



COUNTY OF FRESNO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING

WATER REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS IN WATER SHORT AREAS

In water short areas (see attached map), building permits, or permits granting mobile home occupancy, shall only be issued upon submittal of evidence that adequate water is available and can be served to the property upon which construction is proposed.

For properties served by a community water system, evidence shall consist of written confirmation by the system operator that water is available and will be served to the property.

For properties to be served by private well, evidence shall consist of a sustainable minimum well yield determined through the well test procedure described below. If shared use of a private well is proposed, the prescribed test procedure shall be the procedure described in Section II(h)7 of the Fresno County Improvement Standards.

WELL TEST PROCEDURE

To meet County requirements for demonstrating a sustainable minimum water well yield for building permit purposes, the following criteria shall be met:

1. The well yield test shall be completed by one of the following professionals: California Certified Engineering Geologist, California Certified Hydrogeologist, California Registered Civil Engineer experienced in conducting hydrogeologic investigations, California Licensed Water Well Drilling Contractor (C57), or California Licensed Water Well Pump Contractor (C61/D21).
2. The well yield test shall be performed in accordance with the data requirements specified on County Form F-402 and shall be submitted for certification review on County Form F-372 with attachments. The forms are available from the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning Water/Geology section. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to obtain the current County test forms.
3. The person who will supervise and certify the well yield test shall notified the Water/Geology section **at least 48 hours prior to the initiation of the test**. The Water/Geology section representative may inspect a well yield test in progress at any time to observe testing methods and results.

4. The well shall be pumped for a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 48 hours. Test duration is dependent upon the well yield and the time of year in which the test is conducted.
5. For tests conducted in September and October, the well shall have a minimum end of test discharge rate of 5 gallons per minute without storage or 1 gallon per minute with 2,000 gallons of storage (storage is in addition to applicable fire regulation requirements). The minimum volume of water that shall be pumped is 2,880 gallons.
6. For tests conducted during the period of January through May, the well shall have a minimum end of test discharge rate of 10 gallons per minute without storage or 2 gallons per minute with 2,000 gallons of storage (storage is in addition to applicable fire regulation requirements). The minimum volume of water that shall be pumped is 5,760 gallons. For tests conducted at all other times of the year, the well shall have a minimum end of test discharge rate of 6.7 gallons per minute without storage or 1.4 gallons per minute with 2,000 gallons of storage (storage is in addition to applicable fire regulation requirements). The minimum volume of water that shall be pumped is 4,032 gallons.
7. Following pump shutoff at the end of the test, the water level in the well shall return to 90% of the pre-test static water level within the same time duration as the pump test but not to exceed 24 hours. If the well does not recover within the specified time, a second test may be conducted within seven (7) days. After the second well test, the water level shall recover to 100% of the recovered water level measured in the first test.
8. Wells near streams or otherwise potentially impacted by shallow water may only be tested in September or October. If the nearby stream or shallow water source is a watercourse or ephemeral stream (stream that runs for only a short period during the year), the watercourse or stream shall be dry.
9. Tests are valid for one year following date of completion.

APPEAL

An appeal of the above requirements may be made to the Building Official, or other designated County representative. The appeal shall only be granted upon a finding of special circumstances which may include pre-existing pumping systems installed prior to the effective date of this ordinance, domestic systems serving replacement construction of existing residences for purposes of home upgrade or reconstruction following extensive damage following fire, flood, or natural disaster.

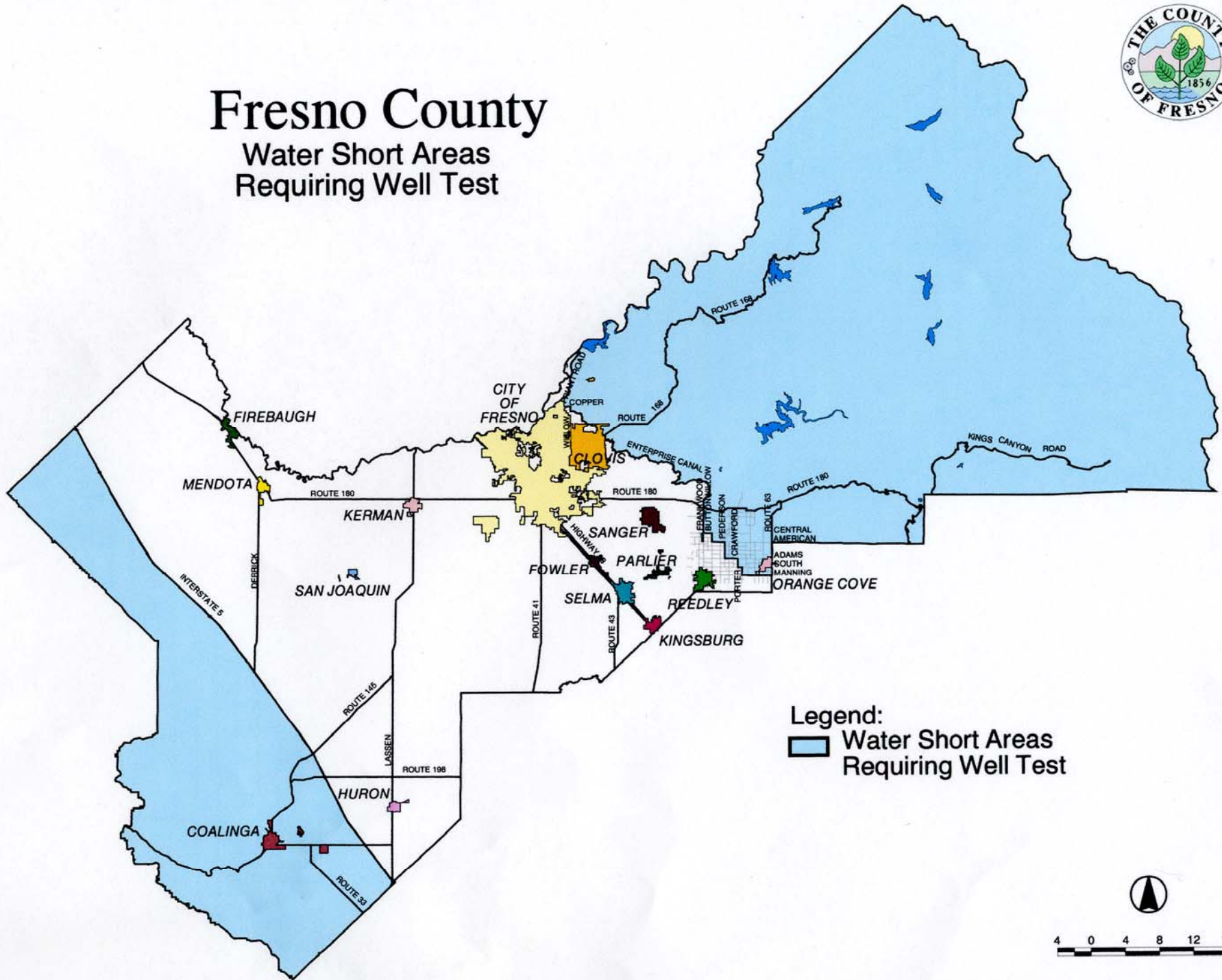
SOUNDING TUBE

All new water systems shall incorporate a sounding tube of a size and material acceptable to the Building Official.



Fresno County

Water Short Areas Requiring Well Test



Legend:
Water Short Areas
Requiring Well Test

