

NEVADA DIVISION OF  
**WATER RESOURCES**



Nevada Department of  
**CONSERVATION &  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

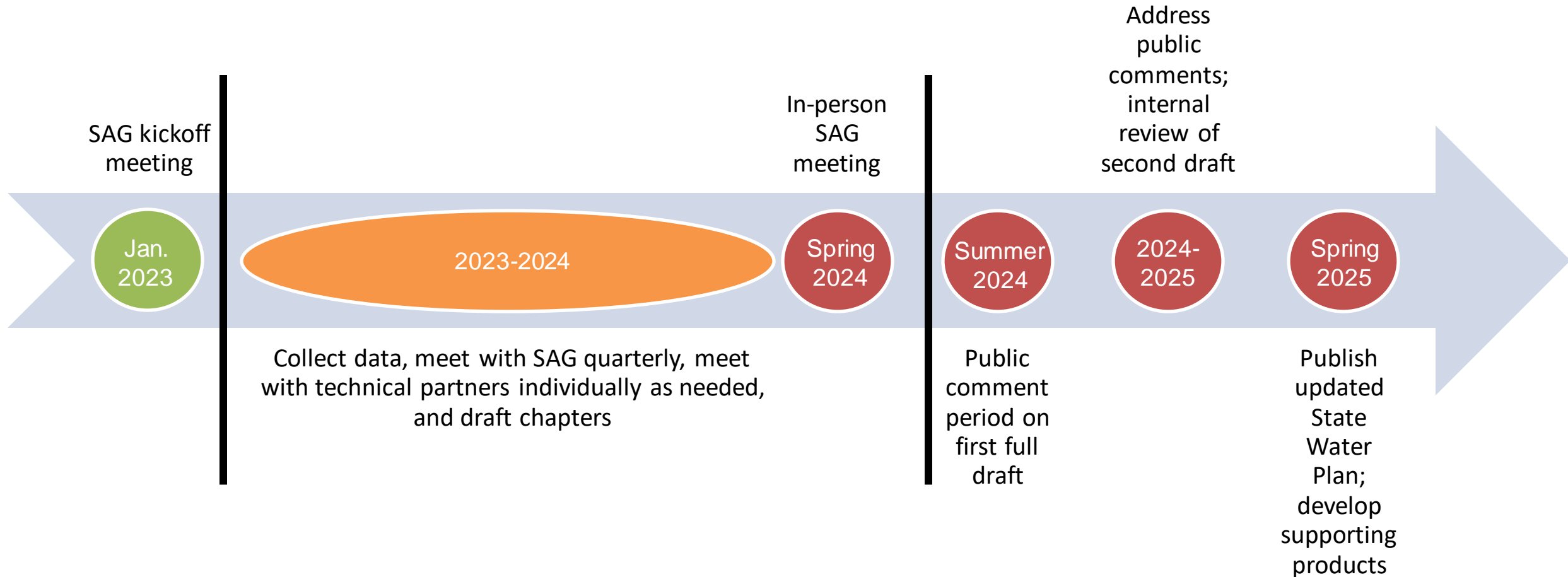
# Nevada State Water Plan: Progress Update

Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting  
September 11, 2023

Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR)  
Water Planning and Drought Resiliency  
Section (WP&DR)

