#### **State of Nevada**

# 2024 Annual Capacity Development Report To the US Environmental Protection Agency

State Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)



**July 2024** 



Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Safe Drinking Water & Office of Financial Assistance

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### **Acronyms**

AMP - Asset Management Plan

BIL – Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

BSDW – Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (NDEP)

CNHD - Central Nevada Health District

CSWPP – Community Source Water Protection Plan

CWS – Community Water System

DWSRF – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (Nevada)

ETT – Enforcement Targeting Tool (EPA)

ISWPP – Integrated Source Water Protection Program

IUP – Intended Use Plan (DWSRF)

NDEP – Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

NIFS – Nevada Infrastructure Finance System

NNPH - Northern Nevada Public Health

NvRWA – Nevada Rural Water Association

OFA – Office of Financial Assistance (NDEP)

PCS – Potential Contamination Sources

PFAS- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PWS – Public Water System

RCAC – Rural Community Assistance Corporation

RFP - Request for Proposal

SDWA – Safe Drinking Water Act

SNHD - Southern Nevada Health District

SFY - State Fiscal Year

SUDC – Small Underserved and Disadvantaged Communities

TA – Technical Assistance

TMF – Technical, Managerial, and Financial

WIIN – Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act



## **Executive Summary**

Nevada amended the Capacity Development Strategy in March 2022 to address Congressional requirements for capacity development in drinking water systems.

Five major concerns for Nevada were identified by Stakeholders during the development of the strategy. This report will address those concerns through each strategy element as it impacted on the State Fiscal Year

(SFY) 2024.

#### **New System Program**

The State's legal authority (statues/regulations) to implement the New Systems Program were enhanced within the fiscal year. Discussion on these items can be found under the <u>Use of Authority and Resources for Implementation</u> section of the report. Additionally, the state's control points were not modified.

Newly permitted systems (and newly found systems) are monitored to see if any have been added to the enforcement Targeting Tool (ETT) List. Please see Table 1 for details.

Nevada's Found System Program contains information on how water systems are identified and provided technical assistance required for permitting to satisfy the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory requirements enforced by NDEP.

Newly Permitted Systems (FY24):
3 Systems

SFY2024 Found System Activity:
23 PWS Supported with TA Assistance
3 PWS Issued Permits
11 PWS Inactivated
5 PWS Activated

#### **Existing System Program**

Small System Assistance	Operator Trainings
\$259,671 assisted 44 Systems	\$180,377.72 over 47 Trainings (1,324
	attendees)
Top five task orders completed were:	Courses included (attendees):
Manuals and Plans (17)	Operator Exam Prep (1,113)
Asset Management Plans (13)	Lead and Copper Inventories (88)
Project and other funding outreach	Leak Repairs (39)
(8)	Operator Safety (20)
PWS Compliance (6)	Cross Connection Control (17)
Budget and Rate Setting (5 tie)	Cyanotoxins (15)
Lead and Copper Inventory (5 tie)	Cyber Security (11)
	Asset Management Planning (9)

Nevada leverages many resources to enhance and strengthen capacity in water systems, including, but not limited to, contracted nonprofits to provide direct technical assistance, stakeholder meetings to focus needs efficiently and effectively, and NDEP staff support and outreach. Efforts to identify, prioritize, and fund technical assistance for water systems are ongoing. Information regarding efforts by NDEP in SFY 2024 can be found throughout the document.

#### **Background**

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) implements the State's Capacity Development Program¹ to assist public water systems (PWS). The following annual capacity development report highlights efforts to further the Capacity Development Program in accordance with the Capacity Development Strategy Objectives approved by EPA on July 10, 2023; the report covers the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. NDEP's Office of Financial Assistance (OFA), Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW), and contracted Technical Assistance (TA) providers –Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) – contributed to this report.

The Capacity Development Program is funded primarily with set-aside monies from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). Since 1996, the Safe Drinking Water Act requires all new community and non-transient, noncommunity, water systems to have technical, managerial, and financial capacity before they can be permitted. Validating Nevada's 'living' document approach to the capacity development strategy and implementation, NDEP accomplished the following:

- A. Improved existing system strategies
- B. Consistent demonstrable results and evolution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://ndep.nv.gov/uploads/water-financing-srf-capacitydevelopment\_docs/2022 Capacity Development Strategy to EPA.pdf

## **Nevada's Capacity Development Strategy**

The update of the Capacity Development Strategy for Nevada was submitted to the EPA on March 16, 2022, and approved July 10, 2023. The Capacity Development Strategy Objectives were updated to include the following items:

#### 1- strategy element: stakeholder involvement

The 2000 Capacity Development Strategy

#### was updated through significant input from the community including state, county, and local governments – as well as non-profit entities. Input was provided through a survey, a workshop, and a public notice period to help address drinking water system needs. NDEP will document continued stakeholder outreach efforts in annual reports.

#### 2- strategy element: use of authority and resources for implementation

NDEP's mission is to protect and preserve the waters of the state. To this end, NDEP requires resources and regulatory authority from the State to help PWSs conform with SDWA requirements. Support from state and federal sources have helped NDEP develop programs to assist systems in building capacity. NDEP will document authorities and resources utilized to in these efforts.

#### 3- strategy element: enhancements and impairments to capacity development

Through stakeholder input, NDEP identified five core elements of capacity development including personnel and management, fiscal sustainability, Public Water System Characteristics, Planning, and Source Water Quality and Quantity. Stakeholders provided detailed input that incorporated institutional, regulatory, or financial factors on these five elements which were categorized as either enhancements or impairments. NDEP will document efforts made to support enhancements and to address identified impairments.

#### 4- strategy element: asset management plans

Asset Management Plans (AMP) help identify a system's equipment and determine the equipment's criticality, nature of risk, and reliability. Managing these assets helps the system plan for repairs, maintenance, and replacements, and helps avoid unplanned breakdowns that can lead to interruptions in service. Updated guidance for AMP development includes opportunities for technical assistance, connections to DWSRF loan requirements and incorporation into permitting processes. NDEP understands the importance of developing AMPs. Through training and outreach, PWSs can use these concepts to increase their prioritization for loans, better manage the reliability of their systems, and improve customer confidence and satisfaction. NDEP will document efforts to assist systems with the development of asset management plans.

#### 5- strategy element: prioritizing public water systems

#### Nevada's Major concerns:

- 1. Personnel and Management
- 2. Financial Sustainability
- 3. PWS Characteristics
- 4. Planning
- 5. Source Water Quality and Quantity

Many of Nevada's PWSs have been in operation for decades. The stages of a system's deterioration vary; that is why the State uses a prioritization process for funding capacity development, which takes into account the welfare of the public, the state of the water system, and the urgency to act. This triage approach helps NDEP prioritize systems based on their specific needs. Prioritized actions identified for capacity development will be reported in each annual report.

#### 6- strategy element: measurement of success

The Capacity Development Strategy is a living document. The Strategy must be adaptable to ensure the methods used continue to be beneficial for PWSs. To measure the success of TMF capacity development, NDEP will continue to engage stakeholders and conduct surveys to assess program effectiveness. NDEP will also increase outreach efforts to inform both operators and the public about what it takes to make a system sustainable. NDEP will report on methods and efforts used to assist systems with becoming sustainable in the areas of personnel management, Financial Sustainability, PWS Characteristics, Planning and Source Water Quality and Quantity.

#### Stakeholder involvement

## 1-NDEP- Operator Certification Program Forum Major concern focus: Personnel, Management, and Training

The Operator Certification Program Forum meeting was created by NDEP to allow all operators to meet in person, exchange contacts, and continue to voice their concerns. It allows operators to discuss suggestions and challenges with other operators and regulatory agencies. To enhance the service provided to operators and measure the success of the meeting, a capacity development section was recently incorporated into the forum. Capacity development personnel from NDEP lead a discussion with public water system operators about what program services are working, what trainings are necessary, the challenges public water systems are facing, education opportunities, and technical assistance concerns. The capacity development lead discussion was positively welcomed by operators who felt they previously didn't have a venue to discuss these issues, and the panel discussion will be permanently integrated into future forum meetings. Participants in the Forum will continue to openly identify and constructively discuss issues regarding the education, training and testing of water system operators in Nevada; coordinate project efforts and disseminate information; and enhance public input by providing an open access collaborative forum for the exchange of information.

The Nevada Water and Wastewater Operators Forum (Forum) is now hosted quarterly by the BSDW. BSDW also hosts a webpage<sup>2</sup> for the forum and supports the administrative needs of the entities. This Forum provides a regular mechanism for communication between the regulated community of certified operators, NDEP, the American Water Works Association, the Nevada Water Environment Association, TA providers, and others. These discussions provide for an avenue for Nevada operators to remain up to date with current news and regulations, express training needs, and to voice any concerns operators may be facing. During the reporting period,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://ndep.nv.gov/water/operator-certification/operators-forum

a total of four forum meetings were held on September 13, 2023, December 8, 2023, March 6, 2024, and June 26, 2024.

Additionally, during Q3 of SFY 24, the members of the Forum prompted the creation of the Operator Certification Regulation Review Workgroup. The workgroup, which was composed of forum members and volunteer operators from across Nevada was tasked review the program. In particular, but not limited to, NAC 445A.633 was of interest which deals with the education and experience requirements to become certified in Nevada. Some members thought that distribution and treatment experience was earned concurrently – especially in the rural systems. The workgroup has been meeting monthly to discuss program policies and possible changes. Data collection from other state programs was initiated to do a comparison of experience requirements and help determine if any changes are appropriate for the program.

After meeting monthly from January to June 2024 and not being able to fully agree on any decision, the workgroup decided to postpone any regulation changes until the next Nevada legislative session. Meetings have been adjusted to quarterly, matching the schedule of the Nevada Operator Certification Program Forum meetings. Points of contention from the workgroup included: required experience for certifications, type of experience that can be gained dependent on position, comparison to other state programs, review of current program policies, determination for gaining concurrent experience.

**Conferences**: August 8-10, 2023, the Tri State Seminar was held at the Southpoint Hotel in Las Vegas, NV, and provided training as workshops, and tour presentations for CEUs within the water operator industry. The March 16, 2024, Nevada Rural Water Association (NVRWA) held a conference in Reno, Nevada. Where Nevada provided funding for NVRWA to award 56 scholarships to certified operators to participate in this conference.

#### 2-Infrastructure for Nevada Communities (INC)

## Major concern focus: Financial Sustainability, PWS Characteristics, Planning, Source Water Quality and Quantity

Nevada recognizes that addressing the needs associated with infrastructure deficiencies is significant to continue to maintain the State free from waterborne disease and outbreaks attributable to public drinking water systems. Furthermore, large proportion of PWSs in the State are very small systems and often find it hard to identify and avail various federal and State funding resources. To address this challenge, a collaboration meeting, INC, is held on a quarterly basis and includes regulatory agencies, technical assistance providers and funding partners. Through these meetings, individual project needs, including funding needs, are discussed with the intent of not only information sharing but also to assist with continuing efforts to assist communities with either technical assistance needs and/or funding needs. Follow-up meetings are scheduled between affected agencies to address these needs. Participating agencies include the NDEP-Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, the NDEP-Bureau of Water Pollution Control, the Public Utilities Commission, the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the USDA- Rural Development, Nevada Rural Water Association, and the Rural Community Assistance Program.

## Use of authority and resources for implementation

Major concern focus: Personnel and Management, Financial Sustainability, PWS Characteristics, Planning, and Source Water Quality and Quantity

#### 1- Statutory Updates

Nevada's Legislature meets from February to June in odd numbered years. During the current fiscal year, the Legislature did not meet. The next legislative session will start in February 2025 (SFY 2025).

#### 2- Regulatory Updates

Nevada did not have any regulatory updates that impacted drinking water systems or the DWSRF in SFY 2024.

#### **3- BSDW Updates**

BSDW did not have any updates that impacted drinking water systems in SFY 2024.

#### **4- DWSRF Operating Updates**

The DWSRF petitioned the Board of Finance for a change to the State Debt Management Policy. This policy outlines the bond securities, interest rates, terms, and conditions for loans in the DWSRF. NDEP had conducted extensive outreach to traditional loan borrowers in the state and discovered that, due to the increased federal requirements on the SRF funds, the interest rates and terms that the DWSRF was offering were not attractive. NDEP worked with its financial advisor and determined that the program could increase the discount provided on the market rate. In February 2024, the Board of Finance approved various changes to encourage those systems that have the capacity for debt to continue seeking funding from the DWSRF. Those changes included:

- Increasing the discount Nevada applies to the market rate of interest for equivalency loans.
- Increasing the standard term of the loan to 30-years from 20-years (40-years for disadvantaged systems).
- Allowing more flexibility for large, fiscally sound borrowers to negotiate bond lien positions and reserve accounts.
- Allow the State Treasurer's Office and NDEP to negotiate terms that may be different than what is stated in the policy should the DWSRF fund receive special grants or accumulate large amounts of cash adversely impacting the performance of the program.

Additionally, the DWSRF program was successful in negotiating with the State Treasurer the ability to offer a special incentive interest rate of 1% to public entities who have a shovel ready project and the capacity to take on debt. The program offered a special incentive interest rate to the first \$100 million in loans committed.

#### 5- Funding for small and disadvantaged communities

Major concern focus: Financial Sustainability and PWS Characteristics

Nevada has a "disadvantaged community" program to address low-income areas that have infrastructure deficiencies that pose a health threat. The Nevada Administrative Code defines a disadvantaged community as an area, as compared to other communities in this State, where residents disproportionately experience economic, environmental or health issues, including, without limitation, high rates of poverty or unemployment. The following criteria is outlined in the 2024 DWSRF Intended Use Plan<sup>3</sup>:

- Median Household Income
- Poverty rates
- Population trends
- Percent of the population not in the workforce
- Unemployment
- Affordability of the project
- Projects addressing acute or chronic health risk issues.
- Projects physically or managerially consolidating to address capacity deficiencies.
- Preliminary engineering and planning documents
- Systems which address an emerging contaminant issue
- Systems or project which remove lead or galvanized service lines

DWSRF provides low interest loans to both publicly and privately owned water utilities. Federal appropriations for DWSRF require Nevada to use a percentage of its grant to provide additional subsidies to "disadvantaged communities". These include forgiveness of

In SFY 2024, OFA awarded 17 Principal Forgiveness Loans from the DWSRF totaling \$15,931,450.

principal, negative interest loans, grants, or any combination of these. The terms and amount of the additional subsidy are case-by-case basis determinations based on the individual community's needs and financial situation.

In SFY 2024, BSDW awarded 4 subgrants totaling \$378,240. through the WIIN SUDC and BIL EC-SDC grants.

Targeted funding opportunities for Small and/or Disadvantaged Communities have allowed an opportunity for qualifying systems to address healthbased violations and emerging contaminants.

#### 6- Operator Training and Certification

Major concern focus: Personnel and Management, PWS Characteristics, and Source Water Quality and Quantity

Nevada has 584 public water systems. These systems include:

- 193 community water systems (C).
- 155 non-transient non-community water systems (NTNC); and
- 236 transient non-community water systems (TNC).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ndep.nv.gov/uploads/wate<u>r-financing-srf-drinkingwater-docs/DW-2024 Final IUP.pdf</u>

Nevada requires all C and NTNC water systems to have certified operators. In total, there are 348 systems that meet this criterion. TNC water systems that use surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water must also be operated by a certified operator. One TNC system met this additional criterion in SFY 2024. All water systems are also required to designate an operator in "Responsible Charge" a person whose qualification and nature of responsibilities are identical to PWS's regular operators. As of July 2024, water system compliance for operator certification is at 100 percent statewide.

Nevada works to keep compliance high by providing outreach and training to operators. The State uses monies from the Public Water System Supervision Program (PWSSP) grant and the 10 percent set-aside from DWSRF. BSDW also provides technical assistance, suggestions, and recommendations to operators through frequent telephone contact and through the sanitary survey process. Staff also coordinate with TA contractors to engage in technical, managerial, and financial assistance services using other NDEP/DWSRF set-asides and EPA TA grants.

BSDW partnered with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in fiscal year 2024. This program allows BSDW to provide veterans taking the Nevada Drinking Water Operator Certification Exams financial assistance to cover licensing costs. Military occupational specialty experience continues to be an invaluable asset for PWSs throughout Nevada. For fiscal year 2024 the operator certification program had over 63 veteran applications. Information and resources are available on Nevada's Drinking Water Operator Certification Program website.

## 7- Integrated Source Water Protection Program Major concern focus: Personnel and Management, PWS Characteristics, and Source Water Quality, and Planning

"Source water" in Nevada means an untreated source of water used to supply drinking water to the public. Source water includes groundwater before it is pumped out by a well, or surface water flowing in a river or tributary before being diverted to a treatment plant. Groundwater aquifers are critical resources in Nevada. Most public water systems in the state rely solely on wells for their water supplies, however a few larger communities also rely on springs, creeks, lakes, rivers, and reservoirs. Source water protection areas are also often referred to as wellhead protection areas, drinking water protection areas and sometimes vulnerability assessment areas.

Public water systems and local communities throughout Nevada are working to protect drinking water supplies from contamination. The State assists them through a multi-faceted Integrated Source Water Protection Program (ISWPP). It is Nevada's belief that effective source water protection must be developed and administered by the community in conjunction with local water suppliers. A local plan is a long-term commitment on the part of the community to protect its drinking water sources from becoming contaminated or polluted by various land use activities.

BSDW administers the ISWPP and provides technical assistance for communities to develop and implement Community Source Water Protection Plans (CSWPPs). Local CSWPPs are developed through a county-wide planning and coordination approach. This encourages PWSs to work together to examine shared water resources, evaluate community development impacts

to water sources, and discuss how to collectively manage potential risks from a broader perspective.

The ISWPP's multi-jurisdictional approach helps PWSs ranging from very small taverns and mobile home parks to larger districts and municipalities, pool resources to implement the plan and promote community-wide awareness. This ultimately increases opportunities for smaller systems with limited resources and/or capacity to be included under a more comprehensive CSWPP and implementation effort. Nevada's Program encourages cooperation and aligns efforts with other state and federal entities to give the most resources to the communities' plans. NRWA Source Water Protection works with NDEP in developing ISWPP and meeting the criteria of both programs in plan development.

BWQP and BSDW staff meet where applicable to determine overlap in the planning efforts for Source Water Protection and Nonpoint Source programs. This can be seen most prominently in Washoe Counties Joint Source Water and 319 Plan. Therefore, through the ISWPP's contract, tasks were included to develop the stakeholder group and initiate a regional approach towards a comprehensive water quality plan that includes both watershed and source water protection components. In addition, water quality improvement projects in source water protection areas were funded through the 319(h) Non-Point Source Program. Staff continue to support and provide technical assistance to the Spill Communication Plan for the Spill Coordination Group for source water protection areas in Washoe County. This effort involved multiple stakeholders across the three planning agencies and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority. The results of this effort updated a spill response network that lists which agencies to contact depending on the location and nature of the spill. Meetings continue to be held with Spill Coordination Working Group members and assist in identifying conditional use permits that need additional comments and guidance.

Additionally, BSDW assists the Bureau of Water Pollution Control's (BWPC) permitting process to ensure source water protection areas are not impacted by permitted discharges. Every proposed discharge permit is reviewed to determine if the proposed discharge is located in, or near, a source water protection area. The technical review includes looking at available data such as well construction information, discharge water chemistry, water system sampling data/analysis, soil survey information and aquifer characteristics etc. During SFY 2024, BSDW reviews proposed discharge permits at request and coordination with the individual permit writers on potential impacts to source water. Building these bridges across NDEP programs is important for broader drinking water protection and helps to avoid negative impacts to source water from regulated discharge activities.

To date, the following communities have participated in, are developing and/or completed, countywide protection plans under the ISWPP:

County	Source Water Protection Activities
Carson City	Prepared for and attended River Wranglers Snapshot Day, and Carson City's Annual Source Water Assessment Day. The 2023 Plan Update was adopted by Carson City Public Works and the Board of Supervisors. ISWPP endorsed the updated plan meeting the County water quality interests and continued implementation

	of local goals. Website update final documents from their updated plan.
Churchill	Churchill Counties Plan continues to use their CSWPP to work with local partners to protect Source Water. The initial plan was endorsed in 2015.
Clark County	ISWPP continues to partner and tackle the complex nature of Southern Nevada with local stakeholders and partnerships. Work with LVVWD in the collaboration of developing and updating their CSWPPs is ongoing. Current efforts are focused on Planning Area 8 under the 208 Plan. Their update of the Searchlight WHPP is ongoing and helps to demonstrate the source water priority in Clark County. NDEP began the process of developing a CSWPP with Public Water Systems in Planning Area 8 with support from the local water systems. Virgin Valley Water District continue to use their CSWPP for local master plan updates and education efforts.
Douglas	Douglas County continues to use their CSWPP to work with local partners to protect Source Water. The initial plan was endorsed in 2012 and should be considered for an update under the next ISWPP contract.
Humboldt	CSWPP 2023 update was approved by the Board of Commissioners and increasing the opportunities available to Humbolts Counties PWS. Their first Water Quality Summit was held on May 30th to assist in educating the public about water quality efforts and practices, bringing together NRCS, NDOT, NDEP, Nevada Outdoor School, WET Lab, and Humboldt County Emergency Planning.
Lincoln	Lincoln County with ISWPP support has been developing a CSWPP for its PWS over the last two years. A finalized compiling the Plan and Technical Appendices and sent to NDEP and the Local Team for review. NvRWA and RCI worked together to complete the plan. In January ISWPP assisted local staff to present the CSWP Plan for approval, including Lincon County Commissioners and City of Caliente. RCI was presented to Alamo WSGID in February. Information was developed for local staff to present the CSWP Plan for approval Panaca FA, Lincoln Co Planning Commission, Lincoln County Water District. All Boards supported/approved the new CSWP Plan. NDEP has endorsed the CSWP Plan.
Lyon	Lyon County continues to use their CSWPP to work with local partners to protect Source Water. The initial plan was endorsed in 2014 and should be considered for an update under the next ISWPP contract.

Nye	Nye County reached out to ISWPP to update their CSWPP.  Program meetings and introduction with BEC Engineering regarding Nye County's Plan were conducted. Current discussions anticipate a July 2024 start date for the update process to their CSWPP. Partnerships are in place with NRWA to help small PWS maintain up-to-date plans to be consistent with both NDEPs and NRWA plan criteria.
Storey	Storey County and TRI-GID reached out to ISWPP to develop a local CSWPP in June of 2023. Throughout the last year a new CSWPP was developed in line with the local PWS needs incorporating the diverse set of laws and ordinances of Sorey County in order to create a unique CSWPP. Participating Public Water Systems included TRI-GID, Canyon-GID, and Virginia City. The Plan goes to local boards in June 2024 for local adoption.
Washoe County	The plan was completed in August 2020. TMWA updates their Source Water Protection Plan each year to address local water quality items. Meetings continue to take place between the Spill Coordination Group and updates to the current member list have been made. Washoe is in contact with local entities including the City of Reno, City of Sparks, NNWPC, WRWC, WCHD of the progress, updates, and implementation of the plan. TMRPA has drafted Source Water Elements into the Washoe County Master Plan to increase local source water efforts. TMWA and City of Reno continue to utilize their business development tool to assist in notifying and educating local businesses to prevent pollution.
White Pine	White Pine continues to use their CSWPP to work with local partners to protect Source Water. The initial plan was endorsed in 2012 and should be considered for an update under the next ISWPP contract.

#### 8- Vulnerability Assessment and Monitoring Waiver Programs

## Major concern focus: Personnel and Management, Financial Sustainability, PWS Characteristics, Planning and Source Water Quality and Quantity

The 2020 Vulnerability Assessment Program, as implemented during SFY 2021, is an update to the 2003 Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). The 2003 SWAP, in turn, has its roots in the original Vulnerability Assessment Program (approved by the EPA in 1995), which was performed during the initial permitting process of a PWS.

#### Vulnerability assessments include:

- Locating sources
- Identifying potential sources of contaminants within a 3000-foot radius of wells/springs
- Evaluating source water susceptibility to contamination
- Reviewing prior sampling results

NDEP's Vulnerability Assessment Program requires summaries of the vulnerability assessments to be reported to the public in the annual Consumer Confidence Reports for PWSs. Based on initial assessment of the source water vulnerability determination, a PWS may qualify for chemical monitoring relief (IOC, SOC, Cyanide, Dioxin and Asbestos) as approved by the EPA in 1995. Eligible PWSs are also required to provide updates to the assessment data and apply for waiver renewal every three years.

The updated 2020 BSDW Vulnerability Assessment and Monitoring Waiver Programs share information with the ISWPP to document potential contaminant sources (PCS) for PWSs. The Vulnerability Assessment Reports (VARs) note PCSs and rank them based on their potential to adversely affect a water supply source. Project efforts were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act set-asides and continued with a combination of resources, DWSRF set-aside funding, and leveraging technical assistance from ISWPP/Wellhead Protection staff. BSDW updated VARs for one eligible community water systems (CWSs) and one eligible non-transient non-community (NTNC) water system in SFY 2023.

As of date, 229 PWSs qualified for chemical monitoring waivers based on the vulnerability of the source water as determined in the individual VARs. Additionally, BSDW maintains the waiver status of 546 waivers by having these respective PWSs apply for waiver renewal applications (Attachment 4 - updated Form B) every three years. Once waiver renewals are received and the water system status is reviewed and updated, Monitoring Assessment Plan (MAP), showing the system when to perform chemical monitoring, is completed and sent out to the water system.

#### 9- Cybersecurity

With the increase of cyber-attacks against public water systems (PWSs), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has raised a need to maintain basic cyber security practices to help prevent, detect, respond, and recover from cyber incidents. The EPA has been sending out trainings and webinars on cybersecurity and has a third-party cybersecurity risk assessment that PWSs may apply for. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has been working to spread the available trainings and webinars to all PWSs and making sure they know of the resources available to them from the EPA.

## **Enhancements and impairments to capacity development**

#### 1-Internal and External Resources

#### **ENHANCEMENTS**

#### **Technical Assistance Providers**

Frequently, PWSs do not have the knowledge or resources necessary to understand every aspect of operating a water system. Some systems lack Operation & Maintenance manuals, Emergency Response Plans, Cross Connection Control Plans, and Capital Improvement Plans. Nevada has made special efforts to assist systems with these common deficiencies and other routine TMF capacity development needs. These critical issues continue to be a focus of NDEP and RCAC. In SFY 2023, OFA put out a new

Request for Proposal to find qualified vendors. These vendors provided comprehensive assistance in technical, managerial, and financial capacity-building, as well as training in one-on-one and group scenarios. Through this program, NDEP was able to help PWSs meet their distinct capacity development needs, at no cost to the systems. Attachment 3 has a list of TA assistance that was offered to water systems in SFY 2024. Attachment 4 provides a list of TA assistance and training courses that were provided in SFY 2024. Nevada routinely communicates with TA providers to ensure that assistance provided does not duplicate assistance funded through other EPA and USDA funding sources.

#### **Existing Systems Capacity Assessment**

One of the technical assistance providers, RCAC, helped Nevada develop a capacity assessment. A capacity assessment is a valuable tool used by water systems to measure strengths and identify weaknesses. BSDW and RCAC revised a standard TMF survey to identify appropriate assistance needs for water systems (See attachment 2). The brief survey was developed to help give water systems a quick view of their TMF capacity situation. When RCAC conducts capacity assessments on-site, a more extensive questionnaire is used to dive deeper into each topic. NDEP ensures that systems demonstrate TMF prior to moving projects forward to a loan contract stage.

#### Sanitary Surveys

TA assistance during SFY 2024 helped systems resolve deficiencies noted in the sanitary surveys. Vendors also helped the facility owner better understand the sanitary survey results, write corrective action plans, create record-keeping systems, and work to address deficiencies. Typically, a variety of situations trigger compliance related assistance:

- Immediate coliform-positive result
- Disinfection followed by sampling for coliform
- Lead and copper reporting
- Disinfection byproducts compliance
- Water quality or monitoring issues
- Development of standard operating procedures
- Loss of pressure events (boil water orders)
- Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs)
- Public Notification for certain violations (some can be included in the CCR).

During SFY 2024, OFA collaborated with PWS staff and BSDW to identify and assist with improving the most critical capacity needs. The results and recommendations of such a review were included in the staff reports presented to the Board for Financing Water Projects. This effort reasonably assured the Board that the system was appropriately addressing capacity deficiencies.

#### Facility Guidance Documents

Public drinking water systems in Nevada are required to have site-specific plans approved by BSDW. These plans include cross-connection control plans (CCCP), operations and maintenance (O&M), and restoration of services in an emergency (ERP). Developing O&M plans and cross-connection control plans provides the PWS staff with an opportunity to systematically examine the needs of their customers and their own facilities.

While standard operating procedures and plans to better manage respective PWSs remains the goal, NDEP has recently adopted standardized, streamlined templates for the O&M plans, including CCCP and ERP. These standard templates have now begun being implemented as reference for review of deliverables from vendors assisting the PWSs. NDEP believes this consistency will also help to make the PWS experience portable across the PWSs. Such additional value is significant to Nevada PWS ecosystem overall as limited workforce remains a high concern capacity issue.

#### **IMPAIRMENTS**

#### **Technical Assistance Providers**

During SFY 2024, one of our technical assistance providers, NVRWA, closed its doors suddenly. NVRWA was able to host their annual conference, which NDEP supported through scholarships, prior to shutting down. This has left Nevada with a shorter list of TA providers. NDEP has continued to work with water operators and managers to understand their needs and seek other resources to address this impairment.

#### Working with Government Entities

Efforts to identify capacity deficiencies as well as infrastructure upgrades/replacement needs in all systems in Nevada is ongoing. Some systems are hesitant to address any issues with government entities. Other systems are simply unaware or do not have the resources to investigate. OFA will continue to work in collaboration with BSDW and TA providers through the use of sanitary surveys and TMF capacity surveys to identify systems needs and develop a system of identification that will prioritize the needs of water systems across the State.

#### 2- Planning and training for Existing and New Rules

#### **ENHANCEMENTS**

#### Existing rules

Due to new agency staff and new management at water systems, basic training on existing regulations and requirements is needed. In addition, new federal regulatory requirements are being issued concurrently. Regulatory requirements that will require training for both NDEP staff as well as drinking water systems include such items as Emerging Contaminants, the Arsenic Rule, Lead/Copper Rule, Manganese, PFAS Rule, Legionella, UCMR 5- Lithium, Consumer Confidence Report Revision, Cyber Security, the Revised Total Coliform Rule and The Groundwater Rule.

#### Lead and Copper Rule

On June 16, 2021, EPA published the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) with a compliance date of October 16, 2024. One of the requirements from the LCRR that will go into effect on October 16, 2024, is the initial service line inventory. All community and non-transient, non-community (NTNC) water systems are required to submit an initial inventory of all service lines

within the distribution system and identify the material as lead, galvanized requiring replacement, non-lead, or lead status unknown.

In efforts to help impacted water systems, BSDW has partnered with contractor PG Environmental to offer assistance to public water systems with their initial service line inventory at no cost to the system. Eight (8) PWSs have met with PG Environmental and BSDW for an initial meeting. PG Environmental has begun their efforts to compile data and has conducted on-site assistance for serval systems in Northern Nevada.

In addition to technical assistance (TA) through PG Environmental, Rural Community Assistance Corp (RCAC) has hosted several service line inventory training courses with the assistance of BSDW staff. NDEP/BSDW staff continues to address questions and concerns from public water systems regarding the LCRR and Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI). BSDW has also met with different health districts and PWSs who are proposing new technologies to build their service line inventories; some of the proposed methods include physical identification methods such as electromagnetic devices introduced into the water lines and artificial intelligence statistical analysis and predictive modeling.

#### Per- & Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

EPA's final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for six PFAS contaminants became effective June 25, 2024. This date begins the 5-year period for Nevada public water systems to be in compliance with the MCL's and Hazard Index seen in the table below.

Chemical	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)
PFOA	0	4.0 ppt
PFOS	0	4.0 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals)	10 ppt	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt	10 ppt
Mixture of two or more: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	Hazard Index of 1	Hazard Index of 1

With the new regulations, determining PFAS contamination in Nevada continues to be a very active area of work for the program; following are some highlights.

- PFAS sampling at targeted drinking water, surface water, and wastewater sites occurred during the reporting period. The samples were collected per the EPA approved QAPP on October 3, 2023. Sampling began on October 23, 2023. As of August 3rd, 2024, 59 drinking water samples, 58 surface water samples, and 22 wastewater samples have been collected and sent to the labs for analysis. The sampling effort has yielded PFAS detections at 48 of the sites sampled. This contract is supported through the FY21 MPG, FY22-23 PWSSP PFAS Supplemental and BIL EC-SDC grant funds.
- The EC-SDC grant was awarded on August 22, 2023, for \$18,914,000. The work program for the grant was approved by the Interim Finance Committee on December 13, 2023. Requests for proposals (RFPs) and subgrants are being prioritized:

- A contract has been awarded to develop Risk Assessment Tool by adding a hydrogeology and hydrology layer to the existing PFAS sampling prioritization tool to add fate & transport modeling capability.
- A contract has been awarded to update source water protection plans to address PFAS and other emerging contaminants and implement source water protection measures.
- A contract is being finalized to assess PFAS throughout Nevada through a wide scale sampling effort.
- A subgrant has been signed by NDEP and Canyon GID to provide financial assistance in developing a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) to determine the best compliance option in mitigating PFAS contamination in their source water.
- Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5's first set of data was released by EPA
   October 17, 2023. An abbreviated data summary was posted on the NDEP PFAS website,

   <u>https://ndep.nv.gov/water/pfas-in-nevada</u> and is being updated quarterly. UCMR 5 data
   results continue to be evaluated to identify potential water system needs.
- BSDW provided in-person training on the proposed regulations at the Nevada Rural Water Association (NvRWA) in March of 2024 and is planning to participate, in collaboration with California and Arizona's environmental agencies, at the 2024 Tri-State Annual Conference. Further training efforts will be made through future contracts funded by the EC-SDC grant. RFPs for this are currently being developed.

#### **IMPAIRMENTS**

#### Existing rules

With high staff turnover rates at public water systems and NDEP-BSDW, training on existing rules is a need that is continually occurring and noted as a need. NDEP-BSDW continues to prioritize training and has been in communication with TA providers and EPA regarding training opportunities.

#### **PFAS**

During the reporting period, some public water systems did not want to participate in voluntary sampling. BSDW will continue to work with contractors and the regulated community to educate them on the benefits of collecting samples early and taking advantage of funding opportunities if needed.

#### Lead and Copper Rule

Although several TA opportunities have been offered to public water systems impacted by the LCRR in Nevada, we do not have the ability to provide individual TA support to every system. In late 2023, a survey was sent to all community and NTNC water systems to gage their level of interest in TA. With the limited funding resources provided to the State of Nevada, we have focused our attentions on those who indicated they were interested or might be interested in TA support. BSDW and OFA continue to look for

further funding opportunities and ways to provide no cost support to our systems to help them comply with the new LCRR requirements.

#### 3- Climate resiliency

#### **ENHANCEMENTS**

As the driest state in the U.S., Nevada has long recognized the value of efficient water use and reuse. In accordance with EPA sustainable priorities, the Nevada Division of Water Resources requires that every water system submit a Water Conservation Plan that includes measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan. These plans have been required since July 1992, with updates every five years. TA providers have helped multiple communities prepare and update these plans. In addition to user-based conservation measures, systems are being educated on auditing and charting the amounts of water produced and sold monthly. Once usage patterns are established, changes in use may prompt managers to implement leak detection studies.

Nevada water operators understand the struggles of maintaining system infrastructure, staffing, and supply in this arid and rural state. The Nevada Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (NVWARN)<sup>4</sup> is a statewide program in which water (and wastewater) operators can seek assistance such as equipment, personnel, and resources during emergencies. Their website also maintains many resources for water and wastewater systems to guide systems in need to resources.

Innovative water projects for managing water resources are underway. OneWater Nevada is developing an Advanced Purified Water Facility that treats recycled water from the Reno-Stead Water Reclamation Facility. Treated water will be injected into the aquifer where it can be recovered by a pilot irrigation project and later, indirect potable reuse. The design is 60% complete and construction is expected to start in SFY 2025. This will help the Reno-Sparks area of more than 350,000 residents adapt to changing water resources.

#### **IMPAIRMENTS**

Nevada is not immune to the occasional natural disaster that is contrary to our normal dry state. In August 2023, Nevada was hit by Hurricane Hilary after entered the U.S. from the west coast<sup>5</sup>. Most water systems within Hilary's path, with a few exceptions, managed to experience little to no impact from this event. However, it served as a lesson to all of the impacts weather can have on our infrastructure, water quality, and quantity.

Lake Mead water levels continue to be a concern for southern Nevada residents and visitors who rely on the Colorado River System for water. The significant drops in Lake Mead water levels have led to new strategies in the southern portion of the state. New conservation strategies such as septic to sewer conversions not only help to protect groundwater quality from regulated and unregulated constituents but also provide a

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<sup>4</sup> https://www.nvwarn.org/

 $<sup>^{5}\ \</sup>underline{\text{https://thenevadaindependent.com/article/as-nevada-deals-with-hilarys-fallout-experts-warn-of-more-big-storms-in-future}$ 

treated water quality source to the Colorado River to comply with required return flow credits. Projects are in design to address this urgent need.

#### 4- Project Funding Resources

#### **ENHANCEMENTS**

#### **New Funding Sources**

Many sources of funding are available to fund project implementation. This includes the traditional SRF funding, along with several new grants designed to perform specific tasks for water systems. New funding sources used during the year included Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation – Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities (WIIN-SUDC) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Emerging Contaminants – Small Disadvantaged Communities (BIL EC-SDC). Each funding source has different requirements and timelines, therefore navigating the best source of funding for each specific project is complicated for borrowers and grant administrators alike.

These New Funding Sources are being administered through NDEP-BSDW, and BSDW is coordinating with OFA to partner fund projects where appropriate.

#### **Disadvantaged Status**

In SFY 2023, DWSRF expanded the definition of disadvantaged, allowing more qualifying systems and projects to access principal forgiveness funding. The additional qualifying elements include poverty rates, disabilities, government subsidies, and whether the project is affordable for the system ratepayers. This effort is meant to make water projects more equitable for the underserved communities of Nevada.

#### **IMPAIRMENTS**

#### New Funding Sources

The new funding opportunities created a need for new human resources and grants and contracts at the State level, which continues to evolve in order to spend the federal money. Furthermore, implementing cross cutter requirements and federal grant conditions is a new workload for NDEP-BSDW and the small systems that are utilizing the funding sources.

#### Construction resources

Construction projects are further impacted by the availability of contractors, particularly in rural areas, along with construction materials. Construction schedules may get extended resulting in changing project budgets and completion dates.

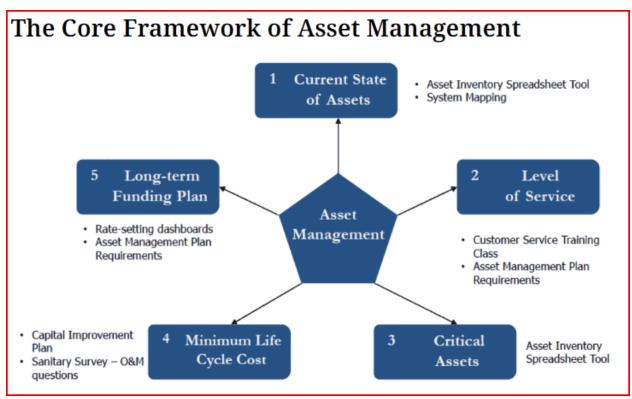
Project bids continue to be higher than engineer estimates; borrowers had to either remove elements from their project scope or attempt to secure additional funding within a short time frame. In addition, Nevada continues to hear the message from our borrowers that federal funding requirements continue to present difficulties in moving forward with project implementation. Requirements to adhere to Davis Bacon, American Iron and Steel, as well as trying to navigate new requirements tied to Build America, Buy America (BABA) has been frustrating to borrowers. Nevada offers technical assistance to assist with compliance with these requirements; however, borrowers have not requested this type of technical assistance to date.

#### DWSRF program requirements and Community Directed Spending

Nevada has seen a significant drop in borrowers willing to take out traditional loans. Some facilities have indicated that the Federal funding requirements have contributed to their resistance to using the SRF program. In addition, many smaller systems haven't kept up rate increases to address system upgrades needed over time. These small systems often can't afford to take on new debt and are hesitant to increase rate structures. Also, with the availability of federal earmark funding and other grant funding such as ARPA, systems are pursuing grant funding to entirely fund their project rather than pursuing SRF funding.

## **Asset Management Plans**

As part of the 2024 DWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP), the DWSRF requires asset management plans for systems receiving principal forgiveness loans for construction projects from the DWSRF program. Loan applicants must certify as part of the loan contract that the recipient has, or will develop, an asset management plan prior to the final draw on the loan and re-evaluate the plan every five years. These reports will help educate system management and the users of the system about the cost of their water system.



The plan includes an analysis of all assets, identifies critical assets of the system, evaluates the condition of the assets, documents the useful life of the assets, contains a plan for funding maintenance, repair, and replacement, and evaluates the systems level of service. In another effort to develop fiscal responsibility, the 2024 DWSRF IUP requires principal forgiveness loan

recipients to set aside funds in a reserve account for capital replacement. TA providers include this analysis as part of the asset management plan.

Since Nevada updated its Capacity Development Strategy, 24 systems have received support for asset management plans through technical assistance funded through the DWSRF grants. Within SFY 2024, 18 systems received support for asset management plans. Attachment 2 shows the list of systems receiving support in the current year.

### **Prioritizing Public Water Systems**

#### Compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act

Nevada's State capacity development coordinators and TA providers work closely with State enforcement staff to review the ETT list provided each quarter. They identify systems that lack TMF capacity. OFA and BSDW staff then determine steps to help the system return to compliance in a timely manner. With funding provided through the DWSRF small systems TA contract, vendors focus on systems that score above the ten-point threshold to assist them in resolving the non-compliance and stay off the ETT list. As shown below in Figure 1, Nevada continues to track the program's progress in assisting water systems to return to compliance.

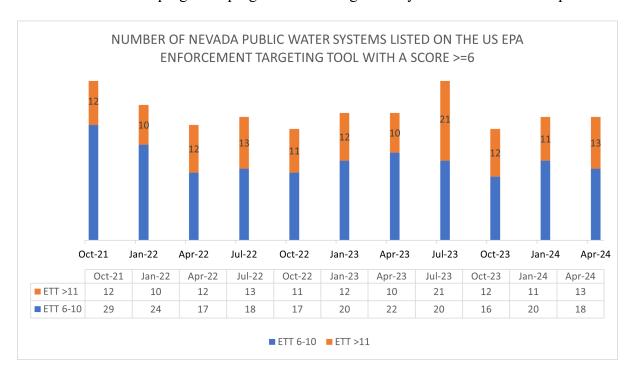


Figure 1: ETT tracking over time

A total of 13 systems scored 11 or above during the end of the current reporting period (April – June 2023). Out of these, 5 systems are new this quarter, 8 PWS were listed in 2nd quarter of the reporting period, and 5 systems have been on the list for at least a year.

#### **Coliform Assessments and Response**

PWS assessments triggered from coliform detections have increased over the last two fiscal years. The figure below illustrates an increase of over 20% in the total number of assessments triggered during fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24 compared to the previous three years. This increase coincides with a significantly wetter winter than the previous drought years. Additionally, the covid pandemic forced sanitary surveys to be conducted virtually for an extended period of time, as well as requiring BSDW to conduct sanitary surveys for select systems within a 5-year interval, instead of the preferred 3-year interval. The temporary decrease in the frequency in which BSDW has been able to conduct on-site inspections for many public water systems increases the likelihood that significant deficiencies could persist in a PWS for longer periods of time. Technical assistance is often used to support smaller PWS systems conducting Level One Assessments resulting from coliform detections. While not every assessment warrant technical assistance, the capacity to provide technical assistance for coliform assessments is essential in supplementing PWS identification and correction of sanitary defects.

