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MENDOCINO COUNTY WATER RESOURCES TEAM

## COMPLIANCE WITH SB-552

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE

28 AUGUST 2023

# DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

- Continued Compliance With SB-552
- DRP Grant Application
- Next steps



<https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=17090>

# CONTINUED COMPLIANCE WITH SB-552: PRIMARY COUNTY REQUIREMENTS (CA WATER CODE § 10609.70):

- CWC § 10609.70. (a): Task Force
  - Establish a standing county drought and water shortage task force.
    - To facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells
    - Invite representatives from the state and other local governments (GSAs, Water Suppliers, Residents) to participate in the task force.
    - An alternative process may be established in lieu of a task force.
    - Task force should be established before 1 Jan 2022 and continue to exist to be in compliance.
- CWC § 10609.70. (b): Drought Resiliency Plan (DRP)
  - Develop a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim and long-term solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells.
    - A stand-alone plan or as part of an existing plan (hazard mitigation, emergency operation, climate action, or general plans).
    - Developed in consultation with the Task Force.

# TASK FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES & POTENTIAL ROLES

## Requirements

Established before 1 Jan 2022.

Have regularly scheduled meetings during non-emergency periods, and more frequent meetings during drought and water shortage emergencies.

Provide level of function and participation included in SB-552 and demonstrate its continuation in perpetuity.

Facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness and collaborate in development of DRP.



## Potential Roles

Share findings and recommendations with communities and provide briefings to the BOS.

Identify data gaps and necessary actions for improved drought and water shortage planning.

Facilitating proactive planning and coordination to reduce risk of water shortage (GSP implementation, SB-552 compliance, human right to water, etc.)

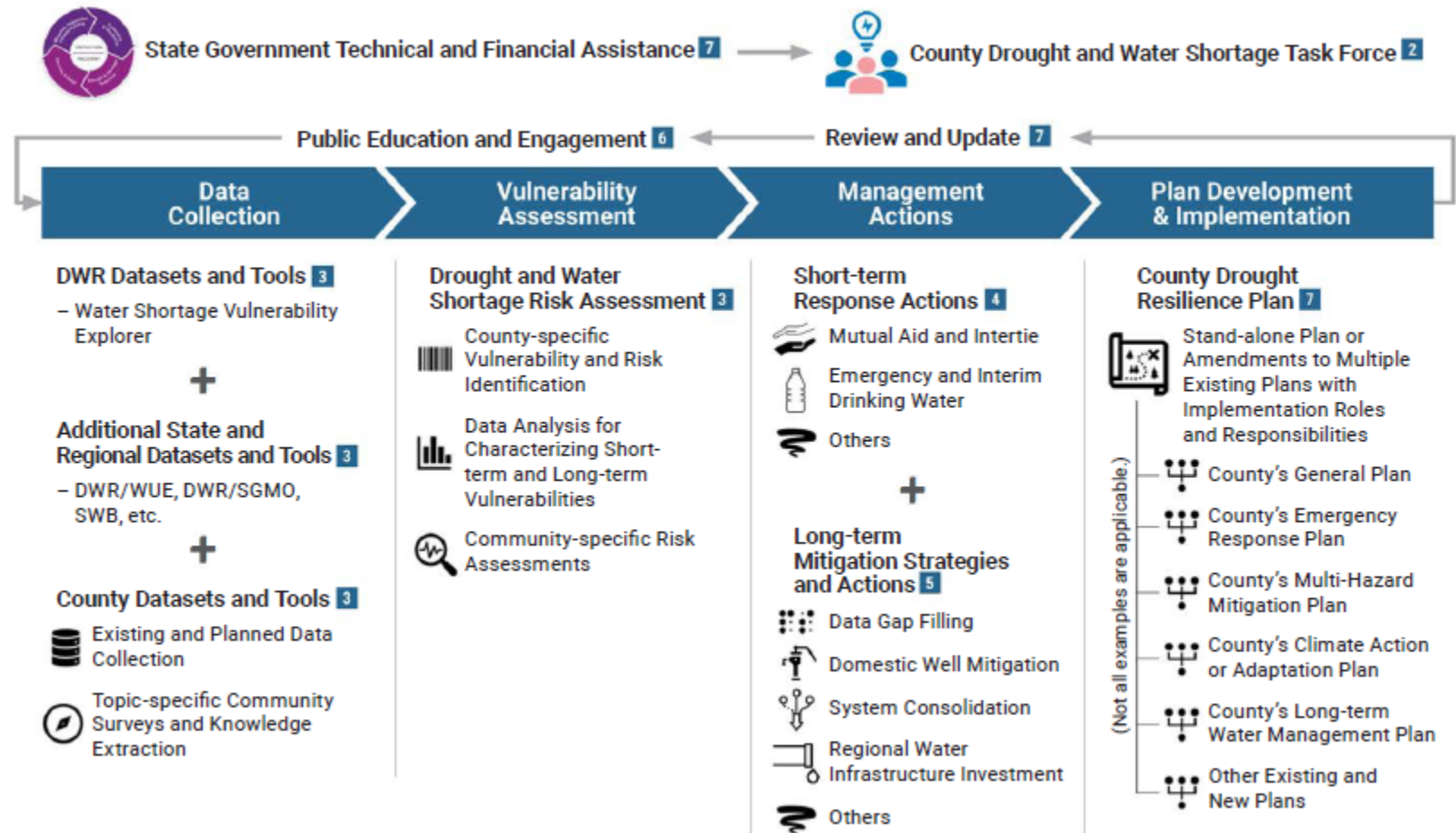
Share and pursue funding opportunities for improving water resiliency.

