



## Item 9.c

Action Item: Consideration and Recommendation to Amend the Domestic Well Mitigation Program



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# Madera Dry Well Program Update

## Applicant Intake

(January 1<sup>st</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026)

15 inquires via dedicated phone line/website

Initial Screening

7 Do Not Qualify

3 Passed Initial Screening (program rules)

5 Pending

Well Assessments (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of Month)

2 Completed



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# Madera Dry Well Program Update

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – mailing to 90% of Homes in Service Area with Domestic Wells



Madera County Water & Natural Resources  
200 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Madera, CA 93637

## CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY

Scan the QR Code  
for Program Details  
and Application



1

Must be a landowner with a domestic well located within the MCGSA boundaries.

2

Property must have a domestic well that went dry after 1/1/2026 or is on the Self-Help Enterprises interim water assistance list.

3

Property owner must have owned property for a minimum of one year.

4

Dwelling unit must be considered "habitable."



## Support for replacing dry or subsidence-damaged domestic wells within the Madera County GSA boundaries

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency 's (MCGSA) Dry Well Program (Program) provides financial assistance to eligible landowners impacted by declining groundwater levels in the Madera Subbasin, within the MCGSA. This Program helps fund (up to \$35,000) the drilling of new domestic well or connection to an existing community water system to replace those that have gone dry or been damaged by subsidence.



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# Madera Dry Well Program Update

Website: [maderadrywell.com](http://maderadrywell.com)

MADERA COUNTY GSA  
DRY WELL PROGRAM

Home Program Details Resources APPLICATION EN ES

## Madera County GSA Dry Well Program

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (MCGSA) Dry Well Program (Program) provides financial assistance to landowners impacted by declining groundwater levels in the Madera Subbasin, within the MCGSA boundaries. This Program helps fund (up to \$35,000) the drilling of new domestic well or connection to an existing community water system to replace those that have gone dry or been damaged by subsidence.

PROGRAM DETAILS APPLY TODAY

### Program Eligibility

Here is a summary of eligibility requirements needed to participate:

- Must be a landowner with a domestic well located within the MCGSA boundaries.**
- Property must have a domestic well that went dry after 1/1/2026 or is on the Self-Help Enterprises interim water assistance list (with a dry domestic well due to declining groundwater levels that occurred after the 1/1/2020 cutoff).**



