

South Lake Recreational Water and Sewer District Wastewater Study

Supported by EPA's Closing America's Wastewater Access Gap

Project Update: October 2026

On June 20, 2025, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in collaboration with the Valley Soil & Water Conservation District (VSWCD), hosted a community meeting at the Valley County EOC Building in Cascade. Attendees—both in person and virtual—heard from project partners including Cascade Mayor Judith Nissula, Valley County Commissioner Katlin Caldwell, VSWCD staff, representatives from the South Lake Recreational Water and Sewer District (SLRWSD), and EPA contractors. The meeting focused on ongoing efforts to explore new wastewater infrastructure options for properties within the SLRWSD.

A full summary of the community meeting is available here: [South Lake Cascade Community Meeting Summary – June 20](#)

The current focus of the project is to evaluate onsite wastewater systems within the West Mountain subdivision area (see map below). On June 21, 2025, EPA contractors walked a portion of the West Mountain subdivision area to document existing onsite sanitation systems (privies, portable toilets, cleanouts on sewer lines, and risers on septic tanks) and water system infrastructure (wells, spigots, and frost-free hydrants) that were visible from the road. The EPA contractors did not enter private property unless the property owner was outside and invited the contractors onto the property. During the visit, they viewed 99 properties and spoke with several property owners.

Currently, EPA contractors are using the findings from this site visit—along with onsite permit data from the Idaho Central District Health and well data from Idaho Department of Water Resources—to map the types of onsite wastewater systems and wells within the West Mountain subdivision area. The objectives are to document current status of wastewater systems on properties to guide future wastewater alternatives and identify properties with drinking water wells that may be suitable for sampling for pharmaceuticals and personal care products. This sampling will help determine whether existing wastewater systems are affecting local wells and Lake Cascade water quality.

Well sampling is anticipated to begin in summer 2026. If you have a drinking water well in the area and would like to have it considered for sampling, please contact: Janet Cherry – janet.cherry@erg.com



Get Involved

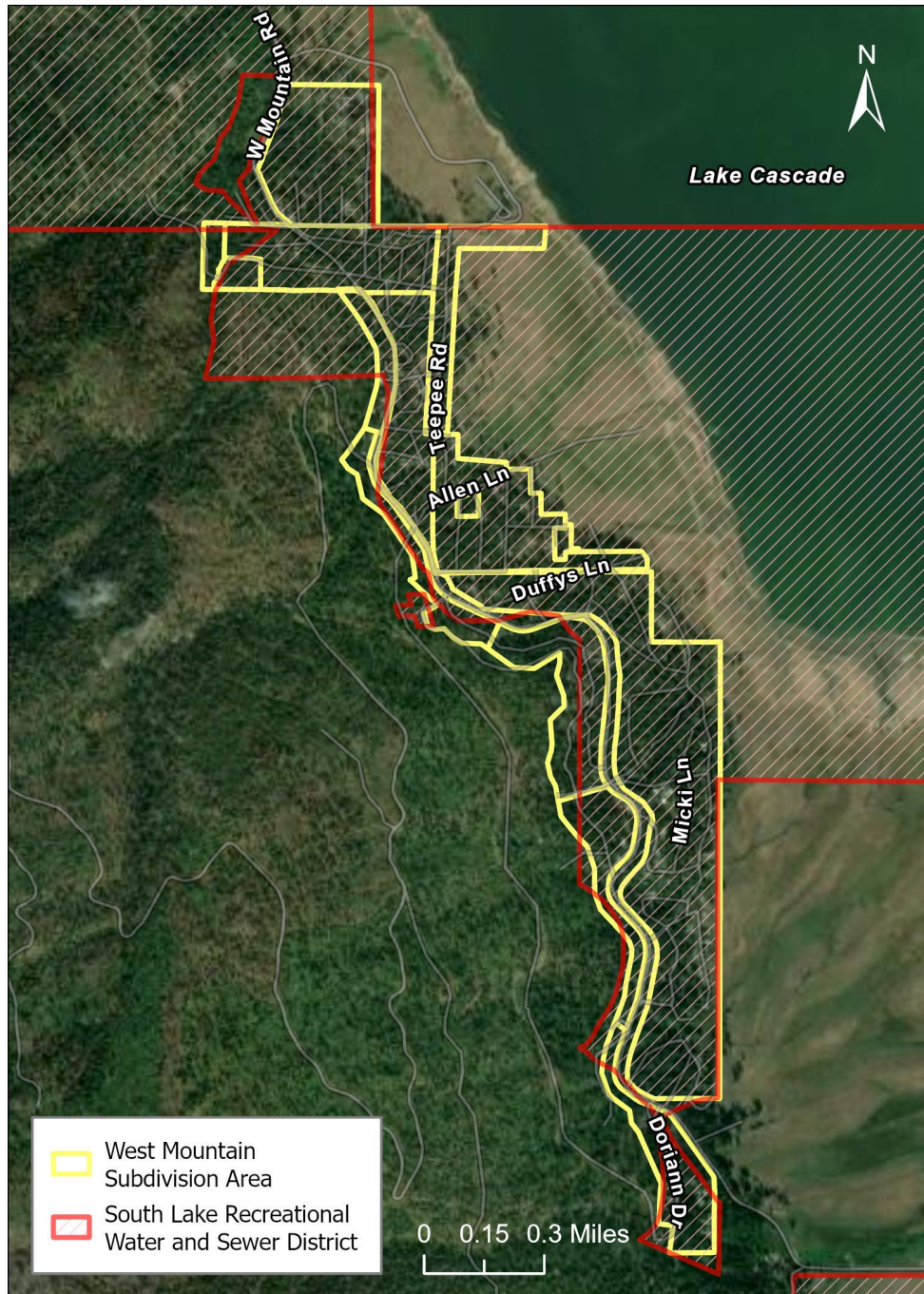
The next community meeting will most likely occur in early 2026 and information on the meeting will be publicly posted. Property owners in the West Mountain subdivision area are encouraged to participate in ongoing discussions with the project team and provide input as wastewater infrastructure options are developed. If you are interested in serving on a community advisory committee to help guide these efforts or want to receive regular project updates, please contact:

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Project Area Map



The project area consists of the West Mountain subdivisions within the South Lake Recreational Water and Sewer District

