



**Sierra County
Drought Resilience Plan (DRP)**

Task Force Kick-off Meeting

April 26, 2024



Agenda

1. Introduction and Background
2. Task Force Overview
3. County Service Plan Review
4. Baseline Risk Assessment Results
5. Next Steps



Team Members



Sierra County

LeTina Vanetti
Office of Emergency Services



Julia Ekstrom

Supervisor, Urban Unit Rural
Communities Program
Water Use Efficiency Branch

Sarah Ko

Environmental Scientist,
Division of Regional Assistance



Neil Stewart

Sierra County Lead
Senior Water Resources Engineer

Katie Hardaker

Water Resources Engineer-in-Training



Preceding Legislation

Assembly Bill 1668 and **Senate Bill (SB) 606** (passed in June 2018) outlined directives related to urban and agricultural water use efficiency and countywide drought resiliency.

- **10609.40(a)** *Small water suppliers and rural communities are often not covered by established water shortage planning requirements [...]*
- **1060940(b)** *The state should provide guidance to improve drought planning for small water suppliers and rural communities.*
- **10609.42(a)** *No later than January 1, 2020, the department [...] shall use available data to identify small water suppliers and rural communities that may be at risk of drought and water shortage vulnerability [...], propose to the Governor and the Legislature recommendations and guidance relating to the development and implementation of countywide drought and water shortage contingency plans to address the planning needs of small water suppliers and rural communities.*





Preceding Legislation

Senate Bill 552 Requirements

- A County shall
 - 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* within the county's jurisdiction.
 - develop a **County Drought Resilience Plan** that includes potential drought and water shortage risk and proposed interim and long-term solutions.

Primer of Senate Bill 552:
Drought Planning for Small Water
Suppliers and Rural Communities

Prepared by



And



May 2022

[Primer-of-SB-552-052522_final.pdf \(ca.gov\)](#)



Sierra County Drought Resilience Plan

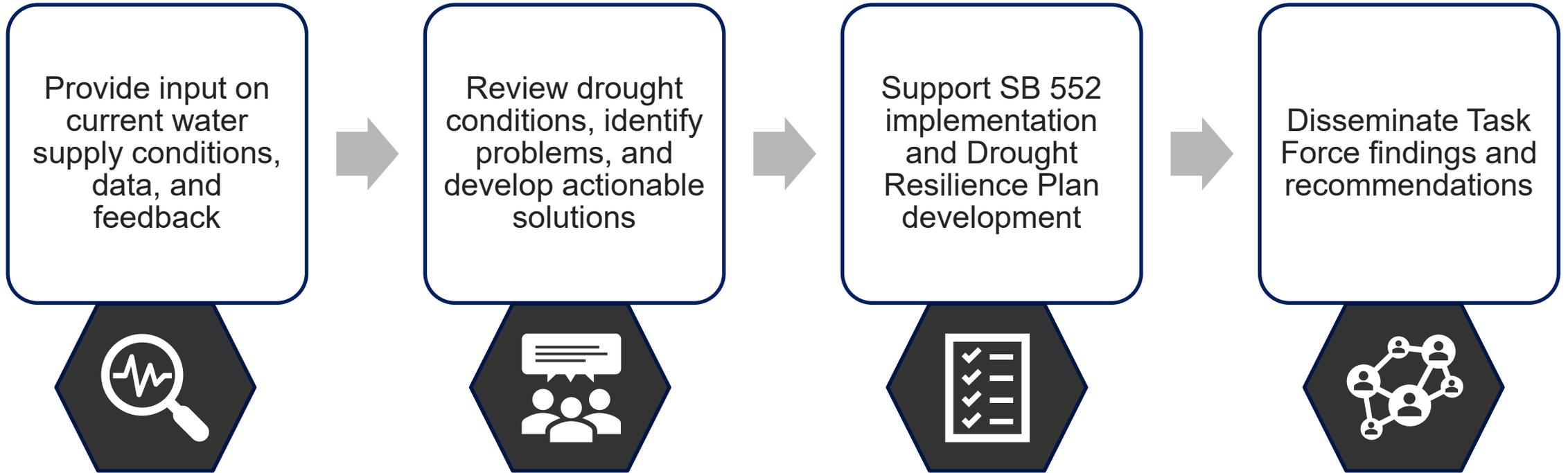
- Stand-alone document
- Formation of Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (Task Force)
- Supports:
 - County General Plan
- Facilitates drought and water shortage preparedness for:
 - State Small Water Systems
 - Domestic wells
- Plan for the future



