

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

**MONTEREY COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE
SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM**

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Overview

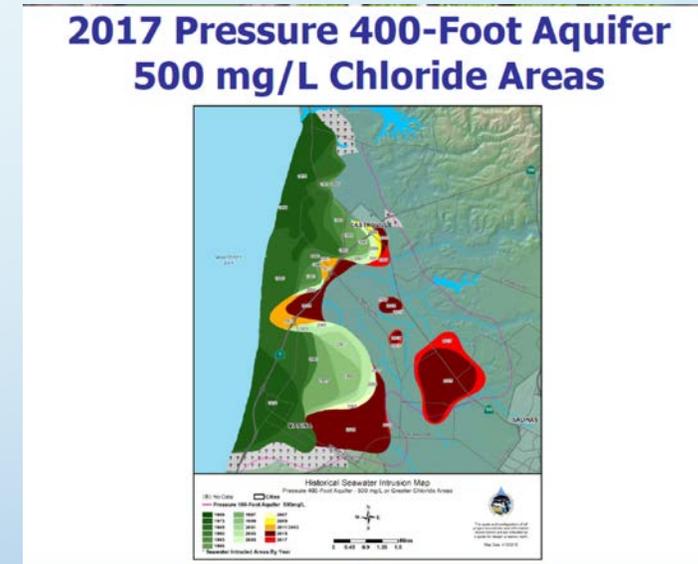
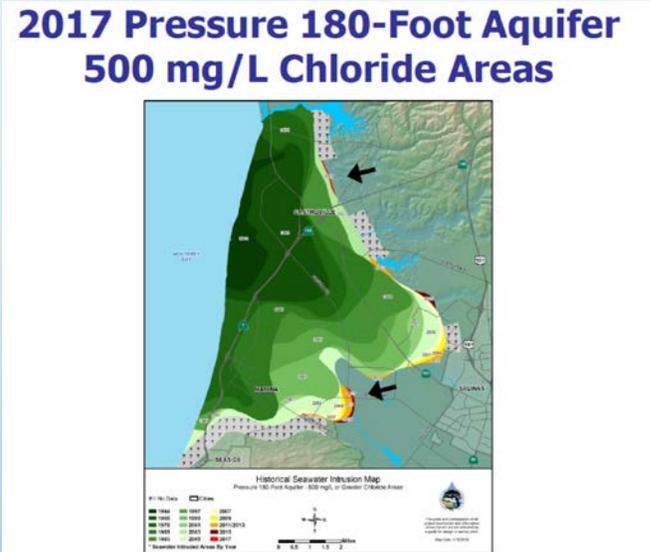
- Water Challenges for Monterey County
- Statistics
- Monterey County Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) Role in Regulation of Water System
- Water Systems out of Compliance
- Water Quality Testing Efforts
- Human Right to Safe Drinking Water
- EHB Proposed POU/POE Ordinance and Our Goal to Provide Safe Drinking Water



Sources: ESRI, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, inc./swisstopo, P. Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kartus, NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, Mapbox, ©

Water Challenges for Monterey County

IMPACTS OF SEA WATER INTRUSION



Efforts to mitigate or slow impacts of sea water intrusion

- Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project
- Well Moratorium for new Agricultural wells in zone of impact
- GSA formation/implementation plan

Efforts to increase water supply

- Interlake Tunnel Project
- Desalination projects

MONTEREY COUNTY, CA

 ADD COMPARISON

Major industries in Monterey county:
Tourism and Agriculture with many employees in food service, hotels, farmworkers

POPULATION

435,232

0.31% GROWTH

MEDIAN AGE

34

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$63,876

5.59% GROWTH

POVERTY RATE

12.5%

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

189,330

3.94% GROWTH

MEDIAN PROPERTY VALUE

\$481,000

12.1% GROWTH

Monterey County EHB Regulates 1,250 Water Systems

- EHB IS A LOCAL PRIMACY AGENCY (LPA)
 - CONSISTING OF:
 - **283** REGULATED WATER SYSTEMS OF **15-199 CONNECTIONS**
 - **691** “STATE SMALL SYSTEMS” OF **5-14 CONNECTIONS**
- EHB ALSO REGULATES **276** “LOCAL SMALL” WATER SYSTEMS OF **2-4 CONNECTIONS**, UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE MONTEREY COUNTY CODE
- A CONNECTION IS A HABITABLE STRUCTURE RECEIVING WATER
 - HOMES, APARTMENT COMPLEXES, FOOD FACILITIES
 - ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS
 - EMPLOYEE HOUSING STRUCTURE WITH MULTIPLE RESIDENTS (FARM LABOR CAMPS ARE INCLUDED)

