
State Water Resources Control Board

Overall Needs Analysis Conceptual Plan

(April 2019)

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) was [appropriated funding](#) to implement a Needs Analysis on the state of drinking water in California. Overall, this Needs Analysis will cover the three elements discussed below.

Element 1: Identification of Public Water Systems In Violation or At-Risk

This element will identify public water systems¹ that have ongoing violations or may be at risk for failure based on historical compliance issues, aging infrastructure, technical, managerial, financial (TMF) capacity analysis, and/or other risk factors. A public workshop on this element was held on January 11, 2019. Recordings and presentations from the event are available on the State Water Board's Needs Assessment [website](#).

Based on information obtained during the workshop and public comments received, the State Water Board is negotiations with the University of California, Los Angeles to initiate a contract for this work. The contract work will include:

- (1) an initial screening of all community and non-transient non-community water systems based on data that has already been gathered by the State Water Board or other partnering agencies,
- (2) an in-depth financial analysis for water systems that are not currently in violation or determined to be at-risk, but may risk factors, and
- (3) creation of a financial capacity dashboard as a long-term tool. The financial capacity dashboard will be similar to those produced by the [University of North Carolina's Environmental Finance Center](#).

Additional details of the Public Water System scope of work can be found on the Needs Assessment [website](#).

¹ As defined in the Health and Safety Code. Note that public water systems may be publicly-or privately-owned.

Element 2: Identification of Domestic Well and State Small Water System At Risk

Element 2 will identify areas of the state and the associated population where groundwater contamination is impacting domestic well users and state small water systems. The State Water Board is working in collaboration with the Department of Water Resources to support efforts on domestic well capacity and drought vulnerability issues. A public workshop on this element was held on January 18, 2019. Recordings and presentations from the event are available on the State Water Board's Needs Assessment [website](#).

Domestic Wells

Based on information obtained during the workshop and public comments received, the State Water Board anticipates collaborating with other partners on current research results including U.S. Geological Survey, the Department of Water Resources and others. Based on these collaborations, in-house State Water Board staff will be used to estimate the number of domestic wells impacted by the most widespread chemical contaminants that have been encountered in the San Joaquin and Salinas areas, including arsenic, nitrate, and 1,2,3-TCP. Similar analyses will subsequently be conducted State-wide to build on the San Joaquin and Salinas studies. The results of these efforts will provide estimates of domestic wells impacted by chemical contamination. In addition, this work will include developing an estimate of potentially impacted domestic well populations located within approximately 1-mile of an existing public water system's service boundary.

Additional details of the domestic well scope of work can be found on the Needs Assessment [website](#).

State Small Water Systems

Water Foundation is currently performing outreach to each California county to obtain inventory information, locational information, and water quality data on State Small Water Systems. Thanks to this effort and collaboration, the State Water Board intends to leverage these results to evaluate the status of water quality for state small water systems and identify At-Risk water systems. Additional work will be dependent on the quality and availability of the data collected.

Element 3: Cost Analysis for Interim and Long-Term Solutions

This element seeks to find the most sustainable and cost-effective solution to solve drinking water problems identified in Elements 1 and 2. The element will consider the costs related to both necessary interim measures and longer-term solutions. Solutions may include water partnerships, physical and managerial consolidations, administrators, long-term treatment and/or point of use/point of entry treatment. **A public workshop on this Element will be held on May 10, 2019 from 10am -4 pm at the State Water Board Office in Sacramento.** More information on the public meeting can be found on our [website](#):