

Central Coast Ag Order



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Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
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About The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

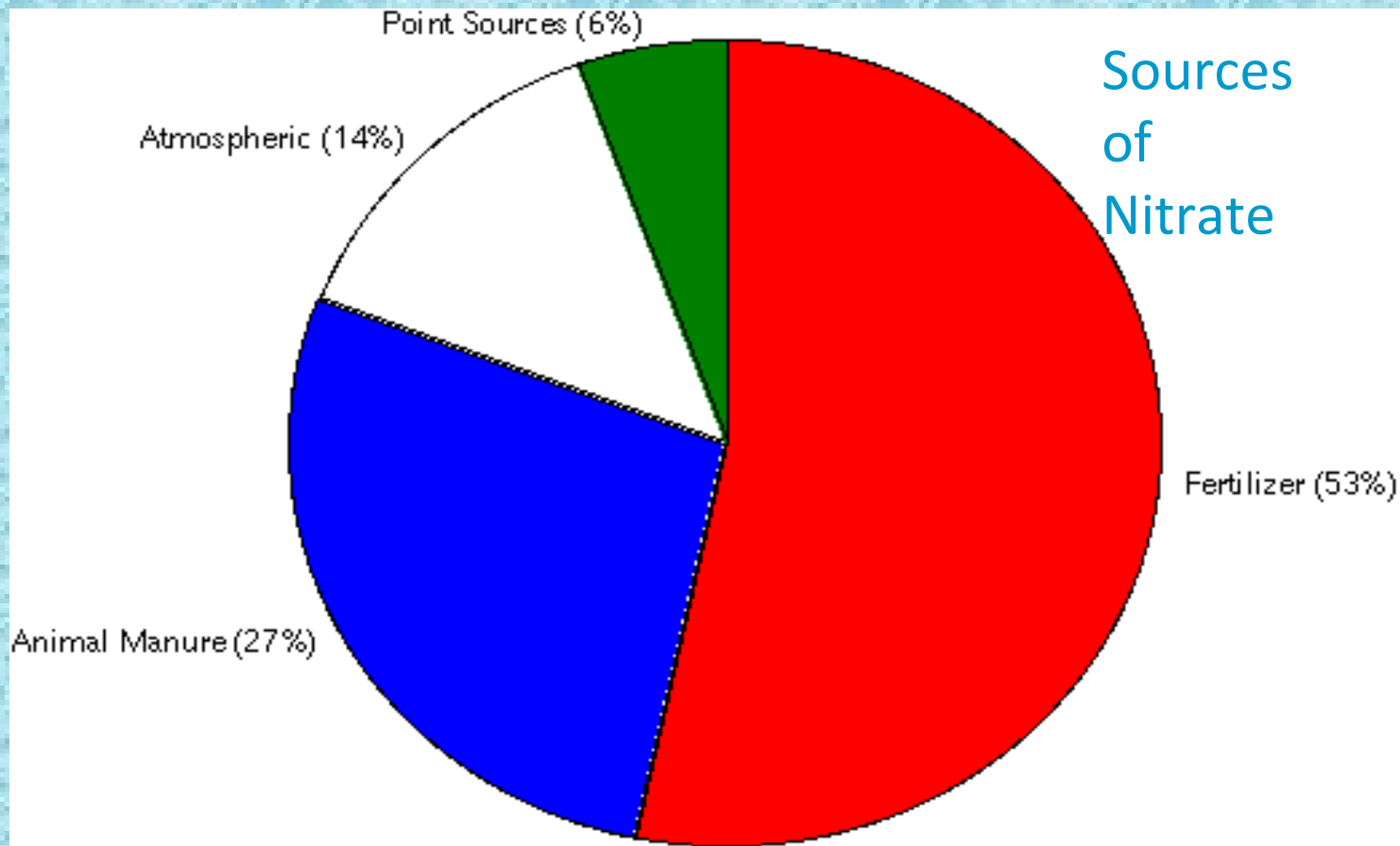
Statewide coalition of more than seventy
community-based and non-profit organizations

Fighting for water justice in California

Safe drinking water, waterways that support
subsistence fishing, tribal cultural uses, recreational
access



Nitrates



Nitrates are responsible for the most drinking water well closures in the State.



Department of Food and Ag Nitrate Sensitive Areas



Nitrate sensitive areas require special management.



Health Impacts of Nitrates



Nitrates Interfere with how the blood carries oxygen.

In babies nitrates can cause blue baby syndrome which can lead to death.

In adults chronic nitrate exposure can cause cancer.