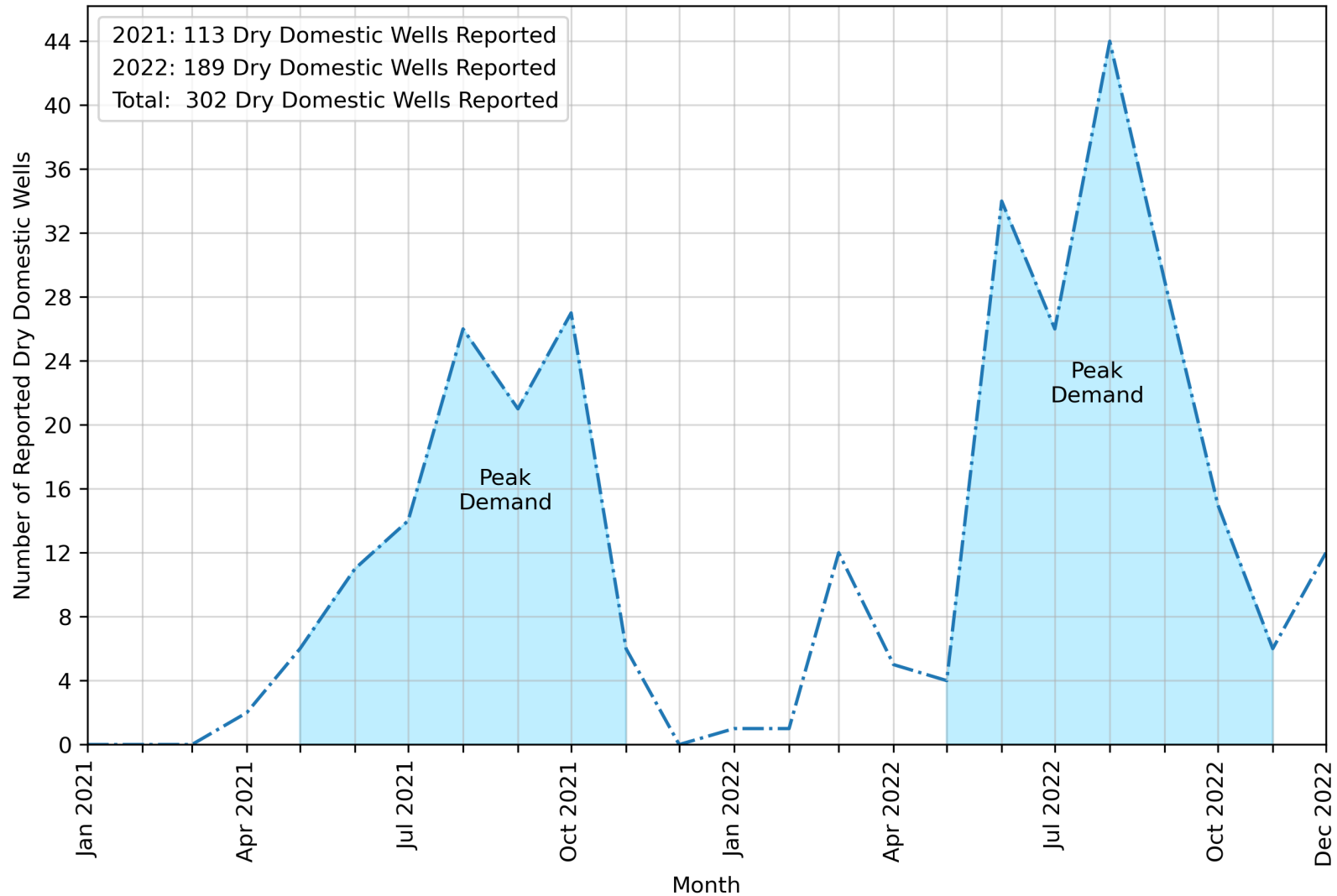
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# Madera Dry Well Demand

Number of Dry Domestic Wells Reported to Department of Water Resources for the Madera Subbasin 2021 (C) - 2022 (C)



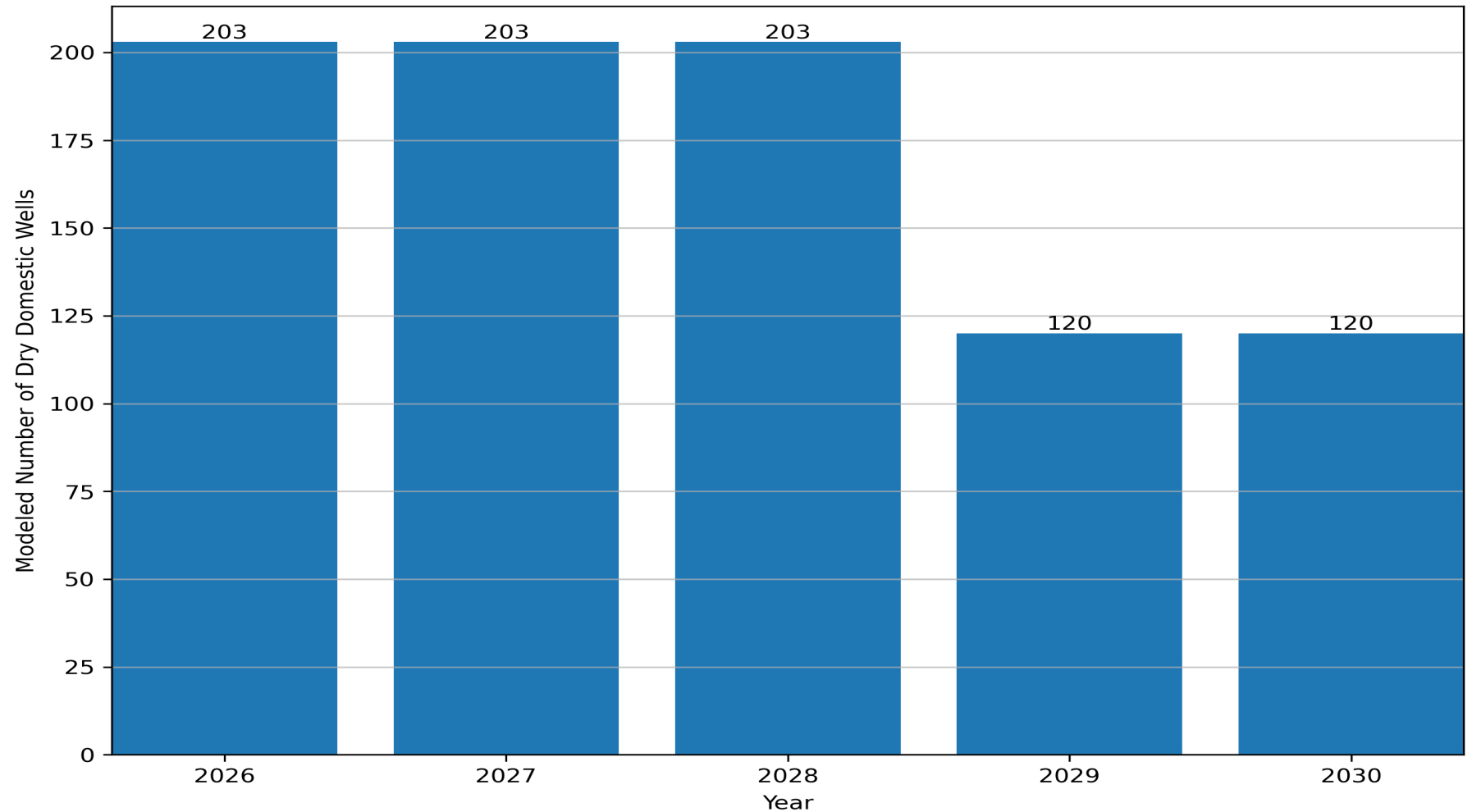
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# Madera Dry Well Demand

