



California County Café

– Specializing in Drought Resilience

7/24/2024



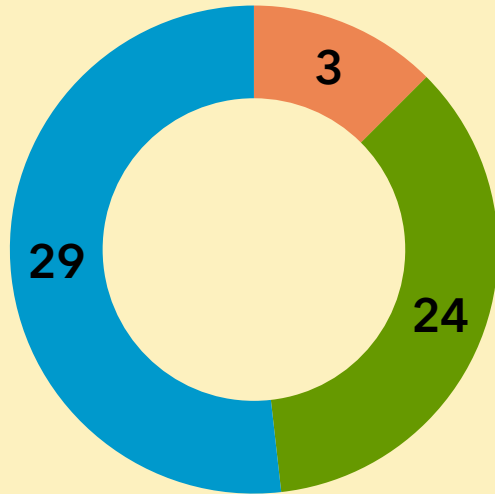
Welcome and Setting Intention

Julia Ekstrom - California Department of Water Resources

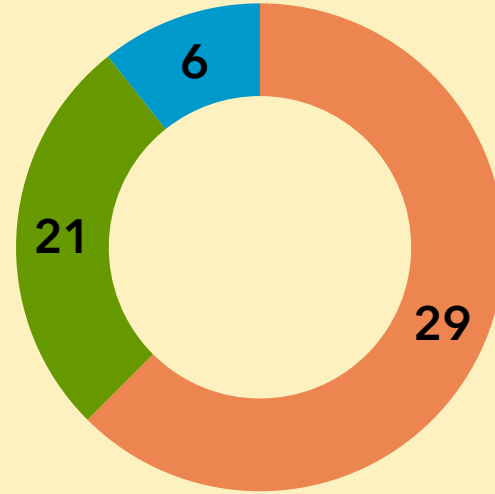


Statewide SB 552 Status

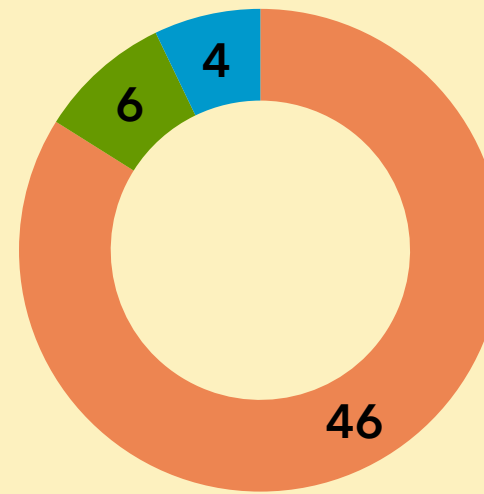
Task Force Formation



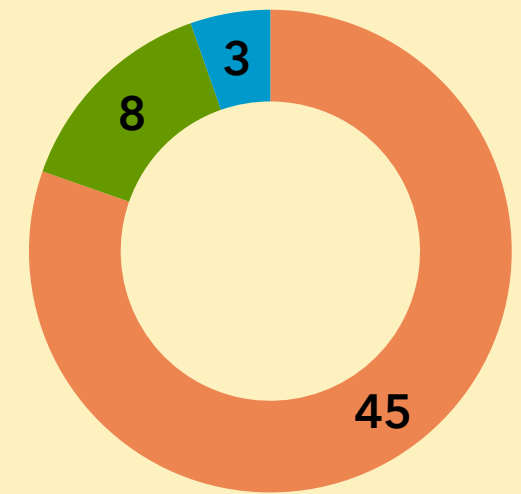
Risk Assessment



Response Actions and Mitigation Strategies



County Drought Resilience Plan Development



■ Not Started ■ In Progress ■ Completed

Source: 07/15/2024 data based on input from 56 counties enrolled in DWR's assistance program. Exclusions: The City and County of San Francisco are covered by other requirements, and one has not enrolled in DWR's assistance program.



The C3 Process

- **Desired outcome** - Network and exchange ideas and resources among counties.
 - Increase the understanding of SB 552 intent and requirements.
 - Learn about different implementation approaches, practices, and experience.
 - Compare identified resource needs and share funding opportunities.
 - Improve coordination with other agencies and interested parties.
- **Our format** - Information exchange among counties to share information and approach to SB 552 implementation.
- **Intended audience** - County staff.

Appreciate others listening in but focusing on staff who are responsible for developing the DRP and implementing.



