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Innovations In Mapping and Achieving Water Justice In Disadvantaged Communities

# The flow of the session

- Who are we and what brings us here?
- Water justice stories
- Mapping water justice in the San Joaquin Valley
- Public policy and advocacy around water justice
- Dialogue: how can we work for water justice in our own communities?

#### Water Justice: What does it mean to you?

- Share a story from your home town, current home, work world about challenges in access to safe, affordable and abundant drinking water in your community/ region/ work.
  - What is the problem?
  - How do you know it is a problem?
  - What are you/ others doing to address it?
  - What is working/ what is not working?

#### Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs)

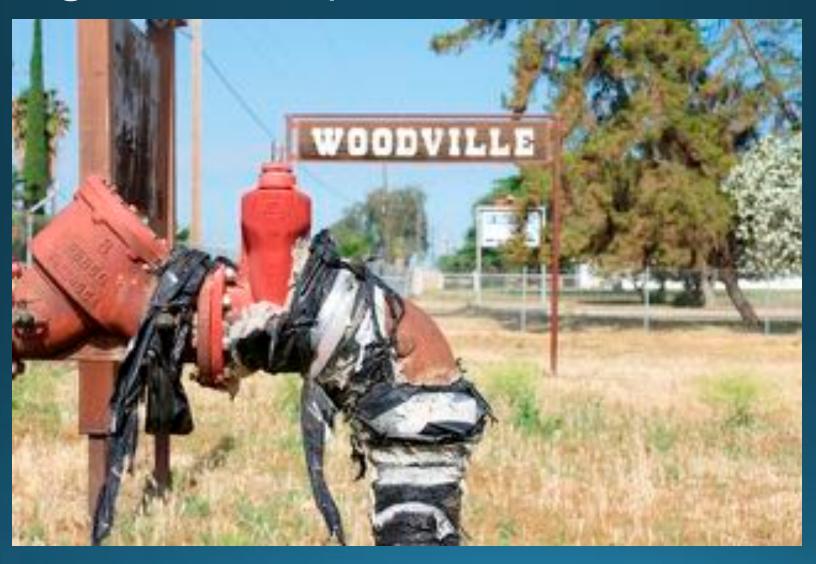
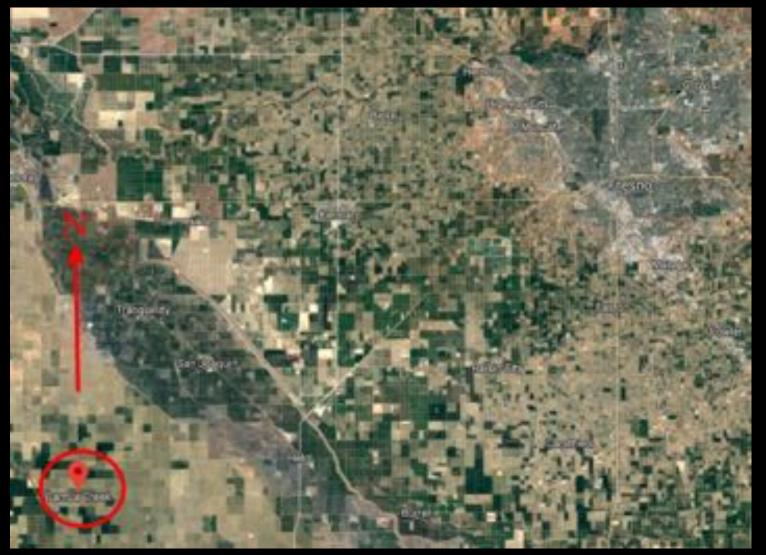


Photo: Tara Lohan

https://www.newsdeeply.com/water/articles/2017/07/05/systemic-failure-why-1-million-californians-lack-safe-drinking-water



### **Cantua Creek**





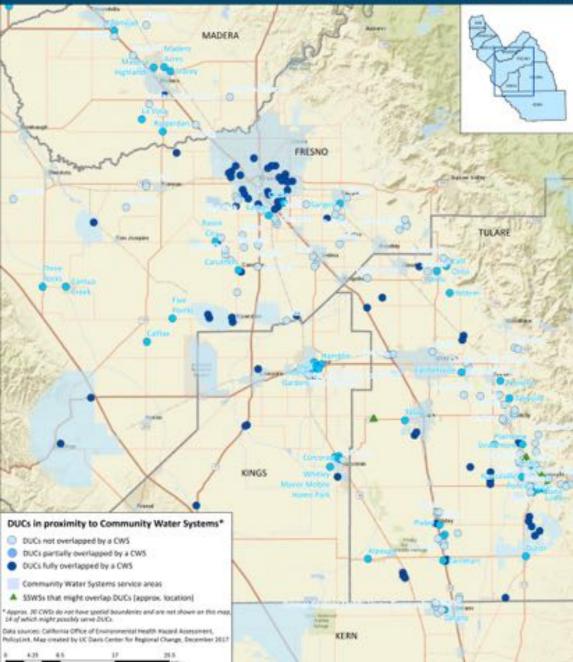


## **Tombstone Territory**





Map 1b. DUCs and Access to Community Water Systems | Central San Joaquin Valley, California