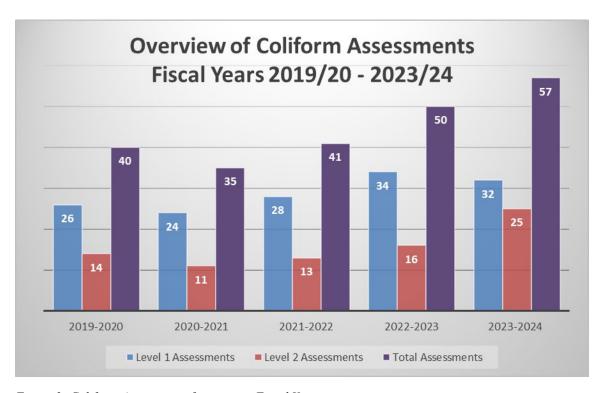


Figure 2: Coliform Assessments from recent Fiscal Years.

#### Focused Technical Assistance under EPA Grant

PWSs in Nevada: Ensuring PWS compliance with laws and regulations requires a multi-faceted approach. NDEP oversees approximately 584 PWSs with diverse service populations. Many of these regulated water systems are not in the primary business of supplying water; rather, their business requires that they have water for drinking and hygiene purposes. Only a handful of

systems in Nevada (21 systems including businesses like Casinos) serve a population greater than 10,000 and 432 systems serve a population less than 500. This information underscores the capacity challenges faced by a typical PWS in Nevada. A vast number of very small sized PWSs in Nevada typically operate on very small budgets with limited ability to meet unexpected capacity deficiencies. NDEP acknowledges this hardship and strives to serve the systems with additional emphasis on intra-agency collaboration and assistance. As such, 99.9% of all PWSs in Nevada are compliant, validating the constant adjustments and strategies that NDEP performs in meeting the capacity needs of any given typical PWS.

#### Nevada has 584 public water systems. These systems include:

- 193 community water systems (C).
- 155 non-transient non-community water systems (NTNC); and
- 236 transient non-community water systems (TNC).

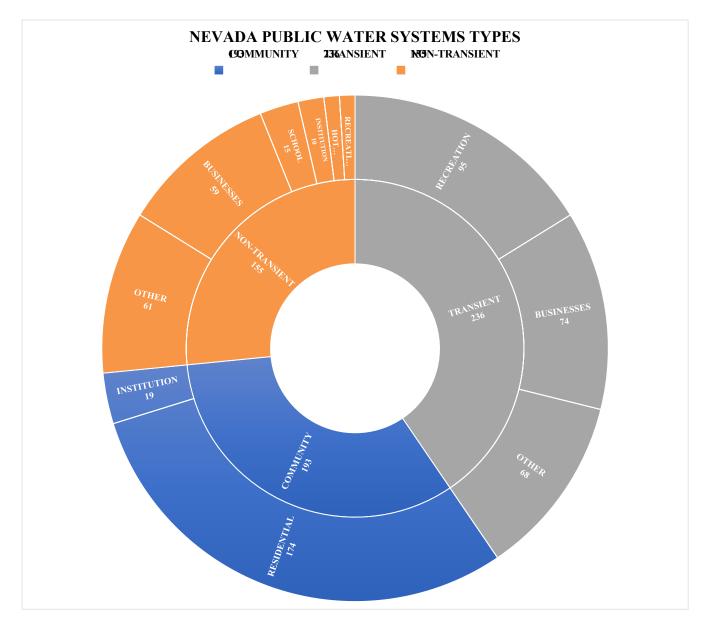


Figure 2: Service footprint of PWSs in Nevada

#### Newly permitted systems

In the SFY2024, NDEP permitted 3 community and non-transient non-community systems. Enforcement Targeting Tool (ETT) scores through the end of State Fiscal Year 2024 have been monitored. See Table 1 for the details of these systems.

Activity		PWS			Population	ETT
Date	County	Type	PWS ID	PWS Name	Served	Score
12/12/2023	HUMBOLDT	NTNC	NV0001191	CSS FARMS LLC	30	0
12/1/2023	CLARK	NTNC	NV0001188	VALLEY HEALTH SPECIALTY	250	0
				HOSPITAL		
10/24/2023	NYE	NTNC	NV0001181	ACRES CULTIVATION	248	0

**TABLE 1. New Permitted Water Systems.** 

#### Found Systems Program Technical Assistance

A PWS is defined by the US EPA as "a drinking water system that regularly serves at least 25 people and/or 15 service connections for 60 days a year". On occasion, water systems cross this minimum threshold and require permitting without knowing that their status changed and are subject to Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory requirements enforced by NDEP. Such systems are found to be operating without a permit and have been dubbed "found systems." A unique program was implemented in SFY 2016 to actively look for these types of public water systems, provide technical managerial and financial assistance, ensure they comply with the appropriate regulatory programs, and issue permits or consolidate them with existing PWSs. See Figure 3 for a historic perspective on the program.



figure 3: TMF provided to PWS in Nevada over time

NDEP has observed that the number of found systems fluctuates with changing economies and has implemented creative ways to maximize "boots on the ground" with outreach for the found system program. NDEP has worked with other permitting agencies to increase statewide professional common understanding in identifying potential public water systems. In SFY 2024, these outreach efforts included coordinating with local, regional and state public and environmental health agency staff. By expanding the reach of the program and making permitting agencies aware of the SDWA regulatory requirements, they help prevent the creation of found PWSs and partner with NDEP to leverage permitting authorities.

NDEP is made aware of potential PWSs through multiple methods; public and permitting agency inquiries, NDEP staff investigations, permitted PWSs, and technical assistance providers. The first step of the process is to determine if the potential system meets the definition of a PWS. From this point there are two paths that may occur.

If the potential PWS is identified as a PWS, BSDW and partner agencies provide technical assistance to guide the systems and build their technical, managerial, and financial capacity. Through this process, BSDW activates the PWS as unpermitted, informs water system that monitoring is required, conducts an initial sanitary survey, and BSDW and Technical Assistance providers assist the system in completing the work necessary to lead the PWS through the permitting process. The term "Technical Assistance" includes sample collection and analysis training, developing operation and maintenance, emergency response and cross connection control plans, documenting the infrastructure design, providing as-built engineered plans, and other compliance measures. These items are part of the PWS documentation to establish that the PWS has the TMF Capacity to operate a PWS. Systems identified as meeting the definition of a community public water system rank highest on the list for review and/or assistance due to the relative potential impact and risk to public health

• If the potential PWS does not meet the criteria to qualify as a PWS currently, but shows potential to qualify in the future, that system is placed on a continuous verification list for outreach. Continuous verification is a rolling outreach effort to review and update the PWS status determination. Staff continue to periodically reach out and seek information on current usage and potential qualification as a PWS through continuous verification. Periodic outreach is currently managed collectively for these potential systems by BSDW and Northern Nevada Public Health District.

Table 2 provides a summary of each found system supported during the fiscal year, and following is a summary of the information:

- Eighteen (18) PWS were supported by the BSDW, Nevada Rural Water Association (NvWRA closed FY24Q2), and RCAC with Technical Assistance (TA).
- Five (5) PWS completed the permitting process or are in the invoicing process.
- Two (2) PWSs were activated; one of these was inactivated after the initial inspection due to changes in operations.
- Four (4) PWS were inactivated, or in the process of being inactivated. These PWS returned to the Continuous Verification program.

ACTIVITY DATE	COUNTY	PWS TYPE	NAME	DESCRIPTION
2/12/2024	Nye	NC	Dollar General 15044	Sanitary survey completed and PWS is working with certified operator to address significant deficiencies and obtain permit to operate.
6/11/2024	Churchill	NTNC	Olam Svi	PWS to submit new engineering project for water hauling, permit approval expected in Q1 SFY25.

6/19/2020	Clark	NC	Blue Diamond Rainbow NW Plaza Water	Consolidation plans approved, connection and inactivation as PWS by Q2 SFY25
1/22/2020	Mineral	NTNC	Isabella Pearl Mine	Water project is under BSDW engineering review for approval of potable system. Permit expected in Q2 SFY25.
6/20/2024	Clark	NTNC	Blue Diamond Rainbow SW Plaza Water	PWS partners have agreed to and is in the early process of consolidation. Inactivation expected by Q4 SFY25.
1/1/1980	Clark	NTNC	Lee Canyon Ski Area	PWS reclassification/plan to operate application is under BSDW engineering review process. Expecting resubmittal and permit in SFY25.
10/27/2016	Clark	NTNC	Speed Vegas	PWS reclassification plan to operate is complete and permit is being issued.
4/1/2020	Douglas	С	Pineview Estates	Turned over to BSDW by EPA in 2019. Plan to operate not submitted to BSDW.
10/1/2023	Nye	NC	Kellogg Park	Permit being issued.
5/10/2024	Nye	NTNC	Premier Magnesia	Inactivated
3/21/2024	Clark	С	Desert Sunrise Water Users Assoc	Sanitary survey completed and PWS is in 120-day period to address deficiencies and avoid enforcement. Working with SNHD and BSDW inworking towards compliance. Compliance is expected with TA by Q3 SFY25.
6/25/2024	Clark	NC	Cowboy Trail Rides	Plans approved by BSDW engineering. PWS to be permitted Q1 SFY25.
6/25/2024	Clark	С	Elkhorn Water Association LLC	PWS is taking first steps towards compliance with SNHD and BSDW. Permit anticipated in SFY25.
6/20/2024	Clark	С	Fort Apache Ann Ne Water Assoc	Water project application is in late phase of engineering review. Permit anticipated Q1 SFY25.
7/31/2023	Clark	С	Aravada Springs	Inactivated
10/5/2023	Nye	NC	Blosser Park	Permit being issued.
10/4/2021	Clark	NC	Hurry Up We Are Burning Daylight	Water project approved for construction and extension granted on 09/01/2022.
04/29/2024	Clark	NTNC	First Sloan Industrial Water System	Project approved for permit but water treatment project. Construction reviews underway. Permit anticipated Q2 SFY25

TABLE 2. Found systems in Nevada and their statuses at end of SFY 2024.

## **Measurement of Success**

<b>Elements of Capacity</b>	Benchmarks
Personnel and Management	
Water Operator Certification testing, surveys, and system staffing	An increase in the number of certificates was observed between SFY22 and SFY23. In SFY2022, there was an increase of 252 certificates issued; that number increased further in SFY2023 by 289. In SFY 2024, certificates increased again by 253.
Financial Sustainability	
Water rate studies completed	6 studies were completed by Nevada's TA providers in the fiscal year. More focus was placed on asset management plans (14).
PWS Characteristics	
Number of PWSs with a sanitary survey showing no significant deficiencies.	Of the 180 Sanitary Surveys completed, only 4 of these systems had Health Based Violations
Health based violations that were returned to compliance	There was a total of 47 Health based violations of which 10 were addressed in SFY2024.
Planning	
Developing and reviewing plans (Asset Management Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Cross-Connection Control Plan, Operation/Maintenance Plan, etc.)	A total of eight (8) plans were submitted, and a total of four (4) plans have been approved. The other plans are either under initial review or have been commented on and BSDW is waiting on a response.
Source Water Quality and Quantity	
Number of consolidations for capacity development.	In SFY 2024, 2 systems consolidated as public water systems. One was a managerial consolidation, and one was a physical consolidation resulting in an inactivation of the consolidated system.

## **ATTACHMENT 1: Technical Assistance Flyer**

## Free assistance for your water system

Nevadans not only rely on public water systems to provide safe, reliable drinking water, but they also expect excellent service and low water rates. Why not work to exceed these expectations by taking advantage of free, comprehensive training and on-the-ground support?

NDEP's third-party contractors offer free assistance on all aspects of operating a water system, from water sampling to water rights management to public accounting and more.

