

Unincorporated Drinking Water Districts Fact Sheet - Kaweah Subbasin

There are seven groundwater dependent drinking water districts serving unincorporated communities in the Kaweah Subbasin. Together they serve more than 8,000 residents.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Public Water System Name	Population	# Connections	District Acreage (Acres)
Greater Kaweah GSA	Tract 92 CSD	500	92	73.4
Greater Kaweah GSA and Mid-Kaweah JPA GSA	Patterson Tract CSD	550	148	78
Greater Kaweah GSA and East Kaweah GSA	Ivanhoe PUD	4,495	1,116	626.6
Greater Kaweah GSA	Lemon Cove Sanitary District	200	61	24
East Kaweah GSA	Tooleville Mutual Water Co.	340	76	20
East Kaweah GSA	Plainview Mutual Water Co.	617	187	198
East Kaweah GSA	Strathmore PUD	2,150	469	419
Totals		8,352	2,057	1167.6

Vulnerability:

Six of the seven districts are 100% reliant on groundwater. The seventh is partially reliant on groundwater. In addition, many of these districts only have one to two active wells leaving them vulnerable to changing groundwater conditions. Most do not have the financial means to access drill new wells or seek new sources of water if they find themselves facing water quantity or quality challenges.

Quality:

In the Kaweah Subbasin, many of the districts have multiple water quality violations including for nitrates and coliform among others. Generally speaking, districts with fewer wells generally have more water quality violations. Combined with their small size, this has resulted in some Kaweah communities paying high prices for contaminated drinking water.

Drought impacts:

Public water systems in Tulare County were some of the hardest hit during the drought. Between 2014 and 2016, Kaweah Subbasin communities received more than \$800,000 in state and federal drought funding, in addition to Countywide emergency relief and services.

Conservation:

Based on the available information from the State Water Resources Control Board, on average, these drinking water districts in the Kaweah Subbasin reduced their water consumption between 2013 and 2015 by 20%.

Other municipal groundwater users in the Kaweah Subbasin:

While prevalent in the Kaweah Subbasin, special drinking water districts serving drinking water to unincorporated communities are by no means the only municipal groundwater users in the Subbasin. In addition to these eight districts, the Cities of Woodlake, Exeter, Farmersville, Lindsay, Visalia and Tulare, with a combined population of 245,847 residents, also rely on groundwater for drinking water. In addition, the Subbasin is home to private well communities such as Oakieville and Monson; rural schools such as Buena Vista School and Elbow Creek Elementary School, state small water systems and many private domestic wells.

Data and Reporting:

Small Public Water Systems (those serving less than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections) are regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW). These systems submit Annual Electronic Reports (AERs) each year to the DDW for the previous calendar year. AERs are commonly submitted between April and July 1, when annual Consumer Confidence Reports are due as well. AERs include the total population served, number of connections (broken down by type), water sources, water produced (by month and total annual), water rates, metered water deliveries (if metered, monthly and total annual) etc. Some of this information for each system can be found online on the state's safe drinking water information system:

<https://sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWW/>.

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