



Drinking Water Regulatory Program

The Division of Drinking Water and
Environmental Management

California Department of Public Health

Drinking Water in California

To ensure California public drinking water supplies meet all applicable federal and state drinking water standards, CDPH's Drinking Water Program:

- Oversees nearly 8,000 public water systems serving over 38 million people.

SRF/ARRA has funded:

- 295 planning and construction projects for 236 entities in 51 counties.
 - 169 projects have been completed and are in repayment, now providing approximately \$43 million in interest and principal payments each year.
- Over \$1.75 billion to applicants, including
 - Low-interest loans
 - Zero-interest loans
 - Grants

Drinking Water Program

Type of System	Approximate #
COMMUNITY	3,000
Large (>3,300 people)	700
Small (>15 connections, <3,300 people)	2,300
NON-COMMUNITY	4,500
Nontransient	1,500
Transient	3,000
TOTAL	7,500

Type of System	Population	% of CA population
Large Water System >1000 connections	37 million	98%
Small Water System <1000 connections	400,000	1%

Drinking Water Program

The Drinking Water Program has nearly 200 staff located in 23 districts and offices throughout the state. Each District is staffed by:

- Senior District Engineer
- 3-6 technical staff (primarily engineers)



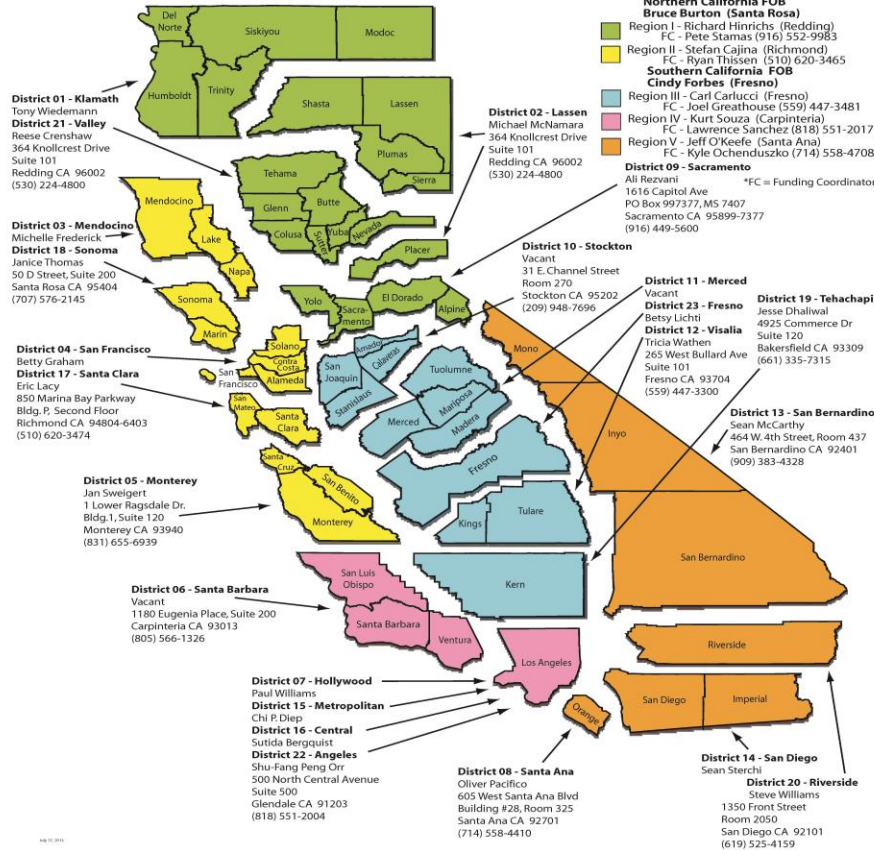
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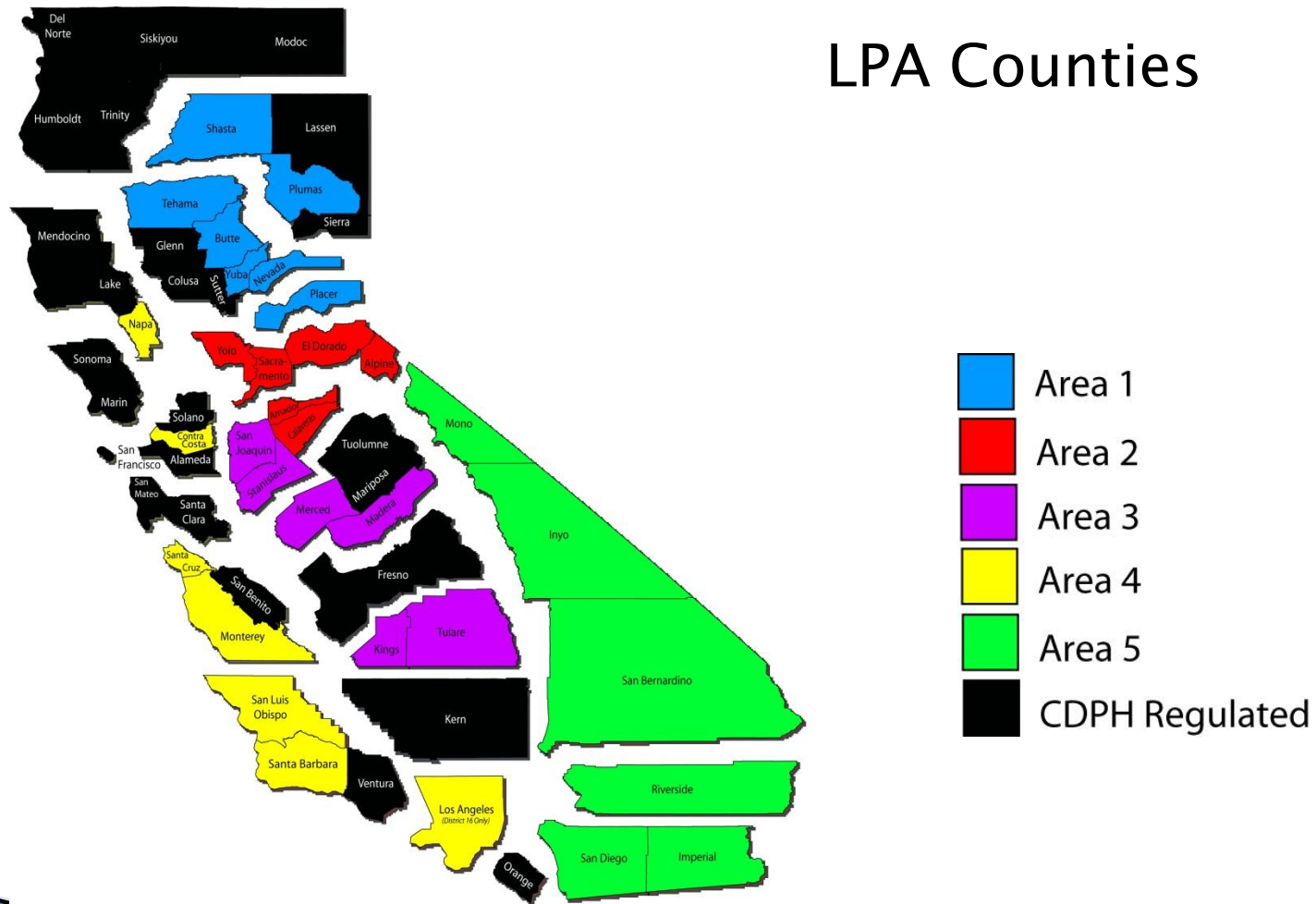


Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor



Drinking Water Program

LPA Counties



Districts Responsible for Permitting/Inspections & Enforcement Actions

- ▶ District staff perform all permitting, inspections, and enforcement activities for their water systems.
- ▶ Important for maintaining relationships and understanding local water supply and quality concerns/issues.
- ▶ Evaluate the technical aspects of all funding projects, meet with systems, consultants, and develop support for needed projects
- ▶ District staff oversee and evaluate LPA SWS programs. Provide technical assistance.

Drinking Water Program

- ▶ CDPH's Drinking Water Program
 - Regulatory Oversight
 - Issues Water Supply Permits— Typically by District Engineers; Nearly 1,400 since 2010
 - Conduct Inspections—EPA Primacy Requirement
 - Review Water Quality Data and respond to problems
 - Issued over 1600 Formal Enforcement actions since 2010; BWO/UWA issued immediately
 - Evaluate Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity
 - Emergency Response to Natural Disasters and Water Quality Emergencies
 - Investigate Complaints

Drinking Water Program

- ▶ **CDPH's Drinking Water Program**
 - **Regulatory Oversight Continued**
 - Local Primacy Agency Oversight
 - Small Water System Technical Assistance
 - Water Treatment Technology Evaluation
 - Recycled Water Program
 - **Funding Technical Evaluations**
 - Federal Funding – SDWSRF (20% State match)
 - State Bond Programs – Prop 50, Prop 84, Interim Water Supplies

