

SAFER Advisory Group Meeting #4

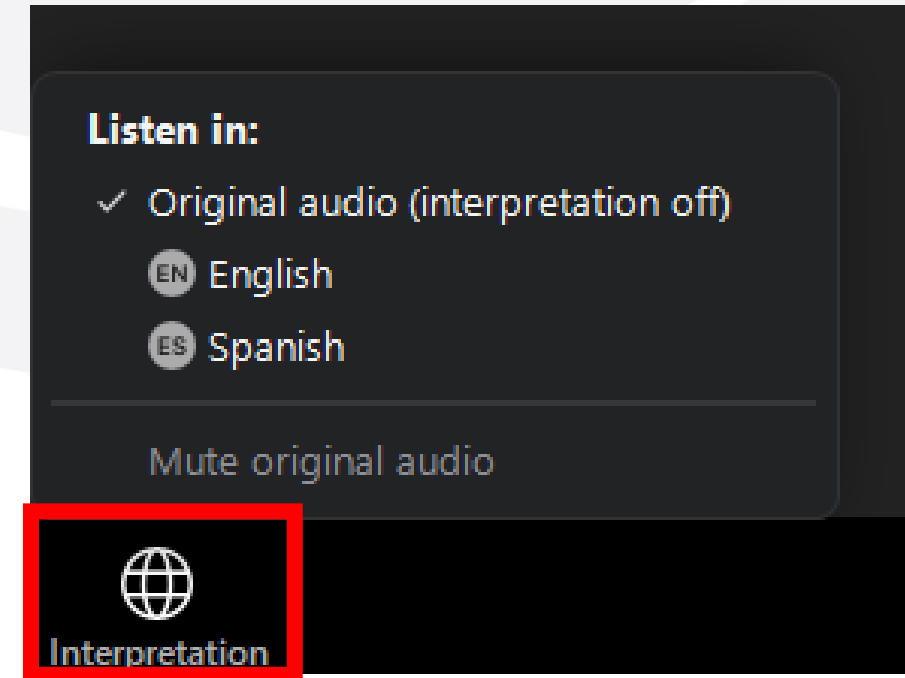
December 11, 2025
Salinas, California



Language Interpretation through Zoom

Click the **Interpretation** icon

- Navigate to Language Channels
- EVERYONE must select English OR Spanish
- If listening in Spanish, click **Mute Original Audio**



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Ways to Participate

Watch only: Visit video.calepa.ca.gov

Submit a comment:

Email safer@waterboards.ca.gov with subject “AGM Public Comment,” and follow instructions in return email to join the meeting.

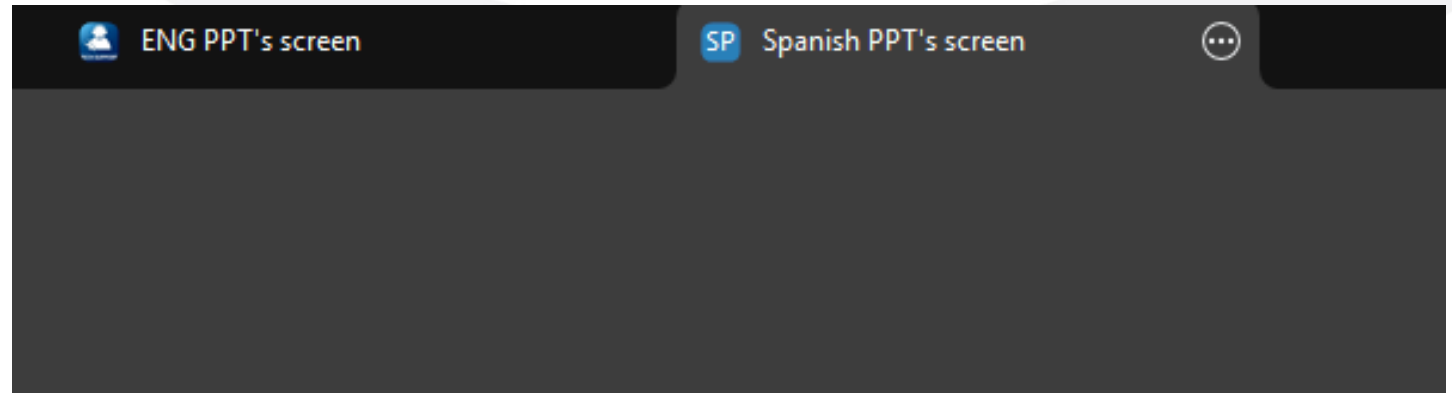
Technical or language interpretation assistance: safer@waterboards.ca.gov



View Presentation Options

Click on one of the **Tab Options**
at the top of your screen:

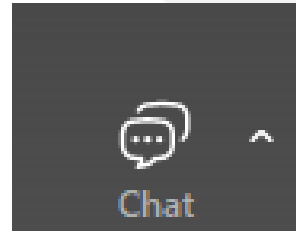
- "Spanish PPT"
- OR
- "ENG PPT"



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Zoom Interactions

Click on **Chat**.



- To send or read a message from participants or staff.
- To communicate with staff a technical issue.

Click on
Raise Hand



- Raise your hand to ask to speak.

Agenda Overview

- I. Domestic Well Discussion
- II. SAFER Program Goals: Quarterly Updates
 - I. Division of Drinking Water: Quarterly Updates on Metrics
 - II. Division of Financial Assistance: Update on Fund Expenditure Plan
 - III. Office of Legislative Affairs: 2025 Legislation on Drinking Water
- III. Presentation of Central Coast Drinking Water Tour
- IV. Advisory Group Member Announcements
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Central Coast Safe Drinking Water Tour

7 Meeting Guidelines

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Join by video
- Take breaks as needed
- Speak slowly
- Raise your hand for comments or questions
- Keep your comments concise and to the point
- For technical support: safer@waterboards.ca.gov





Water Boards' Mission

Preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Introductions

Alma López

Office of Public Engagement,
Equity, and Tribal Affairs



SAFER Advisory Group Introductions

- Your name
- Community/organization you represent



Domestic Wells Discussion

Adriana Renteria

Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and
Tribal Affairs

Andrew Altevogt

Division of Drinking Water



Discussion Questions

- What are the most effective ways to reach and engage with domestic well users, especially in linguistically and culturally diverse communities?
- How can SAFER better align with existing domestic well programs to avoid duplication and maximize impact?
 - What cost-sharing and co-funding models are appropriate for counties, GSAs, management zones?
- How can the SAFER Program support counties in building capacity to manage domestic well issues?

Questions and Answers



- Raise your hand to ask questions
- Wait for your turn
- Turn on microphone
- Speak slowly
- Limit your questions to 3 minutes
- Turn off microphone

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California Water Boards SAFER Program Goals

Bryan Potter
SAFER Senior Engineer
Division of Drinking Water



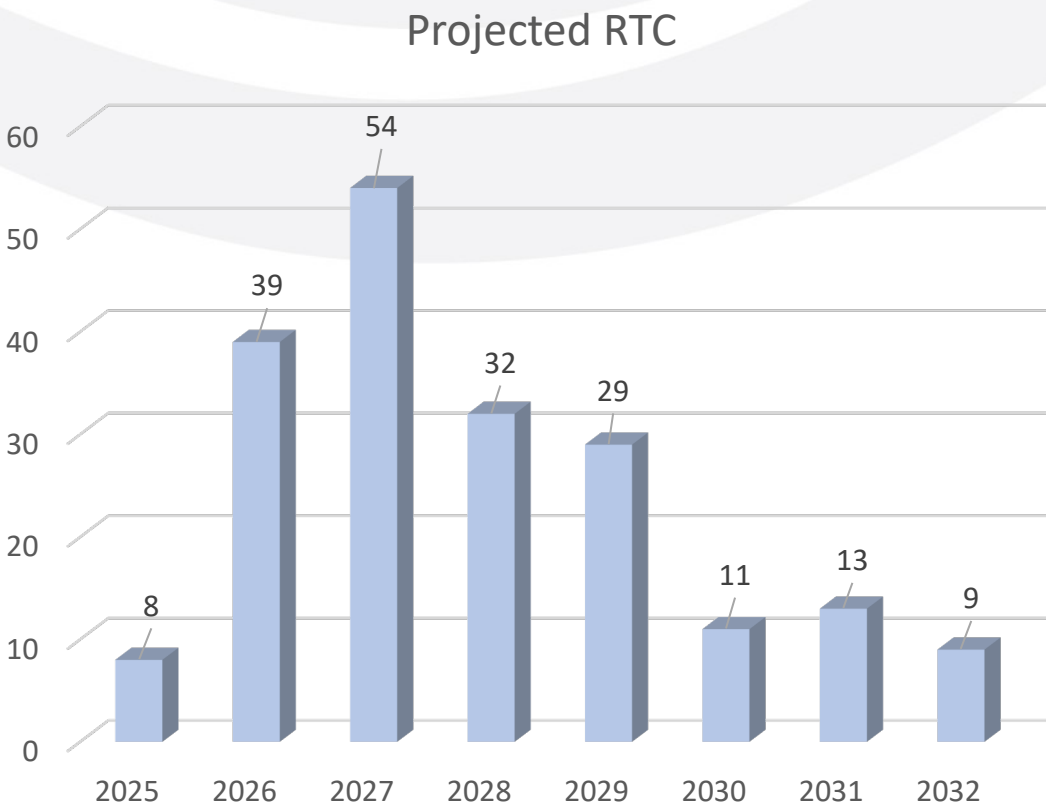
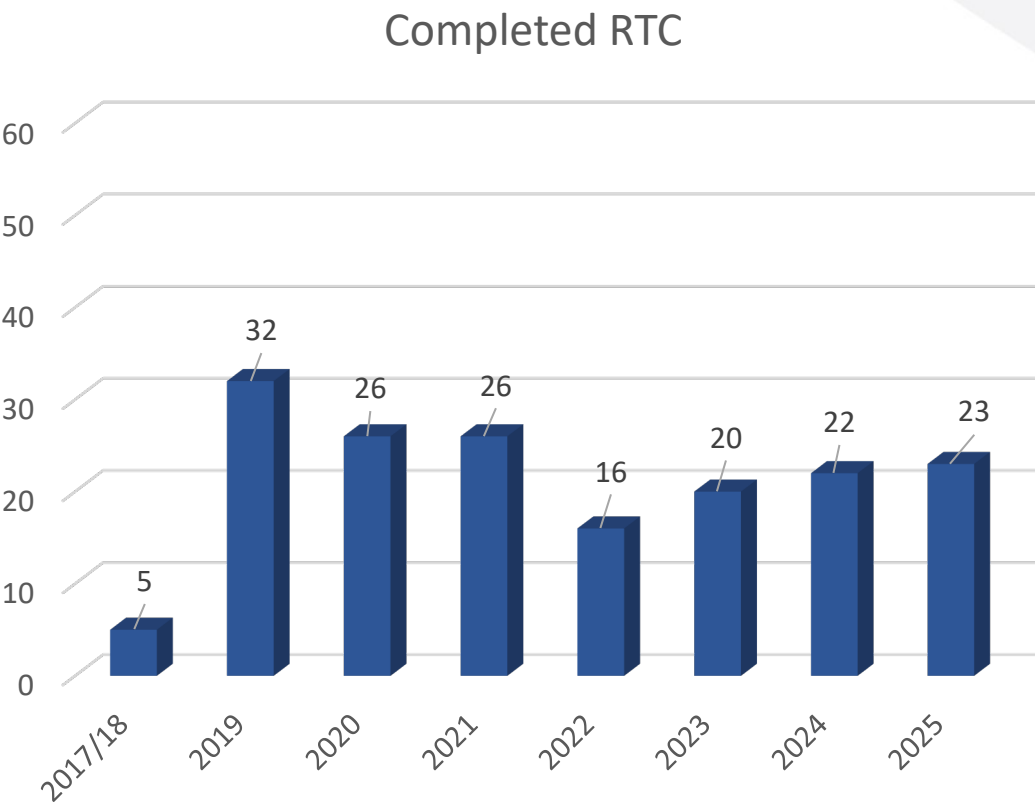
SAFER Goals

- Goal 1: People in Communities and Schools that didn't have access to safe drinking water now have it.
- Goal 2: All communities and schools without safe drinking water are on track to get lasting solutions in place as swiftly as feasible.
- Goal 3 : California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.