- Business and management processes
- Regulatory compliance
- Technical processes
- Financial planning and strategy



#### **GET STARTED**

This brochure only scratches the surface of the free services available to you. For a complete list of services, visit ndep.nv.gov/water/financing-infrastructure or contact NDEP's Office of Financial Assistance by emailing ndep-ofa@ndep.nv.gov.





901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, NV 89701



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## DRINKING WATER ASSISTANCE

FREE SERVICES FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

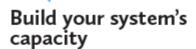
Free Services for Public Water Systems Office of Financial Assistance
BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES







NEWARA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



NDEP's free services focus on building capacity so your water system thrives, not just gets by. This opens doors for opportunities to refine your processes:

- Better system performance and efficiency
- Increased compliance to protect public health
- Excellent service to your community
- More effective business processes
- Long-term financial stability

#### Three parts of a capable water system





Shore up the financial capacity of your system to provide top-notch water services both sustainably and efficiently.

- Budgeting and rate setting
- Income surveys
- Understanding financial reports
- Grants and loans management
- Fiscal sustainability plans
- Bookkeeping and public accounting



#### MANAGERIAL CAPACITY

## Help with business processes

Expand the managerial capacity of your system using targeted help with the business side of public water service.

- Consumer confidence reports and public notifications
- Operation and maintenance manuals
- Emergency response plans
- Water and energy conservation
- Technical, managerial, and financial capacity surveys
- Labor, water rights, records, and contract management



## Help with technical processes

Improve the technical capacity of your system with expert help on important regulations and processes that keep things running smoothly.

- Assistance with state and federal drinking water rules
- Help resolve violations in a timely manner
- Sampling, water quality testing, and troubleshooting
- Responses to sanitary surveys
- Digital mapping of system components

Free, third-party support to enable you to provide safe, reliable water service to your community.

#### FREE TRAINING

We also offer training so your team has the knowledge base to get the job done.

- Board training
- Clerical and office staff training
- · Operator certification training
- Security and health threats training

## ATTACHMENT 2: Brief TMF Assessment Questionnaire

For each indicator, please answer "yes" or "no" based on your system's current capacity. If your water system is interested in technical assistance for a particular indicator, please indicate you are "interested in TA" and provide any comments.

#### **Technical Capacity**

NRS 445A.847 "Technical capability" defined. "Technical capability" means the ability of a public water system to:

- 1. Obtain an adequate and reliable source of water that is necessary to provide the quantity and quality of water required by the system;
- 2. Establish and maintain an adequate infrastructure for the treatment, storage and distribution of the quantity and quality of water required by the system; and
- 3. Employ operators who have the technical knowledge and ability to operate the system.

#### **Managerial Capacity**

NRS 445A.827 "Managerial capability" defined. "Managerial capability" means the ability of a public water system to conduct its administrative affairs in a manner that ensures compliance with all applicable standards based on:

- 1. The accountability, responsibility and authority of the owner or operator of the system;
- 2. The personnel and organization of the system; and
- 3. The ability of the persons who manage the system to work with:
  - Jurisdictional, regulatory, and other governmental agencies.
  - Trade and industry organizations; and
  - The persons served by the system

#### **Financial Capacity**

NRS 445A.817 "Financial capability" defined. "Financial capability" means the ability of a public water system to:

- 1. Pay the costs related to maintenance, operations, depreciation and capital expenses;
- 2. Maintain creditworthiness; and
- 3. Establish and maintain adequate fiscal controls and accounting methods required for the operation of the system.

#### 1. PWS Name:

2.	PWS ID#
3.	<ul> <li>Does the system have an adequate source of water that:</li> <li>has a redundant source with adequate supply for peak demand, fire flow, and maximum daily demand.</li> <li>and maintains the requirements of NAC 445A.6672 and provides adequate pressure of at least 20 psi during fire flow and fire demand conditions, at least 30 psi during peak hour demand, and at least 40 psi during maximum daily demand?</li> </ul>
	Yes
	□No
ļ.	Does the system have a distribution system that:
	<ul> <li>complies with NAC 445A.6712 and is laid out on a grid, with no dead-end lines and;</li> <li>isolation valves that are exercised and inspected at least every 6 months?</li> </ul>
	Yes
	□No
j.	Does the system:
	<ul> <li>implement a cross-connection control program with an approved Cross-Connection Control Plan;</li> <li>and maintain a current program for the required testing of all backflow preventers installed?</li> </ul>
	☐ Yes
	□No
	Does the system:
	<ul> <li>maintain an approved Operations and Maintenance Plan;</li> <li>and maintain an employed or contract operator with the level required;</li> <li>and maintain all inspection and water quality monitoring requirements?</li> </ul>
	☐ Yes
	□No
	Have all deficiencies identified in the most recent sanitary survey been corrected?
	Yes
	□No
•	Does the system have appropriate authorities, policies and procedures, by-laws and ordinances in place necessary for management of the water system including:

- designating duties and training requirements for staff and the governing body; and
- personnel matters such as staffing levels and transition planning; and

	<ul> <li>documentation of routine functions carried out by water system staff.</li> </ul>
	Yes
	□ No
9.	Does the system have updated and approved copies of the documents necessary for management of the system including:
	<ul> <li>Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan</li> <li>Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>Source Water Protection Plan</li> </ul>
	Yes
	□No
10.	Does the system have an asset management system including an Asset Management Plan and Capital Improvement Plan?
	Yes
	□ No
11.	Has the system conducted a security risk assessment and worked to improve the security of the system?
	Yes
	□ No
12.	Does the system maintain an annual and future (2-4 year) budget that is updated to reflect capital planning, anticipated repairs, anticipated cost fluctuation, reserve funding, and water conservation?
	Yes
	□ No
13.	Does the system have financial reserves of 12.5% to 25% of the operating expenses and a method of paying back the reserves when they are used?
	Yes
	□ No
14.	Does the system have user rates that are sufficient to cover the recommended reserves and operations and maintenance costs?
	Yes
	□ No
	Comments

### **ATTACHMENT 3: TMF Services in SFY 2024**

#### 1. Technical Assistance to Water Systems

#### 1.1. PWS Compliance

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with understanding of and compliance with legally enforceable standards and treatment techniques that apply to public water systems to protect public health and provide a safe and reliable drinking water supply. They include assistance to comply with state and federal drinking water regulations, including but not limited to, RTCR, Groundwater Rule, Disinfection Byproducts Rule, Arsenic Rule, LCR, SWTRs, and state enforceable secondary drinking water standards.

- 1.1.1. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the necessary PWS compliance components.
- 1.1.2. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.
- 1.1.3. This task may include assisting a system with Lead and Copper inventory but does not include GIS mapping.

#### 1.2. Prioritized PWS and ETT Score

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist prioritized water systems, which have accrued ETT scores in the range of 6-10 points from non-compliance with state and federal requirements, to:

- 1.2.1. Address the violations leading to noncompliance.
- 1.2.2. Return the system to compliance in a timely manner.
- 1.2.3. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the necessary requirements to be removed from the ETT list.
- 1.2.4. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 1.3. Sampling, Water Quality Testing and Troubleshooting

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to help train and/or assist PWSs in:

- 1.3.1.Developing and implementing sampling plans;
- 1.3.2. Conducting field measurement and water parameters;
- 1.3.3.Developing and implementing water sampling procedures for compliance;
- 1.3.4. Testing for chlorine residuals;
- 1.3.5. Measuring well drawdown;
- 1.3.6.Instrumentation;
- 1.3.7. Calculating proper chemical addition and chemical pump;
- 1.3.8. Treatment train operations.

#### 1.4. Sanitary Surveys and Deficiency Resolution

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems in developing and implementing plans and taking the actions necessary to provide an appropriate response to sanitary surveys and Level 2 Assessment findings conducted by the BSDW. Guidance and instruction may be required to help the water system correct deficiencies and/or address sanitary defects. The goal is to bring the system back into compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements within the required timeframe.

- 1.4.1. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the sanitary survey deficiencies and responsible management of the system.
- 1.4.2. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 1.5. Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 Assessment

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems in performing a Level 1 Assessment. The vendor may be expected to assist the water system with:

- 1.5.1. Investigating the water system to identify sanitary defects;
- 1.5.2. Submitting the Level 1 Assessment documentation;
- 1.5.3.Locating resources to fix noted sanitary defects;
- 1.5.4. Developing a timeline that ensures the 30-day corrective action timeline is met; and
- 1.5.5. Submitting an extension request if needed.
- 1.5.6. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the Revised Total Coliform Rule.
- 1.5.7. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 1.6. Digital Mapping and GPS Asset Location

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with:

- 1.6.1.Developing and/or updating their digital maps or GIS system and attribute tables of system components;
- 1.6.2. Identifying the appropriate GPS tools for field data collection and will provide training in the use of these tools. GIS software and platforms used must be widely available to computer and phone users and must be free of charge to the water system; and
- 1.6.3. Identifying and integrating their GIS system with other management software that can assist in planning for repair and replacement of assets.
- 1.6.4. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the need for mapping and asset identification.
- 1.6.5. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF

#### 2. Managerial Assistance to Water Systems

#### 2.1. PNR and CCR

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with:

- 2.1.1.Notices that alert consumers if there is a risk to public health, if the water does not meet drinking water standards, if the water system fails to test its water, or if the system has been granted a variance of exemption to a regulation; and
- 2.1.2. Their annual CCRs to increase consumer awareness of their drinking water quality and potential health risks and increase dialogue between the utilities and their consumers.
- 2.1.3. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the need for timely communication to the public for health risk violations.
- 2.1.4. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 2.2. Manuals and Plans

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems in:

- 2.2.1. Creating, updating, and implementing their system O&M manuals for both distribution and treatment facilities to describe operational activities on a daily, monthly and yearly basis;
  - 2.2.1.1. Submitting any updates of water system assets to BSDW in order to maintain an accurate SDWIS database.
- 2.2.2.Development and implementation of a CCCP;
  - 2.2.2.1. Public outreach efforts to improve the public's understanding of the need for and importance of such a program;
- 2.2.3. Preparing new or updating existing system- and site-specific ERPs; and
  - 2.2.3.1. Evaluating system security and necessary upgrades including but not limited to:
    - 2.2.3.1.1. Fencing;
    - 2.2.3.1.2. Locks;
    - 2.2.3.1.3. SCADA;
    - 2.2.3.1.4. Alarms; and
    - 2.2.3.1.5. Security cameras
  - 2.2.3.2. Provide training and emergency assistance in implementing ERPs when systems face natural disasters, critical system component failures and risks to public health.
- 2.2.4. The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with completing, updating, and implementing water conservation plans in compliance with the requirements of the DWR;
  - 2.2.4.1. Metrics to be used by the systems to analyze the effectiveness of the plan;
  - 2.2.4.2. Developing and implementing feasible water conservation measures and public awareness campaigns;
  - 2.2.4.3. Water loss audits to assist system personnel in resolving unaccounted-for water;
  - 2.2.4.4. Energy conservation opportunities including but not limited to:
  - 2.2.4.5. Energy efficient equipment;
  - 2.2.4.6. Alternative power generation; and
  - 2.2.4.7. Off-peak power use.
- 2.2.5. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the need for manuals, their use, and the need to keep them updated.
- 2.2.6. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF

#### 2.3. Management and Operations

- 2.3.1. The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist the water system with personnel management;
  - 2.3.1.1. Personnel policies;
  - 2.3.1.2. Job descriptions;
  - 2.3.1.3. Contracts for operations, maintenance and/or administration
- 2.3.2. The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist the water system with developing and implementing a records keeping/tracking program for routine maintenance including but not limited to:
  - 2.3.2.1. Well pumpage;
  - 2.3.2.2. Valve exercising;
  - 2.3.2.3. Hydrant/dead-end flushing; and
  - 2.3.2.4. Backflow prevention assembly testing.
- 2.3.3. The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist the water system with contracts management:
  - 2.3.3.1. Technical services solicitations;
  - 2.3.3.2. Review of bid specifications/construction contracts;
  - 2.3.3.3. Project documentation included but not limited to:
    - 2.3.3.3.1. Certified payroll review;
    - 2.3.3.3.2. Funding draws; and
    - 2.3.3.3.3. Reporting as required by federal, state, and/or funding agencies.
- 2.3.4. The awarded vendor(s) may require to:
  - 2.3.4.1. Assist water system staff in understanding the organizational and governing structure and responsibility; and
  - 2.3.4.2. Guide water systems to professionals authorized to prepare documentation and assist with reorganization (e.g., HOA), bylaws, federal non-profit application, ordinances/policies, and insurance etc.
- 2.3.5. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over sound management of a water system, troubleshooting workflows, contracting, and being responsive to customer needs.
- 2.3.6. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 2.4. Water Rights Management

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist the water system with:

- 2.4.1. Reviewing and understanding water rights and associated documentation;
- 2.4.2.Determining if water quantity and water rights are sufficient for existing and projected future population; and
- 2.4.3. Properly recording and submitting pumpage documentation to DWR.
- 2.4.4. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the importance of water rights.
- 2.4.5. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF

#### 3. Financial Assistance to Water Systems

#### 3.1. Budgeting and Rate Setting

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with:

- 3.1.1. Preparing a balanced budget (note that depreciation is not required to be fully funded in planning a budget under this subgrant scope of work, but the system must be educated on what depreciation means, why it is used, and how it benefits the system to fully fund depreciation);
- 3.1.2. Preparing a budget for 5-, 10-, and/or 20-year CIPs in order for the water system to develop rate strategies and identify potential funding available for necessary system renewal;
- 3.1.3. Establishing sufficient rates to support their unique system. User rates must be sufficient to cover:
  - 3.1.3.1. All operations and maintenance of the specific system of the community. This includes operation and maintenance of any planned construction project being proposed to a funding agency;
  - 3.1.3.2. Debt service requirements on all loans and bonds of the system: and
  - 3.1.3.3. All required reserve accounts of the system, including a short-lived asset reserve and any debt service required by the loan/bond agreements.
- 3.1.4. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the importance of budgeting and rate setting.
- 3.1.5. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### **3.2.** Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) or Asset Management Plans

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist the water systems with FSPs that include at a minimum:

- 3.2.1. Asset information including;
  - 3.2.1.1. An inventory; and
  - 3.2.1.2. Date of installation.
  - 3.2.1.3. Original price;
  - 3.2.1.4. Anticipated life span;
  - 3.2.1.5. Replacement costs;
  - 3.2.1.6. An evaluation of their condition and performance; and
  - 3.2.1.7. An analysis of the criticality of each asset.
- 3.2.2.An evaluation of water and energy conservation efforts with existing assists and planned replacement assets; and
- 3.2.3.A plan for maintaining, repairing and replacing assets and for funding such activities; and
- 3.2.4. Defined level of service goals for:
  - 3.2.4.1. Physical performance of the assets, and
  - 3.2.4.2. Customer expectations and satisfaction
- 3.2.5. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the importance of having an FSP or Asset Management Plan.
- 3.2.6. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF.

#### 3.3. Income Surveys

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with conducting income surveys for the community in order to qualify for loans and grants from all funding agencies. The income survey must achieve a 98% contact rate and collect the household income of the residents sampled. The awarded vendor(s) will then determine the median household income from the data collected and certify to the data's authenticity.

#### 3.4. Bookkeeping and Public Accounting

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with:

- 3.4.1.Understanding bookkeeping entries for transactions the water system must record and process on a day-to-day basis, including but not limited to:
  - 3.4.1.1. Payroll and related expenses;
  - 3.4.1.2. Contract transactions;
  - 3.4.1.3. Purchasing;
  - 3.4.1.4. Asset acquisitions, disposals and transfers;
  - 3.4.1.5. Operating expenses; and
  - 3.4.1.6. Items of income
- 3.4.2. Understanding their requirements to prepare financial statements in conformity to GAAP for local governments as they pertain to their specific structure; and
- 3.4.3.Educate and train water system staff on terminology used in the public sector accounting profession such as but not limited to:
  - 3.4.3.1. Cash versus accrual accounting
  - 3.4.3.2. Asset depreciation
  - 3.4.3.3. Current versus noncurrent assets and liabilities;
  - 3.4.3.4. Net assets:
  - 3.4.3.5. Restricted reserves; and
  - 3.4.3.6. Enterprise funds.
- 3.4.4.The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems understand how to read a GAAP compliant financial report and notes to the financial statements, including the balance sheet, income statement, and statement of cash flows.
- 3.4.5. The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with:
  - 3.4.5.1. Understanding the importance of internal controls in their accounting framework;
  - 3.4.5.2. Assessing the separation of duties and educate staff and the board of the water system on the risks involved by not following proper internal control procedures; and
  - 3.4.5.3. Preparing fiscal policies to segregate the duties of the individual responsible for recording the transactions from the individual authorizing payment, and the individual responsible for handling deposits.
- 3.4.6. This task may include training for staff personnel and/or board members over the importance of bookkeeping, transparency, internal controls, and sound accounting practices.
- 3.4.7. This task may include assisting the water system with TMF capacity surveys developed by NDEP to determine the system's TMF capacity, need for assistance and their eligibility for future funding from the DWSRF

#### 4. Training

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to work with PWS and NDEP to develop and prioritize training needs for specific system(s). The vendor will provide all materials necessary for training and assist with securing a meeting location if necessary. A specific course curriculum for requested training must be submitted to NDEP for approval prior to holding the training session. Technical

courses that qualify for CEUs must also be reviewed and approved by the Nevada Certified Drinking Water Operator Program.

#### 4.1. Board, Clerical, and Office Staff Training

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with board training not previously identified in another task in this scope of work.

#### 4.2. Operator Certification Training

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to provide training to prepare water system staff in obtaining requisite certification within Nevada for distribution or treatment operation. Under certain conditions, training that qualifies for contact hours (CEUs) may be required, if approved through the Nevada Drinking Water Operator Certification Program, to help certified operators to maintain their credentials. The vendor may propose one or more efficient and effective approach(es) to provide training to Nevada operator in order to accomplish this task.

#### 4.3. Security and Health Threat Training

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist water systems with training and preparedness to address security and health threats including physical, chemical, biological, or acts of God. The awarded vendor(s) may help provide regular training and refresher courses (scenarios), promote mutual assistance with nearby water systems, and utilize resources including the use of NVWARN and tabletop exercises to help water system staff develop capacity and maintain preparedness to address emergency response needs.

#### 4.4. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Training

- 4.4.1. Application Process
- 4.4.2.Davis-Bacon Wage Requirements
- 4.4.3. American Iron and Steel Requirements
- 4.4.4.Procurement Requirements
- 4.4.5. Project Management Requirements
- 4.4.6.Environmental review requirement and federal crosscutters

#### 5. Outreach

#### **5.1.** Project and Other Funding Outreach

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to assist public water systems identify potential funding opportunities and applications for grants and loans for capital improvement projects and other activities under specific financial programs. The vendor may propose one or more efficient and effective approach(es) to provide outreach and training in order to accomplish this task.

#### **5.2.** Future Water System Operators

The awarded vendor(s) may be required to coordinate, work collaboratively with, and/or assist NDEP with outreach activities at schools or community functions to educate, encourage, and engage potential new water system operators on the opportunities, challenges, and benefits of a career in public water system operations and management. The vendor may propose different approaches to introduce and engage potential drinking water professionals.

# **ATTACHMENT 4: Specific TA Vendor Services in SFY 2024**

Sr Y 20	<b>24</b>			
			Percent of	
SFY 2024 Technical Assistance Summary	Count	Amount	Total	Average Amount
■ 2% Small Systems	60	274,079.22	44.48%	4,567.99
Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) or Asset Management Plan	s 13	94,710.16	15.37%	7,285.40
Manuals and Plans	17	87,400.77	14.18%	5,141.22
Budgeting and Rate Setting	5	36,525.41	5.93%	7,305.08
Lead and Copper Inventory	5	18,677.32	3.03%	3,735.46
PWS Compliance	6	14,279.25	2.32%	2,379.88
Project and Other Funding Outreach	8	12,427.46	2.02%	1,553.43
Management and Operations	3	6,088.86	0.99%	2,029.62
Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 Assessment	1	2,064.84	0.34%	2,064.84
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Training	1	963.75	0.16%	963.75
Board, Clerical, and Office Staff Training	1	941.40	0.15%	941.40
■ 15% Local Assistance		342,094.29	55.52%	14,253.93
Operator Certifications Training	5	192,106.92	31.18%	38,421.38
Lead and Copper Inventory	12	83,283.06	13.52%	6,940.26
Project and Other Funding Outreach	1	17,045.96	2.77%	17,045.96
Future Water System Operators	2	16,181.09	2.63%	8,090.55
PWS Compliance	1	15,617.73	2.53%	15,617.73
Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) or Asset Management Plan	s 1	13,531.35	2.20%	13,531.35
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Training	1	4,328.18	0.70%	4,328.18
Budgeting and Rate Setting	1	0.00	0.00%	0.00
Grand Total	84	616,173.51	100.00%	7,335.40
				-
Vendor by Task			Tasks	Amount
2% Small Systems			60	274,079.22
NvRWA			5	10,392.29
RCAC			55	263,686.93
<b>■ 15% Local Assistance</b>			24	342,094.29
NvRWA			6	73,219.99

vendor by rask	rasks Arriot	AIIL
<b>■ 2% Small Systems</b>	60 274,079.2	22
NvRWA	5 10,392.2	29
RCAC	55 263,686.9	93
<b>■ 15% Local Assistance</b>	24 342,094.2	29
NvRWA	6 73,219.9	99
RCAC	18 268,874.3	30
Grand Total	84 616,173.	51

SFY 2024 State Of Nevada			
Funding Source			
15% Local Assistance set-aside			
Row Labels	<u>-</u> Tasks	Sum of Billed	Sum of Billed2
Operator Certifications Training	5	192,106.92	56.16%
Lead and Copper Inventory	12	83,283.06	24.35%
Project and Other Funding Outreach	1	17,045.96	4.98%
Future Water System Operators	2	16,181.09	4.73%
PWS Compliance	1	15,617.73	4.57%
Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) or Asset Management Plans	1	13,531.35	3.96%
Elko, City of	1	13,531.35	3.96%
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Training	1	4,328.18	1.27%
(blank)	1	4,328.18	1.27%
Budgeting and Rate Setting	1	0.00	0.00%
Elko, City of	1	0.00	0.00%
Grand Total	24	342,094.29	100.00%

