

ATTACHMENT 10 – DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

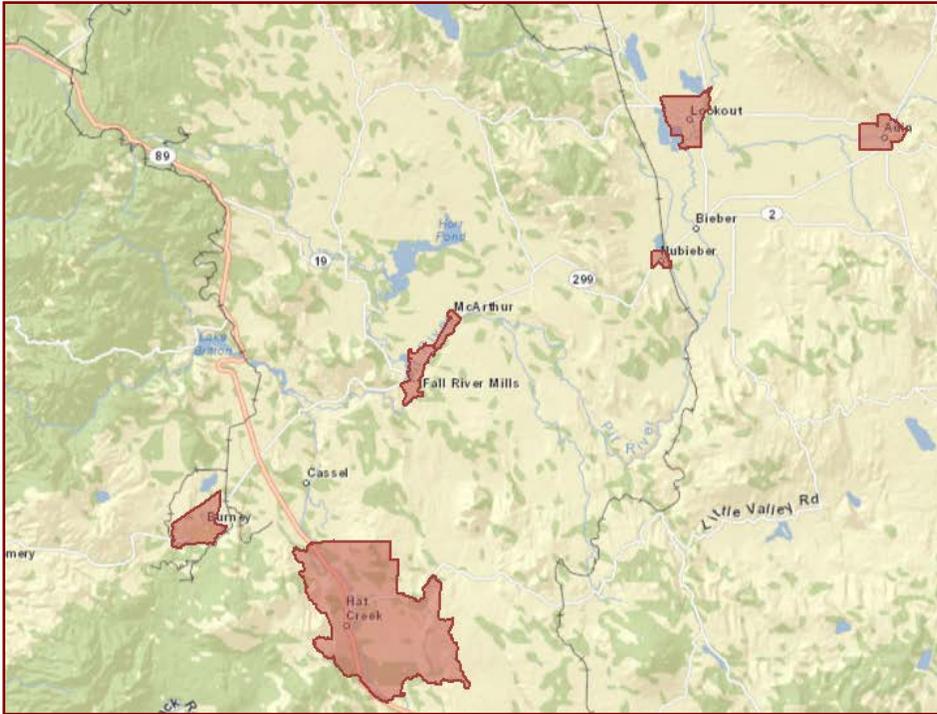
The Upper Pit IRWM Region hosts a preponderance of disadvantaged communities (DACs – those communities with a median household income (MHI) of less than 80% of the State’s annual MHI). The most recent data available is from the American Community Survey (ACS) done for the period between 2006 and 2010. The breakpoint MHI to determine DAC status for this period is \$48,706. The table below was created using the CA Department of Water Resources’ (DWR’s) DAC mapping tool to identify DACs using census places. Those in italics are considered severely disadvantaged with an MHI of less than 60% of the State’s average.

County	City Name	MHI
Shasta	Hat Creek	\$39,489.00
	Burney	\$44,632.00
	<i>McArthur</i>	<i>\$19,600.00</i>
	Old Station	\$38,000.00
	Fall River Mills	\$41,296.00
Modoc	<i>Canby</i>	<i>\$19,615.00</i>
	<i>Adin</i>	<i>\$31,500.00</i>
	<i>Alturas</i>	<i>\$32,385.00</i>
	<i>Lookout</i>	<i>\$18,036.00</i>
	<i>Likely</i>	<i>\$17,283.00</i>
Lassen	Bieber	\$61,250.00
	<i>Nubieber</i>	<i>\$28,438.00</i>

Note that Bieber is included in the table even though its’ MHI is greater than \$48,706 (highlighted). While the community of Bieber is not identified as a DAC using the census data, it is clear that the MHI data calculated for the Bieber community is skewed by the tax information filed by a small percentage of wealthy residents living outside the community in large ranches and farms. In fact, the town proper hosts a very large population of disadvantaged residents. Substantiating this finding is the fact that 70% of the students in the Big Valley Joint Unified School District are on the Free and Reduced Federal Lunch Program¹. Therefore, the Upper Pit RWMG views Bieber as a DAC and supports this project based on the needs of this disadvantaged community. This is discussed in greater detail in the project-specific descriptions, below.

The map below was taken from the DWR DAC mapping tool and is a representation of the census places identified as DACs. Note Fall River Mills as a long, narrow bar in the center, with Burney identified in the lower left-hand quadrant of the map. Bieber is not labeled as a DAC and is located in the upper right-hand quadrant of the map, between Nubieber and Lookout.

¹This is an income- and household size-based program administered by the US Department of Food and Agriculture. The 2012-2013 guidelines may be found here: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-03-23/pdf/2012-7036.pdf>.



The DAC status of the community(ies) affected by each project are identified below.

1. Joint Leak Detection & Repair

This project is for the communities of Burney, Fall River, McArthur, and Bieber, with a combined average MHI of \$41,695.