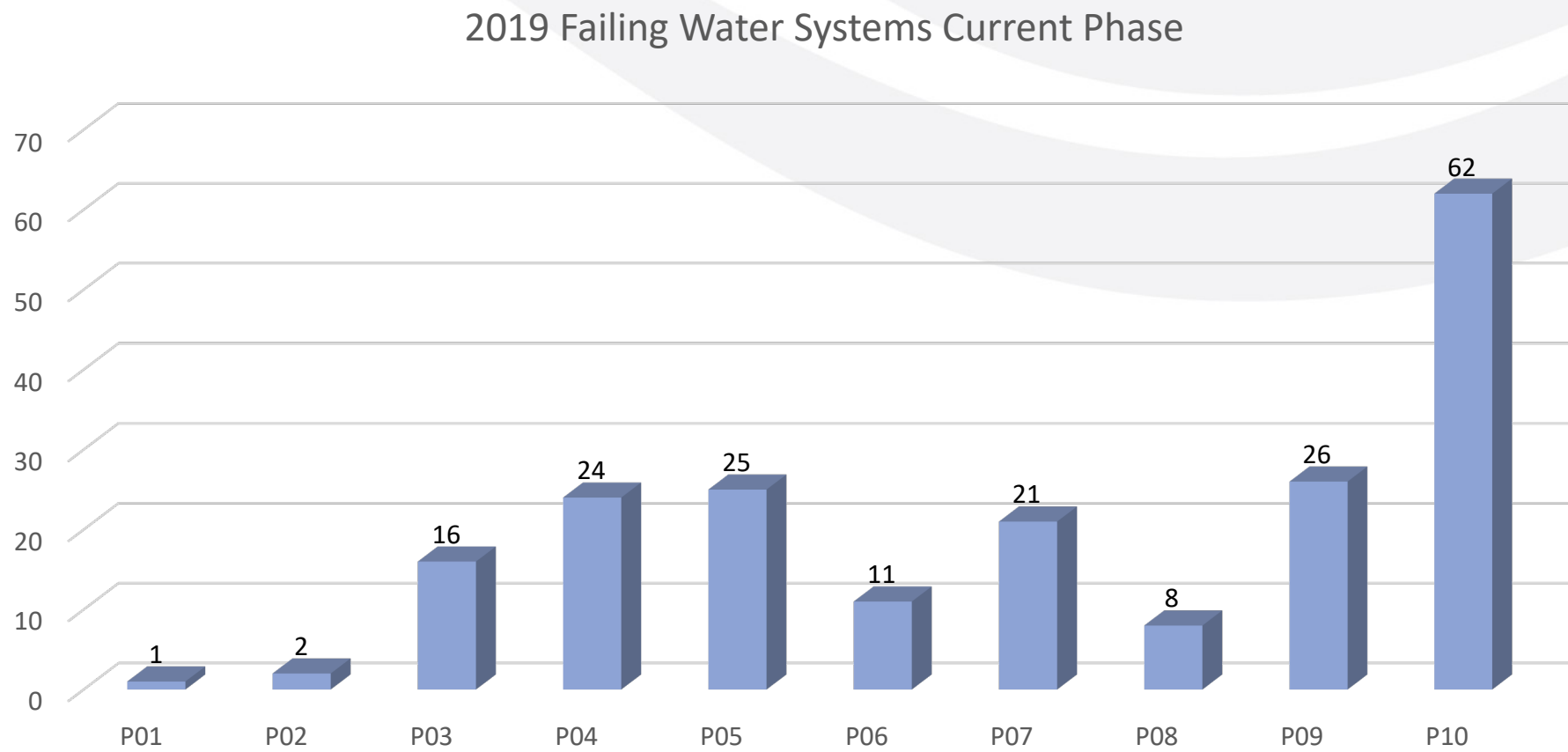
SAFER Goal 1: People in Communities and Schools that didn't have access to safe drinking water now have it.

- 2019 Failing Systems Returned to Compliance (RTC)



SAFER Goal 1: People in Communities and Schools that didn't have access to safe drinking water now have it.

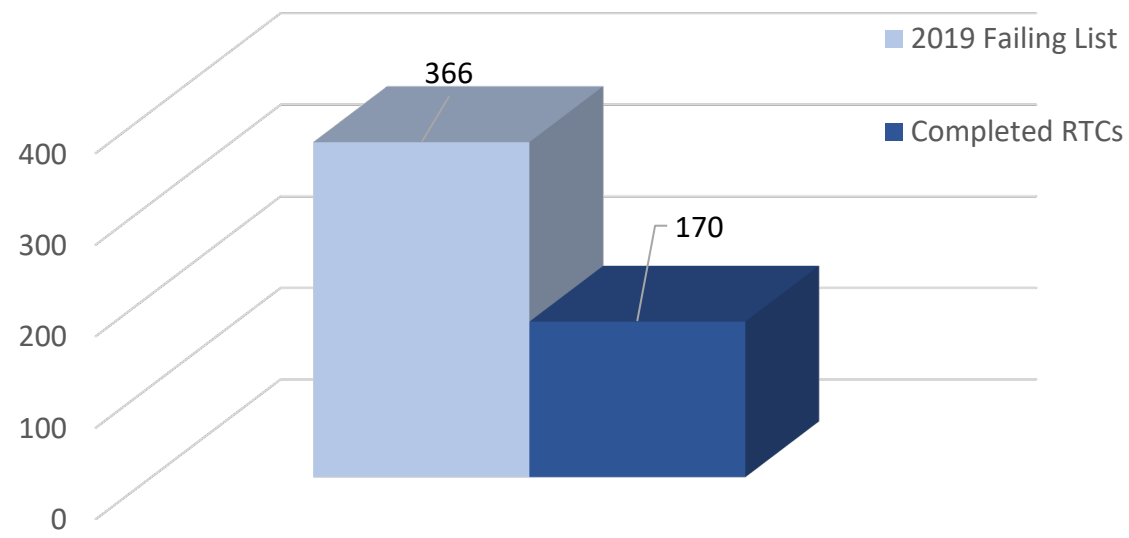
- Project Phase Tracking



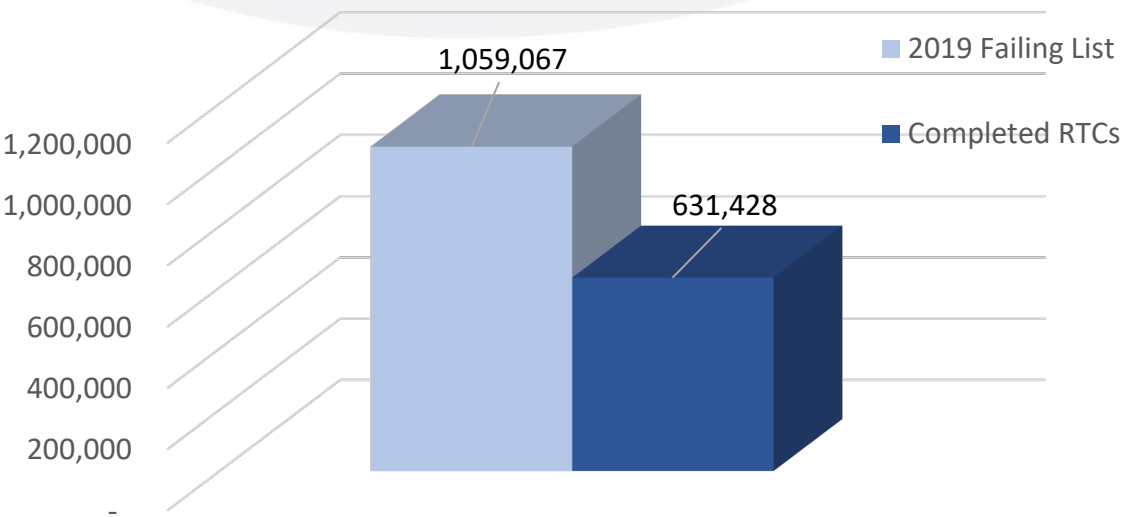
SAFER Goal 1: People in Communities and Schools that didn't have access to safe drinking water now have it.

- 2019 Failing Systems: 90% of 2019 failing systems to RTC by 2030
 - On track – 92.9% of 2019 failing systems are projected to RTC by 2030

Water Systems Returning to Compliance by 2030
(2019 Failing)



Population Returning to Compliance by 2030
(2019 Failing)



SAFER Goal 2: All communities and schools without safe drinking water are on track to get lasting solutions in place as swiftly as feasible.

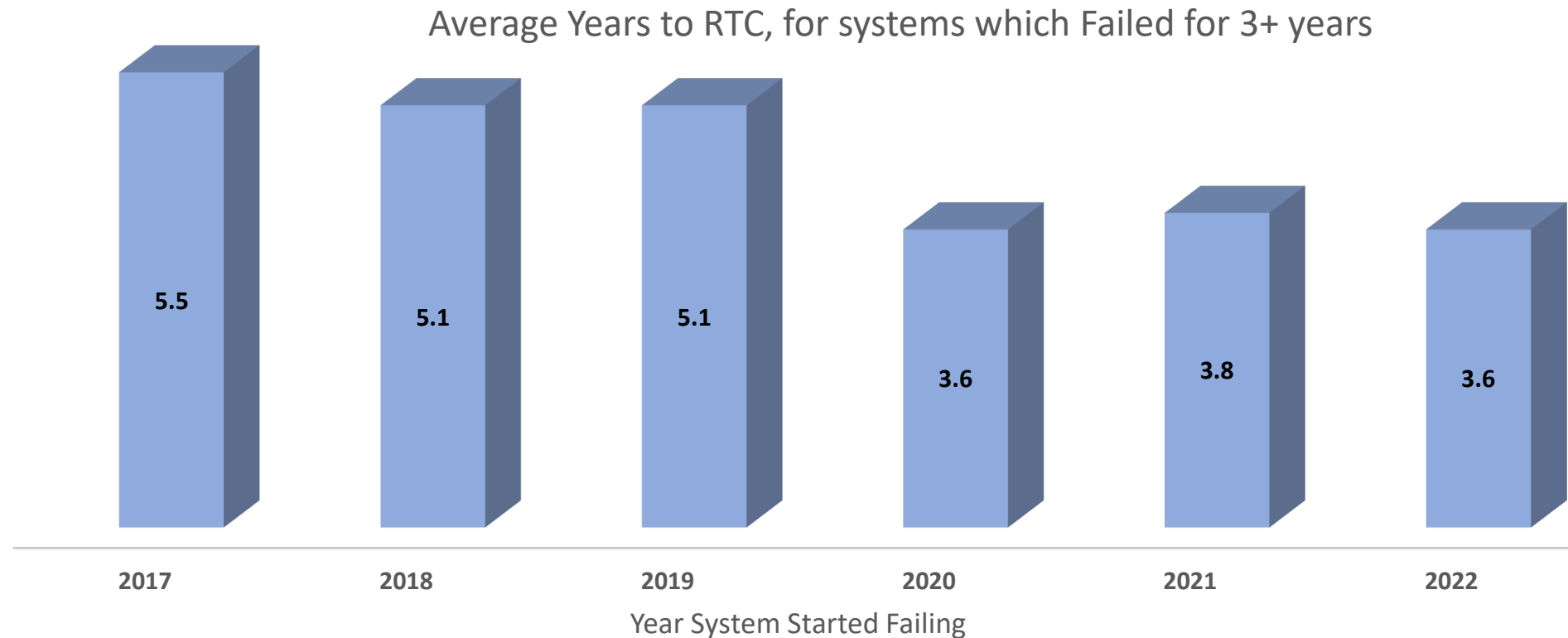
- Corrective Action Plans – Status
 - Filter failing systems based on:
 - Failing Pre 1/1/2022
 - Not in Pre-Construction or Construction
 - Expanded to include all failing criteria categories
 - Technical Order = 81 Systems
 - Escalated enforcement (~21 systems)
- Next CAP effort - post 1/1/2022 failing systems
 - Failing Post 1/1/2022
 - Not in Pre-Construction or Construction
 - Expanded to include all failing criteria categories
- Technical Order in Q2-2026 (evaluating applicability for ~145 systems)

SAFER Goal 2: All communities and schools without safe drinking water are on track to get lasting solutions in place as swiftly as feasible.

- Active Technical Assistance (TA) Summary
 - TA has 361 active work plans:
 - 120 (33%) of projects address the 2019 Failing Cohort Systems
 - 106 (30%) of projects address other Failing Systems
 - 135 (37%) of projects are assisting non-failing systems. About half are for consolidation projects.
 - 131 of the Projects will result in a Construction Application.
 - 44 have a complete application.
 - 50 projects are estimated to have a complete application by 6/30/2026.

SAFER Goal 2: All communities and schools without safe drinking water are on track to get lasting solutions in place as swiftly as feasible.

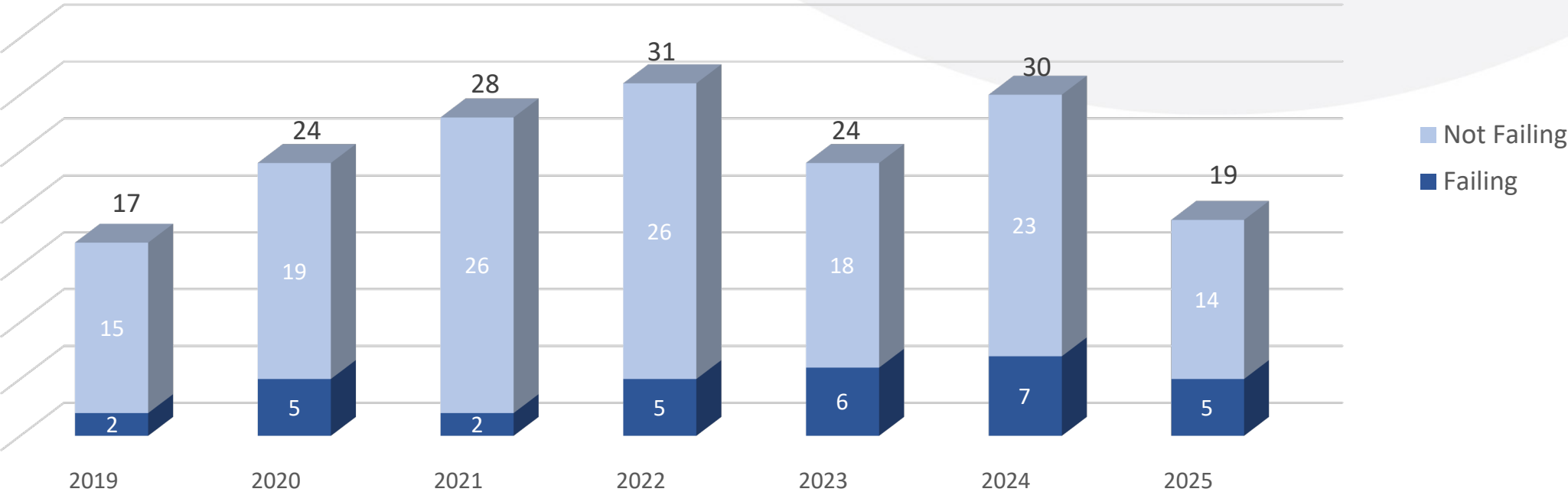
- Reduce total time from violation to compliance to less than five years



SAFER Goal 3: California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.

- Consolidations: 20 per year

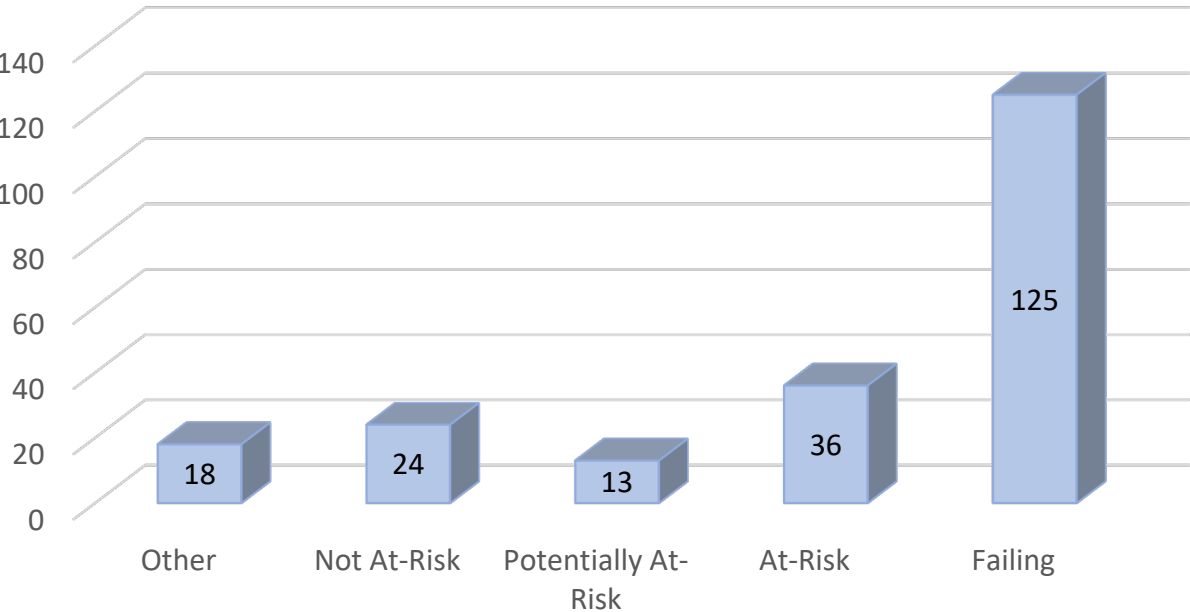
Consolidations since 7/1/2019, by Year and SAFER Status
Total = 173 systems impacting 360k people



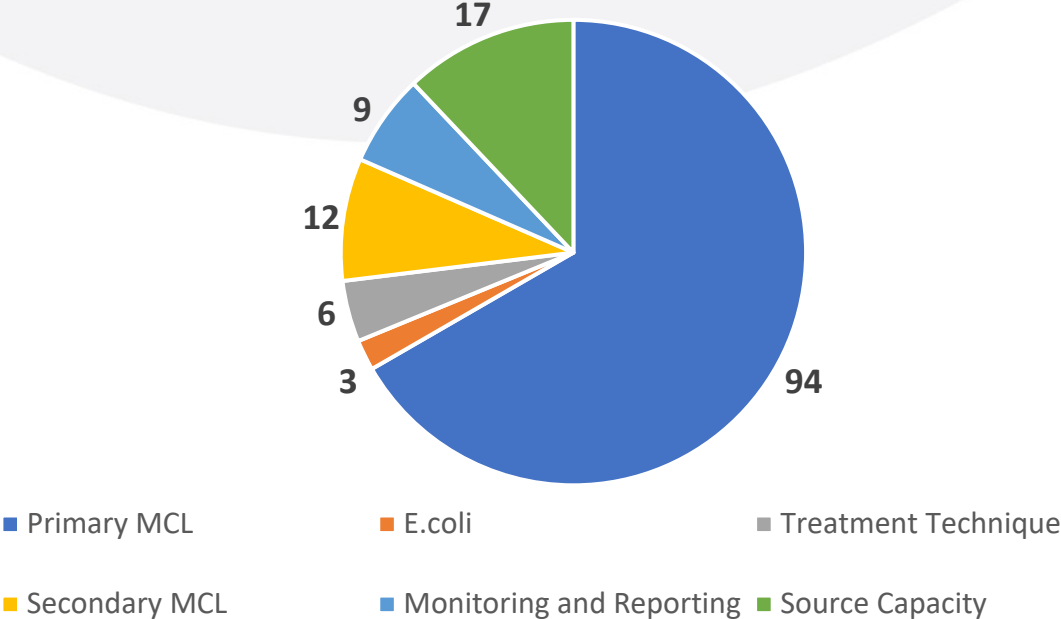
SAFER Goal 3: California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.

- Consolidations: SAFER Status and Violation Types

216 subsuming systems in ongoing consolidations by SAFER Status



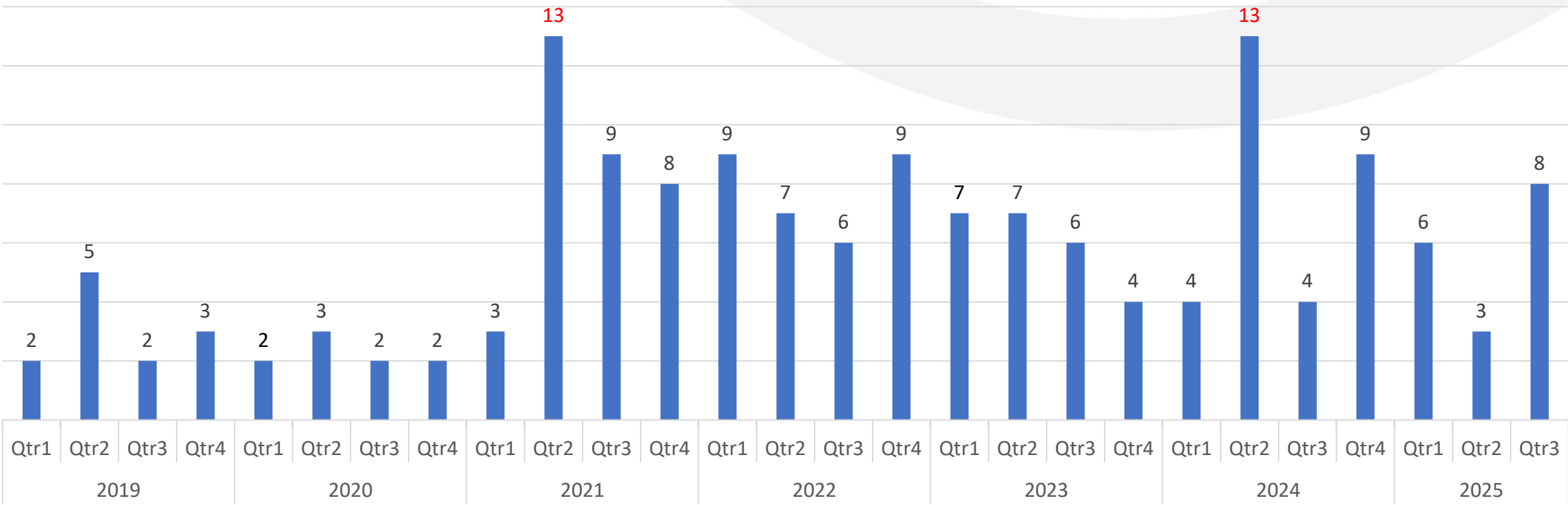
Violation Types of the 125 Failing systems in ongoing consolidations



SAFER Goal 3: California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.