Drought and Water Shortage Task Force Overview



Drought and Water Shortage Task Force Responsibilities





Sierra County Task Force

LeTina Vanetti	Emergency Services
Brandon Pangman	Building/Planning
Bryan Davey	Public Works/Roads
Elizabeth Morgan	Environmental Health
Evelyn de Mello	Environmental Health
Paul Roen	Board of Supervisors
Jenny Gant	Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District
Sharon Dobija	State Small Water System
Lee Brown	Domestic Well Owner
Terri Parham	State Regulator



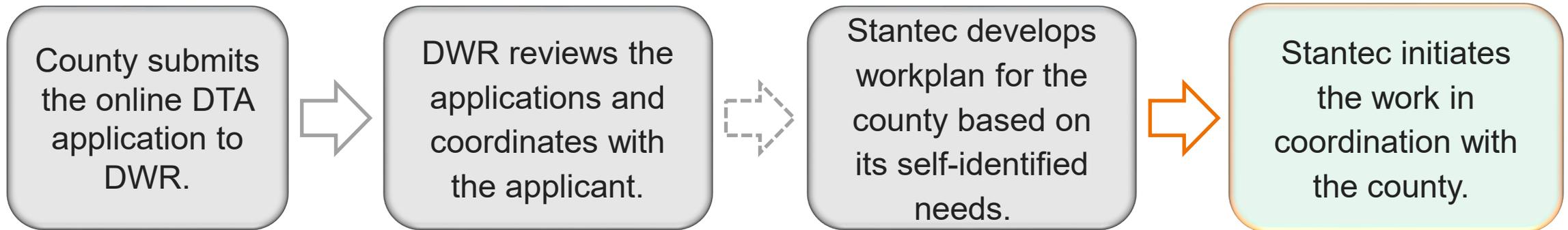
County Service Plan (CSP)



County Drought Resilience Planning Assistance Program



... counties can request up to \$125,000 in **financial assistance** or **Direct Technical Assistance (DTA)** to support their planning efforts.





County Service Plan Overview

- Outlines activities Stantec will complete with Sierra County
 - Contract managed by DWR
- Includes:
 - Risk Assessment
 - Task Force Meetings
 - DRP Development
- Deliverable is completed Drought Resilience Plan

