



Protect. Preserve. Prepare.

Supporting Tribes in their efforts to establish safe and sustainable water service.



PROJECT COYOTE WATER

The Issue

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulates the quality of water provided by public water systems. Unfortunately not all water used for consumption comes from these regulated water sources. One major source of unregulated drinking water is private water wells. These sources represent a potential public health risk for Tribal communities.

The Effort

Project Coyote Water is a collaboration between the National Tribal Water Center (NTWC) and the Center for Disease Control’s (CDC) Health Studies Branch. The primary goal of this project is to develop and organize data, information, and knowledge about the current regulatory status, conditions, and use of unregulated water sources on Tribal lands across the United States.

The Objectives

Objective 1. Approximate how many households rely on unregulated well and unregulated water sources.

Objective 2. Identify unregulated well and unregulated water source data that may be available at the Tribal and Indian Health Service (IHS) service provider level.

The Tool

Project Coyote Water will use a short two-part survey.

Part 1 is designed to collect information regarding: how many households on Tribal lands rely on unregulated water sources; Tribal water quality concerns; and Tribal private well testing practices.

Part 2 is designed to collect specific details about the unregulated water source data that exists on Tribal lands.

The Outcome

The data collected will help to:

- Describe use of unregulated drinking water sources in order to identify regions that may be at higher risk for exposure to contaminants.
- Identify water quality data of unregulated water sources on Tribal lands and how the data may be accessed.
- Identify water-related issues of greatest concern to Tribes.
- Provide information to guide potential future monitoring or funding opportunities.



The final product describing our findings will be made available to all participating Tribes and any interested Tribal, state, or federal organizations.