Within the State of California, Underrepresented Communities face multiple challenges regarding access to clean, affordable, and sustainable groundwater and water resources. Underrepresented Communities are disproportionately impacted by water supply and water quality challenges, such as overdraft in basins and contamination, that is either anthropogenic (created by human activities) or naturally occurring. Moreover, the Underrepresented Community significance of water and water bodies is not often recognized by local, state, or federal governments, which presents challenges.

**DWR is committed to open, inclusive, and regular communication with Underrepresented Communities to recognize and understand their needs and interests.**

We ensure effective communication and government-to-government consultation, creating a channel for Underrepresented Communities to provide input at all levels into the development of regulations, rules, policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may impact Underrepresented Communities.

DWR’s Prop 68 Technical Assistance program provides community outreach, engagement and technical needs, risks and vulnerability assessments for prioritized water systems within Underrepresented Communities. Once these prioritized systems undergo the needs, risks and vulnerability assessments, preliminary engineering reports will be generated to scope out funding-ready projects.