Arizona’s Capacity Assessment & Metrics

State & EPA Capacity Development Coordinators Meeting
June 21, 2023
Arizona PWSs Statistics – 1502 Public Water Systems

PWSs by Population Served
- < 500: 16%
- 500 - 3,299: 14%
- 3,300 - 9,999: 21%
- 10,000 - 99,999: 41%
- > 100,000: 9%

1,382 systems (90 percent) serve fewer than 3,300 people.
1,140 systems (75 percent) serve fewer than 500 people.

PWSs by Corporate Structure
- No corporate structure found [132] 9%
- Political subdivisions (city, town, county, DWID, CFD, IDD) [242] 16%
- Federal, state, tribes, public schools [205] 14%
- Public/private for profit, nonprofit, trust, LP - not ACC regulated [610] 41%
- Active ACC co-regulated [312] 21%
November 2020 - August 2021 - Revised Arizona Capacity Development Strategy

- **Main goal** = Increase TMF capacity by understanding capacity needs within the State
  
  - Step 1: Develop TMF Assessment Tool
  - Step 2: Conduct a baseline assessment of all public water systems in Arizona in one year
  - Step 3: Analyze data to gain a clearer understanding of statewide TMF capacity needs
  - Step 4: Utilize state programs and SRF set-asides to assist water systems with increasing TMF capacity

- Submitted to EPA April, 2022
- EPA approved Strategy October, 2022
TMF Assessment Tool

- Approximately 110-120 questions, all Yes/No
- Some not applicable, based on system
- Score 0-100%

- 3 Sections
  - **Technical Capacity Section**: Physical Infrastructure, System Operation, System Maintenance, Regulatory Compliance
  - **Managerial Capacity Section**: Management and Governance, Staffing, Emergency Preparedness, Knowledge Management
  - **Financial Capacity Section**: Asset Management, Metering/Billing/Collection, Financial Planning, Rates
TMF Assessment – Baseline Data

Sum of Avg. Total Score by PWS Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Large System Community</th>
<th>Small System Non-Transient Non-Community</th>
<th>Large System</th>
<th>Small System</th>
<th>Small System Transient Non-Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>56%</td>
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Improving TMF Capacity through Technical Assistance

How do we pick systems?

- **Focus**: Small, disadvantaged communities with water quality or infrastructure-related issues (low TMF capacity)

- **Priorities**:
  1. Health-based exceedance and treatment technique violations
  2. Projected exceedances of a health-based standard based on predictive modeling
  3. Need for TMF capacity building (e.g., optimization, aging/failing infrastructure, water loss, rate review, corporate structure)
  4. Enforcement actions requiring technical support to resolve (e.g., design, permitting, funding)
Tracking TMF capacity & measuring improvements

- # of PWSs without MCL or treatment technique violations
- Reduction in the # of PWSs without corporate structure
- # of PWSs with an Asset Management Plan
- % of PWSs having a certified operator of the correct grade and class
- % of PWSs without monitoring and/or reporting violations
Improving TMF Capacity

- Operator training on treatment systems
- Creating asset management plans for small systems
- Rate studies/rate cases for small systems
- Capitalizing on BIL funding
  - Preparing PWSs for SRF funding (design, permitting, costs)
  - Addressing emerging contaminants along with MCL issues
Questions?

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