

Analysis of State Small and Local Small Water Systems in the Mountain Counties Funding Area for the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant Program

FACT SHEET

*Prepared in association with Sierra Institute and the Upper Feather River Integrated
Regional Water Management Group and funded through DWR Proposition 1
Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant for the Mountain Counties Funding Area*

March 31, 2022



Pilot Project Background

- 2018: Sierra Institute entered into a Grant Agreement with the DWR to implement the Proposition 1 [Disadvantaged Community Involvement \(DACI\) Project](#) for the Mountain Counties Funding Area (MCFA)
- Memorandum of Commitment - each of the nine IRWM regions in the MCFA eligible for approximately \$45,000 in technical assistance (TA) funding
- The [UFR RWMG](#) selected Plumas County to implement the DACI TA project
- Pilot Project to develop long-term water shortage preparedness and contingency planning strategies tailored to the water needs and system vulnerabilities of DACs, EDAs, Tribal communities, and underrepresented communities in the UFR IRWM Region

Pilot Project Objective

The Water Shortage Preparedness and Contingency Planning Pilot Project aims to

- Reduce the challenges that burden small water systems
- Provide technical assistance, long-term planning strategies, outreach, and coordination to increase resiliency and access to safe and affordable drinking water

The intent of the *Pilot Project* is to create a process and template for implementation throughout the UFR IRWM Region.

Pilot Project - Overarching Goals

- Conduct a UFR IRWM region-wide assessment to support the development of Water Shortage Contingency Planning (WSCP)
- Facilitate the counties in the region to coordinate efforts when pursuing funding for infrastructure upgrades and in developing regional and multi-benefit projects and planning efforts
- Pilot Project data can be compared to study trends and patterns for identifying common vulnerabilities across water systems in similar geographic regions

Project Scope of Work

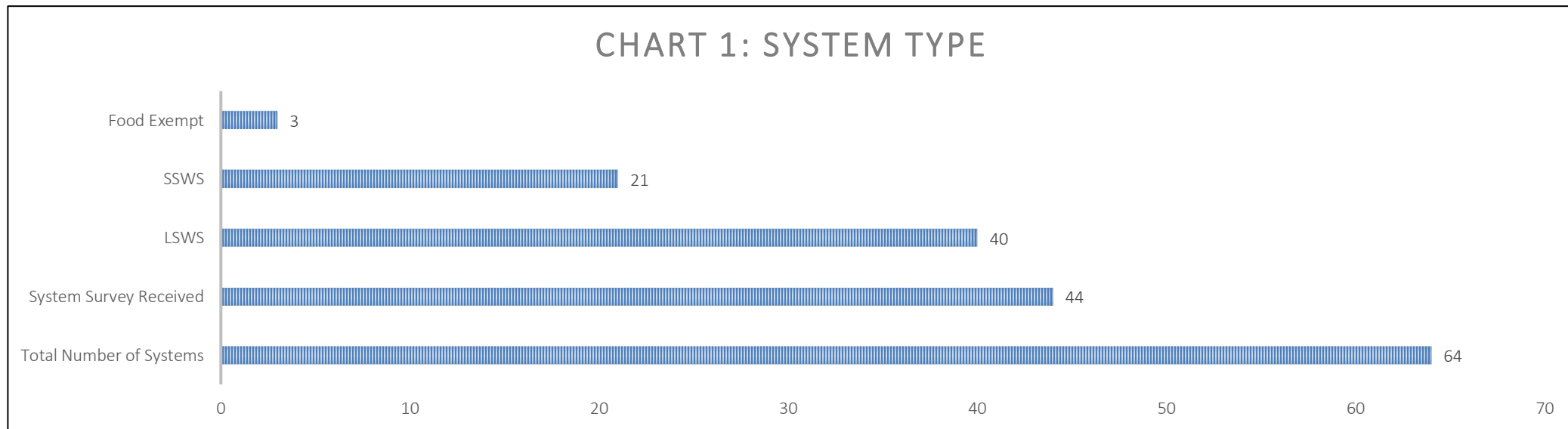
- Step 1: water system inventory identifying all permitted State Small Water Systems (SSWS) and Local Small Water Systems (LSWS) within Plumas County
- Step 2: needs assessment survey developed and distributed to SSWS and LSWS providers to assess the current technical, managerial, and financial status of the permitted small water systems
- Step 3: survey results tabulated and system vulnerability characteristics noted
- Step 4: development of intranet GIS web map to display permitted SSWS and LSWS with their system characteristics and needs to inform planning strategies and grant funding
- Step 5: development of a Fact Sheet, Cover Memo, and Informational Presentation
- Step 6: distribution of Pilot Project information and implementation of outreach

Pilot Project Fact Sheet Findings & Information

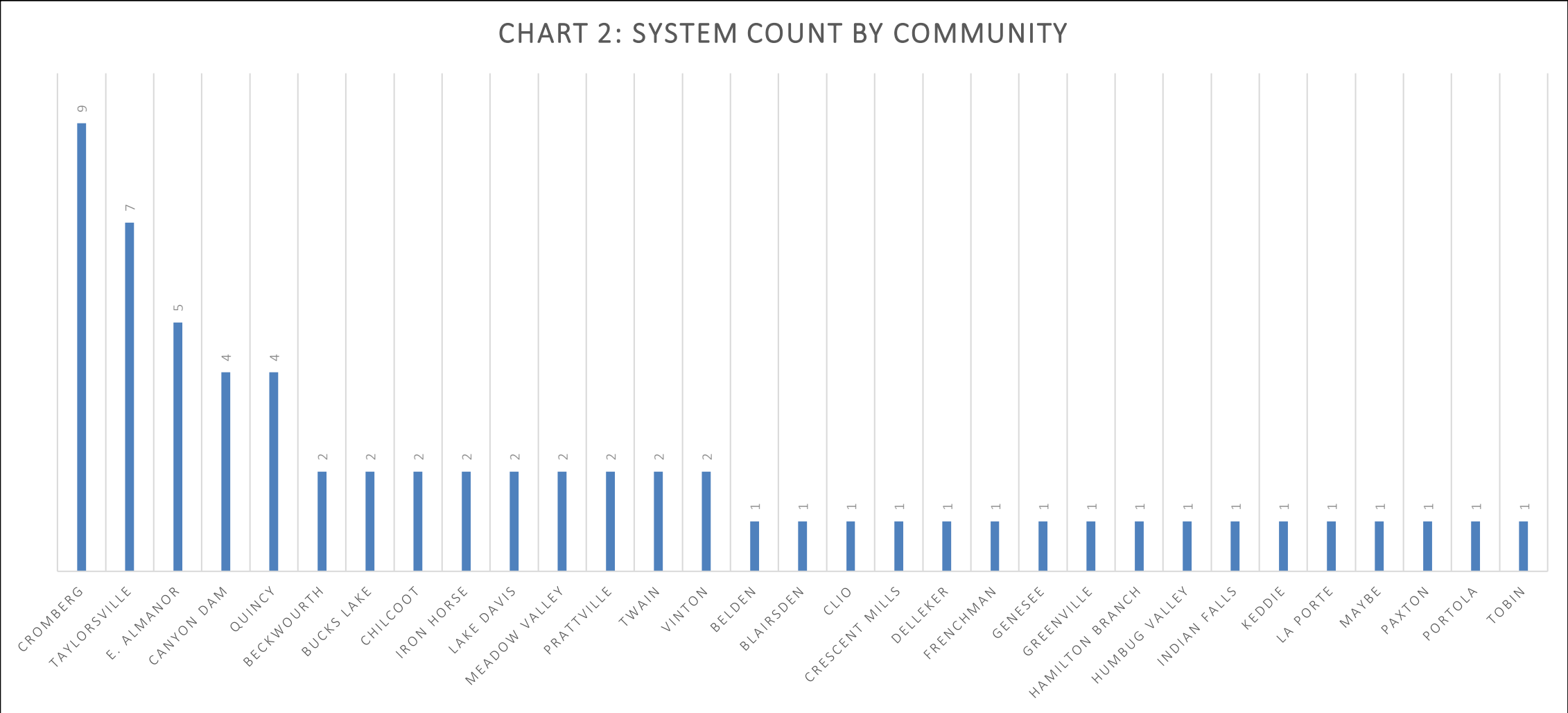
- General System Details – System Types
- System Locations
- Management Details
- System Source Information
- System Infrastructure Details
- System Vulnerabilities

General System Details – System Types

- 64 total water systems
 - 21 SSWS
 - 40 LSWS
 - Additional 3 permits are issued as Food Code Exempt Systems
- 44 surveys returned (68% return rate)



System Locations



Management Details

CHART 3: WATER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

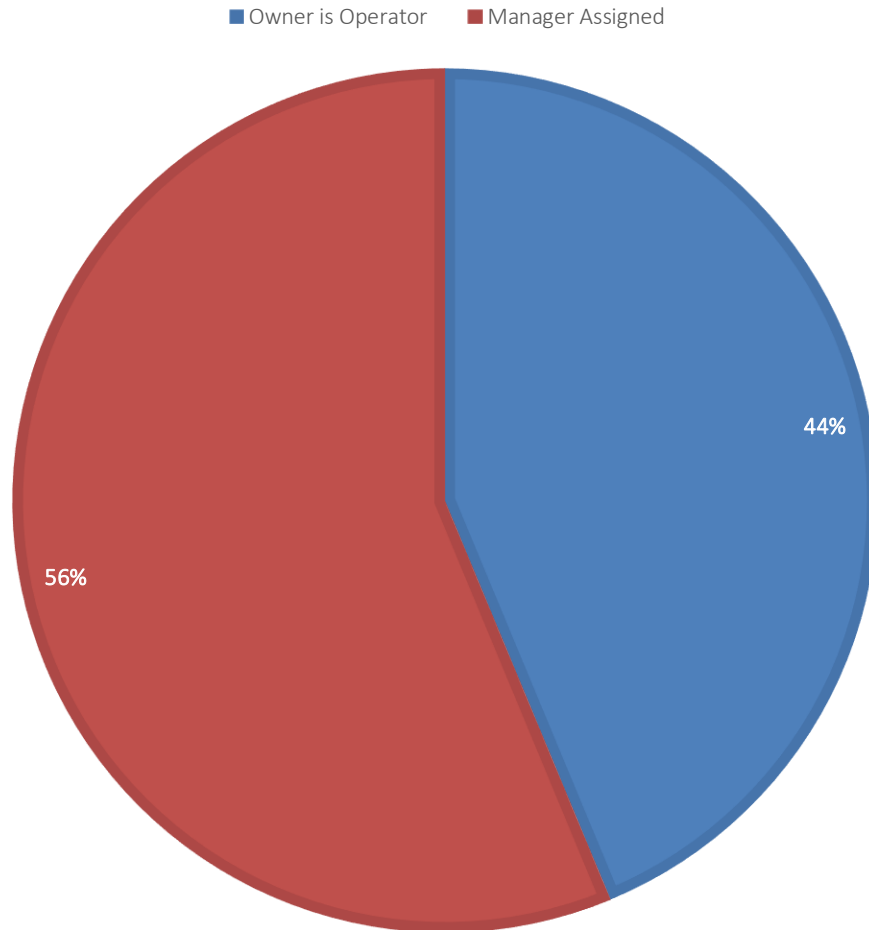
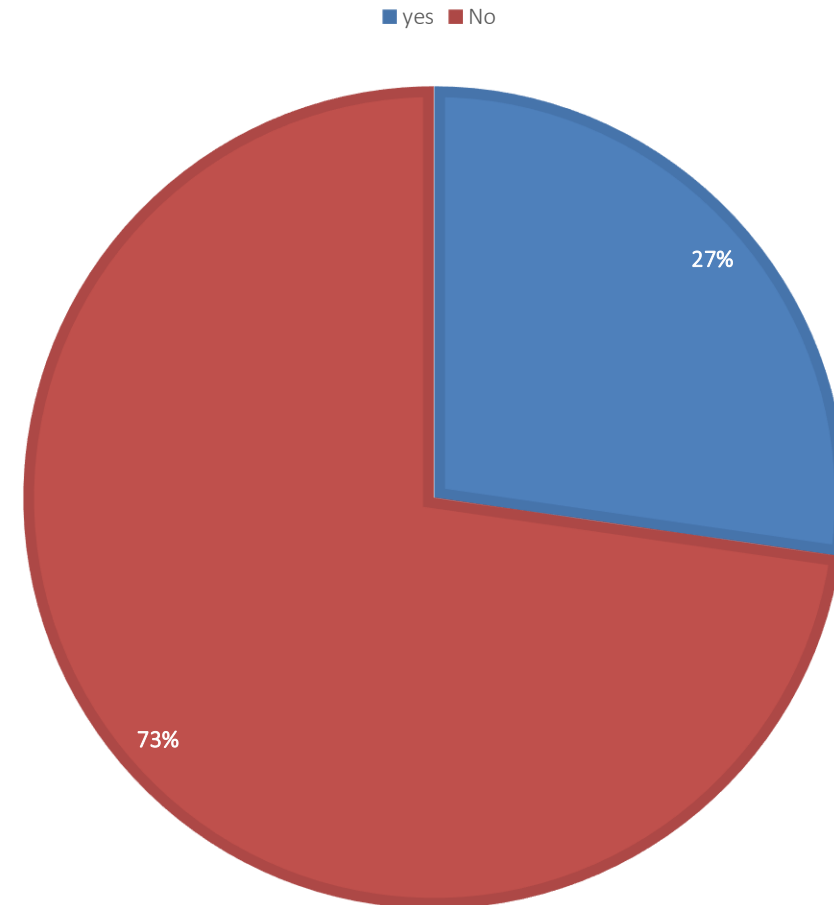


CHART 4: CAPACITY FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS



System Source Information

CHART 5: SOURCE TYPE

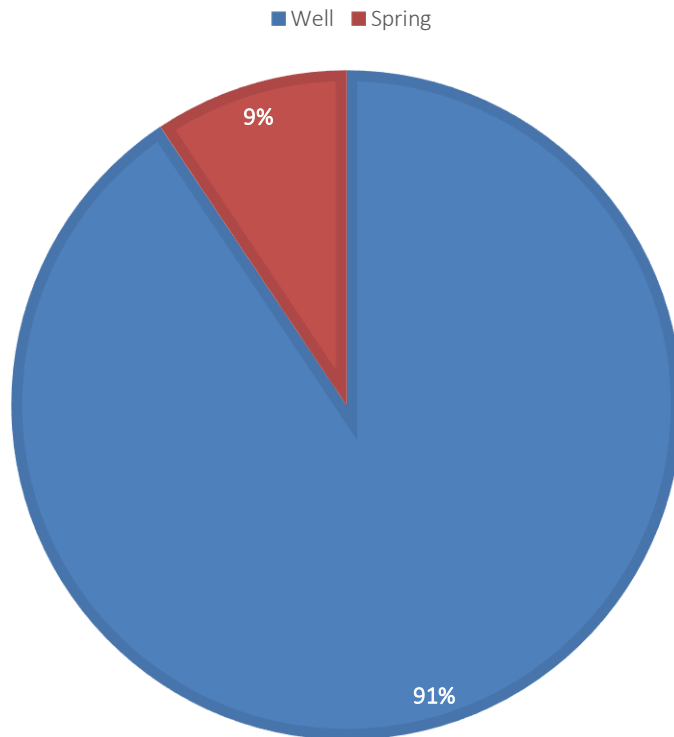
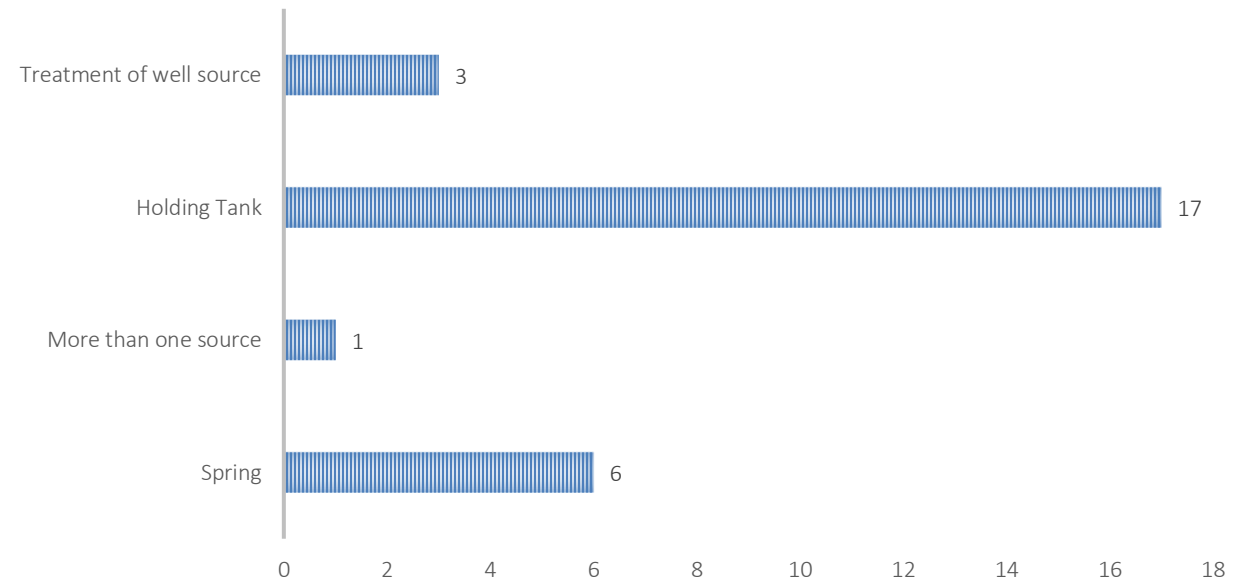


CHART 6: SYSTEM SOURCE INFORMATION



System Infrastructure Details

CHART 7: WELL AGE

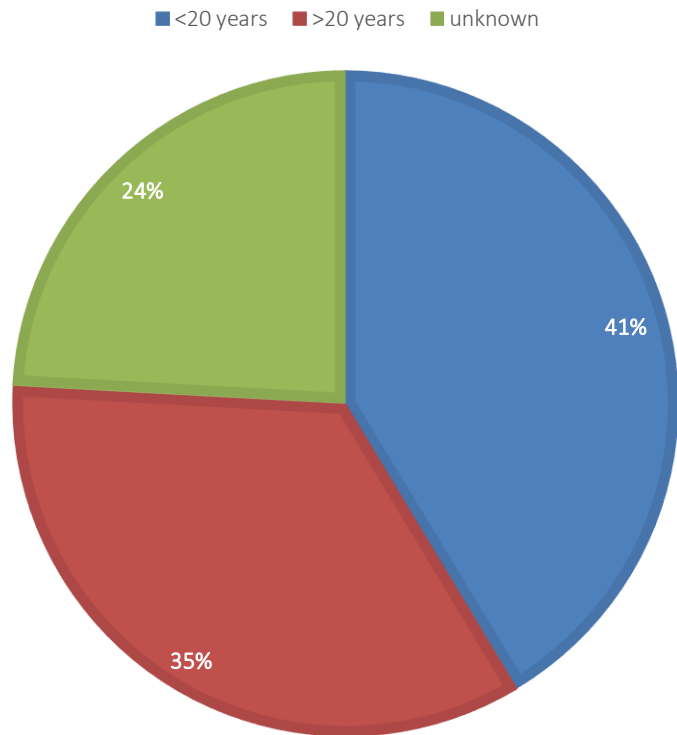
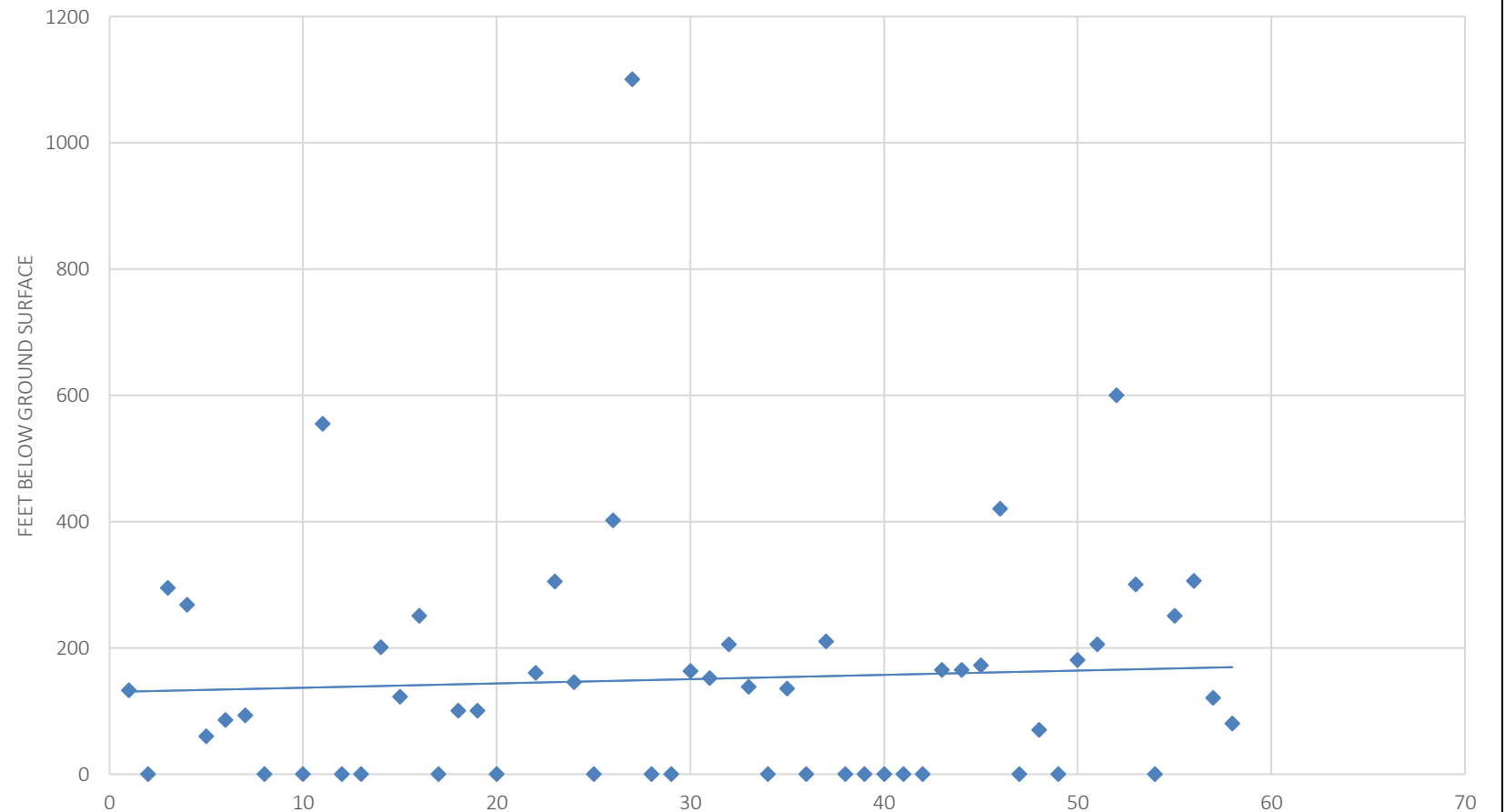
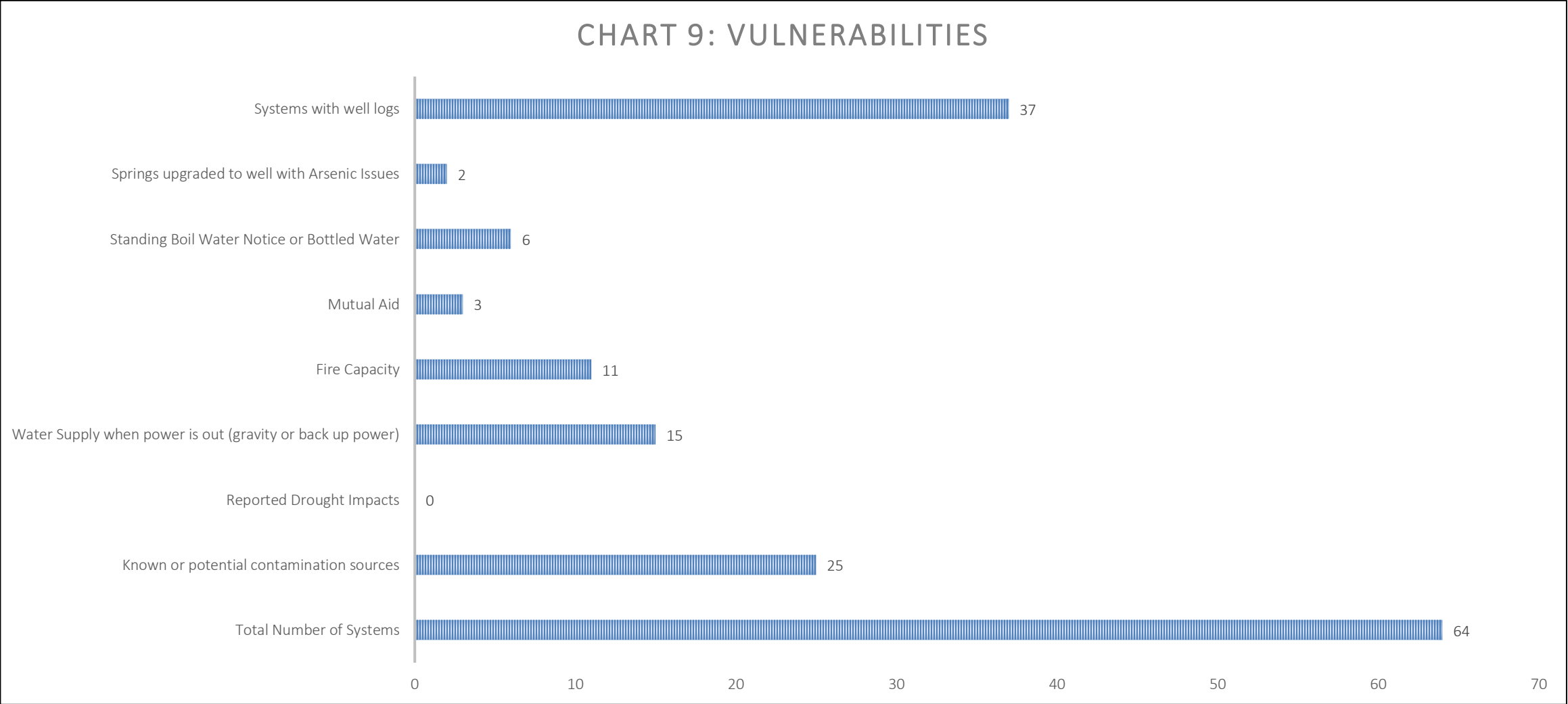


CHART 8: WELL TOTAL DEPTH



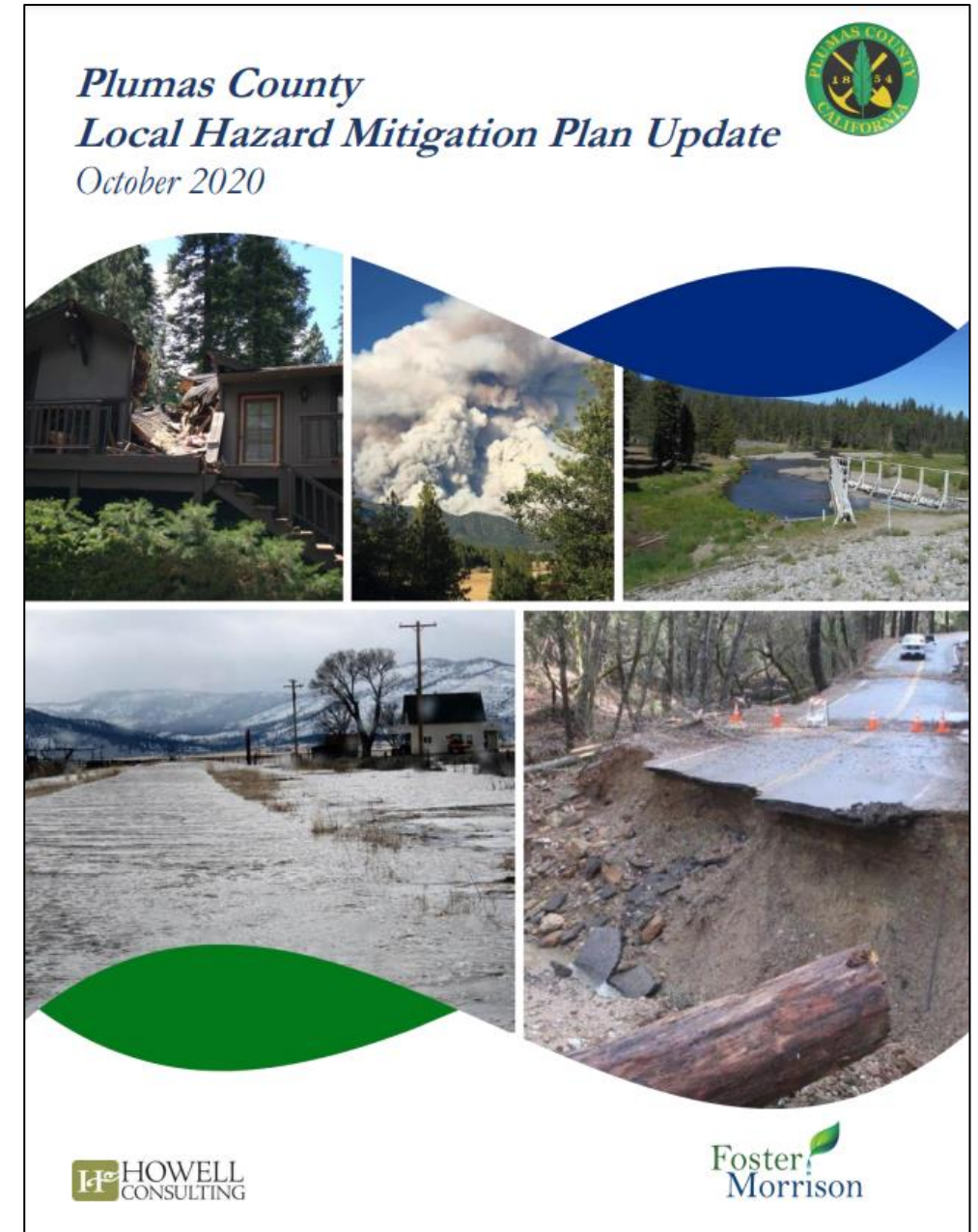
System Vulnerabilities



Disaster Preparedness Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Action 17: Pilot Project
- System vulnerability assessments to help identify and prioritize projects for disaster planning
- Assists with promoting resiliency and sustainability
- Droughts, wildfire, etc.

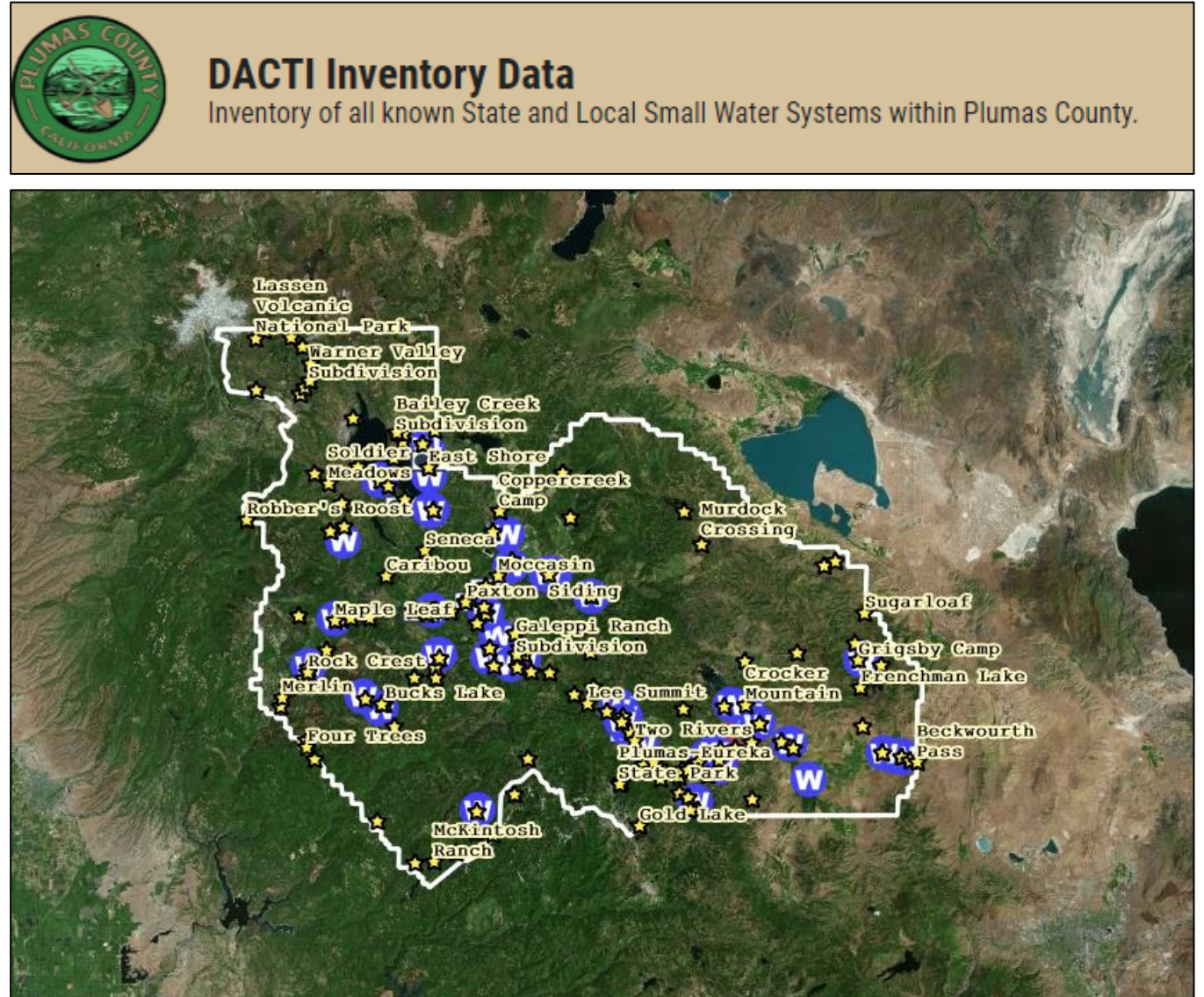
[Plumas County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan \(LHMP\) \(October 2020\).](#)



Intranet GIS Portal

Goals

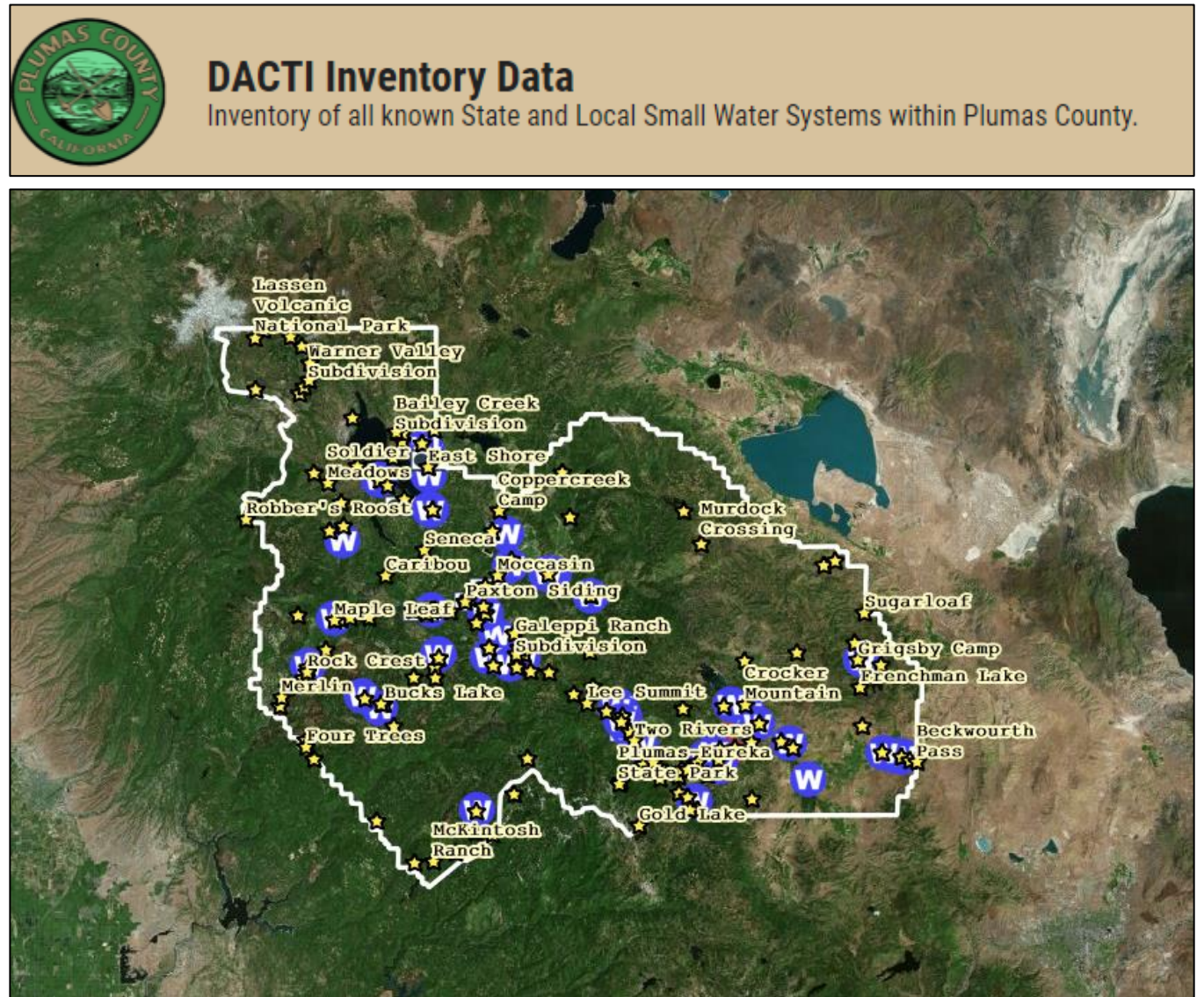
- Identify system characteristics, needs, and the parameter of vulnerabilities amongst SSWS and LSWS within Plumas County
- Implement long-term capacity planning strategies and inform SB 200 funding and AB 1688 funding



Intranet GIS Portal

Map Characteristics

- Service Area Boundaries
- Parcel Boundaries
- System Source (well or spring)
- System Infrastructure Details
- Holding Tank Details
- Treatment Details
- Connections and Service Details
- Source Type and Source Count
- Closest Systems
- Well Permit and Well Logs



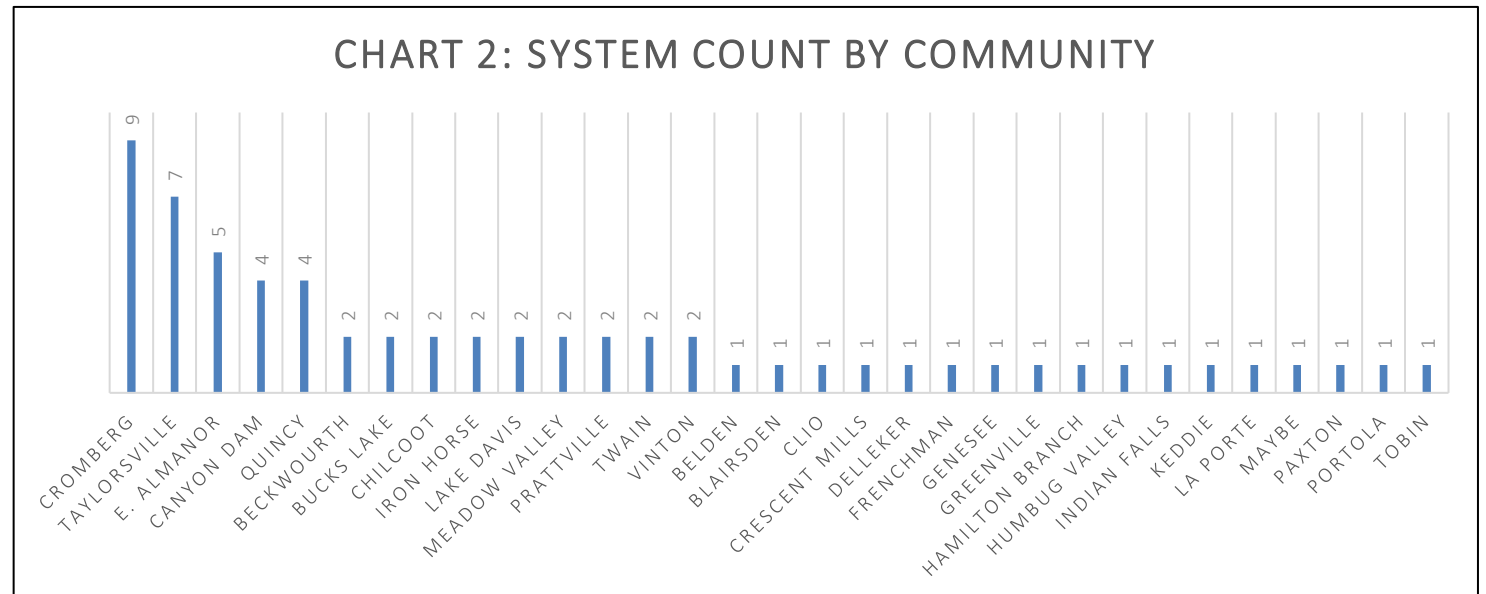
Consolidation Opportunities & Barriers

Barriers

- Financial (Connection Fees)
- Distance to the closest system

Opportunity

- Administrative consolidation and/or functional consolidation



Active Funding Opportunities

Grant Title (with web links)	Grantor	Application Deadline	Opportunity Type	Total Est. Available Funding	Period of Performance	Letter of Intent	Matched Funding
Small Community Drought Relief Program	Department of Water Resources	12/29/2023	Grant	\$192,000,000 (est. amount per award is dependent)	3 years	No	No
The Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience Program (SAFER)	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant	\$130,000,000 per year (est. amount per award is dependent)	4 years	Yes	No
Emergency Drinking Water/Cleanup & Abatement Account Programs	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant	\$9,700,000 (est. amount per award is dependent)	2 years	Yes	No
Small Community Drinking Water (SCDW) Funding Program	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant, Loan	\$50,000,000 (est. amount per award is dependent)	3-5 years	No	No
Small Community Clean Water/Wastewater (SCWW) Funding	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant, Loan	\$110,000,000 (est. amount per award is dependent)	3-5 years	No	No
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Planning	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant, Loan	\$10,000,000 (est. \$250,000 - \$500,000 per award)	2 years	No	No
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Construction	State Water Resources Control Board	Ongoing	Grant, Loan	\$280,000,000 (est. \$2,000,000 - \$10,000,000 per award)	4 years	No	No

Conclusions

- The intent of the technical assistance resources and information is to assist UFR IRWM Region counties such as Butte, Lassen, and Sierra in an effort to expand and develop a regional system-wide assessment to inform WSCP
- GIS data from other UFR IRWM Region counties could be integrated into the Plumas DACTI Inventory Data Map:
 - compare study patterns and trends,
 - identify common vulnerabilities for systems in similar geographic regions,
 - combine efforts to pursue funding, and
 - develop regional and multi-benefit projects and planning efforts.

Communications Plan

- The next step is to distribute the pilot project information and analysis to the contributing SSWS and LSWS, Plumas County leadership and community members, and UFR IRWM stakeholders through various means of communication (e.g., calls, emails, and webinar)
- One of the primary tasks is to facilitate meetings with potential water system consolidation partners to discuss WSCP strategies using the results of the survey
- Contact DAC and Tribal community water system owners and SSWS and LSWS owners and operators for either virtual meetings, conference calls, or in-person meetings

Grant Ends March 31, 2022

Questions?

If interested in technical assistance, please contact:

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