On the Menu

Welcome and Setting Intention

→ The C3 Process - Revisited

Theme for Today: **Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment**

→ Sharing and Discussion

Closing



Essentials of the C3 Gathering

- ✓ Join the conversation – share your experience and learn from other perspectives and experiences.
- ✓ Make a connection – use the chat to connect with other participants.
- ✓ County focused – While all are invited to join, this gathering will focus on supporting county staff.





Sharing Topic: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment

Orit Kalman - Facilitator



Drought and Water Risk Assessment

*(b) **A county shall develop a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk** and proposed interim and long-term solutions **for state small water systems and domestic wells** within the county's jurisdiction.*

The plan may be a stand-alone document or may be included as an element in an existing county plan, such as a local hazard mitigation plan, emergency operations plan, climate action plan, or general plan. A county shall consult with its drought task force or alternative coordinating process as established by this section in developing its plan. A county shall consider, at a minimum, all of the following in its plan:

- (1) Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells.*
- (2) Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.*
- (3) Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions.*
- (4) An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan.*
- (5) An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan*

Risk assessment - Product or process that collects information and assigns values to risks for the purpose of informing priorities, developing or comparing courses of action, and informing decision-making.



The Survey Says:

Current Status of Risk Assessments

What resources do you use to assess risks and vulnerabilities in your county?	Challenges related to completing the Risk Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DWR Risk Assessment tool - high/medium degree of reliance• Local resources -<ul style="list-style-type: none">• County data from Environmental Health and Public Works Departments, GSAs, consultant studies• Development of local data source and tool• Resources and interviews from local agencies/organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding the process (definitions, steps, and scope)• Accessing relevant and reliable data• Engaging with other agencies and the community• Resources related to staff and funding



What you want to learn about the Risk Assessment process:

- Best practices for completing the risk assessment.
- Challenges other counties have experienced in completing the Risk Assessment.
- How long did the process take, staffing and funding needs?
- Who did they bring to the table?
- How to incorporate ag considerations; which local data sources were used?
- I'd like to hear how they used the data? Did they supplement the data with their own analyses and what else did they rely on? What spatial unit do they use for analysis?
- Rural risk ratings
- What well data they collect and how it's stored.



Polling: What stage of the Risk Assessment process is your county in?

- We completed the Risk Assessment
- We are in the process of the Risk Assessment
- We haven't started working on the Risk Assessment

Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment

Dore Bietz and Sean Hembree, Tuolumne County

Jenny Nunez-Rodriguez, Madera County

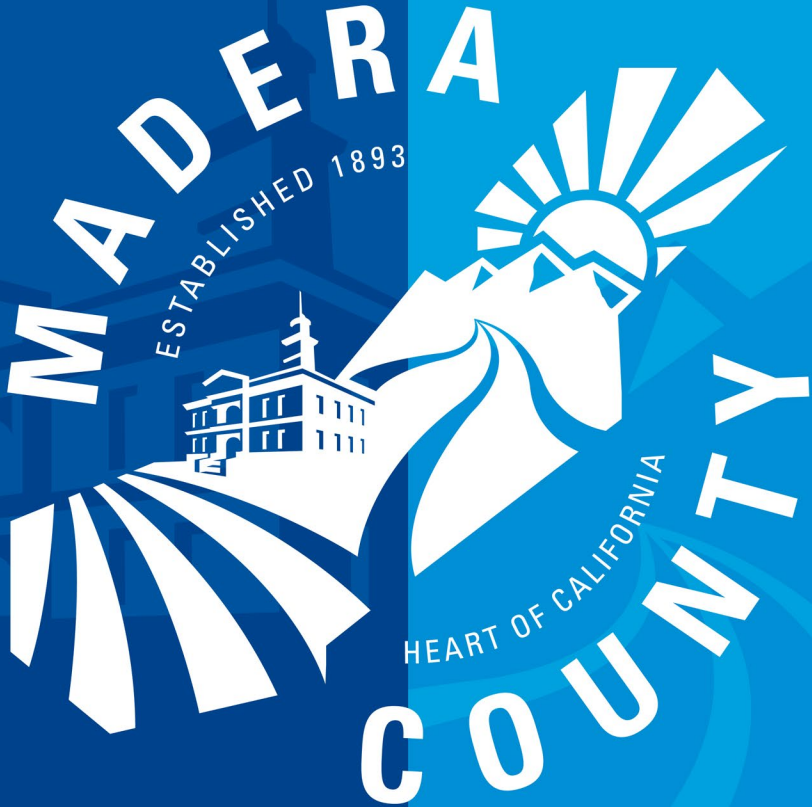
Julie Ekstrom, California Department of Water Resources

The Risk Assessment Process: What approach, resources, and tools have you used/will use to assess risks and vulnerabilities in your county? What challenges are you facing and how are you addressing them?

