



Water Supply Working Group Preparedness Checklist for Drought Mitigation

➤ Community Overview

- Climate** – A generalized description of the climate surrounding the community and how it impacts the use and distribution of water. Should include extreme conditions and potential impacts.
- Population** – Discussion of current population and demand from other uses as well as forecast of trends over at least the next decade.

➤ Existing Water System

- Water Source** – General description of all contributing sources and the reliability of said sources, Volume available by source if known.
- Permits / Allocations / Limitations**– should include a listing of all permitted or allocated components as well as priorities within those permits or allocations. Should also include applications or other potential changes to total allocations. May be related to infrastructure or overall permit limit,
 - Potential Conflicts** – If unusual circumstances exist in the permit or allocation a full discussion should be included here.
- Infrastructure** – A thorough description of all components of the water system including planned changes or development,
 - Are there identified gaps in knowledge of water loss within the system
- Potential Emergency Water Sources**

➤ Water Demand / Use Forecast

- Residential** – Should include trends in both population changes and consumption changes.
- Industrial** – Should include current consumption as well as efforts to expand business opportunities in the community and consumption.
- Agricultural** – spraying and livestock operations are sometimes an element of demand and may vary seasonally,
- Other** – Any circumstances that fall outside the two prior categories.

➤ Monitoring Conditions

- Supply**
 - Possible changes in natural supply or climate that would impact supply.**
 - Outline of system capacity to monitor usage and system performance.**
 - Consumer confidence feedback.
 - Annual reporting of system performance.

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- **Develop Monitoring system and Ongoing reporting / alert Statements.**
 - Likely need to include levels of severity of event.
 - **Are the impact of Evapotranspiration and channel seepage included in the monitoring plan?**
 - **Social / Political Changes - Outline potential changes in processes in higher government roles that would impact supply/system.**

➤ **Conservation Planning Goals**

- **Describe what preparedness activities and priorities the community is working toward with milestones or goals.**

➤ **Response Plan** – Time is substantially different for a drought than most other emergencies, emergency may continue for years and scale up and down.

- **Contact list for local leadership.**
- **Potential Conservation Measures.**
 - **Restrictions** – On various priorities of consumption
 - **System Improvements**
 - **Consumer improvements**
 - **Water Auditing** – system usage for identification of water losses
- **Develop plan for coordination with other authorities in case of emergency** – can include pricing concerns, legal ramifications.
- **Communication plan** – should include a plan for consumers, jurisdictions, and neighboring communities (Who and What is to be communicated).
- **Education planning**
 - **Consumers**
 - Appreciation for cost of water (where it comes from, what it takes to deliver to users).
 - What efforts can influence users to conserve or protect supply
 - Barrier and Benefit analysis to positively impact society (community based social marketing).
 - **Water Professionals** – Planning for unforeseen events is challenging and can be subsumed in daily operations.

➤ **Recovery Plan**

- **Consider stages of situation, steps forward or back in severity.**
- **Review and Adjust plan based on lessons.**

➤ **Establish Review Schedule** (plan should be deliberately scheduled for review to identify changes and ensure all partners are familiar with roles).

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