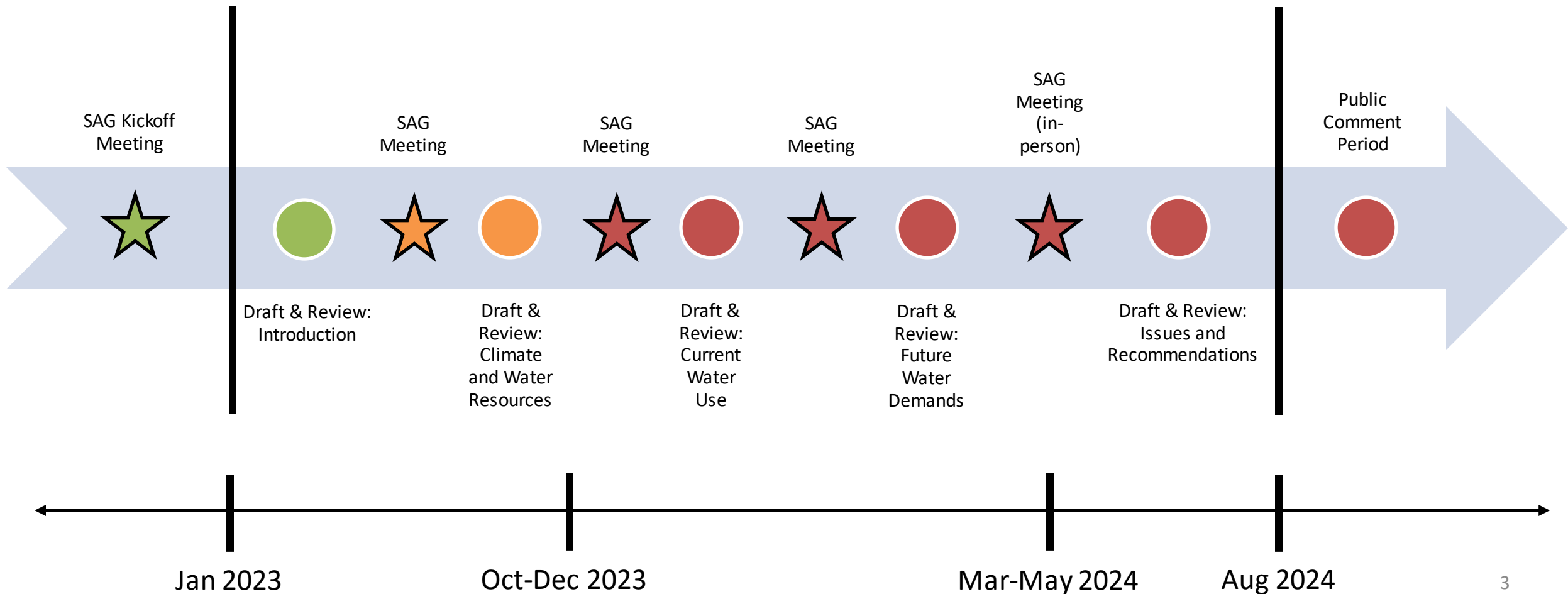
# Nevada State Water Plan

## [Tentative] Timeline



# Nevada State Water Plan

## Progress Update





# Nevada State Water Plan

## Introduction

---



- Thanks to everyone who submitted comments!
- All comments were addressed, and most suggestions were accepted
- Water Planning staff reconciling changes & finalizing section
- Additional opportunity to comment on intro when full draft is released for public comment

# Nevada State Water Plan

## Introduction

---

**Comment: Will the State Water Plan set new policies or provide recommendations? Will recommendations be guidance or mandates?**

- The State Water Plan **will provide recommendations**
- The State Water Plan **will not (and cannot) mandate actions**
- However, some recommendations may ultimately influence policy and/or require policy changes to be implemented

**Comment: Will the State Water Plan address water quality issues?**

- The State Water Plan will **mention the importance of simultaneously considering water quantity and quality**
- However, **water quality management is outside the scope of DWR's authority** and will not be a major focus

# Nevada State Water Plan

## Climate & Water Resources

---

- Climate section is being reviewed internally before being sent to an external reviewer (DRI)
  - Topics: “average” Nevada climate, projected changes in climate, potential climate impacts to water resources
- Water resources section being finalized internally
  - Focused on groundwater and surface water availability
- Goal: Send this section to the SAG in Oct./Nov. to review before the next SAG meeting (likely early Dec.)



