

DRAFT SUMMARY**County of Ventura Drought and Water Shortage Task Force Kick-Off Meeting**

Tuesday, January 20, 2026; 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Zoom

Participants

Name	Affiliation
County PCT	
Anastasia Seims	Ventura County, Public Works Agency
Shawna Schlageter	Ventura County, County Executive Office
Kim Dellacort	Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services
John Gauthier	Watershed Protection Group
Ashley Kennedy	Ventura County, Environmental Health
Shelley Sussman	Planning Division
Task Force	
Jennifer Lancaster	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Maureen McGuire	Farm Bureau of Ventura County
Bram Sercu	United Water Conservation District
Melonie Morgan	Ventura County, Environmental Resources Agricultural Weights and Measures
Participants	
Sarah Ko	California Department of Water Resources
Stephen Glenn	City of Ventura, Ventura Water
Sarah Mulder	City of Ventura, Ventura Water
Michael Wolfe	City of Oxnard, Public Works
Robert Hampson	Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
Korinne Bell	Ventura County, Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Supervisor Kelly Long	Ventura County Board of Supervisors, District 3
Michael Durazo	Ventura County Board of Supervisors, District 3
Brian Miller	Ventura County Board of Supervisors, District 3
Consultant Support	
Rina Buck-Macleod	Stantec
Emily Huang	Stantec

Meeting Objectives

- Introduce Senate Bill (SB) 552 and the Ventura County (County) Drought Resilience Plan (DRP) development process, discuss Drought and Water Shortage Task Force (Task Force) responsibilities, discuss the proposed schedule, provide an overview of the draft risk assessment, introduce short-term response actions (STRA) and long-term mitigation strategies and actions (LTMSA) and receive Task Force input/direction to refine Draft DRP Chapters 4 and 5.

DRAFT Summary

- **Introductions** – The County PCT initiated the meeting by welcoming the Task Force, noting that the County DRP applies exclusively to domestic wells and state small water systems within the County. The County PCT also added that any questions or comments can be sent to the DRP email posted on the webpage (SB552DroughtResiliencyPlan@venturacounty.gov).

- **DRP Overview:** The Stantec Team provided an overview of the County DRP and SB 552, including the Task Force compliance requirements, County DRP content, and the anticipated DRP schedule.
- **Risk Assessment:** The Stantec Team provided an overview of the risk assessment, including the approach, location of domestic wells and state small water in the County, key findings of the risk assessment, identified areas of high physical vulnerability, and how areas of high physical vulnerability intersect with social vulnerability.
 - A Task Force member shared that groundwater sustainability agencies typically conduct evaluations of well vulnerability under drought conditions, and asked whether this would be included in the risk assessment. The Stantec Team confirmed that the well vulnerability analyses from the County's groundwater sustainability plans would be considered in the County DRP content (summarized in Chapter 5, "Long-Term Mitigation Strategies and Actions."
- **STRA and LTMSA:** The Stantec Team provided an overview of STRAs and LTMSAs and provided an opportunity for open discussion regarding the County's experience responding to water shortage events.
- **Next Steps:** The Stantec Team provided an overview of next steps, including the draft DRP review period (anticipated mid-February through early March 2026), the next scheduled Task Force meeting (March 10, 2026). Meeting materials and available resources were also shared.
 - County staff encouraged meeting participants to invite people who may be interested to join the Task Force. Meeting participants were also reminded to formally sign up through the Task Force [webpage](#) to ensure they receive ongoing Task Force communication.
 - **Action Item:** Task Force to review Draft DRP mid-February 2026.

Meeting Materials/Resources

- Ventura County SB552 Website: [Small Water System and Domestic Wells Drought and Water Shortage Task Force - Ventura County Public Works Agency](#)
- DWR Risk Assessment Tool and Methodology: [Water Shortage Vulnerability Scoring and Tool](#)
- DWR Guidebook: [DWR County Drought Resilience Plan Guidebook](#)
- Questions or Concerns: SB552DroughtResiliencyPlan@venturacounty.gov

[Please email any revision request for this summary of the 1/20/2026 Task Force meeting to SB552DroughtResiliencyPlan SB552DroughtResiliencyPlan@venturacounty.gov by 2/6/2026.]