

PROBLEM DETECTION
Programs Inventory – In development

Property Owner/Occupant

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Rental Property Domestic Well Testing Requirements (AB 2454, 2024)	SWB	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Quality issues may be detected that are otherwise left unknown. Protects renters.

NGOs/CBOs

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Call center for dry well reporting	County	Self Help service area	Past effort	Trusted reported, a way for people to ask for help

COUNTIES

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Water quality testing for drinking water wells	SWB	Statewide, by county	Ongoing (Statutory, SB 200)	Initial monitoring is often limited to a few constituents - often not a comprehensive assessment of water quality and often not continued regularly for domestic wells.
County Drought and Water Shortage Task Forces	GSA, DWR, local agencies, public water systems, public, CalOES	Counties with domestic wells and state small water systems	Ongoing (Statutory, SB 552)	Standing space to discuss drought impacts on domestic wells and state small water systems

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GSAs

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Groundwater level monitoring	DWR	SGMA basins	Ongoing (Statutory, SGMA)	Know where declining levels are; data are made public via DWR

STATE – California Department of Water Resources

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
My Dry Well Reporting	Locals, counties, TA providers, GSAs	Statewide	Ongoing (fill-in)	Web portal for dry well reports from domestic well users, hosts that redacted dataset publicly and making it accessible visually for decision makers, assistance providers, etc
Dry Well Susceptibility dataset, updated annually.	SWB	Statewide	Ongoing (Fill-in)	Documents drought impact to state; DWR hosting this can save county resources because counties and GSAs can have their own login.
CA Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM)	GSAs, local agencies	Basin areas	Ongoing (Statutory)	Provides early warning of groundwater level declines that may signal risk to domestic wells and SSWS
Water Shortage Vulnerability Tool Explorer: Drought water shortage vulnerability scoring/indicators and interactive tools	SWB, LCI, counties, academics	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory, SB 552)	Identifies high-risk areas, enabling proactive action to potential water shortages

PROBLEM DETECTION
Programs Inventory – In development

STATE – State Water Board

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Aquifer Risk Map, GAMA GIS	USGS	Statewide where data are available	Ongoing (Statutory)	Creates composite metric to view water quality challenges for domestic wells and state smalls
SAFER Risk Assessment	DWR	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Creates a dollar value for the need to domestic wells and state smalls, based on risk assessment. Creates map of groundwater water quality risk to domestic wells and state smalls
Domestic Well WQ Testing Funding Program	Well owners (landlords)	Water Board priority areas	Ongoing (?)	Identifies contaminated areas

State - LCI

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Vulnerable Communities Platform – Drought Vulnerability Map	DWR, SWB	Statewide	Ongoing (fill-in)	Identifies areas vulnerable to water shortage; inform land use and well permitting decisions

State – Department of Pesticides

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Water quality pesticide monitoring	Well owners	Statewide	Ongoing (fill-in)	Inform whether pesticides are present in groundwater

PROBLEM DETECTION

Programs Inventory – In development

STATE – California Energy Commission

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Projections and scenarios data, analytics and visualizations in Cal-Adapt.	DWR, SWB, other state agencies, universities, and more.	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Identifies areas likely to experience increased drought stress, supporting early awareness of future risks to domestic wells and SSWS

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RESPONSE AND MITIGATION

Programs Inventory – In development

(programs in **RED** are programs that are no longer available)

NGOs/CBOs

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
LT: Domestic Well Mitigation Guidance	Multiple NGOs	Basins only	Varies (Fill in)	Developed by NGO collaborative to guide GSAs on best practices of developing a domestic well mitigation plan and program.
R: Self Help Enterprise Rapid Response	County, SWRCB, others	Self Help service area (SJV+)	Past (?)	Wide variety of assistance, includes education
R: RCAC, Self Help, other technical assistance providers	GSA, SWRCB	Scope determined by Water Board; provider specific	Varies	Some include water testing kits, water hauling, bottled water, and other short term solutions.

COUNTIES

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
R/LT: County Drought Resilience Plans	DWR	County specific	One-time (Statute)	Short term and long-term planning for drought impacts
R/LT: SB552 Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program	NGOs, SGMA, MJHMP	County specific		Content differs by county
R: Bottled Water Pre-Negotiated Contracts	NGOs, SGMA	County specific	In response to drought conditions/emergency declaration	Emergency water supplies
R: Voluntary Water Conservation Program	NGOs, DWR, SGMA	County specific		Outreach/Information
R/LT: Santa Cruz County local water quality testing		Santa Cruz County	?	
R/LT: EO N-7-22 and N-3-23: Required new well permits to check with GSA before approval. (sunseted)	GSA	SGMA areas	Executive Orders 2022 and 2023, temporary	Could prevent new wells from impacting water availability of existing domestic or ss wells

RESPONSE AND MITIGATION

Programs Inventory – In development
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GSA

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
LT: GSA Domestic Well Mitigation Plan (individual GSAs)	DWR, local agencies	Region specific	Fill in program, if exists	How and whether the GSA deals with dry DW, not specifically required but advised by state. Wide variety of what is covered.