235 (19%) WATER SYSTEMS OUT OF COMPLIANCE

LPA SYSTEMS (15-199 CONNECTIONS)

- 17 EXCEED NITRATE STANDARDS
- 10 EXCEED ARSENIC STANDARDS
- 1 EXCEEDS ARSENIC/CADMIUM STANDARDS
- 7 EXCEED SURFACE WATER STANDARDS

LOCAL AND STATE SMALLS (2-14 CONNECTIONS)

- 163 EXCEED NITRATE STANDARDS
- 79 EXCEED ARSENIC STANDARDS
- 83 EXCEED CHROME VI STANDARDS ** NOT CURRENTLY REGULATED
- 2 EXCEED FLUORIDE OR CADMIUM STANDARDS

UNKNOWN AND/OR UNREGULATED DOMESTIC WELLS AND WATER SYSTEMS

- MONTEREY COUNTY HAS HUNDREDS OF UNREGULATED WELLS SERVING SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES AND MAY HAVE MULTIPLE CONNECTIONS TO STRUCTURES THAT ARE NOT REGULATED AS WATER SYSTEMS.
- THIS DOMESTIC WELLS MAY ALSO BE IMPACTED BY CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN
- MANY OF THESE HOMES ARE RENTAL PROPERTIES PROVIDING UNSAFE WATER TO TENANTS

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD HAS PROVIDED:

FREE DOMESTIC WELL TESTING IN THE SALINAS VALLEY

FREE DOMESTIC WELL TESTING COUNTY WIDE

HUMAN RIGHT TO SAFE DRINKING WATER

- IN DECEMBER OF 2019 THE MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES FOR ALL RESIDENTS.
- FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA
- ISSUED A PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF THE HUMAN RIGHT TO SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR ALL.

MONTEREY COUNTY POINT OF USE/POINT OF ENTRY ORDINANCE FOR IMPACTED WATER SYSTEMS

- **CURRENT OPTIONS FOR WATER SYSTEMS TO ACHIEVE SAFE DRINKING WATER:**

- CONSOLIDATION
- NEW WELL
- CENTRALIZED TREATMENT

- **OBSTACLES**

- THERE MAY NOT BE NEARBY COMPLIANT WATER SYSTEMS
- A NEW WELL MAY NOT BE SUCCESSFUL
- CENTRALIZED TREATMENT CAN BE VERY COMPLEX AND IS COSTLY
- OBSTACLES RESULT IN USE OF UNSAFE TAP WATER OR LONG TERM RELIANCE ON BOTTLED WATER FOR DRINKING OR COOKING

PROPOSED POU/POE ORDINANCE WOULD PROVIDE A FOURTH LOWER COST OPTION TO ATTAIN SAFE DRINKING WATER

SMALL WATER SYSTEM WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR POU/POE PERMIT IF:

- IT IS AN EXISTING PERMITTED WATER SYSTEM UNDER THE MC CODE
- CENTRALIZED TREATMENT, CONSOLIDATION OR A NEW WELL IS NOT ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE
- COMPLETION OF PILOT TESTING TO CONFIRM POU OR POE IS EFFECTIVE
- NO SUBSTANTIAL COMMUNITY OPPOSITION FROM MEMBERS OF WATER SYSTEM
- WATER SYSTEM HAS AN EHB APPROVED:
 - TREATMENT STRATEGY
 - APPROVED POU/POE DEVICES FROM STATE LIST
 - OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM TO ENSURE PROPER OPERATION
 - MONITORING PROGRAM TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS OF SYSTEM
- POU WILL NOT BE APPROVED FOR TREATMENT OF MICROBIAL CONTAMINATION, VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICAL, ORGANIC CHEMICALS THAT POSE AN INHALATION RISK, OR RADON

GOAL OF POU/POE ?

TO PROVIDE:

- A LOW COST ATTAINABLE OPTION TO TREAT WATER
- A BRIDGE UNTIL FUNDING FOR A LONG TERM SOLUTION IS MADE AVAILABLE THAT WOULD SUPPLY SAFE DRINKING WATER TO IMPACTED WATER SYSTEMS
- SAFE WATER TO TENANTS LIVING IN HOMES WHO MAY BE RELYING ON BOTTLED WATER.

POU/POE NOT A CURRENT OPTION IN THE MC CODE FOR WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT