to-Be WELL Prepared

To help Californians anticipate future drought impacts on groundwater wells and to be **'WELL Prepared'** to address these impacts, this fact sheet highlights two tools developed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that provide important information and resources for counties, local water agencies, groundwater sustainability agencies, and well owners to use for well permitting and drought-related decision-making, including:

- [Dry Well Susceptibility Tool](#) – forecasting tool used to plan for well outages before they occur
- [Dry Well Reporting System](#) – reporting tool that triggers dry well response when wells go dry

Dry Well Susceptibility Tool

DWR has developed an interactive mapping tool, called the Dry Well Susceptibility Tool, that identifies areas within groundwater basins throughout the state that may be prone to water supply shortages in drinking water wells. Susceptibility is identified based on recent groundwater level measurements and potential 5-year water level decline.

The Dry Well Susceptibility Tool is housed on the [California's Groundwater Live](#) web-based platform which contains the latest information and data on groundwater conditions across the state. The State, local agencies, and well owners can use this tool to anticipate where wells may go dry based on historical conditions to inform drought preparedness decision-making. To use this tool, navigate to [California's Groundwater Live](#) website and click the Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility tab.

Website:
<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/CalGWLive/#wells>

Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility within Groundwater Basins
California's Groundwater Live

Select a Boundary to View
Country Groundwater Basin

Boundary Sub-Selection
All

Select Susceptible Well Densit...
All

To get started:

- Search for an address or area of interest (County or groundwater basin)
- View the legend to see what data are being presented
- Overlay additional layers to inform your decisions
- Change the basemap

Background:
This dashboard estimates dry domestic well susceptibility within groundwater basins. The results are created by combining the latest information on domestic well locations, depths, and local groundwater level conditions. This dashboard has been created for informational purposes only and is not intended to be a prediction of when and where specific domestic wells will go dry. The information is intended to help local, state, and federal partners understand areas of highest dry well susceptibility in California in order to prepare and respond to ongoing drought conditions. For more information please visit the California Natural Resource Agency Open Data Platform.

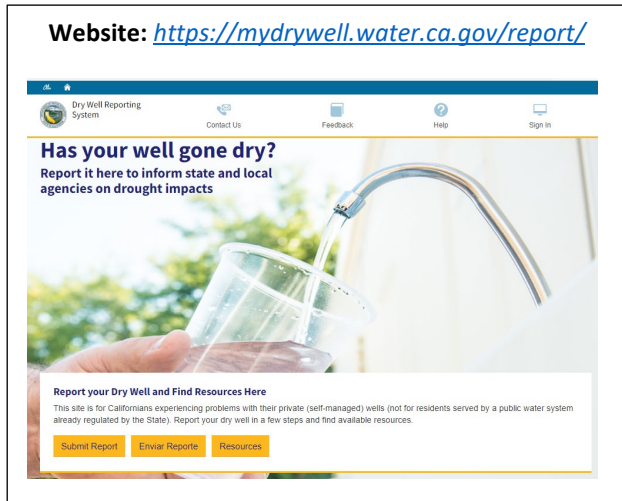
Earthstar Geographics | Merced County Association of Gov. Calif. | Powered by Esri

Dry Well Reporting System

The Dry Well Reporting System (MyDryWell.water.ca.gov) is a user-friendly online form, available in English and Spanish, for reporting when a domestic water well goes dry.

DWR manages the Dry Well Reporting System to help centralize and disseminate information statewide when well outages are reported. This centralized reporting system helps ensure that local and State agencies are quickly notified and can respond to provide available resources such as interim water supplies or appropriate funding sources to help address the issues (*Note: this*

*system is not an application for financial assistance but does provide well owners with available resources to help resolve their well issue, under the **Resources** tab on the website).*



For Well Owners: To report a dry well in this system, navigate to the Dry Well Reporting System website and click **Submit Report (Enviar Reporte)**. This will begin the online form process where basic information about the dry well can be reported to state and county officials managing drought emergency response assistance. The following information will be requested:

- Contact Information (*Who is having the problem? Important for follow-up and assistance where available*)
- Water Problem Information (*What is the problem?*)
- Water Problem Location (*Where is the problem?*)
- Available Financial Resources (*Information to share, if interested*)
- Well Log Data (*If known*)
- Agency/Local Government Information (*Required for Agency users only*)

For Counties and Local Agencies: A feature of this Reporting System is that the tool can directly notify local drought leaders, including local agencies, counties, and groundwater sustainability agencies when there are dry wells occurring in their region. Local agencies can sign up to be on the notification list for their county by sending a request, including your preferred email address and county of interest, to sgmps@water.ca.gov

Additional Resources and Information

The following resources provide additional information regarding current conditions and trends for groundwater levels, well infrastructure, land subsidence, hydrology, water supply conditions, and financial assistance programs to aid agencies and well owners in drought planning and response.

- California's Groundwater Live Website: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/CalGWLive/>
- California Water Watch Website: <https://cww.water.ca.gov/>
- California Drought Action Website: <https://drought.ca.gov/drought-assistance/#funding-programs>

For questions regarding the Dry Well Reporting System, please send an email to sgmps@water.ca.gov. To find more information about the State's Drought Response and Assistance, please visit drought.ca.gov.