

# ACHIEVING WATER JUSTICE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

**Panelists:** Amanda Monaco Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

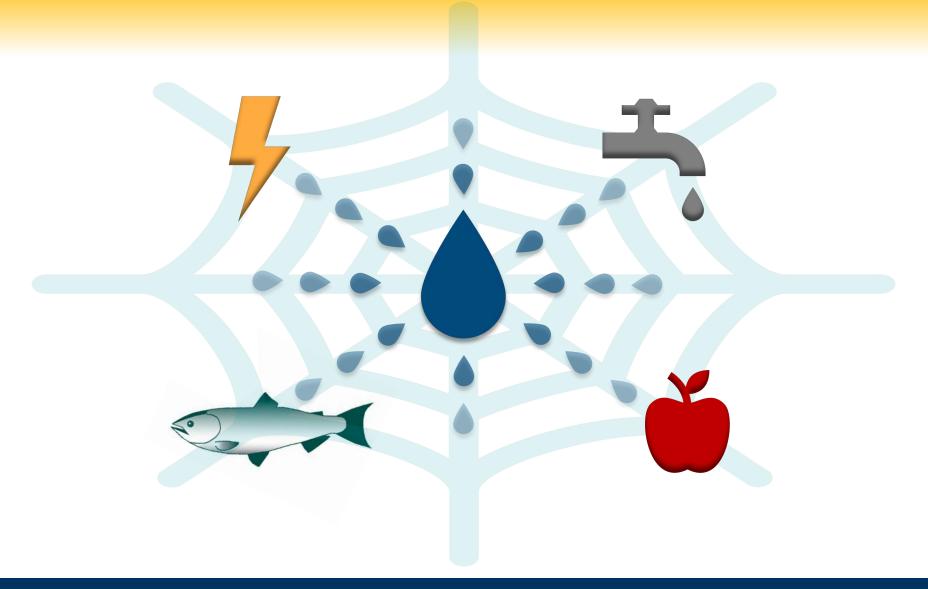
Kristin Dobbin UC Davis

Max Gomberg State Water Resources Control Board

Vicky Espinoza UC Merced

Moderator: Nell Green Nylen Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) at Berkeley Law







# California's Human Right to Water Statute

#### CALIFORNIA WATER CODE § 106.3 (added by AB 685, 2012)

- a) It is hereby declared to be the established policy of the state that <u>every human</u> <u>being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate</u> <u>for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.</u>
- b) All relevant state agencies...shall consider this state policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, and grant criteria when the state policies, regulations, and criteria are pertinent to the uses of water described in this section.
- This section does not ex require the expenditure beyond the obligations t
- obligation of the state to provide water or to anal resources to delop water infrastructure exist pursuant to subdivision (b).

lopment.

- d) This section shall not ap
- e) The implementation of this section shall contringe on the rights or responsibilities of any public water system.

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& the Environment

## **Panelists**

#### **Amanda Monaco**

Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

#### **Kristin Dobbin**

**UC** Davis

### **Max Gomberg**

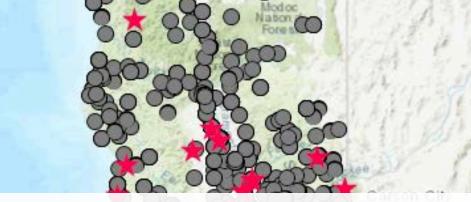
State Water Resources Control Board

## **Vicky Espinoza**

**UC** Merced









This is an underestimate. Does not include:

- → Chrome-6, bacterial violations
- → Unsafe but unregulated contaminants
- → Violations of monitoring data not being reported, such that actual exceedance/compliance status is unknown at this time.
- → An exceedance of federal or state drinking water standard for which no enforcement action has been taken.
- → ~2 million residents reliant on unregulated water systems