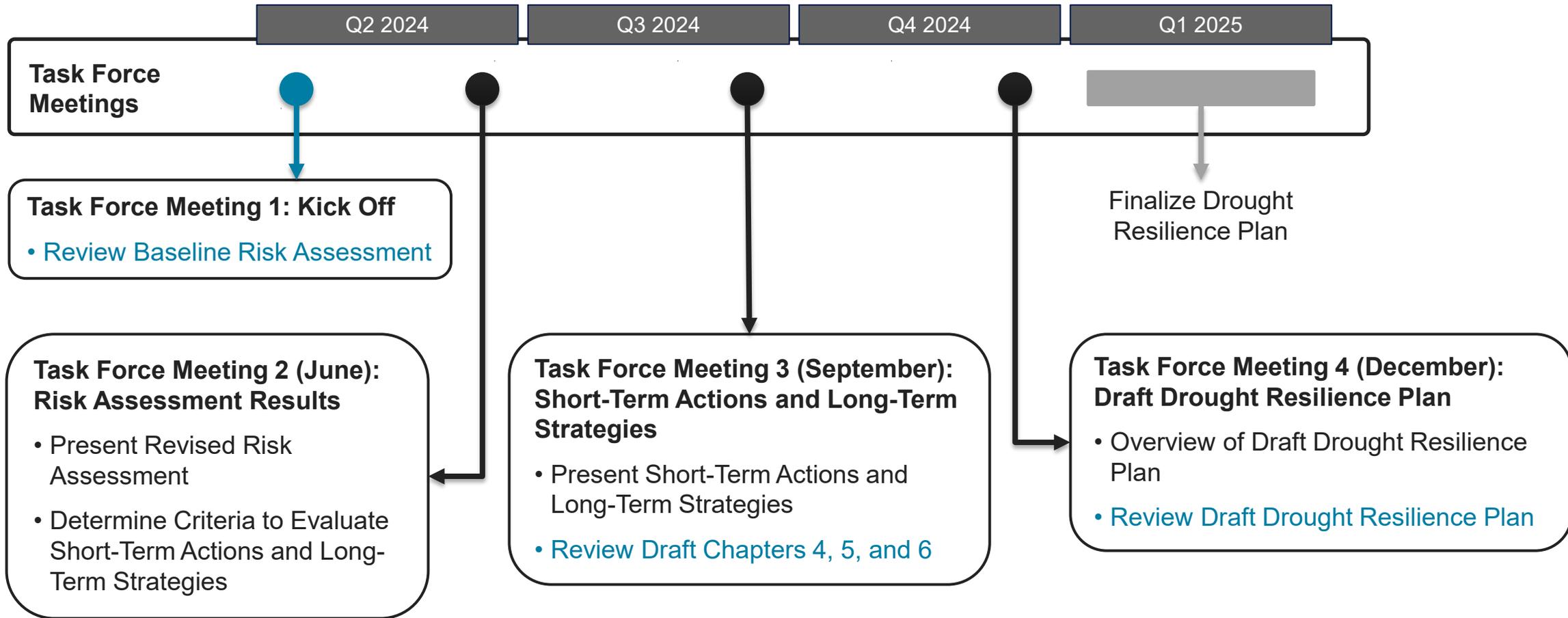


Drought Resilience Plan Outline

- Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: County Drought and Water Shortage Task Force
- Chapter 3: Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment
- Chapter 4: Short-Term Response Actions
- Chapter 5: Long-Term Mitigation Strategy and Actions
- Chapter 6: Implementation Considerations
- References
- Appendices
 - Appendix A: Risk Assessment Exhibits



Schedule





Communications and Engagement

- Internal Communications and Engagement
 - Project Coordination Team and Task Force
 - Materials Provided Prior to Meeting
 - Three Weeks for Review of Draft Materials
- External Communications and Engagement
 - Completed Documents Housed on Website
 - Notifications (Post Office, Sheriff Social Media, Local Newspaper)
 - Email Distributions and Presentations
 - Sierra County Disaster Council/Health Care Coalition
 - Organizations Serving At-risk Populations
 - Senior Lunches, Family Resource Center, Commodities Distribution, etc.

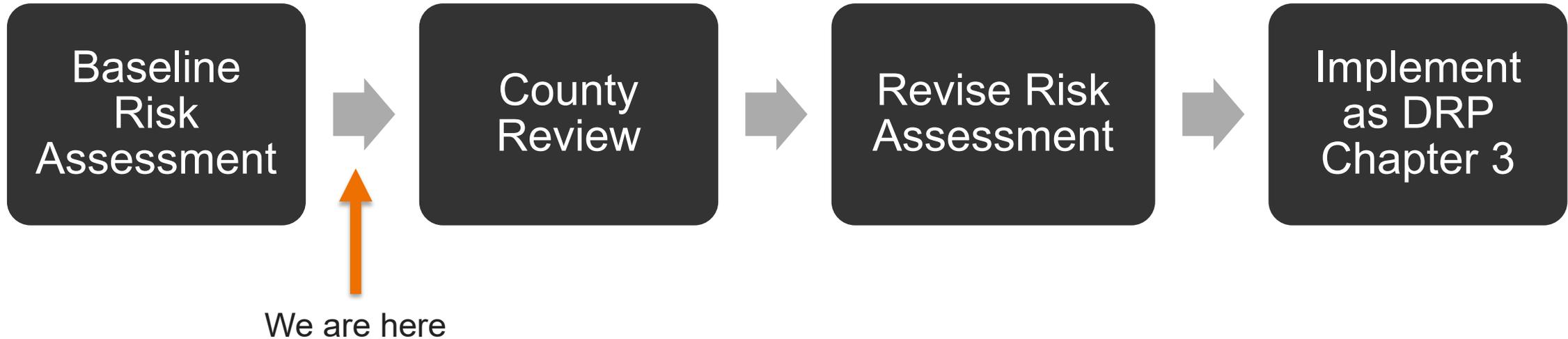


Baseline Risk Assessment Results



Drought and Water Shortage Risk Assessment

Where do physical vulnerabilities intersect with SSWS/domestic wells, and how could social vulnerabilities influence short-term actions and long-term strategies?





