

Glenn County Drought Task Force Meeting

September 9, 2021, 1500-1630 hours

Glenn County Office of Education – Conference Facility

1. **Call to order and introductions.** 26 attendees present.
2. **EOC/MAC Group Update**
 - a. Situational update
 - i. Emergency Operations Center and policy makers meet monthly to coordinate drought related response resources.
 - ii. Public Information – Website and social media continually updated. New maps of well incidents are uploaded.
 - iii. Well Incident Reports & Map – presentation of the new online maps of well incidences. Currently 198 well incident reports, with 141 selected the dry well designation. Two maps, one displays any well incident report, one displays the hot spots of where designated dry wells have been reported. Can be accessed at: www.countyofglenn.net/drought select Well Incident Report - Map
 - b. Resources
 - i. Bottled water events - 6 water distribution events have been held since July. The most recent event was yesterday, and 44 families were served. Water has been donated by Amazon and Wal-Mart. Additional water has been received from Cal-OES and will provide water for the next water distribution event on September 22nd at Orland Fire from 4 to 6 p.m.
 - ii. Showers – The County has entered into an agreement with Pilot for a shower program. Shower vouchers will be made available soon for residents who are interested. Showers vouchers will be limited to 1 shower per person per week. *Requirements: resident of Glenn County with a completed well incident report.*
 1. A survey of residents who have filed well incident reports was conducted via email. Only 22 residents completed the survey. Of those, only 5 showed interest in a shower program. A follow up survey by phone will be conducted in the next week to those who did not have an email listed. Other shower options were explored by the County but they are much more costly and due to low initial interest in the program were not selected at this time.
 - c. Finance
 - i. North Valley Community Foundation (NVCF) and the County completed the application for the State Urgent Drinking Water Needs grant. The grant

requested is approximately \$1.8 million. The grant application scope included a request for an emergency water tank program, water hauling, and drinking water delivery services. This grant is not retroactive; therefore, no expenses or programs can be initiated until the grant is approved by the State.

- ii. North Valley Community Foundation will be activating a donation fund for the Glenn County Drought. The link to the donation fund will be sent out and posted on the Drought website as soon as it is operational.
- iii. The City of Orland was awarded a grant from the DWR for \$8 million to expand the City water system. Expansion will include the addition of two 1-million-gallon tanks and will increase resident connections to the water system. For more information on the expansion project, contact the City of Orland
- iv. *Question & Answer:*
 - 1. *Has Elk Creek or Artois Community Service Districts applied for State grant funds? To our knowledge, no they have not. They may apply for the State grants as a community water supplier. Follow up question, would technical assistance on the grant application be available to the CSDs? Yes, DWR is available for technical assistance for water system applications.*
 - 2. *Will any of the grant programs be retroactive? No, grant programs are retroactive. Homeowners with expenses such water hauling cannot be reimbursed.*
 - 3. *Is there individual homeowner programs for well drilling? Currently the only program available to individual homeowners for permanent water well solutions is the RCAC grant or low interest loan program. This program has income limitations. No additional programs have been released through the State or Federal government at this time (and were not available in the last drought). The website has been updated (9/10/21) to reflect this and a link was added to the DWR website with information on the 2021 State Budget Drought Funding – most funding is for community water systems and community solutions.*

d. Policy – No policy updates

3. Cal-OES Update

- a. Provided bottled water to Glenn and Tehama counties. No other updates.

4. Roundtable Report Out

a. Cities

- i. Orland has released 120,000 gallons of water through the bulk water hauling filling station program. This is a very small amount and has not negatively impacted city water sources. Water filling is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

b. Water agencies

- i. GCID – 5 district wells are now off. Diversions down to 500 cubic feet per second. Rice drainage may be visible.
- ii. State Dept. Drinking Water - Elk Creek is suffering from high Manganese in the water system due to low water levels in Stony Gorge. Stony Gorge will get an influx of water to assist with this problem.

c. Agricultural agencies – no report**d. Other organizations**

- i. GC RCD is looking for any interested persons who would like to join a group to address the Arundo issue in Stony Creek. If you are interested, please contact Kandi at the RCD or Amy GCSO-OES.

5. Public comment - None**6. Other Items - None****7. Next meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2021, 1500 hours same location.**