8 Mandatory Elements of Sanitary Surveys



Treatment

Finished Water Storage

Monitoring, reporting, & data verification

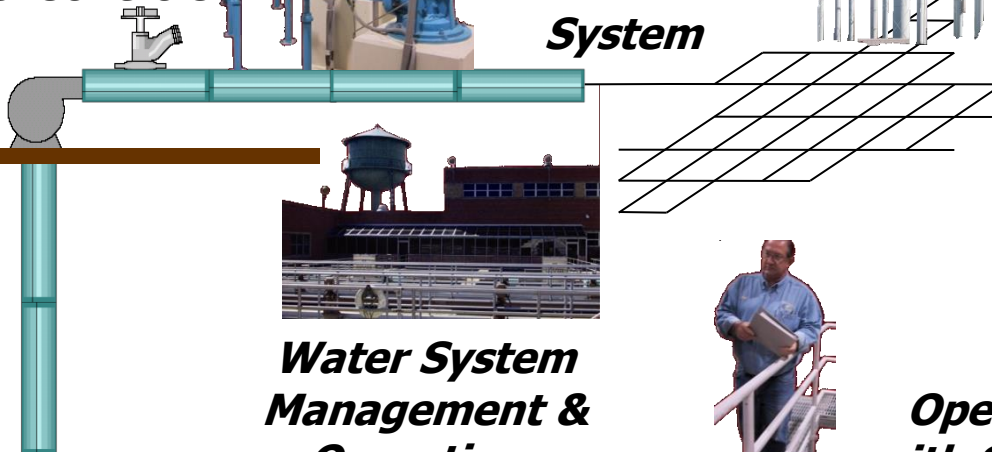
Pumps, Pump Facilities, & Controls



Distribution System



Town Hall



Water System Management & Operations



Operator Compliance with State Requirements

Source

Drinking Water Fees



- Drinking Water Program is substantially funded by fees charged to water systems
- Large Water Systems are billed hourly for the time spent by CDPH staff
 - Minimum billable goal to assure sufficient funding
 - Cap on the total amount of fees assessed per year
- Small Water System are charged flat fees
 - Fee based on # of service connections, or population
 - Statute allows increase without legislation, but requires approval by legislature



Water Supply Challenges

- Climate Change Impacts (Sea level rise, expected snow pack variability, severe weather events)
- Imported Water Constraints—Delta SWP & Colorado River (ESA Regulatory Drought)
- Desalination
- Treatment Of Extremely Impaired Sources (52 of 94 CA Superfund sites in So Cal branch)
- Groundwater Recharge & Surface Water Augmentation W/Recycled Water (475 entities w/~ 30,000 use sites)
- Out Of Country Supply



Natural Disasters



Earthquakes, Wildfires,
Mudslides, Flooding,
Water Quality
Emergencies



Conduct damage
assessments, evaluate water
quality results to confirm
safety of supplies



Small Water Systems

- ▶ 3,440 SWS under our direct jurisdiction
- ▶ 4,100 delegated to county health agencies
- ▶ Serve small communities, schools or businesses, or transient populations (e.g. restaurants, ski resorts)
- ▶ Many small community systems are disadvantaged and isolated
 - Limited access to skilled operators, managers
 - Not enough money to operate or improve system, lack financial skills to navigate State funding process
 - Isolation makes consolidation very expensive (pipe extensions cost \$500,000 –\$1 million per mile)

SWS CHALLENGES

▶ Technical, Managerial, and Financial Challenges

◦ *Technical*

- Lack of basic information on quantity of water needed and usage;
- Old, leaking distribution systems;
- Lack of engineering support to assess alternatives and design solutions;
- Proposed solution has environmental impacts or needs permits from other agencies.

◦ *Managerial*

- Lack of clear ownership of water system;
- Lack of clear water rights;
- No water system operator.

◦ *Financial*

- Historic low water rates resulting in limited budget, deferred maintenance, lack of reserves, and inability to afford operations and maintenance costs;
- Water rates that are, or will be, too high to be affordable to residents, especially if treatment is needed for contaminant removal.
- Privately-owned water systems, including mobile home parks, are not eligible for grants under the SRF, only loans.

SWS CHALLENGES

CDPH is not able to provide funding for operations and maintenance costs

- Water rates are a key element to maintaining compliance
- Rates must be sufficient to cover:
 - Operations and maintenance costs, increasing with increased treatment needs;
 - Future infrastructure replacement
 - Small water systems have less customers to spread costs– too limited rate base
 - Operator expertise needed for new treatment facilities