- Water System Repeat Failures

Systems Returning to the Failing List since 2019



SAFER Goal 3: California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.

- Reduce multiple emergency repair funding requests.
 - 38 systems with multiple emergency requests since July 2019
 - ZERO new additions in Q3 2025



Questions and Answers



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- Turn off microphone

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safer@waterboards.ca.gov

FY 2025-26 Fund Expenditure Plan and Funding Progress

Jeff Wetzel
Senior Engineer
Division of Financial Assistance



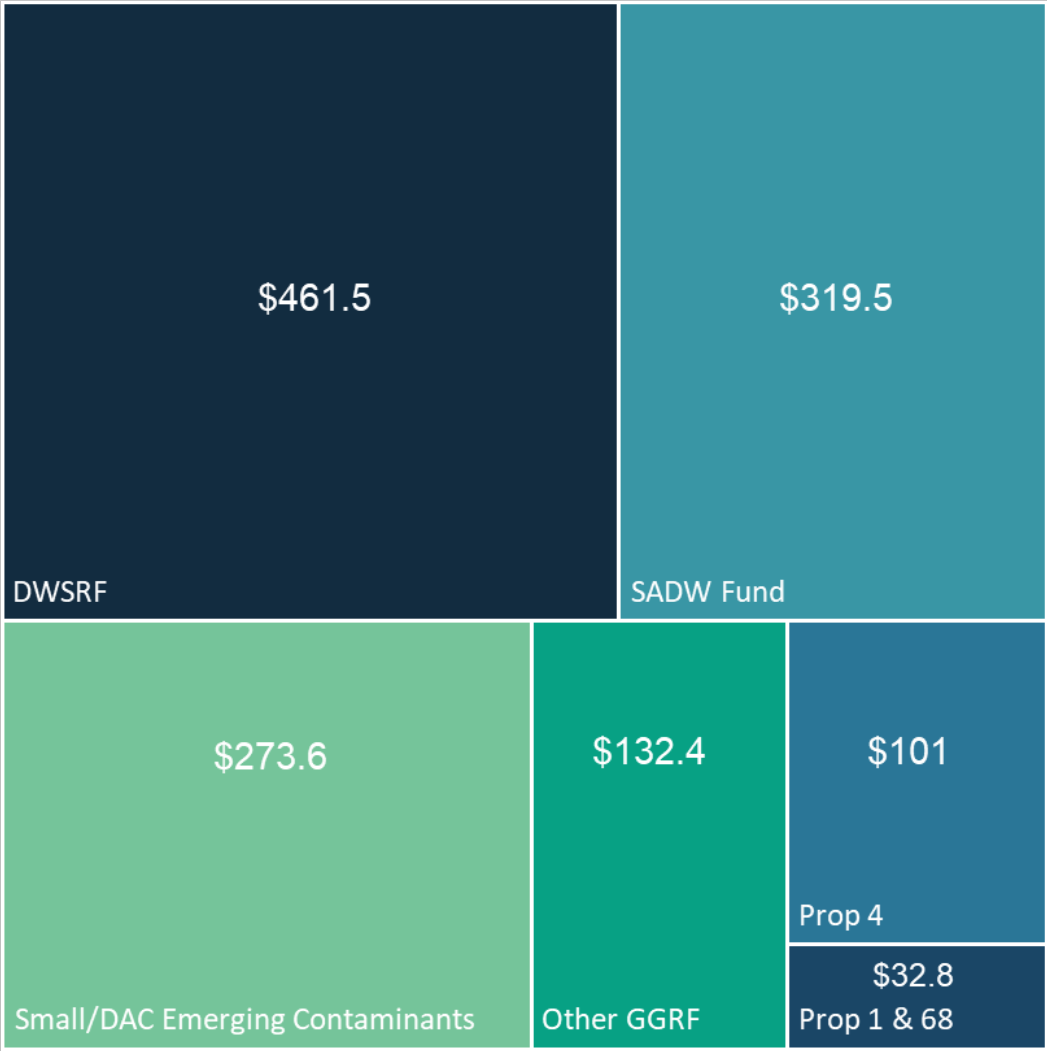
Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP) General Updates



FY 2025-26 Anticipated Available Funding (in millions) (as of June 30, 2025)

Total:
\$1.32 B

- DWSRF
- Prop 1 & 68
- Prop 4
- SADW Fund
- Other GGRF
- Small/DAC Emerging Contaminants



FY 2025-26 SAFER Funding Priorities



Address community and school water systems that were failing in 2019.



Expedite planning through use of technical assistance for failing systems and communities served by failing domestic wells.



Accelerate technically and financially feasible long-term solutions, like consolidations, for failing systems and communities served by failing domestic wells.



Continue existing programs to support communities served by domestic wells and state small water systems where other assistance is not available.

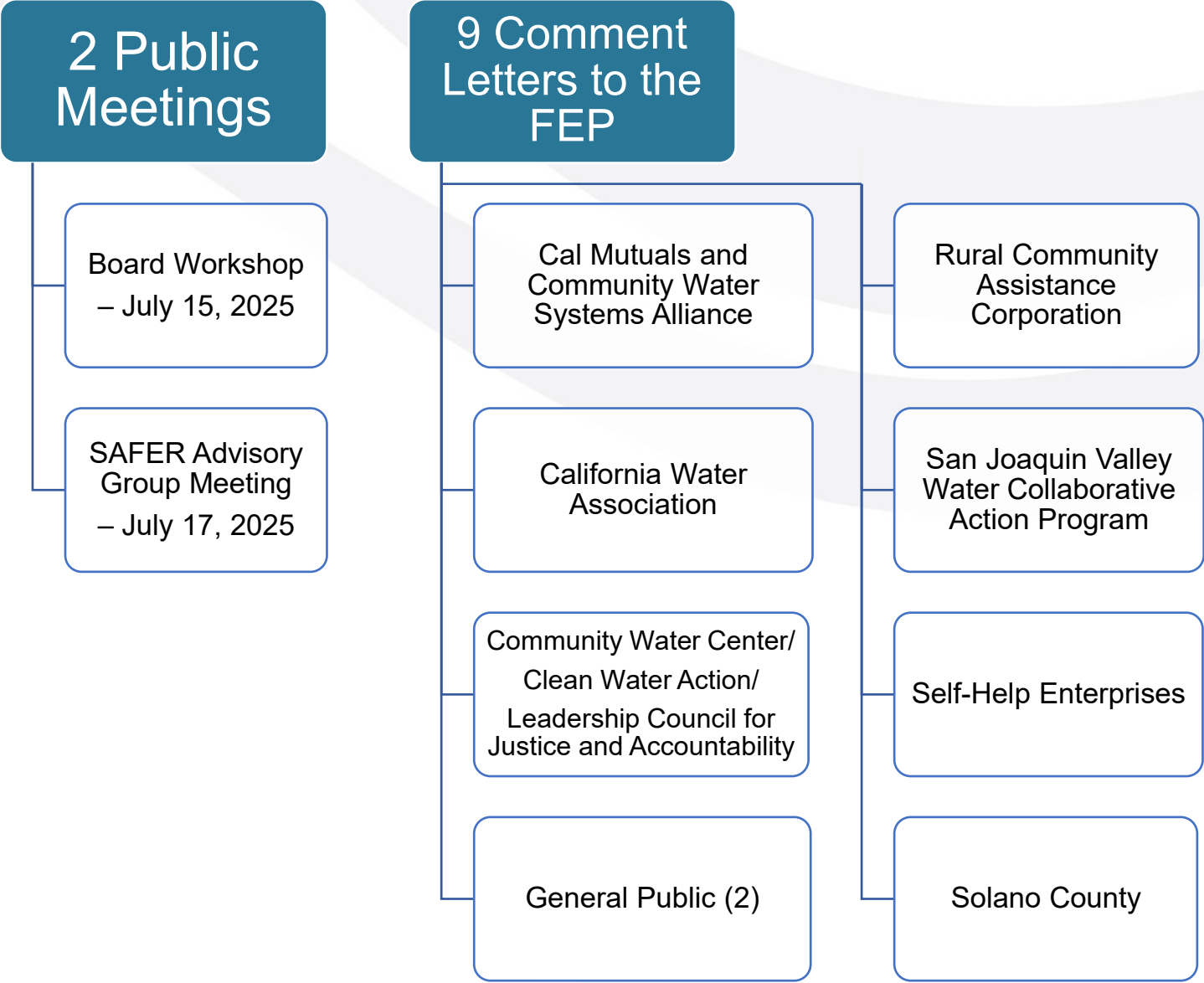


Ensure assistance is distributed consistent with the goals and direction provided in the State Water Board's Racial Equity Resolution and associated Racial Equity Action Plan.

Fund Expenditure Plan (FEP) Comments & Revisions



Public Process and Comments



Summary of Post-Comment Period Revisions



General

Tables, Figures, and associated text updated to extend reporting range to June 30, 2025, and to adjust for new information related to funding committed and anticipated.



FY 2025-26 SADW Fund Target Allocations (Executive Summary and Section V)

Increased targets for Technical Assistance (TA), Direct Operations & Maintenance and associated decreased target for Construction for failing PWSs. Added \$150K for a media relations contract.



DW/SSWS Strategy (Section II.C)

Updated to incorporate education and outreach and indicate that an implementation plan would be worked towards during the coming year(s).

Summary of Post-Comment Period Revisions, cont.



Interim Assistance (Sections VI.B.1 and VII.B.1)

Durations updated to clarify that while there is an expectation of service provision for up to 2 years, that extensions may be considered, especially where consolidation is being pursued.

Also clarified that references to alternative compliance or mitigation programs are not intended to expand or change those programs as administered.



Technical Assistance (Sections VI.B.2 and VII.B.2)

Text added to clarify that steps shown are typical for planning via TA but may not always occur as a community moves towards a long-term solution.

Summary of Post-Comment Period Revisions, cont.



PWS Funding Priority Criteria, and Planning/Construction Eligibility (Sections VI.A.1, VI.B.3, and VI.B.4)

Text copied from final Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan, adopted August 19, 2025.

Language added to note that the Fund Expenditure Plan defers to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan related to planning and construction projects but gives the Division of Financial Assistance Deputy Director discretion to approve projects otherwise consistent with the Fund Expenditure Plan and the statute.



Metrics & Methodology (Appendix C)

Minor clarifications made as to what certain measures are capturing.

