

## Glenn County Drought Task Force Meeting Summary

August 12, 2021, 1500-1630 hours

Glenn County Office of Education – Conference Facility

131 E Walker St. Orland, CA 95963

1. Introductions
2. EOC/MAC Group Update
  - a. Situational update
    - i. Emergency Operations Center management group is meeting one to two times per month
  - b. Resources
    - i. Bottled Water
      1. Amazon is donating an additional 6 pallets of water and it should be received by the County next week.
      2. Walmart is willing to provide an additional donation – EOC group will arrange for pickup.
      3. Bottled water distribution event will be scheduled as soon as the water is received.
  - c. Well Incident Reports & Map
    - i. Planning provided a situational update of the well incident reports and displayed a GIS map that showed the concentration of reported well incidents in the northern part of the County, Orland and Capay, along the Stony Creek fan. There have been 165 reports of well related incidents, of which 114 are classified as dry wells. All reports are self reported, and are not verified.
    - ii. To report a well incident, go to: [www.countyofglenn.net/drought](http://www.countyofglenn.net/drought) then select dry well reporting.
    - iii. If you need to update a well report, contact the Planning Department at 934-6540 or email [drought@countyofglenn.net](mailto:drought@countyofglenn.net)
    - iv. Planning Department is working with DWR to share the well incident report information collected locally.
  - d. Finance
    - i. Update on State grants and NVCF
      1. North Valley Community Foundation application to open a donation fund for Drought incident was submitted to NVCF. Awaiting a response on it.

2. NVCF is now heavily engaged in the Dixie Fire response and recovery. The Foundation may not have the resources to apply for the State Water Boards Grant for drought relief programs. Glenn County will explore other private nonprofits to partner with, as it was preferable that a non-profit apply for the grant program over a governmental agency.
  3. County and City admin staff have been exploring State grant programs through State Water Boards, DWR, and USDA looking for the best fit or eligibility for projects. Most grants are focused on community water systems, not private well owners. City of Orland may be eligible for grants to expand service connections to their municipal water system.
  4. The County is waiting on more information of the Drought Funding that was put into the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 State Budget. So far no information on what this funding will look like nor who will be eligible for it.
- e. Policy
- i. Update on Ag Well Moratorium
    1. The Board approved an extension of the Ag Well Moratorium. It will be in place for one year (June 2022) unless conditions are such that the Board repeals it early.
3. Cal-OES Update
- a. No word on whether drought will be eligible disaster for CA Disaster Act funding. At this time, Glenn has no damages or emergency protective measures expenses to report.
4. Public comment
- a. A resident voiced concern for elderly who may be unable to transport water to their house and may be unable to leave the house for things such as doing laundry or showering.
  - b. A resident brought up the costs associated with being out of water on their private property to include hauling water to their home, showers at Pilot, laundry at laundromats etc. This resident also reported that the Pilot showers were safe, accessible, and clean.
  - c. A resident inquired if the County could use a water truck to haul water to private homes. The CAO reiterated the risks and liability with providing non-potable water to private homes.
  - d. A resident inquired if there will be any reimbursement for homeowners who already purchased their own water tank and are paying to haul water?
    - i. Grants and disaster act funding do not provide for reimbursement of homeowner's expenses.

## 5. Roundtable Report Out

### a. Cities

- i. Orland – Bulk water sales continue through the city. Currently serving 27 customers with approximately 50,000 gallons per month. Glenn County residents are welcome to sign up to purchase bulk water from the City: please contact the City of Orland at 530-865-1610
  1. The city is in the process of hooking 6 residences up to the city water system.
- ii. CalWater Willows – City of willows bulk water purchasing program not yet operating. Cal-Water may be able to provide service if the city is unable to.

### b. Water agencies

- i. GCID: Most of the wells are now turned off. Ground water levels are of concern.
- ii. TCCA is still pumping
- iii. OAWD: Additional delivery this month, which will help recharge wells in the area. Growers will make it through this fall, however, no water for frost protection or winter irrigation.

### c. Agricultural agencies

- i. UC Cooperative provided information on groundwater, aquifers etc. It has been put on the website: [www.countyofglenn.net/drought](http://www.countyofglenn.net/drought) then select Resources from the menu.

### d. Other organizations

## 6. Presentation – Glenn County Farm Bureau - Well Moratorium Prioritization Projects

- a. Provided an overview of program in Tehama and Butte counties where the groundwater resources were analyzed and divided into regions.
- b. Propose the County partner to bring in a consultant like Land IQ to provide an objective, data driven analysis.
- c. Discussion ensued on Arrundo in Stony Creek. Arrundo is an invasive plant species. Arrundo draws approximately 15 acre feet of water in Glenn County annually. It also contributes to increased flooding risk along the creek. RCD provided historical background on a previous attempt to remove the Arrundo from Stony Creek which requires many environmental permits, significant funding (millions), and permission and project buy-in of every landowner along Stony Creek. RCD will discuss whether this project may be eligible for any existing grants.

## 7. Other Items

- a. Discussion on other possible policy items for future deliberation
  - i. It was proposed that additional sub-committees be considered for specific projects such as ground water policy, donations and funding etc.

## 8. Next meeting: Thursday, September 9, 2021, 1500 hours at Glenn County Office of Education – Conference Facility Orland.