Baseline Risk Assessment

- Applied DWR Water Shortage Vulnerability Explorer (WSVE)
- Present results to PCT and Task Force for initial thoughts and comment

Purpose: Identify gaps or incorrect outcomes from existing data and Risk Assessment methodology

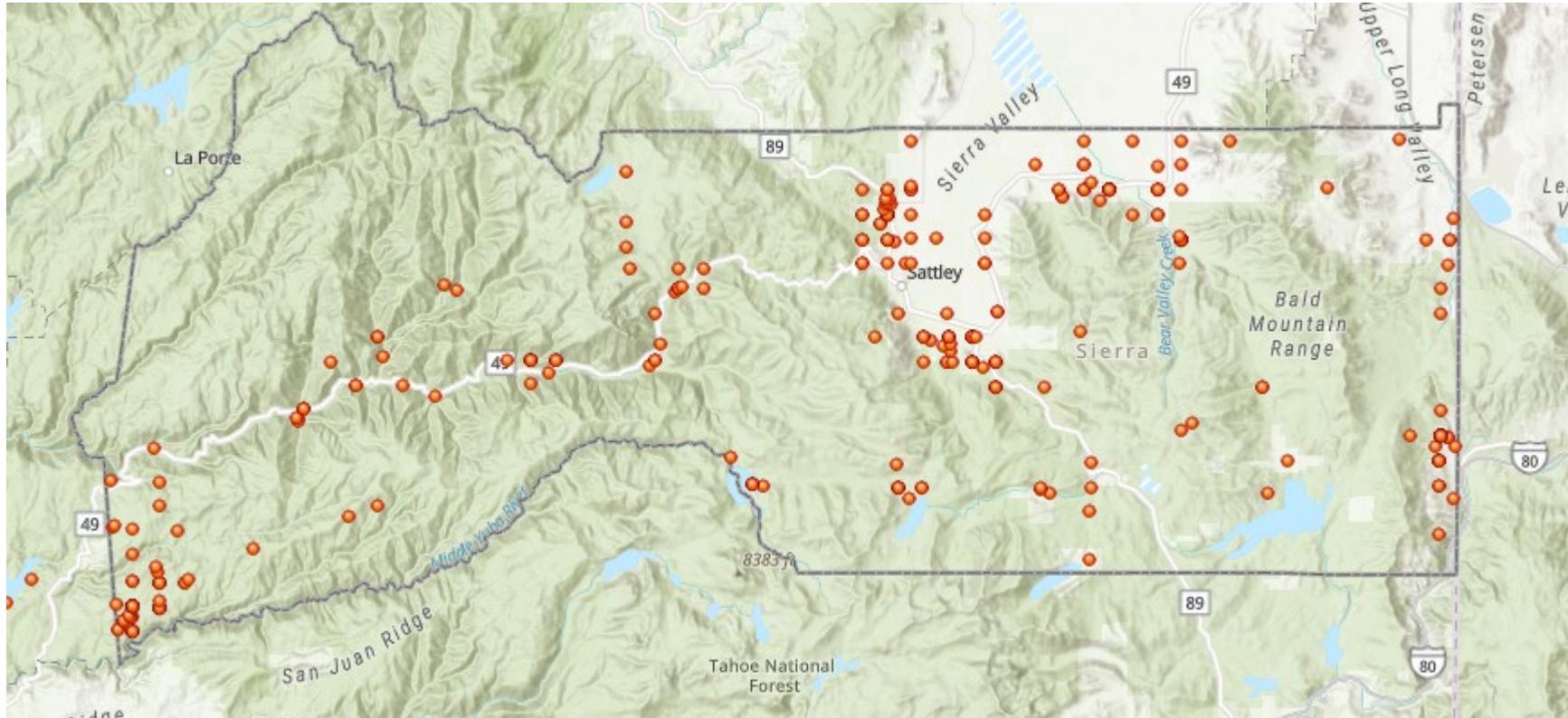


Reviewing Baseline Risk Assessment

- Are the location and concentrations of domestic wells accurate?
- Are any SSWS missing?
- Are the areas with high physical vulnerability expected? Are any missing?
- Are the areas with high social vulnerability expected?