#### Access to Drinking Water Systems is Inequitable

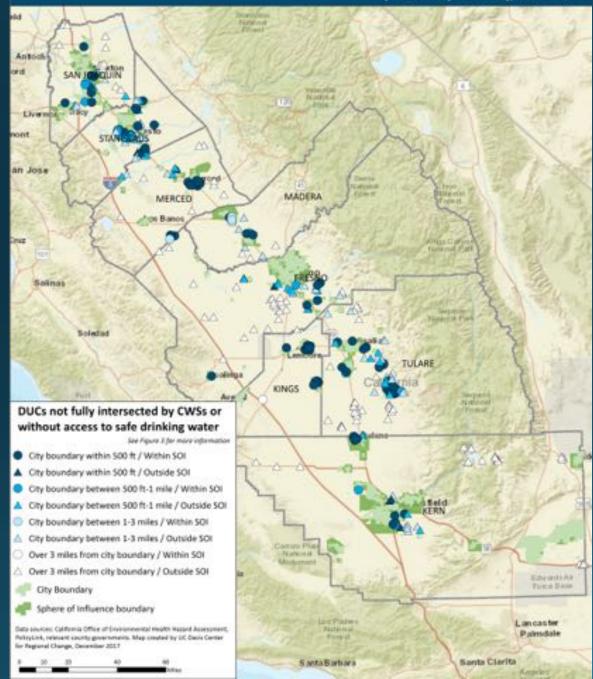
One third of all DUC residents live in an area not fully serviced by a Public Water System

30,000 residents on private (unregulated and often untreated) wells Map 3. DUCs Within or Intersected by Out-Of-Compliance Community Water Systems | San Joaquin Valley, California



#### Access to Safe Drinking Water is Inequitable

Over 64,000 people spread across the San Joaquin Valley may be exposed to unsafe drinking water Map 4.1. Proximity of DUCs to Incorporated City Boundaries | San Joaquin Valley, California



# Safe Water is Close at Hand

66% of DUC residents live in extremely close proximity to a system that does or could provide safe water with proper investments

## Connecting DUCs to Safe Water Supplies

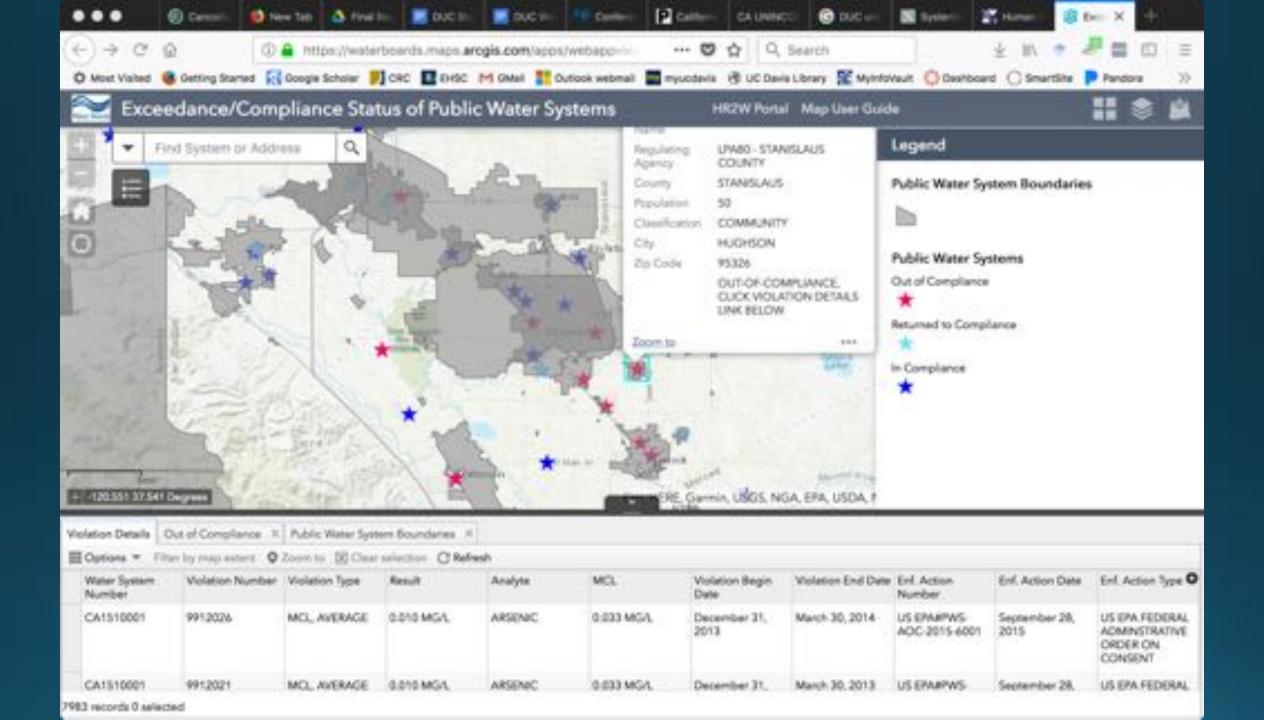
Community Maps | Hanford Area DUCs, Kings County, California