STATE – California Department of Water Resources

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
R: Small Community Drought Relief Program, grants, water tanks, connections, well-deepening, and other technical assistance (closed)		Statewide, based on need	By emergency declaration as determined by GO	
LT: SGMO guidance on DW mitigation plans	GSA		Fill in program	
R/LT: County Drought Plan Assistance Program (Complete, one time)	Counties	Statewide	One-time (fill in)	Assisting 56 counties with their domestic well drought risk assessments and drought plan development, and domestic well and SSWS-focused water shortage task forces (required by SB 552)
LT: CA County Café Series: Educational coordination webinar series for county staff working on SB 552 plans and task forces	CSAC, Counties	Statewide	Ongoing (Fill in)	Connection and opportunities for counties to learn from one another and share experiences; space to reflect on ongoing needs and successes
LT: Recharge: FloodMAR research and convening of experts and policy development (and funding?)	Water districts, GSAs,	site specific	Fill in attempt (LandFlex example)	Consider potential strategic long term benefits for DW
Private property in California - constrains state funds from	N/A	statewide	state constitution	State cannot use state funds to private benefit (look for law to cite). Self Help is a bridging organization that contracts with homeowners. Homeowner contracts with the driller, but SHE pays the invoice of the driller.

RESPONSE AND MITIGATION

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STATE – State Water Board

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
LT - Consolidations and Administrators – limited application		Need based, limited	Need based, limited	Connect to secure water source
R/LT -Domestic Well WQ Testing Funding Program		multiple geographic areas served by various TA providers with different levels of support		
LT: WQCB		Water Boards regions limited	Ongoing	
LT - Recharge: Diversions under WC 1242.1 (diversions of flood flows to groundwater without a permit)		limited		
LT - Recharge: Issuance of groundwater recharge permits - adjacent, for underground storage		limited		
R/LT: CV Salts Program for GW quality		Limited to determined zones	Ongoing (Statutory - Regulatory program for nitrate mitigation)	provides testing, replacement water; broken up into different management zones for nitrate is a contaminant. Some of the zones do not have the same services.

RESPONSE AND MITIGATION

Programs Inventory – In development

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STATE – Cal OES

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
R: Coordination with local jurisdictions via Cal OES Operations, sharing DWR and SWRQB mitigation and preparation programs and information, as well as FEMA Hazard Mitigation program information. (closed)	Local jurisdictions; DWR; SWB; FEMA	Statewide	By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Coordination
R: Updated Emergency Drinking Water Procurement & Distribution Planning Guidance (closed)			By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Guidance
R: Developed a Drought Dashboard for tracking mission tasks (closed)			By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Tracking - Data
R: Coordinated with the DWR, the SWRCB, and other agencies on advance planning efforts addressing statewide water issues. (closed)	DWR; SWB; others	Statewide	By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Coordination
R: Logistics coordinated with the DGS, DWR, and SWRCB to anticipate surge needs for emergency water procurement/delivery. (closed)		DGS, DWR, and SWRCB	By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Coordination Emergency water procurement/delivery
R: Provided support and coordination to state lead drought response agencies. (ability to mission task state agencies) (closed)			By emergency declaration as determined by GO	Support and coordination

RESPONSE AND MITIGATION

Programs Inventory – In development

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LCI

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
R: Save Our Water Campaign to support locals in messaging and outreach on water conservation, especially during a drought	DWR	Statewide	Ongoing	encouragement to reduce use during drought
LT: Vulnerable Communities Platform	DWR, SWRCB, many more	statewide	Ongoing	Can inform land use planning of future drought risks

USDA

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
R/LT: USDA grants for DW and small public water systems	Grant applicants (well owner)	Statewide	?	
R/LT: USDA Rural Development - Single Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants Program for replacement wells and lateral connections		Statewide, based on need	?	