Modeled Number of Dry Domestic Wells in the Madera Subbasin (2023-2032)  
Raftelis Rate Study 2025



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# Madera Dry Well Demand

## Program Requirement

The program requires three quotes for well drilling projects  
Ensures fair pricing and responsible use of public funds.

## Industry Response

One driller has indicated they plan to expand operations to meet program demand.

Additional capacity is expected as the program continues to grow.



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# Madera Dry Well Program Revisions

## Process Oversight

- Initial Screening  
Compliance with Program Rules
- Well Inspection  
Failed Well due to Declining Groundwater and/or  
Subsidence
- Funding Determination – Well Driller Quote  
Eligible Reasonable Costs (Landowner Agreement)



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# Madera Dry Well Program Revisions

Authorized	Unauthorized
Well drilling and installation of casing and sanitary seals	Lowering pump, deepening, or modifying an existing well in lieu of replacement
Installation of a submersible pump (new or existing, if in good working order)	Installation of a well with capacity exceeding that necessary for domestic household use (“oversized well”)
Electrical wiring, conduit, and pump control components necessary to operate the domestic well	Storage tanks not necessary for basic domestic service
Pitless adapter and wellhead fittings	Electrical upgrades beyond those required to operate the domestic well
Pressure tank and pressure switch necessary to regulate household water pressure	Water lines or plumbing systems serving non-residential structures (e.g., barns, shops, or agricultural uses)
Trenching and installation of the water service line connecting the well to the residence	Backup, standby, or redundant water supply systems
Basic plumbing connections, valves, and appurtenances necessary to deliver water into the home	Irrigation, landscaping, or other non-domestic water system components (including sprinkler system connections)
Well completion activities, including system testing, startup, and disinfection	Landscaping, site improvements, or aesthetic enhancements (e.g. decorative enclosures, concrete pads beyond functional necessity, fencing for non-operational purposes) around the well site
Other reasonable and necessary components required to establish a functional domestic water supply system for the residence (e.g., minor fittings, connectors, or appurtenances integral to system operation)	Any costs, components, or improvements that are not directly and solely necessary to restore basic domestic water service to the residence (e.g., system upgrades for increased capacity, convenience features, or non-essential improvements)



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Recommended Action: Approve amended resolution updating eligible mitigation costs for the Domestic Well Mitigation Program.



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