Domestic Wells in WSVE Database

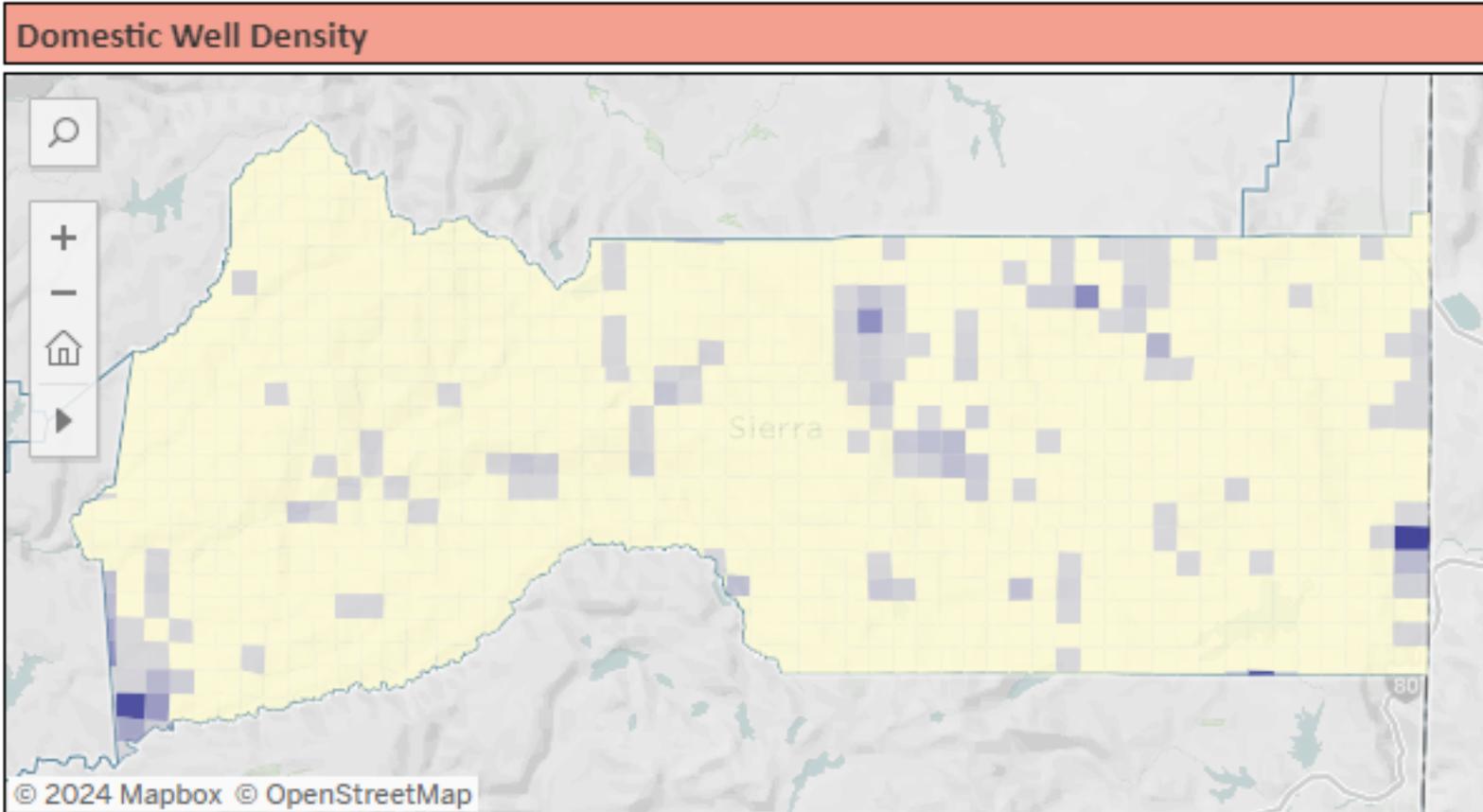


Question:
Are the location and concentrations of domestic wells accurate?