## NEXT STEPS

---

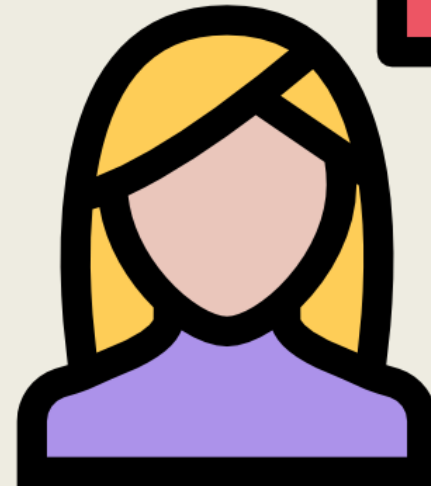
- Estimate current statewide water use
- Outline potential future statewide water demands
- Collaboratively discuss water resource challenges and develop recommendations for improving water management
- **The goal is to have the first full draft ready for public comment in Summer 2024**

# QUESTIONS?

Lauren Bartels, Water Resource Specialist  
Water Planning and Drought Resiliency Section  
Nevada Division of Water Resources

Phone: 775-684-2828

Email: [lbartels@water.nv.gov](mailto:lbartels@water.nv.gov)





# WATER USE DATA SOURCES

## NDWR Publications: Groundwater

### 1. Pumpage and crop inventory reports

- 86 basins annually, 15 track IRR only

### 2. 2017 Statewide Pumpage Report

### 3. Next Statewide Pumpage Report

- Work will start early 2024
- Likely a 6 month process
- Incorporates data from the 2020 or 2021 annual reports