SFY 2024 State Of Nevada				
2% Small System set-aside				
Row Labels	Number	Pop	Sum of Billed	Sum of Billed2
Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) or Asset Management Plans			94,710.16	34.56%
Baker Water and Sewer GID	NV0000863 🗆	85	11,440.26	4.179
Big Bend Water Company	NV0004092	9000	7,880.77	2.889
Blue Diamond Water Company	NV0000010	527	7,913.21	2.899
Gerlach GID	NV0000071	180	7,145.82	2.619
Golconda GID	NV0005029	60	5,230.00	1.919
Gold Country Estates	NV0003079	1695	7,781.03	2.84
Hawthorne Utilities	NV0000073	2700	7,607.81	2.78
McDermitt Water System	NV0000162	200	5,975.64	2.18
Orovada Water District	NV0003032	200	7,074.07	2.58
Silver Knolls Mutual Water Co.	NV0004021	120	6,466.00	2.36
Starr City Properties	NV0000252	285	8,071.61	2.94
Tonopah Public Utilities	NV0000237	2853	12,123.94	4.42
Manuals and Plans		2000	87,400.77	31.89%
Baker Water and Sewer GID	NV0000863	85	9,009.46	3.29
Blue Diamond Water Co op Inc.	NV0000003	85	7,895.24	2.88
Camp Lady of the Snows	NV0000532	60	4,707.00	1.72
····		25		
Gas Store West	NV0002587		6,960.46	2.54
Gerlach GID	NV0000071	180	4,184.00	1.53
Gold Country Estates	NV0003079	958	6,992.55	2.55
Imlay Water System	NV0000226	178	0.00	0.00
Imlay Water System	NV0000226	200	9,866.25	3.60
Luna Vista	NV0000140	66	4,707.00	1.72
Roark Estates Water Assoc	NV0000319	62	4,360.10	1.59
Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc	NV0005028	240	4,184.00	1.53
Silver Knolls Mutual Water Co.	NV0004021	120	6,741.30	2.46
Speed Vegas	NV0004108	1030	3,361.60	1.23
Storey County Water District	NV0000240	0	0.00	0.00
Sunrise Acres Water Association	NV0000124	231	6,171.40	2.25
Topaz Range GID and Water Co.	NV0000239	800	2,091.28	0.76
TRI General Improvement District	NV0000913	0	6,169.13	2.25
Budgeting and Rate Setting			36,525.41	13.33%
Baker Water and Sewer GID	NV0000863	85	5,660.55	2.07
Blue Diamond Water Co op Inc.	NV0000092	85	14,127.62	5.15
McGill Water and Sewer District	NV0000163	1200	6,849.24	2.50
Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc	NV0005028	250	7,416.00	2.71
Spirit Mountain Utility	NV0000221	375	2,472.00	0.90
ead and Copper Inventory			18,677.32	6.81%
Alamo Sewer and Water GID	NV0000005	900	10,376.31	3.79
Dayton Valley Water System	NV0000032	10000	1,329.46	0.49
Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	Tribal	300	1,344.40	0.49
Hawthorne Utilities	NV0000073	3120	5,552.45	2.03
Mina Luning Water System	NV0000074	158	74.70	0.03
PWS Compliance		1	14,279.25	5.21%
Palm Garden Water Co Op	NV0000819	42	247.20	0.09
Rosemount Water Co	NV0000819	54		
		25	3,083.64	1.13 0.79
Stagecoach Market	NV0004040		2,160.78	
Sullivans Pub	NV0000829	25 25	2,472.00	0.90° 2.10°
Turn 3 RV Park and Store	NV0003072		5,742.39	

Project and Other Funding Outreach			12,427.46	4.53%
Amargosa Elementary School	NV0002190	0	573.24	0.21%
Gerlach GID	NV0000071	180	1,569.00	0.57%
Golconda GID	NV0005029	60	2,417.49	0.88%
Gold Country Estates	NV0003079	1695	429.93	0.16%
Indian Springs Water Co Inc	NV0000082	900	1,030.35	0.38%
Jackpot Water System	NV0000088	1240	4,325.25	1.58%
Paradise Valley Elementary	NV0002186	35	104.60	0.04%
Shoshone Estates Water Co Inc	NV0005028	240	1,977.60	0.72%
Management and Operations			6,088.86	2.22%
Amargosa Water Company	NV0002558	54	4,184.00	1.53%
Palm Garden Water Co Op	NV0000819	42	988.80	0.36%
Steamboat Springs Waterworks Inc	NV0000282	998	916.06	0.33%
Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 Assessment			2,064.84	0.75%
Nevada Livestock Marketing	NV0002014	25	2,064.84	0.75%
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Training			963.75	0.35%
Hillcrest Manor Water Users Association	NV0000145	450	963.75	0.35%
Board, Clerical, and Office Staff Training			941.40	0.34%
Palm Garden Water Co Op	NV0000819	42	941.40	0.34%
Grand Total			274,079.22	100.00%

## **Nevada Rural Water Association Annual Conference March 2024**

Technical Assistance	Number of Individuals Receiving Assistance	Sum of Expenditures
<b>Conference Scholarships</b>	56	\$39,627.72

# **Rural Community Assistance Corporation Trainings SFY 2024**

RCAC Technical Assistance - Training Name	Advertised Start Time	Attendees	City	Contact Hours	Contact Hours Awarded
Operator Math 101; Conversions (Nevada) 090523-10	9/5/2023 10:00	13	Online	2	26
Operator Math 102; Area and Volume (Nevada) 090523-1	9/5/2023 13:00	14	Online	2	28
Operator Math 201; Applied Problems (Nevada) 090623-10	9/6/2023 10:00	16	Online	2	32
Operator Math 301; Advanced Math Problems (Nevada) 090623-1	9/6/2023 13:00	10	Online	2	20
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 091823-10	9/18/2023 10:00	25	Online	2	50
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 091823-1	9/18/2023 13:00	25	Online	2	50
Cross Connection Control 092123	9/21/2023 8:30	17	Carson City	6	102
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 092523-10	9/25/2023 10:00	24	Online	2	48
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 092523-1	9/25/2023 13:00	14	Online	2	28
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 092623-10	9/26/2023 10:00	16	Online	2	32
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 092623-1	9/26/2023 13:00	19	Online	2	38
Water Conservation and Drought Contingency 103123	10/31/2023 8:30	2	Winnemucca	6	12
Lead Service Line Inventory 110223	11/2/2023 8:30	17	Silver Springs	6	102
Lead Service Line Inventory (Nevada) 110223-8	11/2/2023 8:30	20	Online	6	120
Cyber Security for Small Water Systems (Nevada) 110723-10	11/7/2023 10:00	11	Online	2	22
Operator Safety (Nevada) 111523-10	11/15/2023 10:00	20	Online	2	40
Water System Leak Repair (Nevada) 121223-10	12/12/2023 10:00	39	Online	2	78
What you Need to Know About Cyanotoxins (Nevada) 121423-10	12/14/2023 10:00	15	Online	2	30
Small Systems Operations and Maintenance 012324	1/23/2024 8:30	10	Eureka	6	60

RCAC Technical Assistance - Training Name	Advertised Start Time	Attendees	City	Contact Hours	Contact Hours Awarded
				_	
Operator Math 101; Conversions (Nevada) 021424-10	2/14/2024 10:00	53	Online	2	106
Operator Math 102; Area and Volume (Nevada) 021424-1	2/14/2024 13:00		Online	2	82
Operator Math 201; Applied Problems (Nevada) 022124-10	2/21/2024 10:00	44	Online	2	88
Operator Math 301; Advanced Math Problems (Nevada) 022124-1	2/21/2024 13:00	36	Online	2	72
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 022224-10	2/22/2024 10:00	70	Online	2	140
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 022224-1	2/22/2024 13:00	52	Online	2	104
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 022924-10	2/29/2024 10:00	66	Online	2	132
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 022924-1	2/29/2024 13:00	44	Online	2	88
Distribution and Treatment 3 and 4 Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 2 030524	3/5/2024 8:30	13	Henderson	6	78
Distribution and Treatment 3 and 4 Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 2 (Nevada) 030524-8	3/5/2024 8:30	32	Online	6	192
Distribution and Treatment 3 and 4 Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 2 030624	3/6/2024 8:30	13	Henderson	6	78
Distribution and Treatment 3 and 4 Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 2 (Nevada) 030624-8	3/6/2024 8:30	32	Online	6	192
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 030724-10	3/7/2024 10:00	56	Online	2	112
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 030724-1	3/7/2024 13:00	26	Online	2	52
Lead Service Line Inventory (Nevada Hybrid) 031924-9	3/19/2024 9:00	3	Pahrump	6	18
Lead Service Line Inventory 032624	3/26/2024 9:00	14	Ely	6	84
Asset Management Planning 050724	5/7/2024 8:30	9	Battle Mountain	6	54
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 052224-10	5/22/2024 10:00	63	Online	2	126
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 1 of 3 (Nevada) 052224-1	5/22/2024 13:00	36	Online	2	72
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 052924-10	5/29/2024 10:00	46	Online	2	92
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 2 of 3 (Nevada) 052924-1	5/29/2024 13:00	32	Online	2	64
Operator Math 101; Conversions (Nevada) 053024-10	5/30/2024 10:00	31	Online	2	62
Operator Math 102; Area and Volume (Nevada) 053024-1	5/30/2024 13:00	25	Online	2	50
Distribution Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 060524-10	6/5/2024 10:00	49	Online	2	98
Treatment Operator Exam Prep Series Part 3 of 3 (Nevada) 060524-1	6/5/2024 13:00	28	Online	2	56
Operator Math 201; Applied Problems (Nevada) 060624-10	6/6/2024 10:00	29	Online	2	58
Operator Math 301; Advanced Math Problems (Nevada) 060624-1	6/6/2024 13:00	20	Online	2	40
Lead Service Line Inventory (Nevada Hybrid) 061824-8	6/18/2024 8:00	34	Fallon	6	204
Totals		1324	48		3512

# ATTACHMENT 5: Vulnerability Assessment and Monitoring Waiver Form

#### STATE OF NEVADA



Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Steve Spolak, Coresino Riadler Crowell, Gree Or Ping, cyato, Aphilotytatio

# BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER WAIVER APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM "B"

PWS NAME	
PWS ID #	
PWS SOURCE ID*	
*Complete a form for each source	
□ IOC II □ IOC V □ CYANIDE □ SOC II & V □ DIOXIN	☐ ASBESTOS
_ recipie to the criminal a secure the brown	_ 110000100
Have there been any major changes to your water distribution system?	☐ YES
(If yes, please elaborate in the space provided below.)	□ NO
Has there been any new construction, development, or zoning changes within a 3000-	☐ YES
foot radius of your well in the past 3 years? (If yes, please elaborate in the space	□ NO
provided below.)	
Have there been any activities or occurrences (chemical spills, floods, improper storage	
of chemicals, etc.) in the past 3 years that may have potentially increased the possibility	
of contamination to the aquifer supplying your source water within a 3000-foot radius?	
(If yes, please elaborate in the space provided below.)	
The state of the s	
For any questions contact Rheanna Morgan at: (775) 687–9448 or rmorgan@ndep.nv.go	ov
I hereby affirm the above information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my k	nowledge.
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Print Name Title	
C!t	Dete
Signature	Date