Critical Water Supply Status: this project serves the people dependent on water from Burney Water District (serving Burney), Fall River Valley CSD (serving Fall River Mills and McArthur, and Lassen County Water Works District #1 (serving Bieber). Fall River Mills, McArthur, and Bieber are all communities who have experienced **“water outages, significant water quantity problems caused by source water capacity, or water delivery capability that is insufficient to supply current demand”**, as stated in in Table 9 on page 86 of DWR’s 2012 Guidelines, State Revolving Fund priority criteria E.

Because this project also includes the repair of prioritized leaks, it also addresses the second bullet in DWR’s Table 9: **“Infrastructure renovations to a public water supply system necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum quality and quantity of water”**.

This project does address critical water supply needs of DACs through the identification and prioritization for repair of system-wide leaks and loss.

2. McArthur Tank

Serves the community of McArthur with a median Income of \$19,600.

Critical Water Supply Status: this project serves the people dependent on water from Fall River Valley CSD. McArthur has experienced “**water outages, significant water quantity problems caused by source water capacity, or water delivery capability that is insufficient to supply current demand**”, as stated in in Table 9 on page 86 of DWR’s 2012 Guidelines, State Revolving Fund (SRF) priority criteria E. Some of the experiences include inadequate pressure throughout the system and unsafe water levels for fire protection.

In addition to SRF criteria E, DWR’s second and third bullets in Table 9 are equally applicable to this project:

- **“Infrastructure renovations to a public water supply system necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum quality and quantity of water”**
 - The additional tank will double the District’s on-hand supply levels, increasing system reliability and pressure, which in turn protects water quality through the prevention of intrusion
- **“Augmentation of inadequate water supply pressure in a public water supply system needed to prevent loss of system integrity and to maintain adequate fire protection flows”**
 - The additional tank will increase pressure throughout the system, maintaining it as a constant (decreasing maintenance costs long term) as well as ensuring that adequate pressure for fire flows – a safety concern – will always be available

This project does address critical water supply needs of DACs through the placement of an additional tank to double the system storage capacity, thereby increasing system-wide pressure and water availability.

3. Bieber Water Tower Refurbishing

As stated above, the census data for the community place including the community of Bieber fails to adequately communicate the “on the ground” situation. Bieber is a distinct, but unincorporated, community surrounded by very lightly populated agricultural lands. The residents in these surrounding lands do not use Bieber’s infrastructure and their income level is substantially higher than that of the community residents. This situation (i.e.: a small, discrete community surrounded by extremely large agricultural parcels) has created a situation wherein Bieber’s disadvantaged status is lost because of a small number of more affluent individuals. Although Bieber is not technically a disadvantaged community through identification of Census information, the water tower will help only the residents of Bieber, more than half of whom receive various types of public assistance. This project is critical to water supply in Bieber because it is the only water supply source for the community. It is therefore critical to the continuity of the community.

This challenge has been investigated with the US Census Bureau, who cannot fix the problem without a formal request from the county; if this occurred, it would be incorporated into the next census in 2020. The Lassen County Water Works District #1, serving exclusively the

community of Bieber, is not able to do an income survey, and the county is unwilling at this time to contribute.

Supporting the fact that Bieber is a DAC is the fact of more than 70% of the students in the local schools are on the Free and Reduced Federal Lunch Program, and that many individuals in the community do not actually file tax returns, as their income level doesn't require the action. Lassen County has determined that Bieber is actually one of the poorest areas of the County, with an estimated MHI of the community actually served by the water district to be between \$12,000 and \$15,000 annually.

Critical Water Supply Status: this project serves the people dependent on water from Lassen County Water Works District #1. The inhabitants of Bieber are 100% dependent on the water tank for provision of drinking water. This project addresses a critical water supply need as defined by DWR's second bullet in Table 9 on page 86 of DWR's 2012 Guidelines, which identifies "infrastructure renovations to a public water supply system necessary to assure continued reliability of the minimum quality and quantity of water" as a critical DAC need. Under this qualification, the Bieber tank qualifies as a critical water need.

Even without Bieber qualifying as a DAC through the census designation, the match provided through the other projects represents adequate match on a package level to cover all projects' requirements. The table below represents the commitment of regional stakeholders to ensuring the implementation of these projects. Even those communities formally identified as DACs through the census process have committed match to the process in order to help their fellow RWMG member and the entire package to be successful.

From Table 7 (Budget)	Grant Request	Non-State Match	Total Project Need
Joint Leak Detection & Repair	\$ 106,290	\$ 35,250	\$ 141,540
McArthur Tank	\$ 817,600	\$ 749,000	\$ 1,566,600
Bieber Water Tower Refurbishing	\$ 224,520	\$ 6,000	\$ 230,520
Total Request:	\$ 1,148,410	\$ 790,250	\$ 1,938,660
Percent of Total Request:	59.23%	40.45%	100%