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

ADAM SULLIVAN, P.E.  
ACTING STATE ENGINEER

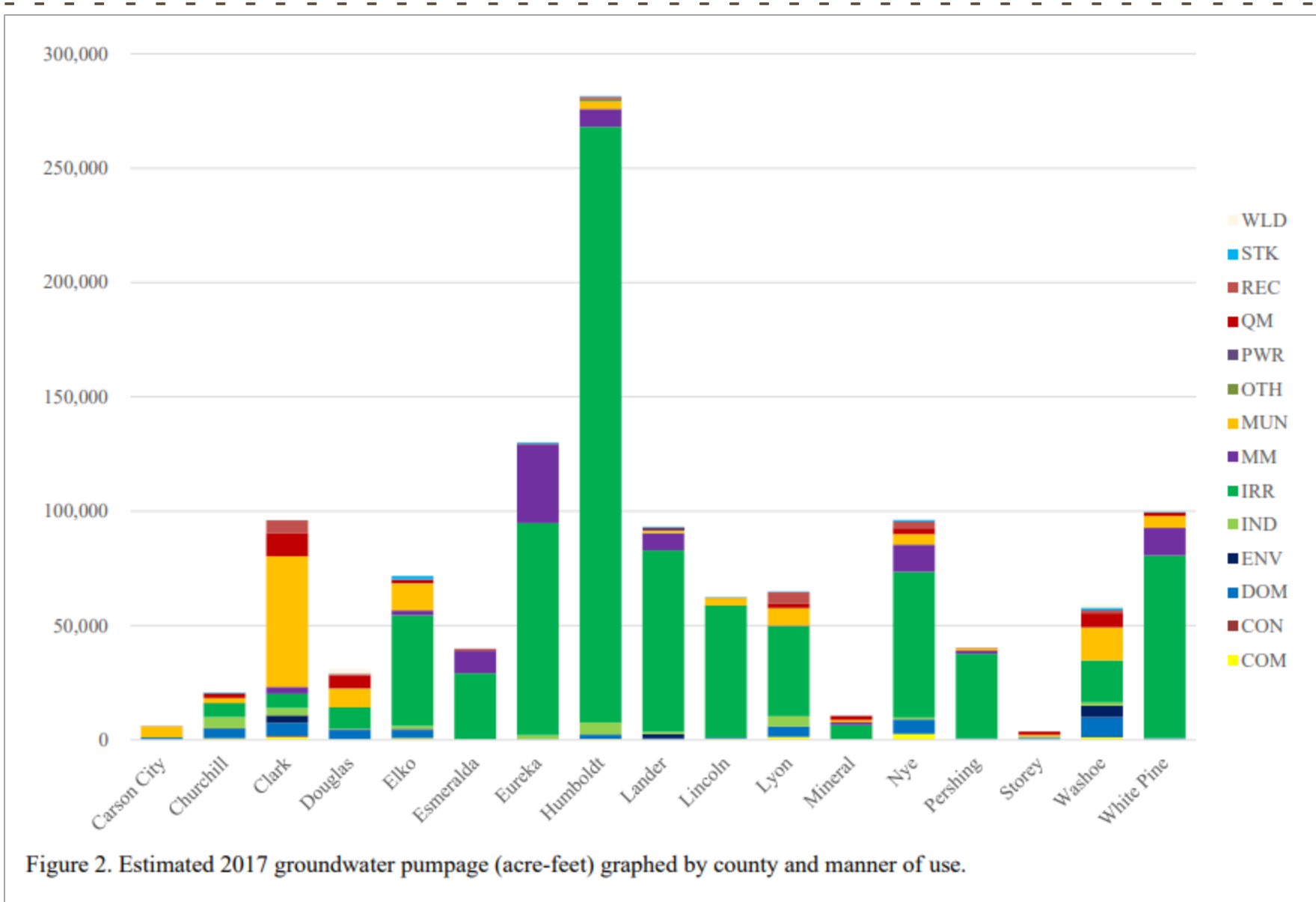


STATEWIDE GROUNDWATER PUMPAGE INVENTORY

CALENDAR YEAR 2017

January 27, 2021

# WATER USE DATA SOURCES: 2017 PUMPAGE



**1.2 million acre-foot pumped in 2017**

(PY 1.9 million acre-feet)

[Web App](#)

Data by basin and county

# WATER USE DATA SOURCES

---

## Estimation Methods:

- Meter readings
- Crop-based calculations
- Field investigations
- Full duty if no other information available



# WATER USE DATA SOURCES

## USGS Publications

- **2015 Water Use Report**
  - Includes surface water estimates—methods unclear
- **No timeline for next report (2020 data)**

State	Population (thousands)	Withdrawals (million gallons per day)					
		By source and type					
		Groundwater			Surface water		
		Fresh	Saline	Total	Fresh	Saline	Total
Nevada .....	2,890	1,360	82.2	1,440	1,520	0	1,520
				<b>1.6 million</b>			<b>1.7 million</b>
				acre-feet			acre-feet
				per year			per year



# WATER USE DATA SOURCES

---

## Surface Water Use

- Fully appropriated
- Limited use reporting
- Availability varies year to year

## Possible Data Sources

- Municipal water suppliers' records
- Irrigation districts' records

NDWR estimates 4-5 million acre-feet  
of surface water used annually



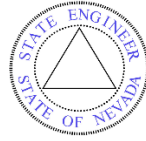
## WATER USE DATA DISCUSSION

---

- 1) Are there any data sources we missed?
- 2) What water use data are most important for your planning purposes? How do you envision using the data in this section?

- 3) How do you feel about using NDWR's 2017 pumpage data vs. 2020 or 2021 data?
- 4) Are there any aspects of surface water use data that you would find useful?





NEVADA DIVISION OF  
**WATER RESOURCES**



Nevada Department of  
**CONSERVATION &  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

# FUTURE STATE WATER PLAN ACTIVITIES

State Water Plan (SWP) Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)  
Meeting  
September 11, 2023

**Presented by:**

Bunny Bishop

Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR)  
Chief, Water Planning and Drought Resiliency Section



# OVERVIEW

---

## **Future State Water Plan Activities**

- **Fieldwork - Tours and Site Visits**
- **Spring In-person SAG Workshop**
- **Next SAG Tasks and Meeting**



# FIELDWORK

---

## Fieldwork - Tours and Site Visits

- **Region: Southern NV**
  - **Scheduled for week of September 25, 2023**
- **Region: Central/Eastern NV**
  - **Trip #1 - Tentatively planned for October**
  - **Trip #2 - Spring 2024**
- **Region: Northwestern NV**
  - **Local Trips**



# SPRING SAG WORKSHOP

---



# NEXT SAG TASKS AND MEETING

---

- **Review of Climate and Water Resources Chapter**
- **Next meeting in December 2023**  
Topics:
  - **Water demand projections**
  - **Overview of Comments on Climate and Water Resources Chapter**







# Questions?

## Contact

---

Bunny Bishop

Chief, Water Planning and Drought Resiliency Section

Nevada Division of Water Resources

Phone: 775-684-2834

Email: [bbishop@water.nv.gov](mailto:bbishop@water.nv.gov)