



## AGENDA ITEM 8A

**MEETING:** May 17, 2023  
**TO:** Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners  
**FROM:** Krystle Heaney, Clerk/Analyst  
**SUBJECT:** **Preview of Draft Agency Profiles for the South County Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**  
The Commission will receive an update on the status of document preparation along with an overview of two of the eight agency profiles. The report is being presented for information only.

---

### BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act directs Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) to regularly prepare municipal service reviews (MSRs) in conjunction with establishing and updating each local agency's sphere of influence (SOI). The legislative intent of MSRs is to proactively assess the availability, capacity, and efficiency of local governmental services. MSRs may also lead LAFCOs to take other actions under their authority, such as forming, consolidating, or dissolving one or more local agencies in addition to any related sphere changes.

As part of the Commission's work plan, staff has been preparing a regional MSR for water and wastewater services for the south county region which can be generally described as all districts south of Rio Dell/Scotia.

### DISCUSSION

Southern Humboldt County includes multiple small to medium sized water and wastewater districts. A total of eight districts will be included in the South County Regional Water and Wastewater MSR/SOI Update (Alderpoint CWD, Briceland CSD, Garberville SD, Miranda CSD, Phillipsville CSD, Redway CSD, Resort Improvement District No. 1 (Shelter Cove), and Weott CSD) which will allow staff and Commissioners to take a comprehensive look at services in the region.

LAFCo staff has prepared initial drafts of six of the eight agency profiles for public review and comment of which four were presented at the March 15, 2023 Regular Commission meeting, an additional two are being presented today including:

- Alderpoint County Water District
- Phillipsville Community Services District

General themes for these agencies include aging infrastructure, difficulty recruiting additional staff (especially operators), and the need for additional water sources and/or water storage to ensure adequate service during dry weather months. While the districts may be facing some difficulties, they have also shown how dedicated staff and volunteers help to ensure that these rural communities are provided with critical services.

Additionally, several of the agencies under review have received grant funding and technical assistance which will help upgrade system components and provide updated rate studies.

Staff are continuing to work with the remaining two agencies (Miranda CSD and Garberville Sanitary District) and will be bringing additional profiles to the Commission's July meeting for review and comment.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report and provide direction to staff as necessary.

***Attachments***

Attachment A: Draft Alderpoint CWD Agency Profile

Attachment B: Draft Phillipsville CSD Agency Profile