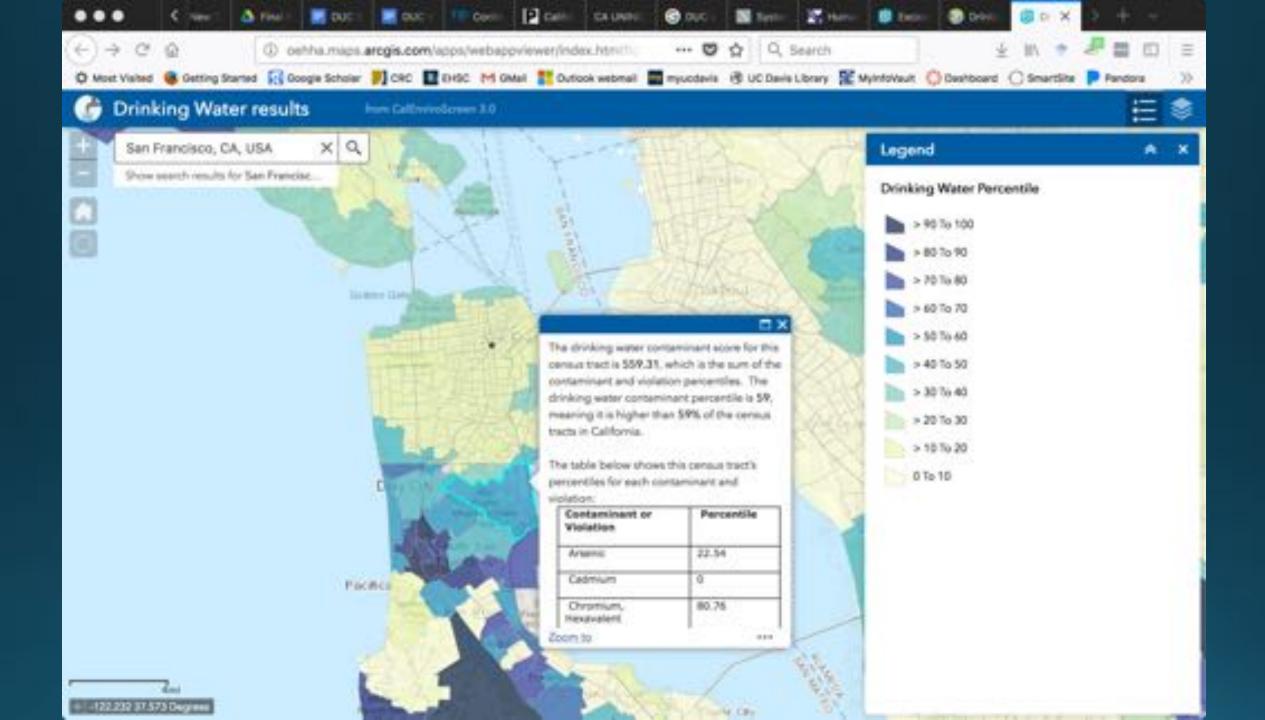
HANFORD, CITY OF (PWSID: 1610003) WEI Alla Terrace Apartments Gran gaville Bivel W Grangeville Blird Ritchie House LACEY COURTS MHP FOUR SEASONS MOBILE HOME (PWSID: 1600010) ARMONA COMMUNITY SERVICES PARK (PWSID: 1600004) DIST (PWSID: 1610001) Locary Rd Hanford Shell DUC 1110 nar Armon Bel Air Mobile Home Park DUC Ave HOME GARDEN CSD (PWSID: 1610007) OD DUC State Smalls (general area) **CWS** service areas **Distance: DUC to CWS** (as of 11/2017) (from highlighted DUC) In Compliance --- Under 1 mile **Returned to Compliance** 1-3 miles Out of Compliance ---- Over 3 miles Data sources: CA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, CA State Water Resources Control Board. PolicyLink, Map created by UC Davis Center for Regional Change, January 2018 0.5 Miles

## Recommendations

 Funding for existing water systems and new connections for DUCs

- Enforcement of existing laws on consolidation and annexation
- Improved and coordinated data systems
- Expansion of study (statewide, waste water, cost, private wells, small systems)





## Flowing Forward

How can <u>you get involved</u> in addressing needs of disadvantaged communities in your areas?
What tools do you need?
What policy mechanisms?
How build coalitions for change?