



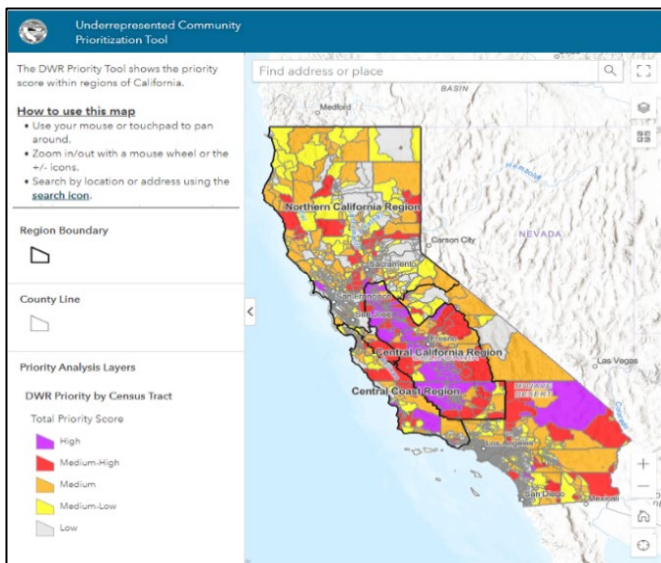
## FACT SHEET

### Overview

The mission of the Underrepresented Communities, California Tribes, and Small Farmers Groundwater Technical Assistance (URCTA) Program is to support Underrepresented Communities (URCs), California Native American (Federally and Non-Federally Recognized) Tribes and Small Farmers within groundwater regulated basins, including those that are medium, high and critically overdrafted priority. The URCTA Program identifies eligible communities throughout California with water supply challenges such as dry groundwater wells, water shortages, or poor water quality. with the assessment of water-related needs, risks, and vulnerabilities and to provide focused groundwater-related technical assistance to resolve them. This includes URCs, Tribes and Small Farmers identified in the maps below.

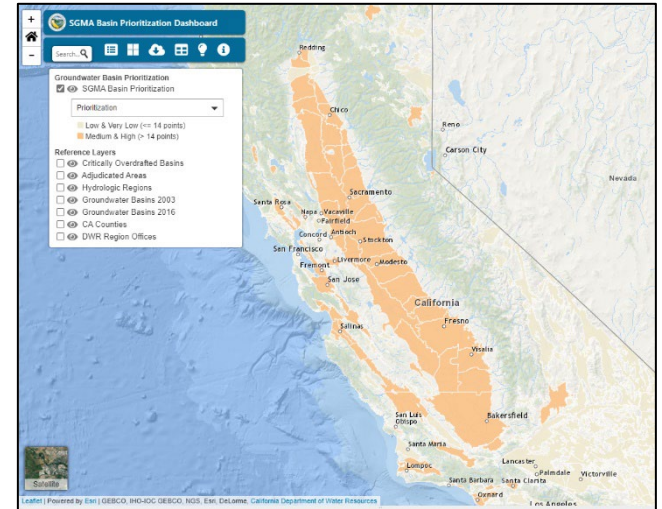
### URC Prioritization Tool

DWR can assist with determining URCs from mapped areas that incorporate data including Median Household Income (MHI), threats to groundwater, access to drinking water, and water quality issues.



## SGMA Basin Prioritization Dashboard

Areas identified to be in a groundwater regulated basin will be identified using the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Basin Prioritization Dashboard that includes data on California's 515 Groundwater Basins defined in Bulletin 118.



### Background

DWR began the URCTA Program utilizing an initial \$2.5 million in Proposition 68 funds in 2021 and retained a consultant for technical assistance services. DWR hired a nongovernmental agency in 2022 using General Funds and additional services were provided by the Budget Act of 2021. In 2023, the addition of \$4 million in Prop. 68 funding was allocated, and an additional \$9.5 million in General Funds were made available for small farmers.

### Technical Assistance Services

The URCTA Program can provide onsite engineering, geologic, hydrologic, and other technical services to eligible underrepresented communities, California Native American (Federally and Non-Federally recognized) Tribes, and small farmers. These services can include Preliminary Engineering Design and Hydrogeologic Studies regarding groundwater wells, water and wastewater systems upgrades and consolidations, and water storage for fire suppressions.



Specific examples of the types of services are, but not limited to:

- Analysis of existing well condition using downhole video and pump testing
- Analysis of well interference
- Analyze and help to facilitate water transfers
- Analyze existing groundwater well conditions
- Analyzing and facilitating water transfers
- Analyzing long term water supply demand
- Coordination and facilitation on groundwater sustainability matters
- Design of water systems including production, distribution, treatment, and storage
- Design of water systems including production, distribution, treatment, and storage
- Determination of fire flow requirements
- Expert witness testimony Groundwater quality testing and treatment
- Facilitation of water well and/or pump construction and/or repair (well location, design, and construction oversight)
- Groundwater impact analysis (for depletion, land subsidence, groundwater dependent ecosystem depletion, etc.)
- Identifying water supplies
- Long-term water supply and demand analysis
- Monitoring groundwater levels, including instrumentation installation
- Monitoring soil moisture
- Preparation and submittals of relevant applications
- Preparation of project plans and specifications
- Rehabilitation and/or replacement of water storage tanks
- Supporting in grant application development

- Testing aquifers to determine long-term yield and supply
- Training

### Small Farmers Definition

DWR is currently providing outreach across the State and would appreciate any feedback on the URCTA Small Farmers definition. A survey response can be made using the QR Code below or the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/g/PV2A3Xzb9V>.



### Where to Obtain Information

For further information about the URCTA Program, interested parties can contact [URCTA@water.ca.gov](mailto:URCTA@water.ca.gov).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Tribal Affairs, please contact [tribalpolicyadvisor@water.ca.gov](mailto:tribalpolicyadvisor@water.ca.gov).

*URCTA Program*

<https://water.ca.gov/urctaprogram>

SGMA Basin Prioritization Dashboard:

<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/final/>