Encourage and implement long-term planning that anticipates budget and policy needs.

# DROUGHT RESILIENCY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

## DWR Guidebook's DRP Development Process

- At a **minimum**, the following needs to be considered:
  - Consolidations for existing water systems and domestic wells.
  - Domestic well drinking water mitigation programs.
  - Provision of emergency and interim drinking water solutions.
  - An analysis of the steps necessary to implement the plan.
  - An analysis of local, state, and federal funding sources available to implement the plan.





# TASK FORCE & DRP STATUS:

## Task Force

- Recommendations:
  - Develop a charter per DWR Guidebook to include Task Force's:
    - Purpose and goal
    - Membership
    - Responsibilities
    - Meeting Schedule and parameters
  - Establish a clear meeting frequency and revise the agenda item to explicitly refer to the Task Force:
    - Per DWR, meet: bi-annually during normal conditions, monthly during the early onset and biweekly during active drought.
  - Ensure outreach to “Core” members and document such efforts.

In Progress

## DRP

- EKI connected with DWR to get a better sense of DRP requirements:
  - DWR is processing the first grant application from Humboldt. Program seems to be flexible.
  - SB-552 does not, at the moment, put any legal responsibilities on the County to manage/mitigate/support domestic wells and State Smalls.
  - DRP will define County and other entities' responsibilities. Those need to be defined in close coordination with other entities and through Task Force.
  - There is still no legal enforcement measure outlined if County does not do as said in DRP.
  - DWR cautioned us to see the pattern. Things recently have started with unfunded mandates, plans, and then turned into regulations.

# DRP GRANT APPLICATION

DWR

Non-competitive Grant  
(Up to \$125,000)

←!Not Both!→

Direct Technical  
Assistance

**Step 1:**  
County fills  
out Grant  
Application

- Counties submit grant applications to DWR ([countyDRP@water.ca.gov](mailto:countyDRP@water.ca.gov))
- DWR staff reviews, may need follow-up with county

**Step 2:**  
DWR-  
County  
Grant  
Agreement

- DWR staff and county further coordinate to develop an agreement and statement of work
- Approval of Agreement
- Estimated max value: ~\$125K/county

**Step 3:**  
County  
conducts  
work

- County conducts work described the Statement of Work (and Agreement).
- County submits invoices for reimbursement to DWR staff ([countyDRP@water.ca.gov](mailto:countyDRP@water.ca.gov))

**Step 4:**  
County DRP  
complete

- County submits plan and evidence of task force to WUEdata county portal for sharing space

**Step 1:**  
County fills  
out DTA  
Application  
Form

- Counties submit to DWR
- DWR reviews, may need follow-up with county

**Step 2:** Co-  
Develop  
County Work  
Plan

- Coordinate/ with contractor to further discuss with county for development of County Work Plan
- Program coordination and approval
- Estimated max value: ~\$125K/county

**Step 3:**  
Assistance  
implemented

- Direct technical assistance provided with DWR oversight

**Step 4:**  
County DRP  
complete

- County submits plan and evidence of task force to WUEdata county portal for sharing space (not required by law to submit to DWR, but is part of the DTA agreement)

Applications due by the end of 2023!

# GRANT APPLICATION FOR SB-552

- EKI in coordination with DOT has compiled the first draft for grant application.
- Grant has a funding cap of \$125,000 and is awarded on a first-come first-serve basis up to 29 December 2023.
- It follows DWR's Small Community Drought Relief Grant.