FYQ1 2025 Funding Progress



FYQ1 Accomplishments



Technical Assistance:
\$8.48 M



Planning:
\$1.75 M



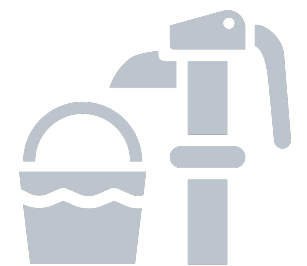
Construction:
\$23.94 M



Bottled / Hauled
Water:
135 new households

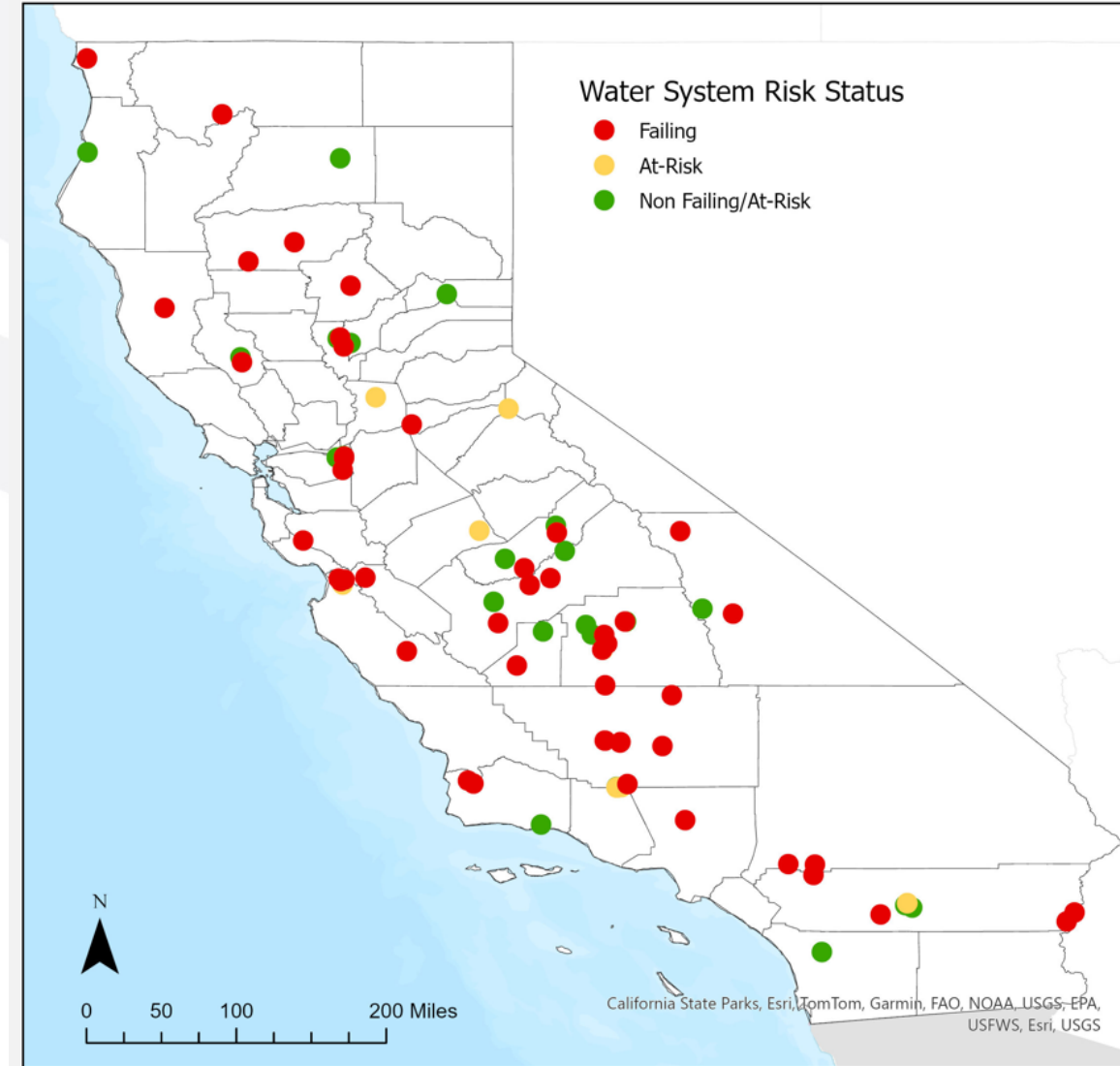
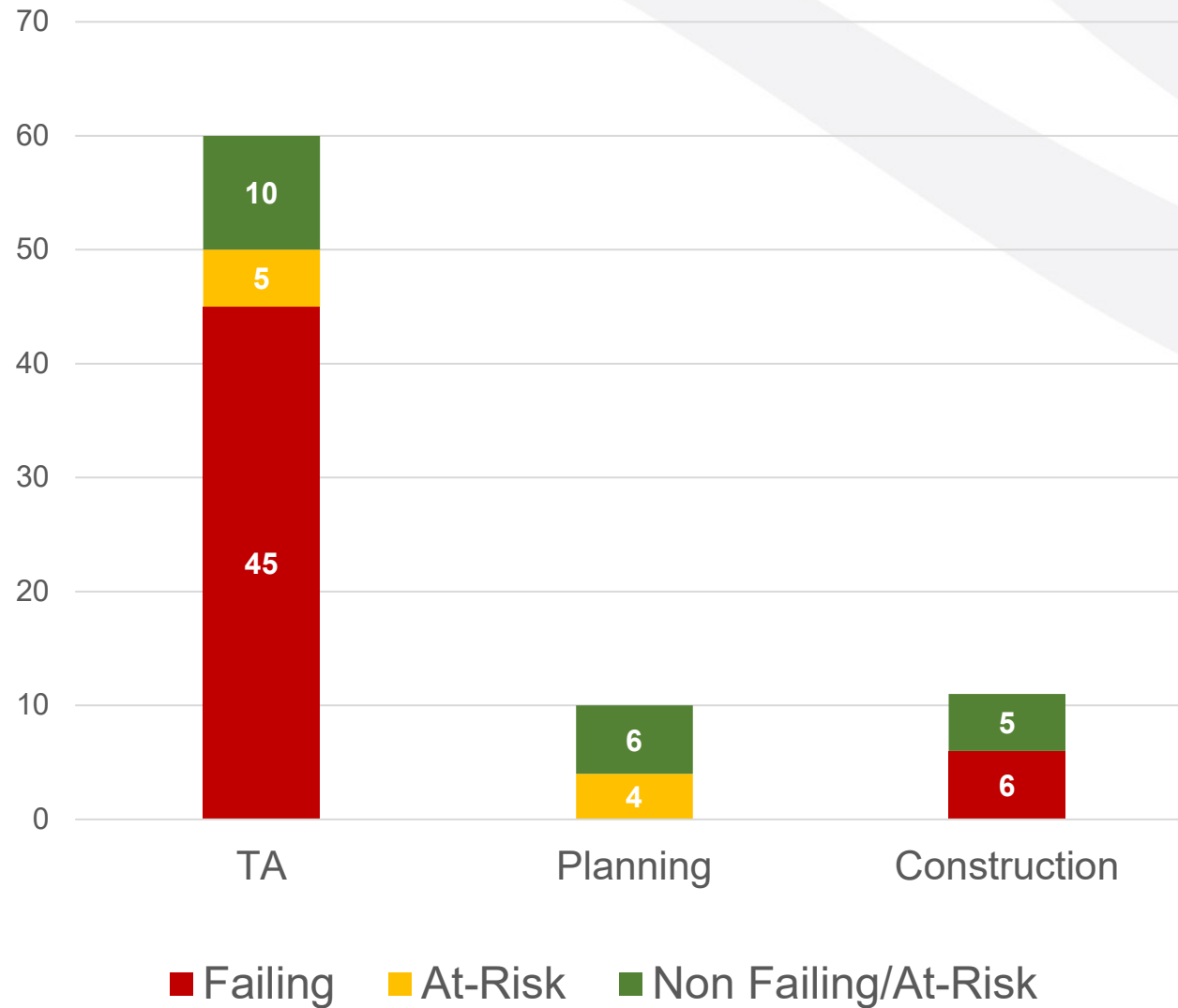