- Based on well-completion reports submitted after the mid-1970s
- Incorrect information in reports may result in domestic wells displaying outside of County boundaries



Domestic Wells in WSVE Database



Number of Domestic Wells



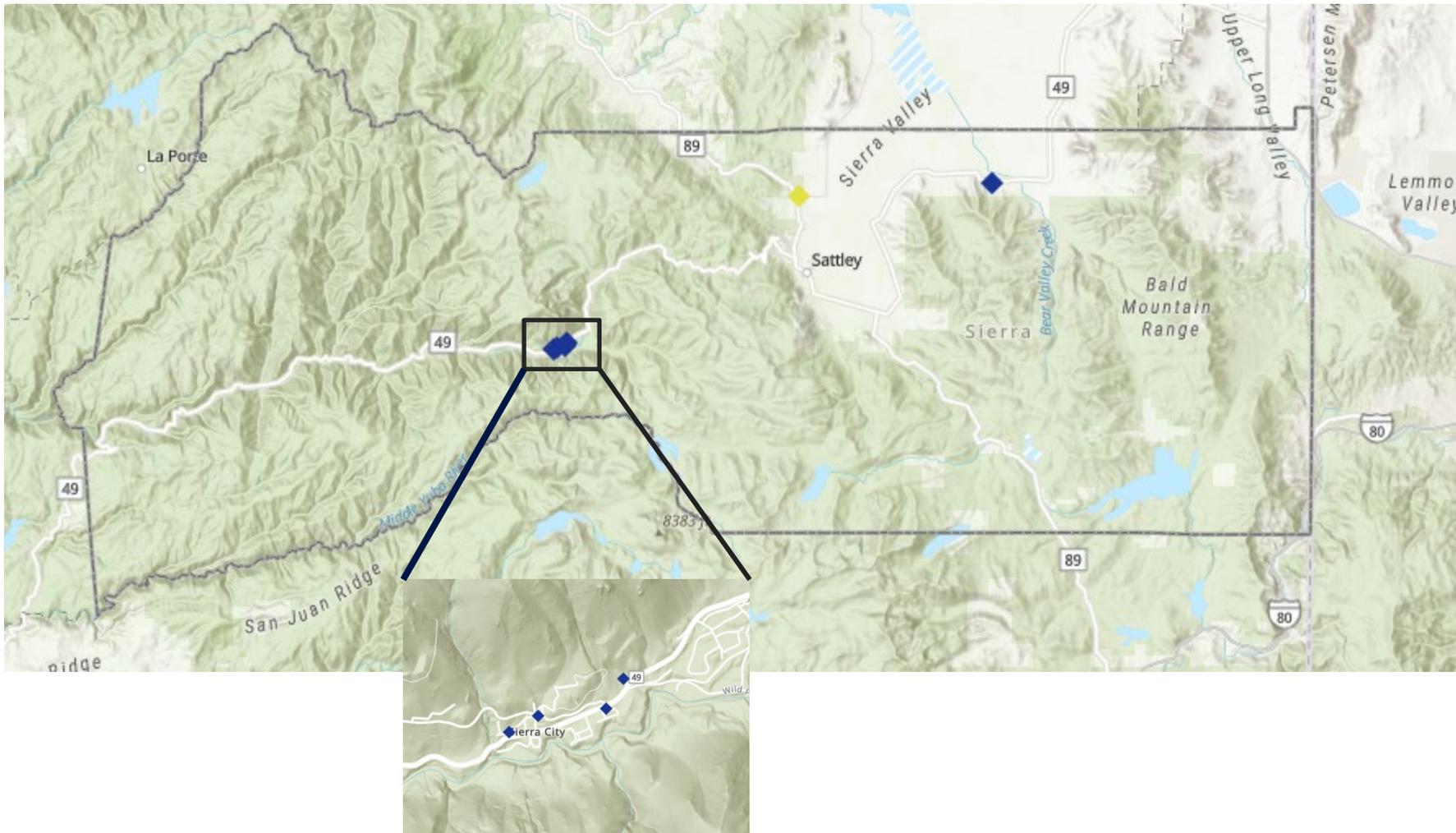
Number of
Domestic Wells

608

Question:
Are the location
and concentrations
of domestic wells
accurate?