GROUNDWATER, HYDROLOGY, AND OTHER EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS

Programs Inventory – In development

COUNTIES

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
County General Plans and zoning authority, including wellhead protection overlays, hydrogeologic review, and project conditioning	GSA, LCI, SWRCB, developers, public	Countywide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Protects groundwater quality and recharge; prevents future contamination and over-extraction affecting DW/SSWS
SB552 County Drought Planning and Task Force	GSA, DWR, local agencies, CBOs/NGOs, public water systems, public	Areas with domestic wells and/or state small water systems	Ongoing (Statutory)	Improves coordination across agencies; identifies vulnerable communities; supports planning for both short-term response and long-term mitigation

GSA

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Groundwater Sustainability Plans development under SGMA to achieve sustainable groundwater management	DWR (review), SWRCB (regulatory approval), counties, public	Groundwater Basin	Ongoing (Statutory)	Reduces long-term groundwater decline; includes mitigation measures for domestic wells and SSWS
Domestic Well Mitigation Programs (varies by GSA)	Counties, DWR, SWRCB, NGOs	Basin-specific	Varies (Fill in)	Direct support (e.g., well replacement, financial assistance) for vulnerable domestic wells

GROUNDWATER, HYDROLOGY, AND OTHER EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS

Programs Inventory – In development

STATE – California Department of Water Resources

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Basin Characterization Program	USGS, local agencies	Basin areas	Ongoing (project-based)	Improves understanding of aquifer structure
FloodMAR research and convening of experts and policy development (and funding?) and its strategic benefits for domestic wells long term	GSAs, local agencies, NGOs	Basin areas	Ongoing/past efforts (LandFlex example)	Enhances recharge, improving long-term groundwater availability
Review of GSPs and their inclusion of domestic well impacts	GSAs, SWRCB	Basin areas subject to SGMA	Ongoing (Statutory)	Improves inclusion of domestic wells and SSWS in groundwater management and strengthens protections against undesirable results
Bulletin 118 - Periodic statewide assessment and characterization of groundwater basins, including boundaries, conditions, and trends		Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Establishes baseline understanding of basin conditions
Maintain CASGEM and larger California's groundwater monitoring network	Local monitoring entities, GSAs	Statewide	Ongoing Statutory, (previously program fill in)	Provides basin-scale groundwater level data that can indicate declining conditions and risk
Water Shortage Vulnerability Score and Tool	Counties, SWRCB, many other state agencies	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Identifies high-risk communities and supports planning, prioritization, and resource allocation
California Water Watch	Data from multiple state and federal sources	Statewide	Ongoing (Required by EO in previous drought)	Provides accessible, timely information on hydrologic conditions

GROUNDWATER, HYDROLOGY, AND OTHER EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS

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STATE – State Water Board

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
SAFER Program	Counties, GSAs, CBOs/NGOs	Statewide – priority for disadvantaged communities	Ongoing (Statutory)	Funds treatment, consolidation, and interim solutions; supports long-term access to safe drinking water for vulnerable populations
CV-SALTS Well Testing	Regional Water Boards, agricultural coalitions	Central Valley	Ongoing (Fill in)	Tracks nitrate contamination affecting domestic wells
GeoTracker / GAMA	DWR, local agencies and entities, monitoring programs	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Identifies regional contamination and supports detection of groundwater quality risks
Aquifers Risk Map	DWR, local agencies	Basin areas	Ongoing (Statutory)	Identifies high-risk areas and informs prioritization of funding and intervention
GSP Backstop Authority – intervenes in non-compliant basins	DWR, GSAs	SGMA basins	Ongoing (Statutory)	Provides enforcement mechanism to ensure groundwater sustainability

STATE – LCI

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)	State agencies, local governments	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Keeping drought and impacts on rural on radar of the state as part of the scope of needed climate adaptation
General Plan Guidelines Update	State agencies, counties, cities	Statewide	Ongoing (Statutory)	Inclusion of water in the guidance can help future land use planners account for water as General Plans are updated

GROUNDWATER, HYDROLOGY, AND OTHER EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS

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Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS

FEDERAL – NASA

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE)	USGS	Global w/ regional resolution	Ongoing (Fill-in)	Provides regional-scale data on groundwater depletion trends

FEDERAL – USGS

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Groundwater and Hydrologic Data	DWR, GSAs, local agencies	National w/ site specific monitoring networks	Ongoing	Provides foundational data on groundwater levels and trends

FEDERAL – NOAA

Program Name and Description	Coordination With others	Geographic Scope	Duration	Key benefits to DW/SSWS
Hydrologic, Climate Data and Drought Outlook	USDA, USGS, DWR, other federal and state partners	National w/ regional and local applications	Ongoing (regional drought early warning is pilot effort)	Provides early warning of drought conditions and climate trends that affect groundwater recharge, water availability, and drought risk