Domestic Wells
Tested:
120

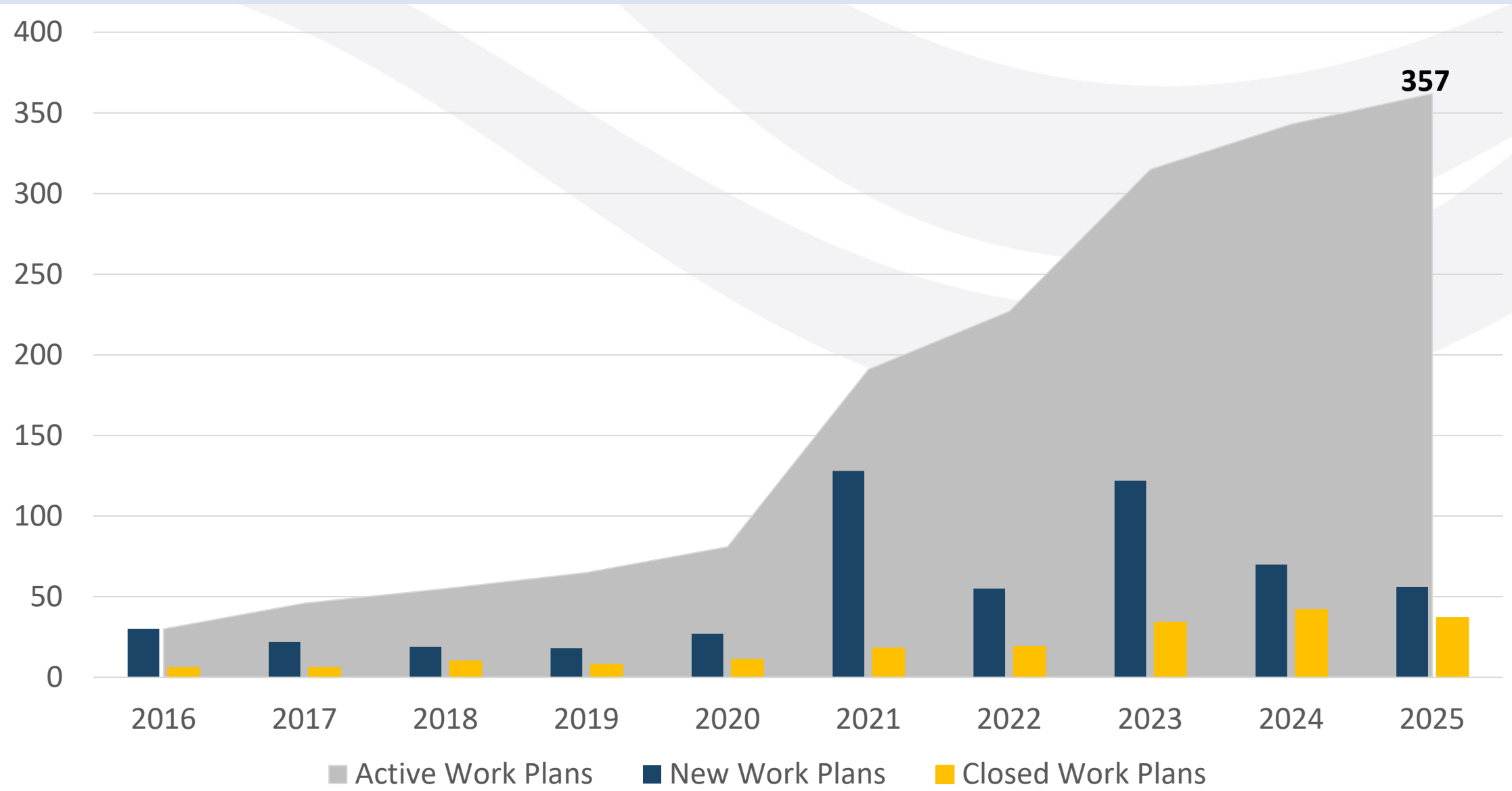


New Wells Drilled:
51

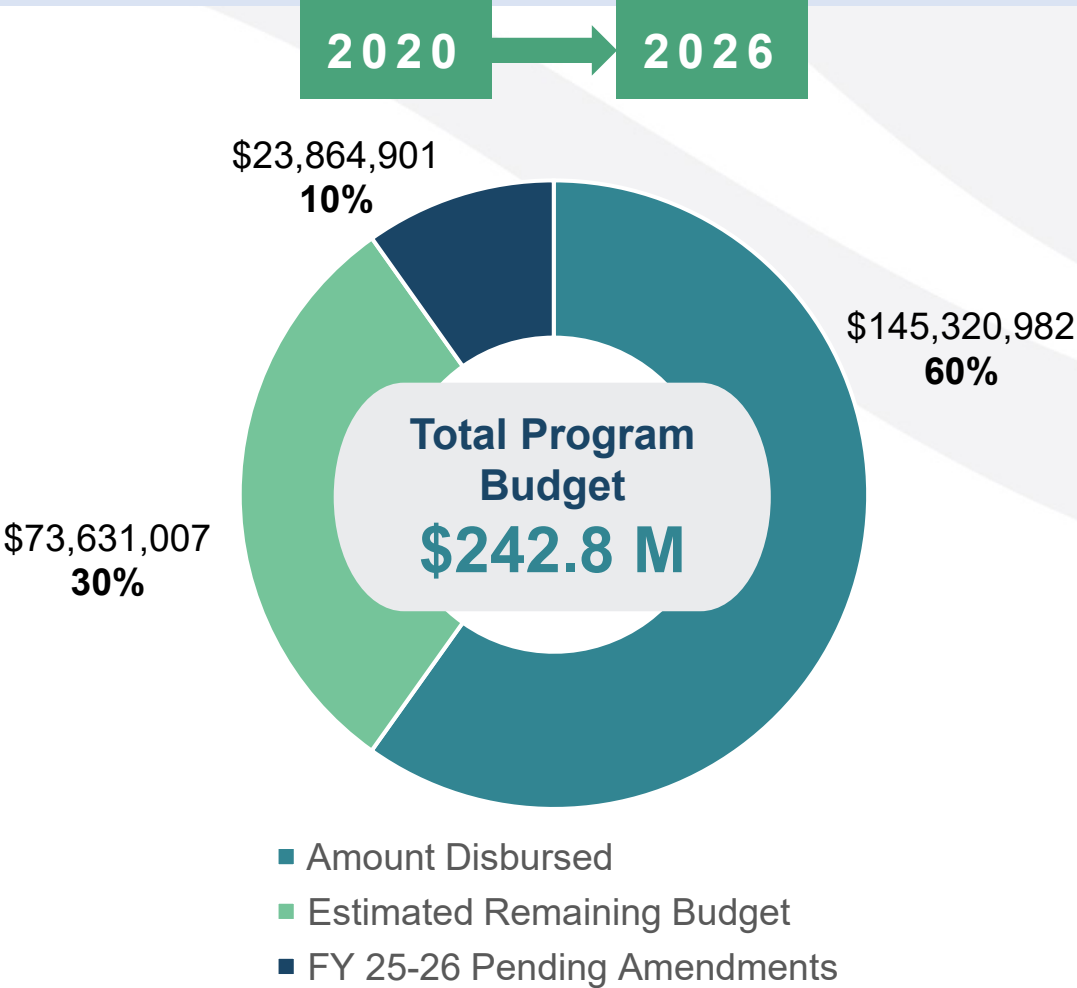
FYQ1 – Water Systems Benefitting



TA Planning Work Plans: Active & Closed

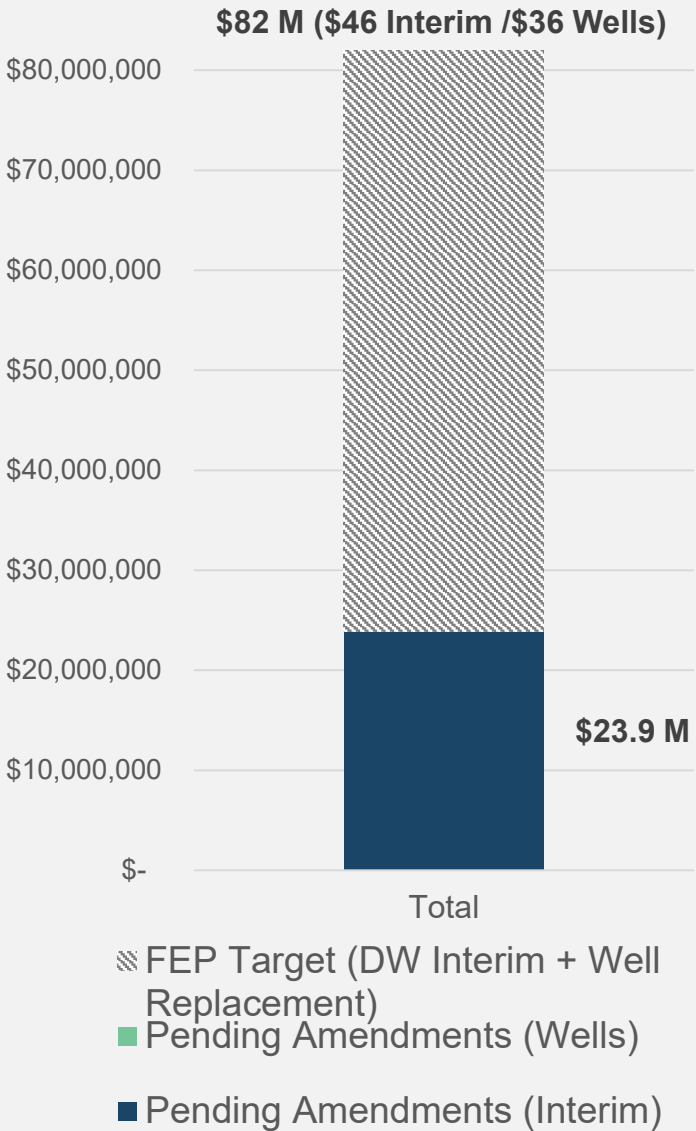


Domestic Well Assistance Summary



All pending amendments, adding funding increases and time extensions, are on track to be executed by **02.2026**.

Actuals vs. FY 2025-26 SAFER Program Target



Questions and Answers



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Drinking Water Legislation 2025

Amanda Simpson
Office of Legislative Affairs



Drinking Water Legislation 2025

Bill	Author	Status/Action	Key Focus/Impact
AB 1096	Connolly, D	<i>Signed (Ch. 290)</i>	Publish lead testing data from schools/childcare facilities
SB 31	McNerney, D	<i>Signed (Ch. 736)</i>	Redefine recycled water use and criteria
SB 72	Caballero, D	<i>Signed (Ch. 210)</i>	CA Water Plan overhaul, supply targets
SB 454	McNerney, D	<i>Vetoed</i>	PFAS Mitigation Fund
SB 466	Caballero, D	<i>Signed (Ch. 320)</i>	Chromium-6 liability protections
SB 489	Arreguín, D	<i>Signed (Ch. 518)</i>	Permit Streamlining for housing projects

Implementation & Timelines

- **Lead Testing (AB 1096):** Data publication by June 30, 2028; reporting in annual consumer confidence reports by December 31, 2028.
- **Recycled Water (SB 31):** State Water Board to update Title 22 and perform rulemaking.
- **Water Plan (SB 72):** Expand advisory committee; Update Water Plan on or before December 31, 2028, and every 5 years after.
- **Chromium-6 (SB 466):** Liability protections in effect January 2026.
- **Permit Streamlining (SB 489):** Online publication of approval criteria required.

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BREAK



Presentation of Central Coast Drinking Water Tour

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Cal Water

Provost and Pritchard

Community Water Center

SAFER Advisory Group Members



Central Coast Water Board Drinking Water Programs

Julia Dyer

Senior Environmental Scientist

James Bishop

Senior Engineering Geologist



Central Coast Water Board Staff Contacts



James Bishop

(805) 542-4628

James.Bishop@waterboards.ca.gov



Julia Dyer

(805) 542-4624

Julia.Dyer@waterboards.ca.gov

Central Coast Drinking Water Well Testing Program

- Free & Voluntary
- Domestic Wells
- Eighteen Parameters
- Data Available on GAMA GIS
- Coordination with local agencies & partners.



**FREE
DRINKING WATER
WELL TESTING**
for the Central Coast

What the program offers:

- Free well sampling is being offered to persons who get their drinking water from a domestic well.
- Test results and information on how to interpret the results.
- Tips on what to do if your well is contaminated and how to protect your well from contamination.
- Information on free replacement drinking water programs.

The testing is focused on common groundwater contaminants known to pose health effects.

Contaminants*:

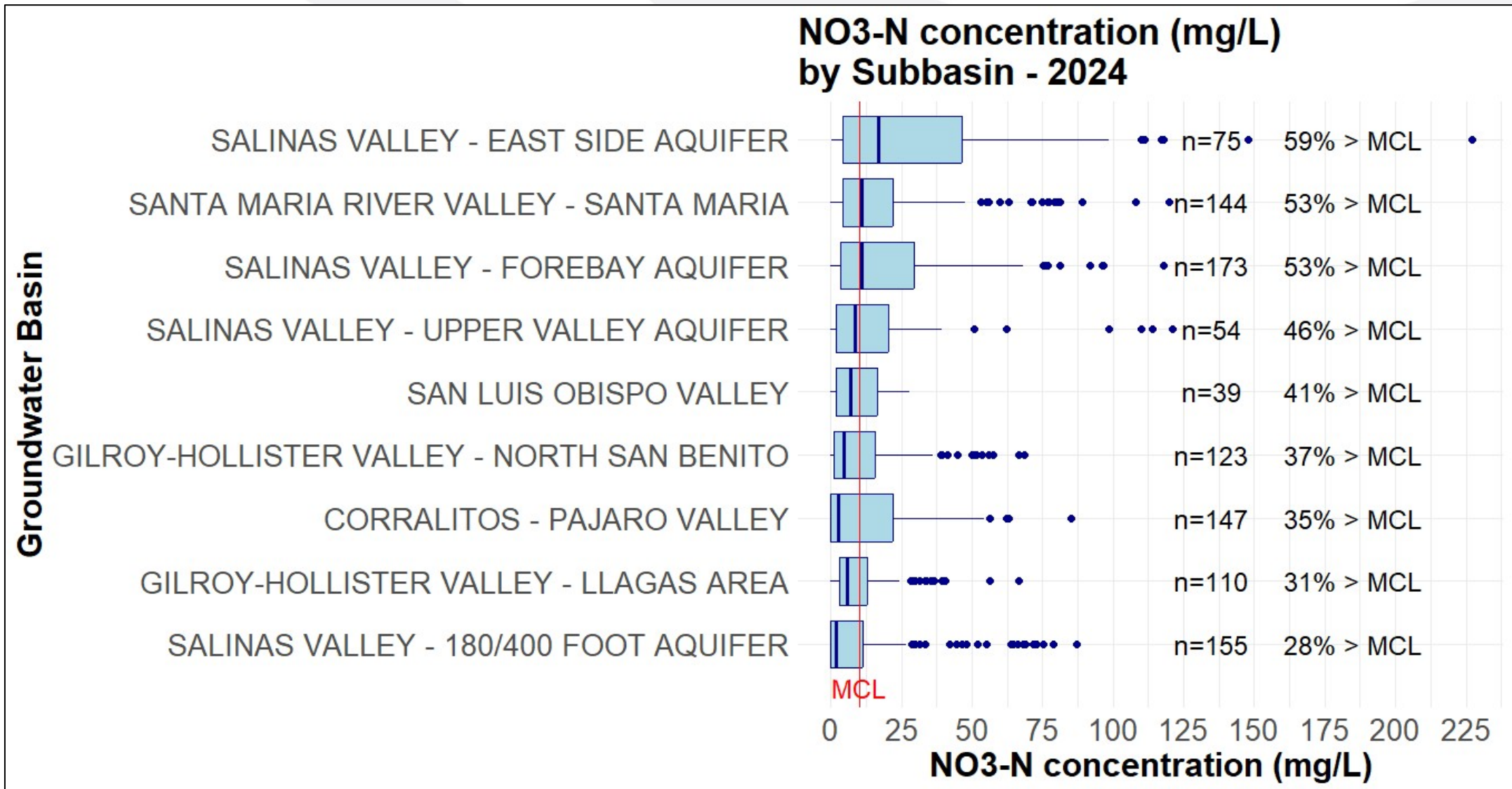
- Have no color or odor
- Boiling the water does not make it safe to drink
- Can cause serious health effects, especially in pregnant women and children
- Can cause certain types of cancer and birth defects

* Contaminants include: arsenic, nitrate, 1,2,3-TCP, hexavalent chromium, perchlorate, total dissolved solids, and more.