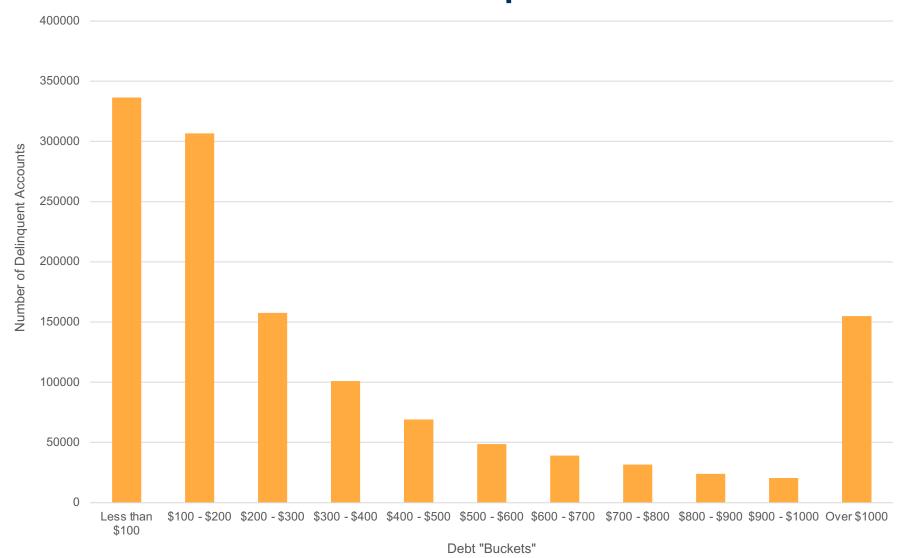


2,778 homes have reported water outages statewide

We want a Fair H2O Ra

Water affordability is a growing crisis throughout the state made significantly worse by COVID-19

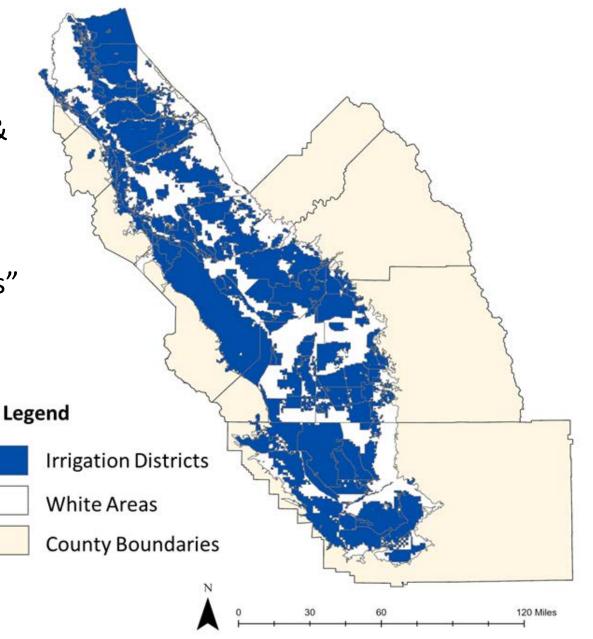
## **Distribution of Delinquent Accounts**



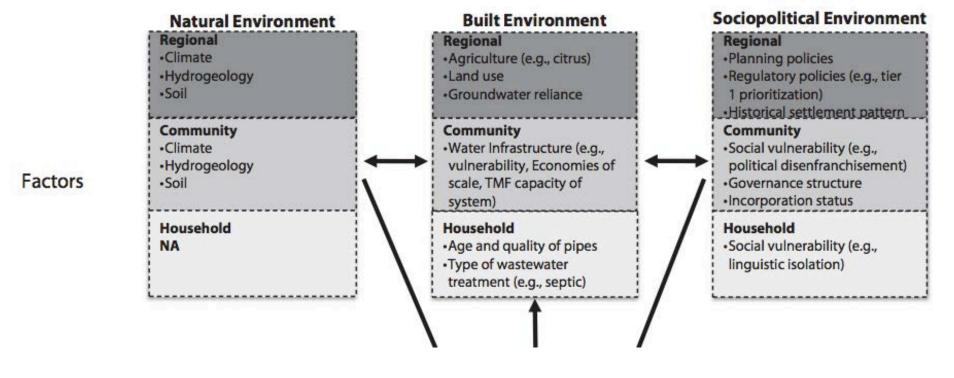
## Zip Code Debt per Delinquent Household: Predominantly Non-White Zip Codes

|                                                                   | Non-<br>Hispanic<br>White | Hispanic | Black    | Asian    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total Debt per<br>Delinquent<br>Household                         | \$380.86                  | \$377.76 | \$485.52 | \$249.27 |
| Disadvantaged<br>Community<br>Debt per<br>Delinquent<br>Household | \$292.12                  | \$386.57 | \$496.99 | \$234.75 |

Regions that are groundwater reliant & lack surface water allocations to meet water demands are known as "white areas" (unrepresented areas)



# **Drinking Water Disparities Framework**



Balazs, C. L., & Ray, I. (2014). The drinking water disparities framework: on the origins and persistence of inequities in exposure. *American Journal of Public Health*, *104*(4), 603-611.

## CaliWaterAg YouTube

Bilingual channel (soon to be trilingual) for fostering a better understanding of SGMA among underrepresented communities and farmers





- English series: <u>www.tinyurl.com/caliwateragseries</u>
- Spanish series: <a href="www.tinyurl.com/caliwateragespanol">www.tinyurl.com/caliwateragespanol</a>
- Hmong series: Coming soon! Stay tuned!