Risk Assessment Outcomes: How are you using/will use the risk assessment results to inform your planning efforts, identify priorities, and develop short-term mitigation actions and long-term strategies?



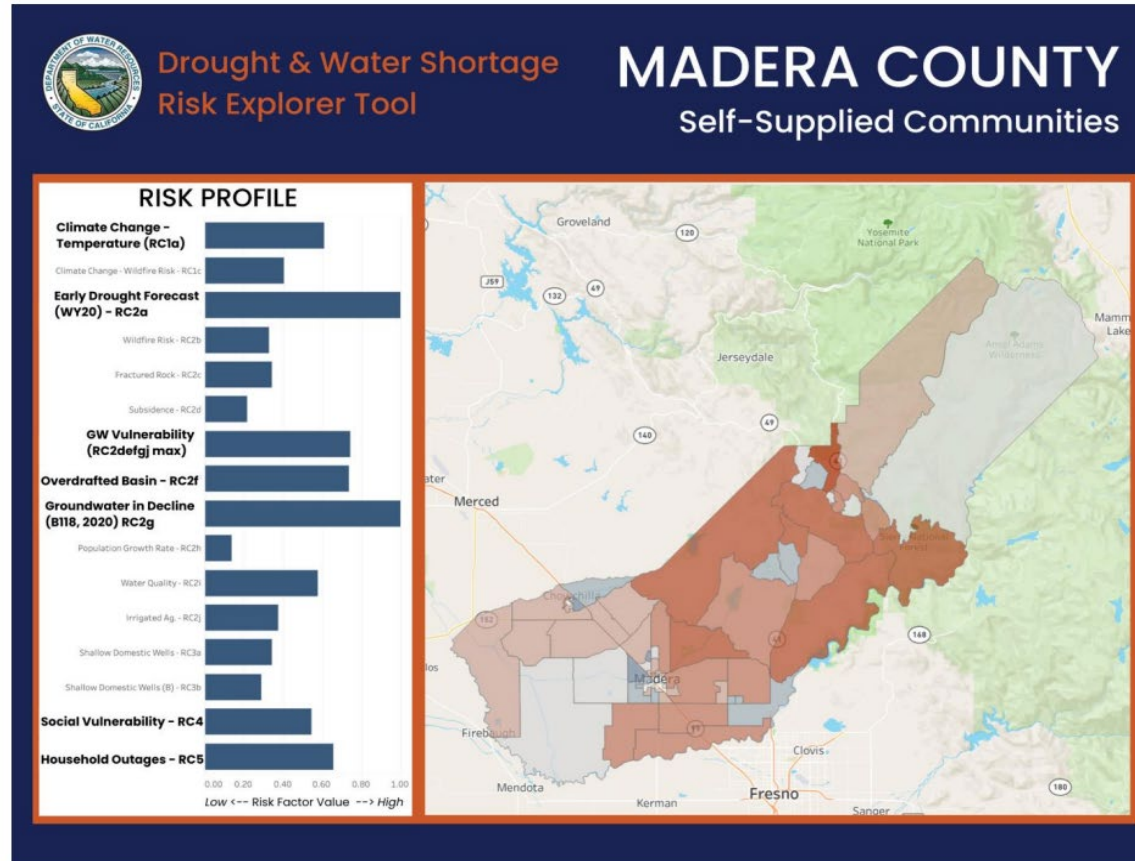
Jenny Nunez-Rodriguez,
Madera County





Hydrology and Risk Analysis

Figure 2-3: County-Wide Risk Assessment



Madera County’s population resides on the Valley Floor or in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada.

On the Valley Floor, alluvial aquifers are used for agricultural, urban and domestic uses.

In the Foothills communities, communities and individuals rely on wells drilled in fractured rock.

[SB552-Drought-Plan-Draft-for-Review.pdf](#)
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Tracking Protocols and Response Actions

Figure 4-1: Tracking Protocols and Response Actions Framework

Drought Stage	TRACKING MEASURE			Response Actions
	Groundwater Decline	Dry Wells Reports	Current Year Hydrology	
0	Less than 15 feet	Less than 4 reports	More than 80% of average San Joaquin River runoff	Baseline Actions
1	15 - 30 feet	5 - 10 reports	50 - 80% of average San Joaquin River runoff	Moderate Actions
2	More than 30 feet	More than 11 reports	Less than 50% of average San Joaquin River runoff	Severe Actions

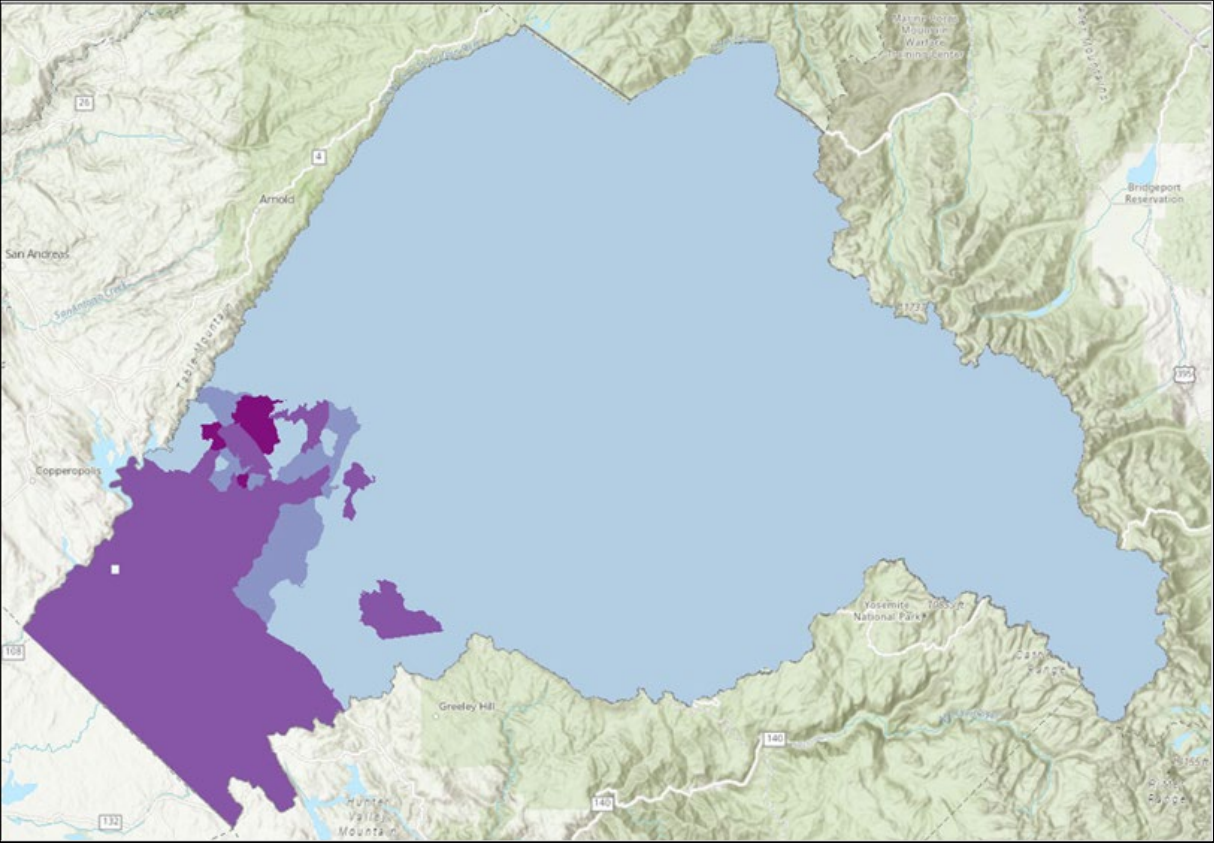
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Drought and Water Shortage Vulnerability Map



Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool map



Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment Questions and Discussion

The Risk Assessment Process: What approach, resources, and tools have you used/will use to assess risks and vulnerabilities in your county? What challenges are you facing and how are you addressing them?

Risk Assessment Outcomes: How are you using/will use the risk assessment results to inform your planning efforts, identify priorities, and develop short-term mitigation actions and long-term strategies?

Resources:

- General questions on the risk assessment process – Reference the [DWR County Drought Resilience Plan Guidebook](#)
- For specific questions about your county – Reach out to DWR at CountyDRP@water.ca.gov





Polling: What should we discuss at our next gathering?

- Considerations for implementation
- Equity and justice considerations
- Integration with SGMA implementation
- Consistency of county drought and climate policy
- Response and mitigation actions
- Communication and public engagement



Closing - Thank you!

Next steps - we will follow up with an email to counties for future gatherings, ppt, invitation to share in upcoming gathering.