For more information or to schedule your free testing:
Scan the QR Code, using your smartphone
Visit: centralcoastwelltesting.org
Call: 844.613.5152

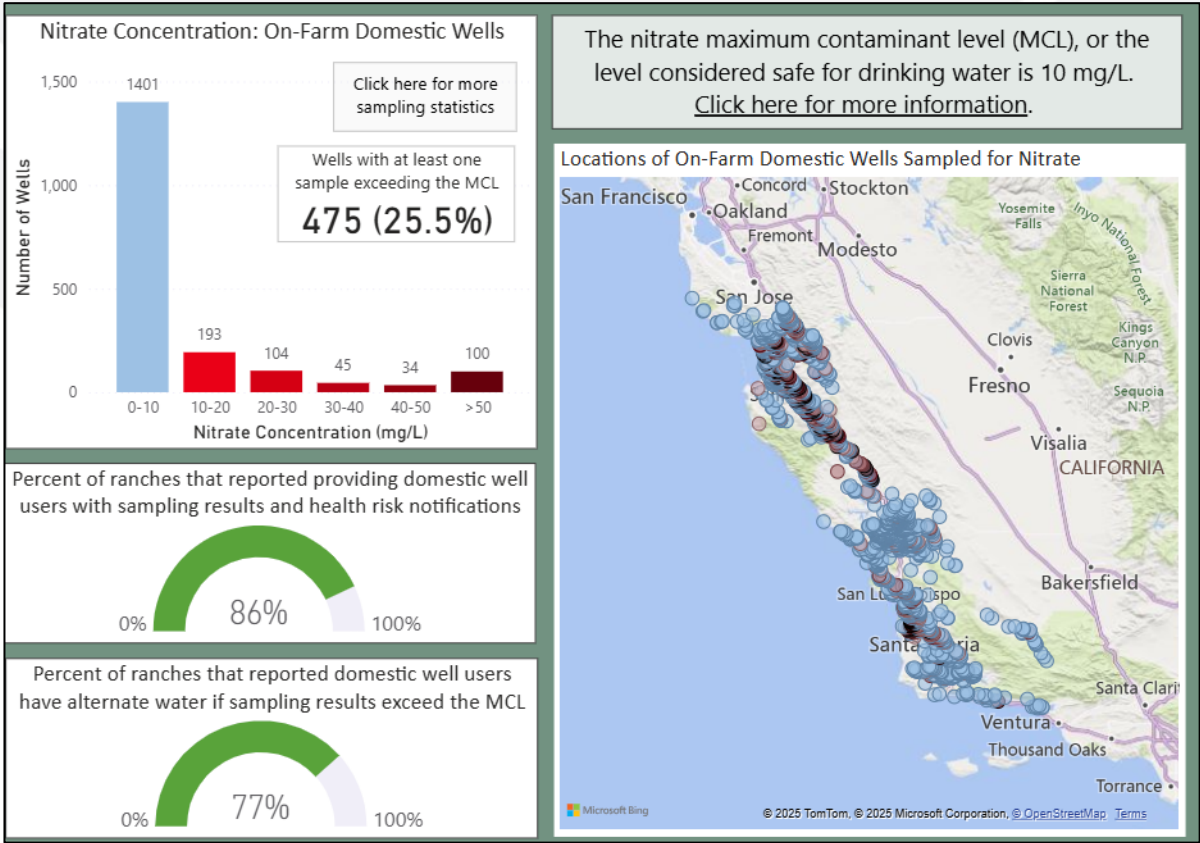
Data Results

- Over 800 wells sampled regionwide since fall 2018
- Exceedance rate consistently ~ 45%
- Most common contaminants regionwide are:
 - Nitrate
 - Arsenic
 - Hexavalent Chromium
- December 2024 [Staff Report](#)



Irrigated Lands Program Domestic Well Sampling

- Nitrate sampling:
 - ~2,000 domestic wells;
 - ~3,300 irrigation wells
- 1,2,3 TCP sampling: ~ 500 domestic wells



https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ilp/dashboard.html

Alternative Water Supply Program

- Will provide interim supplies and long-term solutions to residents relying on groundwater impacted by nitrate from agriculture
 - Estimated Impact: 3,000 domestic wells, 118 state smalls, and 17 public water systems; 14,000 residents
- Program in development - final regulatory requirements anticipated in summer of 2027
- Funding: growers with co-funding as needed

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San Lucas, California

Supervisor Chris López
Monterey County



San Lucas, California



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Gabilan Water Company

Albert Sánchez
Cal Water



Gabilan Water Service Area



Questions and Answers



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Country Meadows Road

Albert Sánchez
Cal Water



Country Meadows Road



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Prunedale Regional Consolidation Project & Echo Valley School Water System

Amy M. Wilson
Heather Bashian, PE
Provost & Pritchard



Legend

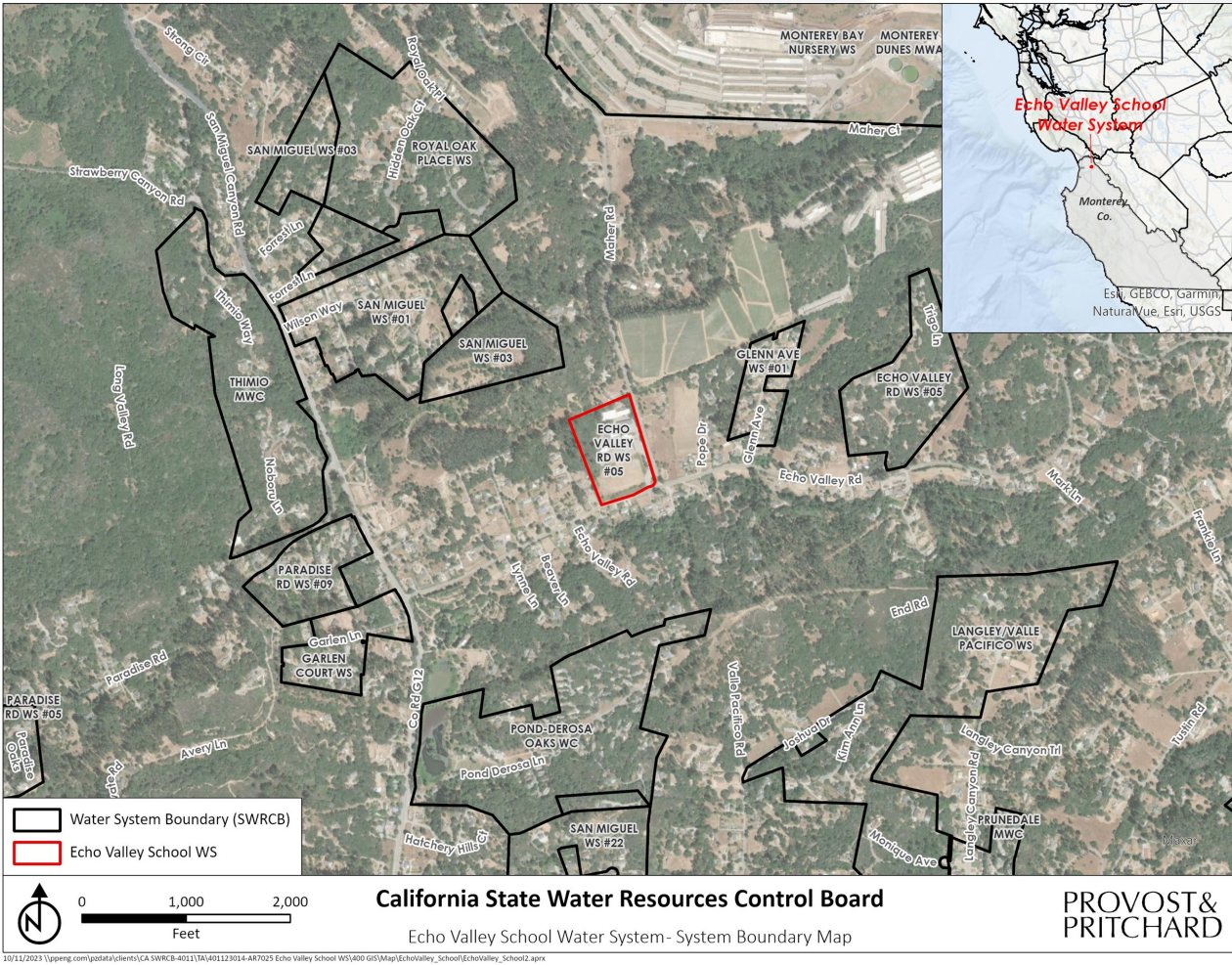
- Road
- Highway
- Project Area
- Water System Boundaries
 - Existing TA Project
 - Failing
 - High Aquifer Risk

Map Labels:

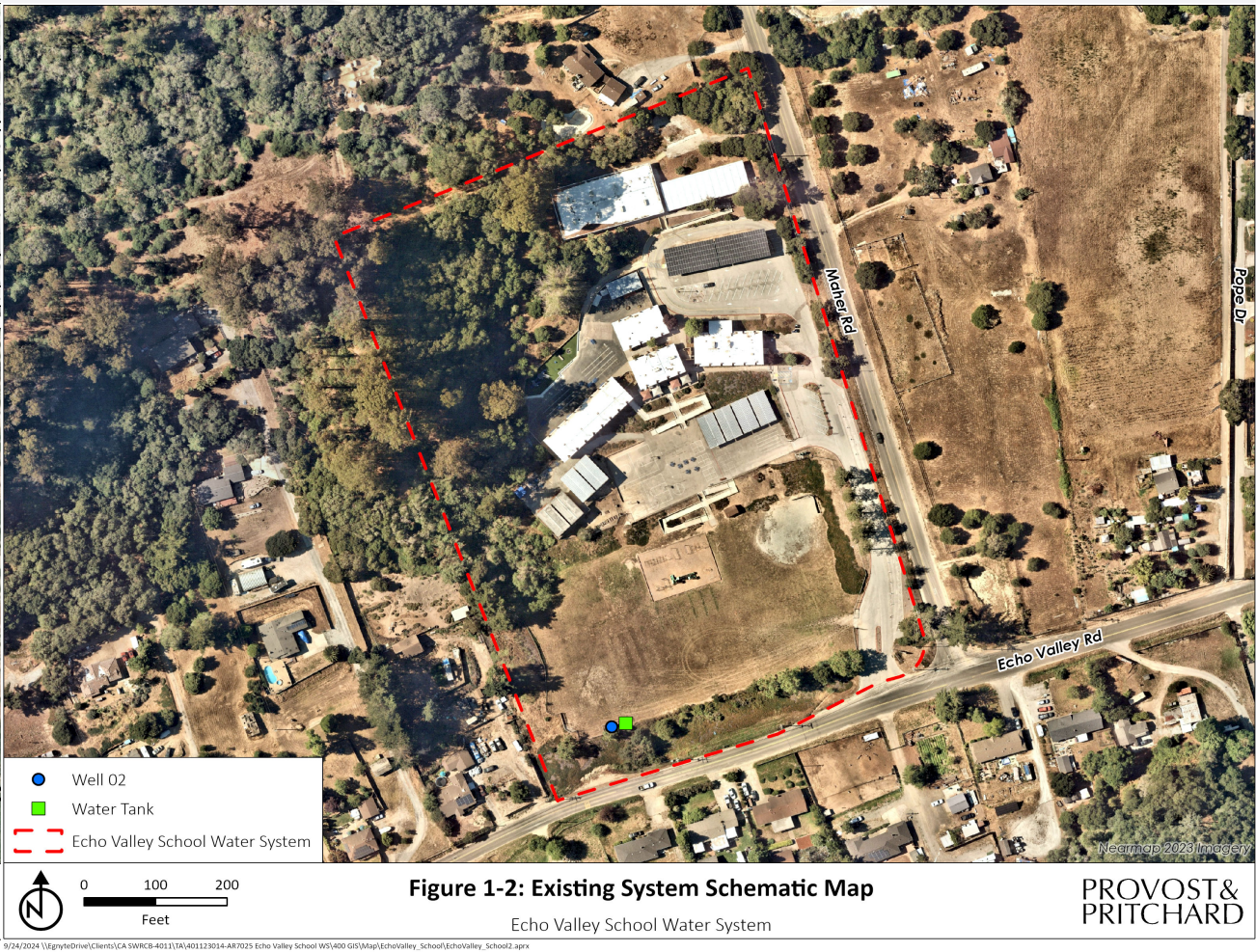
- San Miguel Canyon Rd.
- Echo Valley Rd.
- US 101
- Prunedale Grange Hall
- San Miguel WS #08, #09, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, #18, #19, #20, #21, #22, #23, #24, #25, #26, #27, #28, #29, #30, #31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #36, #37, #38, #39, #40, #41, #42, #43, #44, #45, #46, #47, #48, #49, #50, #51, #52, #53, #54, #55, #56, #57, #58, #59, #60, #61, #62, #63, #64, #65, #66, #67, #68, #69, #70, #71, #72, #73, #74, #75, #76, #77, #78, #79, #80, #81, #82, #83, #84, #85, #86, #87, #88, #89, #90, #91, #92, #93, #94, #95, #96, #97, #98, #99, #100, #101, #102, #103, #104, #105, #106, #107, #108, #109, #110, #111, #112, #113, #114, #115, #116, #117, #118, #119, #120, #121, #122, #123, #124, #125, #126, #127, #128, #129, #130, #131, #132, #133, #134, #135, #136, #137, #138, #139, #140, #141, #142, #143, #144, #145, #146, #147, #148, #149, #150, #151, #152, #153, #154, #155, #156, #157, #158, #159, #160, #161, #162, #163, #164, #165, #166, #167, #168, #169, #170, #171, #172, #173, #174, #175, #176, #177, #178, #179, #180, #181, #182, #183, #184, #185, #186, #187, #188, #189, #190, #191, #192, #193, #194, #195, #196, #197, #198, #199, #200, #201, #202, #203, #204, #205, #206, #207, #208, #209, #210, #211, #212, #213, #214, #215, #216, #217, #218, #219, #220, #221, #222, #223, #224, #225, #226, #227, #228, #229, #230, #231, #232, #233, #234, #235, #236, #237, #238, #239, #240, #241, #242, #243, #244, #245, #246, #247, #248, #249, #250, #251, #252, #253, #254, #255, #256, #257, #258, #259, #260, #261, #262, #263, #264, #265, #266, #267, #268, #269, #270, #271, #272, #273, #274, #275, #276, #277, #278, #279, #280, #281, #282, #283, #284, #285, #286, #287, #288, #289, #290, #291, #292, #293, #294, #295, #296, #297, #298, #299, #300, #301, #302, #303, #304, #305, #306, #307, #308, #309, #310, #311, #312, #313, #314, #315, #316, #317, #318, #319, #320, #321, #322, #323, #324, #325, #326, #327, #328, #329, #330, #331, #332, #333, #334, #335, #336, #337, #338, #339, #340, #341, #342, #343, #344, #345, #346, #347, #348, #349, #350, #351, #352, #353, #354, #355, #356, #357, #358, #359, #360, #361, #362, #363, #364, #365, #366, #367, #368, #369, #370, #371, #372, #373, #374, #375, #376, #377, #378, #379, #380, #381, #382, #383, #384, #385, #386, #387, #388, #389, #390, #391, #392, #393, #394, #395, #396, #397, #398, #399, #400, #401, #402, #403, #404, #405, #406, #407, #408, #409, #410, #411, #412, #413, #414, #415, #416, #417, #418, #419, #420, #421, #422, #423, #424, #425, #426, #427, #428, #429, #430, #431, #432, #433, #434, #435, #436, #437, #438, #439, #440, #441, #442, #443, #444, #445, #446, #447, #448, #449, #450, #451, #452, #453, #454, #455, #456, #457, #458, #459, #460, #461, #462, #463, #464, #465, #466, #467, #468, #469, #470, #471, #472, #473, #474, #475, #476, #477, #478, #479, #480, #481, #482, #483, #484, #485, #486, #487, #488, #489, #490, #491, #492, #493, #494, #495, #496, #497, #498, #499, #500, #501, #502, #503, #504, #505, #506, #507, #508, #509, #510, #511, #512, #513, #514, #515, #516, #517, #518, #519, #520, #521, #522, #523, #524, #525, #526, #527, #528, #529, #530, #531, #532, #533, #534, #535, #536, #537, #538, #539, #540, #541, #542, #543, #544, #545, #546, #547, #548, #549, #550, #551, #552, #553, #554, #555, #556, #557, #558, #559, #560, #561, #562, #563, #564, #565, #566, #567, #568, #569, #570, #571, #572, #573, #574, #575, #576, #577, #578, #579, #580, #581, #582, #583, #584, #585, #586, #587, #588, #589, #590, #591, #592, #593, #594, #595, #596, #597, #598, #599, #600, #601, #602, #603, #604, #605, #606, #607, #608, #609, #610, #611, #612, #613, #614, #615, #616, #617, #618, #619, #620, #621, #622, #623, #624, #625, #626, #627, #628, #629, #630, #631, #632, #633, #634, #635, #636, #637, #638, #639, #640, #641, #642, #643, #644, #645, #646, #647, #648, #649, #650, #651, #652, #653, #654, #655, #656, #657, #658, #659, #660, #661, #662, #663, #664, #665, #666, #667, #668, #669, #670, #671, #672, #673, #674, #675, #676, #677, #678, #679, #680, #681, #682, #683, #684, #685, #686, #687, #688, #689, #690, #691, #692, #693, #694, #695, #696, #697, #698, #699, #700, #701, #702, #703, #704, #705, #706, #707, #708, #709, #710, #711, #712, #713, #714, #715, #716, #717, #718, #719, #720, #721, #722, #723, #724, #725, #726, #727, #728, #729, #730, #731, #732, #733, #734, #735, #736, #737, #738, #739, #740, #741, #742, #743, #744, #745, #746, #747, #748, #749, #750, #751, #752, #753, #754, #755, #756, #757, #758, #759, #760, #761, #762, #763, #764, #765, #766, #767, #768, #769, #770, #771, #772, #773, #774, #775, #776, #777, #778, #779, #780, #781, #782, #7

PROVOST & PRITCHARD

Echo Valley School Water System



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Questions and Answers



- Raise your hand to ask questions
- Wait for your turn
- Turn on microphone
- Speak slowly
- Limit your questions to 3 minutes
- Turn off microphone

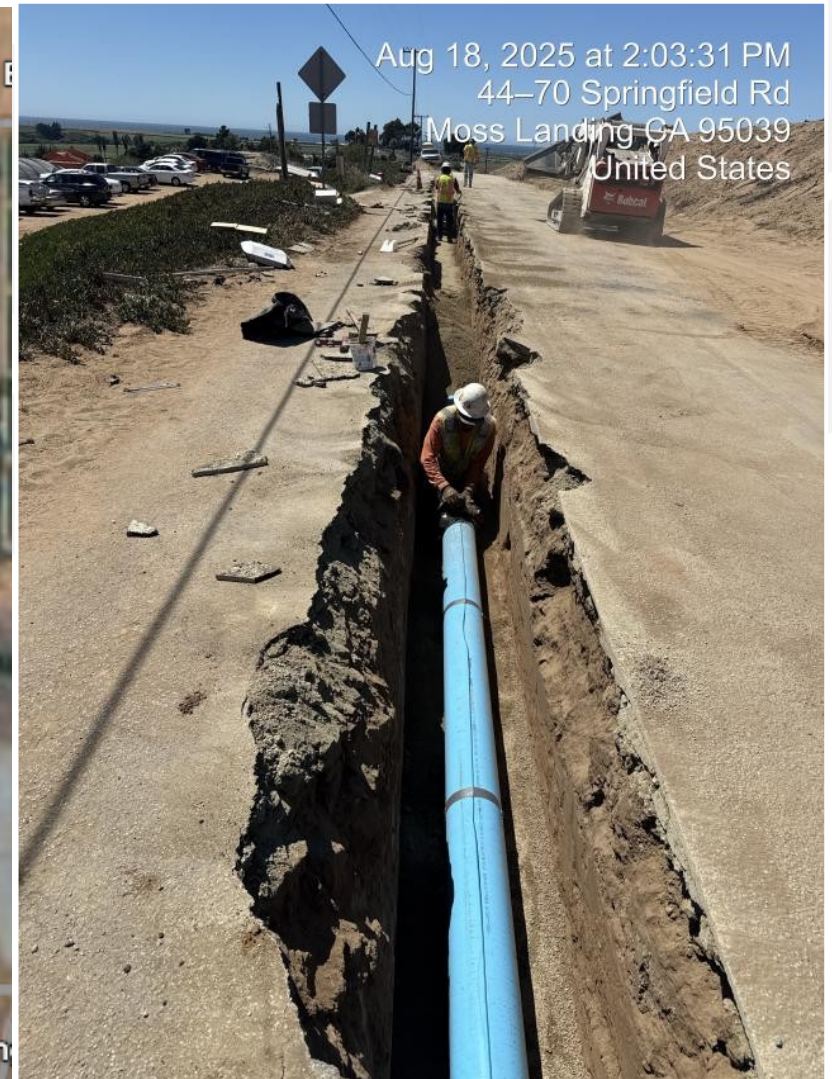
Public comment or technical assistance? Please email:
safer@waterboards.ca.gov

Springfield Road, Moss Landing

Roxanne Reimer
Community Water Center



Springfield Road, Moss Landing



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McGinnis Road (Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak - JML)

Silverio Pérez

SAFER Advisory Group Member

Brandon Bollinger

Community Water Center



McGinnis Road (Johnson, McGinnis, Live Oak - JML)



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Advisory Group Member Announcements

Alma López
Office of Public Engagement, Equity,
and Tribal Affairs



SAFER Advisory Group Members Announcements

- Project/Event title
- Timeline/Event date
- Purpose/Objective
- Next steps
- Please limit 3 minutes per announcement



Public Comment

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Public Comments Guidelines



In-person

1. Raise your hand
2. Wait to be called on
3. Speak slowly
4. Limit comments to 3 minutes



Remote

1. Email comment to: safer@waterboards.ca.gov.
2. Follow instructions in the return email to join Zoom.
3. Wait to be called on. Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes
4. For technical or language assistance, email: safer@waterboards.ca.gov.

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Alma López

Office of Public Engagement, Equity,
and Tribal Affairs



Adjourn

Thank you!
¡Gracias!

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(916) 445-5615