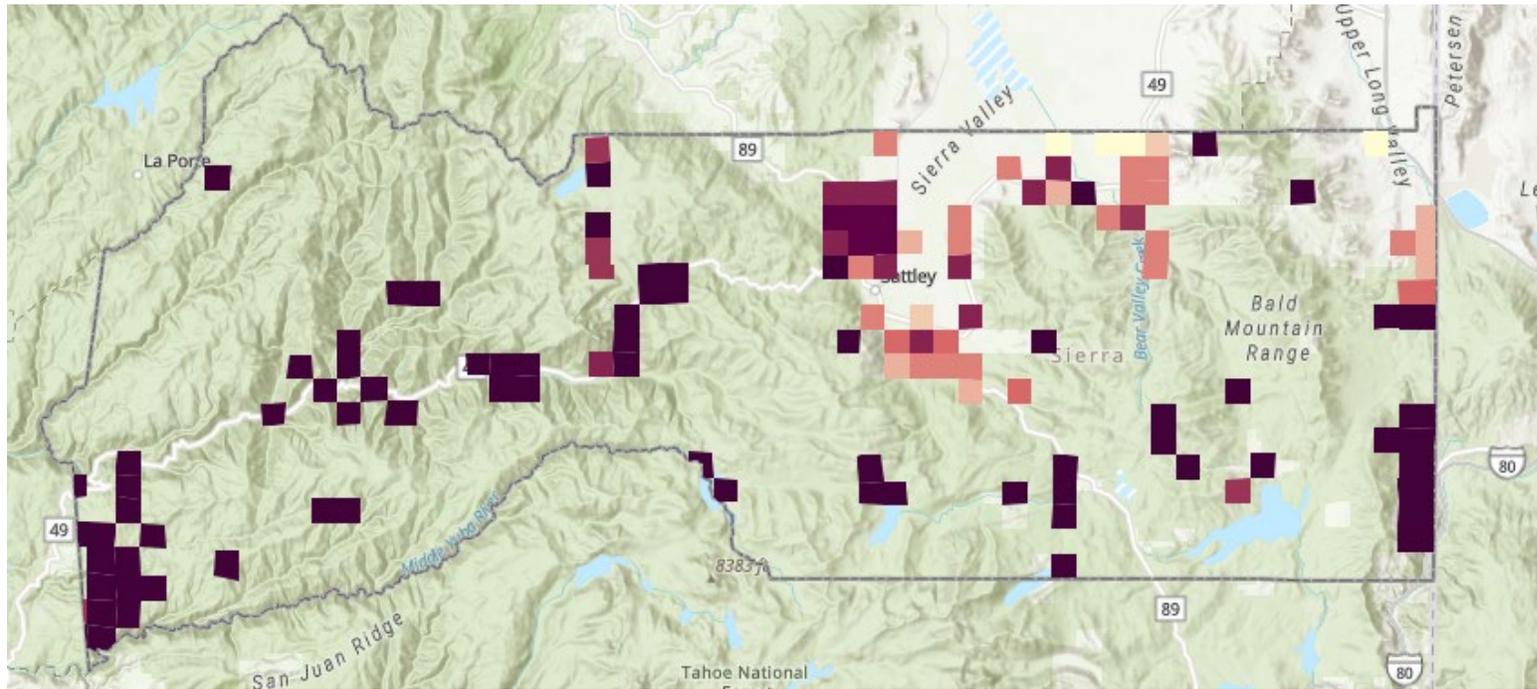
SSWS in WSVE Database



Question:
Are any SSWS
missing?



