
State Water Resources Control Board

Public Notice of Drought Funding Workshops for Counties

Two opportunities for participation. Remote participation only.

Workshop #1

Wednesday, August 25, 2021
10:00 – 11:30 AM Pacific Time
Zoom Webinar: bit.ly/drought25
Join by phone: +1 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 942 9952 4210
Passcode: 443815

Workshop #2

Tuesday, August 31, 2021
2:00 – 3:30 PM Pacific Time
Zoom Webinar: bit.ly/drought31
Join by phone: +1 669 900 9128
Meeting ID: 990 1913 0764
Passcode: 724776

OVERVIEW

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) and Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff will host two Drought Funding Workshops for Counties on August 25 and 31 to discuss the roles of counties and state agencies in emergency drought response, review how counties can access funding and develop programs for countywide programs related to emergency drinking water shortages, and answer questions from county representatives and their partner nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Both workshops will provide the same information.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The Drought Funding Workshops for Counties are intended for county representatives and partner NGOs. We invite other interested people to participate in the workshops, but Board staff will be prioritizing questions from county representatives and their partner NGOs.

BACKGROUND

As of August 2021, Governor Newsom has declared a state of drought emergency in 50 out of 58 California counties. The State recognizes that many of these counties are struggling to help their residents deal with the impacts of drought. While state agencies have resources for responding to drought-related water shortages and are tasked with long-term drought resilience planning, counties are best positioned to assist with emergencies at the local level and serve as first responders.

The State Water Board and DWR want to make counties and local governments aware of available funding for emergency drought response. We are interested in partnering with counties to develop regional programs that will help fill emergency drought

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

response funding gaps, especially in counties that have a high risk of wells going dry and/or a large number of state small water systems and domestic wells.

Specifically, we are prepared to collaborate on regional programs that include assessments (e.g., outreach and sampling), interim solutions (e.g., bottled water or hauled water and tanks), and long-term solutions (e.g., well repairs/replacements or consolidation) for state small water systems and domestic wells. Counties, or NGOs serving the county, that receive funding will be responsible for managing and implementing the program. The State will reimburse the counties or NGOs for costs incurred related to the implementation and management of these programs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions about this notice, please email drought@waterboards.ca.gov.

For information and updates about State Water Board drought activities, please visit waterboards.ca.gov/drought.

For information on the Department of Water Resources drought activities, please visit water.ca.gov/drought.