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Interim Well Permit
Standards – WAA
Requirements

Bonny's Vineyard Appeal P25-00020-APL
Board of Supervisors Hearing – May 6, 2025

Interim Napa County Well Permit Standards and WAA Requirements - January 2024

WAA Tier 1: Groundwater Use for Napa County					WAA Tier 2: Well & Spring Interference	WAA Tier 3: Groundwater / Surface Water Interaction	
Napa County new regulatory requirements for the a Tier 1 analysis are pursuant to CEQA, Napa County's Water Availability Analysis (WAA) Guidelines, dated May 12, 2015, Napa County's Drought Emergency, Governor's Executive Order N-7-22/N-3-23, Napa Valley Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, Napa County Resolution 2022-178, Napa County Code Groundwater Conservation Ordinance - Chapter 13.15, recent court decisions, and pending State-litigation.					Tier 2 analysis is governed by the WAA and the Governor's Executive Order N-7-22/N-3-23. Tier 2 analysis must be performed by licensed professional retained by applicant or through County services and paid for by applicant.	Tier 3 analysis is governed by CEQA, the WAA, and the Public Trust Doctrine, and County Resolution 2022-178. Tier 3 analysis must be performed by licensed professional retained by applicant or through County services and paid for by applicant.	
Well Type	Groundwater Use	Inside Napa Valley Subbasin	Inside Napa County Groundwater Deficient Area (MST)	Outside Napa Valley Subbasin & MST	Less than 500-feet to neighboring well(s) and/or 1,500-feet to a natural spring(s)	Less than 1,500- feet to a Significant Stream <u>Inside</u> the Napa River Watershed	Less than 1,500- feet to a Significant Stream <u>Outside</u> the Napa River Watershed
NEW WELL	Domestic - Individual User	0.3 AF/acre ^{2,3}	0.6 AF/year	NA ¹	NA ^{1,7}	Tier 3 Required	NA ^{1,7}
	Commercial, Industrial, or Agricultural	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase and 0.3 AF/acre	Parcel Specific Recharge ⁴	Tier 2 Required	Tier 3 Required	Tier 3 Required
	Public Water System	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase and 0.3 AF/acre	Parcel Specific Recharge ⁴	NA ⁷	Tier 3 Required	NA ⁷
REPLACEMENT WELL	Domestic - Individual User	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase	Parcel Specific Recharge ¹	NA ^{1,7}	Tier 3 Required ⁶	NA ^{1,7}
	Commercial, Industrial, or Agricultural	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase	Parcel Specific Recharge ⁴	Tier 2 Required ⁵	Tier 3 Required ⁶	Tier 3 Required ⁵
	Public Water System	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase	Parcel Specific Recharge ⁴	NA ⁷	Tier 3 Required ⁶	Tier 3 Required ⁵
EXISTING WELL	New, Altered or Increased Water Use for Discretionary Project	0.3 AF/acre ³	No Net Increase and 0.3 AF/acre	Parcel Specific Recharge ⁴	Tier 2 Required ⁸	Tier 3 Required ⁶	Tier 3 Required ⁸

NA = Not Applicable

¹ Assumes less than 2-acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users.

² Requirement can be met by submitting a "Water Use Declaration" that reflects the allowed water usage.

³ Where existing groundwater use exceeds the 0.3 ac-ft/ac, No Net Increase in Groundwater use is required (Subject to change by the GSA), and shall be demonstrated through a water demand analysis.

⁴ Where existing groundwater use exceeds the Parcel Specific Recharge, No Net Increase or reduction in Groundwater use is required, and shall be demonstrated through a water demand analysis.

⁵ The analysis is not required when the replacement well is located further away from the neighboring well, natural spring, or Significant Stream and there is no increase in groundwater use.

⁶ The analysis is not required if modifications to the location, construction, or operations of the project well(s) are made to reduce harm relative to current conditions based on the conclusions by a qualified professional.

⁷ Unless associated with a Discretionary Project; and every effort should be made to locate the well as far as possible from neighboring wells and springs.

⁸ The anlaysis is only required for an increase in groundwater use.