Physical Vulnerability Results

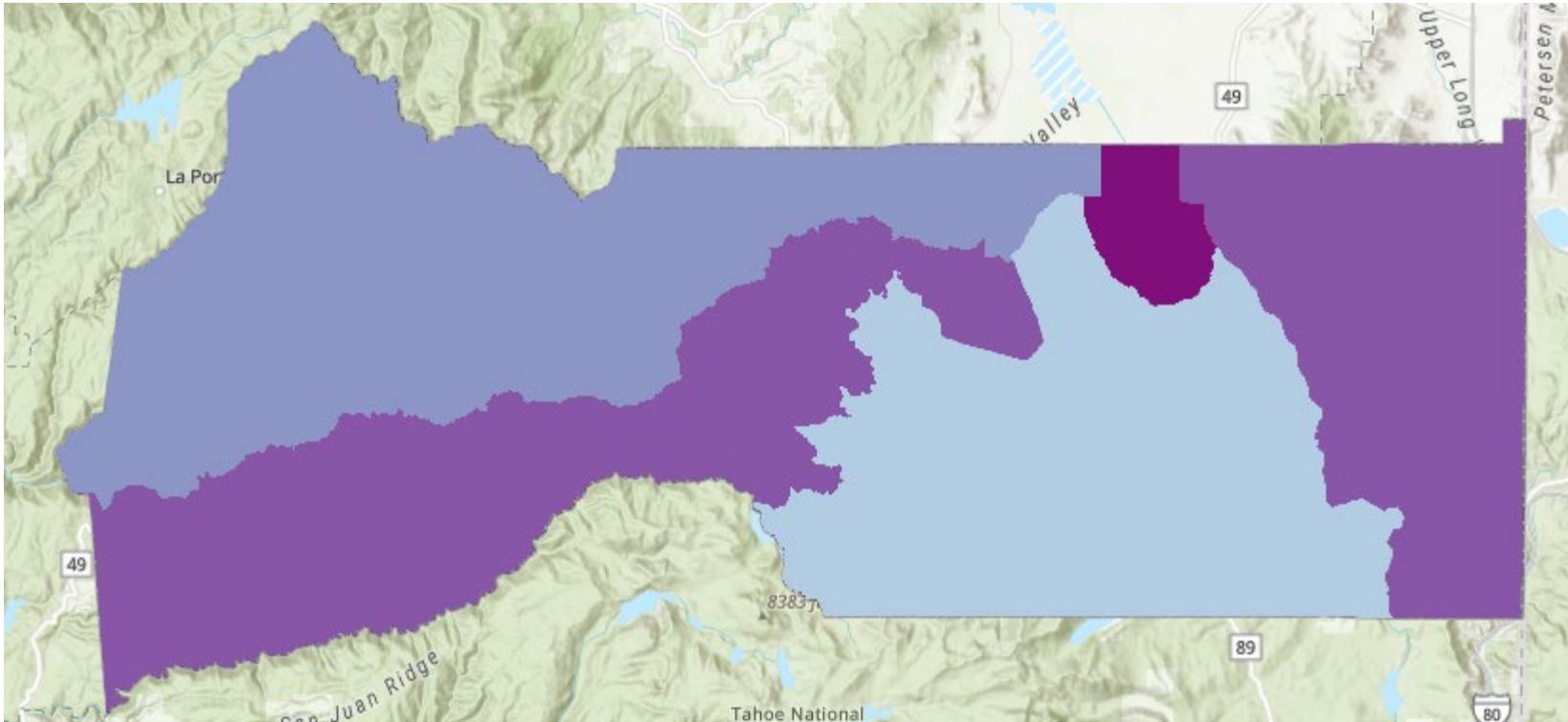


Question:
Are the areas with high physical vulnerability expected? Are any missing?

- Darker shades indicate higher physical vulnerability
- Only those with a domestic well or SSWS are shaded



Social Vulnerability Results



Question:
Are the areas with high social vulnerability expected?

- Darker shades indicate higher social vulnerability
- Results aggregated by Census Block Group



Next Steps



Next Steps

- Stantec Submits Baseline Risk Assessment for Review: May 6
- Review Comments on Baseline Risk Assessment Due: ~May 27
- Next Task Force Meeting: Late-June (Virtual)



Questions and Discussion



Contact Us

- LeTina Vanetti, (OES)
lvanetti@sierracounty.ca.gov
- Neil Stewart (Stantec),
Neil.Stewart@stantec.com