<https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Water-Basics/Drought/Files/Resources/Small-Community-Drought-Relief-Guidelines20229202022.pdf>

- No cost share is required.
- It can cover:
  - Expenses for process and procedural support to develop the county drought and water shortage task force
  - Expenses for the development of a County Drought Resilience Plan



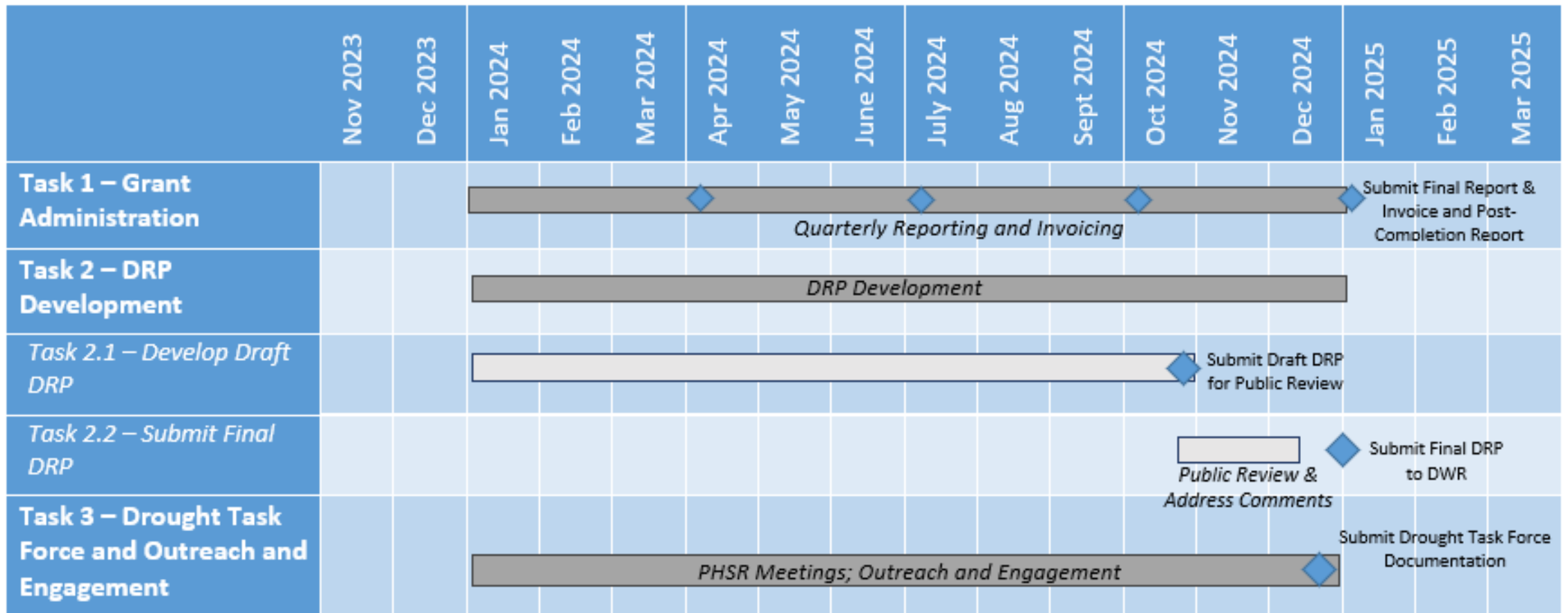
# COUNTY'S APPLICATION

- We are requesting the full amount: \$125,000.
- MCWA/DOT will cooperate with EO and UCCE-Mendocino to execute the grant.
  - County is expected to hire a consultant to accomplish majority of Task 2 and parts of Task 3.
  - UCCE- Mendocino is expected to cooperate with the County to accomplish parts of Task 2 and majority of Task 3.
- Other water stakeholders are expected to be closely engaged in the development of the DRP through Task Force (PHSR) meetings.
- The proposed Task Order and Budget is designed as:

Description	Budget
<b>Task 1 - Grant Administration</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>
<b>Task 2 - Drought Resilience Plan Development</b>	<b>\$72,000</b>
Subtask 2.1 – Develop Draft DRP	\$52,000
Subtask 2.2 – Submit Final DRP	\$21,000
<b>Task 3 - Drought Task Force Outreach &amp; Documentation</b>	<b>\$42,000</b>
Subtask 3.1 – Convene CDTF Meetings	\$17,000
Subtask 3.2 – Outreach and Engagement	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

# IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

- Grant is expected to have a 1-year execution timeline.
- The following schedule is proposed to accomplish the scope:



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## NEXT STEPS

- County to adopt the authorizing resolution to be included in the proposal.
  - Authorizing Resolution is on the agenda for BOS September meeting.
  - The resolution includes all necessary components of the sample provided by DWR in its application package.
- Submit DRP Application to DWR and maintain communications to provide additional information, as needed, and furnish an agreement.

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

