



Emergency Response Plan (ERP) – Supplementary Drought Response Plan Depleted Source Water / Loss of Source

Water System Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

ERP drought response needs to consider both a significant depletion in source capacity (e.g. surface water source is getting low, or well production is significantly diminishing) and a complete loss of source.

A) Drought Response Plan needs to:

1. Identify:
 - A list of priority users of the water supply (ex. Residential connections over industry)
 - A list of acceptable uses of the water supply (ex. Human consumption versus car washing).
 - Attach above lists to this plan
2. Identify a template for communicating to users. Attach communications template to this plan.
3. Identify supplemental or alternate sources of potable water (fill in table below, not all options may be available)

Supplemental or Alternate Source	Contact Information	Capacity Available	Estimated Time to Delivery	Estimated Cost
Backup Water Source				
Reservoir Rental Company				
Bulk Hauled Water				
Other Water Supplier				
Bottle Water				

Loss of source due to drought has the potential to last an extended period of time and the planning needs to reflect this; e.g. providing bottled water over the long term for all domestic use may not be a financially viable option. Drought can also impact the availability and capacity of bulk water haulers; you should consider multiple supplemental/alternate sources.

B) Potential Emergent Issue (significantly reduced water availability)

1. Establish the triggers and indicators of significantly reduced water availability that would prompt an emergency response e.g. diminishing water levels, turbidity issues, source unable to maintain reservoir levels, drop in water pressure, drop in aquifer levels.

2. For systems which have storage capacity (reservoir) monitor remaining capacity of water supply:

Date	Remaining Volume (Liters)	Current Use (L/min or hour)	Capacity at current use (time)

3. Communications:

- i. Consider implementing water restrictions/conservation and communicate to users.
- ii. Notify Drinking Water Officer of potential threat to water source that may affect supply /potability
- iii. Notify any other applicable agencies as identified (e.g. Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness).

4. Critical Issue (depletion of source and/or complete loss of source water)

1. Communications:

- i. Update communications to users
- ii. Notify Drinking Water Officer of potential threat to water source that affect supply / potability
- iii. Update any other applicable agencies as identified (WLRS, EMCR).

2. Operational Instructions:

Instructions will be specific to design of water system, but may include actions such as: shut off pump, issuance of Boil Water Notice, having procedures to bringing unused water supplies on line, close inlet to reservoir, or temporary closure of business/water system, etc. You may need to attach an additional list of actions if needed.

Action	Person Responsible

Reference Documents:

- 1. Ministry of Health ERCP Planning for Small Water Systems: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/waterquality/resources-for-water-operators/ercp-sws-final-aug17-2016.pdf>
- 2. Ministry of Forests; Drought Information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/drought-information>
- 3. Ministry of Forests– Resources for Water System Operators: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-quality/drinking-water-quality/resources-for-water-system-operators#emergency-response-planning>