Nitrate Exposure is High



90% of the
Central Coast's
Drinking Water
Comes from
Groundwater

Water Education Foundation



Hundreds of Small Systems

The Central Coast has thousands of small systems without the economy of scale to pay the cost of treatment.

Monterey County Example
10,245 systems with 200 or fewer connections.



San Jerardo: \$15,000 treatment costs per month. Divided by 63 connections would be \$238 per month.

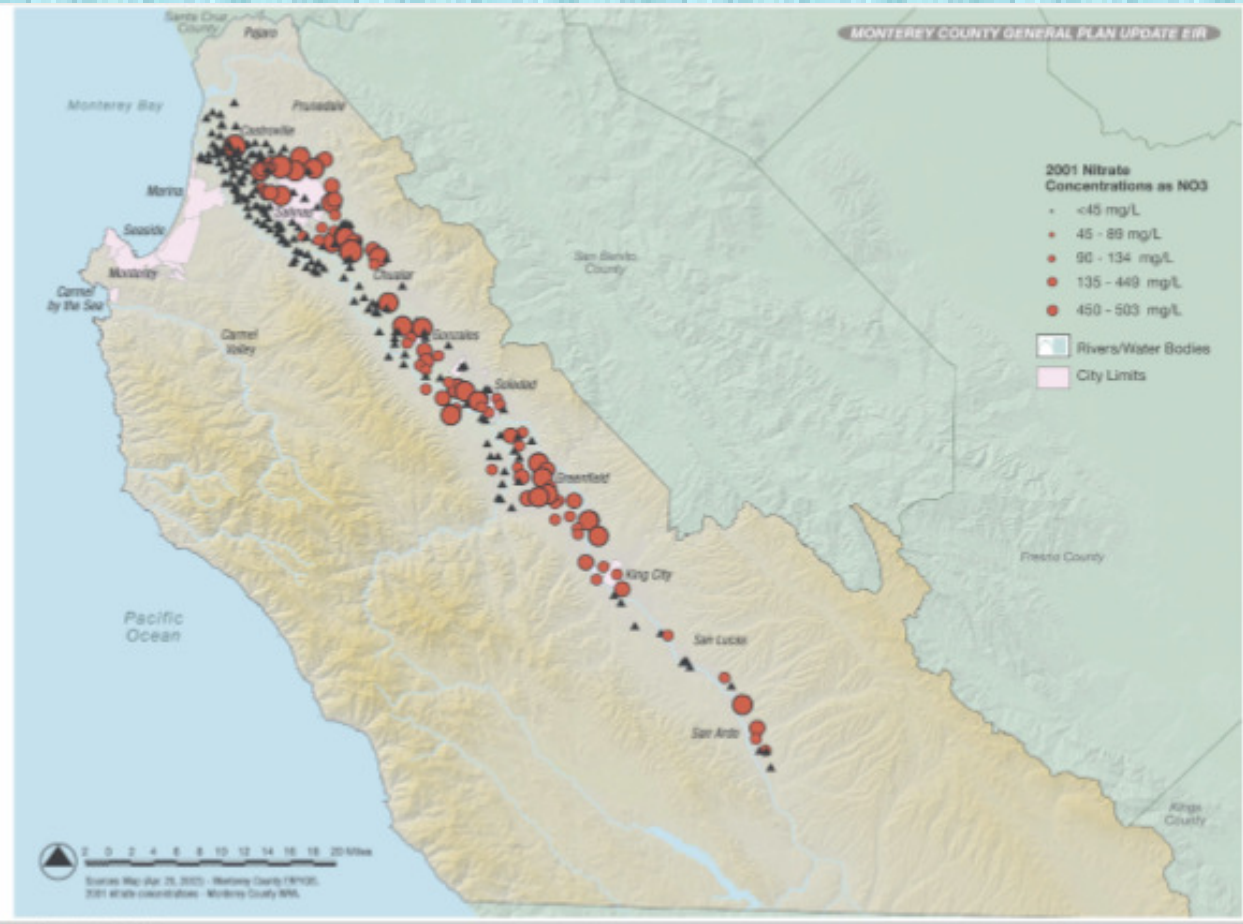


Community Options

Community Members have to keep paying their water bills that can be very expensive and they either expose their families to poisonous water or buy expensive bottled water.



The Scope of the Problem



50% of public supply wells in Monterey County violate the nitrate standard.

Today's option is to drill a new well somewhere slightly less contaminated.



Staff Ag Order Proposal

Provides the Board with the Flexibility to Connect Agricultural Pollution to Solutions for Impacted Communities.

